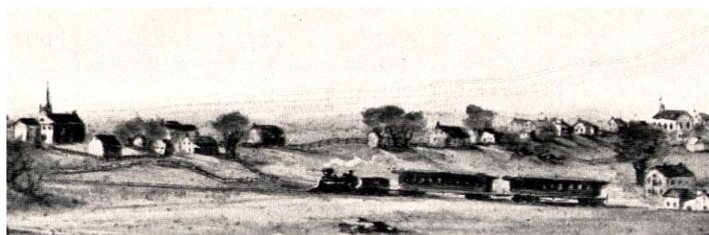


The Madison Historical Society



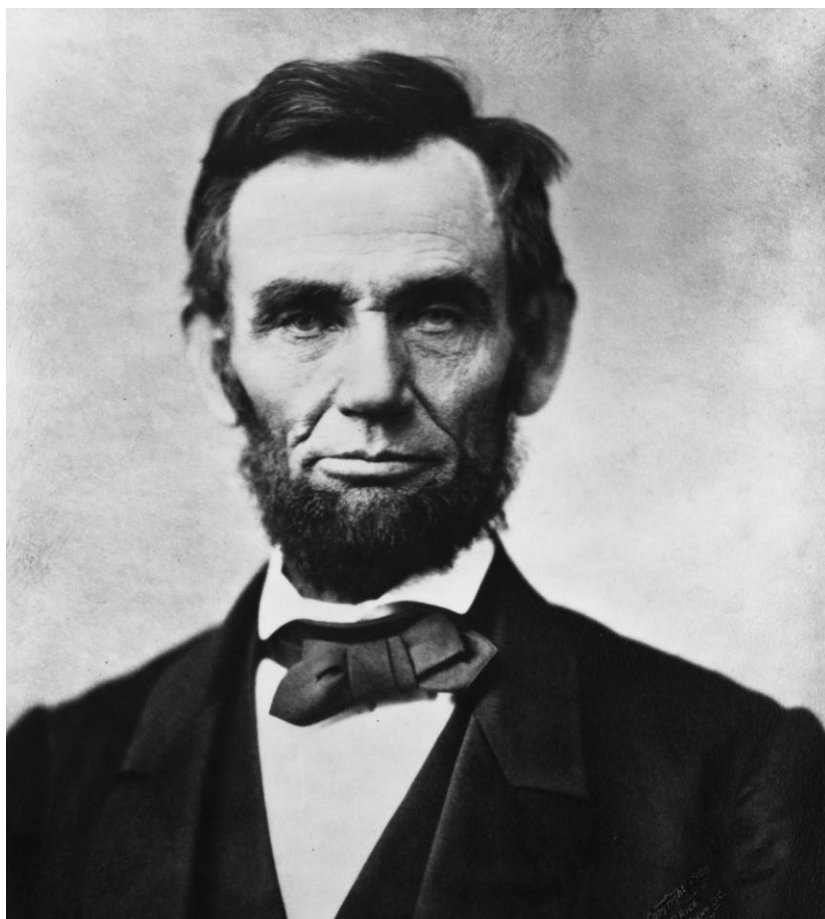
The May 2010 Newsletter

Dr. Perry Leavell Featured Speaker at Society Dinner on, May 20th

On May 20th, Dr. Perry Leavell, the William R. Kenan, Jr., Professor Emeritus of History at Drew University, will give the major address at the Annual Dinner of the Madison Historical Society at the Madison Hotel.

The title of his presentation is “Abraham Lincoln and Local Environments,” which speaks to the famous president’s unique ability to be comfortable and make his counterparts comfortable regardless of venue.

For those wishing to attend the Society’s dinner on May 20th, the cost is \$55 and tickets can be obtained by contacting the historical society at 973-377-0722 x 8 on Tuesdays between 10:30 am and 3:30 pm or dropping by the offices at the Madison Public Library during those same hours.



The Great Seal of the United States 1841-1872

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Newsletter

Doug Simon

MESSAGE FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS

Rosemarie Dodds and Susan Simon

In March we had an outstanding program on the history of the Madison Fire Department. Retired Chief Atchison shared a wealth of historical information and personal experiences that kept the audience so engaged that we were not ready for the program to end. In April we sponsored an equally intriguing program on Thomas Jefferson, presented by Dr. Barbara Oberg, the general Editor of the papers of Thomas Jefferson.

The Society has been working on many projects: redesigning the website, getting ready for further exploration of the forge at the Luke Miller House in June, filing and transcribing historical documents that have been donated, and clipping newspaper articles. We have been able to put the old Eagle newspapers into the new acid-free boxes bought with the grant money from the Investors Savings Bank Charitable Foundation. We are also working on preserving our framed historical pictures and documents. See how you can help by adopting one of the photos or documents on pages 6 and 7 of this newsletter.

We need volunteers and are asking once again that you consider donating your time to help us in these endeavors. Please contact the Society by phone or email.

Rosemarie and Susan

This 'n That.....

- Regarding the Luke Miller project, Madison High School History Teacher and the Society Trustee Mark DeBiasse scheduled a Day of Service for June 2nd, 3rd and 4th. History students will work on the archaeological dig at the Luke Miller forge that has been an on-going project of the Madison Historical Society.
- Rosemarie Dodds and Kate Malcolm Chaperoned a student field trip to Cooper Mill on April 9th.
- Cathie Coultas and Melda Pike will make two history presentations to the 2nd graders at Kings Road School on May 18th.
- The Madison Historical Society Newsletter will be published on a regular schedule four times a year beginning in the Fall. Plans are for issues to be sent out on September 1, November 1, February 1 and April 1.
- Currently there are 112 memberships in the Madison Historical Society representing 157 people. We would like to encourage those members in arrears, no numbering eleven, to pay their dues for next year.

REGIONAL EVENTS OF HISTORICAL INTEREST

Saturday May 15, 2:00 pm “Murder at the Earl of Grey’s Hound Manor, A Murder Mystery Afternoon Tea. Boonton Senior Center, 126 North Main Street, \$25. Boonton Historical Society. Call: 973-316-0976 or 973-396-6782.

Saturday May 15, 2010, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm Speaker: James Beidler presents “Researching German Ancestors.” Learn how to research your German roots. Secaucus Public Library, Secaucus, N.J.



Sunday, May 16 Be Our Guest 12 - 5 p.m.. Acorn Hall, Morristown. Acorn Hall will be part of the third annual “Be Our Guest” event, a free open house of Morris County's museums, historic sites, and cultural attractions. Free transportation will be available between Acorn Hall, the Morris Museum, Washington's Headquarters, Schuyler-Hamilton House, Macculloch Hall Historical Museum, Fosterfields Living Historical Farm, Historic Speedwell, and Craftsman Farms. While there is no admission fee,

visitors are asked to bring a non-perishable food item as part of a food drive to benefit the Interfaith Food Pantry. For a list of the food pantry's most urgent needs visit <http://www.mcifp.org/>.

Saturday, May 22 9:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. Antiques and yard sale at Acorn Hall, Morristown. Laces; vintage clothing and textiles; gloves, hats, and purses; small furniture pieces, books, decorative items, household goods, gently used clothing, and more.

Thursday, June 3, “Gowns: From Birth to Bedroom to Ballroom” Exhibit opens at Acorn Hall, Morristown. Featuring wedding gowns, evening gowns, christening gowns, even nightgowns from the Morristown Historical Society’s vast costume collection. The exhibit will be open Mondays, Thursdays, and Sundays during its run into 2011.



Nominees for Election to Society Officer and Trustee Positions

The following individuals are nominated for election as officers or trustees and will be voted on at the Madison Historical Society Dinner, May 20, 2010.

Vice President	Cathie Coultas (Two years)
Treasurer	Joanne Binting (Two years)
Historian	David Luber (Two years)
Trustee	Chris Fillimon (Three years)
Trustee	Jim Malcolm (Three years)

Additional nominations maybe submitted by the membership in writing two weeks before the annual meeting.



Spotlight on History

Madison's Connection To President Lincoln: William O. Stoddard

By Douglas W. Simon

William Osborn Stoddard served as President Abraham Lincoln's Third Secretary on his personal staff. Later in life, after his years serving the president in the White House, Stoddard became a resident of Madison, continuing his writing focusing on his experiences serving Lincoln and extending the family tree to include some of the most well-known names in Madison's history including Brittin, Webb and Holden.^{i ii}

Lincoln had met a young Stoddard in Illinois where he served as the editor of *The Central Illinois Gazette* in West Urbana and *The Ford County Journal*. When he first went to Washington in 1861 Stoddard was a clerk at the Interior Department preparing a digest of newspaper articles for the President as well as the responsibility for signing land patents. After the attack on Fort Sumter he joined the Army. While still in Washington, he eventually worked in the White House and grew close to Lincoln who called him "Stod". Stoddard often accompanied Lincoln on visits to various dignitaries such as Secretary of State Seward and General McClellan.ⁱⁱⁱ One of his proudest accomplishments was as first writer of the Emancipation Proclamation from Lincoln's original draft in 1862.^{iv}



There is no doubt that Stoddard was an enormous admirer of Lincoln. He was fond of recalling a particular meeting between the President and General William McClellan, commander of the Army of the Potomac. As the story goes, Lincoln traveled to see the general and was kept waiting even after McClellan knew who his visitor was. "His whole attitude was condescending," Stoddard recalled. "but in the course of a long interview, McClellan did a complete about-face. Lincoln dominated by the force of his personality, his wisdom and knowledge."^v

Stoddard had a particularly good relationship with Mrs. Lincoln. Specifically assigned to her to assist in handling her correspondence, he became somewhat of a buffer between Mrs. Lincoln and the other two secretaries, John G. Nicolay and John Hay, with whom the first lady had a strained relationship.^{vi} Stoddard almost died of Typhoid in 1863 and after suffering another bout in 1864 asked to leave the White House and be appointed U.S. Attorney in Arkansas.^{vii}

After serving in Arkansas, Stoddard moved to Madison with his wife, Susan, in the mid-1800s and established residence on Central Avenue, devoting a great deal of time on yet another book, *Abraham Lincoln: The True Story of a Great Life*.

Above all William O. Stoddard was a writer. While in the White House he submitted a steady stream of newspaper dispatches to newspapers, including the *New York Examiner*, under the

pen name “Illinois.” He also wrote a number of books about Lincoln and the experience of working in the White House: *Inside the White House in War Times*, *Lincoln’s Third Secretary* and *Abraham Lincoln: the Man and the War President*.^{viii} Lincoln was not the only subject of his writing. He wrote a ten volume series on the lives of Presidents up to Grover Cleveland.^{ix} Stoddard was frequently featured in the Madison newspaper, particularly around Lincoln’s birthday. In 1908 *The Eagle* carried his account of the Lincoln inaugural.^x

William O. Stoddard ceased writing around 1909 and passed away in Madison in 1925.

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- i Frank J. Esposito, *The Madison Heritage Trail*, Madison, N.J.: The Madison Bicentennial Heritage Committee, 1985, p. 85.
 ii Michael Keane, “Brittin, Webb, Holden and Stoddard Family Records,” Archives & Manuscripts Final Project, Madison Historical Society, May 10, 2004.
 iii Website : Mr. Lincoln’s White House, The Lincoln Institute, <http://www.mrlincolnwhitehouse.org/inside.asp?ID=67&subjectID=2>
 iv Ibid
 v Sunday Dailey Record, Feb. 10, 1974.
 vi Website: Mr. Lincoln and Friends, The Lincoln Institute, <http://www.mrlincolnandfriends.org>
 7 Ibid
 8 Esposito, p. 76
 9 Eleanor Stoddard, “Notes for Talk to Madison Historical Society, September 25, 2003
 10 Esposito, p. 76
 vi Ibid
 vii Ibid
 viii Esposito, p. 76
 ix Eleanor Stoddard, “Notes for Talk to Madison Historical Society, September 25, 2003
 xx Esposito, p. 76

MADISON HISTORICAL SOCIETY – ITEMS FOR SALE

Books:

<u>BOTTLE HILL AND MADISON</u> by William Parkhurst Tuttle	\$30.00
<u>FROM HERE TO HEAVEN</u> by Thomas Sapio	\$14.50
<u>GROWING UP IN THE ROSE CITY</u> by William F. Redmond, II	\$10.00
<u>IMAGES OF AMERICA – MADISON</u> by John T. Cunningham	\$20.00
<u>IMAGES OF AMERICA – CHATHAM TOWNSHIP</u> by John T. Cunningham	\$20.00
<u>MEMORIES ENTWINED WITH ROSES</u> by Ruth Churchill	\$15.00
<u>ST. VINCENT MARTYR PARISH, 200 YEARS OF FAITH</u> by Michael P. Riccards	\$25.00
<u>THE UNCERTAIN REVOLUTION</u> by John T. Cunningham	\$26.95
<u>CROSSROADS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION: A GUIDE TO NEW JERSEY’S AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY WAR SITES</u>	\$ 5.00

Maps:

1910 ATLAS OF MORRIS COUNTY by A.H. Mueller	Members \$115 each
MADISON PLATES 3, 4, 5: Approximate size 22” x 31” each	Non Members \$125 each

Miscellaneous:

2010-2011 Pocket Calendar by Madison Historical Society	\$ 2.50
Postcards of Historic Madison	\$1.25 each or Set of 4 for \$4.75
Rose City Tote Bag	\$12.00
Hartley Dodge Memorial Anniversary Note Cards (Pack of 4)	\$ 3.00
Christmas Ornament: Historic Sayre House	\$10.00
Christmas Ornament: Luke Miller House	\$10.00
Madison Historical Society Note Pad with Pen	\$ 3.50
2008, 2009 Madison Photos on Calendar	\$ 5.00

Madison Historical Society DVD’s

\$10.00 each

The War Years, On the Home Front 1940-1955, History of Roses in Madison, Vietnam Oral History Project (with booklet), Italian History in Madison, Black Church History, Luke Miller, Forging History, Isaac Gordon – Civil War in N.J.

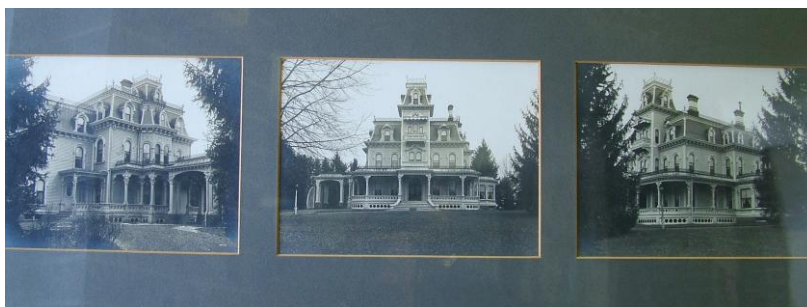
ADOPT A PICTURE OR DOCUMENT CAMPAIGN CONTINUES

In the last newsletter we announced a new program whereby members and supporters of the Madison Historical Society can adopt one of the Society's pictures or documents in desperate need of preservation. Thus far one of the six items has been adopted and five remain in need of work to be re-matted and framed using the most up-to-date preservation methods including the use of UV protected glass, acid free backing board, acid free matting or spacers, a rabbit sealed frame with an aluminum barrier frame sealing tape. This initial preservation effort was made possible by a generous \$500 gift from Melda Shippey and family. But five more pieces need work if they are to be saved. Additional pieces will be made available for adoption in coming newsletters.

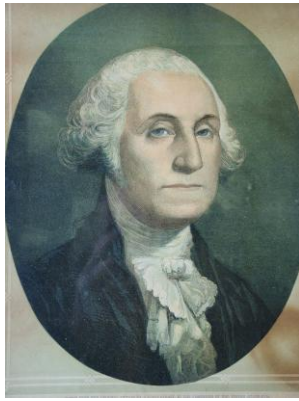
Would you be willing to adopt one of these documents and fund its preservation?



A portrait of 1908 to 1909. Mayor Redmond served only one term. He was an avid horse breeder on his estate located on the southwest corner of Woodland Road and Loantaka Way. The picture was found in the Burrough's barn and needs glass, backing board, a new mat and the rabbit sealed. Cost: \$77.50.



A set of three photos showing the magnificent home of Mrs. J.M. Young that used to stand on the corner of Madison Ave. and Morris Place on the estate known as "Ingleside." The pictures need a new mat and backing. Cost \$161.50



A copy of the Gilbert Stuart portrait of George Washington originally in the possession of the Callmeyer family of Madison, descendants of the children who greeted Lafayette when he visited the borough in 1825. The print needs new glass, spacer, backing board, seal rabbet, treatment for mold and de-acidifying. Cost: \$448.50



A portrait of the first mayor, J.P. Albright, and Council of the Borough of Madison, 1894. Needs UV protected glass, rag mat, new back board, seal rabbet, elimination of mold. Cost \$102.50.



A print of the well-known portrait of General George Washington by Charles Wilson Peale. In the forefront to Washington's left is General Marquis de Lafayette and in the middle background Lt. Col. Trench Tilghman who served as Washington's military secretary and aide-de-camp. Lt. Col. Tilghman was from Maryland and related to the well-known Tilghman family of Madison. Needs glass, backing board, seal rabbet and spacer. Cost \$111.00



A petition dated 1849 requesting the construction of a boarding house in Madison. It contains many of the signatures of the original and early settlers in Madison. Some of the families represented include members of the Brittin, Thayer, Miller, Bruen, Phyfe, Green, Pierson, Burnet and Crane families. Depending on the condition of the piece once it is taken out of the frame, the price could increase. But we are asking for the bottom line quote of \$386.20.



