

"Remembering Yesterday For The People Of Tomorrow"

Bulletin

P.O. Box 118 • Haddon Heights, NJ 08035

WWW.HHHISTORICAL.ORG

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October 2020

Meetings Temporarily Cancelled- January*, April, July, and October - at 7:00pm in the Library

2020 SOCIETY MEETINGS : VICTIMS OF COVID19- What a long strange trip its been..... Those words are from the song “Truckin” by the Grateful Dead. While I am not an aficionado of their music library, those are the first words that came to my mind as I sat down to prepare this edition of the Haddon Heights Historical Society Newsletter in the midst of a pandemic. First off, let me say that you did not miss the July issue of this newsletter. It just didn’t happen..... like a lot of things we have all looked forward to in our lives since the middle of March. I can’t tell you how many times I have found myself saying to someone, “We were really looking forward to (*fill in the blank*), but it was cancelled”. The COVID 19 Pandemic of 2020 is something we are all going through together whether you have been in your house self-quarantining or continuing here and there, with a few of your “normal” activities.



For me, I continued to go to work..... every day. You see, I work in a hospital. Although I am not in one of the clinical departments directly caring for the Covid Positive patients, there is some level of risk every time I leave the door in the morning and get to work. As I said above, we are going through this together, and each of us has a part we can play. Maybe it is as simple as calling an old friend you may not have spoken to in a while, just to catch up. Call your close friends and support them. You may not be aware of the challenges they are facing. Personally, my wife and I love to “FaceTime” with the grandchildren. It keeps us close to their daily lives when we are unable to be there in person. All of this alone time can also be productive if we choose to be creative. Maybe, go on the internet and explore a new hobby, or rekindle an interest from your past.



The predicted fall-winter resurgence of this deadly illness is here. I see the increasing numbers for COVID 19 cases in the state of New Jersey each day as I review the New Jersey Hospital Association blast e-mails. Unless you, too have been watching this information, you may not have noticed that the number of new cases in our state has risen from 120 per day in August, to over 3,400 each day in the first week of November, with no end in sight.

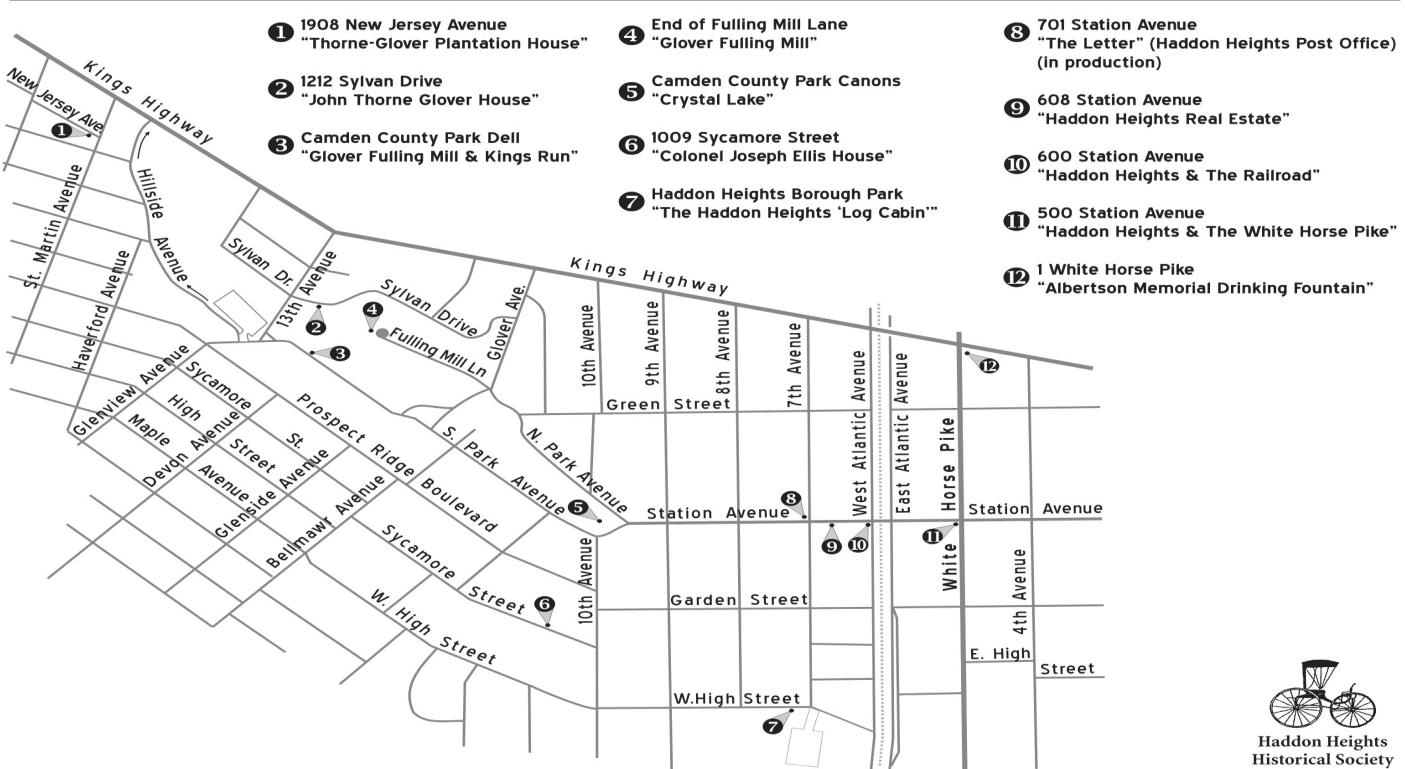
The Chief Human Resources Executive for the health system where I work, ends each virtual online meeting with the following phrase- “Remember...Be kind to everyone, because everyone is having a rough time”. My point with all of this is a plea to each of you to do everything you can to keep yourselves healthy and safe and help others get through this!!! I hope we will be able to get back to in-person meetings safely, some time in 2021.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE- “Fall has always been my favorite season. The time when everything bursts with its last beauty, as if nature had been saving up all year for the grand finale.” Lauren Destefano. I definitely agree with

Lauren. The autumn colors are breathtaking. I sincerely hope you are all safe and healthy. Covid 19 has cancelled most activities including the Haddon Heights Historical Society's meetings. The Haddon Heights Historical Society's board misses all of you. One way to stay healthy and connected to local history is to walk around Haddon Heights and read the Haddon Heights Historical Society's interpretative signs. It is so important for all of us to know and understand the history where we live. Along that line, we would like to announce our newest interpretive sign, The Letter, which has been installed in front of the post office. I have attached a picture of the sign site placement and a list and map of all of our Historical Markers. Enjoy your walks through our historic town!!!!!!! We are looking forward to seeing all of you at our future meetings. Please stay safe and healthy. Elena



Historical Markers in Haddon Heights



VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED FOR THE BOARD- See page four of this newsletter for information about the openings on the Historical Society's Committees. We need a few folks to step forward and lend a hand. No prior experience necessary. Reach out to or any Board Member for information or to volunteer.

LATEST INTERPRETIVE HISTORY SIGN HONORS...THE LETTER SCULPTURE -

Isamu Noguchi, 1904-1988, was a Japanese-American artist. "The Letter," a WPA (Works Progress Administration) sculpture still can be seen at the post office in Haddon Heights. The elegantly simple figure of a reclining woman writing a letter, floats cloud-like above the grounded, wooden post office decor, reflecting her dreamy reverie as she writes what may be a love letter. The letter writer has a serene smile that suits the friendliness of the town-proud residents by an artist who loved creating work for the public to enjoy. The Historical Society is proud of our latest interpretive historical sign celebrating this timeless sculpture.



CAPE MAY LIGHTHOUSE FACTS*- Back in September, my wife and I went down to the shore for the first time this year. She was just ten weeks after having her knee replaced, but she had a “bucket list” challenge for herself: to climb the steps of the Cape May Lighthouse..... 217 steps from the ground to the top (then back down). I will spare you the suspense. She came through with flying colors! When we were there, I wondered how many of us really anything about this historic structure, so here goes.

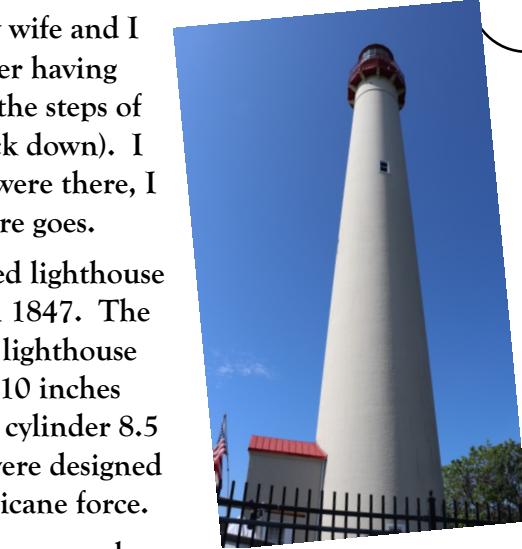
The Cape May Lighthouse was built in 1859 and is the third fully documented lighthouse to be built at Cape May Point. The first was built in 1823, and the second in 1847. The locations of the first two structures are now underwater due to erosion. The lighthouse has two separate brick walls. The outside wall is cone-shaped, and it is 3 feet 10 inches thick at the bottom, and 1 foot 6 inches thick at the top. The inside wall is a cylinder 8.5 inches thick, to support the spiral staircase. The walls meet at the top, and were designed to withstand winds several times hurricane force.



The lighthouse used to be staffed by keepers who worked for the U.S. Lighthouse Service. Cape May's lighthouse generally had one keeper and two assistants. They carried oil to the top of the tower every day, to power the light. They also were responsible to keep the lens apparatus clean and in working order. The keeper and his family lived in one of two houses built right next to the light house. There was also a separate small building constructed to house the oil needed to keep the light burning.

The Coast Guard operates the light as an active aid to navigation. The light is visible 22 miles out to sea and flashes every 15 seconds. Every lighthouse has its own flash pattern or “characteristic”, as well as a distinctive exterior paint scheme, called a “daymark”, so ship captains can tell one lighthouse from another at a distance. On October 31, 1859, the lighthouse was lit for the first time. In 1933, the light mechanism electrified. Then in 1933, it was automated, which eliminated the need for lighthouse keepers being permanently stationed at the tower. The U.S. Lighthouse Service was disbanded in 1939 and operation of the lighthouse was transferred to the U.S. Coast Guard. The lighthouse was darkened from 1941 until 1945 due to World War II.

The lighthouse is owned by the State of New Jersey, but the Coast Guard maintains the beacon apparatus. The Cape May MAC (Museum.Arts. Culture) rents the lighthouse from the state with the mission of restoring the structure and operating it as a historic site. Hours of operation vary throughout the year. The tower is open daily , April through November, and on weekends most of the rest of the year. All tours of the grounds and the lighthouse are self-guided. To learn more, you can contact Cape May MAC at 609-884-5404, or at capemaymac.org .



* Information Courtesy of Cape May MAC -Cape May Lighthouse FAQ.

2021 Membership Application / Renewal- Haddon Heights Historical Society

Name _____

Address _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____ E-Mail _____

Type of Membership: _____ Single- \$10.00 _____ Household- \$15.00

I would like to make a tax deductible donation to Haddon Heights Historical Society, in the amount of: \$_____

Coming Events



MEMBERSHIP DUES– Dues for 2021 are now...due. Your *"Paid Through YEAR"* is printed on your Newsletter label. Your dues help us keep history alive. Only paid-up members will continue to receive the HHHS Newsletter!

Those members who provide us an e-mail address, will also receive an electronic color copy of each edition of the newsletter in advance of the mailing.

HEIGHTS NOTE CARDS– Note card packs featuring pre-Revolutionary War homes in town. Available at the Library. \$4.00 for a pack of 8.

CHECK OUR REVITALIZED WEBSITE– www.hhhistorical.org. Take a look!

The Haddon Heights Historical Society is a 501(c)3 organization. Please keep us in mind as you plan your charitable donations. Make History by Making us part of Your Legacy...

We are closing in on the end of another year. I don't know anyone who will be sorry to see this year in the rearview mirror!!! Remember to stay in touch with friends and loved ones, and maybe take this opportunity to tell write down YOUR history, and share it with the next generation by "Remembering yesterday for the people of tomorrow". Stay Healthy, Stay Safe! Thanks for listening all these years! Ken Funkhouser, Editor

Haddon Heights Historical Society
P.O. Box 118
Haddon Heights, NJ 08035



2020 Historical Society Board

<u>President-(2018-2020)</u>	Elena Hill
<u>Vice-President-(2018-2020)</u>	Bob Hunter
<u>Past President</u>	Margaret Westfield
<u>Treasurer-(2018- 2020)</u>	David Somerville
<u>Secretary- (2019- 2021)</u>	Lauren McBeath
<u>Trustees- (2019-2022)</u>	Ken Funkhouser Anne McAdams Peter Hill

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<u>Membership Chair-</u>	Joan Rossler
<u>Web Master-</u>	Gianna Hill
<u>Nominating Comm.-</u>	Bob Hunter/ Peter Hill
<u>Borough Council Liaison</u>	Rose Fitzgerald
<u>Affairs-</u>	VACANT
<u>Merch/Fund Raising-</u>	Joan Rossler
<u>Programs/Publicity-</u>	Emma Erwin
Programs/Publicity- Asst.	VACANT
<u>Digital Photographer</u>	Amy Schmidt

Contact the Board : WWW.HHHISTORICAL.ORG
Mail correspondence- P.O. Box 118 Haddon Heights,
NJ 08035