

from



## the Hetfield & Levi Cory houses

Published by the Mountainside Restoration Committee - April, 2016

[www.mountainsidehistory.org](http://www.mountainsidehistory.org)

### FOUNDERS of Mountainside – BADGLEY, CORY & MILLER



*Charles Badgley's barn near Trailside Center was destroyed by arson fire in 1985. At the time, it was used by the County of Union to store equipment.*

Recorded history indicates that the establishment of the Borough of Mountainside was first proposed publicly by three men – Charles Badgley, Joseph W. Cory and William Miller. In a pamphlet published in the summer of 1895, these three men outlined the rationale determining why the Borough should be incorporated separately from the Township of Westfield. In a resolution leading up to the proposed incorporation, the following was stated: "...we proceed according to the statute made and provided, to organize a Borough in the Northern Part of Westfield Township, to contain not more than four square miles, to include Locust Grove, Branch Mills, and Baltusrol, said Borough to be known as the "Borough of Mountainside..."

A Committee was subsequently formed representing these three "districts". Charles Badgley represented Baltusrol (roughly, the area currently near the Watchung Reservation and Summit Rd.), Joseph Cory represented Locust Grove (roughly, the area currently west of Echo Lake Park) and William Miller represented Branch Mills (roughly, the area near Mill Lane).



*The family home of Joseph W. Cory located on Springfield Ave. (now Rt. 22 near Lawrence Ave.) was razed in 1908 for new construction.*

The citizens were unhappy that their tax dollars were not benefitting the northern districts of Westfield Township, and benefitting only the Village of Westfield. They were not receiving the benefit of the Village's fire department, street lighting, sewers, water supply and parks. Their goal was to enjoy "home rule" so that tax dollars could be used to improve the new Borough rather than the Village of Westfield.

The resolution to incorporate was overwhelmingly approved (77 for and 4 against) by the citizens in an election held on September 24, 1895 – the date representing the birth of the Borough of Mountainside, New Jersey.

Charles Badgley, was born in 1831 in Mountainside and resided in the area near Trailside where the "Badgley Barn" once stood. He was employed in Newark as a mason and also worked on his family farm. He has also been listed as a florist and rose grower. He died in 1911 at his later home in South Plainfield.

Joseph W. Cory, born in Mountainside in 1858, was the first Mayor of Mountainside

*(continued on page 2)*

### From the CHAIRMAN'S INKWELL



Following are some of the many activities and announcements from the Mountainside Restoration Committee during the year. You are encouraged to take advantage of these programs and help support Historic Preservation in Mountainside.

**BRICK FUNDRAISER:** To purchase bricks for the next dedication, please pick up a flyer at the Mountainside Library, Borough Hall or go to [www.mountainsidehistory.org](http://www.mountainsidehistory.org). The next brick dedication will take place on Veterans' Day on November 11, 2016. These bricks make up the path leading to the front door of the Hetfield House and will be expanded to the Levi Cory House. The Committee will continue to sell bricks to raise funds for the upkeep of the Hetfield House and restoration of the Levi Cory House.

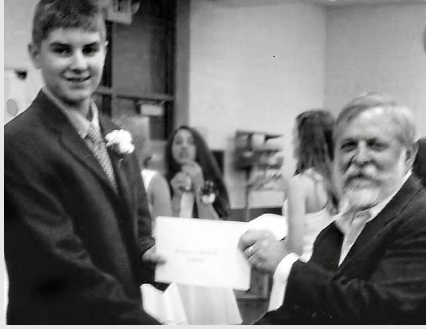
*(continued on page 2)*



#### MISSION STATEMENT

The Mountainside Restoration Committee (aka the Mountainside Historic Preservation Committee) was established to preserve the Borough's links to the past. The premier venues are the Deacon Andrew Hetfield House (circa 1760) and the Levi Cory House (circa 1810), both restored and continually maintained by this Committee. We strive to focus attention on our heritage through tours, newsletters, videos and many events during the year. Our mission includes maintaining the Hetfield House and Levi Cory House properties in perpetuity.

## The ARTHUR J. BRAHM Scholarship Award



Historic Preservation Committee Chairman, Scott Daniels, is pictured with the 2015 Arthur J. Brahm Historic Preservation Scholarship Award recipient, Michael Cicimarra. Scholarship criteria announcements for the 2016 award are available through the Deerfield School Guidance office.

## LEVI CORY HOUSE update

The year 2015 was a busy one for work on the Levi Cory House which was moved in November of 2013. During the year, the chimneys were completed, soffits were repaired and the roof was replaced thanks to a matching grant from the 1772 Foundation.

Mountainside's own Gary Wagner has worked on repairing the soffits, the crumbled sills at the base of the house and some of the siding. He also built a new staircase inside the house leading to the basement crawl space. The sill work and siding repair was done thanks to a grant from the Westfield Service League. Volunteers, Bob Gardella, Tom Hollister and Terry Rice constructed steps to the front door and removed the retail shelving and other debris from inside the house.

As soon as funds are available, the bow window which was not original to the house, will be removed, siding will be replaced and the house will be painted. To vote on your choice for the house exterior color, please see the letter on page 4. Interior walls will be repaired and painted. In time, a "side" porch will be added which was original to the house. In addition, the house will need to be connected to utilities such as electric, water and sewer so that it can be opened to the public as a museum for Childrens' interests.

For further information on the Levi Cory House or to donate towards its restoration, please visit [www.mountainsidehistory.org](http://www.mountainsidehistory.org); or call (908)789-9420. The Mountainside Restoration Committee is a 501-(c)(3) charity and your donations are tax-deductible.

## FOUNDERS

(continued from page 1)

and resided in his family home located on Springfield Avenue (now Route 22). He was a member of a very prominent area family, with many relatives residing within the Mountainside borders. Levi Cory, whose former home was recently saved and moved from Mountainside center, was his cousin. It is believed that Joseph Cory was a farmer and in the dairy delivery business. In retirement, Cory worked as a real estate title searcher. He resided in Westfield at the time of his death in 1932.

William Miller was born in Scotland in 1839 and emigrated in 1869. He lived in Mountainside with his wife from New York, Violet, and had a daughter, also named Violet. His farm was located near Mill Lane and he was in the produce business. At the time of his death in 1928, he was one of Mountainside's oldest citizens at the age of 90. He was also a member of the St. Andrew's Society, a charitable organization in New York whose members are of Scottish descent.

It should be mentioned that a gentleman named William Schoonover was also instrumental in the formation of Mountainside.



The family home and farm of William Miller located in the area of Mill Lane was razed for development.

He and Joseph Cory appointed Badgley, Cory and Miller as the representatives tasked with forming the new borough. Sixty additional citizens were considered "Freeholders" who petitioned for the proposed Borough of Mountainside.

The Mountainside homes of Badgley, Cory and Miller are no longer standing. In fact, only a few Mountainside homes from the 19th century and earlier still stand. They were either destroyed by fire or through development. It is difficult and costly to save historic homes and the Mountainside Restoration Committee is proud to have saved the circa 1760 Deacon Andrew Hetfield House and the circa 1818 Levi Cory House. In this way, the history of our storied borough can be preserved for future generations.

## CHAIRMAN'S INKWELL

(continued from page 1)

**HISTORY OF MOUNTAINSIDE BOOKS:** The most recent history of Mountainside: *A History of Mountainside - 1945-2007 - It Was Only Yesterday* by Connie McNamara is available for purchase at \$19.99 in the Mountainside Library. The original *History of Mountainside* by Jean Hesketh-Hershey covers the history until 1945 (copies are available for \$20 each, call 789-9420).

**PUT A PLAQUE IN THE LEVI CORY HOUSE:** Individuals, groups and businesses can show their support of the Levi Cory House move and restoration by "putting a plaque in" the Levi Cory House. Permanent brass plaques will be placed inside the Levi

Cory House and remain there for the life of the house. These plaques will indicate your sponsorship of the architectural features contained within the house such as doors, windows, fireplaces, stairways, or entire rooms! You can show your support with a sponsorship, a dedication, an honor or a memorial. Your plaque will be a forever reminder that you helped save and restore this historic house. Plaque forms can be found at [mountainsidehistory.org](http://mountainsidehistory.org)

**HETFIELD HOUSE IS AVAILABLE FOR USE:** The Deacon Andrew Hetfield House is available for use by community groups for meetings or tours. It is also available for rent to individuals or organizations for other events. During this past holiday season, the festively decorated house was even used for a Mountainside neighborhood party which would be a great option for other Mountainside groups. For information on availability, please contact Diane Kontra at (908) 397-2472.

For further information on the above-mentioned activities of the Mountainside Restoration Committee and updates on the Hetfield House and Levi Cory House happenings, please call 789-9420 or visit [www.mountainsidehistory.org](http://www.mountainsidehistory.org).

Scott Daniels - *Chairman, Mountainside Historic Preservation Committee*

## Mountainside Historic Preservation Committee

Scott Daniels, *Chairman*  
Ruth Goense, *Vice Chair*  
Carol Clark, *Treasurer*  
Jason Pastore, *Secretary*  
Carol Goggi, *Newsletter Editor*

Alice Cowell, Maryann Cusano, Diane Kontra, Thomas McGee, Jim Toner, George Urban and Sandra VanderMeer.

Wendy Fech-Caccamo, *Borough Council Liaison*

## The YEAR in REVIEW

**MOVE & GROOVE FOR HISTORY:** On Sunday, March 8, 2015 the Boro Hall Community Room was the site of an event raising funds for historic preservation in Mountainside. Attendees enjoyed dance, exercise, lunch and a basket auction.

**MY DOLL & TEA:** On Sunday, May 3, the Hetfield House was the site of a wonderful event featuring tea, sweets and dolls. Dozens of visitors, young and old, enjoyed a civilized afternoon of sipping tea with their favorite dolls.

**SPRING & FALL PLANT SALES:** Sales of beautiful Spring plants were held in May and a Fall mum plant sale was held in September.

**ARTISAN SHOW & SALE:** On Sunday, April 18, six local artists displayed their original art and creations for purchase at the Hetfield House.

**GIRL SCOUT EARTH DAY PROGRAM:** The Mountainside Girl Scout Chapter celebrated Earth Day at the Hetfield House on April 24 where they learned about the plight of butterflies, planted milkweed butterfly bushes to take home and helped mulch the flower beds around the Hetfield House.

**GARAGE LAWN SALE:** On Saturday, September 19, the Hetfield House lawn was taken over with garage sale items during the Newcomers' Club town-wide garage sale. Proceeds of the sale benefitted the Mountainside Historic Committee.

## 2016 Historic Restoration Committee CALENDAR

Unless specified otherwise, all events are at the Hetfield House

April 28, 29, 30, May 1 -- Geranium and Spring Plant Sale (9am-4pm)

May 1 – Mountainside Founders' Festival and Spring Cleaning Swap Meet - (11am-4pm)

June 11 – Tour of Mountainside's Gardens (10am-4pm)

September 15, 16, 17, 18 – Mum and Fall Plant Sale (9am-4pm)

September 17 – Garage Sale - (9am-2pm)

October 15-16 – "Four Centuries in a Weekend" Open House event - (Sat. 10am-4pm; Sun. 12-4pm)

November 11 – Veterans' Day Luncheon

December 3 – Cookie & Hot Cocoa sale at Borough Tree Lighting (4:15-5:15pm)

December 10 – Adult Gingerbread Open House (3-5pm)

December 11 – Family Gingerbread Open House (1-4pm)



*During the Family Gingerbread Open House, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Children's Choir sings at the Hetfield House.*

**DEERFIELD FIFTH GRADE FIELD TRIP:** On October 14, the entire 5<sup>th</sup> Grade, with their teachers and chaperones, walked to the Hetfield House from Deerfield School for a field trip where they toured the house, learned some local history and created historic figures scarecrows for decorating the house.

**UNION COUNTY'S FOUR CENTURIES IN A WEEKEND OPEN HOUSE:** During the weekend of October 17-18, visitors from all over the County and beyond enjoyed the Hetfield House exhibits of local War Memorabilia and a miniature reenactment of the Revolutionary War Battle of Springfield.

**VETERANS LUNCHEON:** In honor of Veterans' Day, on November 11, the Hetfield House hosted a luncheon for our Veterans. Nearly forty veterans and guests enjoyed lunch provided by the VFW and served by Historic Committee volunteers.

**ESSENTIAL OILS WORKSHOP:** Two workshop sessions on the benefits of using essential oils were held at the Hetfield House on November 19 and attended by many who learned of these benefits and were able to purchase oils for their own use.

**THE VILLAGE SHOP HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE:** On several November and December weekends, the Hetfield House was the site of a Holiday Boutique. Many shoppers enjoyed the unique holiday items and curiosities offered.

**COOKIE & HOT COCOA SALE:** During the Annual Borough Tree Lighting on Dec. 5th, the Committee sold Cookies and Hot Cocoa to the hundreds of guests in attendance.

**GINGERBREAD OPEN HOUSE:** Gingerbread Open Houses were held on Saturday & Sunday, December 12 & 13. Adults were invited on Saturday afternoon for a reception and wine tasting. Sunday's open house hosted many families who visited the house to enjoy music, crafts, delicious holiday treats, hot cider and Mr. and Mrs. Claus and the Gingerbread Man. Performers included the Deerfield School Middle School instrumental music students and the Children's Choir from Our Lady of Lourdes Church.

## VOLUNTEERs needed

The Hetfield House is a successful historic house, thanks to our wonderful volunteers who are a vital part of our organization. Volunteers keep the house maintained and allow us to provide so many wonderful events and services to our community. Areas where we could use some help include: Archives, Education, Research, Publicity & Marketing, Events, Exhibits, Fund-Raising, Grant-writing, Clerical, Housekeeping and Gardening. As an added benefit to our students, ages 13 through 18, volunteering at the Hetfield House provides the opportunity to fulfill community service requirements. Please contact us at [hetfield-house1@yahoo.com](mailto:hetfield-house1@yahoo.com) or call 789-9420 and leave a message which will be promptly returned. A volunteer application can also be downloaded at [www.mountainsidehistory.org](http://www.mountainsidehistory.org)

## Behind the SCENES

The volunteers of the Mountainside Historic Committee's acquisitions and archives committees are constantly at work assuring that the items and artifacts brought in to and held at the Hetfield House are authentic, preserved and recorded. Thousands of artifacts including furniture, implements, household and décor items, clothing, photographs, articles, notes, etc. are catalogued, recorded and displayed for educational purposes. Thanks to their hard work, the history of Mountainside is being recorded and saved.

## DRAWING WINNERS announced

Each year, the Mountainside Restoration Committee holds a Spring fundraising drive for some needed project in the Hetfield or Levi Cory House. In 2015, the funds were earmarked for the restoration of the Levi Cory House exterior. A drawing was held on May 3. Following are the winners:

1<sup>st</sup> place: Marian Gallipoli - Vizio 50" LED Smart TV

2<sup>nd</sup> place: Arlene Miicke - \$240 in Restaurant Gift Certificates

3<sup>rd</sup> place: Sandy Wilson - \$75 in Supermarket Gift Cards

Congratulations winners and thank you all for your support! Please support this year's spring fundraising drive by donating and for another chance to win great prizes. See letter on page 4.



## MOUNTAINSIDE RESTORATION COMMITTEE, INC.

1385 US Highway 22, Mountainside, New Jersey 07092



April, 2016

To Mountainside Residents & Friends:

Work on the historic 200 year old Levi Cory House is progressing! The house, which was moved to Constitution Plaza in 2013, now has repaired soffits, a new roof, repaired foundation sills, new indoor basement stairs and the retail shelving has been removed from inside. Hopefully, in the not too distant future, the Levi Cory House will be restored and ready to open as a museum for Children's interests and boutique. Each completed project brings the house closer to being fully restored and ready to open.

We are making this annual appeal for donations to help the Mountainside Restoration Committee raise funds toward the restoration of the circa 1818 Levi Cory house. Specifically, the house needs exterior painting and we need your help choosing the color. We have narrowed the color choices down to 3 colors which are currently painted on the Levi Cory House. Please visit the house and tell us your favorite by circling choice 1, 2 or 3 on the enclosed yellow slip. In addition, your donation of \$20 or more will help us fund the painting. You will also be entered into a drawing to win one of the following prizes:

**1st Prize:** Seven nights lodging in a 1-2 bedroom villa located in Florida, the Carolinas or other available U.S. destination (based on availability). Must be used by Feb. 28, 2017 (transportation not included). Value: \$1100

**2nd Prize:** GoPro Hero4 Silver Wearable-Mountable Camera—valued at \$399

**3rd Prize:** Certificates for Ferraro's, Mosaico, GrillStone and Spanish Tavern—valued at \$230

**4th Prize:** Certificates for ShopRite, Stop'n Shop & Vine Ripe Market—valued at \$75

Please return the enclosed yellow stub for the drawing, filled in with your name, address, phone number, email address and paint color choice along with your optional suggested donation of \$20 or more using the pre-addressed envelope. Checks can be made payable to the "Mountainside Restoration Committee, Inc." and **should be returned no later than April 28, 2016** with your completed yellow stub to *Carol Clark, 308 Summit Rd, Mountainside, NJ 07092*. The **drawing will be held on Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup> at 2:00 pm** at the Hetfield House on Constitution Plaza adjacent to the Library (winners need not be present).

In addition, we invite everyone to the Hetfield House on Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup> from 11:00am-4:00pm for the drawing (2pm) and to attend the **Mountainside Founders' Festival**. An authentic old-fashioned country fair where we celebrate the founding of Mountainside and the special nature of our town. We hope you can join us and thank you for your participation.

Sincerely,

*The Mountainside Restoration Committee*