



THE HISTORIC COUNTY

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NEWSLETTER OF THE
PASSAIC COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Bloomingtondale • Clifton • Haledon • Hawthorne • Little Falls • North Haledon
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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

See page 2 for more information about these and other upcoming events.

February 22
The Wedding of Grover Cleveland.
2 p.m., Lambert Castle.

March 13
The Erie Railroad. 7 p.m.,
Lambert Castle.

April 19-21
Tea at Lambert Castle.

May 8
Paterson Silk Strike
Centennial Exhibit.

May 10
Opening Reception
Paterson Silk Strike
Centennial Exhibit.

May 11
An Afternoon of English
Social Dance.

THE PATERSON EVENING NEWS & ZITO STUDIOS PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTION PROJECT

by Boris Von Faust

It is my great privilege to update the members of the Passaic County Historical Society on the progress of the monumental project undertaken at Lambert Castle in Paterson, New Jersey. The project involves the re-organization, identification, digitizing, and cataloging the museum's *Paterson Evening News* and Zito Studios photographic collection, originally believed to have contained approximately nearly 40,000 negative transparencies and 2,000 print photographs.

I became involved with the project in the late May of 2012 as part of my college internship. I am working on a master's degree in history at Rutgers University, Newark, and the proposed Passaic Historical Society internship fit perfectly with my school requirements. The scope of the project entails chronological re-organization, re-filing and storage of the collection, using approved materials and methods; creation of high-resolution scans of print photographs and negative transparencies; conversion of negative images into positive ones; identification of subject matter based on available information; cataloguing of images and subject matter using an approved numbering system; full training in the use of PastPerfect, the industry-standard museum software; image entry into PastPerfect database software; and physical care for sensitive photographic materials. I would like to use this opportunity to thank the museum's director Charles Casimiro and curator Heather Cunningham for entrusting me with this project, and for their invaluable guidance, instructions, and encouragement.



Paterson Evening News courier, 1959.

Early in the project, it became apparent that the photographic collection is significantly larger than was previously estimated, and, consequently, the project will take much longer

cont. on page 4

**PASSAIC COUNTY
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**

LAMBERT CASTLE

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Lambert Castle, a picturesque 1892 Victorian mansion located on the Garret Mountain Reserve, is on the National Register of Historic Places. The Castle is operated and managed by the Passaic County Historical Society, a not-for-profit 501(c) educational institution.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February – April 2013

- February 22** **The Wedding of Grover Cleveland.** 2 p.m., Lambert Castle. Sharon Farrell, of the Grover Cleveland Birthplace museum, will discuss the wedding of Caldwell native Grover Cleveland, the only President to marry while in office.
- March 9** **PCHS Genealogy Club Meeting.** 10 a.m., Lambert Castle. Program: “*Descendant Training: Finding Your Long Lost Cousins,*” presented by Melissa Johnson.
- March 13** **The Erie Railroad.** 7 p.m., Lambert Castle. Passaic City Historian Mark Auerbach will be on hand to discuss the 50th anniversary of the removal of the tracks that connected Passaic, Paterson, Clifton and other area towns.
- April 5** **The Ridgewood Gilbert and Sullivan Opera Company** performs selections from *Princess Ida*. 7:30 p.m., Lambert Castle.
- April 8** **Atlantic City Fundraiser.** Feeling lucky? Join us for a day of fun and games at the winningest spot in New Jersey. Call (973) 247-0085 ext. 201 or visit lambertcastle.org to make your reservation.
- April 13** **PCHS Genealogy Club meeting.** 10 a.m., Lambert Castle. Program: “*Cases that Made My Eyes Cross,*” presented by Toni McKean.
- April 19-21** **Tea at Lambert Castle.** Sessions at noon and 3 p.m. each day. The lavish annual tradition returns! Details coming soon at lambertcastle.org.
- May 8** **Paterson Silk Strike Centennial Exhibit.** Lambert Castle. This year marks the 100th anniversary of this watershed moment in labor relations and industrial history. This intriguing exhibit reveals the stories behind the struggle on both sides.
- May 10** **Opening Reception.** 7 p.m., Lambert Castle. Be with us for the official opening of the Paterson Silk Strike Centennial Exhibit.
- May 11** **An Afternoon of English Social Dance.** 12-4 p.m., Lambert Castle. The North River Colonial Dancers demonstrate the beautiful and unique art form of social dance. Free admission.

**For more information on any of these events,
please call the office at 973-247-0085
or visit us on line at www.lambertcastle.org.**

PASSAIC COUNTY AND THE PHILIPPINES: AN UNEXPECTED LINK

The breadth and variety of our collection never ceases to surprise us. Most recently our curator encountered a six-pointed star button, part of a military uniform of a soldier involved in the Philippine-American War. Out of curiosity she decided to research the soldier's name. The previous owner of the button was Emilio Aguinaldo, who it turns out was not just a soldier in the Philippines' revolution against Spain between 1896 and 1898, but a major player who led a group of rebels in battle against the Spanish. After independence was won, Aguinaldo continued to be involved in politics, serving as the first president of the Philippines (1897-1901), making him a contemporary of President William McKinley and Paterson's own Garret Hobart. During Aguinaldo's presidency, the Philippines engaged in war with the United States and upon his capture in 1901, President Aguinaldo swore allegiance to the United States, resulting in the Philippines being adopted as an American territory.

How intriguing that a small item, such as this button (which only measures about an inch and a quarter square) can create historical links to people and places around the world and connect the PCHS with major world events. It is these links that take ordinary

items and make them something of note, items worthy of preservation and notice.

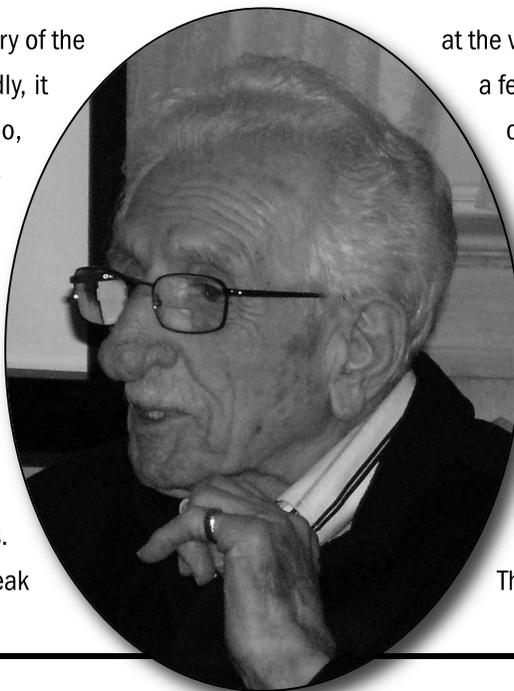
In many ways the story of this button is not unique in relation to the history of the Passaic County Historical Society's collection. In the early history of the Society, items which were deemed "museum quality," and in some cases were simply antiques, were brought to the museum and added to our holdings. The donor of this particular button, Mrs. Ida Ward, was one of the generous donors who, according to our accession books, presented the Society with dozens and dozens of items. These donations span from seashells and minerals, to arrowheads and furniture. Many of the items donated by Mrs. Ward seem to be souvenirs from far-off locales, such as India and the Philippines, indicating she was well-traveled. She may have accompanied her husband on business trips or political ventures. Her souvenir collection, which includes a piece of what is described as Abraham Lincoln's log cabin and a piece of the Colosseum in Rome, hints at the Victorian tourist's adventures and attitude that the wonders of the world were for the taking.



RALPH GOLZIO • 1910–2013

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Paterson Silk Strike in 1913, but sadly, it also marks the passing of Ralph Golzio, perhaps the last person who remembered it firsthand. Golzio's mother, Carrie, was one of the 23,000 silk workers who protested working conditions at Paterson's 300 silk mills.

Golzio was given an Honorary Membership to the Passaic County Historical Society in 2009, and was the oldest living member of our ranks. At that time, he was kind enough to speak



at the very first Passaic County History Fair, just a few days before his 100th birthday. He recalled with pride his mother's leadership during the 1913 strike, and regaled us with stories of swimming alongside Lou Costello.

Golzio was born in his family's home on Beech Street in Paterson, and worked at Wright Aeronautical before establishing his own engineering consulting firm. He is survived by his daughters Linda Sous and Thea Jones.

BASEBALL CITY

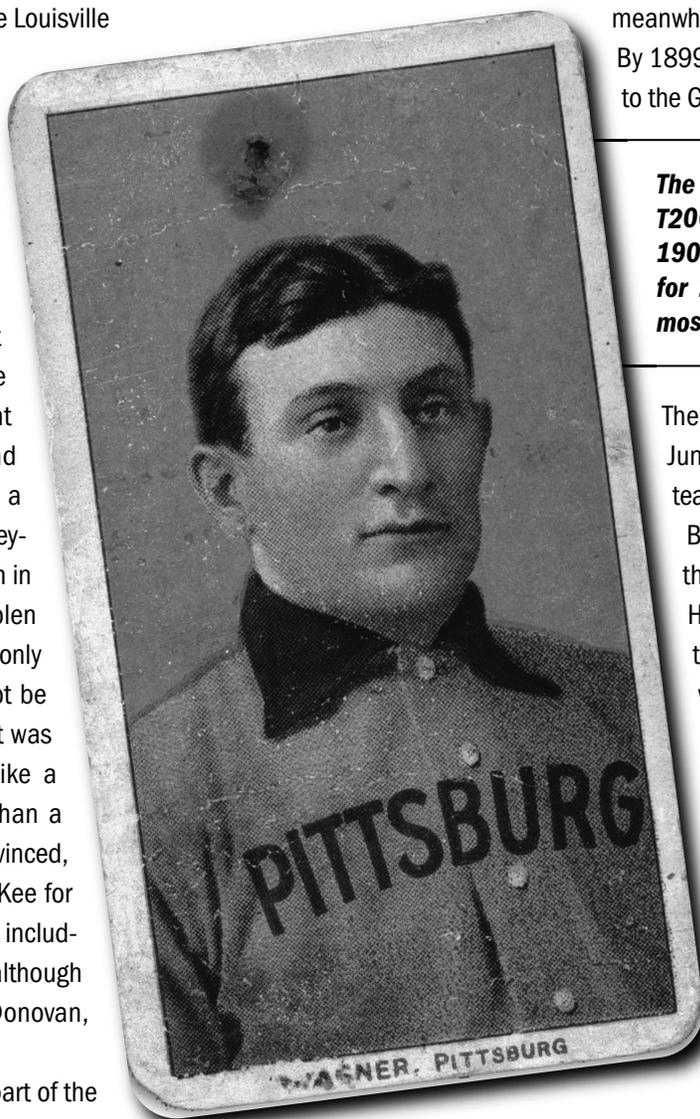
by Robert Cohen
Part Two of a Three-Part Series

In the last installment of "Baseball City," local entrepreneur Ed Barrow recruited future baseball legend Honus Wagner to the Paterson Silk Weavers, an Atlantic League team. By Wagner's second season in 1897, his phenomenal skills began to attract the attention of several major league clubs.

Claude McFarlan was a rookie pitcher for the Norfolk Jewels (another Atlantic League team). McFarlan took notice of Wagner's skills and went to New York to see Louisville Colonels owner Barney Dreyfuss and team President Harry Pulliam about this sensation. Both men were out, but McFarlan was able to speak to the Colonels' manager, Fred Clarke. When Dreyfuss and Pulliam returned they were told about Wagner. Pulliam then went to see Wagner play. Wagner was in right field, not third, due to a hand injury. He hit two doubles and a single. Two days later, Pulliam, Dreyfuss and Clarke saw Wagner, then in left field, get two hits and a stolen base. After another terrific game, only Clarke thought Wagner might not be a major leaguer, as the prospect was bowlegged and looked more like a coal miner or a wagon driver than a player. Pulliam, however, was convinced, and started negotiating with McKee for Wagner's services. (Other teams, including Pittsburgh, were interested, although Pittsburgh's manager, Patsy Donovan, balked at Wagner's high price.)

Throughout the season early part of the season, Wagner continued his exceptional playing and was a big fan favorite at Olympic Park. The fans, then called "cranks," liked him so much that they presented him with an inscribed gold watch before a game. By July 4 he was hitting .387, but his biggest day came on July 11, when he hit three home runs, two triples and a double for 20 total bases and an 11-5 victory against Norfolk.

Despite Wagner's performance, the Silk Weavers were struggling as a team. McKee, seeing crowd size diminishing and knowing Wagner was destined for the majors, finally made the trade with the Louisville Colonels on July 25. He sold Wagner and two other players for \$2,100. Wagner joined the Colonels for latter part of the 1897 season, and stayed with them until they were folded into the Pittsburgh Pirates in 1900. The Silk Weavers, meanwhile, finished the season in sixth place. By 1899 the Paterson team changed its name to the Giants, eventually disbanding on July 4.



The famous American Tobacco Company T206 Honus Wagner baseball card, ca. 1909. In 2007, one of these cards sold for 2.8 million dollars, making it the most valuable baseball card in history.

The Atlantic League itself disbanded on June 12, 1900, a month and a day after teams from Newark and Jersey City folded. Baseball in Paterson continued, with the Paterson Invaders playing for the Hudson River League from 1904 through 1907. The 1906 Paterson Invaders won the pennant with a 64-47 record, but eventually disbanded on June 2, 1907. By 1914 a new Atlantic League had formed, and in that year the Paterson Silk Cities finished their one and only season in seventh place.

In 1931, the Negro League came to Paterson and lasted until 1947. From 1933 to 1937, the New York Black Yankees made their home in the Silk City, playing most of their games in Hinchliffe Stadium, which was also home to The New York Cubans in 1935 and 1936. (One of the Cubans' star players, Martin Dihigo, was the subject of a previous article by the author. Hall of Famer Buck Leonard called him "the best player of all time.")

Watch for part three of "Baseball City" in our next issue.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Maria Carparelli

Happy New Year to all of our members and their families. I hope that all enjoyed a happy and healthy holiday season. We look forward to 2013 as many programs of historical interest have been planned.

2013 will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Paterson Silk Strike and the 50th anniversary of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. However, another less-known anniversary occurred 120 years ago on January 31. Catholina Lambert hosted a gala reception in his new home, Belle Vista, the place we now call Lambert Castle.

According to historian Edward. M. Graf, everyone in the area watched for months as a castle slowly emerged from huge blocks of sandstone obtained from local sources. As this magnificent structure neared completion, four hundred guests were invited to attend the housewarming.

The guests included a veritable list of "who's who" of Paterson, as well as many guests from out of town. According to Mr. Graf, "A special train was run over the Lackawanna Road from Jersey City to bring about one hundred guests and friends of Mr. and Mrs. Lambert from New York. Carriages were in waiting at the Barclay Street depot to convey them to the castle. Thirty-five coaches were required throughout the evening to convey the guests to and from the reception and these were furnished by Charles B. Hindle."

Greeting the guests as they arrived were Mr. and Mrs. Lambert, their son Walter S. Lambert and his wife, and their daughter, Mrs. William F. Dorflinger.

After being received by the Lamberts, the guests proceeded past the Grand Staircase and into the Great Art Hall. In the Music Room, to the east of the Art Hall, was Professor Dayton Vreeland and his string orchestra, playing promenade music. A mandolin orchestra from New York was positioned in the second floor gallery. Chairs were placed all around, to allow the guests an opportunity to enjoy Mr. Lambert's priceless art collection. In addition to viewing the works of art, the guests were treated to an elegant dinner served by Maressi of New York. The castle was also decorated with flowers and plants.

Mr. Lambert, who appreciated great art, had been collecting for many years. He amassed the works of many well-known artists, such as Claude Monet and Pierre-Auguste Renoir. Until his castle was completed, he did not have an appropriate venue to display his collection, which rivaled pieces found in art museums.

The quotes from Graf's article above are a brief summation of the event. The entire article can be found on our web page at lambertcastle.org (to view this article, use this simplified URL: goo.gl/LQF2H).

Maria Carparelli

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EVENING NEWS PHOTOS *cont. from page 1*

to complete; indeed, the number of photographs appears to be at least ten times greater—possibly around 20,000 prints—than initially anticipated. The collection contained in 29 storage boxes, each holding on average six folders of photographs.

At the beginning of my involvement, the collection lacked any chronological and topical organization. Earlier efforts to maintain the archive presented additional challenges: during the prior attempts of organizing the collection, undertaken a decade earlier, the photographs had been packed too tightly in their storage folders and boxes, and only a negligible portion of the collection is housed in the necessary protective plastic sleeves. We intend to resolve the congestion issues entirely and provide adequate storage to the archival materials as the project continues.

The first order of business was to organize the photographic collection chronologically; the process took several weeks to complete. The collection mostly contains *Paterson Evening News* archival photographs, with the bulk of the photographs dating from 1954 to 1974. Although mostly focused on and around Paterson, many of the archival photographs relate to other areas of Northern New Jersey, such as Pompton Lakes, Wayne, and Wanaque. Since the collection represents a newspaper archive, the subject matter is reflective of the press coverage of the period. Topics range from formal social outings, anniversaries and retirements, commemorative dinners, contests, ground-breakings and grand openings, award presentations, law enforcement agencies, crime reportages, construction and development, news of science, technology, sports, healthcare, education, and culture, traffic accidents, natural disasters, local celebrities and political figures,

clubs and organizations, receptions of foreign dignitaries, and presidential visits, as well as various amusing tidbits. During the initial re-organization, I encountered several extraordinary finds: a handful of photos from 1930s and 1940s; several prints of an unidentified African-American woman that appear to date back to the late nineteenth or early twentieth century; an unlabeled photograph of an early twentieth-century fire station and a hand-drawn pencil sketch of a former Soviet foreign minister Anastas Mikoyan.

In addition to the actual scanning of the individual photographs, the procedure includes the entry of all applicable information (such as dimensions, quality, subject, type of photo, caption, and any old catalog numbers, if available) into the database, and the

assignment of new catalog numbers. Although the conditions of my internship prevented me from working more than eight hours a week on the project, by December of 2012 I was able to process approximately 2,300 photos (31 files in five boxes, roughly one-sixth of the collection) at a rate of scanning around 50 photographs per day. In the interests of the project's more expedient conclusion, we will hopefully gain authorization to spend more time per week on the project in the near future.

In some instances, the captions on the photographs are unclear, insufficient, or missing. In such cases, I have to conduct research independently, using the museum's archives, Internet sources, and my own expertise to correct or clarify the captions. Yet, with such a vast archive, many photographs still require further examination by local historians and residents. Unquestionably, the participation



The author conducting a photo identification session with local volunteers.

of the Passaic County Historical Society members played the most valuable role in the identification process. The Historical Society had conducted a series of highly successful public identification sessions, involving local residents and long-time members of the Society aiding us in the identification process. These productive and illuminating interactions with the local historical community yielded invaluable information, and we intend to have such meetings conducted on a regular basis. We would like to thank everyone who took part in these I.D. sessions so far for graciously donating their time and effort.

Converting the archive into digital format awards us a unique opportunity to bring local history to a wide cross-section of the

population. In the distant future, we hope to host the digitized photo collection online, so that members of the Historical Society and local residents could have instant access to the collection. When this goal is accomplished, we anticipate that online access to the collection will aid tremendously in the ongoing identification process, and provide an important gateway into the county's cultural heritage.

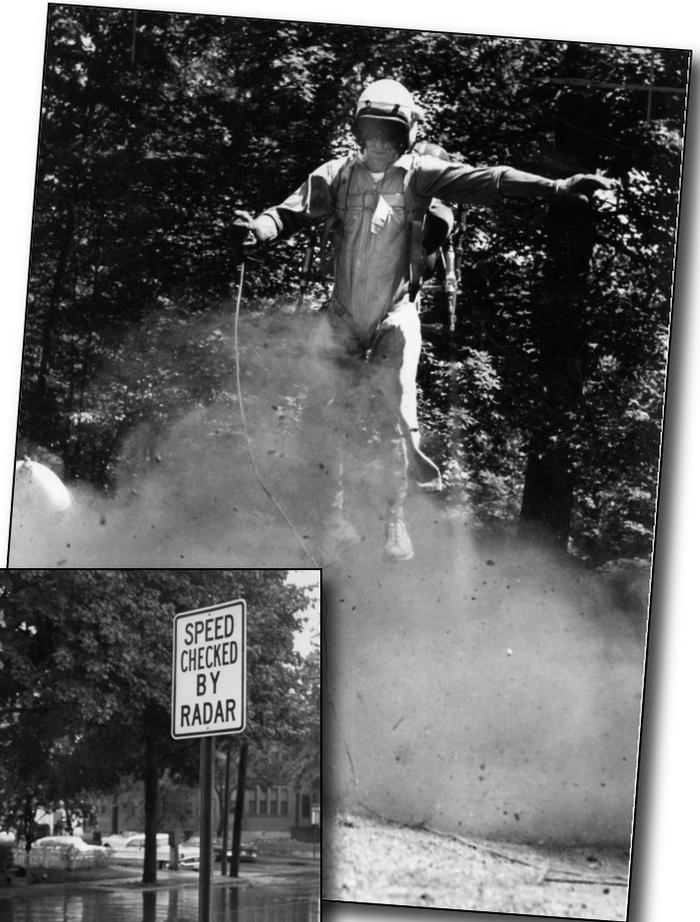
Participation in this project provided me with an invaluable experience in the fields of archiving and library science, instruction in modern techniques of historical research in a professional museum environment, and a unique insight in the area of public history.

In addition, I learned a great deal more about the local history of Paterson, Passaic County, and the state of New Jersey. I greatly enjoyed this educational and highly rewarding experience, and look forward to continuing to work on the project in the future, and to keeping the Passaic County Historical Society updated on the future progress of this exciting and educational endeavor.

Would you like to be part of this important project? If you've got a memory for faces, places and events from Passaic County's history, join us for our next photo identification session at Lambert Castle on Monday, March 18 at 10:30 a.m.



Top left: Bob Scully delivering blocks of ice on the coldest day of the year, 1959.



Top right: Ed Kurzewski demonstrates the "flying belt," 1958.



Right: A man navigating Trenton Avenue in a rubber raft, 1962.



PASSAIC COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Paterson, New Jersey 07503

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*Join us for Tea
at Lambert
Castle
April
19-21*



*Details coming soon at
lambertcastle.org*

SAVE SMOKEY!

Smokey, a 120-year old stuffed black bear, proudly represented the volunteers of Paterson Engine Company No. 8. With your help, Smokey will be soon restored to his former glory and placed on display at Lambert Castle!



SAVE SMOKEY
Lambert Castle
3 Valley Road
Paterson, NJ 07503

Make checks payable to: PCHS