



CROSSROADS

Newsletter - Summer 2023

ASSOCIATION NEWS



Woodbridge Township Historic Preservation Commission members presented "School Days" at our June meeting

Another successful program year is complete!

Our May program featured an entertaining and informative presentation by Lesley Parness titled "We Grew It Here: 100 Years of New Jersey's Horticultural Society." As founding member and past president of Garden State Gardens, a consortium of New Jersey's public gardens, Lesley shared her vast knowledge of horticulture in tracing the history of gardens in our state.

Our June program closed out the 2022-2023 season with a presentation by members of the Woodbridge Township Historic Preservation Commission. "School Days: A History of Education in Woodbridge Township" provided a most interesting overview of education in our township from its earliest days to the present. The Q & A segment of the program is always an enjoyable time of audience participation and sharing of memories.

HAWT participates in many township events. Volunteers set up a fun "archeological dig" for Earth Day/Arbor Day in April. Children enjoyed visiting our table and digging for dinosaurs in the sand while their parents talked with HAWT members about our mission and programs.



Setting up the tables at the BAC Flea Market

We also had a booth at the annual Barron Arts Center Flea Market in July. New and gently used items donated by

association members helped make this a profitable event and our Christmas-in-July table is always a hit with the shoppers. Both events were held at Acacia Youth Center in Port Reading.

As the saying goes: "Many hands make light work." Thanks to all the volunteers who participated these outreaches and fundraisers.



Kids at the Earth Day archeological dig signed the dinosaur poster!

Summer is a time of relaxation, restoration...and regrouping for the new program year. And we sure do have a lot of good things in store! Enjoy the summer and see you in September. It's time to **get excited.**



Rosemarie Masters receives award from President Dan D'Arcy

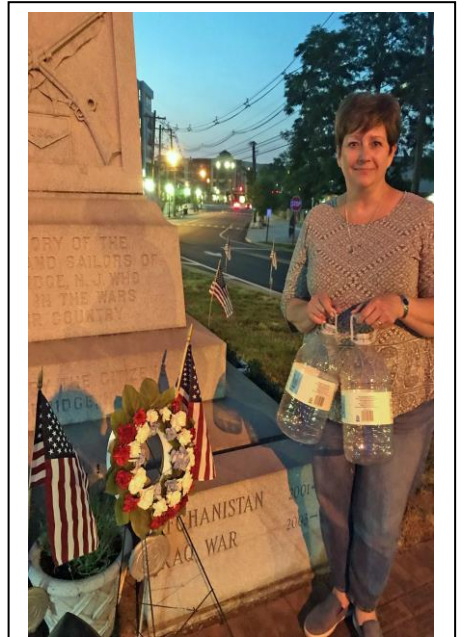
Award Recipient

Rosemarie Masters, Special Recognition Award recipient, was unable to attend our annual dinner in April. So President Daniel D'Arcy presented Rosemarie with the award at our May program meeting. Thank you, Rosemarie, for your many hours of volunteer service to our organization!

Soldiers and Sailors Monument

Did you know...that HAWT maintains the grounds at the Soldiers and Sailors Monument located on the triangle in front of Woodbridge Town Hall? Flowers are planted at the site each spring. Flags and special decorations are placed at the monument for Memorial Day. Volunteers are needed each year to help with initial plantings and then to provide watering throughout

the summer. If you would like to help in this endeavor, please call or email us for more information. Offering to water the plants for just one week during the summer would be very much appreciated!

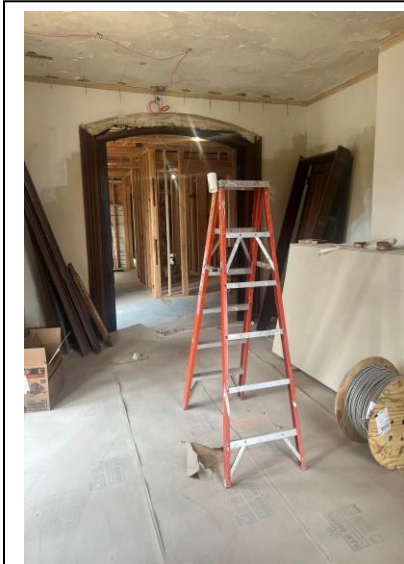


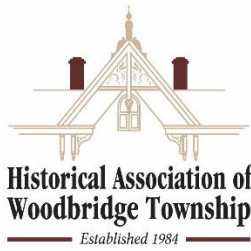
Board member Laura Bradshaw provides a late day watering to flowers at the Sailors and Soldiers Monument

Museum Update

Work continues inside 86 Green Street. (See photos below.) President Dan D'Arcy is in constant communication with the Township with regards to timelines and progress - and we eagerly anticipate receiving the **key to the front door** in the near future!

An organizational meeting was held on July 17 to bring everyone up to date on the progress of the museum and to generate member interest. Over 25 members were in attendance who expressed an interest in being involved with this worthy endeavor. HAWT directors are now busy creating committee structures and volunteers will be contacted to ascertain their interests and preferences. If you haven't already expressed an interest but would like to serve on a museum committee or subcommittee, please contact us.





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Historical Association of Woodbridge Township
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Future home of the museum at
86 Green Street, Woodbridge

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join us at 7pm
Fellowship Hall at First Presbyterian Church
600 Rahway Avenue, Woodbridge

Our monthly program meetings resume in September!

September 25, 2023 – Monthly Meeting

“Menlo Park – Past, Present, Future” presented by Kathleen Carlucci, Museum Director of Thomas Edison Center at Menlo Park. Learn about Thomas Edison’s early life, his accomplishments as the Wizard of Menlo Park, and his move to West Orange. Also discussed will be the commemorative monuments and future plans for Menlo Park.

October 23, 2023 – Monthly Meeting

“Funeral Practices of the Victorian Era” presented by noted author Brian Armstrong. Topics covered will include weird funeral and death superstitions, mourning practices, funeral and death photography, precautions against being buried alive, and much more!

Historical Association of Woodbridge Township is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit tax-exempt charitable organization.