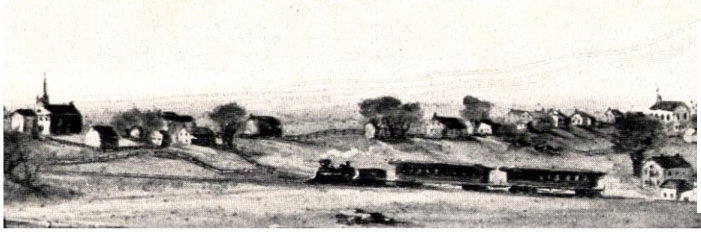


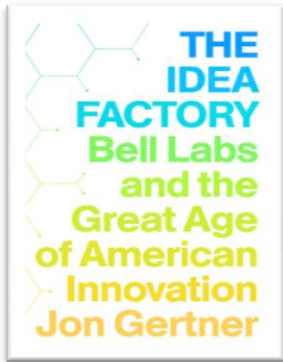
The Madison Historical Society



The February 2013

Newsletter

3rd edition, 2012/2013



March 19, 2013

**Chase Room of the Madison
Public Library**

7:15 pm

Madison Historical Society is proud to Present:

Mr. Jon Gertner

author of

***The Idea Factory: Bell Labs and The Great
Age of American Innovation***



And hold this date....

April 16 7:15 PM Chase Room Madison Public Library



***“Madison, Methodism,
and Global Outreach”***

With

Vivian Bull,

President of Drew University

And

**Christopher Anderson, Director of the Methodist Library
and Coordinator of Special Collections at Drew**

For more on all three of these speakers turn to page 3



Message from the President Susan Simon

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Newsletter

Doug Simon

The Madison Historical Society is thrilled that this year's Holiday Wreath Sale held at the Hartley Dodge Memorial Building earned enough money to fund the renovation of the building on the Luke Miller Forge site on Ridgedale Avenue. The building will be used to house over 1,300 artifacts that were unearthed during the archaeological digs that have been held at the site. With a lot of hard work and leadership from Cathie Coultas, the plans for the renovation were developed with the Forge in Williamsburg, Virginia in mind. The project has been approved by the parks committee and the Borough Council and Carmine Toto will be doing the actual renovation work on the building. Once renovations are complete, the society will work closely with the Madison High School History Department and the Museum of Early Trades and Crafts to develop programs on the value of the blacksmith trade in Madison and the Miller family that owned the property. Not only does a big Thank You go to Historical Society Vice President Cathie Coultas for her leadership on this project but for heading up the wreath sale as well. And thanks to everyone who participated in the fundraiser making it such a big success.

A Thank You to Our Donors

The Madison Historical Society would like to thank the following people and organizations who gave financial donations to the society since June 1, 2012:

Borough of Madison, Mayor & Council Members

Cub Scout Pack #124

Zigmund C. Kaminski

Paul and Cathy Leo and Family

Michael & Noreen McManus

Robert & Michele Newhouse

Dorothy E. Pietrowski

Daniel R. Seidel

Linda & Robert Weinstein

We are also very grateful to those who anonymously gave financial gifts to the society during the year.

Jon Gertner



Jon Gertner is currently editor-at-large of Fast Company Magazine where he writes feature articles on innovation and technology. Between 2004 and 2011, he worked as a writer at The New York Times Magazine, where he wrote about science, business, society, and economics. *The Idea Factory: Bell Labs and the Great Age of American Innovation* is his first book. In it he describes how Bell Labs functioned as an “idea factory” through the eyes and actions of some of its most famous scientists. He describes how the Laboratories, “... combined the best aspects of the academic and corporate worlds, hiring the brightest and usually the youngest minds, creating a culture and even an architecture that forced employees in different fields to work together, in virtually complete intellectual freedom.”

While he has spent a good deal of time in California’s Silicon Valley, he grew up in Berkeley Heights and now lives in Madison, New Jersey with his wife and children.

Vivian Bull

Vivian Bull became Drew University’s president for the interim term on July 1, 2012. Her appointment marks a return to Drew where she taught for more than 30 years as a member of the economics department and served 8 years as associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts. Dr. Bull also directed the university’s Semester on the European Community in Brussels four times and served on a total of 21 Drew-led archaeological expeditions in the Middle East. In 1992 she left Drew for Linfield College in McMinnville, Oregon to become that school’s 18th president, serving in that capacity for 13 years. In addition to her duties as President of Drew, Dr. Bull is currently working with the Board of Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church. She also serves on the board of directors of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities. Dr. Bull received her doctorate from NYU her BA from Albion College. She did graduate work at the London School of Economics on a Fulbright and has studied in Norway, Great Britain and the Netherlands. Dr. Bull resides in Madison and is married to Drew University professor of Church History, Emeritus, Robert Bull.



Christopher Anderson



Christopher Anderson is Director of the Methodist Library and Coordinator of Special Collections at Drew University. He is an adjunct instructor at Drew and serves as Librarian for the General Commission on Archives and History for the United Methodist Church. He holds a Ph.D. from Drew, an M.L.I.S. from Syracuse University, an M.Div from Asbury Theological Seminary, and a B.S. from Houghton College. He is founding editor of the *International Journal of Religion and Sport* and is book review editor for the journal *Methodist Theological Library Association* and a member of the Greater New Jersey Commission on Archives and History. Prior to coming to Drew he taught courses in history and religion at Barclay College,

Fairleigh Dickinson University, Asbury Theological Seminary, and Union Theological Seminary in New York City. He and his family reside in Madison, New Jersey.

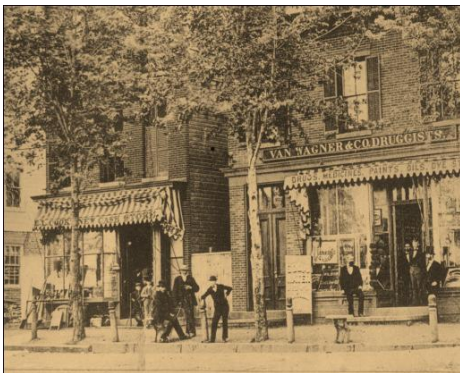
2012 Wreath Sale Enormous Success

The 2012 annual wreath sale sponsored by the Madison Historical Society was a great success. The venue for the event was the Hartley Dodge Memorial Building. The grand staircase was decorated with poinsettias and wreaths and table decorations could be found through the halls and chambers. Over \$2200 was made, the money dedicated to the continued archaeological dig at the Luke Miller home and specifically for the renovation of the forge building for the display of items found at the forge dig.



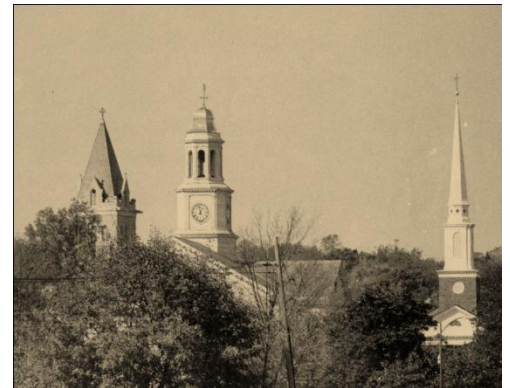
Several members of the Society who worked hard in preparing and running the sale included from left to right: Cathie Coultas (Chair of the Event), Ginnie Laughlin, Andrea Vacchiano, and Kay Leary

Historic Photos Still For Sale



Southwest Corner, Waverly Place, 1880

Five historic photos of Madison are still available for purchase. The "Spires of Madison" shown on the right was so popular that it sold out and more needed to be ordered. Two sizes are available: 8"x10" are \$30 and 11"x14" are \$55. The photographs, printed by Park Lane Studios, will be available at the two spring programs as well as at the Society dinner in May.



The Spires of Madison, 1969



Spotlight on History

Madison's Heroine, Amabel Scharff Roberts

By Doug Simon



On January 17, 1918 in Etretat, France, Amabel Scharff Roberts of Madison died of blood poisoning while serving as an American Red Cross nurse at Base Hospital Number 2, run by Presbyterian Hospital of New York. Thus, Ms. Scarff became the first American Nurse to die in WW I.

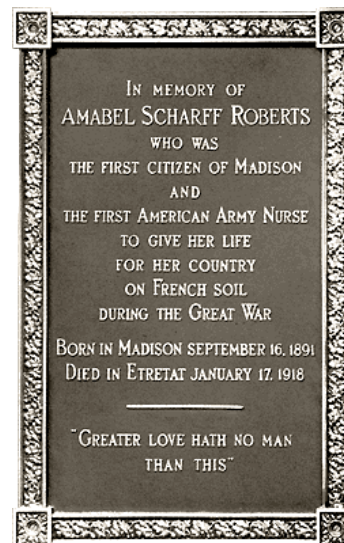
Amabel Scharff was born in Madison on September 16, 1891. She lived with her mother, also named Amabel, her father Louis, a banker, brothers Louis and Adrian and sister Jeannette. The family home was at first located on High St. (now Woodland) and later moved to 19 Main St. World War I was not Amabel's first trip to France. In 1910 the entire family traveled to Cherbourg on the passenger liner New York.¹ In 1913, Amabel graduated from Vassar College's School of Nursing. During World War I, the Vassar community raised thousands of dollars for the French war effort and sent more than 100 to serve overseas.

The commitment that Amabel took to her task tending to the sick and wounded soldiers in France was clearly reflected in an excerpt from one of her letters sent home to her mother. She wrote:

“ ‘He saves others, himself he cannot save.’ That is to me typical and descriptive of the soldier. I don't think we can do enough for them. A life without sacrifice is utterly valueless. This is brought home to me more and more every day. These men have left everything—business, family, civilization. Yet surely it is better to die young, than to live a hundred years to no account. It is hard to keep the ultimate goal, the ideal of freedom, before one—when in such close contact with the sufferings caused by the striving toward that end. I am more thankful every day that I took up nursing—even though my bit is so very small indeed. More than half of my class at the training school are over here—among them my dearest friends. Am I not fortunate?”²

In Amabel's memory, her Vassar classmates gave four \$350 scholarships to Vassar's Summer Training Camp for Nurses, held in the summer of 1918. The camp trained college graduates to serve as nurses in the United States or overseas. With the influenza epidemic in full swing, the 400 trainees from the camp went straight from Vassar to work in hospital wards around the country.³

When Amabel Scharff Roberts returned to the United States she was put to rest in the Hillside Cemetery in Madison.



Tablet honoring Amabel Scharff Roberts. It hung in the James Library for many years, and now hangs in the Madison Senior Center.

¹ ancestry.com

² “A Message To 1918” The Vassar Miscellany News, Vol.II, No. 38, March 13, 1918, p. 1.

³ Olivia Mancini, “Enlisting Women,” Vassar: The Alumnae/I Quarterly, Winter 2002, Volume 99, Issue 1.

An Invitation to Join

The Madison Historical Society would love to have you (and your family) join the Society.

Membership entitles you to the receive the Society's newsletter published four times a year, notification of and admittance to all Society programs, and an invitation to purchase tickets for the society's annual dinner.

Please fill out and return the membership application form (right) with the appropriate check to:

**The Madison Historical Society
P.O. Box 148, Madison, 07940**

Please make your tax deductible check payable to:

Madison Historical Society

Welcome to New and Returning Members

The society is pleased to welcome some new members to its ranks:

**Tyler Messon
Una and David Phelan
Shirley and David Mutchler**

The society also welcomes back:

Sarah Chapman

As of January 15, society membership stood at 110 memberships representing 156 people.

Madison Historical Society

www.madisonhistoricalsociety.com

Membership Form

Please circle membership category

CORPORATE.....\$250

BENEFACTOR.....\$100

SUSTAINING.....\$75

FAMILY (List names below)..\$40

INDIVIDUAL.....\$25

STUDENT (Under 21).....\$5

Name(s)_____

Address_____

Telephone_____

E-mail_____

_____ I would prefer to receive the newsletter
by email

MADISON HISTORICAL SOCIETY – ITEMS FOR SALE

Books:

<u>CIVIL WAR JOURNAL OF PRIVATE HEYWARD EMMELL</u> , edited by Jim Malcolm		\$55.00
<u>GERALDINE Rockefeller Dodge</u> by Barbara J. Minick	Hardcover	\$20.00
	Paper	\$10.00
<u>HIDDEN NEW JERSEY</u> by Linda J. Barth, Illustrations by Hazel Mitchell	Hardcover	\$17.95
	Paper	\$ 8.95
<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
<u>NEW JERSEY GOES TO WAR: BIOGRAPHIES OF 150 NEW JERSEYANS CAUGHT UP IN THE STRUGGLE OF THE CIVIL WAR</u> edited by Joseph G. Bilby		\$20.00
<u>LINCOLN'S WHITE HOUSE SECRETARY: THE ADVENTUROUS LIFE OF WILLIAM O. STODDARD</u> edited by Harold Holzer		\$39.95

Maps:

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

Miscellaneous:

Postcards of Historic Madison	\$1.00 each or Set of 4	\$3.75
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
	(2 for	\$15.00)
Madison Historical Society Note Pad with Pen		\$ 2.50
2008, 2009, 2012 Madison Photos on Calendar		\$ 1.00

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

The Madison Historical Society

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 148, Madison, 07940. Office located in the Local History Center of the Madison Library

Office Hours: Tuesday, 10:30 am to 3:30 pm and by appointment.

Office Phone: 973-377-0722 x8

Contact: President Susan Simon: 973-822-2377

Web: www.madisonhistoricalsociety.org

Email: historicalsociety@rosenet.org