

Gaslight News

August 2015

Historical Society of Riverton

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Founded 1970

Riverton, NJ 08077

Incorporated 1978

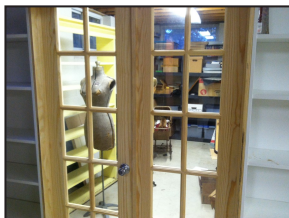
President's Message

Greeting HSR Members,
We are looking forward to a dynamic year of programs and events this season.

The HSR will proudly cosponsor an event with the Riverton Library this year as well as cross promote their interesting program lineup. We are looking forward to this liaison with the Library as we are now able to expand our archive storage and display area within their basement. More about the Archive Project to come in our September issue.

Get ready for a great year and share our event schedule with your friends and neighbors encouraging them to join the HSR. Help us to preserve and promote the heritage of this amazing historic town.

- Phyllis Rodgers



UNDER CONSTRUCTION
Literally!

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September 10 is first of many engaging Historical Society of Riverton events

Partnering with Riverton Free Library presents new opportunities for programs



There's just so much going on at the HSR this year we couldn't wait until September to tell you about it. We commence our 2015-2016 lineup of events early, on September 10, and

proceed to open up some new ground throughout the year. Some details are still developing.

Sept. 10 (Thurs): Dorothy Stanaitis presents *Love and Lies*, Riverton Free Library, 7pm

Oct. 13 (Tues): The RFL sponsors Trish Chambers' *Lousia May Alcott-Portrait of a Woman*, Riverton Free Library, 7:30pm

Nov. 17 (Tues): Actress Maggie Worsdale portrays *Lady Washington*, Riverton Free Library, 7pm

Dec. 5 (Sat): *HSR Archives & Museum*

Display in conjunction with *Riverton Holiday House Tour*, Riverton Free Library, Lower Level, 4-9pm

Feb. 23 (Tues): Paul Schopp presents *Riverton Gun Club*, time & place TBA

March 19 (Sat): *Antique & Collectible Appraisal Fair* with Ron Schaffer at Riverton School, 10-3

April 19 (Tues): tentative trip to NYC 9/11 Memorial, Details to be announced

May 6 (Fri): *Annual Preservation Awards and Membership Covered Dish*, Porch Club, 6pm

June 11 (Sat): *Historic Riverton Century* New York City to Riverton bike ride returns to also possibly include a short leg of the ride for local cyclists

Throughout the year contributors to the *Gaslight News* and [rivertonhistory.com](#) will continue to examine local history topics as well as mark new milestones. - JMc

Dorothy Stanaitis returns to spread more scandalous gossip Sept. 10 at the RFL

Enjoy another delightful & entertaining program of "historical gossip" from America's colonial period



Dorothy Stanaitis, the popular presenter of 2013's *Scandal, Rumors, & Dirty Rotten Lies*, returns in period costume with its sequel, *Love & Lies* at 7pm on September 10 at Riverton Free Library. We can expect her to name names and continue her scandalous reporting on the love lives of the Colonial era's rich and famous. Light refreshments served. - JMc

rivertonhistory.com

Recent visitors to rivertonhistory.com found this summer cocktail of website posts:



Marshall E. Reed's (sic) Aeroplane, Stone Harbor, NJ, 1912

Aug 7th, [103 years old this week!](#) tells the story of those historic pioneer flights of the early US Air Mail Service between Ocean City and Stone Harbor in a Wright Brothers built biplane.

Aug 3rd, [Hot enough for ya?](#) shares rare photos from Nancy and Bill Steel's family album of what may have been the first swimming pool in Riverton. (See center column below.) The post aroused some readers to fondly recall how many learned to swim in Bay Ruff's pool.

July 23rd, [Christmas in July at the HSR](#) was a "present" of nine scans of vintage postcards from a collector friend. Of all the views displayed on our website, perhaps

none have elicited the engagement of visitors more than the ones of the Jersey shore. Which shore is your favorite?



Avalon Pier, Avalon, N.J. - Postmarked AUG 5, 1930

July 13th, [Lucy celebrates her 134th next Saturday](#) consolidated the more than two dozen images we had of Lucy, the Elephant Hotel of Margate, and put them into a slideshow. Have you any more?



July 7th, [Riverton's 118th July 4th Parade is history now; HSR Archives & Museum underway](#) recapped the July Fourth Parade and appealed to readers to find 1992 and 1997 HSR Palm Cards.

June 30th, [Mayor Brown fashions a new July 4th parade baton](#) explains that record-

ing the number of kids in the Children's Parade for 116 July Fourths had filled up two staffs, so last year Mayor Brown made a new one for the 2014 parade.

June 15th, [Many hands contribute to the success of the fifth Historic Riverton Criterium](#) reminds us that such an event has many players, on and off the course.

June 13th, [Remembering Tom Palermo](#) was Susan Dechnik's touching tribute to her former kindergarten student who tragically died at 41, killed by a hit and run driver outside of Baltimore while riding his bike. Carlos Rogers' Historic Riverton Criterium contributed \$1,000 to the Palermo Children's Education Trust.

June 7th, [Congrats to the RYC on the 66th running of their classic Governor's Cup Regatta](#)



A clipping from the July 1949 *New Era* provided coverage of the first running of the Governor's Cup Regatta. In his remarks that day Governor Alfred E. Driscoll's congratulated the Club the sailors, whether they had won or lost, and the Club for teaching "the youth of America the meaning of sportsmanship." - JMC

Help make our growing HSR website at <http://rivertonhistory.com/> more collaborative with your comments and contributions. Check in for information on events, past issues of *Gaslight News*, vintage images, a veterans' page, our blog, and more.

Readers: In this Summer Extra issue of the *Gaslight News* find the **President's Message**, **Events Calendar**, and **recap of the summer web postings** on rivertonhistory.com More to come in our regular September *Gaslight News*.

Gaslight News

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THIS EARLY 1900S PHOTO OF KIDS CAVORTING IN A HOMEMADE SWIMMING POOL at 109 Bank Avenue reached 1.2K Facebook viewers, which was 833% above our average.

We have Mr. and Mrs. William Steel of Cinnaminson to thank for allowing us to scan an old family album that contains a number of historically intriguing photographs.

What's half-forgotten in your attic or basement may be the long-lost image that has frustrated many a Google image searcher for years.

Vintage images still on our Wish List:

- Lawn House exterior and interior
- Lothrop Photo Studio, Cole Dairy, Dreer's
- Mt. Zion AME Church
- Swimming competitions at RYC c.1920s
- Activities at the Hut for WWI soldiers
- Riverton Lyceum photos, ephemera
- Woolston Carriage Works

- JMC



PART 2 OF PAUL W. SCHOPP'S "DIGGING UP HISTORY" WILL CONCLUDE IN THE SEPT. 2015 ISSUE.



HUGE

Thank You

to **Nancy and Bill Steel** for loaning their photo album for scanning...

to **Bruce Gunn** for donating color slides of Riverton, c.1950...

to **Cindy Cammoratta** for donating a RYC commemorative ashtray, and a 1920 July Fourth Program...

to **Harlan Radford** for sending scans of his vintage postcard collection...

and especially to **Cheryl Smekal**, our departing VP, secretary, and tireless volunteer for so many events, such as the Museum for a Day and the Collectible & Antique Fair. - JMC

