



Cedar Grove Historical Society

Where the Past is Present

Canfield-Morgan House - Home of the Morgan Museum
908 Pompton Avenue P.O. Box 461 Cedar Grove, New Jersey
973-239-5414 - www.cedargrovehistoricalsociety.org

If a meeting is cancelled there will be a recorded message at 973-239-5414

November/December 2010



Holiday Open House

**Celebrate the Holiday Season
with the
Cedar Grove Historical
Society**

**Sunday, December 12
from 2-4 p.m.**

**Canfield-Morgan House
908 Pompton Avenue
Cedar Grove**

**Music to be provided by
Cedar Grove High School
Music Department under the
Direction of
Jennifer Jessen-Foose**

**To Help with Refreshments
phone Barbara at
973-239-4827**



President's Message

In case you haven't noticed the year is moving right along and it will soon be time for our annual Holiday Open House. We will begin decorating December 1 and finish on December 8. Come by on Wednesday morning and help if you are available. (See ad for more info.)

I would also like to thank everyone who made our October activities such a big success. Our Pumpkin/Apple/Barn Sale would not happen without help from Public Works, which trucks in the pumpkins, or Chris Werndly and Matt Wilson, who pick up the apples. Thanks also to our daily helpers - Bill and Ellie Allen, Pat Fornoff, Barbara Schickram, Julie Ostering, Ren Chandler, Peggy O'Connor, Cheryl Woomer, Ed Husni, Tom Dispenzere, Eileen Bogdanowicz, Andy Duncan, Doris Werndly, Rose Marie Partington, Phil Jaeger, Tom Jenkins, Nada Weber, Marian and Dick Healy, John Young, Linda and Bill Dye, and the Cedar Grove Education Association.

Special thanks to Rose Marie Partington and Peggy O'Connor for their work on the 25th Anniversary Dinner Dance at the VFW. We had good food, good music, good company and a good time.

See you in December!

Future Events

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| December 12 | Holiday Open House
2 p.m.-4 p.m. |
| January 25 | <u>Early American Paper Money</u>
presented by Ray Williams |
| February 22 | <u>Music of the Fifties</u>
presented by Stephen F. Marcone Ph.D. |

Cedar Grove: Then-and-Now

The Canfield-Morgan House

The historical society recently celebrated the 25th Anniversary of the acquisition of the Canfield-Morgan property. When J. Courtenay Morgan, the last farmer in Cedar Grove died in 1985, he willed his property to the Township of Cedar Grove with the stipulations that it be used for passive recreation and the historical society create a museum in the house and in the barns. The house was originally built by Benjamin Canfield c. 1845 and was farmed by the Canfield family until it was sold to the Morgan family in 1910. The pictures below are from the period when the property was acquired by the township until the present day.



The house in 1985 before it became the Morgan Museum.



The Morgan Museum as it appears today.



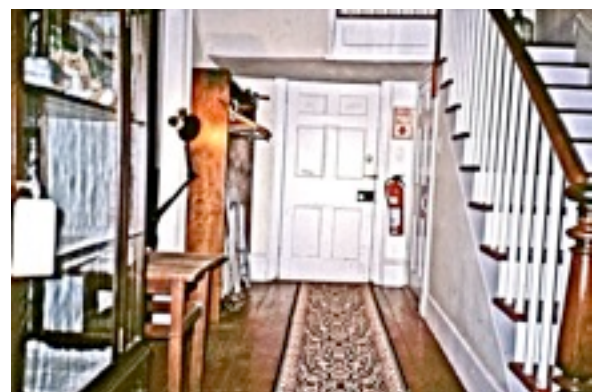
When the Cedar Grove Historical Society took over the upkeep of the house and the outbuildings, the barn was in a state of disrepair.



After years of fund raising and grant writing the barns were totally renovated. Inside the barn on the left one can still see the old stone walls and the dirt floor that were part of the original barn.



The inside of the house was in bad shape. There was clutter in many of the rooms and the floors needed to be repaired before the house could be opened to the public. This picture shows the hallway from the front door to the back door as it appeared in 1985.



The same hallway after the renovation.

SOCIETY HAPPENINGS

Pumpkin/Apple/Barn Sale

The historical society's annual Pumpkin/Apple sale was held from October 9-17. As we did last year, a barn sale was also held. The profit from the Pumpkin/Apple Sale was \$1,965.65 and the barn sale brought in an additional \$568. Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped to make this event so successful. As has been the tradition for the last 20 years, members of the Cedar Grove Education Association donated their time to help out on the last two days of the sale.



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Picking a pumpkin is lots of fun.



Angela Girardi, shown with her daughter Allison and her husband Wayne, won the large pumpkin by guessing the weight to be 68 lbs. and 8 oz. The actual weight was 69 lbs. We had many people who guessed within a few pounds of the actual weight. there were over 225 guesses. Congratulation, Angela!



Bill Allen, Barbara Schickram and Barbara Ann Ellert were just a few of the volunteers who assisted at the sale.

Did You Know?

James and Edith Morgan had six children, of which four survived infancy: twins Courtenay and Montague, Edith and Howard.

25th Anniversary Dinner/Dance

The 25th Anniversary Dinner/Dance was held on Saturday, October 23, at the VFW Hall on Pompton Avenue. Approximately 90 people enjoyed an evening of conversation, good food and lots of dancing. Many thanks to Rose Marie Partington and her committee for all the work they put into planning this wonderful affair.



Mayor Robert O'Toole presented Barbara Young, president of the historical society, two proclamations, one from the Township of Cedar Grove and the other from the State of New Jersey.





Meet Our Members

by Peggy O'Connor

Rose Marie Partington is familiar to many as Secretary of the Ladies Auxiliary of VFW Post 6255. Active also in the Historical Society, Rose Marie recently ran the 25th Anniversary Dinner Dance almost single-handedly. Her 32 years of catering with her husband, Bill, from their Willow Grove Deli, prepared her well!

In 1945, Rose Marie's parents, Tom and Lucy Greeley, moved the family from Vailsburg to Cedar Grove. They had become fond of the little town because her aunt and uncle owned and operated the Cedar Grove Inn. Two years later her father fulfilled a long-time dream when he opened Greeley's Rifle & Pistol Range at 448 Pompton Ave. Many of our town policemen learned to shoot there, Rose Marie recalls.

She commuted to high school at St. Vincent's Academy in Newark, catching the 114 bus at 7:05 AM to Newark Stadium, switching to the #34 to Market Street, and running two blocks to the school to get there by 8:30. After graduating, Rose Marie obtained business degrees from Drake Business College and NJ Business Institute in Newark. She began a long career at Caldwell Wright Airport in Fairfield. She met Bill and they were married in 1953, only the second wedding to be celebrated in the new St. Catherine of Siena Church. In addition to a full-time job and weekend catering with Bill, Rose Marie found time to raise her daughter, Judy.

Highlights of Rose Marie's town memories are Saturday afternoons at the Meadowbrook, square dancing on Saturday nights at the Guy Payne Auditorium at Overbrook, Bond's Ice Cream Parlor, Four Towers Bowling, and shooting in her dad's Rifle Range, which stood until 2005. She remembers enjoying Jimmy and Tommy Dorsey at the Meadowbrook, as well as Benny Goodman, Ray Anthony, Howard Keel, Dorothy Lamour, Vivian Vance, and Connie Francis.

One more favorite memory is a more recent one and a source of pride. In 2008, Rose Marie's slogan "A Century of Memories" was selected for the town's centennial banner.



Volunteer Opportunities

Linda and Bill Dye are master gardeners who are working diligently to re-create the gardens around the museum and help with the upkeep of the grounds. They could use some help in this endeavor. If you think you can help, please contact Linda at 973-433-4147 or at dyelinda@optonline.net.

If you like to do research, Peggy O'Connor is working on a project to trace the history of the Morgan family. If you think you can be of some help, contact Peggy at 973-220-1026 or at peggy52@aol.com.

Each year many of the artifacts that are stored at the museum must be checked to determine their condition. All fabric objects must be checked and refolded to prevent damage. At the present time Janet Spong and Julie Ostering are working on this project. If you think you can be of some help, please contact Julie at 973-857-1968 or at 2JVO@comcast.net.

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973-239-5414

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Canfield/Morgan House - Home of the Morgan Museum
Open Each Wednesday from 10-12 a.m. or by reservation.
Call 973-239-5414 or email jeanjaeger@optonline.net to arrange a tour for your group.

General Meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month except for November, December, June, July and August. The meetings are held at the Cedar Grove Library on Pompton Avenue and begin at 7:30 p.m.

Officers

Trustees

Trustees

President:	Barbara Young	Linda Dye	Juie Ostering
Vice-president:	Peggy O'Connor	Ed Husni	Chris Werndly
Secretary:	Jean Jaeger	Phil Jaeger	Cheryl Woomer
Treasurer:	Ren Chandler	Tom Jenkins	John Young
		Merrily La Scala	

Newsletter editor, Jean Jaeger, can be reached at jeanjaeger@optonline.net
Comments and story suggestions gratefully accepted.