



## Press Release

Hammonton, NJ (March 29, 2015.) The Historical Society of Hammonton invites the public to a free community program to be held Thursday, April 9th, 8:00 PM at the Canoe Club located in Hammonton Lake Park. Programs are free, provided as a service to the community. There is no requirement to be a member of HSH to attend. The program is videoed and a copy is placed in our archives so that now or future generations will be provided with a snapshot of Hammonton's past.

Our speaker for the evening will be Geoffrey Gibson, son of Ruth Continisio Gibson and her husband Rich and great grandson of Achille and Acursia Continisio. Geoff an HHS graduate ,now living in Annapolis Maryland , recently won a contest sponsored by Rotary and became an adopted member of the Rotary Club of Naples where he and his wife visited many cousins for the first time.

Geoff was rewarded by Rotary for his winning article on the Continisio family .He will tell the story of his great grandfather who arrived in America in 1900 , where he was employed as a tailor in New York City. His wife followed in 1905 and when they were married in 1910 moved to Philadelphia.

In 1920 his best friend, Angelo Prestipino , invited him to visit Hammonton , home to many Italian immigrants. There, they started a business , C&P Coat Factory.

With a growing family in 1925 , they moved to Hammonton .There, their children, Mary , Ralph, Aurelio(Lobby),Joseph, Nicholas became leaders in the community .Achille and Acursia lived a modest lifestyle and their greatest accomplishments were they were always able to provide for their children. Accursia dedicated her life to cooking in the kitchen and Achille to that they were well cared for. Some of the best family gatherings have been shared at the dinner table by indulging in family owned recipes and telling how fortunate we are to have all we need in America at the sacrifice of my great grandparents.

Hear the story on Thursday night April 9th. Enjoy the evening with friends, HSH members and our speaker.

Refreshments will be served prior to the program.

### **About The Historical Society of Hammonton**

The Historical Society of Hammonton was established to provide for generations to come a living collection relating to the rich and unique social, political, economic and cultural heritage of the Town of Hammonton, New Jersey. The mission of the society is to increase awareness of history relating to Hammonton, New Jersey environs and to establish public access to that history by collecting, conserving, studying, interpreting and promoting the history to the widest audience.

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