



**MATCHAPONIX JOURNAL**  
**Battleground Historical Society**  
**P.O. Box 61, Tennent, NJ 07763**  
**www.thevillageinn.org**

**JANUARY 2013**

**JANUARY MEETING**

The January meeting will be held on Friday, January 25 at 7:30 pm at The Village Inn Museum at the corner of Main and Water Streets, Englishtown, N.J. The meeting is open to the public.

**VILLAGE INN MUSEUM NEWS**

The Inn property suffered only minor damage during Hurricane Sandy and the nor'easter snow storm that followed. During the storm, one of our signs came down, a shutter came down, and a few slates came off the barn roof.

A thank you to the American Legion Scout Troop for cleaning the Village Inn yard of the tree litter (leaves, branches, etc.).

**Winners of the Battleground Historical Society 2012 Raffle**

1st Prize	Debbie Sorber	\$228.00
2nd Prize	Linda Spangle	\$171.00
3rd Prize	Peter LaFrance	\$114.00
4th Prize	Lisa Duffy	\$ 57.00

Profit for the Battleground Historical Society \$440.00

A huge thank you to everyone who participated in the raffle.

**Reminder to all members:** It is time to pay your 2013 membership dues. For those of you that have already paid, we thank you for your promptness. We count on all our members to keep current. Please keep in mind your dues help to fund the operating expenses of the Village Inn and the programs and events we offer. Membership cards will be mailed to all members upon receipt of their dues.

## VILLAGE INN MUSEUM 2013 EVENT CALENDAR

January 20	Inn will be open from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
February 17	Inn will be open from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
March 17	Inn will be open from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
April 21	Inn will be open from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
May 4, May 5	Weekend In Old Monmouth Inn will be open both days
May 19	Inn will be open from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
May 27	Memorial Day - Inn will be open
June	Reenactment Weekend at Battlefield Park (Dates Not Yet Set) Inn will be open both days

\$2.00 per person donation at the door on all open dates; no charge for children 12 years of age and younger.

## MANALAPAN TOWNSHIP HISTORIAN LYDIA STILLWELL WIKOFF RETIRES

Manalapan native and long time member of the Battleground Historical Society and a continuing dedicated volunteer to The Village Inn Museum, Lydia Stillwell Wikoff has stepped down as Manalapan's township historian, a position she held with pride, enthusiasm and knowledge for 35 years.

Lydia was honored for her service to the community with a proclamation from the Manalapan Township Committee during the last meeting of 2012, held Dec.19 at town hall.

In accepting her proclamation, Lydia reminded those in attendance at the meeting that her memories of Manalapan harken back to a time when the state highway that is now known as Route 9 was a dirt thoroughfare called the Amboy Road.

Lydia thanked municipal officials for the proclamation and presented the Township Committee with a framed copy of a map of Manalapan from the 1800s, when properties were identified by the name of the family that lived at each farm.

Lydia played a role in the publication of the 1991 book "Manalapan in Three Centuries"; she secured the naming of Manalapan's schools for the brooks and mills that were part of its

history; she served for 12 years as Manalapan's representative on the Monmouth County Historical Commission; and she worked to restore and/or preserve Manalapan's historic sites and to preserve artifacts from those sites if an entire structure could not be saved, among other projects.

Good luck to Lydia in her retirement and many thank yous for all of her dedication and hard work in the field of historical preservation.

**IT WAS IN THE NEWS**

*Red Bank Register, Wednesday, January 4, 1899*

**FREEHOLD'S EARTHQUAKE  
ONE SAID TO HAVE OCCURRED THERE ON SUNDAY NIGHT.**

Two distinct earthquake shocks were felt at Freehold and the surrounding country on Sunday night. The first shock was felt a few minutes before nine o'clock and the other followed about an hour later. The second shock was the more severe of the two. It was at first thought that the shocks were due to the explosion of powder at the powder works at Farmingdale, but word from there was received later, which stated that there were no explosions there.

Many people do not believe that there was any earthquake at all. They say the shocks were all imagination. Even those who insist that it was an earthquake admit that the shock was much lighter than that felt here on a Sunday afternoon some fifteen years ago. ...the earthquake center was Freehold and it extended as far as Holmdel and Marlboro, and after hitting these places and frightening everyone, the earthquake retired without paying any more New Year calls.

According to the Journal's Freehold reporter, the earthquake was alarming. "It came without warning," he says, "like the proverbial earthquake out of a clear sky."

"When the last earthquake struck Freehold, about fourteen years ago," the Journal reporter continued, "it overthrew landmarks and changed the shape of the farms. A man with a lot of twenty feet front found it had been reduced to sixteen feet, and local statisticians say that nine acres of ground escaped from Freehold and went and tacked itself on the town of Hackensack, where, for some unaccountable reason, it has since remained." So all the Freeholders turned out yesterday with tape measures and measured up their real estate. They were so busy doing this that they had little time to talk of their earthquake adventures. (Note: Article seems to have a discrepancy as to whether the first earthquake was fourteen or fifteen years earlier.)

**Battleground Historical Society 2013 Monthly Meeting Dates  
January 25, February 22, March 22, April 26, May 24,  
September 27, October 25**

All monthly meetings are held at the Village Inn, located at the corner of Main and Water Streets, Englishtown, N.J. All meetings are open to the public. Check our website for our activities; [www.thevillageinn.org](http://www.thevillageinn.org)

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE EACH YEAR ON JANUARY FIRST  
DUES ARE \$20.00 FOR AN INDIVIDUAL AND \$30.00 FOR A FAMILY AND  
\$125.00 LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Family Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Individual \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to Battleground Historical Society. Mail to P.O. Box 61, Tennent, NJ 07763

OFFICERS OF BATTLEGROUND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

President: Hans Kernast, 3 King Charles Court, Englishtown, NJ 07726 Tel 732-446-7833

Vice-President: Lora Capozzoli, 259 Van Dorn St., Keyport, NJ 07735 Tel 732-888-6061

Recording Secretary: Amy Calandriello, P.O. Box 129, Oceanport, NJ 07757 Tel 732-888-6061

Corresponding Sec: Sally Dalik, 6 Schiverea Avenue, Freehold, NJ 07728 Tel 732-462-4947

Treasurer: Kathy Doherty, 27 Frederick Place, Old Bridge, NJ 08857 Tel 732-679-4560

Trustee (2015) Rosalind Selzer, 84A Parkway Drive, Freehold, NJ 07728 Tel 732-866-8736

Trustee (2013) Dorothy McCue, 38 Hudson Street, Marlboro, NJ 07746 Tel 732-780-6428

Trustee (2013) Susan Davison, 49 Silvers Road, Freehold, NJ 08831 Tel 732-431-5528

Trustee (2014) Richard Dalik, 6 Schiverea Ave., Freehold, NJ 07728 Tel 732-462-4947

Trustee (2014) Mimie Cook, 390 Mounts Mills Road, Monroe Twp., NJ 08831 732-446-9286

Trustee (2015) Marie Herschfield, 42 Tarrytown Road, Manalapan, NJ 07726 Tel 732-446-3018

Trustee (2015) Kathy Bien, 7 Main Street, Englishtown, NJ 07726 Tel 732-446-6447

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