Maple Shade Historical Society
Member's Newsletter

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Open Houses for September-

The Little Red Schoolhouse will be open on Saturday, September 5th. Saturday, August 19th we will be closed as we are having a table at the Sidewalk Sale. The schoolhouse is on West Main Street near North Coles Avenue, Maple Shade. Also, sometimes it is open on other Saturdays as well.

It is always a treat meeting visitors to the Schoolhouse. Well mostly. We had a lady with 3 small kids and a baby in her arms. I was mostly talking to her and another couple who were there. The little kids like to sit at the desks so we have a few desks cleared. While I am talking to the adults I look and the three kids are out front playing with the old-fashioned wooden toys. (new, not antiques) and then later the kids found the slates and a few pieces of chalk and were writing on the slates. One time a little girl loved ringing the loudest hand bell we have.

This past month we got to tour 55 Mecray Lane. (Alexander Mecray house built in the 1700s) It is for sale and the Realtor set a date for 3 hours when we could visit. A few from our group and a few from Moorestown Historical and Saving Historic Moorestown came out.

I wanted to have a Board of Director's meeting, which is a meeting for all members actually, on the 3rd Saturday of September but that is when the Side Walk Sale is. We will most likely now have it in October.

I paid for our spot at the Side Walk Sale. It is only 56 dollars for non-profits. This is a new thing. I have a folding table I bought for events. (my money and mine) and will bring 3 chairs. We have books to sell. The biggest thing is to get in the public eye and advertise our organization.

I put and am still putting up photo etc. scans of the MSHS from over the years online at a new Archive cloud. For me to just be able to see them isn't right to other members. Many photos, now to the best of my knowledge, only exist as scans on hard drives and they need backing up in a Cloud and on many hard drives! Sure, Historical Societies can really bury and protect their images but who will see them then?

The web address for the Online Archive of the Maple Shade Historical Society is- https://mapleshadehistory.com/Archive/
You can simply put a forward slash and then Archive after my website URL. The A must be capitalized.

This leads to another item-
I am scanning old subdivision maps and photos etc. and will add that material to the Archive. I had a few Plan maps. You can buy them at the Burlington County Clerk's office. They have the drum scanners for large documents. If only the printing company I worked for was still in business! I downloaded a PhotoStitcher program. The MSHS presidents and active officers over the years were mostly school teachers or in the real estate business. (and the Twp. government)

I have talked to the Principal of Mill Road School recently on the phone. Him and the Schools Superintendent, are very delighted and interested in resuming third grade trips to the Little Red Schoolhouse. We are looking at 25 students at a time for about 40 minutes or so for each group. It could take several days for the 250 third grade students. Third grade (or second) is the standard and that is the grade Moorestown school students visit their historical place- the Smith Cadbury house.

I mailed a letter to seven large business companies asking for a nice size donation so we can put a new heater in the Little Red Schoolhouse. The one in there now is from the 1970s. I have not heard back yet but it has only been a week.

Dennis L. Weaver
President of the Maple Shade Historical Society
856-667-8728
Website- mapleshadehistory.com