LEAGUE RECEIVES GRANT FROM COMCAST

The League of Historical Societies of New Jersey has received a grant of $2,850 for the publication of its newsletter, League News.

“We are most grateful to Comcast,” said Linda Barth, executive director of the League. “This grant will allow us to continue publishing our newsletter and distributing it to our six hundred member societies and delegates, as well as to all members of the New Jersey Senate and Assembly.”

The League News newsletter sponsorship includes:

♦ distribution and mailing of approximately 750 copies to historical society members throughout NJ and to all members of the New Jersey Legislature;
♦ printing of approximately 250 additional copies for distribution at various events by the League of Historical Societies or Comcast as appropriate; and
♦ the Comcast logo on the mailing face of each newsletter

Comcast was founded in 1963 as a single-system cable operation. Today, it is the country’s largest provider of cable services and one of the world’s leading communications companies. Comcast is focused on broadband cable, commerce, and content. The company delivers digital services, provides faster internet and clearer broadband phone service, and develops and delivers innovative programming.

THE WASHINGTON-ROCHAMBEAU STUDY IS AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD

The New Jersey Historic Trust has announced the completion of The Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route in the State of New Jersey, 1781-1783: An Historical and Architectural Survey, by historian Robert A. Selig, Ph.D.

The survey is an in-depth and detailed study of Revolutionary War military marches of both the French and Continental troops through the State of New Jersey in 1781-1783, en route to the defeat of the British army and General Cornwallis at the Battle of Yorktown, Virginia, October 19, 1781, and their return journey north.

The full study is available for download in three very large .pdf files at this address: http://njht.org/dca/njht/publ/W3RReport.html. For further information, please contact Catherine Goulet, Principal Historic Preservation Specialist, New Jersey Historic Trust, 609-984-7071; cgoulet@DCA.state.nj.us.
Dear Friends,

Thank you for your many contributions to this and previous issues of the League News. Your suggestions, articles, and events attract the attention of our readers and help to make this publication beneficial to all in the historical community.

You will notice that this issue contains many more upcoming events than usual. When I sent out an appeal for calendar items, I was gratified to receive so many. As a result, I have tried to include all, or nearly all, of your events.

As a cheerleader for New Jersey and all it has to offer, I hope that many of you will take this opportunity to attend one of the events hosted by a member society, perhaps in an unfamiliar section of the Garden State. It’s a chance to see your colleagues and tour their sites.

If you would like to learn more about celebrating and praising our great state, you may wish to visit www.CelebrateNJ.org. Celebrate NJ! is a grassroots movement created to build pride and to celebrate all of what we love in the Garden State. One of its founding tenets is that there are many reasons to celebrate New Jersey, and it’s good for all of us when we do!

Linda J. Barth
Managing Editor
ARCHIVES WEEK IN MONMOUTH
Monmouth County Library, 125 Symmes Drive, Manalapan, NJ

Wednesday, October 10—Workshop and Lecture:

Workshop 9 to noon. Long Lasting Digital Prints. Monique Fischer, Photographic Conservator, Northeast Document Conservation Center. Color prints made from digital files are not considered preservation quality and currently, there are no standards for longevity regarding digital images. There are, however, ways of creating long-lasting prints by understanding the materials employed and controlling the conditions where the print will be stored. This presentation will address the three most important factors that affect the life of a digital print: the quality of materials used, such as the colorant (dye vs. pigment) and paper; the combination of materials used; and afterwards, the storage and display of the prints.

Lecture 1 to 3. Nineteenth Century Monmouth County Photographers. Gary D. Saretzky, Archivist, Monmouth County Archives. As a vacation destination, Monmouth County had more photographic activity in the 1800s than other New Jersey counties with comparable year-round population densities. Expanding on his “Nineteenth-Century New Jersey Photographers,” New Jersey History (Fall/Winter 2004), Saretzky will present a slide lecture concerning the leading photographers active in Monmouth County before 1900.

Continuing education credit certificates for teachers provided for both workshop and lecture on request. Registration for the workshop is $15 per person. No registration is required for the lecture unless an individual requests a continuing education certificate, in which case advanced notice of attendance is requested. Contact: Shelagh Reilly, 732-308-3771; sreilly@co.monmouth.nj.us.

An optional tour of the Monmouth County Archives will follow the workshop and lecture.

To register, please return the form below, with check payable to Monmouth County Clerk, to Shelagh Reilly, Monmouth County Archives, 125 Symmes Drive, Manalapan, NJ 07726.

Name/Title __________________________________________________________

Organization/Address_____________________________________________________

Phone________________________ E-mail_____________________________________

Which event(s) do you wish to attend? Digital Prints______ Monmouth County Photographers______

Continuing Education Certificate(s) Requested? Yes______ No________

Archives and History Day, Saturday, October 13, 2007

8:45-9:00—Morning Refreshments
9:00-5:00—Lobby Exhibit: The Jersey Shore in Monmouth County
9:00-5:00—New Jersey History Room – Local and State History Reference Books
10:00—Color Guard & Pledge of Allegiance
10:05-11:00—Exhibition Tables: Archives and History Organizations
10:15-11:00—Videos: Old News: Selections from the Monmouth County Archives TV 34 News Video Collection: Twenty Years Ago
11:00-12:00—Plenary Session—M. Claire French, County Clerk, Monmouth County; Jane G. Clayton Award: TBA; Greetings from Freeholders, Monmouth County; Gary D. Saretzky, Monmouth County Archivist; Daniel Linke, Chair, NJ/MARAC; NJ/MARAC Caucus Award: TBA; Ronald L. Becker, Rutgers Library and NJSAA; Roger McDonough Award: TBA; Featured Speaker: Walter Greason, Ursinus College, “Reimagining the Garden of Eden: How Monmouth County Became a Suburban Paradise”
12:10-1:10 Archives and History Day 2006: The Movie (highlights featuring Charles McSorley about Mathew Brady)
1:30-3:00 Featured Speaker: Walter Greason, seminar moderated by Randall Gabrielan, Executive Director, Monmouth County Historical Commission
ANNUAL PUBLICATION AWARDS PROGRAM FOR 2007

The League of Historical Societies of New Jersey announces the ANNUAL PUBLICATION AWARDS PROGRAM and invites its member organizations to submit entries. Awards will be given for works published in the year 2007, in the following categories:

BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, NEWSLETTERS, JOURNALS, CALENDARS, POSTERS, and OTHER MEDIA (AUDIO CASSETTES/CDs, VIDEO CASSETTES/DVDs)


For further information, contact Linda Barth, Executive Director, LHSNJ, at 908-722-7428, barths@att.net, 214 North Bridge Street, Somerville, New Jersey 08876. Please DO NOT send entries to this address.

NEW JERSEY BOOKSHELF

One of New Jersey’s earliest permanent Methodist camp meeting grounds, Mount Tabor embodied the austere evangelical fervor of 1869. Canvas tents on 16-by-25-foot leased lots surrounded Trinity Park, the focal point of all religious and social activity for ten days in late August. The camp meetings were hugely successful, and the growing community needed more permanent housing. Narrow, two-story Victorian cottages with intricate porches and balconies began to sprout on the lots. In 1885, the octagonal-shaped tabernacle, with its soaring walls and heaven-high ceiling, was built. As early as 1891, the religious summer colony expanded its recreational activities, and by 1912, Mount Tabor was more of a summer resort than religious retreat. After World War II, most of the 350 cottages were converted to year-round use, and Mount Tabor became a community within Parsippany, welcoming people from all religions and backgrounds. Today the unpretentious charm of its humble beginnings permeates the quaint community, and modern residents, like their forebears, are drawn to the rich, spiritual heritage of goodwill and the delightful cottages that invite fellowship.

The Mount Tabor Historical Society was founded in 1990 for the purpose of preserving and restoring the Victorian heritage of Mount Tabor. The society compiled Mount Tabor from photographs in its archives and from the personal collections of local residents. To order your copy, please contact the Mount Tabor Historical Society, P.O. Box 271, Mount Tabor, NJ 07878; 973-586-1564.

When incorporated in 1919, Brielle was a summer tourist destination with a fledgling recreational fishing industry. The Manasquan Inlet permanently reopened in 1931, ensuring Brielle’s status as a center for recreational sportfishing. Anglers flocked to Brielle to participate in tournaments, party boat passengers drove “down the shore” to enjoy a day of fishing, and a fleet of sportfishing boats grew at the docks. The personalities and stories of individual anglers are as varied as the fleet of vessels, from the anonymous fishermen who fluked along the Manasquan River to Lou and Eugenie Marron, a husband-and-wife team whose record-setting swordfish catches in the late 1950s remain unbeaten today. Exploits of Brielle anglers are recorded in fishing journals and sporting magazines from coast to coast.

Founded in 1973, the Union Landing Historical Society recently restored the Osborn Family Burial Ground, established a 9/11 memorial, and placed markers at historical sites in Brielle. The society awards an annual scholarship for excellence in history and sponsors historical programs. Book order forms are available upon request from rfshea@briellehistory.org, can be downloaded from the website, www.briellehistory.org/order.htm, or you may pick up a copy in Brielle at Boro Hall, Simko’s, Eloise or the Brielle Library.
HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HIGHLANDS HOSTS LEAGUE MEETING

On Saturday, June 9, 2007, the Historical Society of Highlands hosted the League's spring meeting on the beautiful coastline of Sandy Hook. The meeting was well attended, with over eighty members and guests. The morning began with coffee and refreshments, followed by opening remarks by Judith Patterson, president of the Historical Society of Highlands. HSH members, Monmouth County Freeholder Anna Little, and Carla Cefalo-Braswell, President of the Highlands Business Partnership, then spoke to the attendees about preserving our history.

The League meeting and reports were presented by President James Raleigh. Then Jennifer Griffin, of Pastime, Inc., demonstrated the PastPerfect software program, explaining how it can be used by historical societies and similar institutions for recording donations of items covering multiple categories, as well as data entry of inventory and membership information. PastPerfect is approved by the American Association for State and Local History as "exemplary software for museums and historical societies." It conforms to the latest standards for cataloging archive, library, historic object, art object, natural history, archaeology, and photograph collections, encompassing every aspect of collection and membership management.

As the centerpiece of the morning, the Historical Society of Highlands presented a video program of turn-of-the-century postcards from the collection of Walter B. Guenther. Those in attendance were also able to purchase items for sale and receive free brochures and information.

Many members then enjoyed a delicious lunch served at the historic Bahrs Restaurant, located at the foot of the Highlands Bridge. Some participants toured local attractions such as the Twin Lights of the Navesink and Fort Hancock. It was a wonderful event to begin the summer season.

Lynda Guenther, Historical Society of Highlands

CAMDEN & AMBOY RAILROAD SYMPOSIUM SLATED FOR NOVEMBER 10

Presentations by railroad historians of local and national stature will highlight the Camden & Amboy Railroad Symposium in Bordentown on Saturday, November 10. The day-long event, sponsored by the Camden & Amboy Railroad Historical Group, will commemorate the first run of the John Bull, the world’s oldest operational railroad locomotive, and the 325th anniversary of the founding of Bordentown.

Among those invited to speak are noted rail historians Bill Withuhn, of the Smithsonian Institution; Chris Baer, of Hagley; Kurt Bell, of the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania; and Bill McKelvey, of the Friends of the New Jersey Transportation Heritage Center, as well as several well-known local rail historians. Various aspects of the Camden & Amboy’s history and operation will be reviewed, including the railroad’s construction and operation, the role of the Stevens family in the technological development of New Jersey’s railroads, the history of the John Bull locomotive, the creation of the Joint Companies and its monopoly on our state’s early transportation, and the relationship of the C&ARR to the Delaware and Raritan Canal and to the City of Bordentown. A commemorative ceremony, linking past to present, is also planned.

Tickets for the symposium cost $30 ($15 for college students), which includes registration, luncheon, and membership in the historical group.

For further information and a registration form, contact the historical group at 609-443-4000 x210 (daytime on weekdays), 215-757-6631 (evenings), or mbliss2@verizon.net.
2007 HISTORY EVENTS AND EXHIBITS


Through February 15, 2008—The Museum of Early Trades & Crafts has extended its exhibit, Building the Building: Elements of Style, which focuses on the James Library, the beautiful home of the museum. The exhibit explores the history and construction of the building, with special attention to the stained glass and hand-painted stencil work. 9 Main Street (Route 124) at Green Village Road, Madison. Visit our website, www.metc.org.

September 1—13th annual Tewksbury Historical Society Flea Market. Route 517; field location ½ mile north of Oldwick; vendor spaces $25; call 908-236-2892 for vendor space; free admission and parking; food available for purchase; 8-2. For more information, visit www.tewksburyhistory.net.

September 2—16th Annual Labor Day Parade, co-sponsored by the American Labor Museum/Botto House, the Borough of Haledon, and the City of Paterson, will celebrate the labor movement and organized workers. The parade will step-off at the museum (83 Norwood Street, Haledon) at 1:30 and end at the Great Falls in Paterson, with food, fun and entertainment.

September 7—"General Rochambeau's Dinner Party," Somerset Hills Hotel, Warren, sponsored by W3R-NJ. Cocktails at 6:30; dinner, 7:30; guests are encouraged to wear period attire. Tickets, $100 per person. For reservations, call 908-930-6491 or download and print invitation and RSVP and obtain menu information at www.w3r-nj.com. Send checks to W3R-NJ/Liberty Corner, PMB1781, 442 U.S. Highway 202-206 N, Bedminster, NJ 07921.

September 8—Brielle Day, featuring community organizations, crafters, food, and more! The Union Landing Historical Society will sell its new book, Images of America – Brielle, at Brielle Park, Union Lane. ULHS will hold an autograph session and free book gift wrapping from 10-4 at the Curtis House, 644 Union Lane. Come browse Brielle's one-day history museum in the Curtis House; buy some old fashioned sarsaparilla soda out back! Only $1/bottle! For more information, call ULHS President John Belding at 732-528-5867, visit www.briellehistory.org, or email info@briellehistory.org.

September 8 & 9—Canal Days at the Abraham Staats House. Learn about the D&R Canal era while strolling the grounds and touring the historic Abraham Staats House, c1740. Canal slide presentations, living history Civil War re-enactors, quilt making, exhibits, and collections of Civil War era artifacts. Special guest President Abraham Lincoln will address our visitors on Saturday. 10-4. Entry to house tour/exhibits: $2; parking and grounds free. For more information: www.staatshouse.com.

September 8—Sunset Cruise aboard the Miss Avalon, 6 pm; fundraiser for the Avalon Historical Society; 609-967-0090.

September 8—Grandma's Attic & Kitchen, Too Crafts & Collectibles Show. Exhibit and sale by artists and craftspeople showcasing hand-made items, gourmet food, and unique collectibles with a focus on the kitchen. 10-5. Cape May Convention Hall, Beach Drive at Stockton Place. Adults, $1; children under 12, free. Co-sponsored by the Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts and the City of Cape May. For more information, call 609-884-5404 or 800-275-4278 or visit www.capemaymac.org.

September 11—The Historical Society of Princeton's new exhibition, "Princeton in the 1930s," opens. Featuring images and objects of Princeton during that turbulent decade, the exhibition will examine all aspects of life, including economic conditions, immigration, family life, and popular culture. Bainbridge House. 158 Nassau Street, Princeton. Tues-Sun, 12-4. Free admission; donations accepted. For more information, call 609-921-6748 or visit www.princetonhistory.org.

September 16—Book Signing & Open House. The Van Harlingen Historical Society. Our guest will be Charlie Grayson, author of *Gleanings From the Past: Memories of an Old Farmer*. Mr. Grayson will speak about farming and his 87 years of living in Montgomery. Guests are welcome to bring farming implements or photos. Charlie and our docents will be available to identify those “unknown” items. View our collection of farming antiques. Refreshments served. 2-4. 19th-century farm museum located behind the 1860 House, Montgomery Avenue, Montgomery. No fee. For additional information, contact Cheryl at 908-432-0309 or info@vanharlingen.org.

September 16—“Living and Dying Well in Newark,” a **five-hour bus and walking tour** of mausoleums and monuments of notables in two scenic Victorian cemeteries, Fairmount and Mount Pleasant; visits to some of the homes where they lived, in the Forest Hill and Lincoln Park historic districts. Tour led by Elizabeth Del Tufo; light refreshment at one house. Depart from the Newark Museum, 43 Washington Street, at 1 pm. Adults, $35, $5 discount for members of the **Newark Preservation & Landmarks Committee**; children 6 and older, $10. Reservations required by September 10 at 973-622-4910. Further information at same number.

September 22—3rd Annual Ocean Grove Antiques & Collectibles Show. Post cards, comics, china, linens, 50s & 60s glass, vintage purses & jewelry, shore memorabilia, depression glass, souvenir spoons, and old local photos & pennants; 27 quality dealers. Historical Society of Ocean Grove, Youth Temple, Pilgrim Pathway, Ocean Grove. 10-4; donation $3.00; food available; free parking. Contact: 732-774-1869.

September 29—14th Annual Apple Festival. Apple pie and apple-eating contests; 3-legged races; hoop rolling; apple foods of all kinds; lunch; entertainment; Pumpkin Patch – pick and paint your own; face painting; demonstrations and participation activities (basket making, outdoor food preparation, knitting, crocheting, Indian lore, woodworking, butter making, and quilt patch creation); visit the museum; meet a Civil War re-enactor; learn with Chief Rainbow (children), and Johnny Appleseed. The Schoolhouse Museum, Lacey Historical Society. 9-3; 126 South Main St. (Rte 9), off Oak Street, one block south of Lacey Road. Forked River (behind Mrs. Walker’s Ice Cream Shop, Route 9). Free parking and shuttle buses: Forked River School, Lacey Road (north side) opposite Caldwell Ave/Lacey Road intersection. Watch for signs. 609-971-0467 (museum), 609-693-6343 (Ellie Greco).

September 29 & 30—Fall Antiques and Fine Art Show. Event features 54 exhibitors showing paintings, prints, American and British furniture, silver, textiles, jewelry, and toys. Historical Society of Princeton. Held at the Princeton Airport, Route 206, Montgomery. Sept. 29, 10-7; Sept. 30, 11-5. $12 per person. For additional show and preview gala information, visit www.princetonhistory.org or call 609-921-6748.

September 29—Victorian House Tour—Self-guided tour in this special community, once a Methodist camp meeting. Mount Tabor Historical Society. Route 53, between Denville and Morris Plains; 11-4. Tickets, $20 per person, may be purchased on the day of the tour at the gazebo on Simpson Ave., near the Tabernacle. For further information, advance tickets, directions, and parking, please visit www.mounttabornj.org, or call Beth Shaw, 973-586-1564.

September 29—Trip to the Mt. Tabor Victorian House Tour. Victorian Society/northern NJ Chapter will sponsor a trip to Mt. Tabor on Sept. 29 from 10:30-4:30. Fee for non-members, $65, includes a box lunch and special guided tour. Bus will leave from Montclair promptly at 10:30. Parking behind the George Innes School in Montclair. For info and reservations, call Catherine Sullivan, 973-762-6453.


October 2-6—18th annual Tewksbury Historical Society Art Show & Sale. Zion Lutheran Education Building, 1 Miller Ave, Oldwick; Tue Oct. 2 Opening Night Preview, 6-8. Tickets in advance $15; $20 at the door; refreshments included. Wed.-Fri., Oct. 3-5, 10-6; Sat., Oct 6, 9-4; Admission $3. Visit www.tewksburyhistory.net for more info.

October 6th—Bottle Hill Day. Museum of Early Trades and Crafts, Madison Historical Society, and many other community groups. Children’s activities, car show, food, vendors, sidewalk sales. Go back in time with the New Jersey Frontier Guard and learn about life during the French and Indian Wars (1754 - 1765). FREE! Waverly Place, off Main Street (Route 124), Madison; 11-4. For more information, visit our website at www.rosenet.org.

October 6 and 7—1st Annual Cape May Wine Festival. Sample (and buy) the superb award-winning wines from New Jersey, listen to live music, stroll through crafters and buy wine related items, attend educational seminars, purchase gourmet
October 20 – 21—Paint-a-Pumpkin—Not just for children; bring the family to this fun event. Van Riper-Hopper House Museum, 533 Berdan Ave, Wayne; $7 per pumpkin includes paints and table space. 11-3; Carol D'Alessandro, 973-694-7192.

October 17—Is the Strauss Mansion Haunted? Hear the results of a paranormal survey conducted by two investigators from the Highlands Paranormal Society. Their findings included both sounds and sights. Come judge for yourself. Historical Preservation Society of Upper Township, 203 Buckelew Ave., Jamesburg; 5-9; $5; www.jhsmw.org.

October 16—Ichabod Crane and the Legend of Sleepy Hollow. A new adaptation of Washington Irving's horror story. The interactive one-man interpretation of the story of the headless horseman draws the audience into the schoolmaster's world in sleepy Tarrytown. Program offered through the Speakers Bureau of the NJCH. Senior Center, 126 N. Main Street; 1:00 pm; donations accepted. More information: Boontonhistory@yahoo.com.

October 15—House Tour and Luncheon—Tour eight homes in historic Cranbury. Cranbury Historical Preservation Society. 10-5; contact Audrey Smith, 609-655-5361, or Bobbie Marlowe, 609-655-3493. Tickets, $20 in advance; $25 the day of the event; get tickets and map in front of the PNC Bank, 32 North Main Street. Luncheon at the Fellowship Hall of the Cranbury Presbyterian Church, 11:30-2; $10 on the day of the event. www.cranburyhistory.org/housetour.

October 13—Country Fair and Antiques Auction, Historical Society of West Caldwell, 287 Westville Avenue, Caldwell. Preview at 10, auction at 1. No fees, open auction, few reserves, consignment of antiques. Contact, 973-226-1733.

October 12—Tea and Temperance—Performance & Elegant Afternoon Tea: To drink or not to drink, that is the dispute between saloonkeeper Patrick Collins and Jennie Wales, staunch advocate of the temperance movement. Join Dr. Physick as he attempts to maintain decorum during this spirited debate and enjoy an elegant afternoon tea luncheon at the Carriage House Tearoom and Café on the grounds of the Emlen Physick Estate, 1048 Washington Street, Cape May. Limited to 50 guests. 2:30 p.m. Admission is $25. Sponsored by the Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts. For more information or to make reservations, call 609-884-5404 or 800-275-4278 or visit www.capemaymac.org.

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October 7—Apple Fest. Apple dumplings, cider, pies, homemade ice cream; quilts, beekeeping; birds and decoys; an apple pie contest, judged by local chefs; children’s games; bands and other performers all day. Historical Preservation Society of Upper Township, Cape May County, Gandy Farmstead, Tyler Road, Upper Township; 11-4; Anne Snyder, 609-390-8454.

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October 6–November 25—One More Night at Elving’s Metropolitan Yiddish Theater. Exhibit sponsored by the Jewish Historical Society of MetroWest at the GaeLEN Gallery, Alex Aidekman Family Jewish Community Campus, 901 Route 10 East, Whippany. Originally located on Montgomery Street in Newark's traditionally Jewish Third Ward, Elving Metropolitan Theater opened in 1922 when Newark was already home to the fourth largest (and growing) Jewish community in the nation. For additional information about this exhibition, please contact Curator/Outreach Director Linda Forgosh at 973-929-2994 or lforgosh@jhsnw.org.

October 5—“Tea and Temperance”—Performance & Elegant Afternoon Tea: To drink or not to drink, that is the dispute between saloonkeeper Patrick Collins and Jennie Wales, staunch advocate of the temperance movement. Join Dr. Physick as he attempts to maintain decorum during this spirited debate and enjoy an elegant afternoon tea luncheon at the Carriage House Tearoom and Café on the grounds of the Emlen Physick Estate, 1048 Washington Street, Cape May. Limited to 50 guests. 2:30 p.m. Admission is $25. Sponsored by the Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts. For more information or to make reservations, call 609-884-5404 or 800-275-4278 or visit www.capemaymac.org.

October 4—Sacco & Vanzetti—Paint-a-Pumpkin—Not just for children; bring the family to this fun event. Van Riper-Hopper House Museum, 533 Berdan Ave, Wayne; $7 per pumpkin includes paints and table space. 11-3; Carol D'Alessandro, 973-694-7192.
October 20 & 21—Four Centuries in a Weekend... A Journey Through Union County’s History, Sat. 10-5; Sun. 12-5. Twenty-five historic house museums and sites tell the county’s history through thematic clusters: Early Aristocracy 1665-1812, Farm Life 1686-1840, Revolutionary Front Line 1763-1783, Commerce and Industry 1820-1928, Victorian Resorts and Suburbs 1837-1920; Free. Descriptive booklets, maps, children’s workbooks available at each site and from the Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, 908-558-2550 or culturalinfo@ucnj.org.

October 21, 2007—Lambertville Historical Society’s Annual Autumn House Tour, 11-5. See the beauty of Lambertville first hand at this popular annual event. Tour features twelve buildings, including eight restored homes, two historical sites, and walking tours of the town and canal. Off site parking is available. Tickets, $15 pre-paid in advance, $20 day of tour. Please contact the LHS at 609-397-0770 for details or to purchase tickets.


October 27— Tricks-N-Treats, noon-3. The Museum of Early Trades and Crafts hosts its annual Halloween Family Fun Day. Visitors will have a hauntingly good time with the many ghoulishly fun activities taking place, including crafts, games, and story telling. Advanced registration recommended; call 973-377-2928 x12. Regular admission. 9 Main Street (Route 124) at Green Village Road, Madison. www.metc.org.


November 3—Princeton Annual House Tour featuring six homes in Princeton, including the house in which T.S. Eliot stayed while a fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study and Woodrow Wilson's Tudor Revival-style home. 10-4. Tickets, $30, can be purchased in advance from the Historical Society of Princeton at 158 Nassau Street, Princeton, 609-921-6748. Additional information can be obtained by calling 609-921-6748 or visiting www.princetonhistory.org.

November 9—Intimate Evening of Music, 8 pm. Enjoy an evening of wonderful Latin music with Brasil Guitar Duo. The Museum of Early Trades and Crafts Music Series is made possible in part by a generous donation from Provident Bank. Admission: $10, members; $12, non-members; $5, students/faculty. 9 Main Street (Route 124) at Green Village Road, Madison. For more information, visit our website at www.metc.org or call 973-377-2982 x10.

November 11— "Colonel George Baylor and his Dragoons" - author, historian, C.F. William Maurer will discuss the life and times of George Washington's aide. Maurer will highlight the famous Baylor Massacre that took place in River Vale when the young leader and his men were attacked as they slept. Free. 2 pm. Pascack Historical Society Museum (barrier-free), 19 Ridge Avenue, Park Ridge, NJ 07656; www.pascackhistoricalsociety.com; 201-573-0307.


Saturday, November 17—Wine & Song. Enjoy an elegant evening of wine and hors d'oeuvres, while helping to support the Museum of Early Trades and Crafts. 9 Main Street (Route 124) at Green Village Road, Madison. For more information, visit our website at www.metc.org or call 973-377-2982 x10.

November 25, 2007 – January 14, 2008—History Exhibit: Victorian Christmas Cards and Ornaments; Buckelew Park, Lakeview Mansion, 203 Buckelew Avenue, Jamesburg; 2nd & 4th Sundays of each month, 2-4; free, donations accepted; Jamesburg Historical Association; 732-521-2040; www.jamesburghistory.com.

November 29, 2007- January 4, 2008—The Jews of Morris County, an exhibit, sponsored by the Jewish Historical Society of MetroWest at the Morris County Library, 30 East Hanover Avenue, Whippany. The Jews of Morris County: Early Settlers, Synagogues, Hotel Resorts, and Lake Communities traces the growth of Jewish life in Morris County, including market and mining towns, farming communities, summer resorts, and congregations that grew up as a result of an influx of Jews looking for more affordable housing after World War II. For additional information about this exhibition, please contact Curator/Outreach Director Linda Forgosh at 973-929-2994 or lforgosh@jhsmw.org.

December 1, 2007—Christmas Comes to the Marshall House; 1-4. Find out how the residents of Lambertville celebrated Christmas from 1816 through the Victorian era. Visitors can enjoy tasty holiday treats from each time period and can make a beautiful Victorian inspired paper ornament to take home. FREE, no reservation needed. James Marshall House Museum,

December 2—Christmas at Lakeview. Tours, historical interpreters, lecture, holiday music, children’s activity; Buckelew Park, Lakeview Mansion, 203 Buckelew Avenue, Jamesburg; 1–5:30; free; donations accepted. Jamesburg Historical Association; 732-521-2040; www.jamesburghistory.com.

December 6 and 13—Holiday Open House at Lakeview Mansion. Tours. Buckelew Park, Lakeview Mansion, 203 Buckelew Avenue, Jamesburg; 7–9; free, donations accepted; Jamesburg Historical Association; 732-521-2040; www.jamesburghistory.com.

December 6 and 7—Annual Poinsettia Sale. The Contemporary of Trenton, 176 West State Street, Trenton; 609-392-9727.

December 7, 8, & 9—NJ Dutch Colonial Holidays. The 15-min. house tour includes NJ Dutch customs, followed by historically authentic refreshments. Enjoy the sights, sounds and tastes of the past. The Pines Lake Garden Club will decorate the house with fresh arrangements researched to fit the 1786 house. Van Riper-Hopper House Museum, 533 Berdan Avenue, Wayne; Fri-Sat 10-3; Sun 1-3; $5 adult, $3 child or teen; Carol D’Alessandro, 973-694-7192.

December 7—Holiday Open House at the Museum, featuring the Bell Choir of the Presbyterian Church, Whippany. Boonton Historical Society, 210 Main Street, Boonton; 7-9; 973-402-8840.


December 9—Rockingham Holiday Tours. Tours every half-hour, with the last tour at 3:30. Advance reservations are required. Please call 609-683-7136 and leave a message (starting Nov. 24). 11-4; Rockingham State Historic Site, Laurel Avenue, Kingston. www.rockingham.net.

December 12—A Capella Choir of the Henry Hudson Regional School. Get into the holiday spirit with the sounds of the season. Atlantic Highlands Historical Society, Strauss Mansion, 27 Prospect Circle at the top of East Mount Avenue, off First Avenue, Atlantic Highlands, 7:30 pm. For details, call 732-291-1861 or 732 291-9917.

December 15 & 16—"Holiday at the Abraham Staats House," South Bound Brook. Community organizations decorate rooms of the Staats House for the holidays; the nearby Hendrick Fisher House (private residence located on the grounds of St. Andrew's Ukranian Church) is also decorated for the holidays. For more information: www.staatshouse.com.


Tours of Burlington City—Our 328-year-old city offers guided tours. See up to nineteen of our over forty historic sites, including New Jersey’s oldest fire company, pharmacy, library, and the oldest house (1685) in Burlington County. Enjoy our riverfront, museums, antiques, Underground Railroad, folklore, shopping, restaurants and fun events year-round. Apr. 7 - Dec. 3, Fri, Sat, Sun 11 am - 4 pm. Tours depart 11:30 am and 2 pm; $5/Adult, $4/srs & children under 12. Call for Group Rates. Specials include Dine & Tour Packages, History Inside & Out, AJ Meerwald Sailing Packages and more. For information and directions, visit the website or call. 12 Smith’s Alley, 609-386-3993; www.tourburlington.org.

DID YOU KNOW…

...that some of our member societies pay the registration fee for their delegates to attend the three League meetings each year? This is an idea that others may want to consider.
SPOTLIGHT ON OUR MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

With our members spread across the state, many of us are not familiar with the organizations in regions far from our own. This column will spotlight our members, so that others may learn of their mission and accomplishments.

The League has many member organizations that were formed to honor or remember a specific group of people. This is Part I of a series highlighting those societies.

The African American Heritage Museum of Southern New Jersey brings to life the African American experience of the 20th century as it documents the struggle of one group of Americans to carve its own place in the wider cultural landscape. With a permanent home in the heart of southern New Jersey, the museum offers a unique opportunity to open a window to the mindset of successive generations of African Americans and provides an understanding of its cultural evolution.

The African American Heritage Museum boasts an impressive collection, including graphics, drawings, paintings, and advertisements, as well as household and decorative items, all depicting blacks in a historical context. In a decade-by-decade account, from Aunt Jemima to Tiger Woods, the museum provides a visual and visceral understanding of how the African American culture has evolved and changed. The museum features special programs for adults and children, schools, and nonprofit organizations.

Over thirty years ago, founder Ralph Hunter began a personal collection of African American cultural, artistic, and media images that inspired the museum. He also has a traveling exhibit with access to over 3000 cultural and historical artifacts. Contact: The African American Heritage Museum of Southern New Jersey, 661 Jackson Rd, P.O. Box 39, Newtonville, NJ 08346; 609-704-7262; www.aahmsnj.org; rhunter@AAHMSNJ.org.

The American Labor Museum is housed in the Botto House National Landmark, a 1908 Victorian home that belonged to silk mill worker Pietro Botto and his wife, Maria. It was the meeting place for over 20,000 silk mill workers during the 1913 Paterson Silk Strike. The strikers called for safe working conditions, an end to child labor, and an eight-hour day. This action and others like it brought about workplace reforms that are broadly enjoyed by Americans today. The museum has restored period rooms, a labor and immigrant library (including books, audio and video cassettes), Old World Gardens (with a bocce court, grape arbor, root cellar, and chicken coop), and changing exhibits.

The overall purpose of the American Labor Museum is to advance public understanding of the history of work, workers, and the labor movement throughout the world. To this end the museum emphasizes four specific themes: (1) the history of the organized labor movement; (2) the culture of working people throughout the world, with special attention to the ethnic and immigrant aspects of the lives of American workers; (3) the changing nature of work and the workplace in United States history; and (4) labor in contemporary society. The on-site educational programs are Millworker/Millowner (in conjunction with Lambert Castle and Great Falls Visitors Center), and Labor Education Tour (in conjunction with the Paterson Museum and Great Falls Visitors Center). Museum in a Suitcase, for grades 4-12, is designed to supplement social studies, language arts, humanities, visual and performing arts, music and drama, New Jersey history, conflict resolution, and multiculturalism curricula. It can also be used for any age group to prepare for a visit to the museum. The suitcase contains artifacts from the museum's collection. Contact: American Labor Museum, Botto House, 83 Norwood Street, Haledon, NJ 07508; 973-595-7953; www.labormuseum.org; labormuseum@aol.com.

The Descendants of Founders of New Jersey was formed to (1) provide scholarship assistance to students of American history who have a special interest in the history of New Jersey, and who are enrolled in a New Jersey college or university, or support activities which enhance or preserve early New Jersey history; (2) establish, preserve, and publish lines of direct descent from founders who settled in New Jersey prior to 17 April, 1702; and (3) establish and maintain a society of fellowship among descendants of the founders of New Jersey. The Descendants of Founders of New Jersey was founded in November, 1982, under the leadership of Harriet Stryker-Rodda. Mrs. Stryker-Rodda, the author of numerous books, was well known within the genealogy community. Membership in the society is open to men and women, 18 years of age or older, who can prove descent from a founder of New Jersey prior to 17 April, 1702, in any area which is now in the State of New Jersey, provided they subscribe to the objectives of the society. The society’s members believe that the people who encouraged and financed the individual and group ventures responsible for the settlement of New Jersey are historically and genealogically as important as the settlers themselves. Thus the
The name of the organization was chosen to honor both the people with vision and money to back the venturers and the settlers who came to carve out a better future in a new home. The date of 17 April, 1702, was chosen because that was the date on which East Jersey and West Jersey were merged into New Jersey as a single entity. By that date basic settlement had been accomplished in the areas that now make up the State of New Jersey. A founder is defined as anyone who was a settler or anyone who financed the settlement of others in any area now within the borders of the State of New Jersey.

The mission of the Museum of Early Trades & Crafts is to enhance the understanding and appreciation of America's past by presenting and interpreting the history, culture, and lives of ordinary people through educational programs, preservation and stewardship of its collection, and exhibition and demonstration of the trades and crafts practiced in New Jersey from its earliest settlement. A new exhibit, “Building the Building—Elements of Style,” invites visitors to explore and gain a true appreciation of the exquisite building METC calls home. Before the James Library Building housed the museum, it was the first official town library of Madison. Built in 1900 as a gift to Madison by philanthropist D. Willis James, the church-like building was embellished with beautifully painted tiles, ornate stained glass windows and a working bell tower. Contact: Museum of Early Trades and Crafts, 9 Main Street, Madison, NJ 07940; 973-377-2982; info@metc.org; www.metc.org@metc.org.

WHALING HARPOONS STOLEN FROM CAPE MAY COUNTY MUSEUM

FBI agents have joined an investigation into the theft of whaling tools from the Cape May County Museum. Curator Pary Woehlcke said that the thieves stole two darting guns and a single-flued harpoon, with estimated values between $1500 and $2000. Among the other stolen items used by whalers in the early 19th century were a toggle iron, a bomb lance, a brass sextant, and three sailors’ palms. A worker noticed the artifacts missing on June 5. The museum estimates the stolen items are worth more than $7,500.

The FBI agents are assigned to the bureau's Art Theft Program. Authorities are monitoring internet auction sites for any sign of the 200-year-old harpoons, police Capt. Scott Webster told The Press of Atlantic City. Museum officials believe the culprit was a collector, because other items were not taken from the case and those that were taken are among the most valuable. Museum workers believe someone unlocked the doors of the barn that serves as the museum from the inside before returning later to make off with the artifacts.

LETTERS, WE GET LETTERS...

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed by our correspondents are the opinions of individuals and are not necessarily those of the League.

From Clifford Swisher, of the Little Falls Historical Society:

“On behalf of the Executive Board of the Little Falls Historical Society, please accept our thanks and gratitude for selecting our Historic Newsletter for third place in the 2006 Publications Awards Competition. It is indeed an honor to be selected... Please let the League and the Award Committee know of our pleasure in receiving this award.” Mr. Swisher goes on to thank his wife, Shirley, and Vick Winkler for their editing expertise, and Ralph Arminio, the printer. The society is especially grateful to the Greater Community Bank, which underwrites the cost of printing.

UPCOMING LEAGUE MEETINGS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Month</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 2008</td>
<td>Long Beach Island Historical Society, Beach Haven, Ocean County</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 2008</td>
<td>Holcombe-Jimison Farmstead Museum, Hunterdon County</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 2008</td>
<td>to be announced</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 2009</td>
<td>to be announced</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 2009</td>
<td>Historical Society of Ocean Grove, Monmouth County</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 2009</td>
<td>to be announced</td>
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We encourage your society to host a future League meeting. If you would like this opportunity to showcase your site, just contact Linda Barth, 908-722-7428, barths@att.net, and she will put you in touch with the regional vice-president for your area.
THE LEAGUE OF HISTORICAL SOCIETIES MEETING
HOSTED BY THE BAYONNE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2007

PLEASE ALLOW TIME TO SHUTTLE IN FROM THE PARKING AREA

9:00 am Registration and refreshments on the second floor gallery of the Bayonne Public Library.
9:30 am Welcome
9:45 am League Business Meeting; reports from members
10:30 am Bayonne Historical Society will host a slide presentation on Bayonne history and landmarks.
11:30 noon Lunch
12:30 pm Tour will include:
1) a guided tour of the 1875 Brennan Fire Museum, led by historian "Fireman Pete"; tour will include the oldest hand-drawn hose carriage in NJ
2) a guided tour of St. Vincent’s Church, a Lombard-Romanesque basilica with beautiful stained glass windows from Dublin, Ireland
3) a guided talk at the Teardrop 9/11 Monument at Harborview, a ten-story gift from the people of Russia and Vladimir Putin, dedicated by President Clinton. Views of the nearby Robbins Reef Lighthouse (not open to the public).
4) a stop at the new monument commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Bayonne Bridge.
5) The buses will also pass by, but not stop at, several other landmarks-- including the 1867 First Federated Church and the 1869 Hale-Whitney Mansion. These sites will be interpreted by on-board guides.

The buses will then transport the attendees from the Teardrop Monument back to the nearby parking lot. There will also be a shuttle to transport those who wish to skip the tour and return to their cars after lunch.

Hotels within 5 miles: Hyatt Regency, 2 Exchange Place, Jersey City; 201-469-1234
Doubletree Suites, 455 Washington Boulevard, Jersey City; 201-499-2400
Courtyard by Marriott, 540 Washington Boulevard, Jersey City; 201-626-6600

Questions on the morning of October 27: Gerry Nowicki, 646-256-6607
Before October 27: Meryl Robins, daytime, 201-339-3338; Mike Kostelnik, evenings only, 201-339-4374

Registration Form—Registration is $20 per person. Lunch will include a wrap, pasta salad, fruit, chips, cookies, and a cold beverage. Please indicate your choice of entrée:

______ Turkey wrap _______ Roast beef wrap _______ Veggie wrap

Do you plan to attend the afternoon bus tour? _____ Yes _____ No

Name ________________________________________________________ Email ______________________
Address __________________________________________________________________________________
City _____________________________State, Zip _______________ Phone ___________________________
Affiliation: _______________________________________________________________________________

Please send check for $20, payable to The Bayonne Historical Society, P.O. Box 3034, Bayonne, NJ 07002. Registration deadline is October 13, 2007.
DIRECTIONS TO THE PARKING AREA FOR THE LEAGUE MEETING AT THE BAYONNE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Take the New Jersey Turnpike to Exit 14A. Go straight, south on Avenue "E" to its intersection with East 32nd Street. Turn left here and go over the bridge. Make a sharp left (Prospect Avenue) at the 4-way stop at the foot of the bridge between the Hudson Bergen Light Rail park & ride lots to the traffic light. Cross Route 440 into the “Peninsula at Bayonne Harbor” and stop at the gatehouse. A Boy Scout will direct you to a parking spot.

From the hotels-- the Hudson/Bergen Light Rail passes directly by these hotels. Get off at the 34th St station in Bayonne. Walk through the parking lot to the crosswalk across Route 440 to the gatehouse of the “Peninsula at Bayonne Harbor.” A shuttle will be available there to take you to the meeting.