



# LEAGUE NEWS

The Newsletter of the  
League of Historical Societies of New Jersey

Vol. 47 No. 2    [www.lhsnj.org](http://www.lhsnj.org)    April 2022

**Saturday, May 28  
Spring Meeting  
South River Historical and  
Preservation Society**

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**Registration for and directions  
on p. 19-20**

## **League Awarded Grant to Support New Jersey History Professionals Who Were Affected by the Pandemic**

The League of Historical Societies of New Jersey is the proud recipient of a New Jersey Arts and Culture Renewal Fund grant. The League successfully secured grant funding to launch a regrant

program that will provide direct aid to individual history practitioners who were negatively impacted by the continuing COVID-19 pandemic. This developing program aims to support, encourage, and amplify the important work done by individual historians.

The League will distribute grants to history professionals whose income was negatively impacted during the pandemic. Individuals who qualify for the grant may include first-person interpreters or presenters of New Jersey history programs who were unable to work because of inaccessibility of venues for programming or researchers who could not work due to closures of libraries or research facilities.

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**Direct aid for individual history practitioners financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.**

**More information at [lhsnj.org](http://lhsnj.org)**

## **SAVE THESE DATES FOR UPCOMING LEAGUE MEETINGS**

- April 23, 2022—Camden County Historical Society/Camden County History Alliance, Camden County
- May 28, 2022—South River Historical & Preservation Society, South River, Middlesex County
- November 5, 2022—Paterson Museum and the Paterson Museum Foundation, Paterson, Passaic County
- Winter 2023—Bordentown Historical Society, Bordentown, Burlington County
- Spring 2023—Hunterdon County Historical Society, Flemington, Hunterdon County
- Fall 2023 — Sparta Historical Society, Sparta, Sussex County
- Winter 2024—Southern Region — open
- Spring 2024 — open
- Fall 2024—American Labor Museum/Botto House, Haledon, Passaic County

We encourage your society to host a future League meeting. If you would like this opportunity to showcase your site, just contact Linda Barth, 908-240-0488, [barthlinda123@aol.com](mailto:barthlinda123@aol.com), and she will put you in touch with the regional vice-president for your area. **We look forward to visiting YOUR town some day soon.**

# The Officers and Directors of the League of Historical Societies of New Jersey

President (2022)

Timothy Hart  
Ocean County Cultural & Heritage Commission

First Vice President (2022)

Brian Armstrong  
South River Historical and Preservation Society

Vice President, Northern (2022)

Jane McNeill  
Victorian Society

Vice President, Central (2022)

Mary Swarbrick  
Fellowship for Metlar-Bodine

Vice President, Southern (2022)

Bruce Tell

Secretary (2022)

Hannah Kerwin  
Somerset County Library System

Treasurer (2022)

Pary Tell  
Lighthouse Keepers of New Jersey

Trustee, Northern (2022)

Michelle Munn  
Mount Tabor Historical Society

Trustee, Northern (2024)

Eve Morawski  
Durand-Hedden House & Garden

Trustee, Central (2024)

Jeffrey McVey  
Lambertville Historical Society

Trustee, Central (2022)

Donald Peck  
Raritan-Millstone Heritage Alliance

Trustee, Southern (2022)

Jeff Schenker  
Ocean County Historical Society

Trustee, Southern (2024)

Ralph Cooper  
Historical Preservation Society of Upper Township

Trustee-at-Large (2024)

Patricia Wells  
Township of Chatham Historical Society

Trustee-at-Large (2022)

Donald Katz, Esq.  
Proprietary House Association

Historian (2022)

James Lewis  
Morristown and Morris Township Library

\*\*\*\*\*

The following are valuable members of our board, but are not elected positions:

Executive Director

Linda J. Barth, 908-240-0488;  
[barthlinda123@aol.com](mailto:barthlinda123@aol.com)

Membership Chairman

Jennifer Coultas

Publications Awards Committee

Chairman

J. B. Vogt  
Fellowship for Metlar House

Trustees Emeriti

Bernard Bush  
Kate Malcolm  
Dorothy Pietrowski

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**DEADLINE:** Submissions for the August issue of *League News* must be on the editor's desk no later than July 15, 2022. Please send all items to: Linda Barth, 214 North Bridge Street, Somerville, New Jersey 08876; [barthlinda123@aol.com](mailto:barthlinda123@aol.com).

**Material submitted electronically should be in WORD format. Photographs will be scanned and returned. Digital photographs should be submitted in .jpeg or .tif.**

**THE EDITOR'S CORNER**



**League offers PastPerfect discount in April**

**The League is partnering with PastPerfect Software to offer 30% discount on desktop products**

**The League of Historical Societies of New Jersey has partnered with PastPerfect Software to again provide member organizations with a 30% discount on all desktop software purchases over \$100!**

PastPerfect Software is the trusted software source for over 275 museums and cultural institutions in New Jersey and over 11,000 organizations around the world. This is an exclusive offer **for League members in good standing, with 2022 dues paid. If you are not sure that your society has paid its 2022 dues, email Jennifer Coultas at [coultasj@verizon.net](mailto:coultasj@verizon.net).**

The offer is a 30% discount on standard pricing for all PastPerfect desktop software products when your purchase is over \$100. Whether you need the entire PastPerfect system, a PastPerfect 5.0 Upgrade, or a way to share your collections online, April will be a great time to save.

This offer is valid for orders placed **between April 1 and 30, 2022.** To take advantage of this discount, call 1-800-562-6080 and mention the LHSNJ bulk discount. Even though PastPerfect is considering this a "bulk order," they will ship the software directly to your organization.

**The League is excited to offer this opportunity and urges you to take advantage of this discount.**

**League Grant article (continued from page one)**

Grant guidelines are forthcoming and will be released on [www.lhsnj.org](http://www.lhsnj.org). The League anticipates more information will be available by the end of April.

Thanks to the New Jersey Arts and Culture Renewal Fund at the Princeton Area Community Foundation for this grant opportunity.



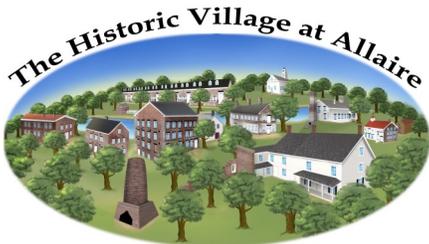
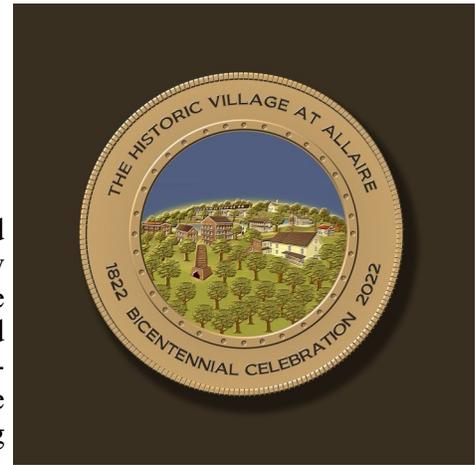
**The Historic Village at Allaire...**

**We're here for you NOW**

**more than ever!**

**Celebrating 200 Years of History!**

Two hundred years ago in April 1822, James P. Allaire purchased 5,000 acres of land in the Howell and Dover Townships of coastal New Jersey that eventually became home to 500 people from all around the world. Now, in 2022, the Historic Village at Allaire still remains and continues to serve the community. In celebration of the 200th Anniversary of Allaire's purchase of the land, the Board of Trustees at the Historic Village at Allaire have announced an ambitious new operating plan for the upcoming 2022 year.



Beginning in April, the village and its historic buildings, craft shops, homes, and retail shops will be open Wednesday through Sunday, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., April through November! Never in the history of Allaire has the village been open this much to the public during the week.

On weekdays, visitors to the village will be admitted FREE of charge. Visitors to the village on weekends will be admitted for a modest general admission fee (\$5 for ages 4 and up) or Special Event Fees.

As part of the expanded public schedule, Allaire will debut a new series of guided tours! Patrons will be able to gather at 1:30 p.m. each afternoon to depart on a 90-minute tour of the village guided by a costumed interpreter who will introduce visitors to the history of Allaire Village and the Howell Iron Works and will welcome visitors into never-before-seen locations and buildings. There will be a nominal charge for the tour on weekdays, while weekends will feature special "Pop-up Tours," at various times.

**Join Us in 2022! So much history, so close by!**

**For additional information please call 732.919.3500**

**[www.allairevillage.org](http://www.allairevillage.org)**

# Kevin Hale Publication Awards for 2020

The League Publication Committee has announced the winners of the 2021 Kevin Hale Publications Awards:

## Newsletters:

- 1st Place: Boonton Historical Society and Museum Newsletter, "Gem Of The Mountains"
- 2nd Place: Glen Ridge Historical Society, "The Gaslamp"
- 3rd Place, tie: Walpack Historical Society and the Morris County Historical Society

Many thanks to our committee: J.B. Vogt, chair; James Lewis, Kate Malcolm, Brian Armstrong, and Pary Tell. The awards will be presented at the May 28th meeting in South River.



## Gem of the Mountains

The Newsletter of the Boonton Historical Society and Museum June, 2021  
210 Main Street, Boonton, New Jersey 07005 • (973) 402-8840 • [www.boonton.org](http://www.boonton.org) • [Boontonthistory@Boonton.org](mailto:Boontonthistory@Boonton.org)

- Upcoming Events -

**Borderland: The Life & Times of Blanche Ames Ames**

**Friday June 11<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM Eastern**

A Virtual Screening via Zoom

Blanche Ames Ames (1878-1969) was an artist, an activist, a builder, a birth control maverick, and a leader of the woman suffrage movement in Massachusetts. She was a woman of privilege who was not afraid to shock polite society. Her name doesn't appear in most American history books, and this too is part of her story.

Big Sales in our Gift Shops!



Open July 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> - Noon to 5:00 PM

Pathways of History Tour 2021



Photograph: Jennifer Coultas

A bright and breezy day heralded the eleventh year for the Pathways of History tour. Over 20 Morris County museums and historic sites opened their doors to guests for two days in May.

There was plenty to see in Boonton. The 33rd regiment Civil War re-enactors returned to the Miller-Kingsland house accompanied by their ladies dressed in corsetry. Musketry and drill demonstration occurred side by side with beautiful lake making and craft work.

Although we did not offer tours of the Miller-Kingsland house due to Covid restrictions, documents were on hand to relate the story of the home and some of its former inhabitants.



## GLEN RIDGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

# THE GASLAMP

Illuminating Our Past  
October 2021 Vol. XLIV No. 1

President's Letter

### Demystifying Critical Race Theory

For the first time in two years, I'm back in the classroom. I'm starting this fall semester with excitement and enthusiasm tempered with a little bit of anxiety. This semester I am teaching "Topics in Public History." These include Confederate monuments and memorials, plantation museums, interpreting America's battlefields through the lens of indigenous communities, and LGBTQ history at America's historic sites. We started off the semester with a discussion of the 1619 Project and critical race theory.

This past summer, it seemed like you couldn't pick up a newspaper or turn on the news without hearing a debate around critical race theory. Angry parents packed school board meetings, states debated curricula, and teachers found themselves in the middle of a culture war. There remains considerable confusion about what exactly "CRT" is.

When I use CRT in my classroom, it means presenting all the voices of the past. For too long, George Washington and Thomas Jefferson dominated our classrooms, with no discussion of Ona Judge or Sally Hemings—two of the enslaved women who supported their lifestyles. On the Fourth of July, we hear much of Jefferson (as we should), but how interesting also to hear Frederick Douglass's speech "What to a Slave is the Fourth of July?" Bringing balance to these conversations complicates our understanding of the past and allows us a deeper appreciation for today's conversations around race.

New Jersey has one of the most progressive history curricula in the country, but many states fall far behind, relying on outdated textbooks that don't reflect current historical scholarship. Both President Trump's 1776 Commission and Texas's 1836 Commission promoted

"Patriotic Education," arguing America's children need to be taught about America's exceptional past. Indeed, America does have a history of exceptionalism, but that exceptionalism is complicated and tempered by its long history of racial oppression.

As a historian, these issues are important to me beyond the classroom. Our November 2020 issue of *The Gaslamp* tackled the long history of discrimination in Glen Ridge. It featured articles on minstrel shows performed at the Women's Club; the experience of Muriel Sutherland, the first Black valedictorian of Glen Ridge High School in 1934; ethnic intimidation against Jewish families; and the sometimes challenging experience of raising a Black family in Glen Ridge. I am pleased to announce that the League of Historical Societies of New Jersey has awarded us "special mention" for this issue. I'd like to thank the contributors to the issue, Sally Meyer, Christine Brennan, and David Lerkovits. I'd like to especially thank our editor, George Musser. George puts in countless hours for every issue to provide Glen Ridge the very best historical research and writing.

The Historical Society is starting to get back to normal. We've settled into our new space at the Glen Ridge Congregational Church and we've been busy planning our fall walking tour. This year's tour will be "From Herman to Sherman" and will feature our municipal buildings, mills, Hurrell Field, and the oldest extant house in Glen Ridge.

The tour will take place on Saturday, Oct. 30. Participants will meet at the plaza in front of the Municipal Building at 1:30 p.m. The event is free and families are welcome! I hope to see you there to enjoy some great history and a beautiful fall day.

Jennifer Janofsky



IN THIS ISSUE

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- Shingle-hatched houses
- This panda is named after...
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- NEW! Events calendar

"Preserving a Fine Tradition of Caring"

Published Quarterly

BACK TO SCHOOL IN WALPACK CENTER

## WALPACK historical society

www.walpackhistory.org

Newsletter of the Walpack Historical Society

Fall 2021



Photo from WHS Archives

By Audrey Schwab

I wanted, but we should have terribly to sit on those seats. The teacher should not punish his pupils. They get enough of that sitting on those seats." Thankfully, Minnie tells us that she and her classmates were welcomed back to a new school in Walpack Center, when the bell tolled to ring in the 1893-1894 school year with Ralph Decker as the teacher.

Over the decades, former Walpack residents have similarly shared their personal memories of pleasant times spent in the schoolhouse we recognize today as a key feature of the village. Julia Elliott Lewis shared experiences of her school days (c.1915-1922) and reflected upon fun times spent flying kites at recess and playing Andy Cret and Fox and Creese. She also recalled box socials whereby money was raised to support the hot cocoa and potato soup lunch treats the students prepared at the school during cold weather. A box social required all the young lady students to prepare a box lunch for two persons. The lunches were then auctioned off to the highest bidder, presumably a young male classmate, who then ate lunch with the young lady. One can only imagine the anxiety and anticipation this event must have held. Julia recalled that the village teacher, Dorothy Swenson boarded with her family at their home, which today serves as the Walpack Historical Society's Rosekrans Museum.

In June of 1996, Frances Condit-Maley shared some other childhood memories with the Walpack Historical Society. She recalled attending the one-room school house and her admiration for her teacher, Abraham Lincoln Aber. "It was his first teaching job. He was a teenager himself and all twenty-three students thought he was wonderful. He called us up, a few at a time, to the bench in front of his desk for our lessons and to receive our assignments." Aber also began his teaching career at the Walpack Center school in 1921.

Similarly, Jacqueline Frostley Boughton conjured her classroom memories from 1945-1946. She too, recalled Aber as her teacher and reflected upon the school seeming so large to a little girl. Her reflections guide the reader through the big front doors that "opened onto a desk room with a lot of books. The entrance to the school room was off to the right." If you visited the Walpack Center school house today, you would step right into Jacqueline's memories. The lift top desks are since gone, as are the eight grades of three or four pupils per class at that time, but the experience of the quiet she describes while school was in session, still very much pervades the room and creates a perfect atmosphere to become a reflective student of the building's history. Jackie related that some of the subjects would be presented

continued on pg. 2



## MORRIS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PRESERVING AND PROMOTING MORRIS COUNTY HISTORY

FALL 2021

### NJ HISTORIC TRUST AWARD AFFORDS FULL RESTORATION OF "ST. CECILIA" MAKES GRAND CARRIAGE HOUSE, ENABLES NEW MCHS PROGRAMMING & PERMANENT RETURN

At the NJ Historic Trust (NJHT) Annual Meeting on September 29th, a statewide crowd awaited the announcement of recipients for 2021 grand awards. More than \$14 million in recommendations from the Preservation New Jersey Historic Preservation Fund was awarded for 69 planning, heritage tourism, and capital projects to save and promote historic sites throughout the state. Of those 69 funded projects, 44 were for capital projects. Of those, nine were for organizations and sites located within Morris County. MCHS received one of these highly competitive and prestigious grants for \$248,350. Not only do these funds assist in meeting the required financial match for our recent Morris County Historic Preservation Trust grant award, they'll also enable us to reconstruct the original gardener's shed. Once located on the northern side of the carriage house, the gardener's shed is critical both to understanding our site and meeting the needs of our visitors.

NJHT is the only local historic preservation grantor to fund reconstruction, regardless of how authentic the reconstruction is to the original building, but there are significant requirements as part of the application process and necessary considerations to remain competitive among other applicants. "This was our second attempt for NJHT funding," says Executive Director Amy Curry. "I took lessons from our application last year and definitely put forward a stronger argument this year, which was bolstered by photos of the crowd of over 130 people who joined us for our July 4th program this past summer!" Included in that application were provisions to include an ADA-accessible computing restroom facility. "In this way we can meet the comfort needs of our visitors while reducing stress on the limited facilities located within Acorn Hall. Also, as a computing unit, we're able to both preserve the integrity of our site and maintain a reasonable budget since no sewer or water access is required. It's going to be a significant 'game-changer' for MCHS and the kind of programs we're able to have on site!" While updates will be forthcoming, we anticipate a spring 2023 project completion.



Carriage House addition as seen in this 1880s photograph



On the evening of September 21st, everyone at Acorn Hall held their breath and passed a little nerve. "St. Cecilia" made the journey back to NJ from Serpentine Stained Glass Studio in Needham, MA, where she'd been conserved over the past 111 months. Now, with a bit like Christmas morning, we were all so excited for the final reveal. The new gallery at Acorn Hall," noted MCHS Curator of Collections Anne Motto.

"For us, that moment was over a year in the making. At first driven by curiosity, we quickly saw last summer that this landmark anniversary year was the perfect time for such an important endeavor." Motto noted. "As soon as the crate cover was removed, the adventure truly began. Now, with St. Cecilia's return to the Hall, we're excited to see how this landmark anniversary year was the perfect time for such an important endeavor."



"St. Cecilia" is on permanent display at the Hall and available for loan to public and private entities.

**The American Labor Museum publishes illustrated book for young readers,**

***The 1913 Paterson Silk Strike: The Children's Story***

The American Labor Museum/Botto House National Landmark proudly announces that it received project grants for the writing and printing of *The 1913 Paterson Silk Strike: The Children's Story* (2021). The book for young readers (4<sup>th</sup> grade reading level), is a history of immigrant workers who came together to create a better future for all New Jerseyans.

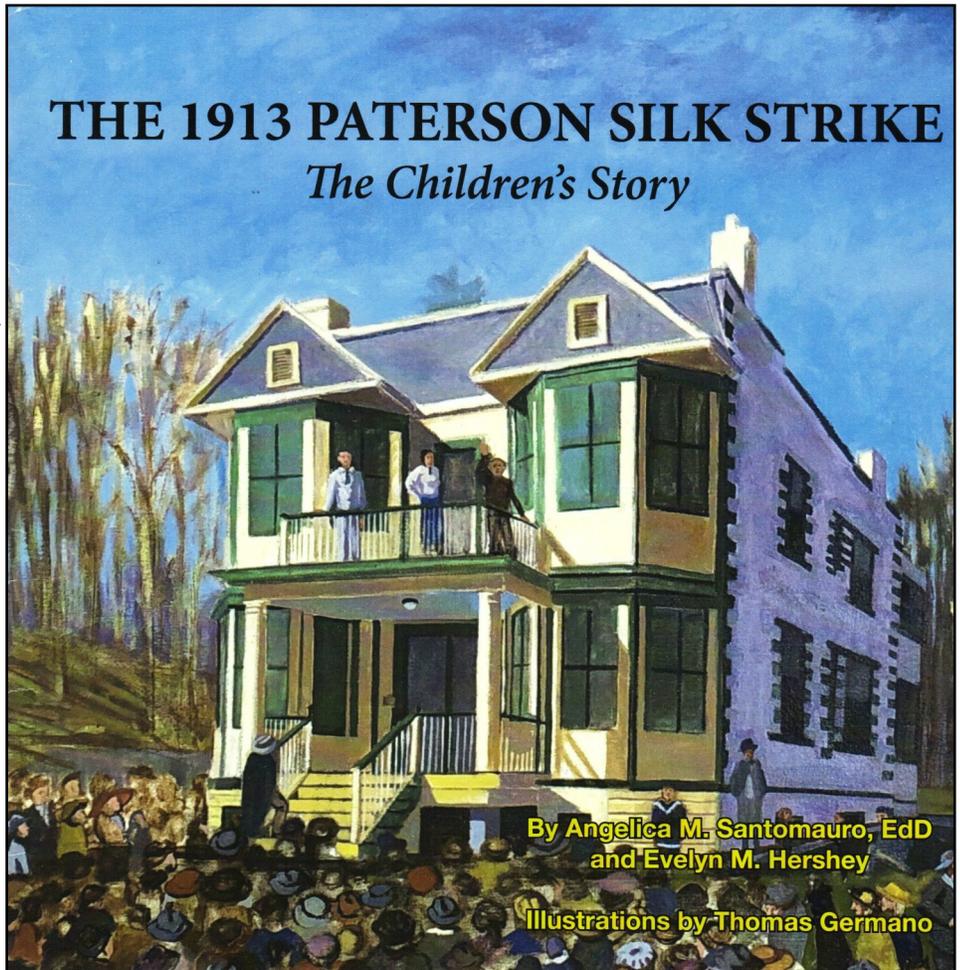
Over 20,000 copies of the book are being distributed—one per 4<sup>th</sup> grade classroom and school and public libraries throughout New Jersey—by the museum and through New Jersey teachers' union (NJEA and AFT) representatives. Individual copies of the book are also available to the general public for purchase at the museum Store at a cost of \$10 each.

*The 1913 Paterson Silk Strike: The Children's Story* was created in collaboration with authors Angelica Santomauro, Ed.D., the museum's director; and Evelyn Hershey, the museum's education director; historian Steve Golin, PhD; editor Mark Torres; and artist/illustrator Thomas Germano.

The four children who are main characters in the book are fictional, but their experiences are based on true stories. The events are historically accurate. Mr. Germano's illustrations are based on historical photographs and objects in the American Labor Museum's collection. The book includes illustrations in watercolor and oil paints, a glossary and "fun facts." Educators are invited to visit the museum's website to access lesson plans and other supplemental teaching tools: [www.labormuseum.net](http://www.labormuseum.net)

Artist Thomas Germano's original paintings for the book are currently on display at the museum until April 23. This program is made possible in part by a grant administered by the Passaic County Cultural and Heritage Council from funds granted by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.

The American Labor Museum is headquartered in the historic Botto House National Landmark, located at 83 Norwood Street, Haledon, NJ. It was the meeting place for over 20,000 silk mill workers during the 1913 Paterson Silk Strike. The Museum offers a free lending library, restored period rooms, changing exhibits, museum Store, Old World Gardens, educational programs, and special events. The museum's hours of operation are Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tours are offered Wednesday through Saturday from 1:00-4:00 p.m. or by appointment. Virtual tours are offered via ZOOM by appointment. For further information about the museum or the new book, please visit the museum's website [www.labormuseum.net](http://www.labormuseum.net), call 973-595-7953, or email [labormuseum@gmail.com](mailto:labormuseum@gmail.com).



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Laura Beausoleil  
Historical Society of Berkeley Heights  
Janice Cambron  
J.T. Daniel  
Patricia Donohue  
Eileen Flynn  
Freehold Township Heritage Society  
Historical Society of Hammonton  
Eleanor Hart  
Paul Hart  
Information Age Science and History  
Museums

Andrea Jenner  
Jersey Blue NSDAR  
Karen Marlowe  
Aniko Muriglan  
William Neumann  
Phillipsburg Area Historical Society  
Geri Thomas  
Sheila A. Thornburgh  
Ukrainian History and Education  
Center  
U.S. Golf Museum and Library  
Historic Walnford

### New Phase of Silk Walk Project at American Labor Museum



**Haledon, New Jersey** – On Sunday, June 5, 2022 at 1:00 PM, the American Labor Museum/Botto House National Landmark will unveil this year's phase of its *Silk Walk* Project. A successful fundraiser that began in 1994, the *Silk Walk* is a project designed to sell engraved bricks for placement at the Landmark's front walkway and under its grape arbor. Funds from the project are to be used for the museum's upkeep, operating expenses, and educational programs. This ongoing project is available for all to participate. *Silk Walk* bricks are priced from \$50 to \$200.

Also on Sunday, June 5, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. the Museum's annual membership meeting will take place. The general public is invited to attend. The museum will be open to visitors and the museum store will be available for browsing and shopping.

The Botto House National Landmark, home of the American Labor Museum, is located at 83 Norwood Street in Haledon, NJ. It was the meeting place for over 20,000 silk mill workers during the 1913 Paterson Silk Strike. The museum offers a free lending library, restored period rooms, changing exhibits, Museum Store, Old World Gardens, educational programs and special events. The museum is open to visitors Wednesday through Saturday from 1-4 PM or by appointment. For further information, please call (973) 595-7953, e-mail [labormuseum@gmail.com](mailto:labormuseum@gmail.com) or visit [www.labormuseum.net](http://www.labormuseum.net).

### Letters, we get letters...

Thank you for this wonderful, well-designed newsletter. It is essential reading for anyone interested in what's going on in New Jersey History. Happy to see the fine article on the Newark History Society!

Gail Malmgreen, NHS

Very meaty League Newsletter! Lots of interesting news.  
Thanks. Olinda





## SPOTLIGHT ON OUR MEMBERS

### Boonton Historical Society and Museum

Housed in the former residence of a doctor and his family, the Boonton Historical Society's Museum has seen many changes in its 120-plus years on Boonton's Main Street.

Dr. John Taylor and his wife, Adelaide Kanouse Taylor, built their house in 1898 after her father deeded the property to them as a Christmas gift. The museum, now owned by the Town of Boonton, is also a permanent memorial to the American Legion Post 124. Over the years it has served as Boonton's Town Hall, provided a meeting place for Boy Scouts, and housed the Parking Authority, the Tax Collector, the Civil Defense unit, and various other town related activities. The Legion leased space to the historical society in 1980, and they moved into the building from their prior accommodations in the historic Holmes Library building. Unfortunately, after a ten-year occupancy, the building was deemed unsafe for public occupancy and sat empty until a tremendous effort by a group of dedicated volunteer townsfolk and craftsmen saved the building from condemnation. The museum reopened in May 1997.

Although the rear veranda is no more, together with the dormers and changes to the front entrance, the inside of the house still exhibits remnants of its original style and structure. To the left of the main entry were the front and back parlors, the back parlor having entrance to the veranda, and on the right was Dr. Taylor's waiting room and surgery. Although original tin ceiling tiles remain, the partitions to the rooms on both sides of the entry were removed to accommodate later tenants.

Fast forward to 2022. The first floor now houses two exhibit rooms. Dr. Taylor's former waiting room presents a timeline of Boonton's development from the beginnings of the iron works, which led to the town's expansion, and to the building of the Jersey City reservoir in 1903. This exhibit also displays pictures of the churches, schools, and the early fire and police departments. In our small exhibit room, we present changing views of our town's history, and of course the famous tableware that was produced and named after our town—Boontonware (photo below). We are particularly proud of the fact that the first plastic compound was molded here in Boonton from a new synthetic resin plastic developed by Dr. Leo Baekeland, for whom Bakelite was later named.



Operated and staffed by volunteers, the museum has an active calendar of events throughout the year. We present two walking tours featuring both the town's historic Main Street, held in the fall, and a discussion and tour of the remnants of the ironworks complex, held in the spring. Our most popular mid-year event, Christmas in July, is always a crowd-pleaser. Three days of bargain shopping in both of our gift shops bring back shoppers year after year.

Students and other groups are welcomed to tour the museum throughout the year, and for the first time in 2022, the historical society will award the *Helen Dixon Kunzelmann Scholarship in History* to a graduating



senior planning to pursue a degree in history, museum studies, or another related field.

The Boonton Historical Society is a founding member of the annual Pathways of History Tour of Historic Places in Morris County ([Pathwaysofhistorynj.net](http://Pathwaysofhistorynj.net)). Special events are held at the museum and at Boonton's oldest recorded home, the 1740 Miller-Kingsland house.

Our volunteer archivists maintain an extensive collection of documents and artifacts. One of our most interesting acquisitions is a framed sketch of Boonton's Park section by the Olmstead and Vaux Company dated 1867. The company is most well known for Frederick Law Olmsted's landscape design of Central Park in New York City. Locally, the company was responsible for the design of Branch Brook and Weequahic Parks in Newark, and Verona Park in Verona.

The museum welcomes visitors on the first and third Sundays of the month from 1:00-4:00 p.m. We are also open during weekdays by appointment. Call 973-402-8840 to arrange a date and time for your tour and visit our Facebook page for up-to-date information on events, discussions, and reminiscences about Boonton.

### The Cedar Grove Historical Society

The Cedar Grove Historical Society was founded in 1968 in the home of F. Leslie Jacobus, who was elected



Back parlor of the Courtenay Morgan farmhouse

president of the society at that meeting. The mission of the society as written by the founding fathers was to preserve and protect material and artifacts that were related to Cedar Grove's agricultural and social history. Through programs and exhibits the society would make the public aware of the township's history.

The 1985 death of J. Courtenay Morgan, the last farmer in Cedar Grove, added another aspect to the goal of the society. Courtenay bequeathed all of his property including the farmhouse and barn to the Township of Cedar Grove with two stipulations, that the township create a park for passive recreation and that the historical society turn the farmhouse into a museum to preserve the history of the township.

The farmhouse was built c. 1845, with a portion of the house dating back to the 1700s. Benjamin Canfield had the newer and

larger section of the house built on a vast piece of land that he owned. His grandson sold the house to the Morgan family in 1910. The last Morgan to live in the house was Courtenay, who farmed the land until the time of his death at the age of 86. Since 1985 the historical society has worked diligently to restore both the house and the barn so that the museum could welcome visitors. For over 30 years, docents have been giving tours and volunteers have worked to keep the archives up to date and have produced our newsletter. The newsletter is mailed to our members seven times a year. For the last seven years organic vegetables, most of which are grown right on Morgan's Farm, have been



Farm stand in Cedar Grove

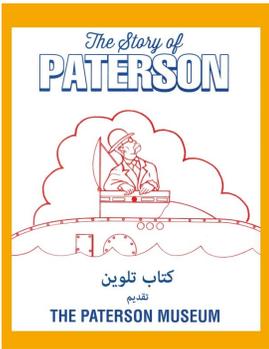
sold at the society's farm stand from the end of May until the end of October. This project came about thanks to one of our volunteers, John Ostering, who manages the farm and runs the farm stand. Each October the Board of Directors, with the help of many volunteers, holds a pumpkin and apple sale. The sale is held as a fundraiser and in honor of Courtenay and his mother who held a pumpkin and apple sale each year.

The museum is open every Saturday from 10 a.m. until 1p.m. beginning at the end of May and ending at the end of October and open by appointment during the rest of the year. Appointments can be made by calling 973-746-7453 or emailing [jeanjaeger@optonline.net](mailto:jeanjaeger@optonline.net). The society also hosts historical programming on the fourth Wednesday of March, April, May, September, and October. The programs are held at the Cedar Grove Library.



Apple and pumpkin sale is held each October in Cedar Grove.

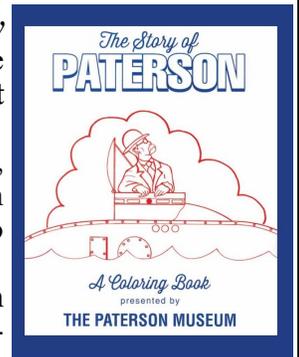
### Story of Paterson Coloring Book Now Available Online



The Paterson Museum is pleased to announce that *The Story of Paterson* coloring book is now available online. It can be downloaded in its entirety, free of charge, **in not only English, but also in Arabic, Bengali and Spanish.**

In 2021, the Paterson Museum received grant funding, administered by the Passaic County Cultural & Heritage Council from funds granted by New Jersey State Council on the Arts, to update the coloring book.

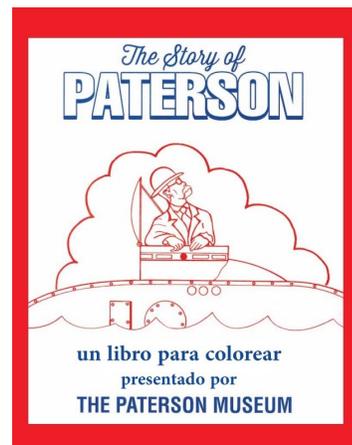
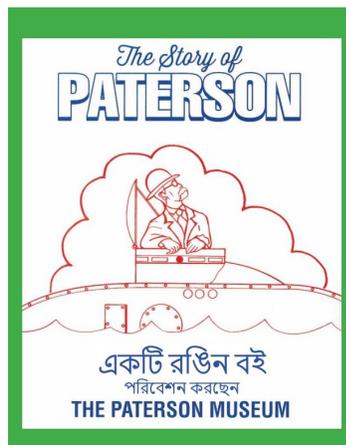
The coloring book has a long history in the museum. First created in 1981, this fourth edition received a holistic revision. Themes were added, removed, and in some cases, revisited from new perspectives.



Many of the changes aimed to develop content that directly reflected the diverse community that is Paterson. To that end, one goal of the project was also to include a number of artists with diverse artistic styles. Another goal was to have the coloring book available in multiple languages.

“We are very happy to be able to make the story of Paterson’s rich history accessible to more of the city’s residents,” said Heather Garside, museum curator. She continued, “we hope that Paterson’s past will help inspire its present, as well as its future.”

To download your own copy of the coloring book, visit <https://patersonmuseum.com/coloring-patersons-history/> Physical copies of all four versions will also be available at the Paterson Museum.



## Morristown NHP and Somerset County's Van Horne House Unveil Crossroads Signage



On a snowy March 9, much like the weather the Continental Army endured in **Morristown during the American Revolution, Morristown National Historical Park (NHP)** and the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area (Crossroads) celebrated the installation of Crossroads welcome marker signs at the park. The unveiling was at Morristown NHP's Washington's Headquarters area where General George Washington headquartered from December 1779 to June 1780.

The welcome marker signs are the latest in a growing number of signs that the Crossroads has installed at historic sites across New Jersey since 2018. The signs identify the state's Revolutionary-era stories to help reveal them to 21st-century visitors. Each sign features the six-pointed star from the original United States flag, a mark that will help travelers easily locate key sites in New

Jersey's crucial role in the war for independence.

The Crossroads' mission is to promote a greater understanding of Revolutionary-era historical sites and landscapes in New Jersey. Working with Morristown NHP, the Heritage Trail Association, and partners throughout the state, Crossroads connects the people and places of New Jersey's rich Revolutionary heritage to inspire community pride, stewardship, and civic engagement. Crossroads is also the not-for-profit partner of New Jersey Historical Commission. Both are collaborating to lead the state of New Jersey's commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the United States under the name "Revolution NJ."

"As we prepare for the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the United States, we strive to connect Morristown's Revolutionary War history to the greater story across New Jersey," said Morristown NHP Superintendent Thomas Ross. "These signs are the perfect avenue to promote that as we welcome visitors and help them explore the plethora of Revolutionary War sites beyond our park."

On Sunday, March 27 a small crowd gathered at the **Van Horne House in Bridgewater** to unveil new signage from the Crossroads of the American Revolution. Cynthia Blumenkrantz, president of the Heritage Trail Association (HTA), welcomed everyone, saying "Over the past 28 years, HTA's historians, trustees and volunteers have written and conducted original tours and programs that encompass the rich history Somerset County holds, including the creation of Crossroads of the American Revolution. Not being a museum, HTA is particularly situated to be the welcome and information center for the upcoming 250th celebrations."

She introduced Janice Selinger, executive director of the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area. Also in attendance, from left, Walter Lane, Office of Planning, Policy and Economic Development; Shanel Robinson, director, County Commission; Paul Drake, commissioner; Patrick Murray, Crossroads board member; Melonie Marano, deputy director; Brian Cote, HTA board member; Cindy Blumenkrantz; (behind her) David Lang, HTA vice president; Valerie Gibson, HTA board member; (hidden) Tom D'Amico, historic sites coordinator; Janice Selinger; and Andrew Musick, representing NJM Insurance, sponsor of the sign.



# NEW JERSEY HERITAGE TREES

By Erik Burro

Three years ago, on June 6, 2019, the ancient Salem Oak, in Salem, NJ mysteriously fell down on the graves of the Friends burial ground. It was just before dinnertime, on a clear, windless day.



For centuries, the landmark tree had been a meeting place, not only for the town's founder, John Fenwick, back in 1675, but for earlier generations of Swedish settlers, Dutch explorers, and Lenape natives. The majestic white oak was bearing acorns long before explorer Verrazzano's navigation charts recorded the existence of what we know as New Jersey.

It was the third historically significant heritage tree to disappear from the Garden State since start of the 21st century. The first to go was Princeton's aged Mercer Oak, a solitary tree that witnessed Washington's success at the Battle of Princeton, where General Mercer was fatally wounded. The second was the Basking Ridge Oak, where colonists had built an early Presbyterian church that witnessed Washington's presence and the ebb and flow of the American Revolution. It died and had to be removed to safeguard the building. At the Princeton Battlefield is a scion of the Mercer Oak, surrounded by a split-rail fence. It had been grown in the backyard of a Princeton resident, who donated her tree to take the place of the original Mercer Oak. It is doing well, despite being invaded last year by 17-year cicadas. The Basking Ridge Oak, at considerable expense, was replaced by a full-grown descendant that had been planted many years earlier by the Biology Department of Union County College, Cranford. The college's unique Historic Tree Grove is always open to the public.

No similar preparations were formulated for the Salem Oak to have a direct replacement. Other oaks stand near where it had been. However, by chance, State Forester Joseph Bennett had been inspecting the Salem Oak the year before and had been permitted to harvest over a thousand of its acorns, which he hoped to plant at the NJ State Forestry nursery in Jackson, NJ. The following year, after the Salem Oak unexpectedly fell, the former DEP Commissioner thought it would be an ideal way to bring attention to the 50th anniversary of the department's existence by making a potted Salem seedling available to any and all cities and townships within the state. Many expressed interest, but distribution methods were curtailed by Covid. Then the DEP commissioner retired. The original plan languished. Only 40 towns, thus far, received a seedling. According to latest information at DEP, Salem Oak seedlings will again be made available in the spring to the remaining 525 municipalities. The best time to plant is either spring or fall. Because of changing personnel, new requests should be initiated. Plans for picking up potted plants have not been finalized.

These awkward disruptions present an unplanned opportunity for local historical societies to participate. **What better location in each town than at a local historic site of a member of the League of Historical Societies of New Jersey. That possibility can only happen if local societies directly contact, inquire, and coordinate with their local elected officials.** If the Salem Oak seedling is planted at your location, its past along with the background of your own site will be told many times over. If the seedlings are placed on municipal property, at best, its story will only be told on the day of its planting. To date, the most ceremonial planting of a Salem Oak seeding took place last October in Walpack Township, Sussex County (photo right), a small town surrounded by the National Park Service. **"A Big Day for a Little Oak" story is in the Walpack Historical Society winter newsletter, which is available with copy of the program and the NJ DEP SALEM SEEDLING REQUEST FORM needed to obtain a free Salem Oak seedling. Simply call or email your request to Erik Burro at pennjerdel@mac.com or 856-313-7860.**



## OUR BUSINESS SUPPORTERS

Dear League Members,

We hope that you will patronize our business supporters. Please consider inviting retail or commercial businesses to become Business Members of the League of Historical Societies of New Jersey and support our mission of promoting the preservation of the historical heritage of New Jersey by stimulating among member organizations the development of programs, projects, and publications that celebrate this heritage.

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## *League Workshops for Members*

The League is now offering workshops virtually for its members. These workshops are designed to strengthen your organization and make it a sustainable society for the future. Workshops are free to any member organization or individual.

You may request a private workshop for your organization or attend a League workshop, which are offered periodically. Any upcoming workshops will be advertised online, in emails sent by the League and in the League newsletter. You can register for any of the League workshops by following the registration directions for that workshop or by contacting Pary Tell at [parytell@gmail.com](mailto:parytell@gmail.com). The following workshops are available:

Your Mission, Vision and Long Range Plan Your mission is the heart of your organization. Is it clear and concise? Do your Board and your members know exactly what you are all about? Do you know where you are headed? This workshop will cover these basic documents that are critical for the success of any organization.

Preparing a Good Budget Do you want your members to know that you are being responsible with their donations? Do you want to attract financial supporters? Are you applying for grants? Your financial information must be in “good order.” This workshop will cover preparing your annual budget, budgeting for special events and unforeseen calamities, as well as the financial reports that you are required to file with the IRS and State.

Bad Boards, Bad Boards, Whatcha Gonna Do? The success or failure of your organization depends on having the right board and good people in leadership roles. Many of your board members will come from the ranks of volunteers. This workshop will cover how to insure you have a dedicated and effective board, including board roles and responsibilities, and how to recruit volunteers and develop them into board candidates.



THE LEAGUE OF HISTORICAL  
SOCIETIES OF NEW JERSEY

## Criteria for the Kevin M. Hale Newsletter Awards for 2022

The Hale Publication Awards are open to all societies who are current members of LHSNJ. All entries must have been published during the calendar year 2022. Only one issue of the newsletter per organization should be submitted for consideration. Five copies of each entry are due no later than January 31, 2023. They should be mailed to JB Vogt, Chair, Publications Committee, 6 Forty Oaks Road, Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889. Leave phone messages at 908-534-4600 or email [jnvgt6@gmail.com](mailto:jnvgt6@gmail.com) with questions. A cover letter must accompany all submissions. The letter will include a contact email. The letter should state the frequency of publication and whether or not it is available online.

### NEWSLETTER CRITERIA

#### Front Page:

Frequency of publication?

#### Front/back pages

Is it eye-catching?

Does it clearly identify the name of the group, the site, the date, the location?

Is there a web address given?

#### Contents:

Does it contain articles that add to our historic knowledge or understanding of a topic?

Does it encourage participation in the organization's activities? Does it encourage membership?

Does it contain articles about events that are current (or were at the time it was published)?

Does it review previous activities and successes?

Does it promote other heritage tourism? Does it promote other sites? Does the group partner with other sites?

Can it be viewed online?

#### Pictures:

Do they have historic or cultural value?

Are they clearly labeled and credited to the photographer?

Graphic quality—Are they eye-catching?

#### Contact Info:

Is it easy to contact the group or editor for more information? Is there an address, phone number, and/or email to contact?

### **It's easy to become a member of the League of Historical Societies of New Jersey!**

Simply visit us at [www.lhsnj.org](http://www.lhsnj.org) and click on "Join." Scroll down and choose your membership type and complete the form. Choose your method of payment and click "Submit."

If you would prefer a printed form, just contact Linda Barth at [barthlinda123@aol.com](mailto:barthlinda123@aol.com) or 908-240-0488, and she will mail a form to you.

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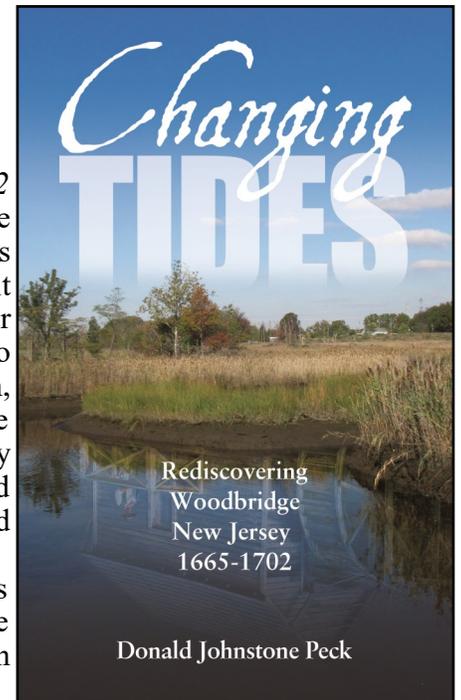
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## NEW JERSEY BOOKSHELF

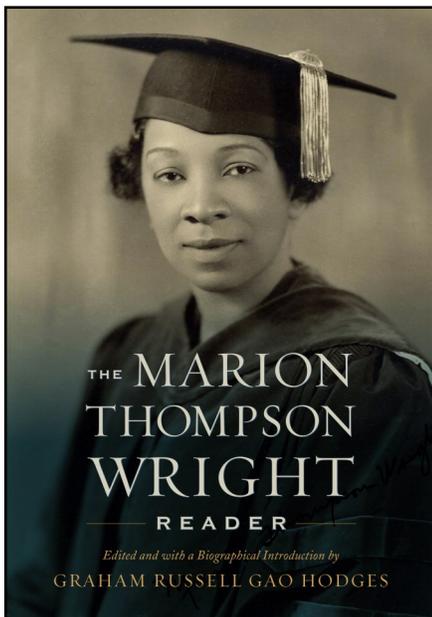
### **Changing Tides** **Rediscovering Woodbridge, New Jersey, 1665-1702** **By Donald Johnstone Peck**

*Changing Tides: Rediscovering Woodbridge, New Jersey 1665-1702* is an enlightening and entertaining summary of the founding years of the oldest chartered township in New Jersey. Explored by Dutch merchants and situated at the southernmost extension of Puritan New England, it was for centuries home to peaceful Native Americans. In tidewater Woodbridge, New England and Long Island families were drawn to a new frontier with an opportunity to experience freedom of religion, participation in self-government, broad economic opportunity, and the rudiments of education. Woodbridge Township was the site of early courts and legislative assemblies, as well as the first tidal grist mill and tavern in New Jersey. Its distinguished founding families included Jonathan Dunham, the eighth grand-grandfather of Barack Obama.

Donald J. Peck is a trustee of the League of Historical Societies of New Jersey and past president of the Raritan-Millstone Heritage Alliance. He serves on the board of the Historical Association of Woodbridge Township.



### **The Marion Thompson Wright Reader** **Edited by Graham Russell Gao Hodges**



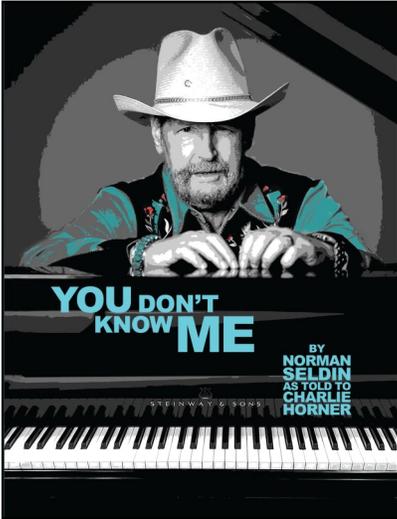
In *The Marion Thompson Wright Reader*, acclaimed historian Graham Russell Hodges provides a scholarly, accessible introduction to a modern edition of Marion Thompson Wright's classic book, *The Education of Negroes in New Jersey* and to her full body of scholarly work. First published in 1941 by Teachers College Press, Thompson's landmark study has been out of print for decades, save for a few print-on-demand services. There are fewer than forty copies of the first edition and about one hundred of the 1971 facsimile, published by Arno Press, in American libraries. Thompson's book is long out of print. Such rarity understates the book's importance.

Thompson's major book and her life are significant for the histories of New Jersey, African Americans, local and national, women's and education history. Drawing upon Wright's work, existing scholarship, and new archival research, this new landmark scholarly edition, which includes an all-new biography of this pioneering scholar, underscores the continued relevance of Marion Thompson Wright.

Hodges will also seek out additional material—published writings, portrait and archival photography—to include in the book as additional biographical material.

\$49.95. Available from Rutgers University Press, [www.rutgersuniversitypress.org/](http://www.rutgersuniversitypress.org/). (paper) 352 pages, 20 b-w images, 7 x 10

## You Don't Know Me By Norman Seldin, as told to Charlie Horner



*You Don't Know Me* is the fascinating memoir of Stormin' Norman Seldin, the influential musician, band leader, songwriter, arranger, producer, promoter, and record label owner. Norman's music career transcends the genres of rhythm & blues, doo wop, soul, jazz, rock & roll, pop, and rock music and his life stories go way beyond his involvement in music.

Norman began playing the piano at age three and fronted his first band by the age of twelve. Norman's strong influence helped shape the emerging Asbury Park rock scene of the 1960s that became known worldwide as the Jersey Sound. As a teenage dance and concert promoter, he brought together many of the early bands like the Castiles, Motifs, DuCanes, Sonny & the Starfires, and Jaywalkers that produced rock luminaries like Bruce Springsteen, Vini Lopez, Doc Holiday, Billy Ryan, Mickey Holiday, Vinnie Roslin, and others.

Norman hired and recorded Clarence Clemons prior to Bruce Springsteen's E Street Band. In doing so, he broke the color barrier in Jersey shore clubs. In soul music, Norman discovered Harry Ray before Ray Goodman &

Brown. In doo wop music, Norman managed acts like Larry Chance & the Earls and produced numerous concerts by Nicky Addeo, Vito & the Salutations, Shells, Duprees, Danny & the Juniors, Belmonts, Olympics, and countless others. He recorded doo wop groups like the Darchaes, Uniques, and Shondelles.

This barely scratches the surface of a career that went from New Jersey to Mississippi to Florida and back. But accomplishments alone don't make for a great read. There has to be a storyline to draws readers in. While music is woven through the fabric of every paragraph, this book is not really about music. It's about one man's determination to overcome adversity while living by his own terms. Whether racing horses, surviving health crises, or fighting discrimination, Norman Seldin "stormed" his way through each situation. This book is the life story of Stormin' Norman Seldin. Music is just Norman's companion. Norman found early on that in an imperfect world, real music is pure. In a world full of discord, Norman found harmony.

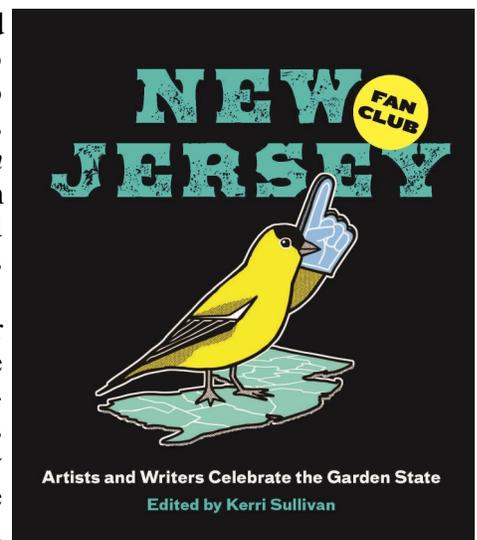
Available on Amazon.

## New Jersey Fan Club: Artists and Writers Celebrate the Garden State Edited by Kerri Sullivan

Despite the many jokes and stereotypes about New Jersey and its residents, in reality the state is a wildly diverse place, home to a vast variety of landscapes, cultures, and people. There is no singular New Jersey experience, and the stories that its residents have to share about the state will surprise you. *New Jersey Fan Club: Artists and Writers Celebrate the Garden State* is an eclectic anthology featuring personal essays, interviews, and comics from a broad group of established and emerging writers and artists who have something to say about New Jersey.

*New Jersey Fan Club* is edited by Kerri Sullivan, founder of the popular Instagram account Jersey Collective (@jerseycollective), which features weekly takeovers by different New Jerseyans. This book functions the same way: it gives dozens of different contributors the chance to share what New Jersey looks like to them. The book is an exploration of how the same locale can shape people in different ways, and it will inspire readers to look at the Garden State with fresh eyes and appreciate its bounty of beautiful places and vibrant spaces.

Available on June 17 at Rutgers University Press, Amazon, and local bookstores.



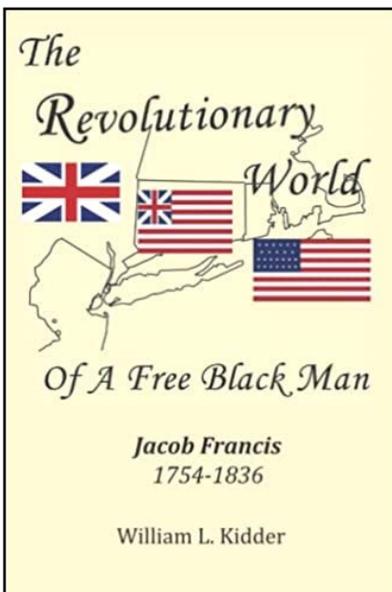
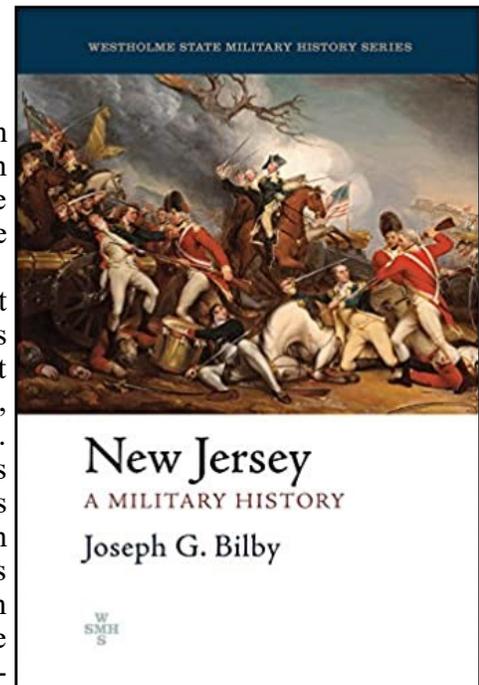
## New Jersey: A Military History By Joseph G. Bilby

The military history of New Jersey, from New Netherland's struggles with the Lenape through colonial wars of empire to twenty-first-century conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, is extensive and significant. New Jersey justly earned the title "Crossroads of the Revolution" in the War for Independence and made a significant contribution to the Union victory in the Civil War.

The state's position along the Atlantic Coast brought war to the home front in 1812, 1918, and 1942. New Jersey was also the site of Bergen County's Camp Merritt, which processed most of the American soldiers who went overseas in World War I; Fort Dix, a major training base; and Fort Monmouth, a center for military technology development in the twentieth century.

*New Jersey: A Military History* by military historian Joseph G. Bilby tells the long, diverse, and sometimes complicated story of New Jersey's citizens and their significant and continuing role in America's defense. Over more than 350 years as a colony and state, hundreds of thousands of New Jersey residents have served in regular armed forces, militia, and National Guard units or in direct support of those organizations. New Jerseyans in the military include General "Scotch Willie" Maxwell of Sussex County, an unappreciated Revolutionary War master tactician; First Sergeant George Ashby of Allentown, of Company H, 45th United States Colored Infantry, the state's last surviving Civil War veteran; Clara Maas of Newark, a nurse who sacrificed her life in the effort to eradicate yellow fever; Captain William J. Reddan, who led his company into hell during the Meuse-Argonne offensive in 1918; and Medal of Honor winner John Basilone, whose sense of duty and honor led him to return to combat and death in World War II.

Complete with maps, an annotated list of historical sites in the state, and further reading, *New Jersey: A Military History* is an important reference for those interested in the role of the Garden State in our nation's wars.



## The Revolutionary World of a Free Black Man: Jacob Francis: 1754-1836 By William L. Kidder

This is the story of free Black man Jacob Francis of Amwell Township, Hunterdon County, New Jersey who was indentured out by his free Black mother to age 21. Five different men "owned his time" during his indenture and each provided a different experience for him. The last man lived in Salem, Massachusetts and Jacob lived there between 1768 and 1775 during the buildup to fighting in the American Revolution. Jacob enlisted in a Massachusetts Continental regiment in October 1775 and served through the siege of Boston, the New York campaign, and the Battle of Trenton.

When his enlistment expired on January 1, 1777, he left the army and went back to his birthplace to find his mother and learn his family surname. He established himself in Amwell and turned out for active militia duty for the rest of the war. In 1789 he married an enslaved woman named Mary whose master sold her to him on their wedding day. He freed her and together they raised a family of nine children. After a life of farming,

Jacob and Mary moved into the village of Flemington about 1811 and lived there the remainder of their lives. They were active in the local Baptist Church and their youngest son, Abner, became an ardent abolitionist opposed to the idea of sending freed Black people as "colonists" to Africa. Abner always noted that his father's participation in the Revolution had been an inspiration for his lifelong endeavors to achieve equal rights for Black people as well as White people. The story of Jacob and his family helps us to understand the long-standing systemic racism that Black people in the United States have had to deal with while working to establish their place in society. It is a story of grit and determination combined with kindness and friendship.

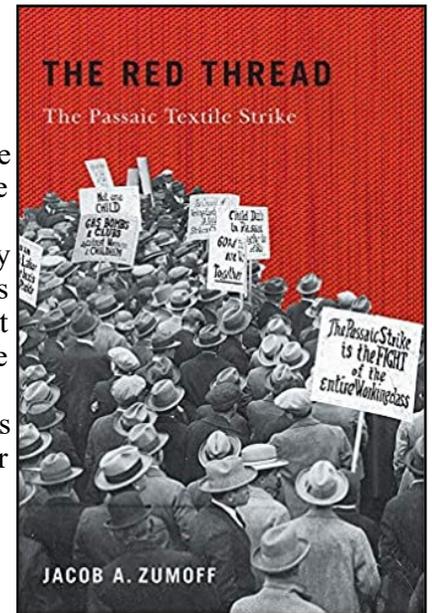
## The Red Thread: The Passaic Textile Strike By Jacob A. Zumoff

This book tells the story of 15,000 wool workers who went on strike for more than a year, defying police violence and hunger. The strikers were mainly immigrants and half were women.

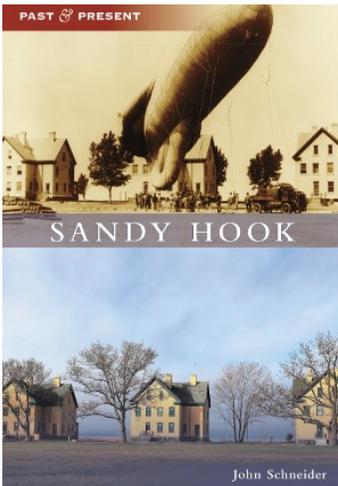
The Passaic textile strike, the first time that the Communist Party led a mass workers' struggle in the United States, captured the nation's imagination and came to symbolize the struggle of workers throughout the country when the labor movement as a whole was in decline during the conservative, pro-business 1920s.

Although the strike was defeated, many of the methods and tactics of the Passaic strike presaged the struggles for industrial unions a decade later in the Great Depression.

Available from Rutgers Press, local bookstores, and Amazon.



## Sandy Hook By John Schneider



Sandy Hook, New Jersey, as well as its historical significance to world events, oddly remains a mystery to many of the tourists who come to its beaches and explore its ruins.

The oldest structure, the Sandy Hook Lighthouse, was erected in 1764. Today, thousands of people climb the steps of this national historic landmark to reach the highest point on the peninsula. Many others roam through some of the open buildings and ruins of Fort Hancock and the Sandy Hook Proving Ground where soldiers were once ready to defend New York City from enemy attack and tested weapons of war.

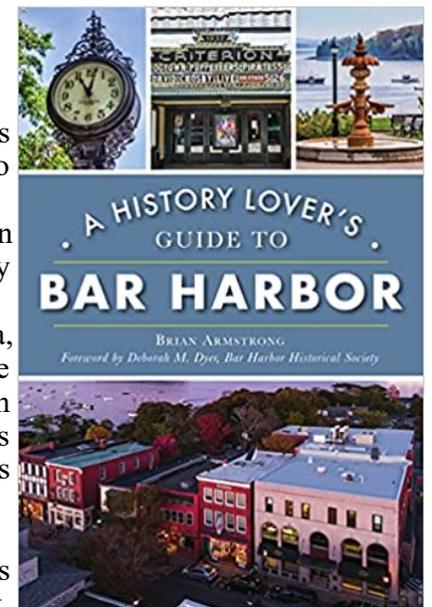
## A History Lover's Guide to Bar Harbor By Brian Armstrong

Bar Harbor has evolved from humble beginnings to become one of Maine's most popular destinations. This tour goes beyond the typical travel guide to explore its fascinating historical sites in detail.

A trail of existing buildings and monuments provides a backdrop for an unconventional history of places, people and events, with many previously unpublished photographs and untold entertaining stories.

Discover the changes wrought by the world wars, the Spanish influenza, Prohibition and the Fire of 1947. Tour the Way Bak Ball, La Rochelle, the Casino, and the Wharf. From Bar Harbor's first African American sea captain to the story of the two Miss Shannons, author Brian Armstrong offers a fascinating look into the history behind some of Bar Harbor's most famous landmarks.

[Editor's note: Although this is the New Jersey Bookshelf, we include this book because the author is our League webmaster and first vice president, Brian Armstrong.]



**The League of Historical Societies of New Jersey Central Meeting  
 Hosted by South River Historical & Preservation Society at  
 St. Mary of Ostrabrama Church, 30 Jackson St, South River, NJ 08882,  
<https://sites.rootsweb.com/~njsrhps/>, 732-613-3078  
 Saturday, May 28, 2022**

**AGENDA**

- 9:00 - 9:30 am** Registration, continental breakfast, South River Historical & Preservation Society displays, and information table at St. Mary meeting hall next to parking lot (follow signage).
- 9:30 am** Welcome from Tim Hart, LHSNJ President; Nan Whitehead, President, South River Historical & Preservation Society; and special guest, Mayor John Krenzel.
- 9:45 am** League Business Meeting
- 10:15 am** Coffee Break
- 10:30 am** History of St. Mary Ostrabrama Church - Rev. Mr. Thomas F. Dominiecki, Deacon Emeritus
- 10:45 am** South River History at 300 – Brian Armstrong, Past President, South River Historical & Preservation Society.
- 11:15 am** Documents, Shipwrecks, and New Discoveries: A Look at History and Historic Preservation Endeavors in Middlesex County, presented by Mark Nonestied. Division Head, Middlesex County Division of Historic Sites and History Services
- 12:00 pm** Lunch
- 1:00 pm** Visits to South River Area Historical Sites:

South River Historical & Preservation Society  
 Museum & Old School Baptist Church Cemetery,  
 64-66 Main Street, South River, NJ

St. Mary Ostrabrama Church, 30 Jackson St,  
 South River, NJ 08882

Washington Monumental Cemetery, 45  
 Hillside Avenue, South River, NJ 08882

Sayreville Historical Society Museum,  
 425 Main St, Sayreville, NJ 08872

East Brunswick Museum, 16 Maple St, East  
 Brunswick, NJ 08816

**QUESTIONS** Contact South River Historical & Preservation Society, 732-613-3078, [SouthRiverHistory@gmail.com](mailto:SouthRiverHistory@gmail.com)

**SUGGESTED LODGING:** Days Hotel & Conference Center by Wyndham East Brunswick, 195 NJ 18, East Brunswick, NJ 8816, (732) 993-7062 or Hilton East Brunswick Hotel & Executive Meeting Center, 3 Tower Center Blvd, East Brunswick, NJ, 08816, (732) 828-2000 or Comfort Suites East Brunswick, 555 Old Bridge Tpke, East Brunswick, NJ, (732) 967-1505

To register, please complete the form below and mail it with your check for \$25 (payable to the South River Historical & Preservation Society) to South River Historical & Preservation Society, P.O. Box 446, South River, NJ 08882. Please register by May 21, 2022.

To register, please complete the form below and mail it with your check for \$25 (payable to the South River Historical & Preservation Society) to South River Historical & Preservation Society, P.O. Box 446, South River, NJ 08882. Please register by May 21, 2022.

**REGISTRATION FORM**

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Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

## **Directions to St. Mary Ostrabrama Church**

### **From the NJ Turnpike**

Exit 9 toward Route 18 South

Continue for 0.8 mile and exit right onto Old Bridge Turnpike/Route 527. STAY IN THE RIGHT LANE IN ORDER TO CROSS AT THE LIGHT, BEARING RIGHT.

In 0.8 miles, turn left at the light (at Walgreen's) onto E. Prospect St/County Highway 677.

In 0.7 mile, turn right onto Reid Street.

At the next light, STAY IN THE RIGHT LANE to turn left onto Main and immediately right onto Water Street. Turn right onto Jackson Street. You will see the church (30 Jackson Street) on the left. Turn left onto Whitehead and park behind the church. Signs will direct you into the building.

### **From the Garden State Parkway**

Take Exit 105, Route 18 North, toward New Brunswick.

Travel 23.46 miles to the Cranbury Road exit, heading toward South River on County Route 535.

Follow Route 535 for 0.67 mile and turn right onto Jackson Street/County Route 675.

In 0.42 mile, you will reach the church on the right at 30 Jackson Street. Turn right onto Whitehead and park behind the church. Signs will direct you into the building.

