



# Spring Lake Historical Society, Inc.

# Newsletter

December 2022

Vol. 44, No 1

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### **A Report On Fiscal Year July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022**

The Spring Lake Historical Society started being very active again, beginning with the fundraiser, ANYTHING GOES, the Theater Performance last August which was very successful. Also, the second Attic Treasures Sale was held again in September and proved another success. Research, interest in the Museum displays, and sale of items were thriving; plus, more appointments to visit were made in addition to the scheduled open hours.

We mourned two very dedicated and important founding members whom we lost in this past year. Liz Finnerty known for serving as President in the very beginning of the Society and best known for her fundraising abilities and her contributions in many other ways. Jane Haulenbeek underlined what it means to be a civic minded person and dedicated to the history of Spring Lake. She chaired numerous SLHS committees and projects that educated groups about the history adding information to our archives, and she belonged to other SL civic organizations. On May 22, 2022, the dedication of the Society's Memorial Plaque was held at the Museum. The above two founding members' names are on the plaque as are two more important contributing members, Janice Sheehan and Elaine Erbe. These four worthy members were eulogized for their contributions and a small reception followed for their families and friends.

The 41st annual House Tour, having been cancelled for two years was quite successful. It was touted as a real treat for those who have supported us before and the new tour goes to our event. We can't thank enough the homeowners who sacrificed time and effort to open their homes to the public: 117 Madison Ave., 315 Madison Ave., 308 Jersey Ave., 316 Sussex Ave., 301 Sussex Ave., and 417 Atlantic Ave. Thanks goes to the businesses also: Kate & Co., Spring Lake Custom Golf Shop, and J. McLaughlin for selling tickets and thanks to the public places that were on tour: The Third Avenue Chocolate Shoppe, Walden-on-the-Pond Inn, and the South End Pavilion Pool and Locker areas.

The Elizabeth Saklas Nursing Continuing Education Scholarship, offered by Pete Saklas in memory of his wife was awarded this year to Joan Leung Lo Hing. A change is being instituted concerning the high school senior scholarship awards. Qualification to receive an award will require the seniors making themselves aware of the history of Spring Lake via studying the displays in the Museum or doing a project about the history. In September, that message will be sent to the guidance counselors at the high schools in the area.

The history articles sent to the members and then posted on our website have been very popular according to the feed-back about them. Check out our website for a well-produced video by ReMax Revolution that shows off our show-case Museum as well as important events in local history. The video also shows an interview tour of the owners of Swanhurst, the perfect example of one of the historic homes of the town at the turn of the century. The video was broadcast on Channel 11 on a Saturday morning in April. Telling the history of Spring Lake is the purpose of our organization so publishing on line is another way to better reach our membership. Last Oct. Bonnie DuBois did an excellent job of gathering a panel of adults to share their history of growing up in Spring Lake in the 60's - 70's.

Memories of the historical Covid 19 time (shut down) would be very much welcomed by our organization and can be emailed or sent to our address. The web site will be a source for publishing them as will the Newsletter in the future.

Come visit the Museum! We have a wonderful sign at the Municipal Building stating our changed summer schedule to Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 -12 and winter schedule, Sundays, 1:30 - 3:30, Thursdays,

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## **President's Message**

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10 – 12. On sale at the Museum are the popular coasters with landmark places on them, beach badge tiles, replicated South End decorative tiles, flags, notecards, shirts, and other SLHS logo items.

I wish to acknowledge the following dedicated officers/trustees and chair persons who offer so much of their time and knowledge to keep this organization viable. All are so responsible and take to task the work to be done.

John McGlinchy: Vice President; Ways and Means chair - producing decorative tiles to be sold; Liaison with the Borough; Newsletter; Posters

Bob Drasheff: Treasurer; Technology; Newsletter; Trouble shooter

Priscilla Reilly: Recording Secretary; Website; Liaison to the Borough

Stephanie McMurray: Corresponding Secretary; Historic Sites Plaque; Newsletter; Library acquisitions; Editing

Marie Curry: Trustee; Museum Co-Chair; Brochure upgrades

Carole Morris: Trustee; Museum Co-Chair; Publicity

Bonnie DuBois: Trustee; Programs; Research (historian); Scholarships

Judie Brophy: Membership; House Tour

Barbara Curran: Historic Sites Plaque

Dorothy Lau: Research (historian)

Mary Jane Burke: Hospitality

Nancy Smith: Office Manager; Research; Newsletter; Posters; Sales; House Tour

Respectfully Submitted, Barbara Kolarsick-Harrigan, President

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## **The 2022 Annual House Tour**

### **117 Madison Avenue**



This spacious colonial style home, situated on a corner lot that sets up its handsome simplicity, was built in 1920. Major interior renovations were done by the homeowners with minor changes to the exterior except to replace stucco siding with shingles, add shuttered windows, and lay a side patio. After touring the interior, one can truly see an older home transformed to an up-to-date young couple's family home.

The interior's ample windows (replicas of the original ones) bring in natural lighting even on dreary days, and along with the light colored furnishings make for a feel-good ambiance. The original owner/builder of the house was a wheelchair bound doctor who had the doorways designed to be larger than those often found in this period home. One could assume that might be the same reason for the woman doctor's master bedroom and bath situated on the first floor in what is now the great room off the kitchen. These large openings make for a nice open free flow of rooms.

Throughout the home, original red oak floors have been refinished except for the kitchen/great room, and moldings and all woodwork have been restored. Crown moldings were an option added by the owners. The living room piano has a special significance as it once resided close by at 211 Brighton in the 2nd oldest Spring Lake house, the Tuttle Farmhouse - now torn down. The living room's fireplace is original but with new mantle and moldings. Flanking this room is a wonderful screened in porch with multi-paned double doors opening to it. The dining room has two wonderful built in china closets typical of this vintage home. Featured plates above the kitchen stove are a Turkish design, plus the owner is partial to India print designs which can be spotted in some of the décor. The new fireplace in this spacious kitchen area has a beautiful surround of Delft tiles from Holland. On the south side at the front interior one experiences a beautiful sunporch and the second living room.

The staircase with its original railing leads to four bedrooms and a bath on the second floor. Known as a four-square design, this offers ample space with much efficiency. (Plans are for a master bedroom suite to be added above the kitchen area space.) Not to be slighted in this description is the basement with its children's playroom, large bathroom, laundry, office, and gym room. Noticeable are the pictures of surf boards, a favorite sport of the owner. What a wonderful restored home for a family of young or old children!

BKH 2022

### 301 Sussex Avenue



A land deed in Monmouth County's Clerk's Office on May 16, 1878 files it as Lots 1,2 in Block #44, Spring Lake Beach. There was no house on the property until c.1900 when the Sanborn Map shows a wrap-around porch structure with a carriage house. The streetscape view of this home denies this present home as that old, and Spring Lake tax records prove this present structure was built in 1956. However, in the basement one can find the original brick cellar walls from the turn of the century. Since 1956, upgrades and additions have been added that increased the size and added improvements to make it a very comfortable home with spacious room for entertaining both indoors and out. Almost all of the rooms offer wonderful views of Spring Lake, and large windows plus many glass paned doors allow plenty of sunshine, a welcome treat especially in the winter months. St. Catharine Church next door contributes to a pleasant ambiance with its bells

tolling the time and beautiful hymns and patriotic songs.

Entering from the porch, a large living room, separated to create two spaces, greets the visitor. Traditional furnishings mixed with oriental pieces and accents can be found in many of the rooms. Throughout the home are reproduction artworks of Georgia O'Keefe, a favorite artist of the owner. Opening off the oversized hall, before the staircase, is a large office and a powder room. A spacious dining room with doors to the sunroom makes for a nice traffic flow that can lead to the kitchen eating area and the kitchen cooking/working area. A mud room has a back door opening to a covered walk-way to the garage. Completing the first floor is a step-down Family Room off the kitchen with doors to the outside patio areas and pool.

Ascending the stairs to the second floor, a gym room with a balcony overlooks the yard and offers very pleasing vistas. The large hallway mimics the first floor's layout and four bedrooms branch off from the hall as well as a hall bathroom. Two bedrooms share a Jack 'n Jill bathroom and both rooms have a light, airy beach look décor. At the end of the hall is a converted bedroom to a spacious walk in closet with views of the Lake also. The master bedroom and bath face east and get beautiful sunrises reflecting over the water and golden reflections on the Essex and Sussex building in the evening sunsets. BKH 2022

### 308 Jersey Avenue



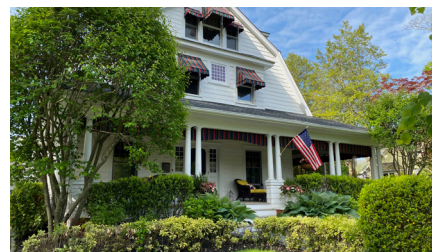
Probably built, circa 1880, on a lot across the street on the south side of Jersey Avenue, this home was moved to its present location soon after 1906, and today it is a reflection of the blending of the old with the new. The wrap-around porch triggers the mind back to the life style of the early days when porch sitting and visiting was a common summer relaxation. The outside back area features a compact yard complete with a fire pit for easy entertaining. The simple style, yet ample interior room of this home with its addition attests to the owner's choice to not destroy the old, but rather to modify it to meet their needs for a summer respite.

Eclectic art, much of which is local artists' works, and large portraits and photos are on display throughout the interior of the home. Also evident is the use of wall paper designs to make a statement and draw one's attention. There is nothing "blah" about the living spaces and one should be very observant of details encompassed in the rooms. Unusual antiques, many of which came from Spring Lake's historic Warren Hotel, contrast boldly with the contemporary furnishings and accessories. Coffered ceilings and the use of bead board add interest to otherwise flat surfaces. The family room, kitchen, and dining room together make for a nice flow of open space for the modern way of living. Crisp white cabinets are a focal point

of this living area. Part of the wrap around porch is closed in as a sunroom creating an additional space for relaxed living.

Touring the upper stories, one can also find the owner's taste for individual and unique décor. The Historical Society is grateful this home was saved from demolition over thirty years ago by a Spring Lake family and it has stayed the course. BKH - 2022

### 315 Madison Avenue



This multi-dormered Dutch Colonial residence with front gable offers a tasteful blending of the historic old with the spacious and convenient new. An inviting expanded porch welcomes and invites the visitor to travel back to the turn of the 20th century when this home was built. Upon entering, the eye encompasses the original fireplace in the living room, a view of the ample-sized dining room, original moldings and wide plank floors, plus an open staircase with side risers of sculpted woodwork. Toward the rear, a renovated kitchen with its crisp white cabinets and contrasting dark counter tops, open family room, side computer room, powder room,

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## **Annual House Tour**

*Continued from page 3*

back stairs, and mud room more than double the original structure. Closely matched moldings, flooring, fireplace mantel, and historic paint colors throughout, marry the original and the large expansion together.

Windows on the landings enhance the many open staircases in both the old and new sections. The front staircase leads to the second floor and continues to the third floor where three bedrooms, two baths, plus a cozy sitting area offer a secluded retreat. Charming architectural features in both the second and third floor bedrooms are the dormer eaves that cut into otherwise rectangular rooms. The numerous bathroom renovations project the feeling of the original time period of this house.

Surprises abound on the second floor. Its two bedrooms and baths, plus guest room comprise the front area. An office and the large master bedroom suite with fireplace, master bath, inclusive of an original claw foot tub, and walk-in closet, all easily accessible by short hallways complete the rest of the second story. Beautiful, wide, airy back stairs lead down, and furnishings on the landing make the staircase a lovely focal point.

Wainscoting adds detail and practicality to the finished basement, which includes a bar, a gym, powder room, and TV/Game room. Upon exiting to the back from the main floor, a flagstone patio with an outdoor kitchen adds another entertainment space for modern living. The owners have successfully and beautifully kept the old and added the new.  
BKH 2022

### **316 Sussex Avenue**



What an amazing older house this is for the fourth and fifth generation descendants of the original owner, one of the family founders of Spring Lake, who had the house built in 1910. All through the interim years, the ownership has not passed to any other name. The Dutch colonial design has a wonderful terrace on the front that gives the house a more adaptive look of a seashore home. At the time the home was built, it was adjacent to the 9-hole Spring Lake Golf course, which soon got moved to larger acreage in Wall Township, now Spring Lake Heights. In the back is the garage of the same style as the house which also has been preserved and rehabbed.

Great pains have been taken in recent renovations to maintain the original woodwork, dark wood moldings on the main floor, and original nines-on-one window panes as well as keeping the original front wooden door with its arched window panes. For some replacements of floor boarding, searches throughout New Jersey were conducted to match exactly the home's historic ones.

Upon entering, the living room is to the left and quite observable is the dark woodwork and ceiling beams, which magnificently set off the light furnishings. Tucked in off the living room is a small library/office with a unique period ceiling light, one of three which were rewired and hung in the home. The dining room's large doorway has concealed pocket doors, once a useful feature to be able to control heating and more privacy. Note the corner china cabinet and the beautiful windows. East of this room, multi-paned glass doors can close off the very sunny family room, part of the original house. By opening the back family room wall, additional space at the back of the house was reconfigured and made into a large modern kitchen and an open dining area with sliding doors to the back patio.

The original staircase to the 2nd floor has a landing that allows one to enter the steps from both the living room and back kitchen area. Bedrooms, with their working transoms above the doors, branch off in all directions from the hall at the top of the stairs. To the left is the master suite with a terrace and the suite's own nice size bathroom. Straight forward of the stairs is another large bedroom; continuing down the hall are two more bedrooms, (Note an original hanging light in one) and a guest bedroom, plus a large bathroom. Windows have been replaced and replicated to match the originals downstairs. The doors and hardware maintain their historical presence as they were not replaced.

Leaving the house, the relocation of the side/back door and steps placement was a move that gave more kitchen space as well as allowing for a mudroom and powder room in what had originally been a "maid's" room. With an active family, this new back entrance serves the owners well. It is evident that a lot of love and memories went into saving and restoring this jewel of a home!  
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### **412 Ocean Road - Walden-On-The-Pond**



This charming B&B situated on the North Branch of Wreck Pond offers a nostalgic glimpse of Spring Lake's founding. Built in c. 1883 and named The Pennsylvania Hotel, the lot had been part of Roger's tract of land development in the Villa Park resort in Wall Township. It was probably named after the Pennsylvania House in the 1876 Centennial Exhibit in Philadelphia. Lumber and structures were bought from that exhibit and made their way to Spring Lake Beach and Villa Park for development.

The name change to Walden-on-the-Pond aptly describes its location and the ambiance of the Inn. It has a relaxing atmosphere, a welcoming cozy front porch, and a lovely back yard which overlooks the "pond". The Lobby emphasizes the feeling of a period in time of less hustle and bustle with no deadlines to meet. The Spring Lake Historical Society appreciates the B&B's presence in our town.  
BKH - 2022

### 417 Atlantic Avenue



Still owned by one of the ten children of the family that purchased this property in 1963, the original house which held many family memories but which couldn't keep up with the expanding family and modern needs was torn down and a classic shore home was rebuilt in 2018.

As much as the family loved the original house, its 60 ft. setback was a major problem as it gave them hardly any backyard. The new house was placed with a 30 ft. setback to not only add a very usable backyard but to add a floor and many more bathrooms than the 1 ½ that existed in the original house. The owners strived to recreate what they loved about the original house while adding modern amenities and many charming new details. We believe they have more than succeeded!

The gracious wide porch greets visitors as they enter the house with the central foyer flanked by the living room and dining room on each side. Much of the furniture in these spaces are the original pieces that were in the house when it was purchased in 1963, showing that classics never go out of style! Notice the arched doorways and molding details, as well as images on the walls of old Spring Lake landmarks throughout the house as you tour this beautiful shore home re-creation.

The center hallway has the owner's office off it which has sailing decor, and leads to an open kitchen and family room which leads to the backyard, complete with an outdoor eating area with a beautiful retractable awning, a sitting area with a fire pit and a lounging area with a pool. A pool house completes the scene for an inviting summer respite. At the top of the stairs is the master suite which includes a sitting area and private terrace. The luxurious master bath creates a spa experience with an adjacent huge walk-in closet and separate laundry room. Follow through to the frosted glass doors which lead to a 2-bedroom suite for the owners' daughters with a Jack and Jill bathroom and spacious closets.

The third floor has a "sunset terrace" to watch the beautiful sunsets from this area, as well as two large bedrooms with their own bathrooms, walk-in closets and window seats. In the left-hand bedroom. Note the hidden nook with a 4th bed which has become every child's favorite according to the owner.

This new Spring Lake classic will continue to delight the family for many years to come.

S.S.M - 2022

### South End Pavilion - Ocean Avenue



2020 saw the unveiling and opening of the new pools and lockers of the South End Pavilion facility and was it exciting! What had been patched and rehabbed since 1929 was now

replaced and upgraded. The biggest pool is still salt water, pumped in daily, but the new recreation pool and the children's (kiddies) pool are both chlorinated fresh water, generated by salt water. The decorative tiles, a gift of the Historical Society, were replicated and incorporated into the design of the outer walls.

In 1926, Mayor Hill and the Borough Council conceived of building replacement Bathing Pavilions - the previous ones, built circa 1900, were described as being, "antiquated, too small and far from being ornaments to our beautiful beachfront." The South Pavilion was built in 1929 and the North Pavilion was completed soon after in 1931. E.H. Schmieder, Borough engineer and architect designed the new structures with bathrooms, changing rooms, a pool, refreshment areas, concessions, observation decks and even enclosed reading rooms.

Years of storms and battering by the sea had taken its toll of wear and tear on the building and major repairs were necessary. The South End structure; however, was not torn down, but was rehabilitated. In 2003, new brick facing, replacement decorative tiles (donated by the Spring Lake Historical Society) and interior work saved and beautified the crumbling building. This recent renovation to the pools and locker areas has completed an historic project that will serve the community hopefully for another 90 plus years.

BKH 2022

### The Third Ave. Chocolate Shoppe- 1118 third Ave.

*(Building established as C.H. Waters Auto Tire Repair Works)*



This stop on the tour was a real treat. Everyone visiting the Chocolate Shoppe was offered a piece of chocolate confectionery. This historic building is under new ownership and is a delight to see and experience. Their motto is "Life is short - Make it sweet". Experience the ambiance, including the original tile at the entrance to the shop and the tin ceiling of the interior, along with the eye pleasing displays.

At the beginning of the 20th century, automobiles began to appear on Third Avenue. At first considered a plaything for the very wealthy, by the end of the first decade of the 20th century, the automobile had become more affordable. In 1908, Mr. Waters established his tire repair business in Spring Lake.

Early cars demanded constant attention. It was suggested by many that 10 to 45 minutes be spent each morning going over the automobile to make sure everything was in working order. Even with vigilance, problems occurred. Tires were the Achilles heel of early vehicles. Rubber tires could be rendered useless by gasoline spills, sunlight, and sharp stones. Mr. Waters carried a large stock of both solid and pneumatic tires. Among his specialties were: vulcanizing (repairing rubber tires by using heat and chemicals to fuse the patch), retreading, and solid tire work.

BKH 2022

## AN EVENING WITH RICH CLAYTON

On October 19, 2022, the Historical Society membership and members of the community enjoyed an evening with Richard Clayton, a fourth generation Spring Laker, and president of Clayton's Limousine Service, Rich is a descendant of one of Spring Lake's founding families. For 120 years, there has been a Clayton at 1207 Third Avenue, first as part of Smith and Clayton Livery Stable and later as Clayton's Livery. For 105 years, the Claytons have owned the the business on Third Avenue where three generations of the family have worked.

Rich Clayton spoke of the evolution of the livery business through humorous stories. He also shared how a family business needs to change with the times if it is to succeed for generations. In 1902, the Smith and Clayton Livery Stable had 30 head of "stylish, well groomed horses and rubber tired carriages with experienced drivers in livery". ( The Spring Lake Gazette, July 1, 1902) In the early years of the resort, those who summered here arrived by train and needed a way to get around town and so hired horses and carriages from local liverymen. Clayton's also met the incoming trains with their coaches and transported the visitors to their summer quarters. Livery stables also supplied another service in the early years. Because it was too expensive for the fire companies to care for the horses to pull the fire wagon, the fire companies relied on the livery stables. When the alarm sounded, the first team to arrive at the fire station was hired.

By the time Jesse Clayton, Rich's grandfather, bought the business in 1917, the automobile was the preferred mode of travel. Therefore Clayton's now supplied automobiles and drivers. Clayton's also provided a taxi service. They picked people up from the train station and drove them with their luggage to their destinations.

Some summer visitors brought their drivers along with their cars. The drivers stayed in rooming houses on Jersey Avenue. Because of the difficulty in communicating with their employers, many of the drivers would spend the day at Clayton's. They would read newspapers and wait for a call. One driver had the habit of sleeping the day away in a metal chair and snoring loudly. One day, Jesse Clayton had had enough of the daily racket. He hooked up a battery charger to the metal chair and turned on the power. Arms and legs and words were flying, as the noisy driver bounded from the chair. Another sleepy driver informed Jesse that he was not going to sleep in any metal chairs. That driver also became a nuisance, so Jesse rubbed Limburger cheese around the brim of his hat. The driver realized that something smelled rather badly, but couldn't figure out what it was. Jesse informed the drivers that they should sleep at the rooming house not at Clayton's. The snoring problem was solved.

Jesse passed away at age 51 in 1937. Jesse's wife Josephine then ran the business until the mid 1950s. In 1948, Josephine bought the building that housed the livery on Third Avenue. It wasn't until Josephine passed away that the family found out that her real name was Johanna. She didn't like her name so she called herself Josephine.

Walter Clayton, Rich's father, was only 16 when his father, Jesse, passed away. After he finished high school and got out of the service, Walter Clayton took over the business. Walter worked as a driver and his wife Esther answered the phones. During these years, many visitors to Spring Lake arrived at the hotels with their automobiles, but because cars cannot be parked overnight on the streets of Spring Lake, a place for the automobiles was needed. Clayton's would pick up the cars from the Shoreham, Letchworth, and Breakers Hotels, and store them in their garage overnight for about \$1.00 a night. So many cars were parked close together in the garage each night, that the drivers couldn't open the doors of the vehicles. They had to roll down the windows and crawl out. In order, to accommodate the cars of the summer visitors, the Claytons had to park their automobiles at Height's Garage overnight. Each morning, the visitor's cars were driven out of the garage and delivered to the owners to use for the day. Each night, they were again parked in the garage.



Around 1955, Walter Clayton made a decision which changed their business. One evening he announced to his family, "I'm scared to death, but I am going to make the biggest move in dollars and cents. I think it is going to insure our family's future." He bought a hearse. He did, indeed, insure the future of Clayton's. Today much of Clayton's business is with funerals.

When Rich was a young boy, he used to hang around the garage. By the age of 12, he was helping out by washing cars. He was fascinated by the big black cars in the garage, but when in high school, decided he didn't want to stay with the family business. He wanted to be a funeral director. This would require two years of college, then two years of working for a funeral director, and another year of school. Three weeks before he completed his college education, his father became ill. Rich came home to help out. He decided to stay, working for the funeral director part time. Walter realized the importance of preparing Rich to run the business so he made arrangements for Rich to work full time for the funeral director and part time for the livery service. Rich would learn the importance of following the orders of the boss.

In 1992, Walter turned the business over to his sons Rich and Tom. The business continues to evolve with the times. The Claytons run a limousine service and a livery service. Much of their work is sensitive because it involves working with bereaved families. A family's privacy must be safeguarded. One Sunday, Rich received a call from a funeral director. The funeral director whispered into the phone, "I need a hearse, one flower car, and two limousines." He gave Rich the date, time, and address. Rich then asked for the family's name. The funeral director whispered back, "I can't tell you." To which Rich replied, "O.K. Why are we whispering?" The family was well known and to keep the cameras away, the arrangements had to be kept secret. Several days later, one of driver's came into the office and asked. "Did you know Bruce Springfield's dad died. Rich knew. He had made the whispered arrangements.

In 1988, the Clayton's were offered \$5,000,000 for their building. There was a building in Wall Township that had everything the livery business needed, but the convenience of being in Spring Lake, and the family's long history in Spring Lake were too much to give up. We are thankful for that.

## The Elizabeth Saklas Memorial Scholarship



For the past three years, the Saklas family has offered The Elizabeth Saklas Memorial Scholarship to nurses who are current Jersey Shore residents and who are continuing their education. This year's recipient of the \$1000. scholarship is Joan Leung Lo Hing. Joan has been a LPN for over 20 years and is using the scholarship to finish her studies to become a registered nurse. She plans to further her education by earning her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing.

Joan is passionate about nursing and has been described by those who have seen her work as an "Angel in Scrubs with a heart of gold". She is compassionate and infinitely patient. To Joan, to be able to care for another is a privilege. If she can bring a smile to the face of one she is caring for, she feels that it has been a day well spent. Illness is difficult and challenging not only for the person who is sick, but for all of the family. A nurse is in the unique position to be able to

make things better for everyone and that is what Joan strives to do.

Joan is a hard worker. She has maintained outstanding grades while also caring for her mother-in-law with dementia and a sister-in-law with Cerebral Palsy and working part time as a nurse.



## Spring Lake Historical Society Announces Scholarships

The Spring Lake Historical Society will be offering two \$1000 scholarships to high school seniors who are residents of Spring Lake, and who will be continuing their education.

Applicants are asked to write a 500 word essay about a person, an event, or place of historic significance to Spring Lake. Possible topics for the essay are: Spring Lake mayors, Adelaide Heilner, Martin Maloney, Mr. H. W. Mountz, the Morro Castle disaster, early Spring Lake hotels, Spring Lake organizations, and historic buildings in town

Applicants are, also, asked to fill out an application, submit their high school transcript, enclose two letters of reference, one of which must be from a current teacher, and to list their extra-curricular activities, community service, and work experience. Scholarship applications will be available from high school guidance offices and can also be obtained by contacting the Spring Lake Historical Society at slhs703@optimum.net.

The essay and completed scholarship application should be sent to Bonnie DuBois at 111 Monroe Avenue, Spring Lake, New Jersey 07762 by May 15th or emailed to bonniedubois@aol.com by May 15th. The scholarship application is set up so that the selection committee will not know the identity of the applicant.



## Residents from the Essex & Sussex Visit the Museum

On August 9th a group from the Essex & Sussex visited the Museum. They enjoyed the display that was presented on the History of their residence which included the cost of erecting the building over 100 years ago. There were over two dozen artifacts and mementos saved from years past.





## H.W. Mount School Video Project

HW Mountz students working on a short documentary film came to the historical society to do first hand research on the history of Spring Lake. They are under the guidance of Linda Krebs the School Librarian. Students were able to view and photograph the displays, ask questions of the docents, and read up on important events and time periods in Spring Lake. Students also interviewed Mayor Jennifer Naughton to gain her perspective on growing up and living in Spring Lake.

Students are putting together the interview, pictures and research to submit an entry to the Garden State Film Festival's student submission category, "New Jersey Hometown Documentary Short."



## A Tribute To Dorothy Jane "Dot" Lau

Dot was a career woman who succeeded in business and spent a lifetime of contributing her skills and knowledge both in the business world and the volunteer organizations in which she actively participated during her career and in retirement. The Spring Lake Historical Society was fortunate to have had her as a leader wearing so many hats. Other organizations in this Community were also recipients of her time and effort: The Woman's Club of Spring Lake, The Preservation Alliance of Spring Lake, and The Garden Club of Spring Lake. St. Catharine Church's history was enriched by her research and writing about the clergy.

As president of the SLHS, Dot was a successful leader, promoting new ideas and new exhibits. However, one of her greatest contributions revealed itself as acting historian. She collected, researched, wrote and compiled histories of different eras in Spring Lake. Her scrap books contain volumes of documentation. Having moved to Spring Lake from Jersey City upon retiring, she had a great love for this town and was very enthusiastic about keeping its history. The Society would be very remiss if it did not also acknowledge its debt of gratitude for Dot's work with the House Tour and our Newsletter publications. She was tireless with promoting and writing about the House Tour. Her faithful dedication to getting the "news" out resulted in a great number of Newsletters generated. She was the first to insist on a Newsletter in color for the December issue. It was a success! Facebook usage by the SLHS was also an idea supported and promoted by Dot and has become a good source of interaction among Spring Lakers.



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## A Tribute TO Dorothy Jane “Dot” Lau

*Continued from page 9*

The Spring Lake Historical Society offers condolences to her family whom she spoke of so often with love, and we'll miss her personality and contributions to the Society.

Barbara Kolarsick-Harrigan, President

### SOME COMMENTS ABOUT DOT FROM HER SISTER PATRICIA CAPPADOCCIA

Dorothy loved the Jersey Shore from her teen years. She especially loved Spring Lake and always wanted to live here. She bought a home on St. Clair Avenue in the 80's and when it became obvious that our mother could not live alone in Jersey City, Dot retired from the phone company and moved permanently to Spring Lake. Before that she rented a home on Remsen Avenue every summer for about twelve years. She became involved with the Historical Society when Marie Wingard, one of the founders of the Historical Society, who used to come to visit our mother and bring her communion suggested she become involved. Dot wasn't able to leave our mother alone, so she was not able to go to meetings. She agreed to become Treasurer, as she could do those duties at the dining room table. Dot was already very knowledgeable about Spring Lake and its history, so it was a pleasure for her to become involved. After our mother passed away in 1996, Dot was able to participate with the Society more fully. She held many offices and was willing to help with many projects, too numerous to mention. She always wanted to preserve the ambiance of Spring Lake and hated to see houses demolished. I feel her greatest achievement was the Historical Society's Newsletter. She took great pride in getting the stories and history ready for publication. She spent hours on her computer researching the history of Spring Lake. In an article for the Coast Star in 2002, Dot said "I just love history, and preserving it is a joy." I can truly say that Dorothy loved being part of the Historical Society and left a legacy that will never be forgotten.

## Remembering Betty Robinson

One of our oldest members, Elizabeth ( "Betty" ) Patterson Robinson died on May 20, 2022 at her home here in Spring Lake.

In Spring Lake, she made contributions to many community activities. For St. Andrew's United Methodist Church, where she was a lifelong member, she designed and constructed large liturgical fabric banners for the church sanctuary. She and her late husband, Gilbert J. Robinson, frequently spent time tending flower beds at both St. Andrew's Church and Holy Trinity Episcopal Church. She was an avid gardener and talented floral arranger, as well as a member of the Garden Club of Spring Lake.



*Mayor Jennifer Naughton with Betty and Gil Robinson.*

As the granddaughter of the first mayor of Spring Lake, she possessed a keen interest in the town's history and was a member of the Spring Lake Historical Society. She volunteered, donated items and periodically arranged exhibitions at the society's museum on Warren Avenue.

From the late 1970's onward Betty and her husband Gilbert were at the forefront of preservation efforts in Spring Lake starting when the Borough attempted to build a new municipal building in Potter Park. They forced the project to go to a referendum which the voters soundly defeated.

Betty unselfishly gave of her time and resources to many borough wide projects with her husband always at her side. Gil died in November of 2012

## THE DOCENT

What's a museum without docents? Take the Spring Lake Historical Society Museum, for instance. It's filled with facts, artifacts, exhibits, literature, folklore – truly an invaluable collection, a treasure! But what good would it be without its docents?

Who would open it up, and who would greet visitors as they arrived? Who would show them around and explain the two galleries? Who would invite them to enjoy the Spring Lake video? Who'd answer their questions, or offer to arrange for answers? Who would keep track of the number of visitors that stop in? Who would thank them for their interest in Spring Lake's history and for visiting the Museum?

Indeed, the Museum is a collection of important materials and sources, sitting there atop the Municipal Building on Warren Avenue, until the docents arrive to open it to the public every Sunday and Thursday (Tuesdays and Thursdays during the summer months) Our docents bring it to life and contribute personality. As someone famous once said, "Museum and Docent: perfect together!"

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Beautiful Spring Lake Historical Society House Plaques are available if your home qualifies. For more information contact our office at 732-449-0772 or slhs703@optimum.net. The cost of home research fees and the plaque are \$250.



### **Become a Spring Lake Docent**

The Spring Lake Historical Society has a few openings for the position of Docent. The work consists of welcoming visitors to the Museum, showing them what is available and how it is laid out, and offering a friendly, helpful presence as they explore. The Museum is open two hours each on Sunday afternoons and Thursday mornings, winters and Tuesday and Thursday mornings throughout the summer. A Docent is usually needed to serve once a month on either of those days. Please consider joining us in promoting and maintaining the history of a great town. Call the Museum at 732-449-0772 for more information.

Marie Curry

### **Condolences....**

The Spring Lake Historical Society extends condolences to the families of the following:

Dorothy Jane Lau  
*(Member, Former President of the SLHS)*

Walter P. Livingston *(Member)*

Elizabeth Patterson "Betty" Robinson *(Member)*

Janet C. Davin

Richard Peter O'Day

Joseph Brennan

Robert "Bob" Nesnay

Rosemary Vorbach

Edwin A. Butler *(Life Member)*

Kathleen "Kelly" Brogowski

John Mullen

Rosemary (Roey) T. Mylod *(Member)*

Robert Joseph Dawson, Sr. *(Member)*



**Spring Lake Historical Society**  
**Newsletter**  
 P.O. Box. 703  
 Spring Lake, NJ 07762  
 (732) 449-0772  
 Website: [springlakehistoricalsociety.org](http://springlakehistoricalsociety.org)

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**For Current Members:** Please update your e-mail address with the Society and send to [slhs703@optimum.net](mailto:slhs703@optimum.net)

Spring Lake Historical Society, Inc.  
 P.O. Box 703, Spring Lake, New Jersey 07762  
 New     Renewal

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 General: \$35    Date \_\_\_\_\_    Life: \$1,000

- OFFICERS**
- President.....Barbara Kolarisick-Harrigan
  - Vice President.....John McGlinchey
  - Treasurer .....Robert Drashoff
  - Corresponding Secretary.....Stephanie McMurray
  - Recording Secretary .....Priscilla Reilly
  - Trustees.....Bonnie Dubois, Carole Morris and Marie Curry
  - Newsletter.....Marie Curry, John McGlinchey, Bonnie Dubois, Barbara Kolarisick-Harrigan, Stephanie McMurray



**MUSEUM HOURS**  
 Sundays 1:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
 Thursdays 10 a.m. - 12 Noon  
 423 Warren Ave., Spring Lake, NJ  
 (Second Floor)