



# Howell Heritage

The Newsletter of the Howell Historical Society

September 2009

**Trustees:** Don Smith, Chairman; John Armata; Ida Devlin; Pauline Smith; Evelyn Barrow;  
Evelyn Gillette, Alternate

## September Meeting

Friday, Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 PM

At Town Hall

This will be a very short meeting, just to announce the slate of nominees for the October election of officers. Nominations from the floor may be made at this time. (No refreshments will be served.)

## Howell Day

Saturday, Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM

At the Old Ardena Schoolhouse

Setup at 11:00 AM, please come and help if you can. Again, if you can contribute something for the Bake Sale table, it would be very much appreciated!

We wish to thank all who helped with both the June and September yard sales: Sandra Solly, Lynne Gillette, Jane Norman, Pauline Smith, John Armata, Elaine Taylor, Tara Dolan, Evelyn Barrow, Ed McLean and friend Alyssa Peterson.

## **Prayer Request**

Continued prayer for Tom and Ida Devlin. Tom is still hospitalized and in serious condition. They wish to thank you all for your prayers and support. Hang in there Ida and Tom!

## **Double Dog Dares**

“Chapman’s Dictionary of American Slang” mentions that double-dog dares went back to at least the 1940s, and perhaps way back to the 1800s. A dare is one thing, but during “my day,” double-dog dare status. Then, if you did not respond to a regular dare, the anti was often upped to the double-dog dare status. Then, if you did not respond, you were considered to be a “chicken” which was an obvious put down. Dictionary.com states that “being chicken is to refrain from doing something because of fear of cowardice.” As the result of a friend’s double-dog dare, and my not wanting to be “chicken,” I was once able to set the “New Jersey record” in puddle jumping. What a proud moment! Never satisfied with just a little success, I had to go for the “world record.” Unfortunately, I missed the jump, thereby landing in the mud puddle. Of course it goes without saying; I ruined my pants and shoes. Needless to say, my mom was not impressed with my New Jersey puddle jumping record, nor was she happy about my pants and shoes. Why did we bite on the double-dog dare challenges? Why didn’t we reverse the dare back to the challenger? Other than not wanting to be known as a “chicken,” I do not know why we almost always accepted the aforementioned challenges. But, I guess it can be attributed to our youth. Speaking of youth, when I was about 12 years age, my sister double-dog dared me to climb out of my bedroom window; on to the garage roof; then on to a tree’ and then climb down the tree to the ground. Think about it, I could have simply walked out the front door. But, noooo, I accepted my sister’s challenge and was successful. Of course, my sister and I kept that little secret between us because we both would have been in trouble with our parents for that caper. As far as the double-dog dares go, I did have my limits (in spite of what you may think, I was not totally stupid). As an example of me having some good common sense, I did not accept the double-dog dare to untie the

lines to our sleeping Boy Scout Master’s tent. Actually, all of my fellow Scouts thought better of that idea, although the possibility did make us laugh. Fortunately, I outgrew this faze of my life and finally reached the age where I could see the stupidity of such childish behavior. However, with that being said, I am still proud of my puddle jumping record as well as my building climbing skills. Was the tent-sleeping Boy Scout Master challenge a missed opportunity? I’ll leave that question for you to answer. As a matter of fact, I double-dog dare you to answer the “missed opportunity” question. Don’t be a “chicken,” you better respond.

**Tim Clayton**

## **Henry Derick Conine (1970-1872)**

### ***Howell Resident, Farmer***

Henry Derick Conine was born May 14, 1790 in Freehold, Monmouth County, New Jersey. He married Sarah Combs of Howell, New Jersey on March 9, 1814. This wedding was noted in the Monmouth County, NJ Book C 1795-1843, “Henry Conine to Sarah Combs, both of Monmouth County, by Mathis Barkalow, Elder of Methodist Independent Church.” As noted in the Church of Latter Day Saints records, Sarah Combs was born October 15, 1791 in Howell Station, Monmouth County, New Jersey. Between 1814 and 1834, at least nine children were born from this union, all in Monmouth County. The children are, in order of birth: Richard, Sarah Elizabeth, Jane, John, William Bennett, James H., David, Grandin and Ann. At the time of the 1830 Census in Howell, Henry Conine was listed as Head of Family. A total of five males and three females were living in the household. When the 1840 Census was taken In Howell, Henry Conine was once again listed as Head of Family. A total of seven males and two females were living in the household. During the 1950 Census, Henry Conine, his wife Sarah, and three of their children, were living in Howell, New Jersey. The record indicated that Henry was age 60, he was born in New Jersey, his occupation was Farmer, and the value of his Real Estate was \$6,000. At the time of the 1860 Census, Henry and Sarah Conine, along with a Derrick Conine (relationship unknown), were living in Howell, NJ. The record stated that Henry Conine was age 70,

his occupation was farmer, the value of his Real Estate had grown to \$8,000, and the value of his Personal Estate was \$710. When the 1870 Census was taken, Henry and Sarah Conine, along with the aforementioned Derrick Conine, were still living in Howell, NJ. Henry was listed as age 80, his occupation was still Farmer, the value of his RealEstate was \$7,000 and the value of his Personal Estate \$1,700. Henry Conine died March 27, 1872 and his wife, Sarah Combs Conine died August 26, 1879. The grave stone in the Bethesda Methodist Cemetry, Adelpia is as follows: "Conine, Henry, died 3-27-1872, aged 81.10.9, his wife Sarah died 8-26-1879, aged 87.10.1"

**Tim Clayton**

Sources:

Church of Latter Day Saints Records  
Ancestry.com

Monmouth County Marriage Records,  
Book C 1795-1843  
1830, 1840, 1850, and 1870 Howell Census  
Records

Grave Stone, Bethesda Methodist Church  
Cemetery, Adelpia

**Editors' Corner**

As you may have noticed, this is not your usual newsletter! Ida and Tom Devlin, along with Tim Clayton and Norma Cohen, are our newsletter staff. Filling in temporarily are Lynne Gillette and her son, Ed McLean and friend Alyssa Peterson. Many thanks to Ed and Alyssa for stepping up to help with their many computer skills! Please forgive us for any goofs or omissions!!

**Comments?**

Lynne Gillette can be reached by phone at 732-919-7036, or by E-mail at llgillette@gmail.com (note: I'm not much of a "computer person", so I don't check my E-mail that often - if it is important, please use the phone! Thanks! – Lynne)

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# HOWELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I would like to enroll/renew (circle one) as a member in the category checked:  
\_\_\_ \$10 Individual \_\_\_ \$15 Family \_\_\_ \$30 Sponsor \_\_\_ \$50 Patron

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (day) \_\_\_\_\_ (night) \_\_\_\_\_

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Return this form with your check to: Lynne Gillette, PO Box 694, Farmingdale NJ 07727

The success of our museum, schoolhouse, library, and grounds depends upon the help of many willing hands. We need YOUR help. Please check the list below and indicate how you might us:

\_\_\_ Officer \_\_\_ Herb Gardens \_\_\_ Gift shop help \_\_\_ Photography \_\_\_ Publicity

\_\_\_ Library \_\_\_ Calligraphy \_\_\_ Newsletter \_\_\_ Computer skills \_\_\_ Accessioning gifts

\_\_\_ Crafts \_\_\_ Housekeeping \_\_\_ Genealogy work \_\_\_ Carpentry & signs

\_\_\_ Other Interests (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

*Membership is on an annual basis and may be tax deductible*