

100 YEARS-BECAUSE SOMEONE CARED-KEEP CARING by Audrey Schwab

This inspirational quote from nearly half of a century ago, was penned anonymously and included as part of a brief history of the Walpack United Methodist Church chronicled in a program booklet celebrating its One Hundredth Anniversary in 1972. They are words simply and eloquently stated "by one who loves her."

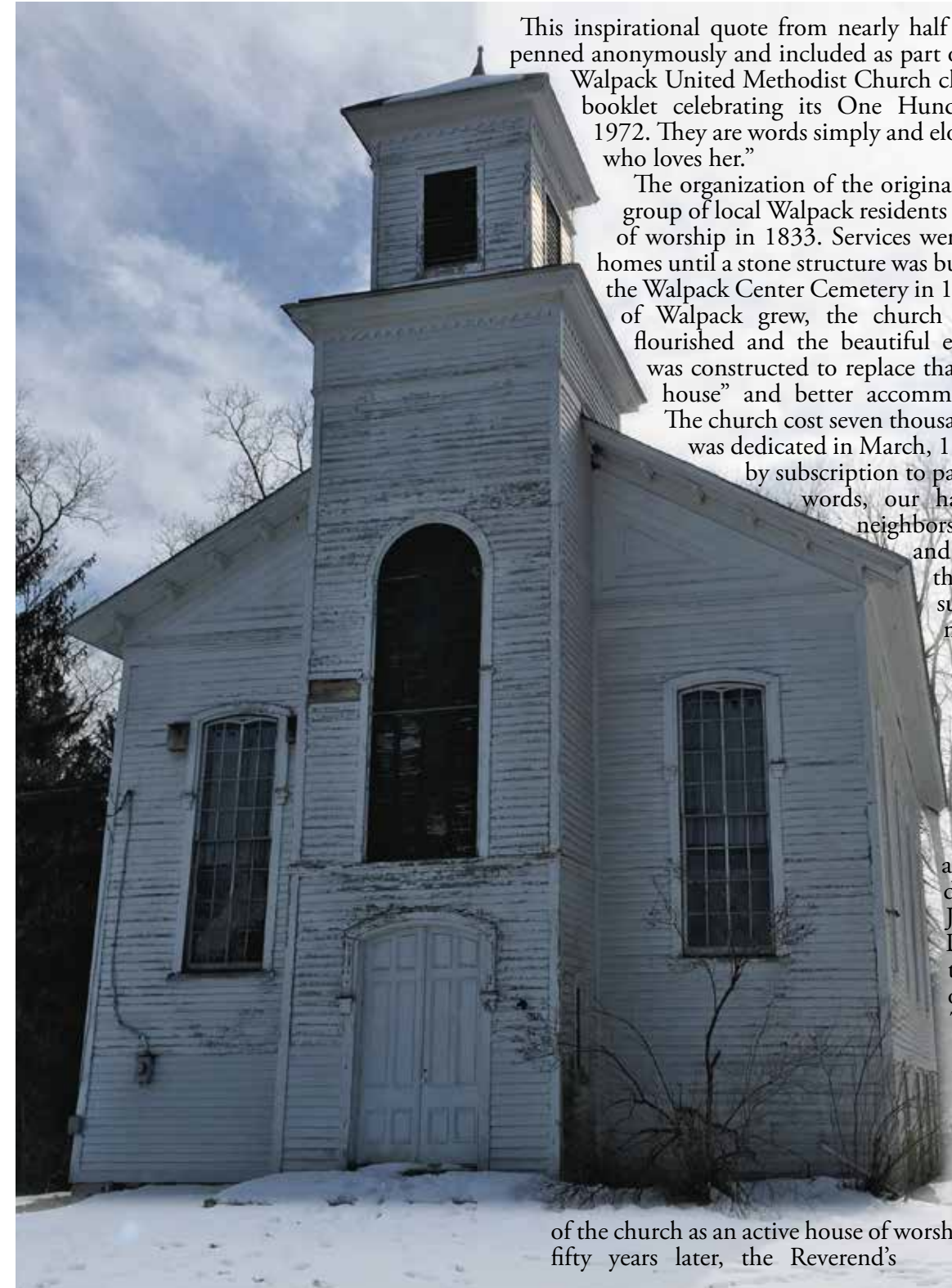
The organization of the original church began when a group of local Walpack residents met to establish a place of worship in 1833. Services were held in parishioners' homes until a stone structure was built on a site adjacent to the Walpack Center Cemetery in 1837. As the population of Walpack grew, the church congregation likewise flourished and the beautiful edifice we know today was constructed to replace that "quaint old meeting-house" and better accommodate its congregants. The church cost seven thousand dollars to build and was dedicated in March, 1872 with \$1,500 raised

by subscription to pay off the debt. In other words, our hard working Walpack neighbors of nearly a century and a half ago pledged their on-going financial support to pay for their new house of worship.

Fast forward to a beautiful June day in 1972, when over two hundred persons gathered to celebrate the One Hundredth Anniversary of the church and listen to an inspirational sermon delivered by Rev. Dr. John R. McLaughlin. Dr. McLaughlin's topic was, "Centuries of Service: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow." It must have been a very difficult theme to bestow upon a heart-saddened congregation, as all of those present that Sunday, knew the days

of the church as an active house of worship were waning. Nearly fifty years later, the Reverend's

continued on pg. 2



www.walpackhistory.org

OBITUARY: MARJORIE LAKE CAHILL 1926 - 2018



STROUDSBURG, Pa. - Marjorie Lake Cahill, 92, of Stroudsburg, Pa., passed from this life on Feb. 20, at Pleasant Valley Manor in Hamilton Township. She was the wife of her late husband, James Decatur Cahill.

Born on July 18, 1926, in Chicago, the daughter of DeLoss Lancaster Lake and Gertrude Taylor Lake, of Aurora, Ill. She moved from Aurora, Ill., to Westfield at the age of 3 and

grew up there except for a brief return to Aurora, Ill., during the Great Depression.

During the summer of 1943, she answered an ad to help the war effort by working on a farm. The farm she was assigned was the Knight Farm in Walpack. Also working on the farm in the summers was her husband-to-be, Jim Cahill. They kept their romance intact as Jim went to serve in the Army during World War II. Upon his discharge in 1949, they eloped, married and purchased the land next to the Knight Farm in Walpack where they built their home. They had two children, Katherine Ann and James Mays Cahill. She was a founding member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Walpack Township Fire Department and a member of the Walpack Methodist Church.

Their homestead was taken for the Tocks Island Dam Project and in 1974, they moved to a small farm in Dry Run, Pa. She worked the farm with Jim and was an active

member of the Pennsylvania Farm Women Association. They were avid members of the Train Collectors Association and helped organize and set up the York Train Show twice a year. In 2006, they moved to Stroudsburg, Pa., to be near their son, grandson and grandchildren, and were residents of LaBar Village. She is survived by her daughter, Katherine, of Kittatinny Lake; son, James (Jim), of Pocono Manor, Pa.; sister-in-law, Carol Flavhan, of Palm Coast, Fla.; her grandson and family, Jacob and Marcy Cahill and grandchildren Emma, Riley and Patrick, of Morris Plains.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you consider a donation to the National Kidney Foundation, www.kidney.org.

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Society actively stimulates an awareness and interest in the Walpack area through lectures, tours, publications and special events, such as Van Campen Day, hikes and exhibits at county-wide events.

It promotes collection, preservation and dissemination of Walpack area history and acts as a repository for artifacts of the Walpack area. We also maintain a small museum and book store.

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100 YEARS-BECAUSE SOMEONE CARED



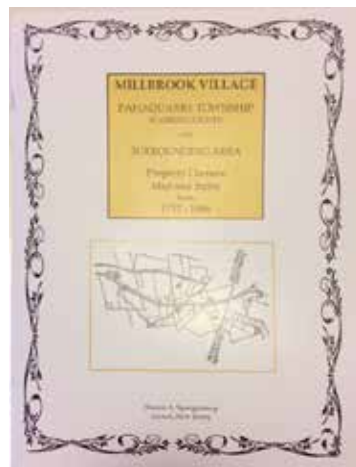
in historic replication. It is anticipated that repair to the front doors, woodwork, clapboards and trim will be performed by a local company, with painting of at least the front facade anticipated to be contracted locally as well.

The Walpack Historical Society is reaching out to our loyal members and friends, seeking financial support for the rehabilitation of the Walpack Church “today” in order to assure its stability for many “tomorrows” to come. We thank you all for your interest and dedication as we begin our journey of reverence toward one of the most outstanding historic structures in The Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area.

hopeful use of the powerful word “tomorrow,” is what the Walpack Historical Society is building upon today. With partial financial support from The National Park Service, the Walpack Historical Society has contracted to have the structurally failing Palladian style shutter array over the front entrance of the church replaced by a New Hampshire company specializing

in historic replication. It is anticipated that repair to the front doors, woodwork, clapboards and trim will be performed by a local company, with painting of at least the front facade anticipated to be contracted locally as well.

NEW BOOKLET: MILLBROOK VILLAGE



For those who have visited Millbrook Village in the past, you may have wondered who the families were that lived or owned property in this quaint small village many years ago.

Local historian, Sharon Spangenberg, has compiled a listing of all property owners in Millbrook and its surrounding area and has published a booklet that covers the period 1732 – 1886.

This 22-page booklet includes a centerfold map of Millbrook Village itself and the property owners during the year 1861.

There is a listing of landmarks that were found while doing the research and they are noted on the large 24” x 30” map that is tucked in the back of the booklet. Some of the landmarks include the church, cooper shop, grave yards, many houses, a man-made island, several mills, the school house, a tan yard, a tar kill, and a tavern.

Current and former roads have been included as well as those who lived along the Columbia & Walpack Turnpike according to the 1822 survey.

This booklet contains all the parcels of land in the Van Campen Tract, the MacIntire Tract, the Butts Survey and the Hill Survey and includes 390 deed entries.

It is available for sale from the Walpack Historical Society by calling 973-964-9697 or online at walpackhistory.org/store.

The Walpack Historical Society would like to acknowledge and express its appreciation to it’s many Lifetime Members for their generous support.

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 Mail to: Walpack Historical Society, PO Box 212, Layton, NJ 07851
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HENRY AURANDS’ MILL SITE *continued from pg 4*

In addition, Snell’s History offered the idea that Hendrick Aurands’ Mill could be the oldest in the County, even older than the Barton Mill in Flatbrookville.

I have since located a Sussex Register story from 1903 titled “Mills of Sussex County.” It appears from that story that the oldest mill in Sussex County was Branchville’s Beemer Mill dating to about 1700 followed by Casper Shafer’s Mill in Stillwater in 1742. In addition, NJ State Archives’ West Jersey deed – DD116 dated 1722 mentions that Thomas Quick has the “liberty to erect a grist mill” believed to be on Shimer’s Brook in Montague.

We know that Henry Aurands was a miller in 1760 and that he died in 1789; however, we do not know when he arrived from Germany or his date of birth. I reached out to researchers on Ancestry.com to no avail. Therefore, because no documentation exists, it would only be a guess as to the date the mill was erected.

You many have noticed that Hendrick Aurands’ name was spelled several ways. In old records, individuals preparing the documents at the time, spelled and wrote the name as it sounded to them – sometimes, two different ways in the same document. During my research, I found Hendrick Aurands’ name spelled 14 different ways;

- Hendrick Aurands Snells page 317
- Henry Arnds NJ Abstract of Wills page 20/21
- Henry Orns A-65 Will
- Hemrich Ornses A-16 Road Return
- Henry Aurence A-127 Road Return
- Henry Arouds D2-415A Deed
- Henry Auronds D2-415A Deed
- Hendrick Aurrands A-107 Deed
- Henry Aurands A2-520 Deed
- Hendrick Aurens B-326 Deed
- Henry Orrand Compiled Census 1774
- Henry Aurance Road Petition dated June 1783
- Henry Arends Road Petition dated June 1783
- Hendwick Oruses Agreement to layout a road

As well as several other ways on Ancestry.com
 In order to prove the exact location of this mill, a lot of research was required both at local agencies and in Trenton, searching websites, obtaining the assistance of professional land surveyors, and hiking to the site on several occasions.

On Sunday, April 29th, join the Walpack Historical Society for a pleasant spring hike along Mountain Road to the former location of the Henry Aurands’ mill site. This will be a relatively easy hike approximately 1 ½ miles along the abandoned road which was once part of the Columbia and Walpack Turnpike. Along the way hikers will need to cross a small stream, stepping from rock to rock for about 10 feet. We will then leave the dirt road and proceed west following an abandoned trail downhill towards Flatbrook, briefly stopping at the remains of a stone foundation, then turning south to the site of the mill. This will prove to be an enjoyable 3 ½ mile round-trip hike. We will meet at the Walpack Center Post Office and leave promptly at 11:00 am and head to the beginning point of the hike – carpooling is a must.

The WHS Newsletter - Download & Enjoy

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HENRY AURANDS' MILL SITE by Sharon Spangenberg



Have you ever wondered what is involved in researching and proving where an old mill once stood?

Last summer Walpack Historical Society Trustee, Jen Wycalek asked me if I would be able to find the location of Hendrick Aurands' Mill mentioned in Snell's History of Sussex and Warren Counties. She referred me to page 317 and mentioned that some historians believed this mill was located on the property of the House/Warner farm just south of Buttermilk Falls on Mountain Road – however, this site had never been documented or confirmed.

With only the following information I began my research on the location of this mill.

"We find in Book A of land records of Sussex County that in 1760, Adam Dingman agreed (as it is recited in the deed) to sell 121 acres on Flat Brook, in Walpack, to Hendrick Aurands, a miller of the same place. In 1769 (Adam Dingman, having meantime died without making the conveyance) Andrew Dingman, his son and executor, executed the deed in accordance with his father's agreement." It goes on to say that "There was an old mill near or within the limits of the land described in his deed, the ruins of which were seen over sixty years ago by several old persons now living. The location of the old ruin is on the Flatbrook, near where Miss Sally Warner now lives. This was probably the mill at which Hendrick Aurands operated previous to the date of his deed – 1760. If so, the mill was undoubtedly older than the Barton mill, at Flatbrookville. Several old settlers are of the opinion that this mill was the oldest in the township, if not the in the county."

First, I determined that "Book A of land records" mentioned above was actually Sussex County Hall of Records Deed Book A page 107. This Indenture dated February 28, 1769 was between "Andrew Dingman of Walpack Township, Executor of Adam Dingman's Estate to Hendrick Aurands, miller." This document, recorded September 29, 1786, goes on to say that Adam Dingman had an agreement with Henry Aurands in 1760 to sell the property in consideration of the sum of 30 pounds (today that would be \$5,601.25). So where in Walpack

Township was the 121 acres now belonging to Henry Aurands?

According to NJ Abstracts of Wills page 20/21, Henry Arnds bequeathed "to my servant boy, Thom Cortright, the Mill and 10 acres." The Abstract was dated April 13, 1784 and proved November 19, 1789.

Sussex County Surrogate's Office Will A-65 of Joseph Chambers probated September 2, 1805, mentions Thomas Cartwright. Specifically, it says that "my lot of land with the mill seat and mill stones and mill irons that I bought of Thomas Cartwright laying and being part of Henry Orns Estate deceased unto my son Samuel

Chambers."

Researching further, I found Deed K-176 where Henry Aurends Warner owned property in 1803 having received it from Margaret Marvin Warner who inherited it from Henry Aurands.

A review of Road Returns at the Sussex County Hall of Records revealed that Henry Ornses was mentioned in return A-16 dated October 29, 1763 as well as in A-127 dated May 19, 1783, and an Agreement to lay out a road found at the New Jersey State Archives.

Other deeds relating to Henry Aurands include A2-520 and D2-415 both dated May 11, 1811, as well as L2-189 and F3-270 mentioning a 10 acre lot called the Mill Lot.

Deed research then focused on Sarah (Sallie) Warner mentioned in the above excerpt, as well as Jacob, her father. In Sussex County Surrogate's Division Book C page 326, it appeared that Sallie's property was just south of the Henry Aurends property. But where on Mountain Road was this property?

I then plotted the lots using the metes and bounds included in the deeds. With the assistance of long-time deed researcher Richard M. Stevens, Ph.D., it was determined that the Henry Aurands Mill was not just past Buttermilk Falls as historians previously believed, but that it was downstream from Haney's Mill on Mountain Road.

My husband Hixon and I walked to where I believed was the location of the mill, and on another date we took Gerald DeGroat and Joanne Wirths, land surveyors, to that same spot. The four of us agreed we were at the wrong location. I then called upon Joanne and her expertise to help determine the exact location of the mill. Using the information I provided as well as a 1964 topographical map, Joanne was able to pin-point the location of the mill. On Sunday, September 10th we headed down Mountain Road once again. This time we were successful and are certain we found the exact location of Henry Aurand's Mill site located along Big Flatbrook south of Haney's Mill.

Continued on pg 7

WHO WAS GEORGE TOUTKOS? AND WHY IS HE BURIED IN THE WALPACK CEMETERY? by Mike Orłowski

In the Spring of 2017 I was walking in the Walpack Cemetery and came across a tombstone that simply said "George Toutkos of Thunder Mountain." I was intrigued because at the time I was researching the Thunder Mountain Ranch for a program I was to do in July of that year. So I snapped a photo and went about my business.



In July of 2017 I met with Arlene Cohen and her grown children, Jeff and Jodi, the former owners of the Thunder Mountain Ranch (TMR), at Yetter's Diner. Joining us were some of the former wranglers including Jeff Sanders, who was one of the first and remained a close part of the Cohen family all these years. While discussing TMR and listening to everyone tell stories Jeff Cohen enthusiastically mentioned a farm hand named George Toutkos. I was so surprised to hear his name that I interrupted Jeff and asked him more about George.

Jeff said his father Artie took George in during the mid 1950's after hearing he was homeless and was being mistreated by some local folks, because that's the kind of man Artie was. Jeff explained that George spoke very little English and was a simple hardworking man. George had no family in the United States that they knew of. He recalls hearing that George had served in WWI with the Central powers and may have been a POW brought to America. George also suffered from "Shell Shock" which is what we today refer to as PTSD. In WWI the Central Powers were made up by the German Empire, Ottoman Empire (Turkey), Austria-Hungary Empire and the Bulgarian Empire. Little else is known of George's life up to that time.

Arlene, who was married to the late Artie Cohen, said that George called her "Lady" and referred to Artie as "Man." Subsequently George called young Jeff and Jodi "Boy and Girl." Arlene recollected with a smile that George would ask if it were Saturday because that was bath day. They remembered George's big appetite and him cutting hay with a sickle in the fields before breakfast and always helping Artie out around the 300 acre ranch.



FISHING ALONG THE FLATBROOK by Audrey Schwab

It is much more than a brook and it is certainly not flat! Fed by hopeful rivulets and ambitious streams from the surrounding highlands, the Flatbrook is a glorious water course that changes its mind frequently as to exactly where it intends to go.

Known today as one of New Jersey's finest trout streams, the Flatbrook was in earlier times channeled and harnessed to power the 18th and 19th century mills that drove the early settlement of the Minisink valley. The cool clear waters of its many feeder streams chilled perishables in spring houses, watered livestock and powered small private water wheels put to all manner of tasks. Its utilitarian usage aside, the value to food gatherers and sport anglers has been known since the first bait was cast to the piscine denizens of the Flatbrook's swift waters, rocky riffles and quiet pools along deeply shaded banks.

Unpolluted by agricultural run-off or pastured livestock, and largely untainted by septic systems and other human interference, the Flatbrook is known statewide and beyond for fine trout fishing. Its popularity as a year-round fishing stream has been touted since the earliest chronicles heralded sport fishing in Sussex County. Intrepid anglers can be spotted on even the coldest of days, casting a lure most likely to tease a nibble from the wary quarry. If the stream isn't ice-bound, a fisherman is likely somewhere along its banks or even in waders in the midst of the flow.

One of the first fishing organizations in our area was begun by a group of sportsmen who leased land along the Flatbrook in the 1890s. By 1905, they had incorporated as the Flatbrook Valley Club and commandeered a good portion of the stream for their private use. Their holdings eventually included 1,400 acres and a good many miles of fishing rights purchased or leased from farms along the Flatbrook. At one time, the club's grounds featured a fine shingled club house, a small fish hatchery and holding ponds for large breeding stock. The exclusivity of the club and its mostly out-of-town members caused deep resentment among the locals who were quite aggressively prevented from poaching the club-controlled waters by a full-time caretaker and guard. Well-known names from the sporting and political world frequented the

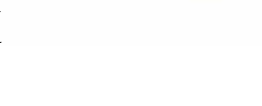
club as guests of members and legends grew around their sightings. The Flatbrook Valley Club disappeared into the annals of local history as the original members died off. Club land was sold to the State of New Jersey in December of 1943 for \$60,000 and eventually became part of the Flatbrook-Roy Wildlife Management Area we know today. The ruins of the clubhouse can still be seen along Bevans Road in Sandyston Township.

The Flatbrook-Roy Tract accessed from NPS Rt. 615 in Walpack comprises 2,090 acres. It is overseen by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection's Bureau of Land Management and is maintained and managed by the NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife. Until 1961, all land acquisitions were made possible by one third of the proceeds of every resident hunting and fishing license sold going to the "Public Shooting and Fishing Grounds Fund." On June 10, 1932, the first land acquisition in the state was purchased in Walpack as "Public Shooting Grounds." That original 135 acres is located just south of Haney's Mill. Additional acreage was added to the holdings in October of 1935 in a land purchase from

Laurence and Evelyn Roy for \$10,000. The Fish and Wildlife's website notes that approximately half of the 321,000 acres in the New Jersey Wildlife Management Area system today has been acquired from license fees. Since 1961, Green Acres bond monies have also been used to purchase WMA land.

In further support of their commitment to excellent trout fishing, State Fish and Wildlife's Pequest Trout Hatchery in Hackettstown, NJ is preparing for the start of the 2018 Spring stocking season when over 570,000 rainbow trout are distributed among 200 lakes, ponds, rivers and streams throughout New Jersey. Those rainbows and the wild brown and brook trout that also call the Flatbrook home will be hosting all anglers for the Opening Day of the 2018 Trout Season on Saturday, April 7th at 8:AM!

(This article was written with the research assistance of local historians, Alicia Barko and Sharon Spangenberg. Without their introduction to the subject, and the detailed background information they and Russell Spinks, former NJ State Wildlife Biologist and Walpack Historical Society member provided, this article would not have been possible).



THANK YOU!

The Walpack Historical Society would like to offer a most gracious THANK YOU to the following members and friends who have so generously donated to the Walpack Center M.E. Church Restoration Project and to our General Fund.

Charles W. Pozzi
Beverly Nankivell
James Mulhall

Richard F. Castro
Mr. & Mrs. John DePue
Charles & Mary Ann Grippo

2018 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE NOW DUE

Did you know there are two ways to pay your membership dues?

1. Visit www.walpackhistory.org/store, click on the Membership tab to pay your 2018 membership dues online using PayPal.
2. If you wish to pay your dues through the mail, please fill out the Membership Form on page 7 and send it along with your payment to the given address on the form.

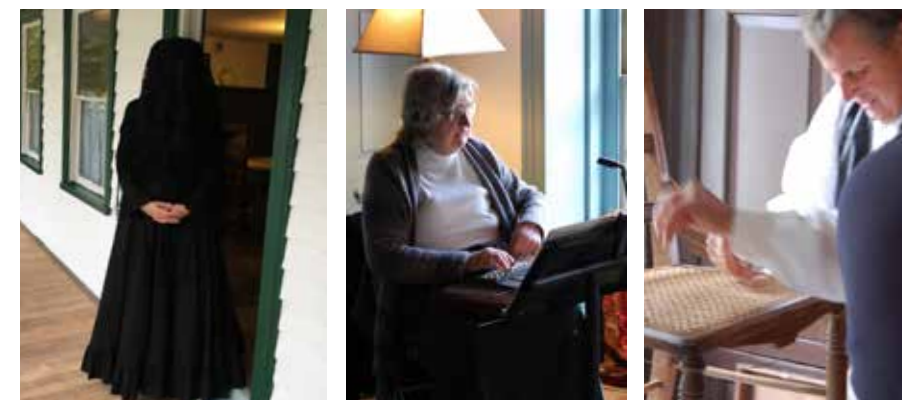
Thank you for supporting the Walpack Historical Society. Your contribution helps us to fulfill our mission to actively stimulate an awareness and interest in the Walpack area through lectures, tours, publications and special events, such as Van Campen Day, hikes and exhibits at county wide events.

SPRING HIKE - AURAND'S MILL (WE HOPE)

April 29, 2018 - Join the WHS on for a pleasant spring hike along Mountain Road to the former location of the Henry Aurands' mill site. This will prove to be an enjoyable 3½ mile round-trip hike. We will meet at the Walpack Center Post Office and leave promptly at 11:00 am and head to the beginning point of the hike - carpooling is a must. Hike will be lead by Joanne Wirths and Sharon Spangenberg. (Follow us on Facebook for updates and cancellations)



WE NEED YOU! DOCENTS & VOLUNTEERS



A Docent is a person who acts as a guide, typically on a voluntary basis. We are always looking for new people to help us at our events and meetings throughout the year. Please call, 973-948-4903, and ask to speak with Jen Wycalek to learn more about how you can help play a part in history.

2018 CALENDAR

April 8	Spring Hike <i>Cancelled due to storm damage</i>
April 15	Spring Dinner at <i>The Walpack Inn</i>
April 29	Spring Hike
May 20	Walpack Remembered
June 24	Mysteries of the Stones
July 22	Fire Fighting in Walpack
Aug. 19	Walking Tour of Walpack
Sept. 23	The Dodd House
Oct. 14	Van Campen Day
Oct. 28	Fall Hike
Nov. 4	Fall Hike
Dec. 1 & 2	Walpack Christmas
Dec. 8 & 9	Walpack Christmas
Dec. 9	Holiday Dinner

Visit Walpackhistory.org for updates, changes and details.

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Frances & George Delgado
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