



## Howell Heritage & Historical Society

Meetings 4<sup>th</sup> Friday, 7 pm, Ardena Baptist Church Gym, Adelpia Rd. Howell

### December 2024 Newsletter

#### Message from HHHS President, Jude Meehan

Greetings HHHS Members,  
It's already Christmas season again and HHHS Members have done an excellent job, as usual, getting our gems all set for Holiday tours.

We still have one chimney left at MacKenzie for Santa to use and maybe Santa can sneak through the bell tower at Ardena. Tours went well at both places and they are decked out beautifully for the Holidays. We had a Christmas donkey join Mr. And Mrs. Santa Claus at Ardena. Many children and pets showed up for a photo op with Santa too.

Visitors to MacKenzie were treated to a beautiful Victorian Christmas. HHHS Member Donna Terkielsen played Christmas Carols on our pump organ. Ebenezer Scrooge was also present to greet guests at MacKenzie. We caught Scrooge after the Ghost of Christmas had visited him! It was a wonderful two-day affair.

Not to rush through Christmas but, I cannot wait to see what our amazing volunteers do for our next Holiday. Thank you for all for your outstanding efforts, they do not go unnoticed.

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Truly,  
Jude Meehan  
(732) 433-3359



Follow us on Social Media for the latest HHHS events!

Facebook

Howell Heritage and Historical Society NJ

Our Website

[www.howellheritagehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.howellheritagehistoricalsociety.org)

Howell Heritage and Historical Society  
is now collecting 2025 Dues!

#### Upcoming Events

##### **MacKenzie House Museum & Library Open House**

427 Lakewood Farmingdale Road, Howell  
Open Houses will begin again in March 2025!

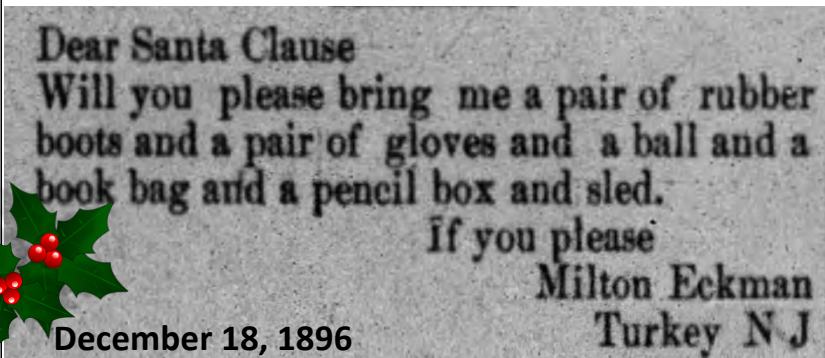
##### **Old Ardena Schoolhouse Open House**

Preventorium & Old Tavern Roads, Howell  
Open Houses will begin again in March 2025!

**Volunteers Needed at Both Buildings  
Contact a Committee member if interested**

#### Table of Contents

HHHS News, "Did You Know" .....	Page 2
HHHS Treasurer's Report .....	Not Included
HHHS Program Calendar.....	Page 4
HHHS Membership Form.....	Page 5
HHHS Events.....	Page 6-11



You can reach us anytime by email:  
[HowellHeritageandHistoricalSoc@gmail.com](mailto:HowellHeritageandHistoricalSoc@gmail.com)

By snail mail:  
Howell Heritage and Historical Society  
2 Ardmore Road, Freehold, NJ 07728

## Meet Our Members

As we approach year end, we thank all of our members that have supported HHHS this year.

As a reminder, HHHS is collecting dues for 2025! Please see page 5 for HHHS' Membership Form.

**NOTE:** Society meetings will not be held in November or December, but our sub-committees should continue any initiatives currently in progress.

## Wreaths Across America

HHHS is pleased to announce that we have received 100% wreath sponsorship for 2024! This will ensure every veteran interred at Cedar Lawn / Southard Cemetery will be honored with a balsam wreath on December 14th.

Thank you to everyone who sponsored wreaths to help us achieve our goal of 130 wreaths. This couldn't be possible without your support and generosity. Photos can be found on page 10.

## Old Ardena School Update

The Old Ardena School held a holiday event on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.

This year's holiday event was extra special with "Ardena" the Christmas Donkey who paid the school a visit. Mr. and Mrs. Claus took time out of their busy schedule to visit the school as well.

Mr. & Mrs. Claus took photos with about 35 children and their parents and 10 of the cutest, kindest furry friends! Pictures of our event can be found on pages 6-7.

Special thanks to our School Committee who helped us prepare and host the event. Vicky Arose, Debbie Frost, Anne Hartman, Eric & Margaret Winkelman and Lynn Barrall. We had two Christmas "Elves" Ella and Sofia who assisted during the event as well. The event raised \$223 between donations and gift shop sales. ~~~~**Margaret Winkelman, Board Treasurer and School Committee Member**

## MacKenzie House Museum & Library Update

The MacKenzie House was awash with Christmas activities this past weekend. Thanks to the imagination of Leigh Shaffer, our house was decked out in its best Victorian splendor.

Saturday's events included the playing of Christmas carols on our 1890's pump organ by our talented member Donna Terkildsen. Groups of visitors were happy to sing along to the various Christmas carols played by Donna. Every inch of our house was decorated for Christmas and immensely appreciated by all our visitors.

Sunday's guest of honor was none other than Ebenezer Scrooge himself. He was quite a hit as everyone wanted to have their picture taken with him! For those of you that didn't get to meet Scrooge you might know him as me...Larry!!

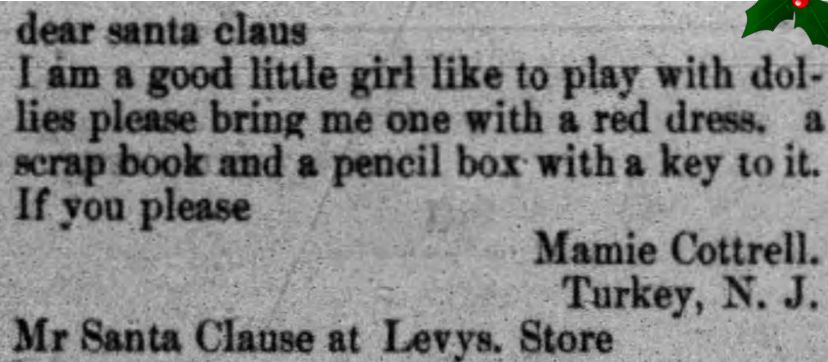
This was our first Christmas celebrated at the MacKenzie House since it reopened this past spring. We are looking forward to many more holidays to celebrate. The house committee consisting of Leigh Shaffer, Ron Alessi and myself were thrilled with the turnout and look forward to new adventures in 2025! Pictures can be found on pages 8-9.

~~~~**Larry Lastra, HHHS Volunteer & MacKenzie Committee Member**

## DID YOU KNOW?

Letters to Santa can be found in various old newspapers from our area. A few have been included in this month's newsletter. Enjoy reading!

**December 18, 1896**



dear santa claus  
I am a good little girl like to play with dollies please bring me one with a red dress. a scrap book and a pencil box with a key to it.  
If you please  
Mamie Cottrell.  
Turkey, N. J.  
Mr Santa Clause at Levys. Store

**TREASURER'S REPORT THROUGH NOVEMBER 30, 2024  
SUBMITTED BY: MARGARET WINKELMAN**

**Requests for financial information can be made to HHHS**

December 18, 1896

Dear Santa Claus

plese bring me a pair of mitten toboggan  
cap story book and a pound of candy from  
Jennie Clayton

Howell  
N. J.



# HHHS PROGRAM CALENDAR FOR 2025



Howell Heritage and Historical Society is now collecting 2025 Dues!

ARDENA BAPTIST CHURCH GYM ~ 593 ADELPHIA RD, HOWELL  
4TH FRIDAY ~ PROGRAM 7 P.M. ~ BUSINESS MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING

If you are interested in presenting at a Society Meeting in 2025, please contact any Society Member.

## **January Program: HHHS Installation of Officers**

Refreshments:

## **February Program:**

Refreshments:

## **March Program:**

Refreshments:

## **April Program:**

Refreshments:

## **May Program: CELEBRATE 6th ANNIVERSARY OF HHHS INC.**

Refreshments:

**Special Activity: Farmingdale-Howell Memorial Day Parade**

## **June Program:**

Refreshments:

## **July Program:**

Refreshments:

**Special Activity: Monmouth County Fair at East Freehold Showgrounds**

## **August Program:**

Refreshments:

## **September Program: Slate of Officers Presented by Nominating Committee**

Refreshments:

**Special Activity: Howell Day & Green Fair**

## **October Program: Approval of Slate of Officers for 2025**

Refreshments:

Special Activity: Monmouth County Archives & History Day

November & December — No Meetings



HHHS MEMBERSHIP FORM

Howell Heritage and Historical Society is now collecting 2025 Dues!

Howell Heritage and Historical Society is now collecting 2025 Dues!

2025 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 \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this form & your check, payable to:

**Howell Heritage & Historical Society, 2 Ardmore Road, Freehold NJ 07728**

Howell Heritage and Historical Society is a recognized 501 (c)3 Non-Profit Organization

Funding has been made possible in part by an operating support grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a Division of the Department of State, through grant funds administered by the Monmouth County Historical Commission.





Howell Heritage and Historical Society is now collecting 2025 Dues!

HHHS Volunteers posed for a photo

**Back:** Margaret Winkelman, Anne Hartmann, Debbie Front, Lynn Barrall, Eric Winkelman

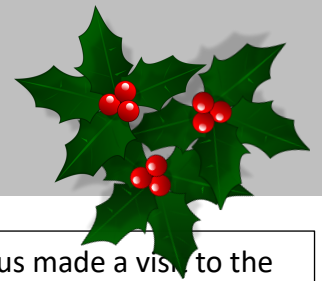
**Front:** Jude Meehan, "Ardena" The Donkey



The school was decorated inside and out for the holidays. This year we also had the children color a cardboard gingerbread house (which a generous HHHS member brought to the recent yard sale!)



# HHHS EVENTS – OLD ARDENA SCHOOL



HHHS Volunteer, Debbie Frost with Board President, Jude Meehan, along with a donkey from Jude's Farm. We special named the donkey "Ardena" for the day.

Santa and Mrs. Claus made a visit to the Schoolhouse and took photos with families, including our furry friends. We were so glad to see Mason again this year!



HHHS Volunteer & Board Trustee, Lynn Barrall happy to be part of the Holiday Event at Ardena.



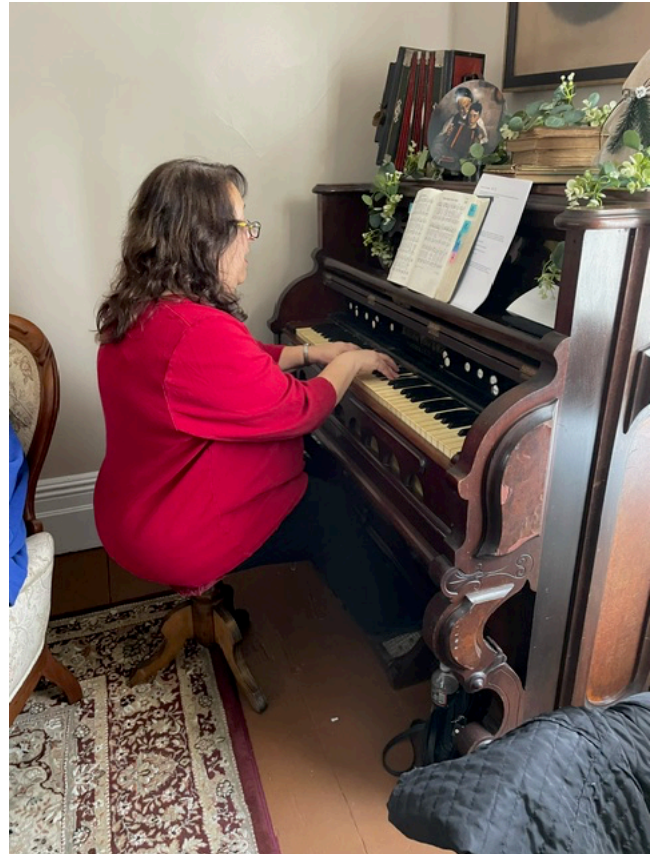
Santa and Mrs. Claus pose for a photo with HHHS Volunteer Debbie Frost and her friend from DAR.



# HHHS EVENTS – MACKENZIE MUSEUM AND LIBRARY



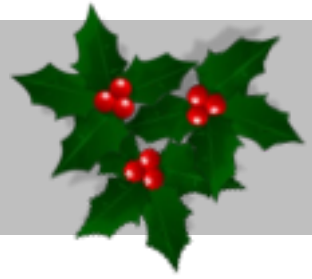
Mackenzie was decorated 8beautifully for the Holidays. Every room had special décor – thanks to the MacKenzie Committee for their efforts.



Christmas carols were played on the 1890's pump organ by our talented HHHS member Donna Terkildsen. Watch the video of Donna's songs here <https://www.howellheritagehistoricalsociety.org/copy-of-events>







MacKenzie's guest of honor was none other than Ebenezer Scrooge himself by HHHS Volunteer and MacKenzie Committee Member, Larry Lastra.

Ebenezer poses for photo with HHHS Volunteer Debbie Frost.



Ebenezer Scrooge with HHHS Volunteer and Board Trustee, Vicky Arose.

# HHHS EVENTS – WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA CEREMONY 12.14.24



Pictures from the Wreaths Across America Ceremony at Cedar Lawn Cemetery in Howell.

HHHS was joined by local Howell/Farmingdale Scout troops.

We were honored to have so many veterans participating in the armed forces wreath presentations.



**HHHS EVENTS – WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA CEREMONY  
12.14.24**

