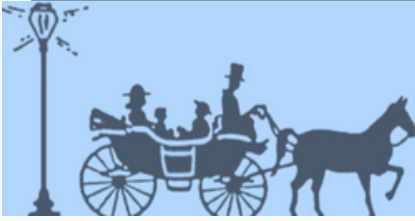


The Horse & Carriage

Lakewood's Vehicle of Historical Expression...



LAKEWOOD HERITAGE
COMMISSION and
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Serving the unique
history of Lakewood

After unusual times and a long absence, welcome back to the Sheldon Wolpin Lakewood Historical Museum and the "H&C" Newsletter!

Let's catch up with our many friends with some news and activities!

President's Message - Dr. Stan Liptzin Lakewood Historical Society

Although we wrote a major portion of this letter a while ago, due to many associated difficulties and cautions we all shared during the protracted Covid pandemic, as well as some health issues, we have been unable to bring this publication to press at an earlier date. But, old news is still news, and we are excited to be up and running in passionate pursuit of our goal, "Serving the unique history of Lakewood!" So, the Sheldon Wolpin Lakewood Historical Museum, the Lakewood Historical Society and Heritage Commission welcome you back!

Many things changed over the course of these interesting times. Unfortunately, we lost the direct services one of our most productive members in the Commission and Society, as John and Karla Barron relocated to Western Massachusetts to be closer to their children and grandchild. John was an outstanding member who worked assiduously and dedicated much of his time for the efficacy of Lakewood history and the museum. Karla Barron enthusiastically served as a volunteer in the museum spending many hours in the archive room and galleries helping to keep the records and displays up to date.

Our financial structure has suffered irreparable harm during our closing and accompanying health regulations, preventing us from holding the various events that were of great interest to our Lakewood friends. As a result, our fundraising efforts have been sidelined. We are reminding everyone to renew your membership to the Historical Society, buy a memorial brick for a loved one (see pg 2), and continue with your generous contributions to the Historical Society, which is devoted to the maintenance and the continual growth and development of the Museum.

Steve Wexler
Chairperson,

William Brown
Rich Errickson
Ginny Shannon Haines
Armen Hagopian
Richard Johnson
Robert Kirschner
Janis P. Kristbergs
Bonnie MacMillan
Eileen Liptzin
Stan Liptzin, Ph.D.
Barry Seigel
Barry Sokol
Robin Taylor-Wellet
Edith Wolpin
Richard Wolpin

Newsletter Editor
Janis "Jani" Kristbergs
(Please see pg 4)*

Come Visit Us!

The Museum is usually open, Sat., Sun., and Mon., from 1-4pm. However, it will be closed from Jan. 17 until March 18, 2023.

Pictured at right is one of our many recent visitors, LHS basketball great, Kevin King '75, visiting from North Carolina while in the area attending the LHS Athletic Hall of Fame in Sept., welcomed by Historical Society and LHS AHOF Committee member, Richard Wolpin '74!





We are very pleased to announce that the Lakewood High School Class of 1984 held their class 'meet and greet' at the Sheldon Wolpin Lakewood Historical Museum. Since Armen Hagopian's daughter Tina, and my daughter Debi are members of this graduating class, we, as members of the Lakewood Historical Society and Heritage Commission, were elated to see our children as well as their classmates. I would like to add that the 1984 Baseball team, coached by Stan Liptzin and Janis 'Jani' Kristbergs, editor of the Horse and Carriage, won a Group IV State Championship in Baseball. Of even more importance, the Class of 1984 donated \$1800.00 to the Museum! They join the Lakewood High School Classes of 1936, 1955, 1956, 1960, 1961 and 1973 who have contributed handsomely toward the preservation of the Museum.

Again, I wish to thank everyone who continues to support the Sheldon Wolpin Lakewood Historical Museum. We are pleased to report that our kitchen is completed. My remarks in our previous Horse and Carriage detailed the completion of this project. In the natural order of things, the completion of one project automatically leads to the beginning of another. Since our auditorium and kitchen are on the second floor of Museum, we are investigating the installation of an elevator/vertical platform lift, to provide access to programs held in the auditorium. This project is necessary as many of our supporters are reaching a stage in life where physical limitations have become a part of life. To address this issue, we have researched the various options available and are now in the decision making process. Of course, this necessary undertaking will be costly. As our finances are limited to the few fundraisers and varied donations, we are asking for your financial support to continue building a sturdy foundation for the successful operation of our Museum. The doors of the Museum cannot open without your support. Join the friends of Lakewood past by becoming a crucial piece of our community that will enable us to exhibit our rich history. Please renew your commitment with a gift! Every time I go to the Museum I hear in my mind the resounding melody and words of our Lakewood High School Alma Mater - "Lakewood dear old High School..."



The Lakewood Black Hawks have been involved in many of our projects. The long-time Lakewood organization (since 1935) volunteered to help the Museum, again, recently assisting the Commission and Society with our Memorial Brick Garden!

Pictured above left are Elise LHS '70 and Kevin Gavan '75, a former "Hawks" President, visiting the space and their family's memorial bricks. Members of the Black Hawks were involved in preparing the ground, formulating the layout, and building the bench alongside, as well as helping pay for the hardscaping/installer. Thank you, again!!



More Special Thanks!

It is important to recognize the effort and work John Barron completed on behalf of the Lakewood Historical Society and the Museum. His mind was like the “energizer bunny” in that he always brought new ideas to the table. Specifically, John developed a “fund raiser” for the purchase of chairs, tables, and storage carts, so necessary for use in our programs/affairs in the newly completed auditorium. The intuitiveness of John to propose this worthwhile project, see it through, and finalizing it with plaques thanking the donors for their contributions. Special thanks go to John Grandinetti and Joseph Mayer for their generosity and continued support. In addition, I would like to acknowledge the following sponsors and patrons for their generosity: Alvin Burdge, John and Karl Barron, Dr. and Mrs. A. Basri, Cynthia Cohen Family, Bill and Chris Barron, Barbara and Mark Burnick, Dennis Grippen, Bill and Betty Brown, David Marc Drukaroff, Charles and Barbara Mandell, Dorothy Mininsohn, Irene and Jim McCarthy, Edith Wolpin, Roger and Lynn Parkhurst, Dr. Stan and Eileen Liptzin, Dr. Jack and Marilyn Sabo, Harriet Selinger, Justin E. Taylor and Gilbert Insurance, Ocean County Society of Model Railroaders, Karl and Evelyn Wahl, and the Lakewood Hook and Ladder Co. # 1.

We appreciate the support of Lakewood Township and the Shade Tree Commission! Pictured at the recent tree planting are (L to R): Jose Santiago, Lakewood Twp; Society members Natalie Silverman and Edith Wolpin; Jim Esposito, Lakewood Twp; Moshe Raitzik, Comm. Chair; Society Pres., Stan Liptzin, PhD; Ian Silverman, Guest; Craig Theibault, Shade Tree Comm.



A Look Back! On October 27, 2019, the Lakewood Heritage Commission and Lakewood Historical Society sponsored a program on former heavyweight boxing champion Joe Louis. Ms. Khadi Madama, whose father was a professional boxer, knew Joe Louis quite well. In her detailed presentation to a room full of guests, she discussed Joe Louis’ humble beginnings in Alabama, the trek north to Detroit, Michigan, and his venture into boxing. She presented her excellent discussion on his life in an informal—seminar type setting with a great deal of audience participation. When serving in the armed forces during World War II, reporters asked Joe Louis about the United States involvement in the war, his response was, “There are a lot of things wrong with the United States, but there is nothing that Hitler can fix.” This cryptic comment exemplifies Joe Louis at his best. He did not get on a soap box and make blithe comments, but was sincere and honest in his dealings.

A good part of the discussion centered on the second Louis-Schmeling fight. Nazi propagandists predicted that a Schmeling victory over an African-American would be proof of their doctrine of Aryan Supremacy. When Schmeling arrived in New York, the Nazi propagandists issued a statement that a Black man could not defeat Schmeling and that when Schmeling won, the government would use his prize money to build tanks. We do know that Joe Louis knocked him out in two minutes and four seconds of the first round. After the third knockdown, Schmeling’s trainer threw in the towel. We should note that Schmeling was not a Nazi. In fact, he angered the Nazi party by refusing to join in 1935. He hid two Jewish boys in his Berlin apartment during the 1938 Kristallnacht pogrom, reportedly used his influence to save Jewish friends from concentration camps, refused to fire his Jewish manager, Joe Jacobs, and divorce his Czech born wife, film star, Anny Duda.



In addition, I am happy to report that graduates of the Lakewood High School Classes of 1967, 1968, and 1969 celebrated their “50ish Reunion.” Equally pleasant to us was that many of these classmates were able to visit the Museum, recall the halcyon days of Lakewood during their youth, and see the progress we are making in restoring Lakewood history for everyone.

Finally, in late October '21, Michael Zeichner and Brenda Bell, who are Lakewood High School graduates from 1977, visited the Museum for a tour. As we reminisced about Lakewood High School and Lakewood in general, Michael discussed the Lakewood High School Marching Band Trip to California during our Bicentennial Celebration in 1976. Our LHS band marched in the Rose Bowl with a sister school— Lakewood High School of California. Many interesting stories about this momentous event came up, and I asked Michael to write his story down so that we can publish it in an upcoming edition of the Horse and Carriage. I want to carry this further and ask any former band member who made this trip to write their story and submit it to our newsletter as well. This is living history!

In the past we have had some families write their history or their story about their life in Lakewood. We are welcoming you to provide us with some of your experiences. At many of the Lakewood High School Alumni Hall of Fame and Lakewood High School Athletic Hall of Fame luncheons, virtually all the inductees expressed how grateful they were to grow up in Lakewood. As Lakewood inspired them, it inspired me as well. I still bleed Lakewood Blue—I hope that you do, too!

Editor's note: Dear valued readers and colleagues, as noted before, there were many circumstances that delayed this publication, however, the inordinate recent 'post-Covid' delays were my responsibility alone. I humbly apologize!... "Jani"

Some closing images of past seasonal memories courtesy of our Lakewood Daily Times archive!



How about this timely advertisement found in the Lakewood Daily Times, November, '38. Take a close look at the phone number; not even Foxcroft 3! And kids under 12, ... 75 cents!!

Can you guess the location of this picture, taken at the conclusion of the Annual Christmas parade years ago? How about naming the business pictured, as well as the two closest stores? Find out if you are right in the next issue of the H&C!...See you then!!

