



LEAGUE NEWS

**The Newsletter of the
League of Historical Societies of New Jersey**

**Spring Meeting
Washington
Crossing
Mercer County
June 3, 2006**

Article and
registration form
on page 11-12.

LEAGUE OF HISTORICAL SOCIETIES OF NEW JERSEY 2006 PUBLICATION AWARDS

The following awards for works published in 2005 were presented at the spring League meeting on March 11, 2006, in Toms River:

BOOKS

First Prize - *Images of the Past II: A Rahway Album*, by F. Alexander Shipley, et. al. Merchants and Drovers Tavern Museum Association

Second Prize - *Old-Time Elizabeth*, Valentine A. Fallon. Union County Historical Society

BROCHURES

First Prize - "An Introduction to the Morris Canal Greenway." The Canal Society of New Jersey

Second Prize - "The Avalon Museum." The Avalon Museum and Historical Society

Third Prize - "Stafford Township Historical Society, Inc." The Stafford Township Historical Society

PAMPHLETS

First Prize - "Frogs' Legs and Fires: The Era of Resort Hotels in Atlantic Highlands, 1880s-1940s," by Paul Boyd. Atlantic Highlands Historical Society

Second Prize - "Wallpaper 101," by Naoma Welk. Montrose Park Historic District Association

Third Prize - "A History of Old-Time Cranford," by Robert Fridlington. Cranford Historical Society

NEWSLETTERS

First Prize - "New Town Crier." The Historical Society of Bloomfield

Second Prize - "Places in Time." The Lawrence Historical Society

Third Prize - "Hopewell Valley Historical Society Newsletter." The Hopewell Valley Historical Society

At the beginning of the new fiscal year, November 2005, the League dues were raised, for the first time in over a decade, to \$30 per organization and \$10 per individual. This increase is due to the fact that we take in \$4,000 and spend \$8,000. Since we had a surplus from years when we did not have newsletter, website, and staff costs, the Board did not want to increase dues to the true cost of operations until it was absolutely necessary. That time is now.

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

Listed below are your officers and trustees:

President - Robert J. Hunter
Haddon Heights Historical Society
(two-year term)

First Vice President— J.B. Vogt
Fellowship for Metlar House
(two-year term)

Vice-President, Northern—
John E. Chance
Montclair Historical Society
(two-year term)

Vice-President, Central—
James T. Raleigh
Friends of Monmouth Battlefield
(two-year term)

Vice-President, Southern—
Jean Lacey
Ocean County Historical Society
(two-year term)

Secretary— Kevin M. Hale
Metuchen-Edison Historical
Society (two-year term)

Treasurer— Dorothy M. Andrew
Gloucester County Historical
Society (two-year term)

Trustee, Southern—
Sonia L. Forry
Historical Preservation Society of
Upper Township (two-year term)

Trustee, Southern—
June Sheridan
Atlantic County Historical Society
(four-year term)

Trustee, Northern—
Betty Hardy
Madison Historical Society
(four-year term)

Trustee, Northern—
Dorothy E. Johnson
Oakeside-Bloomfield Cultural
Center (two-year term)

Trustee, Central—
William Fidurski
Clark Historical Society
(four-year term)

Trustee, Central - vacant

Trustee-at-Large—
Robert R. Longcore
Sussex County Historical Society
(four-year term)

Trustee-at-Large—
Patricia Drummond
Historical Association of
Fair Haven (four-year term)

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

Membership Chairman
Dorothy Pietrowski
Madison Historical Society

Trustees Emeriti

Bernard Bush, Hightstown-East
Windsor Historical Society

Ruth Kane Fern
Passaic County Historical Society

DEADLINE: Submissions for the August issue of *League News* must be on the editor's desk no later than July 15, 2006. Please send all items to: Linda Barth, 214 North Bridge Street, Somerville, New Jersey 08876; barths@att.net.

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

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Members:

Is your society drowning in paper files?

After years of serving their membership, many small but active societies find themselves with copious files and no storage space. Many have no computers and no staff; the entire operation is run by volunteers.

What solutions do they have? How many years must they keep financial records? How many years must they keep correspondence? Are membership records important? How many years are they required to keep tax records?

Does your society have the same problems? How have you solved them? If you can help with the answers to any of the above questions, please send them to the editor (see middle column), so that we may share this information with members who may be experiencing the same problems. Thank you so much.

Sincerely,
Bob Hunter
bhunte@camden.lib.nj.us
856-465-7751

ANNUAL PUBLICATION AWARDS PROGRAM

The League of Historical Societies of New Jersey announces the **ANNUAL PUBLICATION AWARDS PROGRAM** and invites its member organizations to submit entries. Awards will be given for works published in the year 2006, in the following categories:

BOOKS, BROCHURES, PAMPHLETS, NEWSLETTERS, JOURNALS, CALENDARS, and OTHER MEDIA (AUDIO CASSETTES, CDs, VIDEO CASSETTES, DVDS)

For works published in 2006, awards will be presented at the League meeting in **March 2007**. Deadline for submission of entries: **JANUARY 31, 2007**. Send entries, with a short cover letter, to: **Publication Awards Committee, League of Historical Societies of NJ, New Jersey Historical Society, 52 Park Place, Newark, NJ 07102**.

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

MONMOUTH COUNTY ARCHIVES ANNOUNCES NEW LINK TO RECORD INDEX

Gary Saretzky, the Archivist for the County of Monmouth, has announced the first online index developed to a record series in the Monmouth County Archives. Mary Ann Kiernan, Archives Reference Specialist, worked with Dave Roberts of Monmouth County Information Services to develop this excellent resource, which indexes 11,665 marriages, 1790-1938 (bulk 1795-1878). For the guide and index to the marriage records, see <http://www.visitmonmouth.com/archives/lgmarr.asp>



NEW BOOK ON NJ CIVIL WAR CEMETERIES

A new publication, Our Brothers Gone Before, by Charles Eckhardt and Robert MacAvoy, will be published in June, 2006. The book is an inventory of graves and cenotaphs in New Jersey cemeteries for Union and Confederate Civil War soldiers, sailors, marines, surgeons, and nurses. It contains a full alphabetical listing of over 40,000 burials from over 1000 cemeteries. Each entry lists the person's name and cemetery, death date, and regiment or ship, if known. 1700 pages in two volumes, hardbound. Prepublication offer until April 30, 2006: \$120 plus \$8 shipping (NJ residents kindly include 6% tax); price after April 30 will be \$140 plus \$8 shipping. You may order this book from: Longstreet House, PO Box 730, Hightstown, NJ 08520; Contact: Dr. David G. Martin at dmartin@peddie.org.

Above is the grave of James Theodore Calhoun, Surgeon for the 74th NY Infantry; Medical Director 2nd Division, 3rd Army Corps; Surgeon in Chief, Ward US Army Hospital, Newark, NJ. He assisted in the removal of General Daniel Sickles's leg at the battle of Gettysburg. Dr. Calhoun died July 19, 1866 of cholera at Hart Island Depot, NY and is buried in Hazelwood Cemetery, Rahway."

LEAGUE REVISING BYLAWS

President Bob Hunter has appointed a committee to revise and update our bylaws. **Dorothy Johnson**, chair, **J.B. Vogt**, and **Jack Chance** have met several times and condensed the old bylaws into a concise, easy-to-use document. They are planning to present this document to the Board at its meeting in April. As soon as approval is obtained, copies will be available to the membership who must then approve them at a future membership meeting.

Call for Papers — New Jersey Forum — Saturday, September 16, 2006
State Museum Auditorium, West State Street, Trenton

The first annual New Jersey Forum is seeking proposals for research papers from faculty members, teachers, graduate students, independent scholars, museum professionals, historical society members, and all others with an interest in New Jersey studies. "New Jersey studies" is defined broadly to include not only history, but also archaeology, fine and decorative arts, material culture, geography, humanities, literature, ethnic studies, history of science, public policy, etc. Paper presentations should be approximately 20 minutes long. We expect to have six separate panels during the day, with two to three papers presented in each panel. **Special consideration will be accorded new research and first-time presenters.**

If you would like to present a research paper at the Forum, email a proposal by **May 5** to james.turk@sos.state.nj.us. Note that the proposal should be an abstract of no more than 1,000 words – not the full manuscript. The proposal should include the title of your paper and your name and contact information, including email address and telephone number, and audio-visual requirements. Besides presenting a proposal for an individual paper, you can also suggest a panel. Please include the same information as above for all panelists. All information must be provided by email. All proposals will be referred to an advisory committee that will select the papers that will be presented at the Forum and will establish the separate panels. The New Jersey Forum is sponsored by the three history-related agencies of the New Jersey Department of State: the Historical Commission, the State Archives, and the State Museum. The event is cosponsored by the New Jersey Council for the Humanities.

NASW Receives \$100k Grant

The Naval Air Station Wildwood was recently honored to become the only New Jersey recipient of a 2006 Save America's Treasures grant. The \$100,000 federal award, earmarked for NAS Wildwood by Congressman Frank LoBiondo, will assist with the restoration of Hangar No. 1. The hangar is listed on the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places at the National Significance level. Grant funds will specifically be utilized in ongoing hangar exterior repairs as well as window replacement that was initiated through New Jersey Historic Trust and New Jersey Cultural Trust grants.

Save America's Treasures is a national effort to protect "America's threatened cultural treasures, including historic structures, collections, works of art, maps and journals that document and illuminate the history and culture of the United States." Established by Executive Order in February 1998, Save America's Treasures was originally founded as the centerpiece of the White House National Millennium Commemoration and as a public-private partnership that included the White House, the National Park Service and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.



The Final Bold Steps to a Successful Revolution

As a participant in the W3R 225th Anniversary Celebration of the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route, the Metlar-Bodine House Museum is pleased to present a panel discussion, "The Final Bold Steps to a Successful Revolution." The event will take place on Sunday, June 11, 2006, from 2:30 to 4:00pm, at Kirkpatrick Chapel, Old Queens Campus, Rutgers University, New Brunswick.

In the summer of 1781, George Washington and the patriots' French ally, the Comte de Rochambeau, led 7,000 American and French soldiers on a punishing march through New Jersey to Virginia. Their goal was to entrap the British army, on the Yorktown Peninsula. The gamble succeeded. Cornwallis surrendered on October 19, 1781.

You are invited to hear how this extraordinary feat was accomplished, how the military generals relied heavily upon Simeon DeWitt, cartographer extraordinaire for the American Army, and about the friendships that developed between three brilliant men. The afternoon's speakers are:

- Bruce Chadwick, author of *The First American Army, The Untold Story of George Washington and the Men Behind America's First Fight for Freedom*, which, through journals and letters, tells what it was like to serve during the Revolutionary War.
- Dr. Robert Selig, historian, writer, and one of the few North American experts on the role of French troops under Rochambeau in the Revolutionary War.
- George Dawson, chair of the New Brunswick Historical Association, and the designated city historian.

A book signing and reception at Winants Hall, Old Queens, will follow the program. Tickets: Panel Discussion only, \$10; Panel Discussion, book signing, and reception, \$25. For information and tickets call the museum at 732-463-8363.



Lusscroft Farm in Sussex County

By Maggie Kolicko

Several years ago a group of friends and colleagues with a common interest started discussing a new approach to an ongoing problem -- preserving the rapidly disappearing agricultural heritage of their rural county. The group decided to organize as a not-for-profit vehicle for fundraising and fund channeling specifically for the preservation of local farms.

At the same time, the State of New Jersey DEP, Division of Parks and Forestry, was determining the fate of Sussex County's Lusscroft Farm, a 595-acre farm estate that had been donated to the State in 1931 for use as an agricultural research station. Research actively continued until the 1970s, when the facility was closed. Rutgers University retained 576 acres at Lusscroft for use as an Outdoor Education Center for 4-H youth.

When the 4-H camp closed due to declining enrollments in the 1990s, the property was left idle, except for some use by tenant farmers. In 2002, the care of the neglected buildings and grounds was turned over to the State Park Service. High Point State Park, adjacent to the farm, oversees maintenance of the property.

The NJDEP, through a general management plan and several public meetings, sought to learn if public opinion would be in favor of creating another state park or a center for agri-tourism, or if the property should be left to let nature take its course. This series of events dovetailed perfectly with the newly created fundraising group; thus the Heritage and Agriculture Association, Inc. was formed.

The mission of the H&AA is to preserve and enrich the agricultural heritage of Sussex County and the surrounding area. We plan to provide opportunities for exposure to and education in equine and livestock care and management, horticultural practices, and sustainable agriculture and farming. In addition, we will hold fundraising events to promote and further these opportunities. Lusscroft Farm provides a unique opportunity that fits perfectly with this mission. Interest in the project has been gradually building from the first notice of the public hearings. The Association now has 36 paid members with a mailing list of nearly one hundred interested volunteers.

Lusscroft Farm has been the setting for two unique agricultural advances based upon scientific principles. First, Mr. James Turner, the Montclair stockbroker who purchased the land in 1914, was able to invest the capital needed to create a working model of an efficient dairy farm. He and his farm manager used the latest scientific agricultural techniques of the time. By September of 1916, the beautiful stone manor house was nearly completed, and the local newspaper, the *Sussex Independent*, reported on the fine quality of the dairy herd, poultry, and swine. Mr. Turner is also credited with paying New Jersey Power & Light to run lines from Route 23 to Lusscroft, thus bringing electricity to this rural area for the first time.

In 1931, James Turner donated Lusscroft and two other farms (1050 acres total) along with 250 head of Holstein and Guernsey cattle and other farm animals and machinery to the State of New Jersey for use as an agricultural research project. The James Turner Institute for Animal Research opened in 1931, beginning a second era for Lusscroft Farm. Until its closure in 1970, the North Jersey Dairy Branch of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station conducted research in pasture improvement through the use of lime and different fertilizers, better methods for curing hay, increasing efficiency and sanitation during cow milking, economic management practices, disease control, livestock breeding and nutrition, grass silage, and a forestry program.

The H&AA is working to stabilize and then restore the neglected buildings of this agriculturally significant gem nestled in Wantage Township in northwestern New Jersey. The goal of the Association, as stated in a Memorandum of Understanding with the NJDEP, is to create and maintain an agricultural heritage center with emphasis and opportunities for education in the dairy industry, outdoor recreation, historical interpretation, equine trails, heirloom gardening, forestry, maple sugaring, and all phases of farming from organic gardening to marketing value added products.

For further information about the Heritage & Agriculture Association, please visit our website at www.lusscroftfarm.net.



Hear Ye! Hear Ye! 2006 SPIRIT of the JERSEYS State History Fair!



Experience four centuries of New Jersey history all in one place as we celebrate the SPIRIT of the JERSEYS - a historical festival for all ages on Saturday, May 6, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Washington Crossing State Park in Titusville. Free admission. Rain or shine

Resources from New Jersey's state-owned historic sites and historical organizations from around the state will be highlighted throughout the fair. Activities include Native American and Dutch foodways, open hearth cooking, period dance and music, storytelling, 18th and 19th-century children's games, antique fire engines, a fashion show, a 19th century baseball game and a quilt show. Try your hand at paper marbling or learn about the fine art of calligraphy. These historic resources span four centuries and include Lenape lands, Revolutionary War battlefields, lighthouses, a presidential birthplace, the home of Walt Whitman and five historic villages.

While discovering NJ's history, don't forget to keep an eye out for Walt Whitman, George Washington, Molly Pitcher and many other historical figures as they make their way through the fair. Children will want to get their autographs for a chance to win one of the many scavenger hunt prizes.

Stamp enthusiasts and collectors will be interested to know that a commemorative cacheted envelope will be sold on the day of the fair. The limited edition cachet will bear a special postmark. Fair attendees can also bring their own stamped mail and have it hand-canceled.

The State History Fair is sponsored by Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Historic Sites within the Division of Parks & Forestry, which administers the largest historical museum organization in the state with more than 24,000 museum objects and 68,000 archaeological artifacts. For more information about the fair visit www.njparksandforests.org or contact Washington Crossing State Park at 609-737-9303 or email historyfair@dep.state.nj.us.

State Historical Records Advisory Board Offers Archival Workshops

The State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) is planning a series of archival workshops this spring for archivists of all levels of expertise. SHRAB hopes to advance some of its goals by hosting these workshops. Those goals include improving preservation of historical records located in a broad range of repositories and promoting the improvement of archival management skills among the state's historical records personnel. The workshops are recommended for anyone who works with New Jersey's documentary heritage in archival, historical, genealogical, or cultural organizations.

The series begins with, *Discover a Whole New World: Researching in Religious Archives*, which will be presented on Thursday, June 8th from 9 am-3 pm at Drew University in Madison. L Dale Patterson, Archivist-Records Administrator, General Commission on Archives and History, United Methodist Church; Dr. Jennifer Woodruff Tait, Methodist librarian, Drew University Library; and Margery N. Sly, Deputy Director and Assistant Stated Clerk, Presbyterian Historical Society, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) will discuss genealogy, social issues in religious archives, unexpected material, and ecumenical material (material not just related to a specific denomination or religion).

On Saturday, June 10th, *County Archives: Reference Services* will be presented by Gary Saretzky, Archivist for Monmouth County Archives, at the Gloucester County Historical Society in Woodbury, from 9 am to noon. County records may include, census records, deeds, naturalizations, marriages, civil and criminal court records, surveyors' records, maps, and various licensing records such as professionals and business name registrations. This workshop will discuss the types of reference services provided to researchers and the ways in which archives are organized and indexed to promote effective and secure use.

The final spring workshop, *Grants, CAPES, and Fundraising*, will be held at Princeton University on Wednesday, June 14th from 9 am to 3 pm. Ben Primer, Karl Niederer, Mary Murrin, and Sara Cureton will present ideas on how to apply for grants from NJHC and the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC); how a Caucus Archival Projects Evaluation Service (CAPES) survey can benefit your organization; and ways in which your organization can be productive at fundraising.

These workshops are sponsored by the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference NJ Caucus, the Genealogical Society of New Jersey and the State Historical Records Advisory Board. Funding has been provided, in part, by a grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission. Registration and fees are required. For details and registration information, please visit www.njarchives.org/links/shrab.html or call 609-777-3598.

In Memoriam, January 28, 2006

Dear Colleagues:

I want to elaborate upon some thoughts that I expressed to a few people on the passing of Professor Richard P. McCormick of Rutgers University.

From the beginning of my career in New Jersey history in 1961, Dick McCormick became one of my three principal mentors and benefactors, along with John Cunningham and Roger McDonough. There were many people from whose knowledge and encouragement I benefited, but those three were ever my guiding lights and made everything possible for me.

I am sure there is much I do not know about Dick McCormick's good works at Rutgers, in the larger spheres of higher education and the American historical profession, in his church, in local politics and government. But this I do know: For all who labor in the field of New Jersey history he was, and will long remain, our foremost academic historian, an eloquent and inspiring lecturer and speaker, and a brilliant and wonderfully clear writer of history. He was for over half a century a towering oak, whose roots and branches sustained generations of men and women and their diverse achievements. If any one person can be called the founder of the modern state and local history movement in New Jersey, it is he.

When I met Dick, he had already introduced state history into the university curriculum and had led in the transformation of the New Jersey Historical Society into a modern, democratic institution that would serve the educational needs of society and not only a narrow social elite. And then he and historian John Cunningham and State Librarian Roger McDonough joined forces to persuade the state government to inaugurate the New Jersey Tercentenary, commemorating the three centuries since the English accession in 1664. The depth and scope of the state programs, both scholarly and popular, and the diverse local programs stimulated by that observance were a turning point in the public interest in and support for local history in our state. Dick McCormick did not only work behind the scenes to create all this; he was in the forefront of public activities, writing and lecturing and organizing commemorative programs, and lending his talents and reputation to a vast array of efforts. In the process many existing organizations and institutions were energized, and many new ones were established.

One of the things that emerged from the simultaneous observances of the New Jersey Tercentenary and the Civil War Centennial was the New Jersey Historical Commission. Again, the combined efforts of Cunningham, McCormick and McDonough were indispensable. While Roger provided administrative guidance and protection from inside the state government, Dick and then John became the Commission's chairmen during its first decade. They were responsible for its intellectual direction and integrity, for the substance of its programs, and for the broad public respect that the Commission received. When we established advisory committees to widen the Commission's pool of ideas and talent, Dick chaired the Committee on Scholarly Programs, Higher Education and Libraries, and he gathered a corps of experts that did a great deal to define our programs and ensure their success.

I know that all those who served on the New Jersey Historical Commission and its staff during Dick McCormick's tenure, from 1966 to 1985--and so many others in our field of work--share my reverence for the memory of this man who was an inspiration to us all.

Bernard Bush

NEWS OF OUR BOARD MEMBERS...

We send our best wishes to **Bill Fidurski**, who had a heart attack last month...and **Betty Hardy**, who is in a rehabilitation unit, recovering from an automobile accident. We ask you to keep Bill and Betty and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

HISTORY EVENTS AND EXHIBITS

Ebb and Flow: New Jersey and Its Rivers—Four rivers symbolize the role waterways have played in shaping this state and the nation: The Maurice & sections of the Delaware, have been designated nationally as Wild & Scenic rivers; the Raritan & the Passaic, which flow through suburban & urban areas, have been impacted by dense development. 19th century artifacts unearthed by NJ DOT projects in New Brunswick & Trenton are on public display for the 1st first time, along with a walkable floor map, video & audio + other hands-on activities focusing on industry, food, settlement, transportation. This new installation, on view *free*, Tues-Sat, begins a **three-year run** at the **NJ Historical Society**, 52 Park Place, Newark; 973-596-8500; www.jerseyhistory.org; museum@jerseyhistory.org.

Body Wars: Fighting Infection, Staying Healthy—Take a journey of discovery into the world of microbes and the infectious diseases they cause. Along the way, learn how the body's immune system fights off the microscopic invaders and, most importantly, how to protect it against disease. **The Newark Museum**, 49 Washington Street, Newark; **thru May-30-07**; Wed-Fri 12-5, Sat-Sun 10-5; sugg. donations: \$7; \$3; 973-596-6550; www.newarkmuseum.org

Rotating and Permanent Galleries—Quarterly exhibitions by African American artists. Items of cultural and historical significance to the African American community from the permanent collection. **African American Heritage Museum of Southern NJ**, 661 Jackson Road, Newtonville; **Apr-01-06 thru Jun-30-06**; Tue-Sat 10-4; FREE (donations requested); 609-704-7262; <http://www.aahmsnj.org/>

Transit Drivers, Honeymooners, Midwives: Collecting and Telling New Jersey Stories—"Meet" New Jerseyans who bring Garden State history to life through objects and documents from the Historical Society's museum and library in this interactive 160th Anniversary Exhibition. **The New Jersey Historical Society**, 52 Park Place, Newark; **thru Aug-31-06**; Tue-Sat 10-5; FREE; 973-596-8500; www.jerseyhistory.org

Back to the '50s: The Life and Times of Doo Wop Design Exhibit—This exhibit will display 1950s artifacts from the Doo Wop Preservation League's collection. **Carriage House Gallery on the grounds of the Physick Estate**, 1048 Washington Street, Cape May; **May 26 thru Sep-03-06**; Mon-Sun 10-4; \$2 (adult); \$1 (child age 3-12); 609-884-5404; www.capemaymac.org

In The Good Ole Summer Time: The Evolution of the Swimsuit Exhibit—This exhibit looks at the changes in swimwear over the decades. See how styles have changed with the times from the wool dresses to the it'sy-bitsy bikini. **Tuckerton Seaport**, 120 West Main Street (Rt. 9), PO BOX 52, Tuckerton; **Apr-01 thru Sep-30-06**; Mon– Sun 10-4:30; FREE (w/admin. to seaport); 609-296-8868; www.tuckertonseaport.org

Paperweight Fest—Paperweight dealers and artists will have booths in the Event Center. Sign up for the weekend or come for the day. Special demonstrations in Glass Studio. **Wheaton Village**, 1501 Glasstown Rd., Exit 26, Rt. 55, Millville; **May-19-20-06**; Sat-Sun 10-5; \$10; \$9; \$7; FREE (Children five & under); 800- 998-4552; www.wheatonvillage.org

17th Annual Strawberry Festival and Craft Show—Saturday, June 3rd, 10 am-4 pm; at the **Friendship School** (c. 1830), 859 South Shore Road, Palermo; admission free. Sponsored by the Historical Preservation Society of Upper Township NJ; 609-390-5656.

Canal Day at Waterloo Village—Mules, music, tours of canal sites, rowboat rides on the Morris Canal; Waterloo Village, Waterloo Road, Stanhope (Exit 25 from I-80); **June 10-06**; free with admission to the village; 11-4; Mark Hamill, Canal Society of New Jersey, 908-561-1250; www.waterloovillage.org or www.CanalSocietyNJ.org.

Afternoon Delight: The New Jersey Turnpike, Angus Kress Gillespie, Ph.D. —Through a series of compelling, sometimes frightening and often humorous anecdotes, Gillespie conveys the flavor of a massive turnpike – what it looks like, what it feels like, what it smells like, what it means. Based on his award-winning book, *Looking for America on the New Jersey Turnpike* co-authored with Michael Rockland, he will describe the Turnpike as not only a physical artifact, but also an emblem of American ideas and values. Supported by New Jersey Council for the Humanities. Free. **Friday, June 16th**, 2 pm. **Jersey City Museum**, 350 Montgomery Street Jersey City; 201- 413-0303.

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Independence Day Celebrations—Enjoy a vintage baseball game, with the uniforms and rules of 1873. Sunday performance of the Hackettstown Junior Ancient Fife & Drum Corps. **Historic Cold Spring Village**, 720 Route 9, Cape May; **July 1-2**, \$8, adult; \$5, child. 609-898-2300; www.hcsv.org.

Paul Robeson Through His Words & Music—Written by Gayle Stahlhuth and performed by Derrick McQueen, it is an interweaving of two dozen songs that were sung by Robeson (“The House I Live In,” “Ol’ Man River,” etc.) with a narrative of his life as actor, singer, activist, and humanitarian. It’s the story of an American whose government was so fearful of his belief in equality, that the FBI took his passport. **The East Lynne Theater Company in residence at The First Presbyterian Church in Cape May**, 500 Hughes St., Cape May, NJ; **July 26-29**; 8:30 pm.; \$22; \$18; \$8; FREE (12 & under)



SPOTLIGHT ON OUR MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

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

The League has five member societies clustered together near the Passaic River, three in Nutley, Essex County, and two just over the river in Bergen County. Let’s get to know them and what makes each special.

Opened in 1961, the **Meadowlands Museum** was the vision of a group of Rutherford PTA parents. They collected natural history and Native American artifacts and began exhibiting these items in one room of a decommissioned school. When the school was again needed for classes, the museum found a new home in donated office space; in 1974 it moved to its present home, a farmhouse probably built in the early 19th century. In the 1930s, the borough of Rutherford built Crane Avenue and in so doing cut off the oldest section of this historic home.

Originally serving only the schoolchildren of Rutherford, the Museum now serves all ages and includes all of the communities in the greater Meadowlands area. With its focus changed to local history, the Museum today is a growing institution with expanded programs and a broader audience. You may contact the Meadowlands Museum at P.O. Box 3, 91 Crane Avenue, Rutherford; 201-935-1175; www.meadowlandsmuseum.org; meadowlandmuseum@aol.com (note: the email address has no “s” in the middle).

The private, nonprofit **Lyndhurst Historical Society** preserves local historical sites and promotes community pride in the township’s history and traditions. The society was established in 1984 by a group of local citizens in an effort to preserve the 1893 one-room schoolhouse at 400 Riverside Avenue, on the corner of Fern Avenue. This is Bergen County’s first known public school and was used for classes until 1980. In a successful effort, the Society raised \$100,000 over a four-year period, restored the school to its original condition, and began using it as a museum on a lease from the Township of Lyndhurst in 1993.

The ‘Little Red Schoolhouse,’ as it has come to be known, has been the site of special events, including strawberry festivals, craft fairs, Civil War re-enactments, and special visits from ‘Eleanor Roosevelt,’ ‘Abigail Adams,’ ‘George Washington,’ and ‘Thomas Jefferson.’ The Little Red Schoolhouse Museum is open on the second and fourth Sundays of each month from 2 to 4 pm. The Society also provides walking and bus tours of the township. Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at the Lyndhurst Parks Department. For more information or to become a member, please contact the society at P.O. Box 135, Lyndhurst; 201-438-0159; www.lyndhursthistoricalsociety.org; lyndhursthistoricalsociety@yahoo.com.

The Township of Nutley boasts three member societies. The **Nutley Historical Society** serves the educational, cultural, and historic needs of the community. The society’s museum, at 65 Church Street, is open on the 1st and 3rd Sundays, from 2-4 pm. It features postcards, toys and memorabilia from both Annie Oakley (a former resident) and the Guthrie Store. In addition, the museum is home to the Alice J. Bickers Library, with its collection of books and maps relating to the history of New Jersey. The Church Street School was used as a boys vocational school from 1914 to 1927. It stood empty from 1927 until 1946 when the building was leased to the historical society. Contact the museum at 65 Church Street, Nutley; 973-667-1528; www.nutleyhistoricalsociety.org/museum.html; nutleymuseum@aol.com.

(continued on page ten)

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS (continued from page nine)

The **Bradbury-Van Riper Historic Restoration Trust of Nutley** is a nonprofit volunteer organization formed in 1994 to save, restore, and preserve the historic Van Riper House at 491 River Road. A fine example of the Dutch stone house, the original part of the home was built in 1708 by John Bradbury on land purchased from Juriaen Thomasse Van Riper. In 1747, John's daughter, Elizabeth, married Abraham Van Riper, a patriot during the Revolutionary War.

In the 1940s the Van Riper House was sold to IT&T and served as a residence for the company's executives until about 1975. Although the land around the home was sold recently to a developer, the 0.9 acres that includes the historic home was transferred to the Township of Nutley, which leased the house to Van Riper House, Inc. This group is now in the process of restoring and preserving the structure. You may contact the trust at P.O. Box 110031, Nutley, NJ 07110; 973-667-5229; www.oldnutley.org/vanriper.html and by email at vanriperhouse@aol.com.

The **Kingsland Manor Historic Restoration Trust** is another vital link in preserving Nutley's past. The Kingsland Manor was built in 1790 by Joseph Kingsland. In 1973, the township received a Green Acres grant and eventually purchased the Kingsland Manor for \$90,000. The Commission then authorized the formation of the Historic Restoration Trust of Nutley, a group of actively interested citizens, whose task is to restore Kingsland Manor as a landmark, museum, and center for local activities." You can contact the Kingsland Manor Historic Restoration Trust at 3 Kingsland Street, Nutley, NJ 07110; 973-235-1974.

Globalization & Industrial America, 1830-2005: New Brunswick, NJ & the Raritan River Valley, A Microcosm?



To commemorate the 325th anniversary of the City of New Brunswick, Rutgers University will sponsor this conference on Friday, May 12, 2006, from 8:15-4:30 at the Alexander Library, 169 College Avenue, New Brunswick. Cost: \$25, includes lunch.

Noted scholars and university students will examine the history of globalization as reflected in local industries: the history of the Atlantic world and globalization; intellectual property and R&D; the medical/pharmaceutical industry; the Simplex automobile and Wright-Martin; Marconi; the future of globalization; Edison; Bakelite/Union Carbide; National Musical String; the rubber industry; the John Waldron Company; and the wallpaper industry.

For inquiries or to register, please contact Reese Jenkins (profjenkinsru@aol.com) or Bonita Craft Grant (crafftg@rci.rutgers.edu) or call 732-932-7006, ext. 369.

UPCOMING LEAGUE MEETINGS

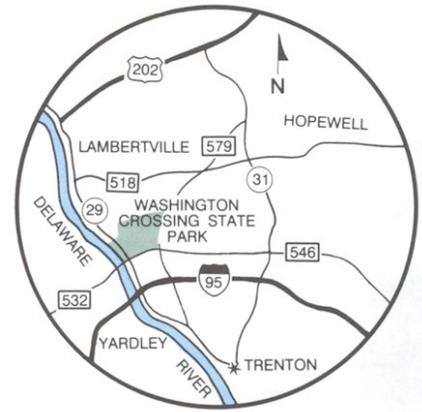
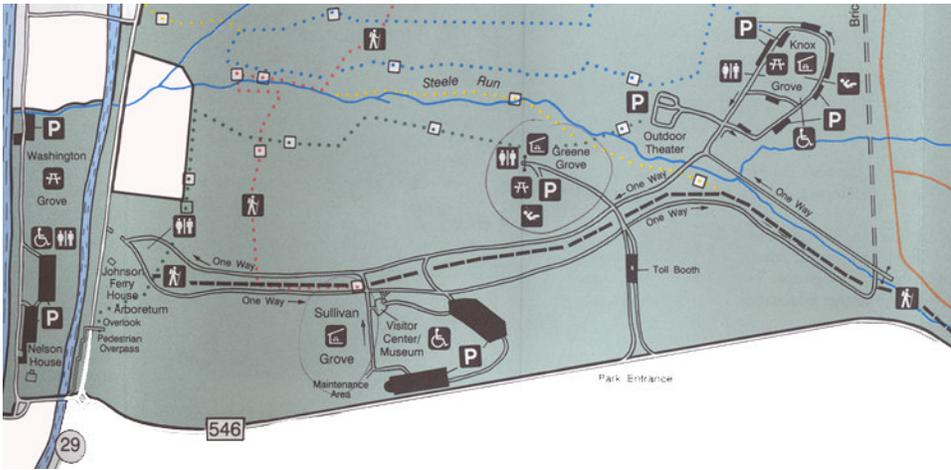
June 3, 2006	Hopewell Valley Historical Society, Mercer County
October 7, 2006	Closter Historical Society, Bergen County
March 2007	Longport Historical Society, Atlantic County
June 9, 2007	Highlands Historical Society, Monmouth County
October 2007	Northern Region—TO BE ANNOUNCED
March 2008	Long Beach Island Historical Society, Ocean 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, 908-722-7428, barths@att.net, 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.

Hopewell Valley Historical Society

hosts the June 3, 2006, meeting of The League of Historical Societies of New Jersey
at the Washington Crossing State Park Visitors Center, Rt. 546, Titusville, NJ (shown below)



Directions:

from North Jersey – NJ Turnpike south to Exit 9. Take Route 1 south to I-95 west (toward Pa.). Exit at Scotch Rd. Go north to Rt. 546 and turn left. The park entrance is 2 miles on right.

from South Jersey – NJ Turnpike north to I-195. Take I-195 west to I-295 north. (I-295 changes to I-95 north of Trenton.) Exit at Scotch Rd. Go north to Rt. 546 and turn left. The park entrance is 2 miles on right.

from the Shore - I-195 to I-295 north. (I-295 changes to I-95 north of Trenton.) From I-95, exit at Scotch Rd. Go north to Rt. 546 and turn left. Park entrance is 2 miles on right.

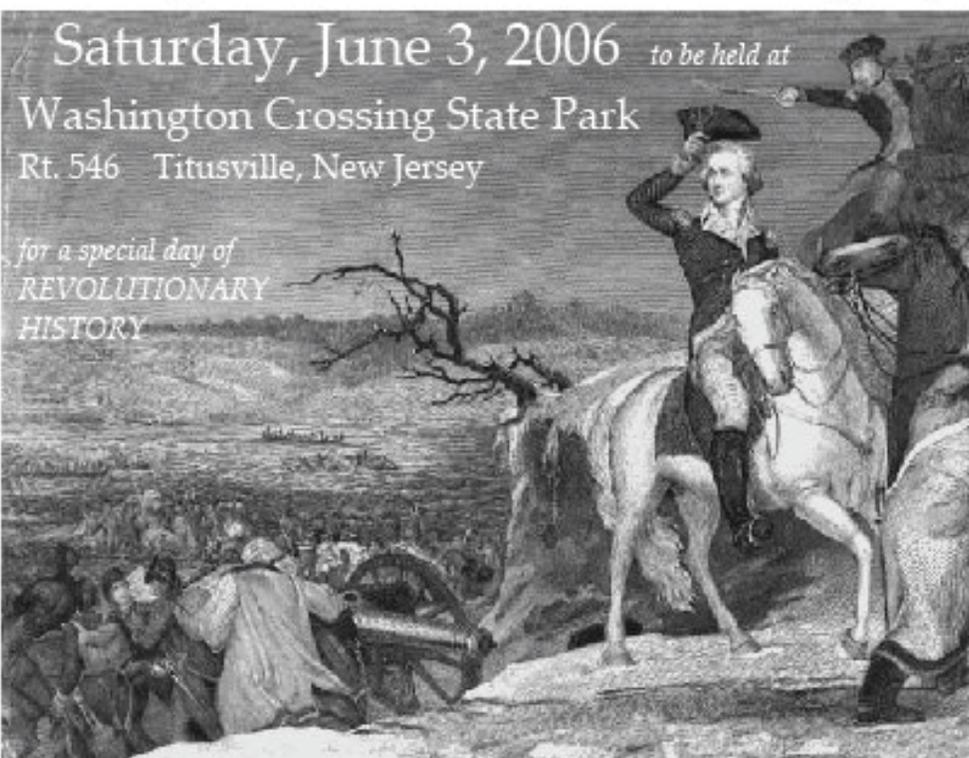


The League of Historical Societies of New Jersey
P.O. Box 909
Madison, New Jersey 07940

**Spring Meeting—Hopewell Valley, Mercer County—
June 3, 2006**
**Fall Meeting—Closter, Bergen County
October 7, 2006**
**Winter Meeting—Longport, Atlantic County
March 2007**

Visit the League at:
www.lhsnj.org

The Hopewell Valley Historical Society
invites you to attend the spring meeting of
The League of Historical Societies of New Jersey



Saturday, June 3, 2006 *to be held at*
 Washington Crossing State Park
 Rt. 546 Titusville, New Jersey

for a special day of
REVOLUTIONARY
HISTORY

~ Agenda ~

- 9:00am Registration & Coffee
 - 9:30am Welcome
 - 9:45am League Business Meeting in the Pavilion next to Visitors Center
 - 10:45am Break
 - 11:00am *Washington's Crossing of the Delaware and the Ten Crucial Days
a talk by W. Clay Craighead, Resource Interpretive Specialist
 - 12:00 pm Lunch in the Pavilion * *make your selection below*
 - 1:00 pm Repeat of Washington's Crossing the Delaware
 visit the Swan Historical Collection in the Museum
guided tour of Revolutionary War artifacts
- Johnson Ferry House } *Both a short walk in the park*
 Nelson House

* *Due to limited capacity in auditorium attendees will split into two groups*



Registration Form - please return this section by May 15, 2006 - includes box lunch

Please select one of the following: Ham Turkey Roast Beef Grilled Veggie

Name: _____ e-mail _____

Address _____ phone _____

Affiliation _____

please send \$15 check made payable to: Hopewell Valley Historical Society PO Box 371, Pennington, NJ 08534