

# Views From The Veranda



## “Newark Through the Ages”

Monday, September 19th, 2016 at 8pm

82 Union Street~Montclair, NJ



The Victorian Society in America, Northern New Jersey Chapter is commemorating Newark's 350 year anniversary with “*Newark Through the Ages*”, an informative presentation by Liz Del Tufo.

Ms. Del Tufo is a long time resident of Newark with a long and productive involvement in the cultural life of the city. She served as the first Director of *Cultural Affairs for the County of Essex*. As such she created an on-going concert series in the Essex County Parks and was the driving force in transforming an abandoned Nike Missile Base in Livingston to the still thriving *Riker Hill Art Park*. She founded “*The Newark Arts Council*” and served as its first director.

She is a founding member of the *Newark Preservation and Landmarks Committee*, a private

non-profit committee organized in 1974 in an attempt to halt the destruction of Newark's historic buildings and neighborhoods. As a trustee and president, she has overseen the

nomination of seventy buildings and five neighborhoods to the National and State Register of Historic Places, thereby ensuring that Newark's past serves its future

In 1976, working with the Newark Museum she started a hugely successful “*Newark Tours*”

program to introduce visitors to the city's past, present, and future. Those tours are still an integral part of the Newark Museum travel program to this day.

Please join us at our first meeting of the program year on Monday, September 19th at 8pm!



*Meetings of The Victorian Society in America, Northern New Jersey Chapter are normally held on the 3rd Monday of the month at 8pm at the Montclair Women's Club - 82 Union Street - Montclair, NJ. Meetings are free for members - Non-members \$5 - Yearly membership only \$30! Why not consider joining today or giving a gift membership to a friend? Call Catherine Sullivan at 973-762-6453, or send her your contact info at 9 Vose Avenue Apt 220, South Orange, NJ 07079. If your last name begins with the letters **M, N, O, P & Q**, please bring refreshments to the next meeting. Any questions please contact Christina at 973-744-5916 or email [christina.mayer@fmglobal.com](mailto:christina.mayer@fmglobal.com).*





## Greetings From the President

*Dear Members:*

*Since our last newsletter so much has happened. Our Preservation meeting in Newark at the home of Michael Becerra's restored carriage house was magical. Those that took the bus to Newark were also treated to a special tour through the Forest Hill neighborhood led by the foremost expert on Newark, Liz Del Tufo.*

*Carole and Bob Chapman hosted our secret garden party at their unique shade garden which featured many interesting elements planned and planted by Bob himself. Thank you again Bob and Carole for your wonderful hospitality.*

*This was followed two days later with a wonderful Spring trip to Hill-Stead and the New Britain Museum in Connecticut. It was a special treat for the art lovers in the group to see so many French impressionist paintings in their original location of what was once a private home. The New Britain Museum is dedicated to American artists. The guided tour of this museum topped off the day.*

*On June 11th, Rose Shaw was presented with the second place Kevin Hale Publication Award from the NJ League of Historical Societies for the excellent work she has done on the NNJ Victorian Society newsletter.*

*Now it's time to start an exciting new year! In September we will commemorate Newark's 350 years with Liz Del Tufo. Our Fall trip in October will be traveling up the Hudson to Olana, the Persian inspired home of artist Fredrick Church, and also the home of landscape artist Thomas Cole. The crisp crimson colors of Fall is the best time to visit the Hudson River Valley. We are also planning a celebration of our chapter's 40th year anniversary at our Holiday party.*

*Welcome back and see you soon!*



*-Jane*



The Northern New Jersey Chapter of the Victorian Society in America received its Charter in November, 1975. The Chapter started with twenty-eight founding members – including Fredrick Branch, Lucy Fitzgerald and Adriana O'Toole – all of whom are still active today, forty years later.

Monthly meetings were held at the Verona Public Library, member's homes and the Munn Tavern in Montclair. Dues were \$4.00 per year for individuals and \$6.00 for families. In October, 1977 the Chapter had seventy-six members, and by 1980, the membership had grown to one hundred and fifteen.

One of the first programs was "Gilbert and Sullivan: the First Hundred Years" presented by Marjorie O'Shaughnessy in January, 1976. The September, 1977 meeting was held at *The Evergreens*, the Charles S. Schultz home in Montclair. The program was "The Architecture of Richard Morris Hunt", presented by Fredrick Branch. Richard Morris Hunt was the architect of the Vanderbilt homes on 5th Avenue in New York City and several of the Newport mansions. The first field trip was a Winter Walk to Paterson's Great Falls. It was followed a week later by a tour of Edison's Laboratory in West Orange.

In 1977, our Chapter and the Bloomfield Historical Society dedicated a headstone in the Bloomfield Cemetery for the formerly unmarked grave of the Victorian architect A.J. Davis. The speaker for the occasion was William Taggart, representing the National Trust and Administrator of Lyndhurst, one of A.J. Davis' most famous architectural works and a Trust property.

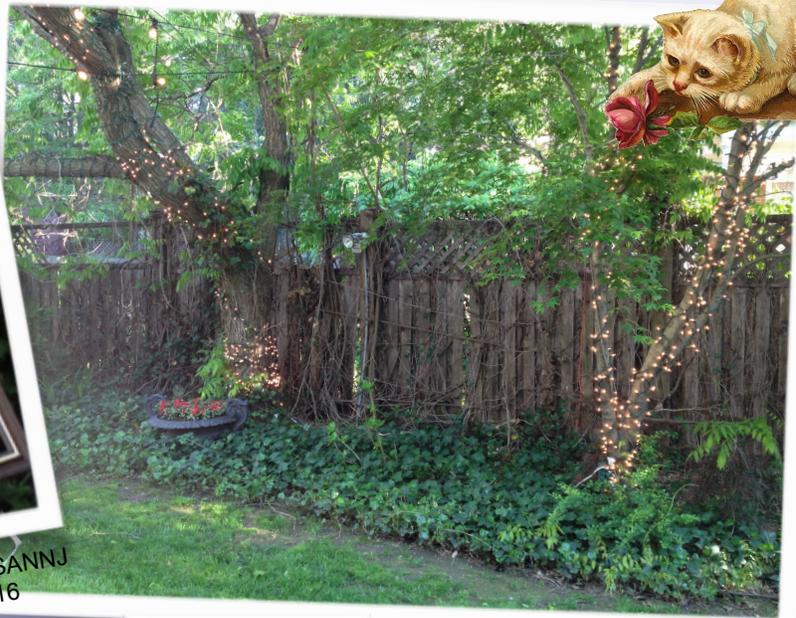
*-compiled by Eileen Sutera, and assisted by Elaine Flint and Pat Sanders*



# Victorian Society Photo Gallery~May-June 2016



Michael Becerra receiving the VSANNJ Preservation Award~May 16, 2016



June Garden Party at the home of the Chapmans June 6, 2016



New Britain Museum of American Art May 18, 2016



Rose Shaw and Jane McNeill with the Kevin M.Hale Publication Award for newsletters, given by the League of Historical Societies of New Jersey~June 11, 2016



**VSANNJ Chapter Housekeeping Odds & Ends:**

• Please **turn off your cell phones** during the program as a courtesy to all

• Receive your newsletter by email! Send requests to: [19valleyrose@gmail.com](mailto:19valleyrose@gmail.com)

• Send membership dues to *Catherine Sullivan 9 Vose Avenue Apt. 220 South Orange, NJ 07079*. Include your contact info along with your \$30 check payable to VSANNJ

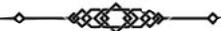
- If you know of a preservation, restoration, or adaptive reuse building project that deserves recognition, submit your nomination to Richard at [rgrossklaus@optonline.net](mailto:rgrossklaus@optonline.net).
- If you hear of an event that might be of interest to our members, send info to [19valleyrose@gmail.com](mailto:19valleyrose@gmail.com).



**“Laced Up in Love: A Tale of Two Weddings”-September 28th 2:30pm**  
comparing the childhoods, marriages, and young lives of two contemporary, mid-Victorian Era ladies: middle-class Mary Crane to extremely wealthy Florence Vanderbilt. Both ladies lived with their husbands in the Morristown, NJ area, roughly three miles from each other. Program will be held at the Morris County Library. Visit [www.acornball.org](http://www.acornball.org) or call 973-267-3465 for more info.

**“Walking Tour of Mt. Hebron Cemetery”-October 22nd, 1-3pm**

Founded in 1863 on farmland donated by the area's earliest Dutch settlers, this 30-acre cemetery is the smallest in Montclair, and perhaps one of the most beautiful, with stunning views from its location on the eastern slope of First Mountain. The tour will highlight interesting grave imagery and notable people interred. Please be prepared to park on Valley Road near the cemetery entrance at 851 Valley Road, Montclair, NJ as parking within the cemetery may be limited, and meet near cemetery office. This will be an all-walking tour. \$5/person. Please register by emailing the Montclair Historical Society at [mail@montclairhistorical.org](mailto:mail@montclairhistorical.org) or call 973-744-1796.



**The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966** is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. Passed at a time when highway improvements were overwhelming historic resources along the country's roads, railroads, and rivers, the National Historic Preservation Act established one of the most important federal environmental review processes for protection of historic properties. Under Section 106 of the law, federal agencies must consider the effects on historic properties of projects they carry out, approve, or fund, and must consult with interested parties in order to try to minimize adverse effects. Whether the federal government is funding replacement of an historic bridge, managing federal land, or licensing a new cell tower, Section 106 review helps protect significant historic properties. Many historic bridges, some no longer adequate for modern transportation needs, have found new uses along biking and hiking trails while providing important reminders of how our country developed.

For more information please visit [www.preservation50.org](http://www.preservation50.org).

**THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY IN AMERICA**

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

Northern NJ Chapter

PO Box 717

Montclair, NJ 07042

*The VSANNJ is part of the only national non-profit organization committed to historic preservation, protection, understanding, education, and enjoyment of our nineteenth century heritage.*

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82 Union Street is handicap accessible

