Volume 3, Issue 2

**Spring 2012** 



# Partners in Histo

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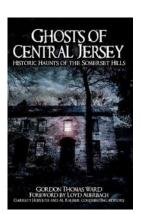
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# Lecture Series a Diverse Mix of Interesting Subjects

Friday Night Lecture series returns during the months of June, July and August. This year's lectures offer a great mix of very different subjects, offering something for everyone. On June 29, author Sue Huesken will present Finding Polly Burling. Sue became intrigued by a 1770 hand-written copy of a small book of receipts, now known commonly as recipes, in the Burlington County Historical Society. What she did not know was how much she would learn about genealogy and what it takes to bring someone like Polly Burling, and her 18<sup>th</sup> century cookbook, back to life. The book, *Colonial* Burlington Cookery a Book of Receipts April 1770 Polly Burling, was the re-

sult of long but rewarding hours of intricate work. Sue will tell the fascinating story of finding Polly and bringing her, and life in colonial New Jersey, back to life. The lecture is perfect for those interested in colonial New Jersey and genealogical research.



On July 27, railroad enthusiast John Kilbride will talk about *The History of the Camden and Amboy Railroads*. Founded by inventor, naval architect and transportation pioneer,

John Stevens and his sons, Robert and Edwin, the Camden & Amboy was the first railroad to operate in New Jersey beginning in 1815.

On August 31, local author Gordon Thomas Ward will present *Ghosts of Central Jersey*, which is based on his book of the same title. Mr. Ward will discuss his experiences both researching (sometimes debunking) and investigating local hauntings.

Lectures are held in the Wade-Wykoff Barn at the Bouman-Stickney Farmstead, 114 Dreahook Road in the Stanton section of the Township. Reservations are not necessary. There is a \$5.00 suggested donation, and refreshments are served.

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### **Did You Know:**

- The Bouman-Stickney Farmstead is part of the Round Mountain Hiking Trail system?
- Three of the four sites that make up the Readington Museums were built prior to the Revolutionary War?
- All 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students attending Readington Twp. schools attend programs at the Museums each year?

# FREE Arts and History Expo on June 23rd

The Hunterdon County Cultural and Heritage Commission is pleased to announce a Hunterdon County Arts & History Expo, which is planned for Saturday, **June 23, 2012** from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Rt. 12 County Complex, Bldg. 1, 314 State Route 12, in the Assembly Room. The event is FREE and fun for the whole family.

All arts and history organizations from Hunterdon County were invited to participate in the event and each will be providing written materials, information, and hands-on demonstrations to the public. This is a wonderful opportunity for county residents to learn about the programs and opportunities for participation offered by the art, dance, history, literature, music and theater groups and Hunterdon's museums.

The Readington Museums will be on hand, offering information on upcoming public and school programming, special exhibits and our new Monday Mornings at the Museum program which is slated to begin in July.

More information will be published in the local newspapers as the event draws closer, or check the Museums web pages.



# Cooking Class to Return in Fall of 2012

We are pleased to announce the second Open Hearth Cooking class to be held at the Bouman-Stickney Farmstead on Saturday, September 8, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Donation is \$40.00 per person. Participants will be paired up, given copies of receipts, called recipes today, and

then will prepare a variety of 18th century Dutch foods using the Farmstead's original open hearth. The class will also cover basic fire and food safety, choosing firewood, how to interpret and read an 18th century recipe. Once all the food is prepared, all participants will have the chance

to sit down and taste the fruits of their labors. Class is limed to 8 participants. Advance registration and payment is required. Registrations will be accepted beginning August 1, 2012. Simply email or call the Museum to register.

# Big Cleanup for Small Building

During the month of March the Bouman-Stickney Farmstead got a cleaning from top to bottom, the hard way. A clogged flue in the chimney caused a 'puff back' to occur sometime during the early evening hours of March 1st. A puff back happens when air cannot be drawn down into

the heating system, causing pressure to build. With no where to go the heating oil was blown out through the heating vents. Every surface and item in the museum had to be thoroughly cleaned, and the walls washed and repainted, before visitation could resume. This caused the last of

our first grade programs to be postponed. We are happy to report that the programs were rescheduled and the Farmstead is now squeaky clean and ready for visitors.

PARTNERS IN HISTORY

# Monday Mornings at the Museum offers Hands-On Fun for Kids!

Looking for something fun for the kids to do but don't want to commit to a full week of summer camp? Then we have just the thing for you! The Readington Museums staff is pleased to announce a new hands-on Summer program for kids ages 5-15 on four consecutive Mondays-July 9, 16, 23, and 30th from 10:00 a.m. to Noon. Kids will have a chance to make a historical or nature inspired craft with a new theme offered each week. The cost of the each program is \$3.00 per child per day.

Week 1: Painted Pots and Plants

Week 2: Bug or Bridal Boxes

Week 3: Indian Baskets

Week 4: Critter Key chains

Children under 5 are welcome to attend, but will need help from a parent or guardian. An accompanying adult is required for all children.

Prior registration is recommended. Please send an email with the number of children and their ages to readingtonmuseums@gmail.com, or call and leave a message at 908-236-2327.





# A Big Thank You

The staff of the Readington Museums would like to thank each of you who sent back your postcard. Many of you opted to 'go green' making the number of PDF newsletters double! For those of you who opted to still receive paper copies we thank you for your continued interest

in the Museums and its programs.

If at any time you wish to no longer receive the newsletter simply drop us a line at reading-tonmuseums@gmail.com or call us at 908-236-2327. We will promptly handle your request.

# Newest Additions to the Lindsay-Stickney Collection

The staff is happy to announce some new additions to our growing collection of Lindsay-Stickney memorabilia.

When one thinks of a famous Broadway couple, saving cooking oil is not the first thing that comes to mind. A recent purchase is a photograph of Dorothy pouring fat into a can as Howard watches. The tag on the photo states that she is helping to "grease the road to Berlin." Also acquired is a signed copy of Dorothy's biography file for Theatre World, dated 1948-49. Not only does it list Dorothy's

biography, but she even added several plays

and corrections to the listing in her own hand.



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> 114 Dreahook Road FO Box 216 Stanton NJ 08885

Readington Museums



# Calendar 2012

The Bouman-Stickney Farmstead is located at 114 Dreahook Road, in the Stanton section of the Township. \$5.00 suggested donations for all lectures and programs.

## Friday, June 29

Lecture: Finding Polly Burling With author Sue Huesken. Find out how a small, hand written receipt book led to the discovery of a forgotten Quaker woman in 18th century New Jersey. Refreshments served. \$5 suggested donation.

### Friday, July 27

7:00-9:00 p.m.

Lecture: The Camden and Am-

boy Railroads

With John Kilbride. The lecture will focus on the history of NJ's first railroad line. Refreshments served. \$5 suggested donation.

### Friday, August 31

Friday, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Lecture: Ghosts of Central Jer-

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With author Gordon Thomas Ward. Come find out some of Hunterdon's most famous haunted (or not so haunted) buildings and sites. Author's book will be available for sale. Refreshments served. \$5 suggested donation.

### Saturday, September 8

10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Open Hearth Cooking Class (see newsletter for details)

### Sunday, September 9

1:00-4:00 p.m.

18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century room stenciling. Noted New Jersey artist Deborah Mores will be on hand to teach 19<sup>th</sup> century techniques for room and floor stenciling. Donations accepted.

### Sunday, October 7

1:00-4:00 p.m.

Open House at Cold Brook School. Come spend the afternoon in 1826 writing with a quill, doing your 'recitation' and more. Donations accepted.