

# HISTORIA

**VOLUME 15, ISSUE 4** 

NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**NOVEMBER 2007** 

# **Richboro Nike Missile Base Receives Pennsylvania State Historic Marker**

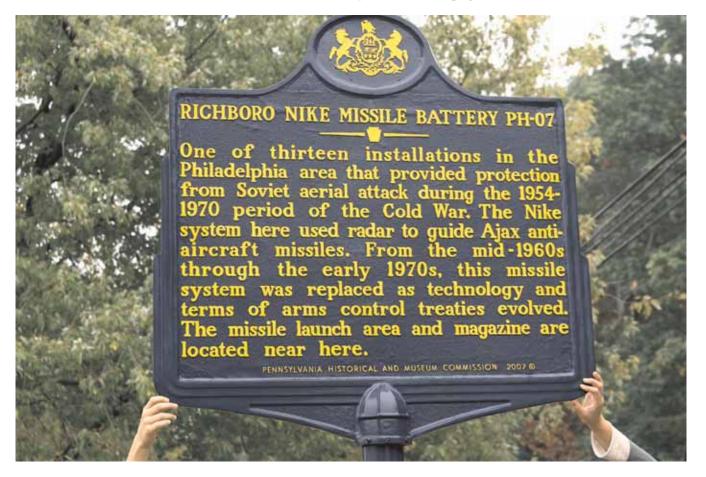


#### By Doug Crompton

On Friday, October 5, 2007 a Pennsylvania historic marker was dedicated marking the former site of the Richboro Nike Base PH-07. This was the first state historic maker to be dedicated in Northampton Township and the only dedication in Bucks County this year.

The marker is located on route 332, Richboro-Newtown Road, at the Northampton Township Recreation Center. The ceremony started at 10 AM with the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of "God Bless America" by the preschool children from the recreation center. After making a few opening words I introduced State Representative Scott Petri, who commented on behalf of the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission. Representative Petri then introduced Larry

Story continues on page 3



# **NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT**

NTHS

It's autumn and as per usual we are touring the sunny south. This is our first trip to Wilmington, North Carolina and it's history goes back to Giovanni da Verrazano who sailed for the King of France and who set anchor near the mouth of the Cape Fear River in 1524.

Later both Spain and the British came to explore the area. The British were more successful and in 1629, the Cape Fear area was incorporated as the Province of Carolina.

In 1765, one of the American colonies first successful armed resistance to the British imposed Stamp Act took place in Wilmington. By 1781 British forces occupied the city. Late in that year, Lord Cornwallis arrived to lead the British to – where they were defeated.

My husband and I visited Fort Fisher museum. In 1864 the port of Wilmington was the only Confederate port that remained open. When Fort Fisher fell to the Union forces the city became occupied, supplies were cut off, and the Confederacy was defeated.

We will be having our Fred Holzworth dinner again this year. Fred was an avid student of the Civil War and our guest speaker is from the Civil War Roundtable in Doylestown.

When you visit these historic sites history comes alive. I hope to see you at the dinner where you can learn more about the Civil War or as it is known down here as "the war of northern aggression" or "the war of late unpleasantness."

Please take a moment to remember all of our veterans on Veterans Day, November 11. Remember too – Historic Preservation, the Ultimate Recycling!

Mary B. Seader

# Congratulations to the following NTHS members that gave above and beyond their normal membership dues in 2007.

NTHS Circle -	Doug Crompton, Lois Craven Ferguson
Patron -	Roy and Gail Reinard
Sponsor -	Elinor Crompton, Bud and Dotty Davis,
_	Margaret and Lewis Hull, Nancy Turner
Sustaining -	Jim and Larice Burtt, Kathryn Ciaverelli,
	Childrens Cultural Center, Christine and
	Joseph Fluehr, Jim and Joan Kinney,
	Richard Noe, Louis Leitenberger III,
	Janet and Kurt Nelson, Virginia Smith,
$\backslash$	Fred Stewart, Steven Rovner, Nancy Turner

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Mark your Calendar

# NTHS Dinner Meeting Wednesday November 14th, 6:00 PM

Annual Fred Holzworth Dinner Spring Mill Manor, Ivyland Advance Reservations Required and now CLOSED After dinner General Meeting open to the public at 7:30 PM

# **MERCER MUSEUM**

Pine and Ashland Streets, Doylestown, PA (215) 345-0210 Hours: Mon.-Sat. 10-5, Sun. Noon-5, Tues. until 9 Admission: \$6, \$5.50 seniors, \$2.50 Ages 6-17, Free to members and children under 6

**November 26 - December 2** Membership Appreciation Week Mercer Museum Shop

**December 1 thru January 2** Winter Wonderland: Holiday Decorations at Fonthill

**Sunday, December 9** Holiday Family Open House Noon- 4 PM - Fonthill and Moravian Pottery & Tile

**Tuesday, December 11** Mercer Museum Holiday Open House 7-9 PM

**Saturday, December 15** Fonthill Holiday Lights 6:30 - 9:30 PM - (6:30 - 8:30 arrival times)

# Did you know?

The entire collection of HISTORIA's (over 14 years) are available online and in color. Check it out at:

## www.northamptontownshiphistorical society.org

We need your input! Please consider writing and submitting an article for the HISTORIA. Your stories, reminisces, and photos about "Northampton the way it use to be" are always welcome. Contact the editor listed on the last page of this HISTORIA.

HISTORIA

# Nike Dedication from page 1

Glick, who speaking for Representative Patrick Murphy, read a proclamation which had been offered in a prior announcement on the floor of the US congress in Washington, D.C. Al Sutter, representing State Senator Robert Tomlinson presented a proclamation from the Pennsylvania Senate. County Commissioner, James F. Cawley presented a proclamation from Bucks County signed by the three commissioners. He declared October 5<sup>th</sup> to be Richboro Nike Missile Base Day in Bucks County. Northampton Township Supervisor Chairman, Pete Palestina spoke about the importance of the former base and thanked all who helped to make the marker a reality. Anthony Lorino, retired Army and Pennsylvania National Guard, and a former Nike Fire control Technician who trained at the Richboro site, spoke about life at the Nike bases. The Richboro High School South Color Guard then marched ahead of the crowd about 100 feet to the site of the marker where Richboro Elementary School students Lauren Foisy and Thomas Pascarella unveiled the marker. Afterwards I attended the Philadelphia Air Defense Group reunion at the German club in Warminster. About forty former Nike personnel attended the annual event. It was very interesting hearing their stories and viewing the memorabilia they had on display.

Pictures of the dedication event as well as the program will be available as a link from the NTHS website. We hope to have a small display of the proclamations and other items at the library in the near future.

Again I would like to thank the Northampton Township Public Works Department, recreation department, police, and all those who helped to make this a reality. A special thanks to Jackie Liney, without whom I could never have made this happen, to David Long, a private amateur historian, who had the foresight to nominate this site, and to former Nike technician Jake Rinier, whose dedication has kept the Nike reunion group together.

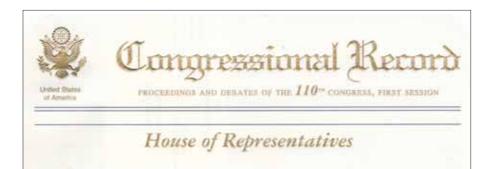
For further information on the Ricboro Nike program see the March and May, 2007 HISTORIA's. Also visit the NTHS website and google "Nike Missile" on the web.



(Left) Richboro Elementary sixth grade students Lauren Foisy and Thomas Pascarella unveil the marker. (Right) Preschool children sing "God Bless America" Photos by Richard Noe.

# NTHS

## HISTORIA



PATRICK J. MURPHY (PA-08) Member of Congress

Extension of Remarks In the House of Representatives Recognizing the Historic Nike Missile Base PH-07, Richboro, Bucks County, PA September 26, 2007

Mr. Patrick J. Murphy of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, it is my great privilege to rise before you today to commemorate the Richboro Bucks County Nike Missile Base PH-07 and the many brave individuals who staffed this base during the Cold War. Set in historic Bucks County, Pennsylvania, the now closed base was operational during the Cold War in order to protect Philadelphia from Soviet missile attacks. Now, 30 years later, these same individuals are working to ensure this base receives recognition through the Pennsylvania Historical Museum Commission's Historic Site Program.

In a time when fear of missile attacks plagued the entire country, the military built the Nike Missile Base in our quiet Philadelphia suburb. Currently, the base lies, dormant beneath batting cages and other sites from a modern community. Children run over it, unsure of exactly what it is. Though many are unaware of its significant cultural and historical importance, the missile base still retains much of its former integrity. The workers employed there during the Cold War underwent extensive military training and carried a strong sense of camaraderie and pride for their country. They worked together to ensure the base was efficiently run and to protect Philadelphia from an imminent Soviet attack.

Madam Speaker, for these reasons, on October 5, 2007, this site will become part of the Bucks County Historical Society. The efforts of the great people who worked here will be forever remembered in a timeless plaque that describes the role of this base and the importance it held for our country during trying times. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking those who worked tirelessly to make this honor possible and those who fought to protect our community. Madam Speaker, I proudly recognize the Nike Missile Base for its historical significance.





# Richboro Nike Dedication

At left the proclamation read into the Congressional Record by Congressman Patrick Murphy. Below, Betty Luff, enjoys the ceremony. Bottom left, former Nike missile technician, Anthony Lorino speaks to the group, center, Council Rock High South Color Guard, and right, Jim and Larice Burtt pose in front of the marker.

Photos by Richard Noe.





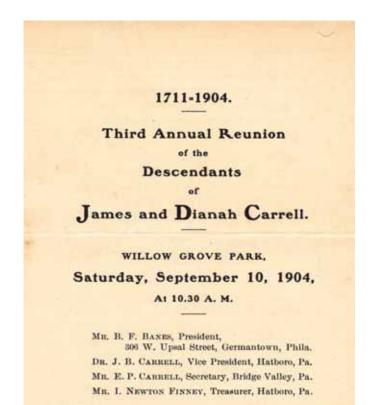
## HISTORIA

# The Descendants of James Carrell and Sarah Dungan By Betty Cornell Luff

I have written before about the Luff and Cornell family reunions and even our recent Richboro School reunion, but none can compare to the Carrell reunion which I attended on August 11, 2007 at Parkside Place in North Wales. 145 descendants attended with a prize going to the one coming the farthest (Georgia), and her 90 year old mother. The prize for the youngest went to a 5 month old baby.

James Carrell emigrated to America in the 1690's and around 1697 he married Sarah Dungan, a daughter of the Reverend Thomas Dungan, the first Baptist preacher in Pennsylvania. A complete history of these two families is written in a 700 page history compiled in 1928 by Ezra Patterson Carrell. His father, Joseph Carrell, born in 1794, was descendent #74 in this history. My father, John Banes Cornell, is listed as #3868 and I am listed as #5038. I am so proud to have in my possession a copy of this publication as only 300 copies of the first genealogy were printed.

James and Sarah had five children but those five produced a total of 43 grandchildren showing how a small family multiplies.



The first Carrell reunion was held at Willow Grove Park on September 13, 1902, over 100 years ago. Few Carrells remain today but after hundreds of intermarriages, a total of 20,865 are listed in the index of their two Carrell family volumes. The second volume was published in 2001 and includes my children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.



In 1932, the reunion invitation invited the family to the old homestead on Bristol Road. It mentioned that "all roads leading there were first class macadam." Also since many came from Philadelphia, it told of Reading Railroad schedules to Ivyland station.

**Continues on page 6** 

# NTHS

#### **HISTORIA**

# **Carrell and Sarah Dungan Descendants from page 5**

An interesting feature at this reunion was the treasurer's report. Each member was required to pay dues every year and over the years the reunion association had invested in stocks in return any young member of the family could apply for a scholarship.

Today the old Carrell homestead is the home of longtime historical society members Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Hull. The Hulls have entertained the whole Carrell family at their farm and are always invited to the yearly Carrell reunion. For a more detail story about the Hull home see the November 2002 issue of the HISTORIA. This is available online at the NTHS website.

From Our President

At Home, 9/23/1944.

To the Members of the Carrell Family Association :

Greetings :-

The Carrell Family Association is summoned to attend the 44th Reunion of the Family and it is well for us to look back on the year just ended, always keeping in mind : Betterment in the year ahead.

The horrible war, apparently at this time ending, has devastated our land and caused death and suffering in every household. God Al-mighty rules the world. The evil doings of men, at the proper time, are overcome by Him, and history so records. If we are right He will cause us to win. Individually and collectively we recognize Him as ruler over all; just and right in His doings

> "All hall the power of Jesus' name; Let angels prostrate fall; Bring forth the Royal Diadem And crown Him Lord of all.

In union there is strength, and such applies to the Family, the greatest institution on earth, and your presence attests your belief in Family Union. To those present, and those absent my best wishes are extended. I wish I could do more. Please believe me to be

Yours very sincerely,

R. T. ENGART CAMPBELL, President. 26 Harvard Road, Brookline, Upper Darby, Pa.

#### Where is this beautiful farm and home?

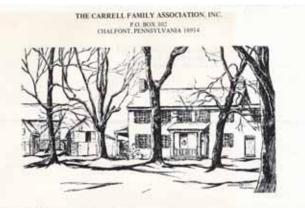
On the Bristol road in the N. E. corner of Warminster Township; one mile from the Second Street Pike, and 2/3 mile E. from the N. E. Pa. R. R., Ivyland.

#### What about dinner?

You bring a generous amount of good food and Mrs. John Ramsey with her committee will do the rest. Her assistants are Mr. and Mrs. Charles Finney, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Montanye, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. McLaughlin, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Engart, Mr. and Mrs. Comly Bennett and Mr. and Mrs. Will A. Yerkes.

#### Program

After the dinner the secretaries will make their reports, and there will be impromptu speaking. Regular business and social intercourse will end the session.



Saturday, September 7, 1974 at 12 noon

THE CARRELLS will convene, if the Lord be willing, ~ at "Carrollton" At the invitation of Mr. & Mrs. Loris W. Hull Southampton, Penna. 18966 Phone: EL 7-2376

This is the Carrell Homestead and the Hulls have lived there for a generation them hope that you will make plans to be present to enjoy the practice numerical generation intermeting which our he have preserved so well.

Also, you will want to most other "Carrolls"

Anny, you was water to meet other "Carrells". At that time we hope to be able to tall you more concerning the legacy from the Benjamin Banes matter, — the solic heir of which passed away last October 1973. We are especially anxions to learn of elderly Carrell descendents who may have need of financial maintance. If you have not been attending the regular annual meeting in recent years, you will need to show pointime Carrell Integer as a first requirement for consideration of any benefits. Our Beaming will convent at 12 Noon.

Some approaches with constraint at the resulting place settings. Coffee and her will be provided. For dessett there will be watermelow cooling in the apringhouse. It would help the committee if you would bring folding lawn chairs if you have them. Tables will be provided under the expansive shade and on the wide particles surrounding the boose.

We are enclosing a map which indicates, by a dark circle, our meeting place. It is located on Bristot Road between Old York Road and Second Street Pike. There will be a "Carroll" sign at the lane, Do Conse – Bring your <u>youngsters</u> and your <u>obsters</u>. There will be games and putzes.

Annual Dies - \$1.00

Mur Marain



The Hull's 1923 Dodge Coupe formerly owned by George Green, a Carrell descendent. The old Carrell, and now Hull Home, is in the background. Photo by Richard Noe.



# **NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

# PO BOX 732, RICHBORO, PENNSYLVANIA 18954-0732

# NorthamptonTownshipHistoricalSociety.org

# 2007 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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<b>Director</b> (Past Pres.)	Doug Crompton	215-355-5307 doug@crompton.com
Director	Jean Gallagher	215-968-5222
Director	Christine Fluehr	215-579-4334 chris@fluehr.com
Director	Betty Luff	215-357-3767
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HISTORIA is published quarterly by the Northampton Township Historical Society. The Society meets four times each year at the Northampton Township Library, Upper Holland Road, Richboro. Everyone is welcome at our meetings. Meetings start at 7:30 PM (refreshments 7PM), and include a featured speaker. For more information visit our web page or e-mail us at nths@NorthamptonTownshipHistoricalSociety.org Past issues of the HISTORIA, in color, are available on our web page NorthamptonTownshipHistorcialSociety.org The <u>HISTORIA</u> is edited by Doug Crompton. Articles are always welcome.

#### Meeting Dates for 2007/2008

November 14 Dinner Meeting 6:00 PM Spring Mill Manor

March 19, May 21, September 17, 2008 - General Meetings - 7 PM November 19, 2008 Dinner Meeting

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND RENEWAL CLASSIFICATIONS

This will be your membership for the calendar year of 2008 (January 2008 to December 2008)

INDIVIDUAL ·	- \$15	SENIOR - \$10	STUDENT - \$10
FAMILY -	\$20	SUSTAINING -	\$50

SPONSOR - \$100 PATRON - \$250 (5 year membership) NTHS CIRCLE - \$500 or greater (Life membership)

Note - Applications received after October 31 will be credited for the following year. This application is sent with all editions of the HISTORIA. Please check your mailing label for the expiration year. Normal renewal time is the first quarter of the year or when the March HISTORIA is received. If your membership is current, please pass this application on to others who may be interested in our society. Please consider a contribution of more than the minimum membership to help defray increasing society costs.

Send to: Northampton Township Historical Society **PO BOX 732 Richboro, PA 18954-0732** 

NAME:	Date: _/ /2008	
ADDRESS:	M6	embership Classification
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
PHONE:	DUES ENCLOSED: \$	
EMAIL:		
May we count on you to serve on one of our comm		MAYBE
Please give us your ideas for speakers at future mee	etings :	
Would you be willing to write an article for the HIS	STORIA ———	
Your comments and suggestions are welcome :		

February 12, April 8, August 12, October 14 7 PM - Call for location

**Board Meetings 2008** 



NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY P.O. BOX 732 RICHBORO, PA 18954-0732

TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP! PLEASE CHECK YOUR MAILING LABEL. IF IT DOES NOT INDICATE '2008' YOUR MEMBERSHIP HAS EXPIRED.