

## President's Message – Suzanne Gitomer

### GRANT ALLOWS LHS ANTIQUE QUILTS TO BE APPRAISED

This past summer, eight of our LHS antique quilts and one quilt top were appraised and evaluated for their current condition and ability to be displayed in a possible future quilt show. Funding has been made possible in part by the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State, through funds administered by the Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission, and we are grateful for their ongoing support.

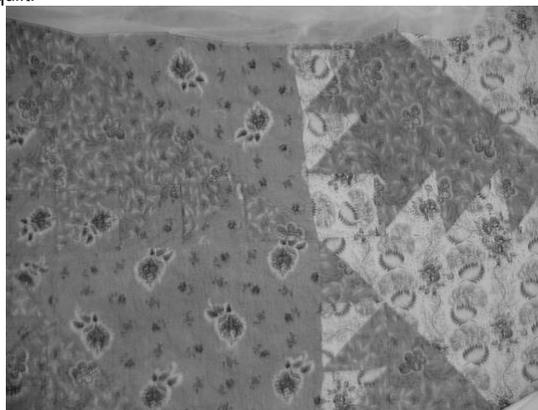
Since Marshall House is such a small space for a full-quilt display, we are looking at the possibility of having a collaborative quilt show with another historical society that can offer more space. Be watching for details on a possible quilt exhibit next year. Meanwhile, our wonderful Delectable Mountains/Lady of the Lake quilt circa 1840s, which was included in this appraisal, is currently on display on the bed in the upstairs bedroom at Marshall House. Stop in and see it!

Thanks to Dana Balsamo from Material Pleasures, LLC, in Princeton, for her thorough appraisal and evaluation of these quilts:

- 1843 Sampler - The Dilts Quilt, which was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Dilts of Burke, VA. The quilt includes many hand-signed ink and stamped signatures and small pictures inked as well. Many names are familiar to the Lambertville area, including Dilts and Holcombe. Each quilt block is different in this lovely quilt, some very complicated.
- Lafayette Orange Peel - The Lambert Quilt circa 1840s. This quilt is from the family of Abigail and John Lambert, a former NJ senator and governor. It was donated to LHS in 1988 by the family.
- 1847 Star of Lemoyne - The Ely Quilt. Reuben P. Ely was born in Solebury Township, PA on June 7, 1815 and married Violetta Duer and moved to Lambertville in 1860. There are several hand stamp signatures on the quilt.
- 1843 King's Crown Friendship Quilt. Includes many signatures from the Lambertville area and was included in the books, Herstory and the NJ Quilt Documentation Book. The quilt was previously owned by Camille Erismann-Bryan, a descendant of one of the quilt signators.
- Touching Feathered Star Quilt circa 1875-1900. This quilt was part of the Heritage Quilt Project of Hunterdon County and formerly owned by Miriam Griffith from Philadelphia.
- Friendship Star/Rittenhouse Marriage Quilt circa 1852. Many signatures and sentiments from the NJ and PA area are inked and stamped on this quilt, which was a wedding gift to Elizabeth Rittenhouse and Gersham Lambert in 1853.
- Robbing Peter to Pay Paul, Orange Peel Quilt circa 1840s. This quilt is in poor condition but shows excellent workmanship. Unfortunately, the Historical Society is missing information about how we acquired this lovely quilt.



Rittenhouse Marriage Quilt



Delectable Mountain/Lady of Lakes Quilt

**30<sup>th</sup> Autumn House Tour, Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**See page 3 for full details**



**Lambertville Historical Society**

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[www.LambertvilleHistoricalSociety.org](http://www.LambertvilleHistoricalSociety.org)

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**The Nugget** is the quarterly newsletter of the Lambertville Historical Society.

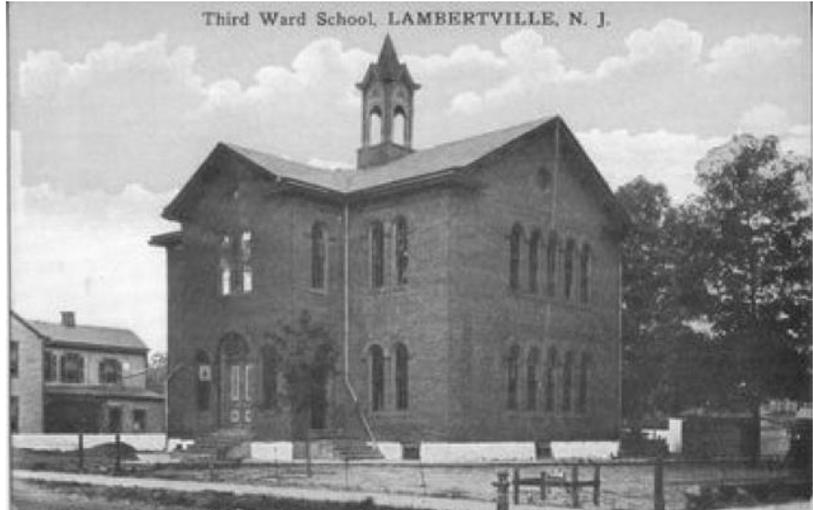
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**Our Mission**

The Lambertville Historical Society promotes, inspires, and encourages the preservation and appreciation of Lambertville's architecture and history through education, community involvement, as well as preserving and maintaining the James Marshall Museum.

The Marshall House is open from 1:00 to 4:00 pm on weekends between ShadFest (normally the last weekend in April) and the end of October. Free admission.

**Sights No Longer Seen**



The Third Ward School, in its original 19<sup>th</sup> century configuration, at the northwest corner of North Main and Perry Streets.



The school was modernized and expanded in 1915 and continued serving the children of Lambertville until 1969 - the Lambertville Public School built across the street in 1967 fully replaced it at the that time. The South Hunterdon Apartments were constructed on the site in the 1970s.



The only reminder of the school's existence is the medallion which was above the main entrance (seen in the postcard above). It is now on the ground, beneath a tree, at the corner of Perry and Main.

### 30<sup>th</sup> Autumn House Tour - Sunday, October 21

In 30 years the Autumn House Tour has featured scores of homes and additional sites such as churches, bed & breakfasts, hotels, and firehouses among others. They have included buildings from the 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries with an unusual one or two from the current century. This year, to mark our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, 24 plein air artists will create paintings which will be featured at a silent auction fundraiser in January (see calendar on p. 6).

The eight homes on this year's 30th tour on Sunday, October 21 will not disappoint - the painted ladies, a grand mansion and hidden gems will all be represented - and are excellent examples of what makes Lambertville distinctive. Eight additional sites will round out the Autumn Tour, including a historic inn celebrating its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the Justice Center (the Acme Supermarket) which will feature a display of historic Lambertville images.

Here's a preview of the homes on the tour.



This circa 1883 home, a mix of Federal and Victorian styles, was recently restored. The fine detail on the front façade is of the Eastlake Style but was covered with asphalt shingles just a few years ago.



This early 19<sup>th</sup> century home will take you back to a time when Lambertville was a small hamlet on the main road connecting New York City and Philadelphia. Its rich history and imaginative use and reuse of materials is apparent: the front room served as a butcher shop and the present owners retained the alcove window as well as plaster walls, pumpkin pine floors, doors and woodwork.



This Neo-Georgian, Williamsburg-style symmetrical colonial started life in 1909 as an anniversary gift from wealthy businessman to his wife. The current owners have lovingly furnished the home with many Victorian pieces and fixtures.



This home's 19th century style of architecture is often referred to as "vernacular," usually built by an owner or builder who relied on simple practical techniques and locally available materials. This home displays an Italianate influence evidenced by the wooden brackets under the roofline.



It is often said, “home is where the heart is” and beating inside this unassuming “vernacular” style home is the heart of the South of France. The homeowners, a painter and a composer, have provided a home that is clearly influenced by their passions. An ebony grand piano and exuberant oil paintings of flowers, fruit, and images evoking sunny Mediterranean climes greet visitors



From the fieldstone foundation to the solid brick exterior and four-panel windows throughout, this home looks much as it has since George Arnett constructed it in 1895 as part of a row of 13 to house workers employed at his factories just across the street.



This Italianate Victorian home is part of three and a half duplexes built by the George Arnett construction family in 1886 which built 30% to 40% of the homes in 19<sup>th</sup> Century Lambertville.



A modern adaptation of the Victorian Style, a key theme in this home’s decor is large puzzles, including the world’s largest - 32,256 pieces - by Ravensburger and features Keith Haring’s “Double Retrospect” design.

The self-guided tour on Sunday, October 21 will extend from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. Tickets are \$20 in advance (on the day of the tour they will cost \$25 but \$20 for LHS members) and may be purchased online at [www.LambertvilleHistoricalSociety.org](http://www.LambertvilleHistoricalSociety.org) or directly from some local merchants (check the website). Free parking and shuttle bus service will be available on the day of the tour. The bus will continuously loop from the Holcombe-Jimison Farmstead on Route 29 just north of the city limits to City Hall every 15 minutes from 10:30 a.m. to 5:25 p.m. Visitors can also park in residential areas or at parking meters which are in effect on Sunday from 1:00 to 9:00 p.m.

For more information and driving directions, visit [www.LambertvilleHistoricalSociety.org](http://www.LambertvilleHistoricalSociety.org), call 609-397-0770, or email [LHS1816@verizon.net](mailto:LHS1816@verizon.net).

## Progress and Plans on Improvement of the Marshall House - Ron Todd

All the pieces seemed to fall in place this summer and this allowed us to complete a lot of the work we had planned to do on the Marshall House this year. This included the following:

- The masonry work on the external east wall of the Marshall House to deal with the deterioration of the soft brick was completed. Progressively, we are getting that troublesome wall in better shape.
- We improved the rest room. This included the installing of new handles on the sink faucets that will make it much easier for young and old alike to turn the water on and off.
- The work on the air conditioner was completed and it looks like we might get several more years of good service out of this unit.
- We were able to clean up the basement and removed old cans of paint and some old signage.
- The new back door was installed to include painting the frame, trim and threshold. The work team scraped and repainted the front entry door and surround. They also cleaned and painted the new brick repair on the northeast corner mentioned above.
- The team also removed the old finish from the floor in the first floor hallway. A finish coat will be applied to the hall floor after the House Tour.
- Finally, the team cut down and removed the weeds from the yard. We plan to prepare and plant the east section of the yard with pachysandra. That should improve the look of our yard!

A lot has been accomplished, but certainly we will find more work to be done!

### Welcome New Members

Liz Riegel  
Tom & Anne Basalik  
Vanessa Zeoli  
Allison Richard  
Suzanne Perrault & David Rago (welcome back)  
Jeff Neumann family

### Same Online Address. New Look!



Be sure to visit our new, updated website at [www.lambertvillehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.lambertvillehistoricalsociety.org). Thanks to Steve Wolock at River Graphics in Lambertville, for redesigning the website and improving our look! New features now available: renew your membership, online newsletter, donate online, too. There are plenty of photos to view and our events are listed in a handy calendar. Visit our site to see how good we look!

## Summer Membership Social - June 3



More than 60 members and some prospective members enjoyed conversation, food and drink on an early June afternoon at the Kalmia Club for our Second Annual Summer Social. The event proved so popular last year that we repeated and expanded it and look forward to doing it again in 2013. Janet Hunt was honored for her 30+ years of running the joint Coryell Gallery/LHS Art Show of Lambertville Area subjects.

## Lambertville Retrospectives at the Acme



Over the summer, the Acme Screening Room co-presented two displays with the LHS. In July it was **New Hope/Lambertville in the 60's & 70's Photo Exhibition** and August saw the **Return to Music Mountain Photo Exhibition** which thoroughly covered the Lambertville Music Circus (1949-1970).

The LHS provided many photos and other materials from our archives for copying. Sarah Scully of the Screening Room kindly donated the duplicated and mounted materials used in the exhibits to the LHS.

# LHS Calendar

Sunday, October 7	Guided town walking tour leaves the Marshall House at 2:00 pm. Free but donations are welcomed. Last tour of the season.
Sunday, October 21	30 <sup>th</sup> Autumn House Tour, 11:00 to 5:00 pm. Sites throughout town (see pages 3 and 4). Advance sale tickets may be purchased on our website <a href="http://www.LambertvilleHistoricalSociety.org">www.LambertvilleHistoricalSociety.org</a> and through some local merchants.
Sunday, November 4	First of three different programs on home renovations. A panel of three former house tour participants will discuss their experiences in renovating their own homes. Justice Center (Acme), 25 S. Union St., 2:00-4:00 pm. Free for members - \$5 for non-members.
Saturday, December 1	Join the LHS for a release party of its first Holiday CD which will include original and familiar music by local musicians, River Queen Artisans, 8 Church St., 5:00-8:00 pm.
Sunday January 20, 2013	Annual meeting and presentation – Going Places: A Brief History of Transportation in Lambertville, Justice Center (Acme), 25 S. Union St., 2:00-4:00 pm,
Saturday, January 26, 2013	Silent Auction fundraiser of Plein Air pieces created during the house tour, with food, beverages and live music, Joan Perkes Gallery, 202 N. Union St., 6:00-9:00 pm.



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