

Society

Lee Historical

Newsletter



**Vol. 15, No. 7
July 2018**

Our unique history and blend of people defines the foundation of our town.

**Crossway Tower
P. O. Box 170
Lee, MA 01238**

Website: LeeHistoricSociety.Homestead.com

Contact us: Lee.Historical@hotmail.com

We hope everyone had an enjoyable and safe Fourth of July Holiday and to remember it is now “Summertime” in Lee. Be especially careful with all the extra traffic in our town and please remember that everyone does not stop at the crosswalks. Enjoy your summer!

June Meeting

The month of June proved to be a busy month for the society as we held our monthly meeting on the 7th, which was attended by Leigh Davis, from the Eagle Mill Redevelopment Group who gave us a brief idea of what is happening at the Eagle Mill site. We held a Program Meeting on the 14th that was presented by society member and recent Lee High and Middle School graduate Peter Romeo on his explorations and finds with a display and pictures. Members hosted a Paint & Sip on the 16th in the Senior Center Cafeteria that was well attended and added some dollars to our treasury. On the same day the society had a booth in the park during the Lee Jazz Festival. We sold a few items, met some new friends, along with our old ones, caught up on the latest gossip and answered some questions about our town. We thank the volunteers that spent time helping at these events, it was very much appreciated. Board member, Linda Buttery has volunteered; actually it was her idea, to include a short bio of all of our board members and officers in the upcoming newsletters. I had my interrogation last week and found that it wasn't all that bad!

July Meeting

Our July Meeting will be held on Thursday, July 12th starting at 6:30 p.m. in the Hyde Meeting Room at Crossway Tower. This will be a business meeting for board members, officers and interested members. We will be discussing several items of old business, continuing the process of rewriting our by-laws, bringing up new business and looking for new ideas for our society. We have also received a large amount of Lee related items in the past couple of months which need to be

organized and will be seeking help for this task. Not to try to entice anyone but the office area and meeting room are air conditioned and very comfortable.

New Members to Welcome:

EAGLE MILL REDEVELOPMENT LLC, P. O. Box 777 South Egremont, MA 01258

Website Update:

The website committee has been working diligently to update our old website. Please visit the website at LeeHistoricSociety.Homestead.com and tell us what you think of the changes and also let us know what you would like to see added. This is a work in progress so bear with us and all suggestions are appreciated. Thanks.

Kilbon Memorial Fountain Update:

The Committee, spearheaded by the Berkshire Gateway Preservation Group, consists of members of the Lee Historical Society, the Lee Chamber of Commerce, the Lee Historical Commission, the Town of Lee and several community minded individuals has been meeting since late fall to find funds to repair, preserve and maintain the Kilbon Memorial Fountain in the park that is in dire need of repair.. On June 5th the DPW crew dug around the fountain and uncovered a large cement pad on which it sits and also uncovered some of the supply and drainage pipes. So we are that much closer for it to be prepared and moved to Tower Stone in Richmond for repair. We are planning to video and photograph the project as it progresses. It will be an interesting project! **We are coming closer to our goal of \$35,000 and the fountain should be moved by the end of the week if no problems arise,** so we are asking people to send in a few bucks for this worthy project, if they haven't already. Thanks.



This photo, found in a group of old Lee photos that were recently donated to the society, shows the Kilbon Memorial Fountain on the outside of the Town Park about 25 feet from where it is now located, and facing toward Memorial Hall. It also shows a protective barrier made up of pipe surrounding it. The fountain is also missing the base that held dog bowls on its original installation.

Lee Library Historical Photograph Collection

The visual record of the town and its evolution is found in our photo collection. Photos document all aspects of life--- education, religion, disasters, individuals, sports, leisure activities, buildings, and businesses (especially the papermaking and marble industries).

The collection is now online in the Digital Commonwealth repository. You may view it here:

<https://www.digitalcommonwealth.org/institutions/commonwealth:0r96dv50q>

JULY 2018 HIGHLIGHTS from the: LEE LIBRARY

100 Main St., Lee, MA 413 243-2733

leelibrary.org

July Exhibit:

Leni Engels Art Show. Leni Engels presents her mixed media art in the J. Peter Scolforo Gallery.

FamiLEE Movies:

Mary Poppins, 7/14 at 11am. Rated G. The movie runs 139 minutes. (This is a movie tie-in to our July 30th Mary Poppins Summer Reading Program family event.)

Adult Programs:

Wednesday, 7/11 from 2 to 4pm. "Main Street Literary Society" Book Club, hosted by Deedee Consolati. Meetings will continue to be held on the second Wednesday of each month and book club members are encouraged to bring book titles that they would like to have selected in future months. The July book selection is ***Lilac Girls: A Novel by Martha Hall Kelly***. New members are welcome but required to register by calling the library at 413-243-0385.

Monday, 7/16 from 6:30- 7:30pm . Local Author Talk & Book Signing. Leslie Wheeler will read from her new book ***Rattlesnake Hill***, the first in her planned Berkshire Hilltowns mystery series. Wheeler is also the author of the Miranda Lewis mysteries. Q & A and book signing to follow. **Adult Summer Reading Program.**

Tuesday, 7/31 from 6:30- 7:30pm. Local Authors Talk & Book Signing. Jan and Christy Butler will discuss their new book ***Erratic Wandering: An Explorer's Hiking Guide to Astonishing Boulders in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont***. This is a complementary book to the original ***Rockachusetts***. Q & A and book signing to follow. **Adult Summer Reading Program.**

Tuesdays from 1:00 to 2:30 pm. Knit/Crochet Group. This is an opportunity for knitters to gather and share patterns, information and the company of fellow enthusiasts. Please join in the fun.

Grown-up Game Night! Get together with a group of friendly board game enthusiasts every **THURSDAY** evening at 6:00 – 8:00 pm. For adults 18+, no registration required, for more information call us at 413-243-0385.

Children's Programs and Information:

SUMMER READING PROGRAM 2018, June 25- August 6. The 2018 Summer Reading Program (SRP) begins on June 25 and will run for 6 weeks ending on August 6. This year's theme for all age groups is ***"Libraries Rock!"*** Children's SRPs are free and open to all! Each summer the Boston Bruins team up with libraries across the Commonwealth to encourage kids and teens to keep reading over the summer and we thank them for being a sponsor of the SRP in Massachusetts!

Mondays from 10:30-11:30am. Babies and Books. Join us for this weekly program for families with infants, ages birth-12 months. We will learn new songs, finger plays and share the joys and challenges of new parenthood! This program is free and no registration required.

Thursdays from 10:30-11:30am. Brain Builders. Join us for this weekly playgroup for families with young children from ages birth to 5. This program is free and no registration is required. This program will include a circle time with stories, songs and group fun, followed by tabletop activities.

Thursday, July 19 at 2:00pm. "Wild West: The Mystery of the Lost Piano". Grab your spurs and journey with us to the Wild West! Throughout this absolutely wild adventure story, the **Sciencetellers** will enlist volunteers from the audience.

Saturday, July 21, 10:30am – 11:30am. Kiwanis Krafts and Reading with Kids. Please join us for a story and craft presented by the Lee Kiwanis Club. Healthy snacks will be provided!

Tuesday, July 24 from 10:00-11 am. Blades is coming back to the Lee Library! We're celebrating summer reading with the Boston Bruins' mascot, Blades! Join us for a special story time, Bruins trivia, crafts, and games. Have your photo taken with Blades and get a Bruins goodie bag. We are proud to be the only library that Blades is visiting in the Berkshires this summer so let's show Blades and the Boston Bruins how much we appreciate that!

Saturday, July 28 at 11:00am. Dulcimer Drop-in. Mountain dulcimer workshop on how to play this simple folk instrument. Children ages 10 and up. Adults are also welcome. John McKinstry will offer this free workshop! Join the growing number of library patrons checking out the library's dulcimer and ukulele.

Tuesday, July 30 at 2:00pm. Meet Mary Poppins! Mary Poppins and Bert will be dropping in at the Lee Library in costume to sing favorite songs from the movie. Sing along and pose for selfies with both of them afterwards. Children are welcome to come in costume. This program is fully funded by the **Lee Kiwanis Club** and we appreciate their generosity!

NEWS from the TEEN SPACE:

Wednesdays, 7/11, 7/18 & 7/25 from 3:30 to 4:30, Teen Chess.

Thursdays, 7/5, 7/12, 7/19 & 7/26 from 3:30 to 4:30 pm. Dungeons and Dragons Gaming in the Gallery.

Fridays, 7/6, 7/13, 7/20, & 7/27 from 3:30 to 4:30 pm. Wii Gaming in the Gallery.

Thursday, July 12th from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Starlab Planetarium Visit.

Wednesday, July 18th from 11:00 to 2:00 pm, Comic Jam with Ira Marcks, illustrator and teacher.

Membership Dues for the Lee Historical Society.

We are in the process of collecting membership dues for 2018 and your renewal is important to us, so please, if you have not sent in your membership dues, please do so. Thanks, and if you are not sure what your membership status is, send us an email or drop us a line. **We will shortly be going through our membership lists and removing any member who is not up to date with their dues.**

We are continually looking for pictures, postcards and any items related to the past history of Lee that can be donated or scanned for our collections. Please think of the Lee Historical Society before you throw things out.



WE LOVE LOCAL HISTORY

HOW ABOUT BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE LEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OR GIVING A GIFT MEMBERSHIP TO A FRIEND OR RELATIVE AND HELP SUPPORT OUR SOCIETY?

Student or Senior - \$5.00 Individual - \$10.00 Family - \$15.00 Business - \$25.00
Supporting Membership - \$50.00 or more Sponsor Membership - \$100.00 or more

Name: _____

Address: _____

Mail to:

**Lee Historical Society
P. O. Box 170**

City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____



Does anyone know or remember where this store was located on Main Street? Maybe it was located where Lee Hardware was located, in the Consolati Block. The photo was taken in 1941.

ANYBODY FOR A MOVIE? This is the old Lee Theatre located across from the Lee Library where the Hyde Place now stands. I remember the little shop at the right was JoAnn's Bakery, where you could get your fill of fresh baked pastry. The house at the right belong to Mr. & Mrs. Serra, who owned the movie theatre. Does anyone remember what was in the shop before the bakery? A lady by the name of Cora sold the movie tickets and George Norton, who I believe later became a Catholic Priest was the manager and Mrs. Serra collected the tickets and sold candy at the theatre entrance.



The following is a list of the area businesses that are currently "Business Members" of the Lee Historical Society for this year. If you would like your business or company listed here, please fill out the membership application below and send it to us with a check for \$25.00.

Bartini Roofing Company
 290 Pleasant Street
 Lee, MA 01238
 413-243-0570

Valley Roll-offs
 95 Marble Street
 Lee, MA 01238
 413-243-6655

Charles Flint Antiques
 52 Housatonic Street
 Lenox, MA 01240
 413-637-1634

A. Williams & Son
 Landscaping & Excavation
 Lee, MA 01238
 413-446-8464

Zabian's Incorporated
 15-19 Main Street
 Lee, MA 01238
 413-243-0136

Locker Room Sports Pub
 232 Main Street
 Lee, MA 01238
 413-243-2662

Frank Consolati Ins. Agency
 71 Main Street
 Lee, MA 01238
 413-243-0105

Paperdilly, Inc.
 74 Main Street
 Lee, MA 01238
 413-243-1928

Dresser Hull Company
 60 Railroad Street
 Lee, MA 01238
 413-243-1400

Robert M. Kelly, Paperhanging
 65 South Prospect Street
 Lee, MA 01238
 413-243-3489

B-SAFE STORAGE
 50 Runway
 Lee, MA 01238
 413-243-6334

Eagle Mill Redevelopment LLC
 P. O. Box 777
 South Egremont, MA 01258
 413-425- 4850

Henry Holt Art
 P. O. Box 699
 Lee, MA 01238
 413-243-9918

Lee Bank
 75 Park Street
 Lee, MA 01238
 413-243-0117

Devonfield Inn
 85 Stockbridge Road
 Lee, MA 01238
 413-243-3298

Hunter & Graziano P. C.
 10 Park Place
 Lee, MA 01238
 413-243-0789

Terrace Hair Studio
 135 Housatonic Street
 Lee, MA 01238
 413-243-1799

Wilcox Plumbing & Heating
 P. O. Box 561
 Lee, MA 01238
 413-243-2494

Lee Hardware Store, Inc.
 221 Main Street
 Lee, MA 01238
 413-243-0786

NBT Bank of Lee
 76 Park Street
 Lee, MA 01238
 413-243-1800

Considine & Leary, Attorneys
 49 Main Street
 Lee, MA 01238
 413-243-4900

A. F. Viale Insurance Agency

Greylock Federal Credit Union

LB Corporation

75 Main Street
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-0347

Kevin J. O'Neil. Electrician
225 East Street
Lee, MA 01238
413-3299-7306

Cottage Care Inc.
230 Stockbridge Rd. Box 753
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-4257

47 Main Street
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-2121

Grasshopper's Lawn Care
560 Fairview Street
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-40

Ta-Ga-Soke Campgrounds
7820 Higginsville Road
Blossvale, NY 133028
1-800-831-1744

95 Marble Street
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-1072

Hannon Lerner P. C.
184 Main Street
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-331

RW's Incorporated
35 Runway
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-0946

"Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, today is God's gift, that's why we call it the present"
Joan Rivers 1933-2014