

The Woman's Club of Cranbury



Celebrating our 100th Anniversary of Federation

Established 1898

Federated 1922

Woman's Club of Cranbury Timeline



ORGANIZED

The Ladies Reading Circle was formed to bring the ladies from the three Cranbury churches together socially. The objective was, "to fill our minds with those things that shall inspire us to higher attainments".



NAME CHANGED

The Ladies Reading Circle became the Woman's Club of Cranbury.



FEDERATED

The Woman's Club of Cranbury joined the General Federation of Women's Clubs, an international women's organization dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service.



DEPARTMENTS WERE FORMED

Department's offered instruction in sewing, gourmet cooking, china painting, flower arranging furniture refinishing, trapunto, crewel, leaded glass etc..

Timeline, continued

19
33



ANNIVERSARY

Anniversary

35 Years Celebrated

19
42



War!

The Woman's Club goes to war.



First Scholarships

19
60

More to come

Timeline, continued

19
73

19
80

19
90

20
00

Sculptures

More to come

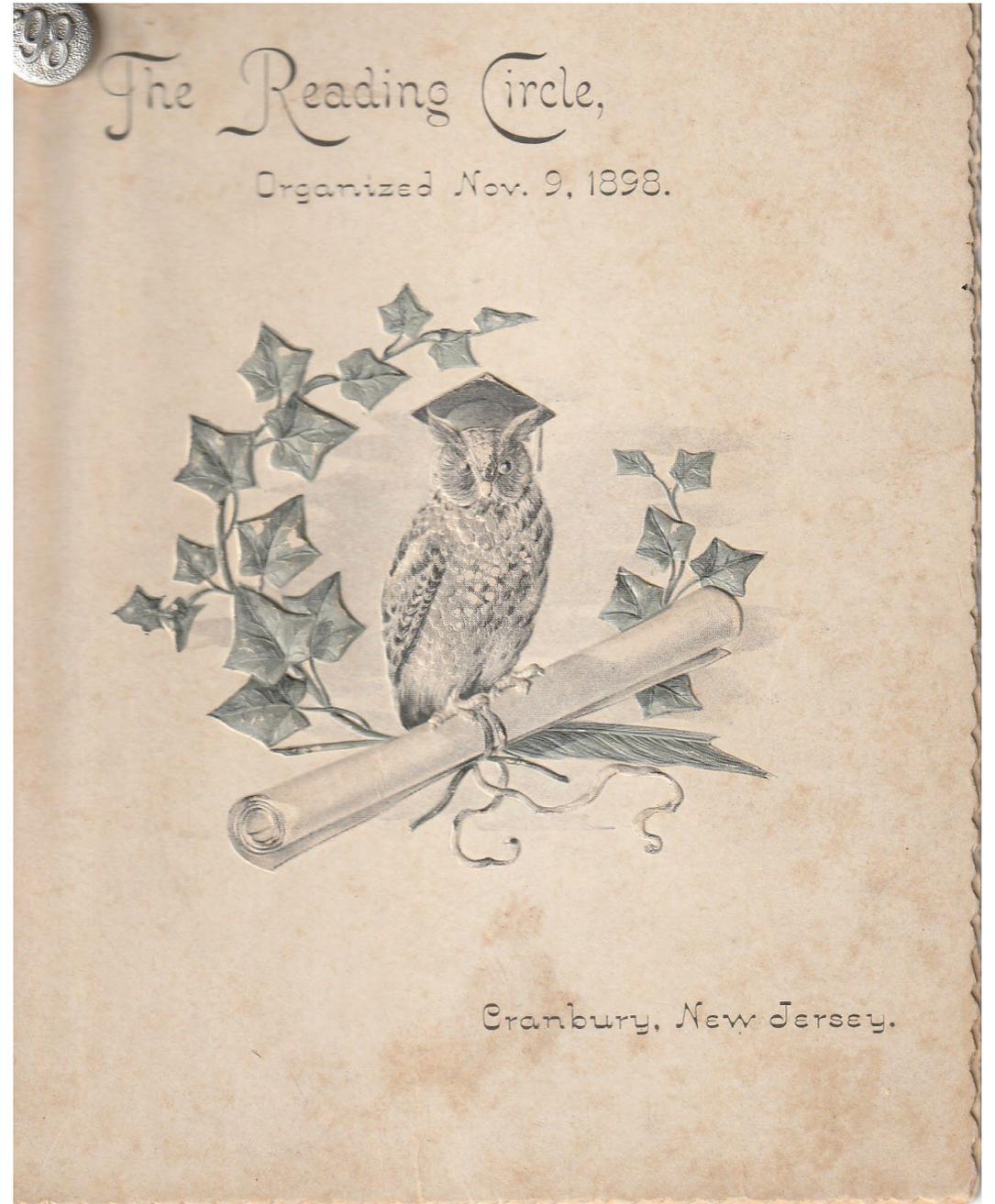
More to come

More to come

20 pieces of fine sculpture
were purchased and made
available for monthly loan from
the Cranbury Library

Ladies Reading Circle

First Program for the LRC



Inside the Program

Constitution & Bylaws

CONSTITUTION.

—0—

1. This Society shall be called the Reading Circle.
2. The object of the society shall be to fill our minds with those things that shall inspire us to higher attainments.
3. The motto of this society shall be "True to the best within us and Loyal to each other."
4. A person may become a member by invitation and majority vote of the society.
5. The officers of the society shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, who shall be elected quarterly.



BY-LAWS.

—0—

1. The regular meeting shall be held every Wednesday at 2-30 o'clock and the first item of business shall be Roll Call.
2. Any leader not commencing on time shall pay a fine of five cents.
3. A committee of three shall be chosen each month to furnish a program for each meeting.
4. The duties of the committee shall be to plan for place of meeting, form of roll call, readers, and notification of the press.
5. The form and expense of any entertainment shall be decided by the society.
6. These By-Laws may be amended at any regular meeting by a two-third vote of the members present, notice of the intention having been given at a previous meeting.

Inside the Program

4 weeks of programs

Poe

Longfellow

Holland

Liquified Air

—Style of Program.—

November 16.—Poe

Roll Call—Quotations from Poe.

Reading—The Raven.

Current Events.

November 23.—Longfellow.

Roll Call—Quotations from Longfellow.

Music—The Psalm of Life.

Reading—The Builders.

Reading—Evangeline.

Familiar Topics.

November 30.—Holland.

Roll Call—Miscellaneous Quotations.

Reading—Description of Holland.

Reading—Quaint Scenes in Holland.

Queen Wilhelmina—her life and character.

Delft Ware.

December 7.—Roll Call—Some Scientific Fact.

Reading—Liquified Air.

Talks on Watt, Stevenson, and Edison.

Current Events.

Inside the Program

Hidden Gems.

We know not what lies in us till we seek;
Men dive for pearls—they are not found on shore,
The hill-sides most unpromising and bleak
Do sometimes hide the ore.

Go dive in the vast ocean of thy mind,
O man ! far down below the noisy waves,
Down in the depths and silence thou mayst find
Pure pearls and coral caves.

Sink thou a shaft into the mine of thought;
Be patient, like the seekers after gold;
Under the rocks and rubbish lieth what
May bring thee wealth untold.

Reflected from the vastly infinite
However dulled by earth, each human mind
Holds somewhere gems of beauty and of light
Which seeking, thou shalt find.

ELLA WHEELER WILCOX.

.....
Burroughs, Printer.



Vocal Solo.

Open the Gates of the Temple
Mrs. Van Derbeck

Vocal Solo.

a. *Turkey's Song*
b. *Drinking Song*
Mr. Van Derbeck.

Illustrated Monologue

My Album.
Mrs. G. B. Mershon

Vocal Solo.

a. *Good Night Little Girl*
b. *Dearie.*
Mrs. Van Derbeck.

Monologue

The First Thanksgiving.
Mrs. Ernest Scott

Vocal Duet

Co. *Pretty Rose*
Mr. & Mrs. Van Derbeck.
"Bear a lily in thy hand"

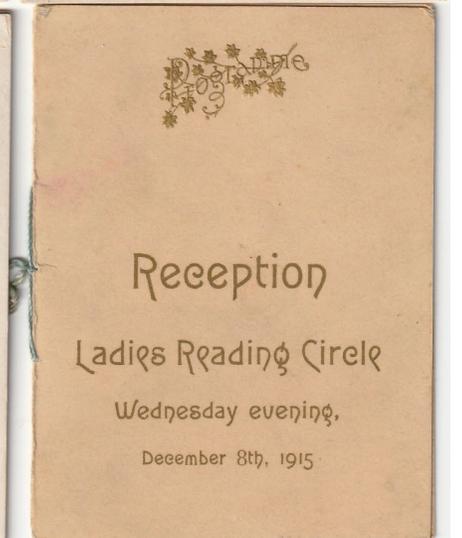
Reading Circle Reception 1907

Reading Circle Reception

1906

“Thou shall remember that club day is Wednesday and to keep it from engagements and not absent thyself without an excellent cause” and that “each member should, like the Citizens in the Golden Age of Greece, be prepared to do anything that was asked of her”.

-- *From the Beginning – a Page of History*, NJSFWC 1979



1907 - 1910

1910 - 1915

1916 Yearbook – A Musical and Mexico

YEAR BOOK IS ISSUED FOR THE LADIES READING CIRCLE.

The Year Book of the Ladies Reading Circle, has just been issued and contains some interesting programs. The officers for the year are: Mrs. Charles T. Hoffman, president; Miss Marie Groves, first vice president; Mrs. Clifford Conover, second vice president; Mrs. Frank A. Brown, recording secretary; Mrs. H. N. Scott, treasurer. Program committee, Mrs. S. H. Perrine, Mrs. Russell Silvers, Mrs. Warren Elsing, Miss Anna Chamberlin; membership committee, Mrs. H. C. Symmes Mrs. G. B. Mershon, Miss Marie Groves.

The meetings planned are the following:

October 11th—"A musical day" in charge of program committee, Mrs. Charles T. Hoffman, hostess.

October 25th—Subject, "Mexico"; committee in charge, Miss Clara Chamberlin, Mrs. D. W. Clayton. Hostess, Mrs. John D. Chamberlin.

November 8th—"Mexico, Rulers of Mexico, Mines of Mexico." Committee Mrs. Frank A. Brown, Miss Anna Chamberlin. Hostess, Mrs. Clifford Conover.

November 22nd—"Mexico, Present Conditions." Committee, Mrs. Anna Spaulding, Mrs. William Gordon. Hostess, Mrs. Sara Clayton.

December 6th—"The World's Greatest Myths." Committee, Mrs. C. Conover, Miss Marie Groves. Hostess, Mrs. William Gordon.

December 20th—"Christmas Meeting". Committee, Mrs. John B. Perrine, Mrs. H. J. Butcher. Hostess, Mrs. Samuel Perrine.

January 3rd—"The Islands of the World". Committee, Mrs. Clarence Perrine, Mrs. Warren Elsing. Hostess Mrs. Geo. W. Burroughs.

January 17th—"The Islands of the World" Committee, Mrs. Geo. W. Burroughs, Mrs. F. S. Davis. Election of officers. Hostess, Mrs. Z. W. Wells.

January 31st—"Book Review" Mrs. J. E. Curry, Mrs. W. R. Silvers, Mrs. Charles T. Hoffman. Hostess, Mrs. D. W. Clayton.

February 14th—"Valentine Meeting" Committee, Mrs. E. S. Barclay, Mrs. Samuel Perrine. Hostess, Mrs. H. N. Scott.

February 28th—"The Land of the Midnight Sun" Committee, Mrs. Scott, Miss Anna Chamberlin. Hostess, Mrs. F. A. Brown.

March 14—"Furniture." Committee Mrs. S. J. Bergen, Mrs. J. D. Chamberlin. Hostess, Mrs. John B. Perrine.

March 28th—"Pleasant Talks on Books and Writers" Committee, Mrs. H. C. Symmes, Mrs. Z. W. Wells. Hostess, Mrs. Geo. B. Mershon.

April 11th—"Nurses' Settlement Work". Committee, Mrs. C. P. Emmons, Mrs. Charles T. Hoffman. Hostess, Mrs. S. J. Bergen.

April 25th—"The Romance of Some American Cities". Committee, Mrs. Geo. W. Burroughs, Mrs. Symmes H. Perrine. Hostess, Mrs. E. S. Barclay.

May 9th—"Prevention of Blindness" Illustrated Lecture. Hostess, Mrs. J. E. Curry.

May 23rd—"Book Review," Mrs. G. B. Mershon, Mrs. Ella Stults, Mrs. J. J. Bradley. Hostess, Mrs. S. H. Perrine.

June 6th—"Guest Day" Subject, "Happy the home that shelters a friend" Hostess, Mrs. J. S. Silvers.

The members of the circle are the following: Mrs. E. S. Barclay, Mrs. M. E. Bergen, Mrs. J. J. Bradley, Mrs. F. A. Brown, Mrs. G. W. Burroughs, Mrs. H. J. Butcher, Mrs. J. D. Chamberlin, Mrs. N. F. Clayton, Mrs. D. W. Clayton, Miss Anna Chamberlin, Miss Clara Chamberlin, Mrs. Clifford Conover, Mrs. J. E. Curry, Mrs. Frank S. Davis, Mrs. Warren Elsing, Mrs. C. P.

The Ladies Reading Circle becomes the Woman's Club of Cranbury

Cranbury Press
October 10, 1919

A Pleasant Occasion.

A very pleasing and interesting meeting marked the opening of the season for the Ladies Reading Circle. The meeting Wednesday afternoon was held at the home of the president, Mrs. Stanley Conover. It was a full meeting and the members were happy in greeting each other after the summer separation. It was a musical program and business of importance was attended to. It was desired to change the name of Ladies Reading Circle, to "The Woman's Club of Craubury" which for many reasons is a more appropriate name in this day of opportunity and progress.

The Reading Circle was organized nearly twenty-five years ago. It was also decided to have two receptions during the season. The next meeting will be an "outing" which will be Wednesday afternoon, October 22d. The proposed trip will be by autos to "Washington's Headquarters" at Rocky Hill. Mrs. Conover served dainty refreshments.

Federation

11-03-1922 The Vote



THE WOMAN'S CLUB.

"Classic Opera" Afternoon's Theme.

Twenty-five members and two guests were present at the meeting of the Woman's Club on Wednesday at the home of Mrs. William H. Johnson. Mrs. Hughes, the president, presided, and she put before the club in a clear and comprehensive manner the question of federating. After some discussion it was voted upon. The majority expressed themselves by their ballot in favor of federation.

The subject for the day was "Classic Opera" and the program was in charge of Mrs. Arthur L. Burroughs and Mrs. Clarence M. Perrine. The program follows:

Duets:

- a. Tanhauser March, Wagner
 - b. Pilgrim's Chorus, Wagner
- Mrs. Perrine and Mr. Burroughs Solo, Sextette from Lucia,
Mrs. John Stonaker
Story of Verdi's Life,
Mrs. S. H. Perrine

Victrola.

- a. Quartet from Rigoletto, Verdi
- b. Caro Noma from Rigoletto

Duet,

- a. March from Aida, Verdi
- Mrs. Perrine and Mr. Burroughs

The story of the Opera 'Il Trovatore interspersed by victrola selections from the opera,

Mrs. A. L. Burroughs

Piano Solo,

- Selections from 'Il Trovatore,
Mr. Burroughs

WOMAN'S CLUB CELEBRATES FEDERATION DAY.

The first anniversary of Federation Day was celebrated by the Cranbury Woman's Club at their meeting Wednesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. G. B. Mershon in South Cranbury.

Nearly all the members of the club answered to Roll Call after which Mrs. J. Edward Chamberlin, the club president, made an address of welcome. She then introduced Mrs. Southard Mather, of Princeton, contraalto soloist, who gave as her first selection, Cadman's "At Dawning." A. L. Burroughs accompanied her on the piano. Mrs. A. B. Proal, Retiring President State Federation, was then introduced to the club. Her remarks were indeed very interesting and she pointed out many possibilities for our club in its connection with the State Federation. Mrs. Prickett, of Metuchen, vice-president of the State Federation, spoke on the accomplishments and proposed activities of the clubs allied with the Federation. Both Mrs. Proal and Mrs. Prickett are exceptionally fine speakers and their talks were enjoyed by the club.

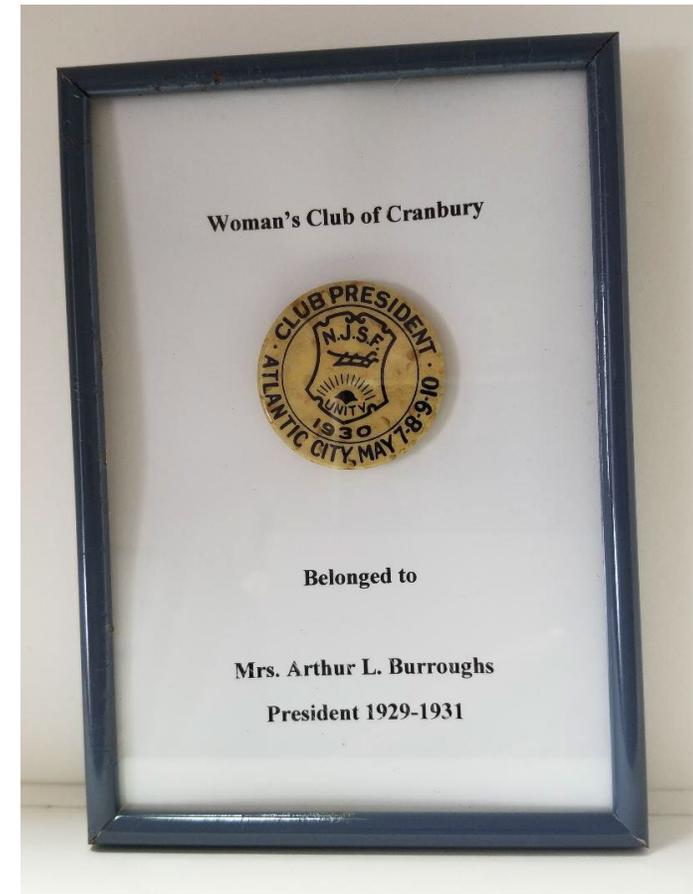
Mrs. Arthur Clayton gave a reading which was rendered in her usual fine manner and well received by the club. A. L. Burroughs rendered a piano solo, Chopin's C Sharp Polonaise; Mrs. Mather then gave a second vocal selection, "An Old Fashioned Home." Mrs. Mather's selections were marked with unusually fine tone qualities and her ability displayed in the manner in which she rendered them.

About twenty-five representatives from various clubs in the state were present and some of them were called upon for remarks about their clubs. Following the program a social hour was enjoyed at which time refreshments were served by the program committee. The committees in charge of the meeting were Mrs. J. Edward Chamberlin and Mrs. Stanley Conover; music—Mrs. D. W. Clayton and Mrs. W. T. Denison.

First
Anniversary
1923

1930's

Where was the tree planted?



1940
 Woman's
 Club Welfare
 Account

Welfare Account Cranbury
 Woman's Club. Oct 1939 - June 1940

Balance on hand Oct. 1940	\$ 65.01
Received from Red Cross Drive	\$ 176.
	<hr/>
	241.01

Disbursements

Red Cross at Princeton	98.
Tuberculosis Seals	5.
Lunch room of Cranbury School	50.
Blankets for needy	5.
Infantile Paralysis Drive	5.
Unlaid Research	10.
Blankets, cot, bedding for colored families	15.
Cancer Control	1.
Kidde Keep Well Camp	5.

The Woman's Club in War Time



We sent a Ping Pong set to the 19th Evacuation Hospital at Fort Dix

19TH EVACUATION HOSPITAL
Office of the Commanding Officer

HFE/pdw

Fort Dix, New Jersey
June 22, 1942

Mrs. William Hoffman
Cranbury
New Jersey

Dear Mrs. Hoffman:

In behalf of my organization, I wish to thank you for the Ping Pong Set you and the ladies you represent so generously gave to this organization.

Harrison F. English
HARRISON F. ENGLISH
Captain, Medical Corps.

Rationing

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1 This book is valuable. Do not lose it.
- 2 Each stamp authorizes you to purchase rationed goods in the quantities and at the times designated by the Office of Price Administration. Without the stamps you will be unable to purchase those goods.
- 3 Detailed instructions concerning the use of the book and the stamps will be issued. Watch for those instructions so that you will know how to use your book and stamps. Your Local War Price and Rationing Board can give you full information.
- 4 Do not throw this book away when all of the stamps have been used, or when the time for their use has expired. You may be required to present this book when you apply for subsequent books.

Rationing is a vital part of your country's war effort. Any attempt to violate the rules is an effort to deny someone his share and will create hardship and help the enemy.

This book is your Government's assurance of your right to buy your fair share of certain goods made scarce by war. Price ceilings have also been established for your protection. Dealers must post these prices conspicuously. Don't pay more.

Give your whole support to rationing and thereby conserve our vital goods. Be guided by the rule:

"If you don't need it, DON'T BUY IT."

A REMINDER

Stamp #30 for 5 pounds—valid
January 16 for an indefinite period.
Stamp #31 for 5 pounds—valid
April 1 for an indefinite period.
Stamp #40 for 5 pounds for home
canning and preserving — valid
February 1, 1944, to February 28,
1945.

JACK FROST SUGARS
are 100% Pure Cane
—clean, conveniently
packed. Ask for
them by name!

★
GRANULATED • TABLET
CONFECTIONERS XXXXXX
EXTRA FINE POWDERED
LIGHT and DARK BROWN



JACK FROST Sugars
National Sugar Refining Co. New York, N. Y.

**FRESH
FROM THE
FARMS
of NEW JERSEY**

N.J.  *Fresh
Eggs*

EGGS ARE AMONG THE 'PROTECTIVE
FOODS' YOU SHOULD EAT EVERY
DAY. NEW JERSEY FRESH EGGS ARE
PLENTIFUL — INEXPENSIVE.

ASK FOR N. J. STATE
CERTIFIED FRESH EGGS.

NEW JERSEY COUNCIL in cooperation with
NEW JERSEY DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

The Fruits of Victory



War Gardens

The United States Department of Agriculture encouraged the planting of victory gardens during World War II. **Around one third of the vegetables produced by the United States came from victory gardens.** It was emphasized to American home-front urbanites and suburbanites that the produce from their gardens would help to lower the price of vegetables needed by the US War Department to feed the troops, thus saving money that could be spent elsewhere on the military: "Our food is fighting", one US poster read. By May 1943, there were 18 million victory gardens in the United States – 12 million in cities and 6 million on farms.

Write for Free Book to
National War Garden Commission

Fanny Farmer – Thanks from George F Barber, Lt. Col., 87 Armored Field Artillery Battalion

December 30, 1944

Dear ladies, I am rather embarrassed to write a letter to so many people at once. But my embarrassment is rather sacrificial. If you could have seen the way I piled into that grand box of Fannie Farmer candy that came in in one of the early Christmas mails. I am a rabid fan of the F. F. Candies. And they just don't last long with me...

Lasting six brutal weeks, from December 16, 1944, to January 25, 1945, the assault called the Battle of the Ardennes, took place during frigid weather conditions, with some 30 German divisions attacking battle-fatigued American troops across 85 miles of the densely wooded Ardennes Forest. The 87th Armored Field Artillery Battalion played a vital role in that battle. You may know it by another name, The Battle of the Bulge. George F Barber went on to become a full Colonel.



Lt. Col. Barber's Cranbury Connection

Miss Alice Tippett Marries Princeton Graduate, Officer

The First Presbyterian Church of Cranbury was the scene yesterday afternoon of the wedding of Miss Alice Tippett, daughter of Mrs. John F. Tippett of Cranbury and Lieut. George F. Barber, son of Mr. and Mrs. George G. Barber of New Rochelle, N. Y.

The Rev. David Spratt performed the ceremony and Stanley B. Kirk of New Rochelle gave the bride in marriage.

She wore her mother's wedding dress of lace and net embroidered with pearls and carried orchids and lilies of the valley.

Mrs. Aloert C. Barclay of Cranbury, sister of the bride, was maid of honor and bridesmaids

were Miss Marjorie Weisenburger of Bronxville, N. Y., and Miss Mariana Brown of Middletown, Del. They wore white organdis with yellow eyelet embroidery and carried spring bouquets.

Carl H. McClure 3d of New Rochelle was best man and ushers were Robert Chapman of White Plains, N. Y., William Cosby of Hartsdale, N. Y., and Dr. David Greene of New York City.

Lieut. Barber, a graduate of Princeton, is stationed with the U. S. Field Artillery at Fort Sill, Okla.

Mrs. Barber is a graduate of Smith College.

They will live at Lawton, Okla.

Detail Source

Name: Lieut George F. Barber

Gender: Male

Residence Date: Abt 1942

Residence Place: Lawton , Okla .

Employer: U. S. Field Artillery

School: Princeton

Marriage Date: 23 May 1942

Marriage Place: Cranbury, New Jersey, USA

Father: George G. Barber

Mother: Barber

Spouse: Alice Tippett

Thanks to Barbara Wright & Peggy Brennan for pointing out the possible link to Cranbury.

We sent "Buddy Bags" to the USS New Jersey

Early in October raids to destroy enemy air power based on Okinawa and Formosa were begun in preparation for landings planned for 20 October 1944. Later, the ship faced Typhoon Cobra.

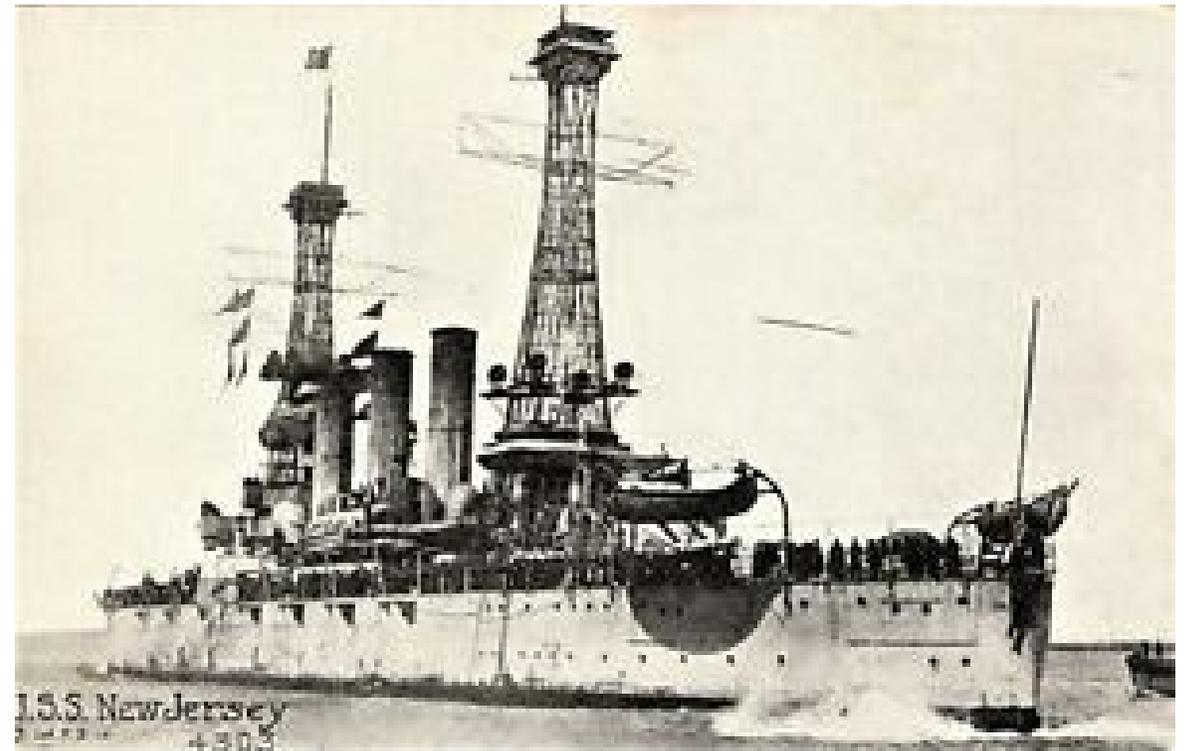
October 13, 1944

Women's Club
Canbury
New Jersey

Dear Friends:

The State Society of the Battleship New Jersey gratefully acknowledges receipt of the Buddy Bags prepared by your organization for the members of the crew of the U.S.S. New Jersey.

It will be interesting for you to know that the most powerful battleship ever to sail the seas, and named in honor of our State, is now engaged in the Pacific. While we cannot speak of details, she is making a glorious record for herself, the Navy and for New Jersey.



LENOX CHINA



Now it can be told. Your Lenox China is flying in bombers—in the form of Lenoxite, a Radio-Radar Grade Ceramic insulating material. Lenoxite is helping to make that day nearer when you can enjoy your Lenox China service in Peace. Lenoxite comes first at Lenox, but we are making all the Lenox China we can under existing conditions, keeping Lenox's same high standard of quality, skilled craftsmanship, design and beauty. ★ ★ BUY WAR BONDS NOW ★ ★

LENOX INCORPORATED - - Trenton, N. J.

Lenox Goes to War

Lenoxite

As World War II consumed much of the nation's efforts and imagination in the 1940's, Lenox, based in nearby Trenton, embarked on a noble and lesser-known chapter of its history. Lenox made a unique contribution to the war effort by producing an exceptionally durable material called Lenoxite, used in high-frequency radar devices by the United States Signal Corps.

1950's



FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY SCROLL

Presented to the

Woman's Club of Cranbury

Organized in 1898

Cranbury, New Jersey

by the

GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

in recognition of long and distinguished service to the community and nation

April 14, 1953

DATE OF PRESENTATION

Mrs. Oscar A. Shyren

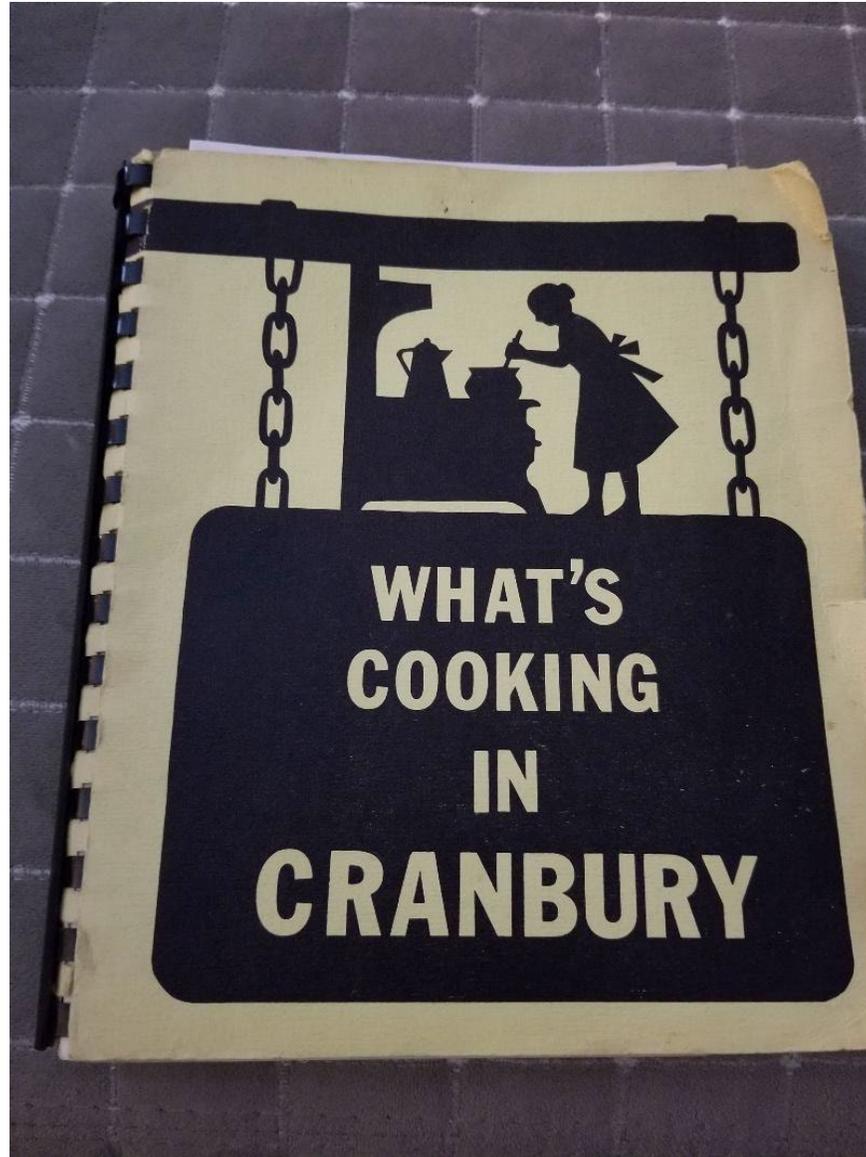
PRESIDENT, GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

Excerpt from *Depression, War and Recovery*



Just the previous year, Eugenie Bunting, head of the Cranbury Woman's Club's committee on "Friendly Town," had told a meeting of the club members about the *New York Herald Tribune's* new Fresh Air Fund, which aimed at sending children from the city's slums on a two-week vacation in the countryside. "It is your opportunity to engage personally in a mission of rescue," Mrs. Bunting said, and she urged members of the Cranbury Woman's Club to open their homes to these underprivileged youngsters (several women reportedly volunteered immediately), and to ask friends to do likewise to help others and to ensure Cranbury's reputation as a "Friendly Town." The *Cranbury Press* enthusiastically endorsed her recommendation as "another opportunity for Community Betterment."⁴³

1972



Club Formed To Increase Sociability

The Woman's Club of Cranbury was organized on November 9, 1898 as a literary group, and became a member of the New Jersey State Federation of Woman's Clubs on November 1, 1922.

The object of the club is to promote general interests, to develop the intellect of its members and to increase sociability. To accomplish these ends the work is divided into eight departments: American Home, Arts, Civics and Legislation, Drama, Garden, International Affairs, Literature and Music.

At the present time the Woman's Club of Cranbury has 108 active members, 24 associate members and two honorary members. It is a member of the Fourth District, New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs.

President is Mrs. Max Mesner; First Vice President, Mrs. Daryl Urness; Second Vice President, Mrs. Robert F. Ochs; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Warren Field; Federation Secretary, Mrs. Richard Scott and Treasurer, Mrs. H. Philip Scott.

There is one general meeting held on the first Wednesday of each month for the entire membership, unless otherwise announced. Each department meets monthly.

1990's



The Woman's Club of Cranbury

Many
More
Years to
Come . . .



Celebrating our 100th Anniversary of Federation

Established 1898

Federated 1922