



Downingtown Area Historical Society **Hist-O-Gram**

Interesting local history, accessed from our archives

www.downingtownareahistoricalociety.org

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Where and What Is This?



This photo of a former schoolhouse may not be easy to identify specifically, because many of them in the Downingtown area have been transformed into homes. The first person to correctly identify this site will be recognized as a truly perceptive scholar. Please send your responses to: Info@downingtownareahistoricalociety.org.

More local news originally published 52 years ago

The following news items were originally published in local newspapers in the latter part of May 1962.

The **Downingtown Chamber of Commerce** decided to sponsor a horse show in October. The committee responsible for the horse show included chairman Gene DiSantis, Joseph Mento, Charles Thompson and Ronald Lawlor. Proceeds from the show were to be used to buy Christmas lights for the borough's business district.

Among the 28 Chester County taprooms, eating establishments and private clubs **raided by the state police** were these Downingtwn locations: Glisson's Tavern, Daylor's Bar, Silver Dollar Bar, Crossroads Tavern, Roland's Café and the Hotel Downingtwn.

Bill Pollock, a DHS junior who came in second last year, won the 180 hurdles race at the Class B state track championships held at Penn State. And Downingtwn's 880 relay team—comprised of Pollock, Gordie Flowers, Andy Hardin and John Horsey—came in fifth.

Elected as officers of the **Upper Uwchlan Home and School League** were Mrs. James Martin, president; Mrs. Robert MacDougal, vice president; Mrs. Carl Kopenhaver, secretary; and Mrs. Preston Rishaw, treasurer.

Installed as officers of the Live Wire Bible Class at **Downingtwn Methodist Church** were Mrs. Norman Whiteside, president; Mrs. Harvey Young, vice president; Mrs. George Wagner, secretary; and Mrs. William Woodward, treasurer.

Debbie Lawson, Harry Levering, Judy Weaver, Susan Lewis, Paul Willoughby, and Brian and Michael Peterman made paper parrots which were part of the decorations for a Latin American supper at **St. Paul's UCC Church**, Lionville.

Enrollment in **Downingtwn's secondary grades** in the 1962-63 school year were projected to be 586 in the senior high and 734 in the junior high.

Named teachers and helpers at the **Romansville Methodist Church's** Vacation Bible School in the coming summer were Dolly Caldwell, Gail and Grace Fry, Fran, Ruth and Jackie Wertz, Carlene Huyard, Bernice Shirk, Diane Curry, Gladys Bealer, Judy and Jean Eckboldt, Ruth Ann and Villa Osborn, Viola and David Fellenbaum, Freddie Martin and Rev. Robert Duncan. And elected as leaders of the Youth Fellowship group at the church were David Fellenbaum, president; Robert Caldwell, vice president; John Chamberlain, recording secretary; Joe Chamberlain, corresponding secretary; and Dolly Caldwell, treasurer.

Girls selected to be in the **DHS marching band's** color guard the next year were Jeanne Watts, Nancy Heugh, Nancy Jessee, Donna McElroy, Susan Martin, Cindy Dellett and Audrey Strouse. And the majorettes chosen were Cheryl Rohrer, Wilma Matlack, Janine Davis, Shirley Smith, Priscilla Brown, Beverly Mitchell, Donna Edwards, Cheryl Krapf and Gail Katherman.

Vincent Talucci and Perry Noble opened the **Downingtwn Flower Shop** at 208 W. Lancaster Ave. in the borough.

The Downingtwn branch of the **Chester County Hospital Auxiliary** appointed following chairman: Mrs. Thomas Brookover and Mrs. Edwin Johnson, ways and means; Mrs. Kurt Wandel, pinkies; Mrs. Frank Hughes, telephone; Mrs. Robert Dean, Chester County Day; Mrs. Thomas Parke, gift shop; and Mrs. Robert Bowman, hostess.

Recently elected as trustees at **Marshallton Methodist Church** were Robert Ellis, Hubert Stokes, Randall Yarnall, William Ludwick, Mrs. David Johnson, William James, Clifford Queen, Harry Verngren and Nicholas Maropis.

Officers of **Hopewell Methodist Church's** Bethany Circle were Pearle Roberts, president; Peg Whitely, vice president; Doris Davey, secretary; and Ruth Lammey, treasurer.

Carolyn Stanford's second grade students at **Lionville School** who participated in a program on birds included: Nancy Estheimer, Teena Baker, Walter Murray, Dean Wayman, Mary Keeseey, Jean Abel, Mary Jane Connor, Raymond Leech, Judith Bittmann, Susan Pagett, Glenn Smith, Jeffrey Devaney, Verna Shaw, William Trego, Samuel Corliss, Gregory Langford, Nancy Brumgard, Eileen Panetti, Deborah Austin, Francis Collins, Sylvia Cook, George Phillips, Larry Draper, James Peppernick, Emily Myers, Leona Finkbiner, Joy McLucas, Jacqueline Dowlin, Nancy Just and Leslie Hayes.

Making speeches at **Brandywine-Wallace School's** spring program were second graders Jonathan Inslee, Sherry Davidge, Milton Howe and Becky Wilson. And first graders who sang were Mark Von Hacht, Bobby Meyers, Bonnie Griffin and Stephen Crane.

Members of **Brownie Troop 166**, Glenmoore, who visited sites in Harrisburg, included Carol Ann Burkey, Laverne and Becky Evans, Vickie Gabriel, Ruth Ann and Mary Lou Givler, Karolyn Kelly, Marjorie Munson, Pattie Pease and Lois Slater.

When DHS had the top basketball team in Chester County



The DHS basketball team won the Chester County title for the 1912-13 season. But if you look closely at the players' faces in the photo above, you realize that some of the players probably were beyond their high school years. That's one of the reasons why the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) was established in 1914. Also, it looks like they're wearing football pants and stockings from that era. The photo was donated to the Historical Society by Roxanne Wisler.

Anyone else remember the train trip to the World's Fair in NYC?

The World's Fair in New York City opened on April 22, 1964. Drew Schwartz, who now lives in Boulder, CO, sent this query:

I remember taking the train to the World's Fair from Downingtown, with my parents and many other members of the community. It was probably a Lions Club-sponsored event. Even though I was only five, I still remember many of the rides and exhibits. My Dad (Dr. Donald Schwartz) was a pediatrician, and he bought a large carpet, depicting dozens of the Disney characters, which hung on the wall in his waiting room for the rest of his career.

If anyone else recalls anything about visiting the World's Fair 50 years ago, please send your recollections to: Info@DowningtownAreaHistoricalSociety.org.

It's at 4 Seminary Road in Glenmoore



Frank Marcocci is a truly perceptive scholar because he was the first person to correctly identify the location of the house in the photo above as 4 Seminary Road, at the intersection of Seminary and Little Conestoga Roads in Glenmoore. For more info on this 1830s house, see:

<http://www.trulia.com/property/3148106813-4-Seminary-Rd-Glenmoore-PA-19343>.

Hist-O-Grams are emailed weekly to members and friends of the Downingtown Area Historical Society. If you want to send us information or make a comment, contact us at:

Info@DowningtownAreaHistoricalSociety.org.

Your friends and family can be Hist-O-Gram subscribers

Tired of forwarding copies of each week's Hist-O-Gram to friends and family? If you want any of them to become a subscriber to our FREE Hist-O-Grams, tell them to go to our website: www.downingtownareahistoricalsociety.org, and type their email address into the sign-up box on the home page. We won't share or sell any email addresses. And you can access previously published Hist-O-Grams at: www.downingtownareahistoricalsociety.org/Histograms.html.

Officers of the Downingtown Area Historical Society are: Parry Desmond, president; Ernie Jameson, vice president; Carol Grigson, treasurer and archivist; Marion Piccolomini, recording secretary. The board of directors includes: Harry Helms, Dick Lehr, Mike Dunn and Phil Dague.

Paid ads for businesses

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Contact: vance_usher@netzero.com, 610-329-1056, 320 E. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown, PA 19335.

Free ads for Non-Profits

Citizen and Business of the Year Awards

The Downingtown-Thorndale Regional Chamber of Commerce will present its Outstanding Citizen and Business of the Year Awards at the Chamber's 69th annual dinner on Thursday, May 1, at the Downingtown Country Club. For tickets and additional info about the dinner, see:

[http://dtrcc.com/Documents/2014%20Chamber%20Annual%20Dinner%20-%20Invitation%20\(1\).pdf](http://dtrcc.com/Documents/2014%20Chamber%20Annual%20Dinner%20-%20Invitation%20(1).pdf).

Drug Take-Back Day

On Saturday, April 26, from 10 AM to 2 PM, the Downingtown Police Department will again partner with the U. S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to participate in National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day. This is an opportunity for the public to safely discard unwanted, unused and expired prescription drugs. Bring your medications for disposal to Downingtown Borough Hall Annex Building at 4 W.

Lancaster Avenue. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked. For more information, call 610-269-0344, ext. 200.

Meditation at library

Meditation for Creativity: 6:30 PM Monday, April 28. Program focuses on drawing inspiration from meditation. For more info on these activities, call the library at 610-269-2741.

Flower sale

Marshallton United Methodist Church's Men's Flower Sale will begin Friday, May 9 and will continue through Wednesday, May 28. The church is located at 1282 W. Strasburg Road, Marshallton. Hours are 9 AM to 5 PM, Monday through Saturday. The sale will feature large hanging baskets, annuals, geraniums, climbing mandevilles, perennials, vegetables, herbs, patio planters and more. Proceeds will help support local, regional, and global outreach. For more information, contact the church office at [\(610\) 696-5247](tel:6106965247).

East Brandywine Baptist's history

The East Brandywine Township Historical Commission will present a lecture on the history of East Brandywine Baptist Church, will be held at the church at 3:30 PM on Sunday, May 18.

Flea Market/Antiques/Crafts

Table space is available for a Flea Market/Antiques/Crafts sale to be held from 9 AM to 2 PM on Saturday, May 10 on the grounds of the Old Caln Meetinghouse at Route 340 and Caln Meetinghouse Rd., Thorndale. Sponsored by the Old Caln Historical Society. For more info, please call 610-384-8153.

Alert Fire Co. golf outing

The Alert Fire Co. will hold a golf outing on Monday, May 5, at the Downingtown Country Club. Entry fee for each golfer is \$100, which includes greens fee, cart, lunch, beverages on the course, awards dinner and five competitions. See www.alertgolfouting.org for registration and contest details.

Kentucky Derby Nite at the Races

The Downingtown Good Neighbor Christmas Committee, sponsors of the Halloween and Christmas parades, will have a "Kentucky Derby Nite at the Races" on Saturday, May 3 at St. Anthony's Lodge, 259 Church St., Downingtown. Doors will open at 5:30 PM. Buffet begins at 6 PM. Horse racing will begin immediately following the actual Kentucky Derby. For more details, see: www.dtownchristmas.com.

Soccer for players with special needs

The Glenmoore Eagle Youth Association's High 5 soccer program will be held at Fellowship Fields, 275 Fellowship Road, Chester Springs, from 3-4 PM on Saturdays, beginning April 12. The free program is for players, between 5 and 19 years of age, who have special needs. For more info, go to: www.geyasoccer.org.

Brochure on DARC classes & activities

You can gain access to the latest DARC brochure, listing all classes and activities, at: www.darcinfo.com. For more info, call 610-269-9260, or stop by the DARC office (8:30 AM-4:30 PM, Monday thru Friday), 114 Bell Tavern Road Downingtown.

Downingtown Farmers' Market

The Downingtown Farmers' Market will be open on Thursday April 17, at the Williamson Masonic Hall; 210 Manor Ave., Downingtown, from 4 - 6 PM. All of the farmers and food artisans at the market must grow, raise or make what they sell – meriting its classification as a "producer only" market. Consistent with the market's social mission, food drives will be held periodically to benefit the Lord's Pantry and other organizations in need of food donations. Additionally, market space will be made available to non-profit groups if their mission is similar to that of the market.

Banquet Room for Rent

The Downingtown (Williamson) Masonic Lodge, a non-profit organization located at 210 Manor Ave. has a Banquet Room for rent. The area is perfect for parties of up to 80 people and has a full kitchen. Rental fees are very reasonable. Call 610-269-3555 for more information.

Joseph's People, Downingtown Chapter

An ecumenical support mission to help un/underemployed people; run entirely by volunteers. We have been at St. Joseph's since 1995. Meets 7:30 PM on the 2nd & 4th Tues. of the month. All are welcome. Visit web page, www.josephspeople.org or just come to a meeting at St. Joseph's Parish Meeting Room

behind the school, 460 Manor Ave., Downingtown. Call 610-873-7117. Leave Message. Leader: Cheryl Spaulding, Email: JPCheryl@verizon.net