

Views From The Veranda

The Victorian Society of northern New Jersey Proudly presents:



The Rise and Fall of Spiritualism

in the **Victorian Era**
Monday, February 17th, 7:30pm
82 Union Street Montclair, NJ



Mac McParland, who spoke to us about Victorian Magic last year, will join us again in February to speak about the Spiritualist religious movement. During the nineteenth century, Spiritualism (and Spirit Mediums) grew in popularity throughout Europe and America. It's estimated that more than 8 million people were believers in Spiritualism and the ability to communicate with the dead, including prominent figures such as Queen Elizabeth, Mary Todd Lincoln, and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. Pierre Curie and Thomas Edison were open to scientific investigation of these beliefs. We'll learn more about the Spiritualist movement from the early writings of Swedenborg and Mesmer to the spirit mediums that became national celebrities such as the Fox sisters, Cora Scott, and Achsa Sprague. We'll also look at the societal issues that made spiritualism such an attractive belief system and contributed to its rapid rise in popularity... continued on next page...

Meetings of The Victorian Society in America, Northern New Jersey Chapter are normally held on the 3rd Monday of the month at 7:30 PM at the Montclair Women Club - 82 Union Street - Montclair, NJ. Meetings are free for members - Non-members \$10 - Yearly membership only \$40! Why not consider joining today or giving a gift membership to a friend? Send your contact info to Box 717, Montclair, NJ 07042. If your last name begins with the letters **K, L, M, N and O**, please **bring refreshments to the next meeting**. Any questions please contact Christina at 973-744-5916 or at christinapmayer@gmail.com

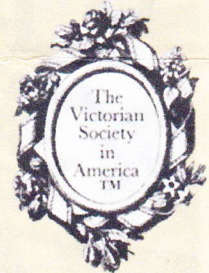
Dear Members,
 There was a big turnout for the January meeting. Ulysses Dietz was fantastic, he gave us a concentrated history of jewelry in the 19th Century. February's meeting, Mac McParland will lecture us on the Spiritualist of the 19th Century. Some of them lived right here in Essex County. Please join us, maybe there will be some communication from beyond..... *JANE*



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...from page 1 Some charlatans presented themselves as spirit mediums, seeking to gain political or financial gain by deceiving the public. Magicians of the era worked with clergy and politicians to help expose their trickery. Mr. McParland will demonstrate some of these techniques. Despite the exposition of these fakes, Spiritualism has survived to the modern day.



Mac McParland, a Glen Ridge resident, is an amateur magician. He has performed in venues ranging from children's parties to Greenwich Village nightclubs. He is a member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians, recognized as a member of the "Order of Merlin" in recognition of more than 25 years of support of the purposes and ideals of the organization.



THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY IN AMERICA
www.victoriansannj.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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YES  **HOWER HOUSE**  NO
 VICTORIAN SPIRITUALISM
 TEA & RUNE READINGS
 25 JUNE 2017
 2 P M - 4 P M

