



LEAGUE NEWS

The Newsletter of the
League of Historical Societies of New Jersey

Vol. 44 No. 3 www.lhsnj.org September 2019

Saturday, October 5, 2019
Fall Meeting
Lake Hopatcong Historical
Museum, Landing, Morris
County

Registration for and directions
on p. 19-20

Here are the winners for the 2018 Kevin M. Hale Annual Publications Awards

On Saturday, June 15 the Hale Publication awards were presented at the Red Mill Museum Village. The winners are:

Historic Tours

1st Place: "The Pathways of
History Weekend Tour 2018"

produced by 19 Historic groups in Morris County.

2nd place: "Historic Tour of Woodbridge, **Volume X: The Revolution: War Comes to Woodbridge**
Woodbridge Township Historic Preservation Commission

Newsletters

1st place: "Gem of the Mountains," Boonton Historical Society

2nd place: "South River Historical & Preservation News" produced
by the South River Historical & Preservation Society, Inc.

3rd place: The newsletter of the Madison Historical Society

Gem of the Mountains

The Newsletter of the Boonton Historical Society and Museum August 2018
210 Main Street, Boonton, New Jersey 07005 • (973) 402-8840 • www.boonton.org • Boontohistory@yahoo.com

Upcoming Events

Sunday, September 30th
Boonton Day
Time to celebrate our town! Come and join us at our booth on Main Street from noon to 4:00 PM and learn about our upcoming events. The Boonton Museum will be open from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Be sure to visit us for a free postcard and one-day-only special!

Railroad Museum [for a day]
During this once-a-year event, the United Railroad Historical Society Restoration Facility in Boonton, NJ becomes New Jersey's largest railroad museum, and provides a rare, family-friendly opportunity to explore our historic trains. 104 Morris Avenue, Boonton. 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Free parking behind the Boonton Museum.

Sunday, November 18th - 2:00 PM
Annual Membership Meeting
At The Boonton Senior Center
126 North Main Street
A W.A.S.P. TAKES WING
During World War II, more than one thousand women volunteers completed the WASP military pilot training program. They piloted every kind of military aircraft, tested new planes, delivered more than 12,000 planes, and flew over 60 million miles. Thirty-eight of them died serving their country. Carol Simon Levin tells the story of the amazing WASPs through the eyes of Ann Baumgartner Carl, a Jersey girl who trained as a WASP, became the only American woman to test-fly experimental planes during the war, and the first to fly a jet! A brief membership meeting precedes the program. Admission is free to all, refreshments will be served.

Sunday, December 9th - 1:00 to 4:00 PM
Museum Annual Holiday Open House
Live Musical Entertainment & Holiday Treats!

Christmas In July Sale At The Museum
Thanks to everyone who visited and shopped at the Museum during our annual three-day fundraiser!

Walking Tour - Historic Main Street
Our final walking tour for the year was well attended and enjoyed by all. The tour, led by Lloyd Charton, covered the commerce and businesses of Boonton, as well as the history and architecture of the buildings. The tour concluded at the Boonton Museum with discussion and refreshments.

FYI to all in the history community:

The National Register of Historic Places now uses the phrase: **listed in, not on, the National Register of Historic Places.** See the examples below from its own website.

- The more than 95,000 properties listed **in** the National Register represent 1.8 million contributing resources—buildings, sites, districts, structures, and objects.
- The way a property gets listed **in** the National Register of Historic Places is...

SAVE THESE DATES FOR UPCOMING LEAGUE MEETINGS

October 5, 2019—Lake Hopatcong Historical Museum, Landing, Roxbury Township, Morris County
Winter 2020—Camden County Historical Society/Camden County History Alliance, Camden County
Spring 2020—South River Historical & Preservation Society, South River, Middlesex County
Fall 2020—Paterson Museum and the Paterson Museum Foundation, Paterson, Passaic County
Winter 2021—Vineland Historical & Antiquarian Society, Vineland, Cumberland 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, 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

President (2020)

Timothy Hart
Ocean County Cultural & Heritage Commission

First Vice President (2020)

Mary Swarbrick
Fellowship for Metlar-Bodine

Vice President, Northern (2020)

Alice Gibson
Victorian Society

Vice President, Central (2020)

Brian Armstrong
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Bruce Tell

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Hannah Kerwin
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Treasurer (2020)

Pary Tell
Cape May County Cultural and Heritage Commission

Trustee, Northern (2022)

Jane McNeill
Victorian Society

Trustee, Northern (2020)

Kate Malcolm
Madison Historical Society

Trustee, Central (2022)

Jeffrey McVey
Lambertville Historical Society

Trustee, Central (2020)

Donald Peck
Raritan-Millstone Heritage Alliance

Trustee, Southern (2020)

Jeff Schenker
Ocean County Historical Society

Trustee, Southern (2020)

Ralph Cooper
Historical Preservation Society of Upper Township

Trustee-at-Large (2020)

Eve Morawski
Durand-Hedden House

Trustee-at-Large (2020)

Donald Katz, Esq.
Proprietary House Association

Historian (2020)

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

Membership Chairman

Jennifer Coultas

Publications Awards Committee

Chairman

J. B. Vogt
Fellowship for Metlar House

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THE PRESIDENT’S CORNER

We all need to support new efforts to achieve additional funding for history, art, and tourism for NJ from the hotel/motel occupancy tax.

Please put the NJ History Conference on your calendars for Friday, November 1 at the Douglas Residential College in New Brunswick. The special focus of the conference will be “New Jersey Women Make History.” To quote from the NJ Historical Commission:

“From the Lenape women who first inhabited the land we call New Jersey and artist and spy Patience Lovell Wright to suffragist Reverend Florence Spearling Randolph and Seabrook community leader Ellen Noguchi Nakamura, the history of the Garden State is a history of women breaking barriers and leading change. The 2019 conference will explore and celebrate the stories of the diverse women who made and continue to make New Jersey history.”

The conference keynote speaker is Dr. Keisha Blain, Associate Professor of History at the University of Pittsburgh and Editor-in-Chief of *The North Star*. Dr. Blain currently serves as President of the African American Intellectual History Society (AAIHS). She is the author of the award-winning book, *Set the World on Fire: Black Nationalist Women and the Global Struggle for Freedom* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2018). Panel presentation topics and registration information will be announced soon.

I am encouraging you and your organization to take advantage of the 2019 American Association for State and Local History in Philadelphia this summer from August 28-31 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The AASLH is the perfect organization to provide resources for the small to medium history organizations of New Jersey. You get to become up to date on the latest trends and what works for other organizations just like you.

<https://aaslh.org/2019annualmeeting/> for more details.

DEADLINE: Submissions for the January issue of *League News* must be on the editor’s desk no later than December 15, 2019. Please send all items to: Linda Barth, 214 North Bridge Street, Somerville, New Jersey 08876; 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.

NEW JERSEY HISTORY DAY

The League of Historical Societies of New Jersey sent judges to the state finals of New Jersey History Day at William Paterson University on May 4.

Our judges examined the standing exhibits, viewed the documentaries and websites, and enjoyed the live performances created by our state's middle school and high school students. These entries had already been chosen during the three regional competitions earlier in the year.

What Is History Day?

For more than twenty-five years the National History Day (NHD) program has promoted systemic educational reform related to the teaching and learning of history in America's schools. The combination of creativity and scholarship built into the NHD program anticipated current educational reforms, making National History Day a leading model of performance-based learning. National History Day reinforces classroom teaching by rewarding students of all abilities for their scholarship, individual initiative, and cooperative learning. A national evaluation of the National History Day program found that participants:

- ◆ Outperform their peers on standardized tests;
- ◆ Are better writers and are able to use evidence to support their point of view;
- ◆ Become critical thinkers who can analyze and evaluate information; and
- ◆ Learn 21st-century college and career skills.

This year's theme, "Triumph and Tragedy," allowed students to choose from many topics worldwide. We examined only the New Jersey topics and chose as our award-winners:

Exhibit: *Misery in Morristown: A Testament to Patriotism*; Charlotte Weinstein, Hannah Mikelis, Hayley Kirk, Isabella Kruger, and Megan Kirk; Montville High School, Montville. Teacher: Stefanie San Filippo

Documentary: *Hungary for Freedom: The Exodus of 1956*; Ashley Garcia, Bernice Rojas-Rivera, Michelle Ortiz Merino, and Sarahi Lopez Perez; New Brunswick High School, New Brunswick. Teacher: Yesenia Infante

Website: *New Jersey's "Glowing" Women: The Triumph and Tragedy of the Radium Girls*; Amritha Sypereddi and Dessy Dusichka; Lawrence High School, Lawrence Township. Teacher: Priscilla Taylor.

In May, executive director Linda Barth and Northern Region Trustee Kate Malcolm visited the winners and presented the League awards.

On June 17 at the New Jersey State Museum, we learned that the above website had won fourth place in the National History Day competition held at College Park, Maryland.



2019 New Jersey History Conference
New Jersey Women Make History
Friday, November 1, 2019
Douglass Residential College, Rutgers University – New Brunswick



The New Jersey Historical Commission (NJHC) is pleased to announce *New Jersey Women Make History*, the 2019 New Jersey History Conference, scheduled for Friday, November 1, 2019 at Douglass Residential College, Rutgers University – New Brunswick. From the Lenape women who first inhabited the land we call New Jersey and artist and spy Patience Lovell Wright to suffragist Reverend Florence Spearing Randolph and Seabrook community leader Ellen Noguchi Nakamura, the history of the Garden State is a history of women breaking barriers and leading change. The 2019 conference will explore and celebrate the stories of the diverse women who made and continue to make New Jersey history.

The 2019 NJ History Conference keynote speaker is Dr. Keisha N. Blain, Associate Professor of History at the University of Pittsburgh, Editor-In-Chief of *The North Star*, and President of the African American Intellectual History Society (AAIHS). Dr. Blain is the author of the award-winning book, *Set the World on Fire*:

Black Nationalist Women and the Global Struggle for Freedom.

Register today (<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2019-new-jersey-history-conference-nj-women-make-history-tickets-68191983057>) for a special early-bird rate through October 7, 2019. For more information and updates, including a conference preliminary program, please visit history.nj.gov and follow the NJHC on Twitter [@OfficialNJHC](https://twitter.com/OfficialNJHC) and Facebook [@NewJerseyHistoricalCommission](https://www.facebook.com/NewJerseyHistoricalCommission).

The 2019 event is co-sponsored by Douglass Residential College, the Department of History, Rutgers University - New Brunswick, the Middlesex County Office of Arts and History, the New Jersey State Archives, and the New Jersey State Museum.

“Discover NJ History” License Plate

Support Historic Preservation in New Jersey—order a “Discover NJ History” license plate today by visiting www.state.nj.us/mvc/vehicles/dedicated.htm.

Featuring a Victorian-style row house image from a painting by New Jersey artist Harry Devlin, these beautifully designed plates will remind others that history is always ready to be “discovered” in New Jersey.

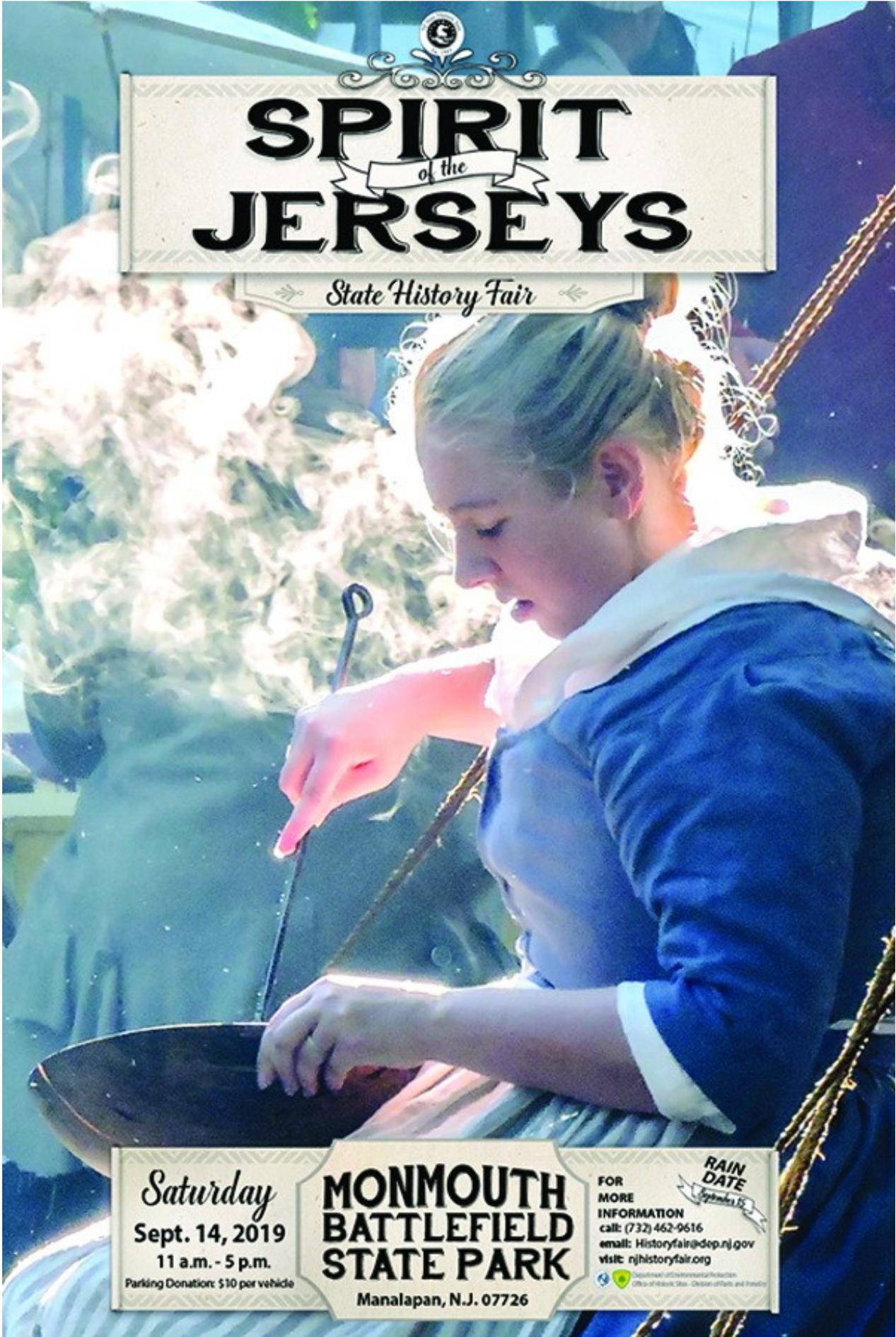
Money from the sale of these plates goes to the Historic License Plate Preservation Fund that supports heritage tourism planning and educational and collaborative programs.



Ordering a "Discover NJ History" License Plate

Pay a one-time \$50 fee (and a \$10 annual renewal) and pick up your Discover NJ History plates at any motor vehicle agency or by mail. You can personalize your historical plates with up to five characters for an initial \$100 fee (and a \$10 annual renewal).

If you are purchasing a car, ask the dealership to order the plates for you. They are under the “Dedicated Plates” category. Visit Motor Vehicles Services to order your “Discover NJ History” plates today!

A woman in a blue historical dress with a white collar and cuffs is shown in profile, focused on spinning wool on a spinning wheel. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with greenery and other people in historical attire.

SPIRIT *of the* JERSEYS

State History Fair

Saturday
Sept. 14, 2019
11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Parking Donations: \$10 per vehicle

**MONMOUTH
BATTLEFIELD
STATE PARK**

Manalapan, N.J. 07726

FOR
MORE
INFORMATION
call: (732) 462-9616
email: HistoryFair@dep.nj.gov
visit: njhistoryfair.org

 Department of Environmental Protection
Office of Public Information - Outdoor Activities and Events

**RAIN
DATE**

September 15



SPOTLIGHT ON OUR MEMBERS

Friends of the William Green Farmhouse

The “Day of Archaeology” held at The College of New Jersey (TCNJ) on April 26, 2019 at the ca. 1722 William Green Farmhouse was a resounding success!

Organized by Professor George Leader, Visiting Assistant Professor at TCNJ’s Department of Sociology and Anthropology, the day featured Professor Leader and students from his Anthropology 370 field methods class, as well as two reenactors representing African-American colonial soldiers appropriate to 1778.

Students demonstrated excavation techniques at a few excavation sites outside, and guests could get down in the dirt and dig. One 9-year-old boy found a colonial button. Professor Leader also displayed several boxes of artifacts from the site as well as a poster summarizing findings. The highlight was a tour of the interior, complete with protective dust masks. Some colonial details are preserved. The house looks gallant inside: dirty and sad but strong.



Excellent news: TCNJ has a new President and a new interest in the Green Farmhouse. An interdisciplinary committee comprising professors from history, sociology, archaeology, and more has been set up to study the house, the Greens, the region, and any links to slavery. It is very early days, but the committee may also explore the possibility of restoring the house as a Center for New Jersey Studies.

A donation from the Friends financed equipment for the dig, the reenactors’ fee, and refreshments for the event. To replenish our coffers so we can continue to support the house:

- Donate through PayPal on our Facebook page or visit <http://williamgreenhouse.org/> and click on the donate button on the bottom left.
- Or write a check to Friends of the William Green Farmhouse and mail to: Green Friends, 27 Federal City Road, Ewing, NJ 08638

Historical Societies and the March of Time

From the blog of the American Association of State and Local History

November 14, 2016

By John Galluzzo, member of the Board of Directors, Hanover (MA) Historical Society

By studying demographics, we can see that life for historical societies is about to change. But will it change on our terms, or not? If we act appropriately, we can rescue local identity.

When we look at the chart of U.S. live births from 1905 forward, we see definite 20-year patterns—the G.I. Generation, the Silent Generation, the Baby Boomers, Generation X—and what looks like a 25-year grouping of Generation Y births, the Millennials. The main story we are faced with now is that the Boomers are retiring, and Generation X is taking charge of the country's infrastructure, but there are 11% fewer of them (or, "us," I should say) than there were of the Boomers. Generation X won't be able to fill the shoes of the Boomers, not because of quality issues like work ethic, but because there were just way too many shoes in comparison. For every ten Boomer retirees, nine Gen Xers stand ready to take their places.

So, what does this mean for the country? If it's a service the Boomers want or need as retirees, expect a fifteen-or-so-year run, but then be faced with the fact that the population of retirees falls off the cliff when Generation X starts to hit 65. Businesses providing those services will need to consider consolidation, mergers or getting out of the business and moving into services that Generation Y can use, because that's where the greatest portion of the population will be.

Let me give you an example that I have been thinking about. For many years I have worked with local historical societies. They have had a strong run since the beginning of the twentieth century but have always found it hard to do two things: **find new board members and attract young families**. The running joke is that local societies have always been run by "little old ladies in white tennis shoes."

And they've done a good job, but can they, as a force, sustain the pattern?

Consider what I stated above. Once Generation X hits 65, there will quickly become a dearth of retirees in comparison to the previous generation. That's strike one. There will simply be fewer people around who typically fit the description of local historical society leaders. Sadly, this also takes away a large portion of the membership that attends lectures, nostalgic programs, and more. Fewer people will be available to run historical societies, and fewer will be interested in what they have to offer.

But there are more factors involved. The typical local historical society board member has strong ties to his or her community. He can say, "I was born on Main Street, right between the Smith house and the Washington house. My dad ran the local gas station, right over there, and my mom taught at the elementary school for 36 years." How many of us can say that anymore? We have become transient as a society and no longer can claim that the old adage "you marry someone born within 25 miles of where you were born" is absolutely true. We're not local in nature anymore. There will be fewer and fewer people with long, deep knowledge of local landscapes, people who are really dedicated to the preservation of their hometown history. That's strike two.

Can you see a pattern? Now, consider this final pitch. Local historical societies are just that—local. I had the pleasure of working with a friend who was as fiercely dedicated to his hometown as anybody I have ever met. He had this beat-up old pickup truck that he bumped all over town, and we used to joke that it had never seen the neighboring towns. Wouldn't you know it, one day he was driving it to the next town over, and it died on the town border. Local historical societies as they currently operate can be just that myopic; they can't see beyond the borders of their towns.

In coming years, with the factors above brewing, the first best course of action for historical societies will be consolidation of governance into regional boards of directors covering several local towns. But Springfield wants nothing to do with Shelbyville, and Shelbyville definitely wants nothing to do with North Haverbrook. The only saving grace here is that the generation that will be in charge, Generation X, will not have the fierce local fidelity of the Boomers, and might actually consider consolidation. But what happens if local towns can't work and play well together? A lot of padlocked buildings, the redistribution of artifacts to regional, state and national level institutions (there will still be costs like insurance that will have to be met, without revenue coming in from membership) and a loss of local identity.

So, what's the answer, to avoid the strikeout? Engage Generation Y. Exhibits will have to become less static, more digital. Programs will have to become kid-friendly, catering to young families. Membership packages must have perks the whole family can enjoy. Societies will have to teach history through fun at an early age, as kids no longer get it in school. Elementary schools now teach to standardized math and English tests and have made science and history sidelights of the school year. The STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) movement has arisen as a counterculture for the science side, and science museums and nature centers have become integral partners in science education; history has no such counterpart movement.

And—most importantly—understand that American history is not as white as our traditional interpretations suggest. Societies will have to embrace all of the cultures that make—and have made—their communities great, so that they might become a part of the future of the local history world. We are growing more diverse as a country, not less, and that must be reflected in our local historical societies. Then, with families engaged, and a broader spectrum of cultures involved, Generation Y may provide the leadership needed. If it benefits their kids, they will be willing to support it.

Once we understand the march of the generations through time, we can see how things have to change.

*Miss Sharon's
Historical Clothing
Custom made historical clothing*

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[www.facebook.com/
MissSharonsHistoricalClothing](http://www.facebook.com/MissSharonsHistoricalClothing)



Miss Sharon has created period attire for Waterloo Village, Historic Cold Spring Village, reenactors, and many others.

She would be happy to speak to you about your costuming needs.

PATHWAYS OF HISTORY 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
A SELF-GUIDED AUTO TOUR! FAMILY FRIENDLY! ADMISSION-FREE!
Saturday, September 21 ~ 10:00 am – 4:00 pm and
Sunday, September 22 ~ Noon – 4:00 pm

The *Pathways of History* tour began in 2010 as an experiment to generate interest in and visitation of small, local museums and iconic landmarks. The fledgling event was well attended, with the museums and tour-goers enriched by a sharing of history, volunteerism and community pride. Each year interest in the *Pathways of History* tour has continued to grow,

making it a much-anticipated event promising surprises and revelations. This year's tour features 18 groups and 20 historic properties spanning almost 300 years of Morris County history! The communities represented are Boonton, Boonton Township, Denville, Dover, Florham Park, Kinnelon, Lake Hopatcong, Mine Hill, Montville Township, Mount Tabor, Parsippany, Pequannock Township, Randolph, Rockaway Township, Roxbury Township, and Washington Township. *Pathways* is not an ordinary event – *it's an extraordinary event*, providing the unprecedented admission to multiple venues over two days.



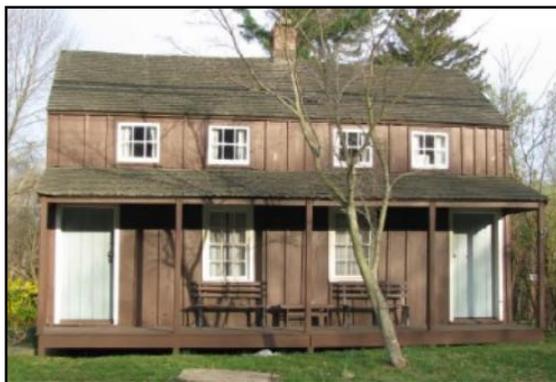
Montville Museum, 6 Taylortown Road

The museum buildings offer an outstanding anthology of architectural periods and styles; most are listed in the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places. Venerable 18th-century structures, some pre-dating the Revolutionary War, include German folk-tradition, Georgian, and Saltbox construction. Designs of the 19th century are represented in buildings of varied uses and sizes including a Folk Victorian Camp Meeting Cottage; an 1890s Colonial Revival; a diminutive two-family iron miner's dwelling included on the New Jersey Women's Heritage Trail; five schoolhouses; a railway station; a Morris Canal lock tender's house; a general store; church ruins; and several wonderful examples of vernacular farmhouses.

Many things have changed along the *Pathway's* route during the past ten years. You will be delighted by the meticulous restorations at Boonton Township's Oscar A. Kincaid Home of History; L'Ecole Kinnelon Museum; Florham Park's Little Red Schoolhouse; Rockaway Township's Ford-Faesch Ironmaster's House; Mine Hill's Bridget Smith House; Montville's Museum, and Washington Township Land Trust's Obadiah LaTourette Grist Mill.

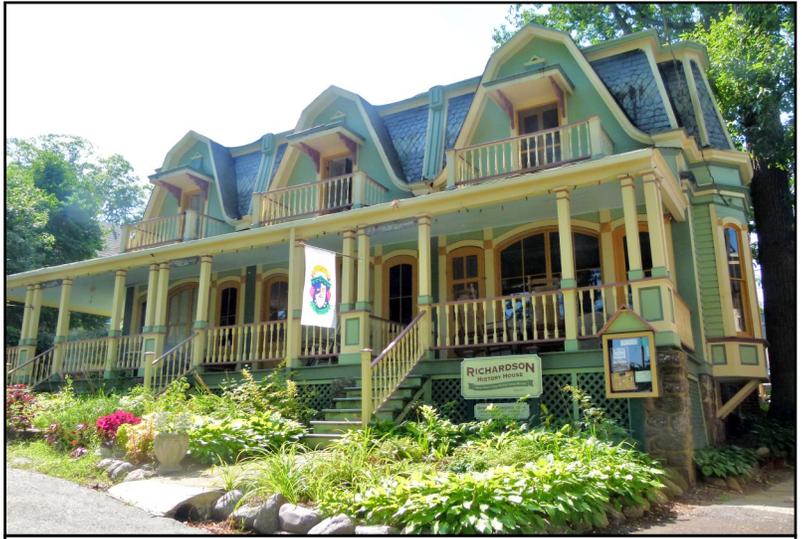
Friendly docents, some in period costume, will provide a warm welcome at each tour stop. Make this a family day—drive your vintage automobile, bring the kiddies and grandparents, too! There will be special activities for children; archival material; genealogical information; digitized historical photographs; old newspapers; and even high school yearbooks to peruse at select locations. There are wonderful vignettes depicting 19th- and early 20th-century schoolrooms, a prominent woman doctor's early 20th-century "examining room," an iron mine re-creation and examples of 18th-century fireplaces with hearthside cooking utensils.

Whatever your interest, something for everyone is included



Bridget Smith House, Mine Hill

in this year's anniversary event. Some tour highlights include: New Jersey's original inhabitants, the Lenape people; Morris County's pivotal role in the American Revolution; iron mines and forges during the American Revolution and in the years following; exhibits documenting how the Morris Canal, railways, industry, mining, commerce and agriculture have influenced, shaped, and linked the *Pathways* communities through the years. Travel back to the era when Lake Hopatcong and Randolph's Mt. Freedom were tourist meccas. Be sure to stop by the Richardson History House, a small 19th-century Folk Victorian Camp Meeting cottage in Mount Tabor to learn about this charismatic community founded as a permanent Camp Meeting ground.



Richardson History House, Mount Tabor

At each venue you will find the **NEWLY DESIGNED TOUR GUIDE/MAP** to direct you to your next history stop of choice. Helpful "*Auto Tours Within the Tour*" have been created to assist in planning your itinerary.

Please visit our website for detailed information about this exceptional heritage tour.

www.PathwaysofHistoryNJ.net

JUNE LEAGUE MEETING WITH THE RED MILL MUSEUM VILLAGE IN CLINTON

On Saturday, June 15, 2019 the League of Historical Societies of New Jersey met at the Red Mill Museum Village in Clinton for the Central Region Meeting.

After a light breakfast we were welcomed by the Hon. Paul Muir, director of the village, and Douglas Hansen, president of the Red Mill Museum Village Board of Trustees. Councilwoman Rielly Karsh brought greetings from the Town of Clinton.

During the League Business Meeting, the 2018 Kevin M. Hale Annual Publications Awards were presented. (See p. 1 for the winners.)

After the break, Richard Pierce presented a wonderful program about United States flags. Richard showed the evolution of flags used in the United States from Colonial days to the present and explained the reasons for the changes.

Elizabeth Cole, Curator of Collections, and Tim Doyle, Museum Visitor Engagement Manager, led tours of the mill and the village.

After lunch we explored on our own historic sites in Hunterdon County.

Trustee Eve Morawski visited the Hunterdon Art Museum (left) and provided this description: I explored the exhibits over at HAM (Hunterdon Art Museum, Center for Art, Craft & Design), all of which this first-time visitor thought were really interesting.

"Aurora Robson: Re: Fuse" used plastic bottles and junk mail to create intricate sculptures and collages. "Transformed: Paper in Dimension" displayed (huge!)

pieces by several artists working with multilayered components, building complex compositions of hand and laser cut paper. This was not your kid sister's paper doll chain!

The repurposing of what was a grist mill for more than a century into an arts center (1953) was a challenging yet obviously successful transition, led by the vision of a group of local residents. The physical space is ruggedly attractive with ample space to show off artists' works AND the wood beams that hold the place up! One also gets a great photo op of the Red Mill from the HAM. It has become a community focal point, popular for its 300 educational programs a year! Kids & adults can learn classics like pottery, drawing and painting but they also offer





Japanese Anime, glass fusing and building a time machine. There is a weekly yoga class in the gallery too! The HAM is happening!

The 1759 Vought House (below) in Clinton Township has been saved by a nonprofit. Under the direction of architect Michael Margulies, the building will be restored to its 1759 appearance. On a tour with Mr. Margulies we saw a section of the ceiling and wall made with the wattle-and-daub method (at left); this is a composite building method in which a woven lattice of wooden strips called *wattle* is daubed with a sticky material usually made of



some combination of wet soil, clay, sand, animal dung and straw.

At the Lebanon Township Schoolhouse Museum in Hampton (below, left), we were greeted by the effervescent curator, Gina Sampaio. She showed us the flag collection of Richard Pierce and told us about the history of the school. Gina also invited us to the Flag Day festival being held outside. We were treated to a dish of homemade ice cream.



Pictured below is the 31-star Great Star flag. This configuration arranged in an offset pattern was likely transformed from an earlier 26-star flag.



An additional stop was the Joseph Turner House (below right), home to the Union Forge Heritage Association. The association is a proactive organization committed to protecting the cultural and natural heritage of Hunterdon County, New Jersey.

The League thanks the staff of the Red Mill Museum Village for hosting this meeting and arranging for our members to visit so many nearby sites.



Photo taken at the Joseph Turner House by Mike Gronsky, president of the Union Forge Historical Association. From left: Bob and Linda Barth, Pary Tell, Kevin Sullivan, Mary Swarbrick, Bruce Tell, Jane Kiceniuk, and Sandy Ketelsen.

Unlocking Value: What is My Local Collection Worth?

By Stephanie Daugherty

Record-breaking auctions at Sotheby's and Christie's have contributed to the public's interest in valuating personal property. These auctions are prestigious, and the realized prices are often incomprehensible to the average person. While it makes sense to have an appraiser evaluate collections at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, National Gallery of Art, MOMA and other large institutions, why would a small museum or historical society need to call an appraiser if they only have items of "local" value? This article will describe the many aspects of the appraising field and reasons why local institutions should engage personal property appraisers.

New Jersey has a long and diverse history that is commemorated by local historical societies and museums throughout the state. These institutions serve the public by developing educational programs and protecting and maintaining historical artifacts of local, regional, and sometimes national importance. Although these collections may not include a Rembrandt or a Picasso, they nonetheless merit the expertise of a qualified personal property appraiser.

Unlike real estate appraisers, personal property appraisers are not licensed by the state and therefore the field is largely unregulated. This means that there are many individuals and firms that advertise "appraisals," but who are not necessarily qualified to determine value for formal purposes, such as estate tax, insurance coverage, or charitable donation. In general, a qualified appraiser is an individual who belongs to a credentialing organization, such as The International Society of Appraisers, Appraisers Association of America, or the American Society of Appraisers. For instance, members of the International Society of Appraisers formally apply to the organization, participate in training courses, and pass examinations covering valuation methodology and property specializations. Members of all the qualifying organizations are required to comply with IRS and Appraiser Qualification Board (AQB) guidelines. They adhere to a code of ethics and are subject to peer oversight and continuing education requirements. These qualifications support competency, accountability and a commitment to professionalism.

Frequently, individuals who buy and sell antiques or broker fine art also advertise that they offer appraisal services. An obvious conflict of interest arises when an appraiser has an interest in personally acquiring something that he/she has been asked to impartially value. Other examples of conflicts of interest include situations where the appraiser sold the property to the client originally; the appraiser anticipates acting as agent or on behalf of the client to sell the property; or the appraiser plans to act as a broker or otherwise manage the subject property. In many cases, dealers with no formal appraisal education misuse the word "appraisal" to mean "an offer to buy," which may or may not be market value. Formal value conclusions must be substantiated and justified by comparable sales data and reported following specific guidelines, whether written or verbal. It is important to note that a dealer can function as an appraiser and vice versa only if these functions are kept separate to avoid perceived or outright ethical conflicts.

Local museums and historical societies can benefit from having a qualified appraiser look over their collection for a variety of reasons, not just to learn whether an artifact may be valuable. One of the most valuable (no pun intended) services that appraisers provide is proper identification of the property, which is the first step in the valuation process. An appraiser may be able to help identify those pesky items that are "found in collection" or have been designated to storage because no one knows what they are. Further, appraisers can help identify specific period pieces and styles. For instance, there is a big difference between a period Chippendale chair and a Chippendale-style chair.

With budget, storage, and personnel constraints, many institutions are reevaluating current acquisition policies and narrowing their scope of collecting. This often involves deaccessioning objects that do not further the mission of the institution. It is a healthy process for museums, in my opinion, but one that faces public outcry. Institutions that are deaccessioning should consider having a formal appraisal report completed of the items that are being deaccessioned. Not





only does this thoroughly document the identification and condition of the items, but it also records their determined fair market value at the time of deaccessioning. This report, along with the institution's approval of revised collection management policies, supports transparency with the general public. Bringing in an unbiased expert shows that this is an ethical and formal process that is well-planned and executed, with the paper trail to back it up.

Appraisers are often called to produce insurance coverage appraisal reports or update existing ones. Insurance companies recommend insurance coverage appraisal reports be updated every 3-5 years. As a former museum professional, I am not a stranger to referencing reports done ten, twenty, or even thirty years ago! Old appraisal reports are not sufficient as they do not interpret the current market. The market changes frequently and is affected by economic, political, social, and natural factors. It is the appraiser's job to analyze how these factors

affect the subject property and its value conclusion.

Since many museums care for objects, fine art, and manuscripts of historical and cultural significance, it is imperative that they are covered in the event of a loss. The entire collection works together to interpret a specific time period and provides the basis of educational initiatives. The collection, no matter how large or small, should be insured regardless of its general market desirability. An insurance coverage appraisal report goes beyond focusing on things of great monetary value but serves a practical function of documenting that the property does/did in fact exist, proof of ownership, and proof of worth at the time of loss. Insurance coverage appraisal reports completed by qualified appraisers will stand up to the scrutiny of insurance companies in the event of a loss.

Replacement cost is an insurance term meaning the amount of money one might be expected to pay to replace a property that was destroyed, stolen, or damaged. Often, items held in museum collections are irreplaceable in the sense that their uniqueness, age, or provenance is not easily reproduced like many utilitarian household items. Although irreplaceable, appraisers use a systematic approach to estimate replacement cost of the object by researching equivalent items of like kind, age, quality, and condition to the items being appraised. The purpose of an insurance coverage appraisal report for local collections is to make sure the institution is able to replace items in the collection with equally desirable equivalents to continue serving its local community. In other words, the monetary amount a local collection may sell for in the open market has no bearing on its replacement cost or, perhaps more importantly, its suitability for evaluation by a qualified appraiser.

The importance of having a qualified appraiser examine a local collection cannot be understated. Based on the institution's needs, a qualified appraiser will develop an objective appraisal report without any bias towards the property's marketability. Understanding the value of the collection is integral to being a good steward of the items for future generations. Appraisers can help institutions make intelligent decisions when looking to downsize a collection or fill interpretative gaps. Overall, contacting a qualified appraiser to document a collection will not only enhance proper stewardship, but add depth and context to the museum's mission.

Stephanie A. Daugherty, MA, ISA AM

About the author: *Specialty Asset Appraisals (SAA) combines previous experience in the museum field with industry knowledge to provide a client-oriented approach to developing objective, unbiased and substantiated personal property appraisal reports for insurance scheduling, damage/loss claims, orderly liquidation, and other intended uses. SAA is proud to offer cultural institutions and museums a 25% discount on the total fee for engagement, applicable to both small and large-scale projects.*

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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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“Organization Essentials” Workshop

BOOK A WORKSHOP FOR YOUR GROUP AND THOSE IN YOUR AREA. LEARN THE BASICS NEEDED FOR BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE ORGANIZATION.

Agenda:

9:30 Registration and continental breakfast

10:00—12:00 **Your Mission Statement, Vision Statement and Developing Your Long Range Plan** Your mission statement is the heart of your organization. Is it clear and concise? Do your Board and your members know exactly what you are all about? What does the future hold for your organization? Does your mission statement attract interested donors? Do you know where you are headed? This workshop will cover these basic documents that are critical for the success of any organization and are an important part of any grant application.

12:00—1:00 Buffet lunch (included in registration)

1:00—3:00 **The Budget and Financial Reports** Are you applying for or considering applying for grants? Do you want to attract large supporters? It’s not enough to say how much you want; you have to say why you want it. And your financial information must be in “good order.” This workshop will cover preparing your annual budget and required financial reports as well as the various financial form required for grants or support requests. To stay on firm footing, you need an annual budget developed by your Financial Committee and approved by your Board. How do you plan for income and expenses? What are the state and federal filing requirements: What do you need to do to attract donors, supports and grant funding? This workshop will cover getting your financial house in good order.

Who should attend: Board Members, Directors, Grant Writers

Workshop presenter Pary Tell is the retired head of the Division of Culture & Heritage for Cape May County where she oversaw their arts and history grants program, conducts workshops for local non-profit cultural organizations, and offers assistance to arts and history organizations in organization fundamentals. The workshops are designed especially for smaller organizations that are striving to address their concerns on organization stability and growth. The workshops are small and informal with plenty of time for questions and group interaction.

PLAN A WORKSHOP WITH OTHER SOCIETIES NEAR YOU. YOU CAN CHOSE BOTH WORKSHOPS FOR A FULL DAY OR EITHER ONE FOR A HALF DAY SESSION. THEN CALL PARY TO CHOOSE A DATE.

Registration

Registration fee is \$25 per person. Please make check payable to LHSNJ and mail to LHSNJ, c/o Pary Tell, 397 Corson Lane, Cape May NJ 08204.

Name: _____

Organization _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

If you are registering more than one person from your organization, please fill out a registration form for each person.

Any questions, please email parytell@gmail.com or call 609.886-8577

Criteria for the Kevin M. Hale Publication Awards

The Hale Publication Awards are open to all societies who are current members of LHSNJ. Works by individual members are not eligible to be considered. All entries must have been published during the calendar year 2019. Entries must have been authored or published by the society. Republications will not be accepted. In the case of newsletters, only one issue per organization should be submitted for consideration. Five copies of each entry are due no later than January 31, 2020. They should be mailed to JB Vogt, Chair, Publications Committee, 6 Forty Oaks Road, Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889. Leave phone message at 908-534-4600 or email jnvgt6@gmail.com with questions. A cover letter must accompany all submissions. The letter will include a contact email. In the case of newsletters only, the letter should state the frequency of publication and whether or not it is available online.

NEWSLETTERS

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?

BOOKLETS

Significance of research (how much time/effort went into the research)

Quality of sources, primary or secondary

Is it clearly presented?

Quality of illustrations

Is it organized and well-edited?

HISTORIC TOURS

Is there a user-friendly map? Does it indicate rest rooms, parking and accessibility?

Do they make visitors want to go?

Does it include history about each site to be visited?

Is the pamphlet one that visitors will want to keep for future visits?

Are there adequate contacts for more info?

Graphics-Are there pictures and a good layout?

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

Simply visit us at www.lhsnj.org and click on "Join the League." On the drop-down menu, 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 or 908-240-0488, and she will mail a form to you.

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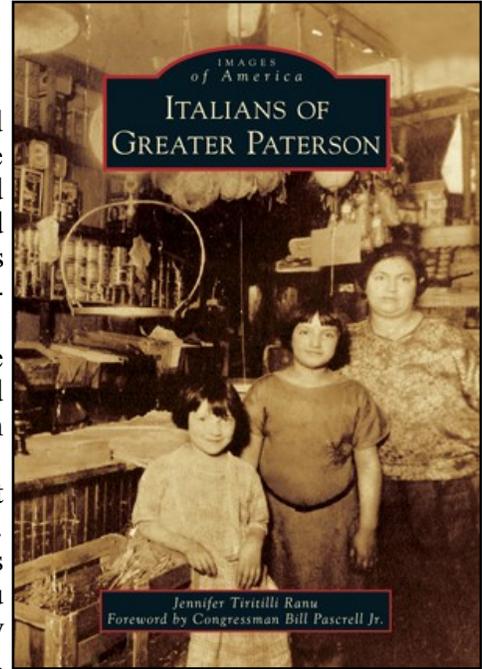


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NEW JERSEY BOOKSHELF

Italians of Greater Paterson By Jennifer Tiritilli Ranu



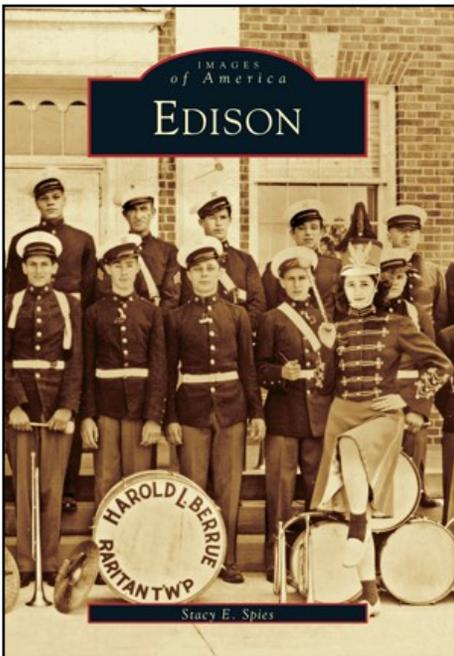
In the early 1900s, the Little Italy, Riverside, Stony Road, and Sandy Hill sections of Paterson, all within walking distance of booming factories and mills, became neighborhoods that offered Italian immigrants the opportunity to be near employment and to have a better life for themselves and their families. Paterson's Italians always helped each other during tough times and contributed to making Paterson a great city and a great place to live.

Cooking Italian recipes for fun holidays; gardening in the backyard; and honoring heroes of the military, politics, sports, and the arts are valuable traditions and customs passed down through generations.

The works of Gaetano Federici, a sculptor from Paterson, reflect the city's history, especially in front of Paterson City Hall and at St. Michael the Archangel Church. Floyd Vivino entertains audiences and almost always mentions Paterson in his shows, while actor Lou Costello proudly reminded his audience at the end of almost every show that he was from Paterson. De Franco's Lock and Safe, Peragallo's Organ Company, and Ordini Pools are just a few family-owned Italian businesses that began many decades ago and are still in operation today.

Edison

By Stacy E. Spies



Edison, named for its most famous resident, inventor Thomas Alva Edison, can be called the birthplace of modern life as we know it. It was here at his Menlo Park complex that Edison produced the incandescent electric lightbulb and 300 other inventions, providing residents with not only a place of employment but also a source of national pride.

Known as Raritan Township until 1954, Edison was a slow-paced agricultural community until the twentieth century, with farms remaining until the 1950s. After World War II, in the country's rush to house returning war veterans, the expansive farmland became desirable real estate. *Edison* celebrates the township's history from its rural beginnings as a collection of small villages to the arrival of the automobile culture on the Lincoln Highway and superhighway U.S. Route 1, to its coming-of-age as a modern suburban community during the mid-twentieth century.

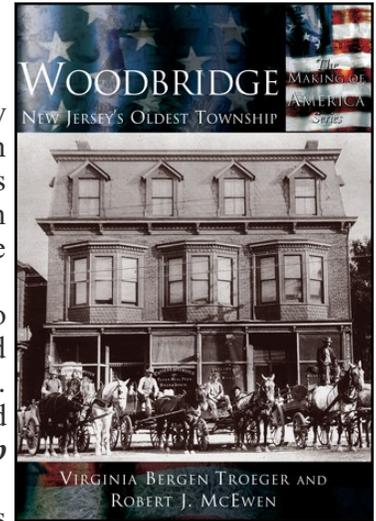
This book combines photographs from the collections of the Metuchen-Edison Historical Society and the National Park Service, with some of the hundreds taken in the early years of the twentieth century by J. Lloyd Grimstead. *Edison* includes the many villages that make up the township: Oak Tree, Bonhamtown, Piscatawaytown, Stelton, New Durham, Pumpton Corners, New Dover, and Potters.

Woodbridge: New Jersey's Oldest Township By Virginia Bergen Troeger and Robert J. McEwen

Comprised of ten distinct communities, Woodbridge Township, New Jersey nevertheless has a unified identity with historic roots reaching back more than 330 years. Originally populated by Native Americans, the township was claimed by the Dutch in the early seventeenth century before the English established the religious, political, and educational heritage that Woodbridge boasts today.

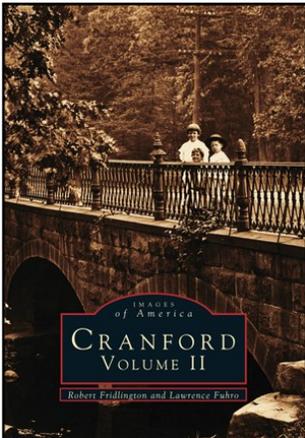
In the 1800s, the township flourished under the leadership of residents who provided strong social ties, and entrepreneurs who developed the clay and brick companies as well as the once popular Boynton Beach resort in Sewaren. Dedicated citizens continued their commitment to Woodbridge's progress and prosperity through the years. *Woodbridge: New Jersey's Oldest Township* takes readers on a trip through an ever-changing community.

Vintage photographs, maps, and a lively narrative reveal the heroic actions of citizens such as Janet Pike Gage, who raised the town's first liberty pole, and Reverend Azel Roe, the minister who defied the British during the Revolutionary War. Readers follow the town's growth through the rise and fall of the clay and brick industries that once defined the local economy from 1825 to the onset of the Great Depression. Voted "All-America City" in 1964 by the National Municipal League, the community continues to uphold the legacy of the people who made it such a great place to live and work. *Woodbridge: New Jersey's Oldest Township* is a memorable tribute to this tradition.



Cranford, Volume II

By Robert Fridlington and Lawrence Fuhro



Residents of Cranford greeted the publication of a photographic history of their community with tremendous enthusiasm in 1995. For the first time, significant people and events in the township's past were celebrated in a vivid record available to all.

The authors of that volume—Robert Fridlington and Lawrence Fuhro—have worked together again to produce an all-new second book on Cranford that includes many newly discovered images. *Cranford Volume II* covers the history of the town from 1871 to 1960 and highlights its role as a riverside resort and suburb.

Images of well-known Cranford residents like pure-food crusader Alice Lakey and beloved high school coach J. Seth Weekly are also featured, documenting the unique contributions of these citizens to their hometown.

Lynn Magnusson, Magnusson Estate Services, to speak at the October 5th Meeting on Deaccessioning

With the rising popularity of Netflix superstar Marie Kondo, more and more people across North America are decluttering their homes, and, in turn, their lives. Following Kondo's semi-spiritual methodology of organizing, all objects are first grouped by like-items, then revisited later in a moment of culling during which objects that fail to "spark their owner's joy" (tokemiku) are liquidated.

If ordinary people can be inspired in droves to deaccess their "stuff" and refocus the function and importance of their collections, why can't your organization be inspired in a similar manner? Quite simply, deaccessioning is a vital, though much maligned part of any cultural institution's toolkit. A mission statement can, and should, be the bedrock of your deaccessioning aims.

At face value, the purpose of your organization is to:

- Preserve artifacts
- Leverage those artifacts for educational purposes

But *more likely*, your organization should only preserve artifacts related to a very narrow time-period, geographic area, event, person, trade, etc.

Come and learn more at the League's October meeting at Lake Hopatcong.

**The League of Historical Societies of New Jersey
Northern Meeting
Saturday, October 5, 2019
Lake Hopatcong Station, 125 Landing Road, Landing, NJ 07850
AGENDA**

9:30 Registration, Bagels & Coffee, Information Table, & Tours of Building

10:00 Welcome from Martin Kane, President, Lake Hopatcong Historical Museum & Special Guest

10:15 League Business Meeting plus “Love It or Leave It,” a talk on deaccessioning by Lynn Magnuson

11:15 Break (Coffee & Water)

11:30 Program

- Lake Hopatcong’s Rise As A Great Resort (LHHM) (30 min)
- Restoration of Lake Hopatcong Station (LHHM/Connolly & Hickey) (30 min)

12:30 Lunch (Sandwich & Wrap Platter, Salads, Relishes, Cookies)

1:00 (On Own):

- Tours of Lake Hopatcong Station
- Lake Hopatcong Historical Museum
- Roxbury Historical Trust/Society Sites, including the King Store on the Morris Canal

QUESTIONS?—Lake Hopatcong Historical Museum, Phone: 973-398-2616, LHHISTORY@att.net
On the day of event, call the museum at 973-398-2616.

SUGGESTED LODGING:

Courtyard by Marriott, 15 Howard Boulevard, Mount Arlington, NJ 07856, Phone: 973.770.2000
Holiday Inn Express, 176 Howard Boulevard, Mount Arlington, NJ 07856 Phone: 973.770.7880

To register, please complete the form below and mail it with your check for \$25 (payable to the Lake Hopatcong Historical Museum) to Lake Hopatcong Historical Museum, P.O. Box 668, Landing, NJ 07850. Please register by October 1, 2019.

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Email _____

Address _____

City State/Zip _____ Phone _____

Affiliation _____

DIRECTIONS TO LAKE HOPATCONG STATION

125 Landing Road, Landing, NJ 07850

973-398-2616

From the east: Take Route 80 West to Exit 28. Merge onto Landing Road and the building is ahead on the right.

From the west: Take Route 80 East to Exit 28. Merge onto Route 46 East. Make the first right turn and use the jughandle onto Route 46 West. Bear right to Lake Hopatcong. Merge onto Landing Road and the building is ahead on the right.

