

HHHS PasTimes

Howell Heritage and Historical Society – Newsletter – May 2022

Meetings 4th Friday, 7 pm, Ardena Baptist Church Gym, Adelpphia Rd. Howell

Hot News!

Marilyn Kilrain, President of New Jersey Organization of the Questers, has chosen Howell Heritage and Historical Society to receive the President's Grant of \$5,000!



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

The Old Ardena Schoolhouse is garnering a lot of attention lately. Of major note is a fantastic \$5000 grant donation from the New Jersey State Questers group. The check was presented to us by group president, Marilyn Kilrain, Monday May 2, on the steps of the schoolhouse. The Questers would like a tour when the work is completed.

Other interest has been shown by people stopping by during the day, and talking to our painter, who relays the messages back to me. The Howell Senior Center would like to schedule a visit and tour when the work is completed. A Howell school group is visiting May 9, to do a project needing an interview, and documentary footage of Ardena.

You can stop by and see how vastly improved the schoolhouse is from just a month ago. And, we are only about halfway done. We are still needing the funding to complete the project in a timely manner, before the primer coat "ages out" and would need to be re-done. We would greatly appreciate your spreading the word to friends and neighbors to give us a hand in preserving this bit of Howell history.

Many Thanks. TRY THE QUIZ! On the last page!

Bob

Old Ardena Schoolhouse Gets Some Love!



This is the last one-room schoolhouse in Howell Township that remains as it was originally intended. In order to keep it open for future generations, we are working on the exterior of the building. It has been scraped, sanded, and the rotted areas in the clapboard siding have been repaired. The building is now being primed and caulked in preparation for painting.

We still need your help, so the schoolhouse can continue to teach our children about the rich educational process, of over 100 years ago, that sent students out into the world prepared for any career they chose.

Leigh Shaffer, Howell Heritage and Historical Society Treasurer, is leading a Donation Fundraiser to acquire the much-needed funds for this project, until July 4th.

Donations of any amount will receive a 501c3 tax deductible receipt.

Any persons or businesses that donate \$250 or more will also have their names on a plaque in the Old Ardena Schoolhouse, separated in donation categories.

Please make checks payable to: Howell Heritage and Historical Society
PO Box 444, Farmingdale, NJ 07727

For clarification of the thermometer Goal – the bid for the Schoolhouse Project was \$17,500. We decided to add a contingency amount, since there was no way to know what would be found in the process of repairing. Any money received over the final cost for Cut & Dry Painting, will be used for repairs and painting of the interior of the schoolhouse, and hopefully, we will raise enough to install an HVAC unit. Controlled temperatures are very important to preserve the building and its contents.

MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER: Ardena Schoolhouse Update as of May 6, 2022

I am happy to report that we were able to make the initial payment of \$4,375 and the fellows from Cut & Dry Painting have been busy scraping, sanding, repairing and priming the schoolhouse. When the work is completed, we have enough donations to cover the second payment. **Thank You! and Special Thanks to Marilyn Kilrain, NJ Questers President!**

Then, in order to retain the integrity of the primer, we need to begin the painting within a month after the completion of the primer – sooner is better than later. That cost will be another \$8,750. So, far we have \$3,423 and still need \$5,327.

I am also happy to report that, thanks to Dan Howe, we have had a donation of excellent-quality paint and primer from Ricciadri Paints, Toms River, Matt Brown, Store Mgr., valued at \$2,100, so we didn't need to raise money for that, as well. That is a tremendous gift!

Leigh

We're happy to report that our second "Last Sunday of the Month" when "Company Comes" was a success. On Sunday, April 24th the Old Ardena Schoolhouse opened its shutters, let the sun shine in, put its best foot forward and the "Company Came."



The area between the two foyers is, again, a Gift Shop, and it is open for business!



ARDENA OPEN HOUSE – 2022

At the February meeting, it was decided to schedule the days that the Old Ardena School would be open to the public; the same schedule as had been followed several years ago.

That would be the last Sunday of the month, from 12 pm to 4 pm.

May 29	June 26	July 31
August 28	September 25	October 30

We need at least two members on site at all times. Anyone who is interested in signing up for dates, please let Bob Novak know.

Thank you, Bob, Anne H. and Margaret for opening the schoolhouse on April 24th and making our guests feel welcome.

Reflective Notes from Vicky

On Sunday, April 24, 2022, our Old Ardena Schoolhouse was open to the public for visitors, and they came. Young families, some with babies and toddlers, individuals, couples, many who were just passing and noticed the door was OPEN and were excited to come in. And everyone saw something different. Some asked questions, others quietly walked around. Some people were interested in the history of the items in the building, others were curious about life in Howell when the school was being used. I was learning about our schoolhouse and figuring things out as the day went on. Where's the ink, one boy asked? Two doors: one for boys, one for girls, but why? Why are the desks different sizes? Questions were asked, and some couldn't be answered, while I was at the schoolhouse

So, when I got home, I started my search for the answers neither I, didn't have. I located some amazing websites, and kept searching the night away. In a publication I stumbled upon, An Historical Report for Furnishing the Millbrook School Millbrook New Jersey, prepared in 1993 for the Delaware Water Gap, I learned a lot about the expectations for 1 room schools in New Jersey. My new found knowledge, comes from this book, almost 100 pages in length. It is available using this on-line link: <http://www.nps.history.com/publications/dewa/hfr-millbrook-school.pdf>. Some of the items in our building are original to the building, other items are representative of the period Old Ardena was used as a school, up in Turkey or was it Blue Ball. Remember, our schoolhouse originally was across from the Ardena Baptist Church (where we hold our meetings) on Route 524 in the area of Howell Township that is now known as Adelpia. Not always being on a corner across from Oak Glen Park was a surprise to many of our guests. Just think, Ardena was one of many rural schools found in New Jersey, during the nineteenth century.

Our desks, were located in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, when the Old Ardena Schoolhouse was moved to its present site. I'm not sure who manufactured them, but the National Park Service book included an ad from 1874 for our distinctive style desks. J.A. Bancroft & Company boasted that their patent school furniture was the desk used by the Philadelphia Public Schools for four successive years. It was the Gothic Curved Back desk, with folding seat and rest. That folding seat allowed for passageways to be created. And when opening or folding the seat they stated it wouldn't catch clothing or pinch a finger. The iron castings were designed for strength and elegance. It included a footrest and shelf for storage. A lot of thought went into the design.

The stove is original to our school. So are the slate boards in our building. These were important items in a one room schoolhouse, as was an eight-day clock, thermometer, and bell. Our school has a bell tower and its original bell is up there, although not in working order at this time. Look up, and you'll notice it's upside down. The hand bell on the teacher's desk would have been used, in place of our larger inoperable bell, to call the children to line up and enter the school, youngest to oldest, boys in one line, girls in the other. The children entered through the cloak rooms, hung up their coats, put their lunch boxes on the shelf and proceeded to their desks, boys on one side, girls the other, with a wide center aisle. Most schools housed about 24 multi-aged students who walked to school. This number was manageable for a single teacher, often a schoolmarm, sometimes as young as 16 years of age. In addition, items considered indispensable, for late nineteenth century school, were maps of the district town, county, state, and country. The amount of windows, which direction light came from (east, to the right) was important, when planning the orientation of the building. The nineteenth century school room was relatively standardized. The McGuffey Readers were first published in 1836, and were used by four out of five American schoolchildren for generations. They may have been used by the Ardena students.

I could go on and on, but won't. Instead, I suggest a visit to Old Ardena Schoolhouse. Look around and ask questions, search out the answers to your questions. Listen to the visitors and their questions. Maybe you know the answer, maybe you don't, but that's okay. Search out the answers when you have time to do so. Just wander around, and think about what your own school looked like when you attended. How did it change? How is it the same as Ardena? Come spend an afternoon and share that knowledge with Old Ardena's visitors.

Now You See It!



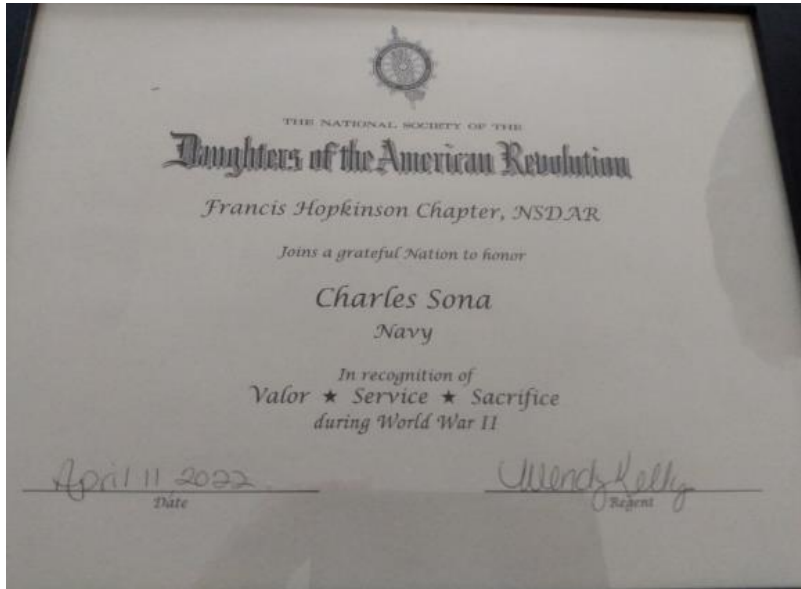
Now You Don't!



Congratulations, Mr. Sona!

Mr. Charles Sona, a Life Member of Howell Heritage and Historical Society, was recently honored by The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Francis Hopkinson Chapter.

Mr. Sona was honored for serving in the United States Navy during World War II.



MR. SONA'S 97TH BIRTHDAY WAS ON APRIL 28TH



CALENDAR FOR 2022

THE PROGRAMS SCHEDULE IS COMPLETE AND YOU CAN SEE THERE IS A WIDE VARIETY OF OFFERINGS.

WE HOPE YOU'LL JOIN US!

ARDNA BAPTIST CHURCH GYM ~ 593 ADELPHIA RD, HOWELL

4TH FRIDAY ~ PROGRAM 7 P.M. ~ BUSINESS MEETING 8 P.M.

WE SERVE REFRESHMENTS AND SOCIALIZE AT EVERY MEETING.

JANUARY 28th PROGRAM: GET-TO-KNOW-EACH-OTHER ACTIVITY AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

REFRESHMENTS: LYNN BARRALL **MEETING CANCELLED FOR SNOW**

FEBRUARY 25th PROGRAM: BOB NOVAK ~ SQUANKUM MILL

REFRESHMENTS: LYNN BARRALL

MARCH 25th PROGRAM: DON AND ELLEN MCGIRR ~ HARRY'S HOUSE

REFRESHMENTS: DON AND ELLEN MCGIRR

APRIL 22nd PROGRAM: LEIGH SHAFFER, BILL SHAFFER ~ HISTORY OF TRAINS IN HOWELL

REFRESHMENTS: BILL SHAFFER, LEIGH SHAFFER, LILY KEANEY

MAY 27th PROGRAM: CELEBRATE 3RD ANNIVERSARY OF HHHS INC. and FRANK PINKUS ~ HUDSON MAXIM

REFRESHMENTS: ANN MALSBUY AND CATHY McKEE

MAY 15th SPECIAL EVENT: SEA GIRT LIGHTHOUSE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

MAY SPECIAL ACTIVITY: FARMINGDALE-HOWELL MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

JUNE 24th PROGRAM: T. J. FALLON, VICE PRESIDENT'S GRAVES

REFRESHMENTS: LYNN BARRALL

JULY 22nd PROGRAM: T.J. FALLON, DECLARATION AND CONSTITUTION JULY

REFRESHMENTS: BOB NOVAK

AUGUST 26th PROGRAM: VIRGINIA KRZYZANOWSKI ~ BASKETS - FORM AND FUNCTION

REFRESHMENTS: VIRGINIA KRZYZANOWSKI AND ELLEN MCGIRR

SEPTEMBER 23rd PROGRAM: SHOW AND TELL ~ SHARE MEMORABILIA AND STORIES

REFRESHMENTS: LARRY LASTRA AND RON ALESSI

OCTOBER 28th PROGRAM: JUDE MEEHAN AND CATHERINE SCHWIER ~ MILITARY HISTORY

REFRESHMENTS: JUDE MEEHAN AND CATHERINE SCHWIER

NOVEMBER — NO MEETING

DECEMBER — NO MEETING

HOWELL HERITAGE AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY					
Monthly Treasurer's Report					
For month ending April 30, 2022					
Balance as of March 31, 2022			Operating	Improvements	Total
			\$1,398.50	\$6,030.02	\$7,428.52
INCOME					
MEMBERSHIP					
	Paul Gembara		\$20.00		
DONATIONS					
	John & Lisa Wyckoff (Ardena)			\$50.00	
	Elaine Dalley (Ardena)			\$400.00	
	Questers Nooks & Crannis #1521(Ardena)			\$100.00	
	Cathy McKee (Ardena)			\$250.00	
	Barbara L. Campbell (Ardena)			\$200.00	
	Bob & Kathi Novak(Ardena)			\$250.00	
	Barrall Family (Ardena)			\$250.00	
	TRANSFER OF FUNDS			\$4,375.00	
SALES					
	Old Monmouth Candy			\$28.00	
	Farmingdale UMC Vendor Market			\$40.00	
	Open House Ardena April 24			\$60.00	
		INCOME TOTAL	Operating	Improvements	Total
			\$20.00	\$6,003.00	\$6,023.00
		combined total	\$1,418.50	\$12,033.02	\$13,451.52
EXPENSES					
Date	MACKENZIE MUSEUM				
April 1	JCP&L		\$6.10		
April 4	verizon		\$40.07		
ARDENA SCHOOLHOUSE					
April 27	JCP&L		\$9.75		
April 19	verizon		\$39.95		
April 15	CHUBB Insurance		\$310.03		
	Cut&Dry			\$4,375.00	
		EXPENSES TOTAL	Operating	Improvements	Total
			\$405.90	\$4,375.00	\$4,780.90
Balance as of April 30, 2022			Operating	Improvements	Total
		combined total	\$1,012.60	\$7,658.02	\$8,670.62
					\$1,425.00
					\$2,795.00
					\$233.63
					\$165.00
				designated total	\$4,618.63

**Howell Heritage and
Historical Society
Now collecting 2022 Dues!**

2022 Membership/ Donation Form

**I would like to enroll as a member in
the category below:**

_____ \$20 individual

_____ \$30 family

_____ \$50 sponsor

_____ \$100 patron

I would like to make a donation:

Amount: \$ _____ donation

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone(s) _____

Email _____

**Particular skills, interests, and/or areas
where you would like to be involved:**

**Please send this form and your check,
payable to:**

**Howell Heritage and Historical Society
mail to:**

**Howell Heritage and Historical Society
PO Box 444
Farmingdale, NJ 07727**

REMEMBER to FOLLOW US:

on Facebook

MacKenzie Museum and Library NJ

Old Ardena Schoolhouse No. 2 NJ

and

Howell Heritage and Historical Society NJ

on Website

www.howellheritagehistoricalsociety.org

You can reach us anytime:

by email:

HowellHeritageandHistoricalSoc@gmail.com

by snail mail:

Howell Heritage and Historical Society

P.O. Box 444, Farmingdale, NJ 07727

by phone:

732-938-2212



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profits being automatically donated to us!

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smile.amazon.com, and selecting
Howell Heritage and Historical Society
as your charity of choice.



Care2Share Affinity Program

Already bank at **Investors**? We could receive a 0.25%
donation annually from the bank once 10 or more
accounts are enrolled. This donation will be paid
quarterly based on the average monthly balance in all
eligible accounts enrolled each quarter.

See your **Investors** Branch office to support the **HHHS**
by enrolling your eligible Personal or
Business Checking Accounts, and selecting
Howell Heritage and Historical Society
as your local nonprofit of choice.



Support HHHS and the Exterior Restoration of the Ardena Schoolhouse by donating your clutter!

DROP OFF your gently used clean items from noon to 7:00pm

DATES & LOCATIONS:

Wednesday, May 18 at Cathy McKee's house – 732-740-8539

35 Merrick Rd, Farmingdale - iluvhollies@yahoo.com

Thursday, May 19 at Virginia Krzyzanowski's – 732-431-4118

108 Manaqua Road, Freehold – krzyzanowski@njaes.rutgers.edu

**May 21 is the YARD SALE from 9am-2pm
Wainwright House, Main St., Farmingdale**

QUIZ!

Can you guess where in Monmouth County this photo is from?
(Vague hint: at one time, was part of Howell)



Answer in next month's newsletter.