



# LEAGUE NEWS

The Newsletter of the  
League of Historical Societies of New Jersey

Vol. 34 No. 2

www.LHSNJ.org

April 2008

**Spring Meeting  
Holcombe-Jimison  
Farmstead Museum  
Lambertville  
Hunterdon County  
June 14, 2008**

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Article and  
registration form  
on page 11-12.

## LEAGUE OF HISTORICAL SOCIETIES OF NEW JERSEY 2007 PUBLICATION AWARDS

The following awards for works published in 2007 will be presented at the League meeting on June 14, 2008, at the Holcombe-Jimison Farmstead Museum in Lambertville.

### Books:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: *Doo Wop Motels: Architectural Treasures of the Wildwoods*,  
by Kirk Hastings - Wildwood Crest Historical Society

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: *The Reading's Seashore Lines*, by William Coxe and James Kranefeld  
West Jersey Chapter, National Railway Historical Society, Inc.

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: *My River Journal* by Terry Scutro  
Cranford Historical Society, Inc.

### Newsletters:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: *On the Level*  
The Canal Society of New Jersey

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: *The Avalon Museum Journal*  
The Avalon Museum and Historical Society

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: *Hopewell Valley Historical Society Newsletter*  
Hopewell Valley Historical Society

### Pamphlets:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: *1719 William Trent House Museum, Trenton, NJ*  
William Trent House Museum

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: *Down the Shore: The Coastal Heritage of  
New Jersey*  
Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage  
Commission

### DVDs:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: *Somers Point Bay Front Historic District*  
Somers Point Historical Society, Inc.

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: *The Little Red Schoolhouse Museum in  
Lyndhurst*  
Lyndhurst Historical Society

### Poster or Display Item:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: *Playing Cards*  
Montrose Park Historic Association

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: *Cornelius Low House/Middlesex County  
Museum exhibition poster*  
Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission

### Calendars:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: *Whippany Railway Museum's 2007 and 2008  
Calendar*—Whippany Railway Museum

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: *South River Historical and Preservation  
Society, Inc. Calendar*  
South River Historical and Preservation  
Society, Inc.

### Journals:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: *Biennial House Tour 2007 Boonton  
Historical Society & Museum House Tour  
Journal*  
Boonton Historical Society

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: *Christmas in Long Valley—2007 House Tour*  
Washington Township Historical Society  
Washington Township Historical Society

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

Listed below are your officers and trustees:

### President (2008)

James T. Raleigh  
Friends of Monmouth Battlefield

### First Vice President (2008)

Robert J. Hunter  
Haddon Heights Historical Society

### Vice-President, Northern (2008)

Catherine Sullivan  
Victorian Society

### Vice-President, Central (2008)

J.B. Vogt  
Fellowship for Metlar House

### Vice-President, Southern (2008)

June Sheridan  
Atlantic County Historical Society

### Secretary (2008)

Kevin M. Hale  
Metuchen-Edison Historical Society

### Treasurer (2008)

Dorothy M. Andrew  
Gloucester County Historical Society

### Trustee, Northern (2010)

Dorothy E. Johnson  
Oakeside-Bloomfield Cultural Center

### Trustee, Northern (2008)

Betty Hardy  
Madison Historical Society

### Trustee, Central (2010)

Mary Swarbrick  
Fellowship for Metlar House

Trustee, Central (2008)  
William Fidurski  
Clark Historical Society

### Trustee, Southern (2010)

Sonia L. Forry  
Historical Preservation Society of Upper Township

### Trustee, Southern (2008)

Jean C. Lacey  
Toms River Seaport Society

### Trustee-at-Large (2008)

Patricia Drummond  
Historical Association of Fair Haven

### Trustee-at-Large (2010)

Robert R. Longcore  
Sussex County Historical Society

### Historian (2008)

Position currently open

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

#### Executive Director

Linda J. Barth

#### 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, 2008. Please send all items to: Linda Barth, 214 North Bridge Street, Somerville, New Jersey 08876; [barths@att.net](mailto: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.**

## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

How did you become interested in history?

I have recently been thinking about my answer to that question. I do not know how I came to do an interview as a project in at high school history club. Shortly after coming to New Jersey I realized that I was helping what would become history of the world. A couple of years before the bicentennial, I was asked by an older lady to help with a local history organization.

These requests led to some investigations at the local library and then archives with Revolutionary War manuscripts. Looking back I realize that the thrill of discovery of the relationship of a local document with the *Writings of Washington* has continued to today.

I am now wondering what we can do to expand the League activities for children, students and retirees. In particular, how do we recruit recent and pending retirees to work with the League and our historical organizations. I have been observing the board and our meetings.

I am looking forward to our next general meeting and working with your board. I enjoy seeing the interaction of old friends, meeting compatriots, and learning about other and host organization. I am extremely impressed with the attendance at our meetings and the interest in hosting future meetings. Every host group is different and the attendance appears to be related to the location and the time of the year, and probably related to the number of other activities. With only three meetings a year, our member delegates can only visit and many more are dependent on the content of the newsletter.

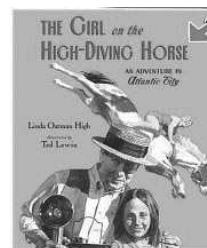
I am interested in how we, the League, can get more information to our members and from our different organizations for refreshing memories and to learn of the new activities in organizations and to have a reason to visit on our own, perhaps with the children or grandchildren.

Jim Raleigh  
President

## FIRST-PERSON INTERPRETATION OF MANY NEW JERSEY CHARACTERS

Michael J. Doyle is a historical interpreter who brings to life many characters with New Jersey connections. Mr. Doyle can bring to your society any of these amazing and fascinating characters:

- ◆ The Ghost of Dr. Jonathan Pitney ("The Father of Atlantic City"); and Dr. Pitney and the Camden and Atlantic Railroad;
- ◆ Sarah Spencer Washington, the inventor of the hair-straightening process and owner of the Brigantine Hotel;
- ◆ John Phillip Sousa;
- ◆ Miss Salt Water Taffy;
- ◆ Ida Bright, the 1st black in Atlantic City;
- ◆ King Neptune;
- ◆ Margaret Gorman, the first Miss America;
- ◆ Lillian Russell, entertainer;
- ◆ Mr. Gadget, who sold the Vegematic on the Boardwalk;
- ◆ Harry Duke, who tells Rum Runner stories;
- ◆ Charles Darrow, inventor of Monopoly; and
- ◆ Sonora Carver, the Girl on the High Diving Horse.



You can contact Michael Doyle at P.O. Box 692, Atlantic City, New Jersey 08401; 609-377-4229; [michaeljdoyle@att.net](mailto:michaeljdoyle@att.net).

## ELECTIONS—LEAGUE EXECUTIVE BOARD

If you would like to nominate someone to serve on the executive board of the League of Historical Societies, please contact Jamie Ciardelli, or Mary Swarbrick, members of the nominating committee. You can reach Jamie at [c72bryarblue@att.net](mailto:c72bryarblue@att.net), 609-492-6820; and Mary at 908-931-1216; [mjswarbrick242@hotmail.com](mailto:mjswarbrick242@hotmail.com).

In addition to the officers, the board consists of a vice-president and two trustees from each of the three regions. There are also two trustees-at-large. (See listing on page two.)

The board meets three or four times a year at 9:30 a.m. at East Jersey Olde Towne, in Piscataway.

## ANNUAL PUBLICATION AWARDS PROGRAM FOR 2008

The League of Historical Societies of New Jersey announces its **ANNUAL PUBLICATION AWARDS PROGRAM** and invites its member organizations to submit entries. Awards will be given for works published in the year 2008, in the following categories:

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

For works published in 2008, awards will be presented at the league meeting in **June 2009**. The deadline for submission of entries is **JANUARY 31, 2009**. Please send your entries to: **Publication Awards Committee, League of Historical Societies of NJ, c/o 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](mailto:barths@att.net), 214 North Bridge Street, Somerville, New Jersey 08876. Please **DO NOT** send entries to this address.

## FY 2009 BUDGET AND HISTORY COMMUNITY

The Advocates for New Jersey annually reports on the projected impact of the governor's proposed budget on the history community. The total impact is not yet clear because all the line items have not been fleshed out in the summary of the budget that is available, but the effects on the grants programs are clear.

The following public history projects have been reduced:

- Travel and Tourism, Advertising and Promotion \$1,855m
- Cultural Trust Grants, \$0.220m
- Historical Comm. Grants in New Jersey History .189m
  - Museum for Contemporary Sciences, \$0.150m
  - NJ Council for the Humanities, \$0.135m
  - NJ Ellis Island Foundation \$.160m
  - Thomas Edison Museum, \$0.100m
  - Rutgers Oral History Archive, \$0.100
  - Liberty Science Center, \$2.750m
  - Newark Museum, \$2.270m
  - Battleship New Jersey Museum, \$1.300m
  - Historical Commission Grants, \$1.102m

### To the History Community,

The line item budget has now been released and here are the budgetary recommendations for the history community:

Department of Community Affairs, the language provides "Notwithstanding the provisions of any law or regulation to the contrary, an amount not to exceed \$578,000 shall be transferred from the Garden State Historic Preservation Trust Fund to the General Fund and is appropriated to the Department of Community Affairs for Historic Trust/Open Space Administrative Costs." (\$578,000 is also the amount for 08.)

### Department of Environmental Protection

- Direct State Services: Parks Management FY'09-\$31,658,000; FY'08-\$40,514,000; -\$8,856,000
- Parks Management, Federal Funds-FY09-\$34,640,000 FY'08-\$37,540,000; -\$2,900,000
- Green Acres/Open Space Adminis. FY'09-\$4,925,000 FY'08-\$4,925,000

There is no clear language yet about the amount being diverted into capital projects in the Division of Parks and Forestry from the Corporate Tax Revenue approved in FY08 and intended to be a permanent diversion of funds in capital projects in the Division of Parks and Forests.

### Department of State

- State Aid: Library Services-FY'09-\$17,651,000 FY'09-\$18,520,000; \$ - 869,000
- Direct State Services: Library Services-'09-\$6,672,000 FY-08-\$6,672,000
- Development of Historical Resources-FY'09-\$346,000 FY'08-\$512,000; -\$166,000

At present the Historical Commission staff is five; under the hiring freeze imposed within the budget, two lines will not be restored and if there are retirements for whatever reasons, they will not be filled.

Please ask your governor and local legislators to keep state arts and history funding at the current level of support, and remind them that history funding comes from a dedicated, certifiable and *growing* state revenue source (NJ Hotel/Motel Occupancy Fee). Thank you for trying to restore the funding for our history and art community. You may also write to our government leaders by going online to [www.artpridenj.com](http://www.artpridenj.com) and clicking on "Action Alert" on the left side of the screen.

### **AWARD-WINNING**

If you would like to purchase any of the award-winning books or DVDs from this year's Publication Awards Program, just check the information below:

***Doo Wop Motels Architectural Treasures of the Wildwoods***, by Kirk Hastings—Kirk suggests ordering the book from [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com), where you can get it for \$14.96 plus postage (it retails for \$19.95). Other than that, any bookstore can order it, many have it in stock, and most Borders and Barnes & Noble stores have it on the shelf.

***The Reading's Seashore Lines*** by William Coxe and James Kranefeld—To purchase, please send a check, payable to the West Jersey Chapter, NRHS, for \$32 (includes sales tax) + \$4.50 postage, to the West Jersey Chapter, N.R.H. S, Inc., Post Office Box 647, Palmyra, New Jersey 08605-0647. Questions? Call 856-547-5324.

### **PUBLICATIONS**

***My River Journal***, by Terry Scutro—To purchase a copy, please send a check for \$10 + \$2.00 postage, payable to the Cranford Historical Society, to Cranford Historical Society, Inc., 38 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, NJ 07016.

***Somers Point Bay Front Historic District DVD***—Somers Point Historical Society, Inc. Contact the society at 609-927-2900 or [www.somerspointhistory.com](http://www.somerspointhistory.com). Donation: \$25.

***Montrose Park Historic Association - Playing Cards***  
Each card depicts one of 52 historic homes in the Montrose Park Historic District, South Orange. \$10 per deck. Contact the association via [info@montroseparksonj.org](mailto:info@montroseparksonj.org) or call 973-763-1880.

***The Little Red Schoolhouse Museum in Lyndhurst DVD*** is not available for sale.



## LONG BEACH ISLAND HOSTS WONDERFUL LEAGUE MEETING

The spring league meeting was held at the Long Beach Island Historical Association on Saturday, March 8. We had a great turnout, with approximately eighty-one attendees, despite the rainy, foggy weather.

Our guest speaker was Tracey Batt, an attorney who specializes in providing *pro bono* legal help for nonprofit organizations. She was very interesting and explained that her group, the New Jersey Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts, provides information and advice for non-profits (see article below).

Suzette Whiting spoke about the LBI Museum and LBI History. After a delicious lunch, we began our bus tours of the island. For our library and museum stop, Jeanette Lloyd narrated the tours of the Beach Haven Historic District. The Barnegat Light Historical Association and Museum gave tours of historic Barnegat Light. Returning to Beach Haven, we stopped at the new Museum of New Jersey Maritime History, with its two floors of maritime history, which really needs a few hours to cover.

All museums will be open for summer season. We look forward to seeing everyone who attended and we invite the people who could not make it to come and see us. Our doors are always open for you and special events. Thank you again for choosing us as your winter meeting place.

Respectfully,

Jamie Ciardelli, President, LBI Historical Association; 609-492-0700

## NEW JERSEY VOLUNTEER LAWYERS FOR THE ARTS, INC. (NJVLA)

To follow up on Jamie's comments (above) regarding the Long Beach Island meeting, here is a bit more information about the NJLVA.

Tracey Batt founded this group to provide *pro bono* (free) legal referrals to organizations involved in culture or the arts and to individuals involved in any creative or cultural endeavor, including music practitioners, visual artists, dancers, poets, filmmakers, and writers.

NJVLA matches artist and arts and cultural organizations with volunteer attorneys who help them to resolve arts-related legal problems, such as copyright, contracts between artists of every discipline and other parties, taxes on artist royalties, real estate and landlord/tenant issues regarding studio and gallery space, organization formation, and many more arts-related legal issues.

NJVLA also presents educational programs and provides speakers on a wide range of arts-related legal topics. Its website, [www.njvla.org](http://www.njvla.org), contains information and links to a variety of other arts-related legal issues and services.

As Tracey pointed out in her talk at Long Beach Island, this organization can help members of our historical community with many issues. Three of the services offered by NJLVA are:

- ◆ **The Legal Line:** a 30-60-minute telephone consultation with an attorney to discuss an arts or cultural legal issue;
- ◆ **The Law Fax:** Attorneys review short (less than three pages) legal documents and discuss the content with the client in a single 30-60-minute telephone call;
- ◆ **The Full Service Referral:** An attorney takes on a case for a client as they would for any of their other clients when the issue cannot be resolved in a single telephone call. The attorney's time is provided free, with the client responsible for any costs, such as court fees.

To learn more, please visit the website or contact Tracey at New Jersey Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts, Inc., P.O. Box 1520, Laurel Springs, New Jersey 08021; 856-627-0428; [info@njvla.org](mailto:info@njvla.org).



## HISTORY EVENTS AND EXHIBITS

**Through July 13—*Princeton in the 1930s* exhibition** features nearly 200 images and objects, including examples from the Einstein Furniture Collection of the **Historical Society of Princeton**, puppets from the Princeton Doll & Toy Museum, and photographs from the Princeton University archives. Children experience *Princeton in the 1930s* through hands-on exploration and activities. Free admission; donations accepted. For more information, call 609-921-6748 or visit [www.princetonhistory.org](http://www.princetonhistory.org).

**April 5 through August 23—Political Repression at Queens College, New York, 1947 - 1955**, an exhibit curated by Queens College alumni Lawrence Kaplan, Dorothy Pita and Alice Sprintzer. Photographs and documents chronicle violations of the Queens College community's civil liberties at the time of the Cold War. Three faculty members active in the trade union movement were fired between 1952 and 1955. This project is funded, in part, by the Passaic County Cultural and Heritage Council at Passaic County Community College, through a grant from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of the State, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. **American Labor Museum**, Botto House National Landmark, 83 Norwood St., Haledon; [www.labormuseum.org](http://www.labormuseum.org); 973-595-7953.

**April 2—"Forgotten Cape May County."** Pary Woehlke, Director/Curator, Cape May County Historical Museum. Enjoy a lively discussion about little-known facts and lore of Cape May County. **Historic Cold Spring Village**, 720 Route 9 South, Cape May; 609-898-2300 x17; [jstephens@hcsv.org](mailto:jstephens@hcsv.org); [www.hcsv.org](http://www.hcsv.org).

**April 9—"Discovering a 4,300 Year-Old South Jersey Native American Village."** Join archaeologist Dick Regensberg to learn about the life of Native Americans in South Jersey and the discovery of a Lenape village in Marlton. **Historic Cold Spring Village**, 720 Route 9 South, Cape May; 609-898-2300 x17; [jstephens@hcsv.org](mailto:jstephens@hcsv.org); [www.hcsv.org](http://www.hcsv.org).

**April 11-12—Genealogy workshops, Gloucester County Historical Society**, Woodbury. Friday evening 7-8 pm: "Pursuing Your Ancestral Trail: Starting on the Right Path." Saturday morning, two programs: 9-10, "Preponderance of the Evidence, Genealogical Proof Standard, What is the Difference?"; 10:20-11:20, "Ten Research Shortcuts Used by Professional Genealogists"; question & answer period; optional workshop at end of program. Friday night-\$15 member, \$20 non-members; Saturday 2 programs-\$30 members, \$35 non-member; both days-\$40 members, \$45 non-members. For questions, please contact the society at 17 Hunter Street, Woodbury, NJ 08096; 856-845-7881.

**April 12—New Jersey Postcard, Book, and Paper Show.** Youth Temple, Pilgrim Pathway, Ocean Grove. 10-4. **Historical Society of Ocean Grove**; 732-774-1869.

**April 13—Curator's Tours.** Join Museum Curator Peter Rothenberg for an in-depth tour of the new exhibit, "Crafting Cures." Learn about the artifacts on display and the early American methods used in the field of medicine. Advanced registration recommended; call 973-377-2982 x14. 1 pm & 3 pm. Regular admission. The **Museum of Early Trades & Crafts**, 9 Main Street, Madison. For information, please call 973-377-2982 x10 or visit our website, [www.metc.org](http://www.metc.org).

**April 16—"Great Storms and Shipwrecks of the Jersey Shore."** Margaret Buchholz, author and Jersey Shore historian, has published several books on Jersey shore storms and shipwrecks. **Historic Cold Spring Village**, 720 Route 9 South, Cape May; 609-898-2300 x17; [jstephens@hcsv.org](mailto:jstephens@hcsv.org); [www.hcsv.org](http://www.hcsv.org).

**April 16—"Real Images from the Revolutionary War."** Historian Arthur Lefkowitz shows and interprets paintings, drawings and other illustrations from the era. From the Horizons Speakers Bureau of the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, 7:30 pm, Senior Center; Atlantic Highlands Marina. For more information, visit [atlantichighlandshistory.org](http://atlantichighlandshistory.org) or phone 732-291-1861. **Atlantic Highlands Historical Society**.

**April 17—"The Historic Value of our Community,"** a panel discussion featuring John Cunningham, Mary-Anna Holden, Alice Glock, and a representative from the New Jersey Historic Preservation Trust. Chase Room, Madison Library, 39 Keep Street, Madison. 7 pm. **Madison Historical Society**, 973-377-0722 x 8 or 973-377-2292.

**April 19—9th Annual Antique Roadshow**, Curtis House, Brielle. 2-4 pm. New format this year! Hear the stories of the antiques brought in! **Union Landing Historical Society**, 732-528-5867; [www.briellehistory.org](http://www.briellehistory.org); [info@briellehistory.org](mailto:info@briellehistory.org).

**April 19—Fourth Annual Postcard Show and Open House.** 11-4. Free. **Wildwood Historical Society**, George F. Boyer Museum, 1907 Pacific Avenue, Wildwood. For information, call 609-523-0277.

**April 20—Two-Mile Hike** to the Van Campen Glen, **Walpack Historical Society**. Meet at Millbrook Village parking lot, within Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, Warren County, at 11 am. For information, call 973-948-4903.

**April 23**—"Emigrating from Germany: 18th-Century Odyssey," lecture and presentation by James M. Beidler. **Washington Township Historical Society**, Washington Township Public Library, 37 East Springtown Road, Long Valley. For more information visit [www.wthsnj.org](http://www.wthsnj.org), send email to [info@wthsnj.org](mailto:info@wthsnj.org), or call 908-876-9696. No admission charge.

**April 23**—"Celebrate New Jersey"—program highlighting the best of the Garden State, presented by Linda Barth, board member of Celebrate New Jersey. 7 pm, **Cape May County Museum**, 504 Route 9 North, Cape May Court House; free and open to the public. 609-465-3535; [www.cmcmuseum.org](http://www.cmcmuseum.org).

**April 25**—**Workers' Memorial Day Observance & the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade**, a presentation by Professor Irwin Nack, William Paterson University. **American Labor Museum**, Botto House National Landmark, 83 Norwood Street, Haledon; [www.labormuseum.org](http://www.labormuseum.org); 973-595-7953.

**April 26**—**Annual Four Views of Trenton Tour**. Buses leave from the clubhouse at 176 West State Street for all-day tours of interesting aspects of Trenton. Views include historic, ethnic, and architectural facets of our capital city. For information, call 609-392-9727. **The Contemporary of Trenton**. Lucia DiPolvere, 609-586-2684.

**April 26**—**2008 Historic House Tour: Salem County**. See some of Salem County's most historic homes from the 18th and 19th centuries. First time on tour: the 1754 John and Mary Dickinson House, whose west wall contains the most ornate and complex brick designs in Salem County. Also: the 1720 Kiger House, once a refuge for Catholics. 10-4. For more information, please contact the **Salem County Historical Society**, 856-935-5004, or visit [www.salemcountyhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.salemcountyhistoricalsociety.com).

**April 27**—"Queen Victoria, Victorianism and the Museum of Early Trades & Crafts." Elliot Engel, acclaimed author and lecturer, will present his fascinating and humorous program on the connection between the Victorian age and the Victorian-era James Library, home of the Museum of Early Trades & Crafts. 5-6 pm. Advanced registration recommended; call 973-377-2982 x10. Museum members, \$3; nonmembers, \$8. 9 Main Street, Madison. For more information, please call 973-377-2982 x10 or visit our website, [www.metc.org](http://www.metc.org).

**April 30**—"Our Founding Fathers and Mothers, They're Not Who You Think They Are." Lecturer and historian Jackie Bagley will teach us about the other George and Thomas, as well as Martha, Betsy and the rest of the important women of the Revolution. 7 pm, **Cape May County Museum**, 504 Route 9 North, Cape May Court House; free and open to the public. 609-465-3535; [www.cmcmuseum.org](http://www.cmcmuseum.org).

**May 3**—**Victorian Tea**, hosted by the **Barnegat Historical Society** at the historic, elegantly-appointed Cox House, North Main Street, Barnegat. Join us for a lovely, full tea service, with fresh baked scones, sweets, and savorys, served on beautiful antique & collectible dishware and linens. Reservations are a must as seating is limited. 11:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. Please call 609-698-3788 or email [Barnegat.historical@gmail.com](mailto:Barnegat.historical@gmail.com). Tickets are \$15 each.

**May 7**—"News and Gossip from Old Cape May." Relive the days of Victorian Cape May with historian and lecturer Michael Conley as he entertains with excerpts from newspapers of the 1880s and 90s. 7 pm, **Cape May County Museum**, 504 Route 9 North, Cape May Court House; free and open to the public. 609-465-3535.

**May 8, 9, 10**—**Herb Plant Sale**. Van Riper-Hopper House Museum, 533 Berdan Avenue, Wayne; 10-5; **Wayne Historic House Museums**, 973-694-7192.

**May 14**—Civil War re-enactor **Susan Gibson** will discuss the role of the men of Cape May County in the Civil War, with special focus on hero and prisoner of war Colonel Henry Sawyer, who was part of a prisoner exchange that saved the life of Robert E. Lee's son. 7 pm, **Cape May County Museum**, 504 Route 9 North, Cape May Court House; free and open to the public. 609-465-3535; [www.cmcmuseum.org](http://www.cmcmuseum.org).

**May 17** – **Digging Up the Past in Montgomery: A Cemetery Tour** – 29<sup>th</sup> annual May in Montgomery program sponsored by the **Van Harlingen Historical Society**. Rain date: May 18. Please check [www.vanharlingen.org](http://www.vanharlingen.org) for details; 908-359-8304.

**May 18**—National Park Service historian will speak about the history and inhabitants of the **Abraham Van Campen House**. Meeting at the Methodist Church, Walpack Center, 1 pm. Afterward, you may drive to the Van Campen property. **Walpack Historical Society**. For information, call 973-948-4903.

**May 23**—**Antiques Auction, featuring shore memorabilia**. Youth Temple, Ocean Grove. Preview, 4-6 pm; auction at 6 pm. **Historical Society of Ocean Grove**.

**May 24**—**A Nervous Fever: Tracing the Last Days of James Parker**. Some speculated that New Jersey's first printer was murdered by the Sons of Liberty to prevent his testifying in a New York sedition trial. His family, however,

put it down to a “nervous fever.” Join Gordon Bond as he discusses the final days of James Parker, explores the murder theory, and examines the vagaries of colonial medicine. 2 pm. For more information, call 973-377-2982 x10. Regular admission. The **Museum of Early Trades & Crafts**, 9 Main Street, Madison. For information, please call 973-377-2982 x10 or visit our website, [www.metc.org](http://www.metc.org).

**June 5**—Dinner, Madison Hotel. Program: the archeological research project at the Luke Miller House. **Madison Historical Society**. For information, call 973-377-0722, x 8 or 973-377-2292.

**June 12**—“**Celebrate NJ**” - Join Linda Barth for a leisurely armchair journey down the byways of the best state in the nation. 7 pm. **Washington Township Historical Society**. Washington Township Public Library, 37 East Springtown Road, Long Valley. Questions? Visit [www.wthsnj.org](http://www.wthsnj.org), email [info@wthsnj.org](mailto:info@wthsnj.org), or call 908-876-9696. No admission charge.

**June 22**—“**These Thirty Years**,” a 1930s black-and-white movie, filmed in Walpack by the Ford Motor Company. 1 pm, Methodist Church, Walpack Center. Following the film, enjoy an exhibit of antique cars. **Walpack Historical Society**. For information, call 973-948-4903.

**June 27**—Preservation Awards **Walking Tour, Historical Society of Ocean Grove**, 6:30 pm; HSOG Museum, 50 Pitman Avenue; 732-774-1869.

**July 16**—Local historian John King will tell the shocking story of a murder in Atlantic Highlands. 7:30 pm, Senior Center. Questions? Visit [www.atlantichighlandshistory.org](http://www.atlantichighlandshistory.org), or phone 732-291-1861. **Atlantic Highlands Historical Society**.

**July 20**—“**Summer (K)nights**” by **Bob Brandt**. As a teenager, Bob worked summers at the Knight farm. Join us for an illustrated talk of his experiences. 1 pm, Methodist Church, Walpack Center. For information, call 973-948-4903.

**July 25-27**—**Christmas in July extravaganza. Daughters of the American Revolution, Chinkchewunsk Chapter**, Guests will include the Lost Art Lacers, the NJ Frontier Guard, and the 27<sup>th</sup> Regiment NJ Volunteers. Free tours of the historic museum house. Demonstrations, quilters, and crafters. Something for all ages! 1097 Rte 23 North, Wantage Township. 11-4. Enjoy a beautiful historic treasure of Sussex County. For information, contact [wmwyman@hotmail.com](mailto:wmwyman@hotmail.com).

**August 17**—Historian Myra Snook will talk about the **West Brook-Bell House** at the Methodist Church, Walpack Center, 1 pm. Afterward, drive to the home for an interior tour. **Walpack Historical Society**. For information, call 973-948-4903.

**September 6**—**Brielle Day**, featuring community organizations, crafters, food, and more! **The Union Landing Historical Society**. Come browse Brielle's one-day history museum in the Curtis House, 644 Union Lane; buy some old-fashioned sarsaparilla soda! Only \$1/bottle! For more information, call ULHS President John Belding at 732-528-5867, visit [www.briellehistory.org](http://www.briellehistory.org), or email [info@briellehistory.org](mailto:info@briellehistory.org).

**September 21**—Former campers will share their **memories of Camp Pocono-Ramona**. Tour River Bend Camground, site of the old camp. Methodist Church, Walpack Center, 1 pm. **Walpack Historical Society**. For information, call 973-948-4903.

## LEAGUE MEMBERS BY COUNTY

League meetings are held three times a year, with each meeting in a different region of the state.

The March meeting is hosted by a society in the southern region: Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Ocean, or Salem.

For the June meeting, the host is chosen from the central region: Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Somerset, or Union.

Our October meeting is held in the northern region, in one of these counties: Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Morris, Passaic, Sussex, or Warren.

If your society wants to host a meeting, you can choose from the above list to determine the appropriate month. Then contact Linda Barth (908-722-7428; [barths@att.net](mailto:barths@att.net)) and she will put you in touch with your regional vice-president.





## SPOTLIGHT ON OUR MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS



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

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

The **Medical History Society of New Jersey** was founded on May 7, 1980, largely through the efforts of Dr. Morris H. Saffron (1905-1993), noted medical historian and practicing dermatologist. The society's goal is to promote interest, research, and writing in medical history. Its members are dedicated to the discussion and enjoyment of the history of medicine and allied fields. Dinner meetings are held twice a year, in May and October, at the Nassau Club in Princeton. These semi-annual programs consist of a short business meeting followed by several talks on a variety of subjects, and then either the Saffron or Foundation Lectures. The **Saffron Lecture** is given each May by the nation's most prominent medical historians. Every October the **Foundation Lecture** features scholars. Each May the **David L. Cowen Award** is given for outstanding achievement in the field of medical history.

The Medical History Society of New Jersey invites all who share this interest to join the society. Its members are men and women with a broad range of experience and expertise. Membership is open to practitioners, researchers, educators, and students in the following fields: history, dentistry, social sciences, pharmacy, library science, veterinary science, hospital administration, medical education, medical ethics, nursing, public health, and related fields. For more information, please contact the society at the Medical History Society of New Jersey, c/o UMDNJ-Special Collections, G.F. Smith Library of the Health Sciences, 30 Twelfth Avenue, PO Box 1709, Newark, NJ 07101-1709; 973-972-7830; [ajlippman@aol.com](mailto:ajlippman@aol.com); [www.mhsnj.org](http://www.mhsnj.org).

The **Millville Army Air Field Museum** preserves U.S. military aviation history and educates visitors about Millville's vital role in aviation history and the history of the P-47 Thunderbolt aircraft. The museum, a federal nonprofit organization, was founded in 1983. In January 1943, the Millville Army Air Field opened as a gunnery school for fighter pilots. Gunnery training began with Curtiss P-40F "Warhawk" aircraft, but after a few weeks, the P-40s were gone, and the Republic P-47 "Thunderbolt" ruled the skies over Cumberland County. During the airfield's three-year existence, thousands of soldiers and civilians served there, with about 1500 pilots receiving advanced fighter training in the Thunderbolt.

Following World War II, the airfield was declared excess and returned to the City of Millville. Most of the buildings were converted to apartments for veterans returning from the war. In the early 1970s the airport became a hub of industry and aviation for southern New Jersey. The roots of the museum also date from that time, when airport manager Lewis Finch had just eliminated the last apartments and was looking forward to major industrial development. At this time, teenager Michael T. Stowe learned of some underground bunkers just south of the airport. He explored the bunkers and surrounding areas and found related artifacts. For nearly ten years, Stowe collected artifacts and information and in 1983 approached city officials about a permanent place at the Millville Airport to display his collection. Stowe's original collection remains the cornerstone of the Millville Army Air Field Museum. For further information, contact the Millville Army Air Field Museum at 1 Leddon Street, Millville, NJ 08332; 856-327-2947; [www.p47millville.org](http://www.p47millville.org); [museum@p47millville.org](mailto:museum@p47millville.org).

The **Naval Air Station Wildwood Foundation** is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to restore Hangar #1 at the Cape May County Airport, Lower Township, into an aircraft museum honoring the forty-two Naval airmen who perished while training there during World War II. Hangar # 1 was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in September 1997. In addition to aircraft, NAS Wildwood Aviation Museum boasts a large collection of aviation artifacts, military memorabilia, aircraft engines, and more, housed in a 92,000-square-foot, all-wooden hanger that is an exhibit in itself! Visitors can view a collection of photographs from NASW during WWII; original black-and-white photos were supplied by the United States Navy and the National Archives & Records Administration, as well as by individuals who helped in gathering information for this site. For further information, contact the Naval Air Station Wildwood, 500 Forrestal Road, Rio Grande, NJ 08242; 609-886-8787; [www.usnasw.org](http://www.usnasw.org); [aviationmuseum@comcast.net](mailto:aviationmuseum@comcast.net).

## WHY VISIT HUNTERDON COUNTY?

Hunterdon County is in the middle of New Jersey, bordered on the west by the Delaware River. We are inviting you to come and visit the Holcombe-Jimison Farmstead Museum near Lambertville, NJ. Lambertville is the only city in the entire county! Besides the Marshall House, Lambertville has many attractions and is an artist community with lots of shops, much like in New Hope, PA, just a short walk across the Delaware River bridge.

But there is much more to see here in Hunterdon County. In Flemington we have the courthouse where the Lindbergh trial was held; across the street is the Union Hotel, which no longer rents rooms, but will serve you up a drink and good meal. The hotel has numerous pictures from Lindbergh era on their walls. A two-and-a-half-block walk from the courthouse will take you to Fleming Castle, a home turned into museum, that takes you back to the early years of the settling of Flemington.

Just off of Route 78 is Clinton, with its Hunterdon Museum of Art and the Red Mill Museum Village. Like Lambertville, Clinton has many artists who showcase their wares in the local stores. Another hop off of Route 78 takes you to the small town of Oldwick, with its General Store, where you can get a sandwich, coffee, and some great home baking. We often stop there for a cup of coffee when in the area. The General Store is open for breakfast and lunch, and you will see farmers, bankers, parents with children, and maybe even a politician or two!

In fact, throughout Hunterdon County there are little hamlets like Stockton, Frenchtown, and Milford, river towns with their own unique flavor. Stockton Inn's claim to fame is that it is the place where Moss Hart wrote "There's a small hotel, with a wishing well." Prallsville Mills is just north of Stockton and dates back to the time when farmers brought their grain to be ground at the mill.

While we have seen a lot of residential growth in recent years, the farming community is still alive and well. There are only a few dairy farms left, but we also have sheep, goats, llama, alpaca, beef, bison, elk, and, of course, horses! The remaining farms are enough to make this a very desirable location to live, with quaint villages throughout Hunterdon County. We are just fifty miles from New York City and fifty miles from Philadelphia, making it an easy commute.

On Sunday, March 9<sup>th</sup> we went for a drive and when we returned to the farmstead, we parked down at the Delaware & Raritan Canal and walked into Lambertville on the towpath to see if the river was going to flood. Having my pedometer on, I measured how far the walk was; it turned out to be just short of 1¼ miles from the parking lot behind the farmstead to Bridge Street in Lambertville. This is a scenic, crushed stone pathway that follows the canal, and it is an easy walk, with geese and ducks swimming on the canal for ambiance. In fact, this is one of our state's more heavily used parks, with this section running from Milford to Trenton. It is used by walkers, bicyclists, and an occasional jogger; no dirt bikes or horses are allowed on this section.

The Holcombe-Jimison Farmstead Museum is dedicated to preserving Hunterdon County's rural heritage. We wish to thank the Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission for co-hosting the June 14th meeting of the League of Historic Societies here!

Holcombe-Jimison Farmstead Museum  
Irvin & Vilma Hockenbury, Trustees

## UPCOMING LEAGUE MEETINGS

June 14, 2008	Holcombe-Jimison Farmstead Museum, Lambertville, Hunterdon County
October 11, 2008	Boonton Historical Society, Boonton, Morris County
March 2009	Tuckerton Seaport, Tuckerton, Ocean County
June 2009	Historical Society of Ocean Grove, Monmouth County
October 2009	pending announcement of a northern New Jersey host society

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](mailto: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.**

**THE LEAGUE OF HISTORICAL SOCIETIES SPRING MEETING  
CO-HOSTED BY THE HOLCOMBE-JIMISON FARMSTEAD MUSEUM AND  
THE HUNTERDON COUNTY CULTURAL AND HERITAGE COMMISSION  
LAMBERTVILLE, HUNTERDON COUNTY  
SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 2008**

- 9:00 am Registration – coffee & tea
- 9:30 am Welcome by co-hosts
- 9:45 am League business meeting and announcements
- 10:30 am Presentation of the League Publication Awards
- 10:45 am Talk on the Delaware and Raritan Canal – Linda Barth
- 11:20 am History of Holcombe-Jimison Farmstead Museum
- 11:30 am Luncheon buffet by Maddalenas Catering
- 12:30 to 3 pm Guided and self-guided tours of Farmstead

Following the tour of the farmstead museum, you may, on your own, visit the John Marshall House in Lambertville, which will be open until 4 pm; 609-397-0770; [www.lambertvillehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.lambertvillehistoricalsociety.org).

Parking on the museum grounds. Driving directions are located on page twelve.

Hotels and B&Bs in Lambertville, NJ

Chimney Hill Farm Inn; 609-397-1516; [www.chimneyhillinn.com](http://www.chimneyhillinn.com)

The Inn at Lambertville Station; 609-397-4400; [www.lambertvillestation.com](http://www.lambertvillestation.com)

Lambertville House; 609-397-0200; [www.lambertvillehouse.com](http://www.lambertvillehouse.com)

York Street House; 609-397-3007; [www.yorkstreethouse.com](http://www.yorkstreethouse.com)

**For questions on the morning of June 14, call the museum at 609-397-2752 or  
Irvin Hockenbury at 908-644-6760.**

**For questions before June 14, call Irvin Hockenbury at 908-782-6653, or email at [invfarms@rcn.com](mailto:invfarms@rcn.com).**

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Registration Form- Registrations is \$20 per person and includes lunch.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send check for \$20, payable to Holcombe-Jimison Farmstead Museum, c/o Irvin Hockenbury,  
1605 Daniel Bray Highway, Lambertville, NJ 08530.

**Registration deadline is May 30, 2008.**

Driving directions are located on page twelve.

**DIRECTIONS TO THE LEAGUE MEETING AT THE  
HOLCOMBE-JIMISON FARMSTEAD MUSEUM  
1605 DANIEL BRAY HIGHWAY (ROUTE 29), LAMBERTVILLE  
609-397-2752**

**DIRECTIONS:** If you are **traveling south on Route 202** in New Jersey, use "last exit before toll." At the end of the ramp, you will come to a stop sign at a T. Make a left. Go to the next intersection (Route 29) and turn right onto Route 29 North. Turn left into the farmstead driveway **BEFORE** the railroad tracks.

If you are **traveling north** from Pennsylvania, using **Route 202**, exit immediately after crossing toll bridge into New Jersey. At the bottom of the ramp, turn right onto Route 29 South. Cross the tracks and turn right into the farmstead driveway.

If you are coming north on Route 29 from downtown Lambertville, proceed 0.3 mile past the CVS Pharmacy and turn left just before the railroad tracks into the farmstead driveway.



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

**Holcombe-Jimison Farmstead Museum, Hunterdon  
County, June 14, 2008  
Boonton Historical Society, Morris County,  
October 11, 2008  
Tuckerton Seaport, Tuckerton, Ocean County,  
March 2009**

The *League News* is brought to you by

