

Town of Minisink Museum

Volume 10, Issue 1

September 2011

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MUSEUM

BUILT 1992

OPEN TUESDAY 10 AM - NOON

**No Admission
Donations Welcome**

**PO BOX 349
2 ROY SMITH DRIVE
WESTTOWN NY 10998**

**845-726-4148
FAX: 845-726-4205**

**Email: minisinkmuseum@hotmail.com
Website: www.townofminisink.com**

**Meetings: 1st Monday, @ 7 PM, Town Hall
February, April, June, August,
October, December**



**LITTLE CHRISTMAS
JANUARY 2011**

A pot luck supper – our second.

**Joe Miedema provided the
Music.**

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UPDATES

**Heritage Days – 2011 – Cancelled
Good News Nursery School – 21 attended – June 13
Log Cabin – moved office and books in May 2011
Grants - \$400 from County Historian for well curb**

**Please Note:
Calendars are Still Available
2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 - \$20.00**

Westtown Community House

The new Westtown Community House was opened on a Friday evening in early November of 1927. The Ladies Aid Society of the Presbyterian Church served a hot chicken supper and held a bazaar that realized a sum of \$600. About 400 visitors attended from Middletown, Westtown, Slate Hill, Port Jervis, Denton, Ridgebury, Unionville, Johnson and Hamburg, N. J.

C. G. Clark donated one half of the building and the ground. The balance of the cost was raised by the women of the Presbyterian Church and by subscriptions of the people of the community. The plans for the building were donated by Frank McDermott and Charles Lott of Unionville, was the contractor in charge of construction. At this time the community house was one of the finest in Orange County.

By Laurence Hansen

I thought I saw an eye doctor on an Alaskan island, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian.

The Bennett Farm

Jeremiah Bennett settled on this property in the early 1700,s. It contained 115 acres with one acre of cleared land. With an ax in one hand and a gun in the other to protect him from the Indians and wild animals, he began to clear the forest and build himself a log house. At the time of his death the farm came into the possession of David Bennett who continued to develop the property. It remained in the Bennett family for over 200 years.

Charles Lines built a large dairy barn here in 1907 that still remains today. The farm is on Cosh road near the Lower road. Munson Bailey and his wife were the last to produce milk here.

By Laurence Hansen.

A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering.

Farmers Union Telephone Company

A movement originated with Raymond Coursen and Irving Brink, two young farmers of Colesville, New Jersey to organize a farmers telephone company. They held meetings and interested others in the enterprise. The central office would be in Sussex, New Jersey and lines to Unionville, Westtown and Pine Island, New York. About \$2,000 of stock was subscribed to. The plan of construction was a cooperative effort making a small cash outlay possible.

Phones were placed in the homes of stockholders and subscribers along the line and connections made to other phone companies. The charge for phones in places of business was \$12 and in residences \$6 per year. There were ten parties on each line and a telephone operator was necessary to place a call. This company served the Minisink area for many years until it was sold to another phone company.

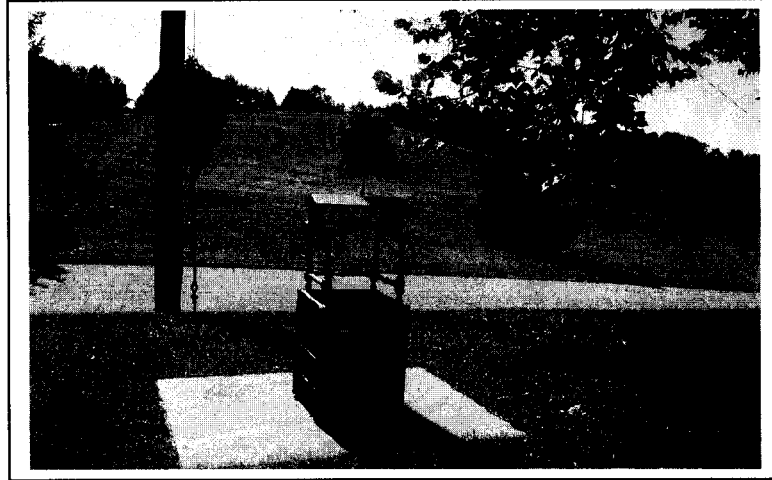
By Laurence Hansen

Times flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.



We The People

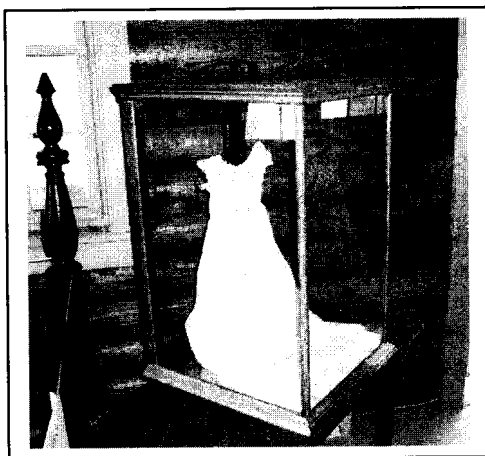
**On March 25, 2011
A Film on the Revolutionary War
in the Hudson Valley by Darryl
Lauster, MFA was Presented by
Michael VanDervoort and
William Sandy, RPA**



New Addition

**The well curb was purchased with a grant from Orange
County Historian's office.**

Larry Hansen built the well house.



New Addition

**Christening Dress of
Lois Vidler
Born October 22, 1873 England
Married Frank Ford
Died May 28, 1946 Minisink
Arrived in USA
September 5, 1908
with 7 children
and 4 more were born here
They bought the farm on Ford Road
The dress was donated by
Gladys (Ford) Raymond,
a granddaughter in 2010**

**VOTE
GENERAL ELECTION
NOVEMBER 8, 2011**

**Town of Minisink
PO Box 349
Westtown NY 10998**