



# Spring Lake Historical Society, Inc.

# Newsletter

August 2021

Vol. 42, No 1

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### A Report On Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

The Spring Lake Historical Society was not as active an organization over the past year as it has been in previous years due to the historic coronavirus that struck globally and continues to affect all of us. However, 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.

Memories of this historical Covid 19 time 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 am -12 noon and winter schedule to Sundays, 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm, Thursdays, 10 am – 12 noon. On sale at the Museum are the popular coasters with landmark places on them, replicated South End decorative tiles, flags, notecards, shirts, and other small SLHS logo items.

Last year's fundraiser that replaced the Annual House Tour was the Attic Treasures Sale held in September at the train station. It was very successful, and helped our finances; although, it did not fully replace the proceeds from previous house tours. We were most grateful to the Borough's mayor and council for their support and permission. This year we will be holding another Attic Treasures Sale on Saturday, September 18, 2021 and would once again appreciate our members support and donations of items.

General Meetings were sparse this past year. Other than the meeting for the Annual Election of Officers and Scholarship Awards in early July, 2020, we were unable to procure a guest speaker for the fall general meeting. The 2021 annual meeting was on Tuesday, June 29, 7:00 pm at the Fire House #1 on Fifth Avenue for the purpose of electing officers and awarding scholarships. This year we re-elected the following positions: Vice President – John McGlinchy; Treasurer – Bob Drasheff; Trustee – Marie Curry; and Trustee – Carole Morris. Three scholarships were awarded to graduating high school seniors and the Elizabeth Saklas Nursing Continuing Education Scholarship, offered by Pete Saklas in memory of his wife was awarded.

The monthly history articles sent to the members and then posted on our website have been very popular according to the feed-back about them. A hard copy Newsletter with hotels/guest cottages history will be coming out in early August, but the on line articles will continue again in September. Telling the history of Spring Lake is the purpose of our general meetings so publishing on line is another way to better reach our membership, especially in these times.

I wish to acknowledge the following dedicated board members and chair persons who offer so much of their time and knowledge to keep this organization viable. Everyone is so responsible and takes 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; Attic Treasures Sale

Barbara Curran: Historic Sites Plaque

Dorothy Lau: Research (historian); Newsletter

Liz Finnerty: Parliamentarian; Scholarships

Mary Jane Burke: Hospitality; Attic Treasures Sale

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Kolarsick-Harrigan, President

## The Spring Lake Historical Society Scholarship 2021 Winners



Left to Right: Michael White, Theresa Rue, Abigeal Gammond and Brendan McHugh.

### Michael White

It is with pleasure that the Spring Lake Historical Society awards a scholarship to Michael White. The grandson of former Spring Lake mayor Lou Taylor, Michael is a third generation Spring Laker.

A recent graduate of Christian Brothers Academy, Michael is an honors student. Matthew Meehan, Dean of Students at CBA, notes that Michael is a young man of high character who carries himself with maturity and grace. He is a very focused and disciplined student with a creative mind. Michael is described as a vibrant, energetic, and motivated student athlete by the Director of Guidance, Colleen M. Hayes.

Michael is an accomplished athlete. He has been on CBA's varsity basketball team since freshman year. He is a competitive player who realizes the importance of being a team player.

Michael credits being able to grow up in Spring Lake as his motivation for helping others less fortunate than he is. As president of the Spring Lake Drug Prevention Alliance, he helps young people make wise decisions. At CBA he helped raise funds

for a school in Eritrea in East Africa, worked on coat drives, on food drives, baby supplies drives, and sports equipment drives. He is an active member of the CYO. Michael is a leader. He has been a member of Student Council for four years.

Michael is not afraid of hard work. During the summer he works as a beach life guard during the day and at night he works in a local ice cream shop. When he can find the time, he also caddies.

In the fall, Michael will be heading to the Dolan School of Business at Fairfield University, where he will study economics. We wish you the very best Michael. With your strong work ethic, your leadership skills, and your love of learning we know you will do very well.

### Abigeal Gammond

The Historical Society is very pleased to award a scholarship to Abigeal Gammond. A recent graduate of St. Rose High School, Abigeal is a hard worker who maintained good grades while taking a rigorous course load which included honors and advanced placement courses. Kimberly Wight, Abigeal's school counselor, describes Abigeal as a woman of action who always puts forth her best effort.

Abigeal learned to swim at the Spring Lake beach as a very young child and her passion for swimming has helped form her character. When COVID restrictions canceled her swim meets, she never stopped training and she pushed herself to make sure she conditioned everyday which required being in the pool for about 3 hours a day.

As a member of the Monmouth Barracudas Swim Club, Abigeal has been a leader in the club's charity events. Over the past four years she has helped raise over \$10,000, providing funds for 12 families with limited means to celebrate the holidays. These funds are also used to help families with children with cancer. The money buys iPads, cell phones, and computers so that the children can stay in touch with school and their friends.

During the summers, Abigeal volunteers with Beach Buddies, an organization which pairs strong swimmers with local children with special needs

for a fun day at the beach.

All of us hope to make a difference in life. Abigeal has already done this. On her fourth day working as a lifeguard, she spotted a mother gripping tightly to her young son in the rough ocean. Just as Abigeal was calling for backup, the mother lost grip of her child. Abigeal sprang off her lifeguard post and into the rough water. She rushed to the boy as another lifeguard grabbed the mother. Abigeal then proceeded to perform life saving techniques to the young boy on the shore. Her quick action and calm demeanor under pressure saved the young boy's life.

This fall, Abigeal will head to Marist College where she will study athletic training and biology. She hopes to use her knowledge help people overcome their injuries. We wish her the very best.

## **Brendan McHugh**

It is with pleasure that the Spring Lake Historical Society offers a scholarship to Brendan McHugh. A recent graduate of Christian Brothers Academy, Brendan is an honors student. Considered a diligent student, his course load included many honors and advanced placement courses, as well as long hours of practice for crew. Brendan's theology teacher, Frederick DiBrienna, describes Brendan as an honest person of integrity and poise, who has strong values and great personal discipline. His math teacher, Laurie Richardson says that Brendan is a hard worker who handles responsibility well.

Brendan was a member of the CBA crew team and looks forward to continuing crew on the university level. He shares his passion for rowing by teaching Special Olympics Athletes. He also helped out in the CBA garden growing food to be donated to local food banks and worked for the Best Day Foundation to give those with special needs a great day at the beach.

Brendan realizes that you don't have to be a member of a charitable organization to do good work. This past winter, Brendan and his mom realized that there was a need in Spring Lake. Signing up for a COVID vaccine was difficult, especially for those lacking great technology skills. Something needed to be done, so Brendan and his mom went to work on their computers, and scheduled vaccine appointments for friends and family here in Spring Lake.

This fall, Brendan will head to Massachusetts

to study computer science at Tufts University. We wish him well and look forward to hearing how he continues to use his technological skills to help others.

## **2021 Elizabeth Saklas Memorial Nursing Scholarship**

### **Theresa Rue**

On behalf of Pete Saklas, it is an honor to present The Elizabeth Saklas Memorial Scholarship to Theresa Rue. After graduating from nursing school, Theresa began her nursing career at Jersey Shore University Medical Center on Northwest 6, a medical/surgical unit. At the hospital, she has gained a reputation for being helpful, flexible, and dependable. Catherine Reed, Director of Nursing, sees Theresa as a woman with a positive attitude who is always willing to help. Theresa has an enthusiasm and a passion for learning. She strives to learn as much as she can so that she can provide the best care for all of her patients.

Theresa loves being a bedside nurse, and while acting as charge nurse discovered another passion. She also enjoys the management and business aspect of nursing. She enjoys making a difference in the lives of the patients she cares for, but now aspires to also make a difference to the healthcare system as a whole. Theresa has said that she wants to serve as an effective nurse leader for the community in which patients feel heard, cared for, and hopeful in times of uncertainty.

Theresa is well on her way to doing just that. She is enrolled at Chamberlain University where she has earned outstanding grades. She is currently working on her Master's Degree.

This past year, Theresa has done much to offer hope in times of uncertainty. She works on the COVID unit at Jersey Shore. This past year, Theresa has learned that providing excellent care is so much more than giving the right medications, performing the right tests and changing the bed linens on time. Excellent care is looking into a patient's eyes as they talk about their illness. It means playing music, telling jokes, listening to a lifetime of experience, comforting frightened relatives, and holding hands when the end comes.

## SPRING LAKE – A SUMMER RESORT OF HOTELS/COTTAGES

Grand hotels and summer “cottages” that were built here in the early years defined the beginning of a resort from a farming/fishing area of Wall Township. Upon discovering “Fresh Creek Pond”, now called Spring Lake, Rev. Dr. Alphonso Willets of Philadelphia formed the Spring Lake Beach Improvement Company in 1875 to procure investors from Philadelphia to help develop the area as a resort known as Spring Lake Beach. His initial intention was to establish a Methodist Meeting Camp for religious purposes like Ocean Grove’s summer colony. Instead of a religious colony, business leaders of the company, including the Rev. Dr. Willits, focused on building hotels and guest cottages to accommodate the anticipated wealthy visitors expected to vacation at the beach and lake. The extension of the rail line south from Long Branch in 1875 contributed significantly to the growth of the resort.

The 266 acre Osborn Farm was purchased by the company and groundbreaking on the first and largest hotel, the Monmouth House, was started in November of 1875. It was situated between Spring Lake, “Fresh Creek Pond”, and the ocean. The Monmouth House opened for business in June of 1876. It catered to the wealthy, offered broad piazzas, large well-ventilated rooms, and electric call bells in every apartment. The 250 room hotel featured a 1,000 seat dining room, two large ocean view parlors, heat, gas lights, a steam-operated elevator, and was 50 yards from the ocean. Furniture for the hotel had been brought in by May, 1876, and delivered by rail from Grand Rapids, Michigan, a popular wood products supplier at that time. President Ulysses S. Grant was one of its visitors and early guests.

On September 19, 1900, the Monmouth House and twelve other buildings were destroyed in the worst fire in Spring Lake’s history. Three years later, the hotel was completely rebuilt and renamed the New Monmouth Hotel. The New Monmouth Hotel was built



*The Monmouth Hotel*

at a cost of \$350,000 funded by Philadelphia and Trenton Investors. Marquis Martin Maloney, philanthropist and Philadelphia utilities mogul was the largest stockholder, State Senator O.H. Brown of Spring Lake Beach was a shareholder and director, and David R. Plummer of Lakewood served as general manager. Over the years, the Monmouth was host to balls, week-end concerts, dinner dances, and Sunday night buffets where ice carvings of swans gracefully decorated the serving table. There was intimate dancing in the Bermuda Room, Thursday night galas, and Hawaiian luaus at poolside. The hotel was almost a town in itself; single and double tennis courts, grand ballroom, laundry, and three kitchens. It even

had its own power generator. After three generations of ownership by the Duggan family, it was demolished in 1975, and the property sold for private building lots. Changing vacation habits which led to economic infeasibility was blamed for its demise.

By 1877, more construction had been completed in Spring Lake Beach. The Carleton House, located diagonally across the street from the Monmouth House between Monmouth and Atlantic Avenues, was built at this time. This hotel would be destroyed by the fire of 1900 and never rebuilt.

The Lake House had been bought from Philadelphia’s 1876 Centennial Exhibition and brought to the corner of Fifth and Warren Avenues, now Potter Park. This three-wing building had been used as an information center and meeting place at the U.S. 1876 celebration in Philadelphia. As a hotel, it featured a bowling alley, a popular sport at that time. The Lake House was demolished in 1904 and the bowling alley was saved and eventually ended up at Alexander’s, a popular establishment on Third Avenue.

Also, during this same period, many other cottages were being built by a number of developers. The Hastings Square Co., formed by Anna Baird, built 10 surf cottages on the block between Essex and Sussex Avenues on Ocean Avenue, extending back to First Avenue. Cottages were appealing to some people as they offered more privacy. The two largest cottages were the Essex House and the Sussex House, which had their own dining rooms and were essentially small hotels. They were all located on the block north of the Monmouth House. In 1891, Susan Urie purchased the Hastings Square block and was proprietor of the ten cottages. The disastrous fire of 1900 burned the Essex House, but not the Sussex House nor the cottage in between the two corner cottages on the ocean. In 1901, the Sussex was damaged by fire, but restored and joined with the remaining cottage adjacent to it to become the Essex and Sussex Hotel. Other Urie-owned cottages were subsequently lost to fires, and, other than the Essex and Sussex Hotel, the last remaining cottage on the ocean, the Breakers, was destroyed in the fire of 1909. In 1913, to make room for Susan Urie’s ambitious project to build a grand hotel, the Essex and Sussex Hotel was moved to the north side of Essex Avenue, adjacent to First Avenue and facing the New Monmouth Hotel. (The present E & S parking lot area). The wooden sided cottages would be joined to the newly constructed mostly brick façade hotel.

The new Essex & Sussex Hotel, built in 1914, opening on July 1 of that year, copied the previous lines, columns, porches, and roof lines of the original hotel, and along with the Monmouth was one of the largest hotels in town. Susan Urie sold it to The Hastings Square Hotel Company in March of 1914 before it opened in July. Officers and directors of the Hastings Square Company included wealthy and influential men: Mayor and former Senator

Oliver H. Brown, Fred F. Schock, Sr., Benjamin Pearce, David Plummer, Samuel Heilner, and Alexander Hemphill. The building was planned with five stories and a basement; a foyer 148 feet long, 45 feet wide, with columns and two fireplaces; and, a main dining room to accommodate 240 guests. Also planned were a Palm Court, Music Room, Children's Dining Room, Power Plant, Barber Shop, and staff rooms. Its garage was located on Morris Avenue between Second and Third Avenues because overnight parking was not allowed on the streets at that time, nor is it today.

This quote is from an early hotel brochure, *Opened July 1, 1914, to those "seeking the highest class of summer season hospitality."* Those few words underscore what made the Essex and Sussex famous. As remembered by the late George Burton, a longtime bar manager at the Essex and Sussex, *The Monmouth was a gracious place; it attracted the sporting crowd, a younger crowd. The Essex and Sussex was a little more formal, a little more staid. They used to come down on the train and bring big trunks with them. It took three or four hours to get here from North Jersey, New York, and Philadelphia, and guests often stayed the entire season.* In 1929, the north wing was added to the hotel, providing an additional seventy-five guest rooms. Otherwise, the face of the 6-story structure had undergone only such cosmetic freshening as paint for the pillars, cupolas and shutters, and the addition of the three-story portico that dominated the view from the oceanfront. During the years of ownership by the Schock Family, an original investor, it flourished as the summer retreat of the socially and politically prominent, as well as the hosting of both private and public social events. In 1955, the Essex Lounge was opened to the public and offered dancing and entertainment for the guests. In 1964, the Fiftieth Anniversary was celebrated with a Ball. Among the invited guests were the Hon. And Mrs. Richard Nixon and Gov. and Mrs. Richard J. Hughes. The Schock Family sold the hotel to the Essex and Sussex Hotel Corporation in 1970, which in turn sold it in 1976 to Charles and Terri Carroll. They operated the hotel until 1985, the hotel's final season. During this period, scenes from the movie, *Ragtime*, starring James Cagney, Pat O'Brien, and Mary Steenburgen were filmed at the hotel and on its beachfront. After the hotel complex was sold to be converted by the new owner into condominiums, the plans were halted in 1989 by the bank which held the mortgage. During bank ownership, the original Urie Essex & Sussex hotel/cottages, were taken down because they posed a safety hazard due to their deteriorated condition. In 1993, the Joseph Barry Applied Development Company purchased the hotel, rehabbed it and converted the building into the quite popular senior-owned, kitchen-restricted condominiums of today.

Another building which sprung up around the lake was the Hulett Cottage at 106 Sussex Avenue, one of about 10 buildings built by George Hulett, originally of Freehold.

Hulett purchased lumber from the buildings of the 1876 Centennial Exhibit in Philadelphia so it is safe to assume this cottage was constructed using some of that lumber. It was later called the Wedgewood, and after that known as Ashling Cottage, operated until recently as a guest house.

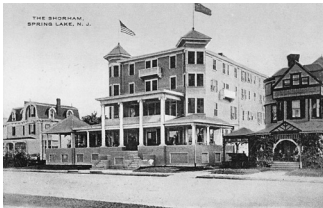
The Missouri House on Ocean Road was bought and then shipped from the Centennial Exhibit in Philadelphia, and established first as a residence before becoming the Rainbow Cottage in 1921. Sometime later it was renamed Arragea Hytte. In WWII, it was used as a rest home for soldiers. The Missouri House is beautifully restored as a private residence and maintains the "M" identification on the front. At 207 Atlantic Avenue, in 1877, lumber from the Portuguese Pavilion of the 1876 Centennial Exhibit was used to re-erect that government building as a private home. By 1890, it had become a cottage called the Barry House; then, sometime later it was known as the Billows. This structure was torn down in the early 1980's.

Located at First and Sussex Avenues, the Ocean House has a long standing history as an accommodating hotel/guest house. Margaret Devine of Philadelphia purchased the land and commissioned the building of a boarding cottage named Ocean House. The Sussex Avenue entrance leads to the reception lobby which includes the historic staircase transported in the late 1870's from the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition. A ten foot portion of the staircase is in the Smithsonian as the full staircase did not fit in the building. This hotel closed the 19th century as the Baltimore, becoming the Colonial early in the 20th century with ownership passing to businessman O.H. Brown. Mr. Brown furnished it with some of the dressers, stands and accessories from his fine furniture shop on Third Avenue in town. The hotel was operated by Henry Taylor and Roscoe Jones. Henry and his wife, Margaret, purchased the hotel in 1928, added to the size and changed the façade to stucco. Oliver H. Brown had given the Taylors a loan in 1928 to help finance the purchase, and the estate of O.H. Brown extended the loan through the Depression and up into the 1940's. The Taylor's son, Harold, and daughter-in-law, Dorothy, joined his parents in operating the hotel before it was sold to the Mitchells in the 1980's, who then renamed it the Colonial Ocean House. In 1998 the Kaloostian Family purchased it, and today the Ocean House still operates under the capable proprietorship of the Kaloostian Family.

Records show that in the late 1880's, James Sexton owned the land at Fifth and Warren Avenues, and had erected a building there. That building would subsequently be known as the Chateau Inn. Sexton had owned and operated a funeral home at that location for a short time, and according to *The Seaside Gazette*, he opened a cigar store and upholstering business there also. By 1905, maps indicate the property was known as the "Spring Lake Inn". The Villa, a typical summer cottage, was built circa 1905 on Warren Avenue facing Potter Park. It would become annexed to the Chateau Inn and, the annex created a courtyard with the original Inn.

Through the years, additions have extended the original building north along Fifth Avenue. At one point, it also was advertised as the Chateau Motel. It gained prominence the early 1950's as "the summer home of the stars." A number of rooms were named for celebrity guests such as Geraldine Page, Buster Keaton, Constance Bennett, and Basil Rathbone. Other guests have included Ann Margaret, Rod Laver, Arthur Treacher, Edward Everett Horton, Julius LaRosa, Hermione Gingold, and baseball player Gil McDougal. In 1988, a second story was added, along with a widow's watch, to the original structure. Under the stewardship of the Smith family, dating back to 1951 and into the 21st century, the Chateau prospered, was preserved and is a notable landmark when entering Spring Lake. Today's Chateau Inn and Suites' charm and quality accommodations continue under the proprietorship of Scosmic Inc.

In 1892, Haddon Hall was built on Monmouth Avenue overlooking the south shore of Spring Lake and featured a "house-type" front. It was renamed The Gray Swan Inn in 1907. The guest house was bought in 1930 by Frank Van Brunt who added 60 rooms, a new dining room, and changed its name to the Shoreham Hotel. In 1953, George Pottle installed elevators, sprinklers, a pool, and a very popular cocktail lounge in the hotel. Guests were



***The Shoreham Hotel***

transported around town in a carriage with a surrey on top. Paul and Lorraine Sciurba bought it in 1982, refurbished and updated it, including air-conditioning, but sold it to Adeline Schofel in 1988. She renovated it some more; however, other problems caused her to declare bankruptcy in 1991 resulting in a mortgage foreclosure. During her proprietorship, evening entertainment included karaoke, live Broadway entertainment and a cozy cocktail lounge. Carmel Quinn, famed Irish entertainer, made the Shoreham her summer home. The Shoreham was torn down in the 1990's and three residential houses were erected on the land.

One of many of the early guest accommodating hotel/cottages was the Palmer House built in 1886. In 1923, the Palmer House was renamed the Lake View by its owner, M. L. Miller. The Lake View and Shoreham were similar in size and architectural style. In 1950, Mr. & Mrs. Morris bought the hotel and also bought the house to the back of the Lake View called the Ridgewood and used it as an annex for additional guests. The front portion of the Lake View was once owned by Martin Maloney and was used by him as a summer house for his guests. The Lake View was torn down in 1981. Another early hotel was the Atlantic House which sat on the corner of Third and Atlantic Avenues until it was torn down about fourteen years ago.

At 104 Salem Avenue is the Spring Lake Hotel, built by Timothy Hurley in 1888 and known as Timothy Hurley's Grand Central Stables Carriage House, a stagecoach stop

with hotel rooms on the top floor for the coachmen. Originally it was located at First and Atlantic Avenues across from the Monmouth Hotel before being moved and converted. Mr. Hurley was the town's first dog pound keeper and part of the kennel still stands on Atlantic Avenue behind the hotel. Through the years it was upgraded and improvements were made by multiple different owners. The hotel still offers guests relaxing, charming accommodations.

In 1876, Smith Hughes of Germantown, PA began construction on cottages using the wood which had been used for the Agricultural Hall from the 1776 Centennial. Two cottages were joined and known as the Seaholm Hotel. Eventually four cottages would be joined and called the Hewitt-Wellington. It is still situated on West Lake and Monmouth Avenues. In 1900, the 3-story high columned entryway was not yet there, but early 1900 photos show the high entryway was soon added. There were various owners and operators of the hotel from 1882 – 1926. During this period it was noted as a luxurious holiday retreat for the wealthy.

In the early 1950's the Hewitt-Wellington was purchased by Margaret and Michael Malone, who, along with their ten children operated the hotel. Upgrades were made to the hotel and rooms were given names which matched their décor. There was the "Wicker Room", the "Pink Room", complete with a pink velvet sofa, and the "Soda Room" where guests could enjoy a soda from the old-fashioned ice chest. It was a family-oriented hotel and often included sing-alongs on rainy or cold evenings.

In 1978, the hotel was sold to Lynn and Ralph Davino and Lynn's parents and brother, the Stantons. It was often used for weddings, conferences, and seminars. It was also used as a backdrop for multiple modeling shoots.

A partnership between CT Investments, Inc. and Prospect Ventures, Inc. purchased the property in 1987, and turned it into Spring Lake's first condominium hotel, minus cooking facilities, consisting of 29 rooms and suites. Improvements were made including a new swimming pool. A gourmet restaurant, "Whispers," is also located in the building.



***The Breakers***

The Breakers, not to be confused with present day Breakers, sat on Ocean Avenue north of the Sussex Cottage in Spring Lake Beach and was destroyed by fire in 1909, but was not rebuilt.

Originally it was known as the Aldine and Louis N. Moss was the proprietor. It was similar in construction to the Shoreham Hotel with its circular porch and columned entranceway. It was a very upscale hotel and would have been in competition for the rich and famous with the Monmouth Hotel, a block away. (Maybe that's why it was never rebuilt after the fire).

Built circa 1888, Moorehead Cottage on Atlantic Avenue across from the Monmouth Hotel would become the ever

popular Sandpiper Hotel. To the east side and part of the cottage's property was open space converted to a putting green, used by the many guests of both the Monmouth and the Sandpiper hotels. The Moorehead Cottage was spared in the great fire of 1900 which destroyed much of Atlantic and Monmouth Avenues, including the original Monmouth House and most of the business district around the Lake. In 1937, Edwin and Clara Alexander purchased the Sandpiper and began renovations. They changed the cottage's structure by adding a ground level floor, and had the idea to create an upscale tea house, restaurant, with the hotel above. They hoped to attract diners walking to and from the South End Pavilion. The very popular place played host to Albert Einstein, who came from Princeton on weekends to enjoy the relaxing seaside resort. Unfortunately, the Sandpiper was torn down about five years ago.



**The Allaire**

The southern-most situated hotel in Spring Lake Beach was the Allaire at Ocean and Union Avenues. In 1886, the land was owned by Allen and Emily Richardson, and in 1895, Emily, one of many women landowners in town, opened the doors of the hotel for the first time. The Allaire was quite large, but at that time, only guests of Christian persuasion could enjoy a tennis court, bath houses, and a private beach. It featured a sunny southern entrance with a welcoming and comfortable lobby. With its magnificent oceanfront location and superb accommodations it earned its "first class hotel" reputation. During the 1940's, the Allaire was run by Pearl and Orva Holmes of West Belmar, NJ. They both had married into the Colgate Toothpaste family, but were divorced when they became the hotel entrepreneurs. It was during this time that Jack Sullivan, of the later famous Sullivan's Night Club, who was employed at the hotel, earned the reputation as "the host of the coast". The Holmes sisters also hosted visiting stars such as Basil Rathbone, Arthur Treacher and Ruth Gordon, who stayed at the Allaire while performing for the Ivy Tower Playhouse at the Spring Lake Community House. John McNab succeeded the Holmes sisters as owner in 1950. Under his management the "Shipmate's Room" became a famous watering hole for summer visitors.

About five years after that, Lester Harvey, Sr. operated the hotel until Richard Carroll purchased the Allaire in 1969. Carroll's other brothers owned and operated the Warren Hotel and the Essex and Sussex. It was during Richard's management that Spring Lake is believed to have been advertised as the "Irish Riviera"; although, the phrase is attributed to Mr. Farrell, a former manager of the Monmouth. However, with changing times, the Allaire lost much of its earlier appeal and fell into disrepair. The hotel, long vacant and out of character with the surrounding neighborhood, was razed during the summer of 1989. There are now nine homes where the century-old landmark once stood.

Mrs. Emma Lucas, another business woman, purchased three lots in 1891 from James Moses and erected a double four-storied building that became known as the "Lucas Cottages." The Warren Hotel was built in their place. Under different owners in 1921, the west and south portions were added to the original cottage. All the additions were framed to match the original building; the stucco finish was added later. An additional "Beach House" was purchased to give the Warren oceanfront lodging. This Victorian building had been erected for Mr. A. D. Logan in the 1880's.

In 1939, Fred and Amelia Cosgrove purchased the furnished Warren Hotel. During this period, there were costume parties, scavenger hunts, and hayrides for the guests. It was a family-oriented clientele and the guests were not transient, often staying for a month at a time. The hotel was seasonal, only open from Memorial Day to Labor Day. The Warren once entertained famous personalities including Bob Hope and Rocky Marciano.

In the early 1970's, the Warren was purchased by Chuck Carroll, who then sold it to his sister, Mary Carroll Long and her husband Thomas Long. It was one of the last full-American hotels which offered three meals a day included in the rate, and one of the last few "old-guard" hotels where guests could stay for the entire summer. The Longs upgraded all the two hundred rooms of the Victorian style hotel. A great deal of the Warren's business was generated by its banquet facility, which could accommodate between 50 and 450 guests. The Warren was advertised as one of the last dining rooms between New York City and Atlantic City to offer live music and dancing. People who stayed there could attest that the Warren's main hallway had changed very little over sixty-five years. As were most of the other bigger hotels in Spring Lake, the Warren was torn down in 2001, and the very popular Beach House met the same fate soon after.

Wilburton-By-The-Sea was built by C.W. Tuttle in 1882 on Ocean and Newark Avenues in the area then known as Brighton, part of North Spring Lake. It was a four-story structure with two high towers and wide verandas to enjoy the view. A telegraph office was also established at the hotel. In 1885, there was a lot of competition to buy it from a sheriff's sale, and records show L. Nzair Moss owned and operated it in 1909. Sometime between 1909 and 1914, it was renamed the Breakers following the destruction by fire of the Spring Lake Beach hotel by that name. The 110-room boarding house/hotel had a bathroom at the end of each hall, operating that way for many years.



**Wilburton-By-The-Sea**

Cosmo Scardino purchased it from the Cody family in 1980 and did extensive renovations. The interior was gutted and private baths, Jacuzzis, VCRs, and other modern amenities were added. With a special allowance

granted by the state, it opened as a year-round hotel, cultivating corporate businesses, weddings, etc. In the later 20th century, in order for the Breakers and other similar resort hotels to remain solvent, it was necessary for these hotels to continue operation throughout the year. In 1989, a State Senate bill, nicknamed "The Breakers Bill," was passed which has allowed hotels, guest houses, rooming houses and boarding houses on the Atlantic Ocean to operate on a year-round basis.



***The Letworth***

The Letworth hotel was erected circa 1883 and was named for John Letchworth of Philadelphia, who built and operated the hotel. It overlooked the bluffs (dunes) and its own private beach in the Brighton area of North Spring Lake, next to the Breakers. Sarah and Alice Letchworth operated the hotel from 1907 to 1926 when they sold it to two school teachers, Winifred Gilmartin and Kathryn Hyle of Glen Cove, NJ. They would teach from autumn to spring, then come down and open the hotel during the summer

Moulton House, Ludlow Ave.  
 The Normandy Inn, Tuttle Ave.  
 The Carriage House, Jersey Ave.  
 The Johnson House Inn, Tuttle Ave.  
 Stone Post Inn, Washington Ave.  
 The Shamrock Lodge (White Lilac) Central Ave.  
 Villa Park Inn, Ocean Rd.  
 Jack Sullivan's Lodge, Fifth & Passaic Aves.

months. (These are two more examples of respectable women's roles in the business of operating hotels in Spring Lake).

In 1949, the Letchworth was purchased by Anna McCaffrey and Rosemary and William T. Schreck. They added a chef's room and a bathroom to the third floor. On the outside, the Schrecks added a back porch and installed a driveway on the south side of the building. Subsequent owners, starting in 1967 have also remodeled, made changes, and operated this inn. It was renamed the Kenilworth in 1981 when it was purchased by Ross Mason, whose hometown in England was of that name. In 1989, a different owner's manager embezzled over \$18,000. 1990 saw a new owner who renamed it The Grand Victorian. It now operates as a year round inn with a restaurant open to the public.

There were numerous cottages/hotels that existed in Spring Lake with notable histories. This article has provided information on the ones most documented, starting in Spring Lake's earliest times. Following is a list of others that the reader may recognize and remember:

La Maison, Jersey Ave. (Layton House)  
 The Sea Crest, Tuttle Ave. (Carolina House)  
 The Sarann, First Ave.  
 The Victoria House, Monmouth Ave.  
 The Beachcomber, Ocean Rd.  
 Pennsylvania Hotel, Ocean Rd.  
 The Tara House, Jersey Ave.

From the Spring Lake Historical Society Archives  
 Barbara Kolarsick-Harrigan

## A Tribute to Mary Lou Oliva



Mary Lou Nelson Oliva 84, of Wall, NJ formerly of Spring Lake, NJ passed Friday, February 26, 2021 at Jersey Shore Univ. Medical Center.

Born in Elmhurst, NY. She was the first registered student at The Mary Louis Academy in Jamaica Estates, NY of which her father built the church and the school.

Mary Lou later lived in Spring Lake, NJ for nearly 30 years with her predeceased husband Peter J. Oliva. She was a very active parishioner of St. Catharine / St. Margaret Church, Spring Lake, NJ, where she was the parish archivist. She was also an inducted Lady Of The Equestrian Order of The Holy Sepulcher Of Jerusalem. She had her Master's Degree in Records Management where she worked at Merck, Rahway until her retirement, then as a consultant for PJO Consultants.

Mary Lou was also a very dedicated President of the Spring Lake Historical Society. She was a true leader. In her duties as Church Historian, she conducted in-depth tours of St. Catharine Church for House Tours and for official requests.



A friend commented, "Mary Lou and her late husband were so welcoming to Jean and I and our family when we moved into the neighborhood with our three children and two dogs back in 2002. Mary Lou and Peter would organize a summer party where all of our neighbors on Sussex Avenue would gather and boy those were really special. As the years went on, Mary Lou encouraged me to get more involved in our parish at St. Catharine-St. Margaret and what a joy to work with when I was on the Pastoral Council. Peter would always keep a watch on our house when we were away and I have so many fond memories of chatting with Mary Lou and her lovable dog PJ. We are blessed to have known Mary Lou and take comfort knowing that she now rests in God's loving arms. I think I can hear the Lord saying, "Well done, my faithful servant."

***Barbara Kolarsick-Harrigan, current President of the Historical Society commented***

"Mary Lou contributed her time and her organizational skills to the betterment of the Spring Lake Historical Society, serving as President from 2012 - 2016 and as a Trustee after that. She was quite dedicated to all her volunteer work and worked hard at it. I'll never forget her telling me she would accept being President of the

Society before she became too old to serve. She gave a lot as a volunteer in different organizations and to St. Catharine Church. Amen to all she did to help."

***Monsignor Harold Cullen, former pastor of St. Catharine commented***

"Heard with great sadness about the passing of Mary Lou. Unfortunately cannot be physically present for her funeral but I did celebrate Mass in her memory, and have thought about and prayed for her frequently during the past 2 years. During my years as pastor of St. Catharine-St. Margaret parish, Mary Lou (and her beloved King Charles Cavalier puppy) was a constant and supportive presence and friend. She was always generous and supportive of the parish and the Diocese and a reliable friend. I am sure that she was greeted at the gates of Heaven by my predecessor pastor, Msgr. Luebking, of whom she liked to claim before he died, that she was "his favorite parishioner!" As the Archivist of the parish, she brought her personal and professional skills to create a wonderful and superbly organized treasure of the history of the parish that will be a source of great richness in the years ahead. I pray for her with the words on my own mother's gravestone in Ireland; "Ar dheis De go raibh a anam" ("May her soul rest at the right hand of God")

## Remembering Jane Haulenbeek

It is with great sadness we announce the death of Elizabeth Jane Haulenbeek on April 10th. Born in her family's home in Ocean Grove on New Year's Eve of 1923, Jane grew up in Belmar and lived in Spring Lake for the past 61 years.

She is survived by her son John A. Haulenbeek and his wife Karen, her daughter Nancy E. Haulenbeek and her husband Robert D. Peterson, and her two beloved grandchildren Myles and Avery Peterson. She also leaves behind six nieces and nephews who she adored.

Jane lived a full life in her 97 years – one rich with family, friends, and community. Passionate about history, she traced her family's roots to their arrival in Massachusetts in the 17th century. Her interest in language was equally broad and a dictionary was typically by her side. She was a dedicated volunteer who loved the opportunity to serve and to make new friends. She was a founding member of the Spring Lake Historical Society, the Spring Lake Garden Club, and the Spring Lake Shade Tree Committee. She co-chaired Spring Lake's Centennial Committee and served on the town's Clock and Gazabo Committees. She also served for 15 years on Spring Lake's Board of Elections.

The Historical Society remembers all she contributed in time and effort. She and Gale D'Luhy were responsible for our Postal Card. Who could forget Jane in her Gay-Ninties outfit at the Warren Farewell Party and in the parade for Spring Lake's 100th Anniversary.

Jane was one of the founders of the Shark River Yacht Club, a member of St. Andrews Methodist Church, a

trustee of the Spring Lake Presbyterian Trustees, past president of the Fitkin Morgan Auxiliary of Jersey Shore Medical Center, and a past member of The Ariel Club, the Woman's Club of Spring Lake, and the Spring Lake Library Society.

Jane was also a long-time member of the Spring Lake Golf Club, the Belmar Fishing Club and many bridge clubs. She had a generous love of entertaining, welcoming all into her home. She enjoyed hosting large family gatherings and tailgating with friends at Giant games.

Those of you who knew her will not be surprised that she left pages of notes to help the family with this obituary. That meticulous attention to detail and desire to help is a large part of her legacy. Looking at the list of organizations she gave so much of her time to and her loving relationships with her family and a wide circle of friends reveals two consistent themes in her life: a generous interest in others and a willingness to work. She loved people and always took the time to learn about all those she met. Her kindness was always present, and she had the knack of picking out exactly the right gift for every occasion.

It's funny – she loved to talk but her most important lessons were not spoken. She lived a life of example and in that life were her most valuable lessons. She was always busy and always expected the best from herself. The way she lived her life she showed us the value of being a participant, not a spectator and taught us that no matter what we wanted to do – we should always give our best effort.

## 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?

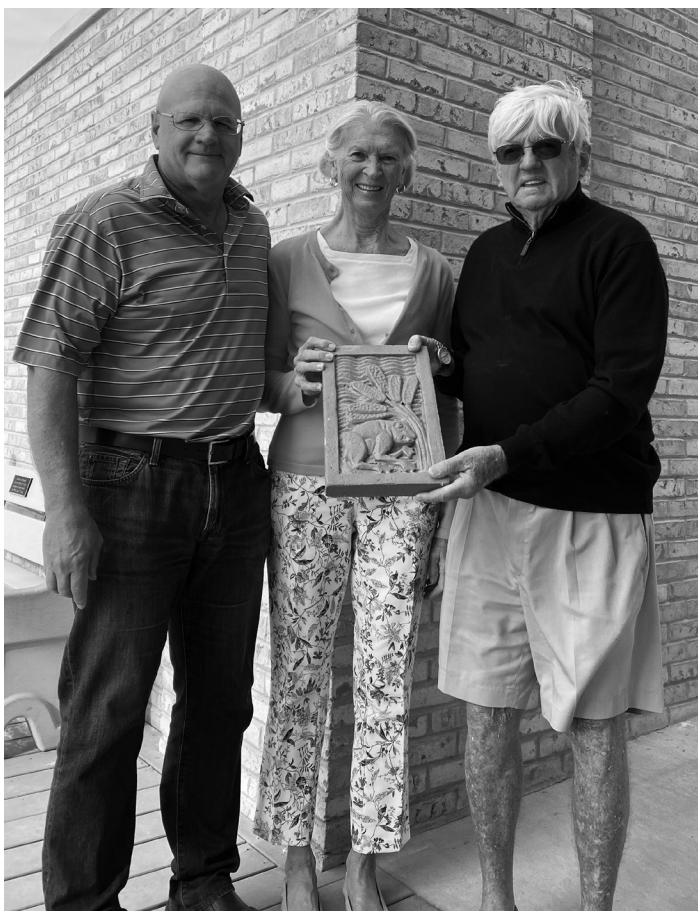
Who would open it up, and who would greet visitors as they arrived? Who would show them around and explain the two galleries? Who would invite them to enjoy the Spring Lake video? Who'd answer their questions, or offer to arrange for answers? Who would keep track of the number of visitors that stop in?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

### 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.\* 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.

\*Please note: We are following a different schedule for the summer months (June, July, and August, 2021). During these months, the Museum will be open to visitors on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 – 12. Sunday openings will resume in the fall.



### South Pool Decorative Tiles

When the plan was announced by the Borough that the South Pool was to be rebuilt, our Society moved ahead to replace the wall tiles that would be lost in the demolition. We obtained a sample of the four designs of the original tiles...The tiles were used to make molds for the forty tiles that would be installed in the new wall...Working with the Project Consultant, Joe Griffen, the tiles were put out to bid and a contract was awarded. Our Mayor Naughton acknowledged the Society's gift at the opening ceremony...Replica's of the original tiles are now available to the public as mementos of the happy times spent at the pool by calling the Museum.....

*Borough Project Consultant Joe Griffen,  
Society President Barbara Kolarsick Harrigan  
and Society Vice President John McGlinchy.*

## Condolences....

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

Carl E. Aglio <span>z</span> o MD ( <i>Member</i> )	Camille Kenny
Joyce Ann Bailey	E. Thomas Kenny
Charles "Bud" Benz ( <i>Life Member</i> )	Judith Ann Kenny
Dr. Michael James Cahill	Scott. M. Matthews
Louis G. Chazen ( <i>Member</i> )	Madeline M. MacIver
Edward Colrick Jr.	Eileen B. McCarthy
Joan Marie Casagrande Coltrane	Josephine M. McLaughlin
Margaret Coppinger	Hazel McNally
Olga D'Elia	Mary Lou Oliva ( <i>Member</i> ) ( <i>former President of (SLHS)</i> )
Hugh Francis Doherty DDS	Margaret T. O'Donnell (Boyle)
Virginia "Ginger" Doherty	Sister Patricia O'Donnell OP
Robert J. Dougherty ( <i>Life Member</i> )	James Howard Parker "The Big Bopper"
Alana Ellen Edelmann	Jerome L Power
Thomas J. Fittin Jr.	John Patrick Reynolds
John Robert "Fitz" Fitzgerald	June Dale Patterson Rounds
Donald M. Finn ( <i>Member</i> )	Philip Charles Muller Schwier Sr.
Helen Marie Giannini	Eulah D. Schardt
Dolores D. Hakim	Richard R. Shilling III
Jane Haulenbeek ( <i>Life Member</i> )	Gloria Jago Skea
James Edward Heine ( <i>Member</i> )	Anita "Ani" Gerard Slevin ( <i>Member</i> )
Christopher William Hueth	Rudolph D. Talarico ( <i>Member</i> )
Annrose Ix ( <i>Life Member</i> )	Lorraine Mary Tully
Constance Ann Ix	William T. Watson III
Joyce Catherine (Dunn) Joyce	Margaret Wilton
Stephen Thomas Keane	
Joseph T. Kelly	

**THEATER FUNDRAISER**  
**“ANYTHING GOES” - “EVERYTHING GOOD”**

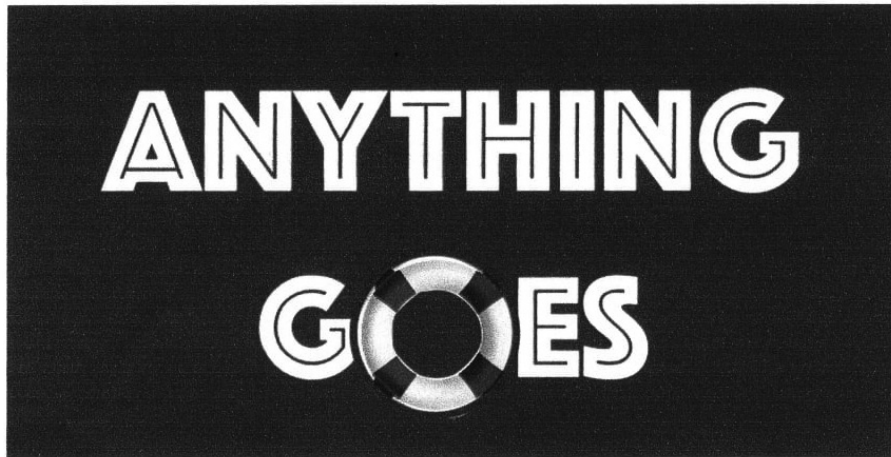
Thanks to Pay Barry and the Spring Lake Community House Theater  
Thanks to all those who supported the Spring Lake Historical Society

Thanks to Egan’s Liquors for their generosity

Thanks to the SLHS helpers who volunteered their time

The benefit performance on July 14, 2021 was a big success!!

WHAT A SHOW!



Join us for a Special Benefit Performance of

***Anything Goes***

*Performed by the Spring Lake Theater Company  
to benefit the Spring Lake Historical Society*

**Date: Wednesday, July 14**

**7:00 Wine & Cheese Reception**

**7:30 Curtain**

Spring Lake Community House

300 Madison Avenue Spring Lake NJ

**TICKETS - \$35**

**The Spring Lake Theater will donate 100% of tickets  
sales to the Spring Lake Historical Society**

**RESERVATIONS:**

**Barbara (732-974-1423), SLHS Museum (732-449-0772)**

**[slhs703@optimum.net](mailto:slhs703@optimum.net)**

# Spring Lake Historical Society **ATTIC TREASURES SALE**

*Support for Maintaining  
The Historical Society Museum*



Memorabilia, Furniture, Silver  
Artwork, Post Cards, Crystal, China,  
Vintage Items

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 18th, 2021**

**9:00 - 3:00 pm**

**SL Train Station**

*Rain or Shine*

**CASH ONLY**

Questions ~ 732-449-0772



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

**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    **MEMBERSHIP**     Renewal

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

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



**MUSEUM HOURS**  
 Tuesdays 10 a.m. - 12 Noon  
 Thursdays 10 a.m. - 12 Noon  
 423 Warren Ave., Spring Lake, NJ  
 (Second Floor)