



Notes from the Academy

FEBRUARY 2019 | VOL. NO. 1



From the Desk of the Board Chair

What comes to mind when you think of the Middletown Historical Society? Genealogy, historical collections, peaches?...

Where do you see MHS in 5 years? Do you see yourself in that picture? As we navigate these questions, we have hired a contractor to aid us in developing our first strategic plan. You are a huge part of that plan, so we are looking forward to your input. Starting now you can take the survey and let your voice be heard! Follow the link [HERE](#)

While prizing our past, we eagerly anticipate growing into a valuable asset to our community.

It is also that time of year! Talk of Peach Festival kicks off in February. We are always looking for new perspectives, so if you would like to be a part of the planning conversation, come to 216 N Broad St in Middletown on Tuesday, February 26 at 6pm.

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I Could Have Danced All Night!

Dancing has always been a part of Middletown's history. From dance academies in the 1800s to proms in the present, dance has brought people together. Be sure to celebrate Middletown's Birthday at our annual Incorporation Day Ball on March 2nd! There will be a special exhibit on dance in Middletown at the ball. A big thank you to Alison Matsen for all her work on the exhibit!

Date: March 2nd, Doors open at 6 pm. Pre-event tickets are \$17 for Students and Seniors, and \$20 for general admission. At the door tickets are a flat \$25. Send your ticket money to 202 N. Broad St. Middletown, DE 19709

Images:

Right: Century Club (on North Broad) Advertisement for Dance, Middletown Transcript, 1921

Bottom: Christmas Ball, 1962, Middletown High School

Largest Dance of the Season
to be given by

Okeh Record Co.

of
WILMINGTON, DEL.

Middletown Century Club

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 1921

MIDDLETOWN, DEL.

Music will be furnished by the

Brown and Terry Jazzola Boys

that play on Okeh Records

This Orchestra consists of 7 pieces. The main feature will be, Broadway latest dance hits.

"Autumn Leaves" (waltz)

and

"Saxophone Blues"

Just recorded on the Record by the Boys

Admission 75c. Dance 8:30 to 1

MILLARDS MUSIC STORE

203 W. 8th. Street

Phone 7276J Wilmington, Del.

Largest Okeh Record dealer in the state.
Records sent on receipt of money order
parcel post prepaid.



UPCOMING PROGRAMS

February 19th at 7:30: Monthly Public Program-
Speaker-Ronnie Taylor-Life in Sassafras
Free

March 2nd: 6-10pm: Annual Incorporation
Day Ball
Get your dancing shoes on and celebrate
Middletown's Birthday like it's 1861!
Held at the Jean Birch Senior Center in
Middletown
Ticket money can be mailed to
Linda Harting at 202 N. Broad St.
Middletown, De, 19709

March 19th at 7:30-Monthly Public Program-
Alison Matsen-excerpts from
a 1740s diary, and give your
opinions at a "blue sky thinking" session!

April 16th-Monthly Public Program-Free
Mosey down memory lane in Middletown!

RESEARCH COMPETITION!

The Middletown Historical Society will host it's Annual Research Paper Competition. Students in Middle School and High School are encouraged to apply. Competition requirements will be posted on our website in April.

THANKS!

The Historical Society wants to extend a big thank you to Barb Wessel and Justin Thomas for all their hard work on our escape rooms! Fun and informational, these two programs were a wonderful way to tackle Middletown history from a new perspective. Many thanks for all your hard work!



Membership Matters

As our community has seen continuous growth recently, so has the membership of our Middletown Historical Society. Our organization has collected many historical documents and interesting artifacts over the years. These items are your history and we thank you all for the trust that you place in us! Help us to continue to share that history by renewing your membership and encouraging your friends to join! Member dues are \$10 for individuals, \$20 for family, and \$100 for businesses. Checks can be sent to the Society's PO box at: P. O. Box 567, Middletown, DE 19709. If you have already renewed thank you so much and we look forward to seeing you at the Society in 2019!



Contact Us!

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The Middletown Historical Society collects, preserves, educates, and encourages the development of Middletown's history in order to foster historic awareness and pride in our community.