



The  
**Gazebo Gazette**  
 Newsletter of the Larchmont Historical Society

## 2008 Spring House Tour A Sunny Success!

“We’ve got sun!” was the cry heard in the heart of Larchmont’s Manor district during the opening of the Historical Society’s May 5<sup>th</sup> Spring House Tour. For days, rain threatened to dampen the toes of tour guests. As the last balloon was tied onto Engine One, the sun appeared, illuminating the nostalgic firetruck which was standing guard as both welcome wagon and ticket booth across from Karen and Paul Issac’s home, a featured tour property, at 75 Prospect Avenue. And so began one of the most storybook, weather perfect days since the Historical Society’s first House Tour in 1981.

This year’s tour, themed “**Creative Icons: Historic Homes**,” highlighted Larchmont’s creative past and the artistic souls who helped shape the colorful history we so love to discover, if not devour!

Tour guests were taken on intimate journeys through four magnificent Manor homes, each reflecting unique architectural details from different historical timelines. How each resident (past and present) interpreted those disciplines is what made tour guests “ooh and ahhh!” house after house.

“We are so thankful for the generosity and graciousness of the homeowners who share their lives with us. Without them there would be no tour,” said House Tour Chairperson, Susan Emery. Congratulations to Susan for once again executing a successful event. This was Susan’s fourth time as House Tour Chairperson.

More than 400 guests strolled or biked their way to the properties which were located in close proximity. “Having the homes in general walking distance of each other was a big hit this year and really created a festive atmosphere,” remarked Docent Chair Trish Miller.

In years past, there have been up to six homes showcased. Board members worried this year that four would not suffice. “Happily, we found four properties to be perfect,” Susan Emery reported. “People were so appreciative that they had time to really enjoy each home, floor by floor.”

The featured homes were: 4 Pryor Manor

Road, ca. 1776, the present home of Margery and Theodore Mayer; 12 Hazel Lane, ca. 1894, the present home of Patricia and Donald Oresman; 24 Ervilla Drive, ca. 1937, the present home of Elizabeth Cameron and Macculloch Irving; 75 Prospect Avenue, ca. 1896, the present home of Karen and Paul Issac.

Which property was the crowd favorite? Ask the crowd and you will get four different answers.

“The boxwood parterre with perfect tulips at 12 Hazel Lane,” was one guest’s favorite. Having the owner, Pat Oresman, on the premises allowed for questions about the provenance of the stunning lighting or the stories behind the paintings and fine art prints. Many noticed the unique views onto views inside the house: transoms and windows into adjoining rooms lent a poetic feel, and rightly so as 12 Hazel Lane is well-known as the former home of Poet Phyllis M. McGinley.

“Just to visit interior designer Libby Cameron’s home—to see the painted metal valances, her private collections, and to view her fabric and book-filled office—was priceless,” said another guest. Cameron has lived 16 years at 24 Ervilla which is an example of 20th Century Colonial Revival architecture. She spent 14 years with the world-famous American interior design studio of Parish-Hadley before starting her own firm. The essence of Sister Parish’s style was to mix fine objects with those of more humble origin and 24 Ervilla reflects this discipline with a meld of important heirlooms and flea market gems. All the rooms showcase both the whimsical and the practical, and present a bravado of texture and color set off against white painted floors. Most recently the home was featured in *Cottage Living* (2005).

The wraparound porch and grand foyer with sweeping oak staircase had jaws dropping at 75 Prospect Avenue, an example of late 19th Century-Colonial Revival architecture. The use of salmon and terra cotta decorative elements throughout the first floor, including Farrow and Ball wallpapers, delighted guests and prompted much note-taking. The real envy started on the second floor when entering the Master Suite with stunning silk curtains and Neoclassical-style

**LHS Annual Meeting**  
**Tuesday, June 17**  
**Horseshoe Harbor Yacht Club**  
**7 p.m.**  
**Refreshments to Follow**

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*Lynne Crowley, Archivist*

The Larchmont Historical Society was founded in 1980 and chartered in 1981 as a not-for-profit educational corporation by the New York State Board of Regents to discover, preserve and disseminate information concerning the natural, social, and civic history of Larchmont, and to promote the preservation of local historical sites and structures. The Society maintains an archives in the Mamaroneck Town Center, 740 W. Boston Post Rd., Mamaroneck; publishes a newsletter; offers programs; conducts tours for school children and adults; and offers outreach lectures to other community groups. The newsletter is published to provide news of the Society and occasional articles of related interest. Opinions expressed are those of their authors; publication should not be construed as endorsement by the Society.

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## President's Message:

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This will be my last post as LHS President. While it is somewhat bittersweet, I am very excited for what lies ahead for the Larchmont Historical Society in the next few years.

I have been fortunate to work with such a talented, dedicated and fun group of people over the last four years and I thank each and every one of you – Trustees, Volunteers and Members of the Larchmont Community — who have participated in all our amazing endeavors!

We've accomplished so much and it is my greatest hope that more Larchmont residents will continue to get involved as LHS volunteers to help bring more of our exciting and important plans to life. There are many more programs and events that the Historical Society has in store to promote Larchmont's fascinating history, so find a committee that interests you and join us! Information about volunteering is available on our website or by calling the Archives office.

In the meantime, I wish you all a fun-filled, happy, healthy and safe summer!

- Barbara Rewey Newman

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## From the Archives:

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One of the "perks" as your archivist is when individuals come in to search for information. Recently a former resident of Larchmont, now in his 80's, came into the archive, located in the Mamaroneck Town Center, with his son and daughter and they spent an hour or so strolling down memory lane.

We looked through a collection of old postcards of Larchmont scenes. Then we searched to see what we might find on the house he had lived in as child (next door to the house his grandparents had built.). We also found material on the history of Murray Avenue School, including some photos of kids from the era when he attended! As he looked up old friends in the 1943 Mahiscan, I discovered what "Mahiscan" stands for! It's "Mamaroneck High School Annual". I could have sworn it was the name of a long lost native American tribe! We finished with some pictures of the apartment building he and his wife had first lived in together.

As they were leaving I directed them to walk down the second floor hall before they left the building because there's a very informative wall display on the history of the unincorporated part of the Town of Mamaroneck. I also reminded them that our website: [www.larchmonthistory.org](http://www.larchmonthistory.org) has a wonderful section of online images that can be perused at leisure from home.

Overall, it is so interesting to have our archives brought to life by visitors like this gentleman.

- Lynne Crowley

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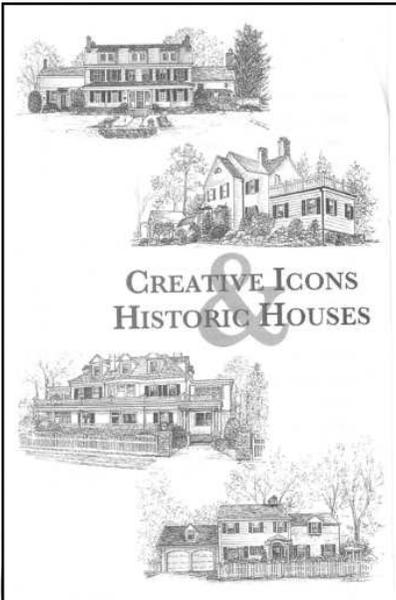
## Corrections and Addendums: April May 2008

Phyllis Tarlow was not credited as the artist who did the house tour drawings featured on page one.

Photo of Symphonette Square appearing in "From the Archives" was reproduced by permission of the publisher, copyright Anne Marie Leone and Judith Doolin Spikes, 2002, from "*Larchmont Then and Now: A Photohistory*."

bed. But the perfect His and Hers masterbath suites were on everyone's Must See list. The recently renovated rooms hinted elegantly at retro glam (the dark wood and Brunswick & Fils archive wallpaper in his! The Danby marble and chandelier in hers!) Many people lingered longingly at the sleeping porch which looked out onto the tennis courts and pool. A simple crowd favorite was the green-painted butler's pantry with period green glass light fixture, so reminiscent of the first part of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

The sweeping views of the Sound from 4 Pryor Manor Road's front porch and gazebo spoke to everyone's romantic side. (The home and family wedding were recently featured in Martha Stewart Weddings magazine). Owner Margery Mayer set a stunning table in her exquisite dining room. Guests who paid attention in this special home—also known as the Mill House—were treated to a DeKooning lithograph, an 18<sup>th</sup>-Century gilded French barometer and a framed letter signed by Louis de St. Just, a poet and aide to Robespierre. Many guests loved 4 Pryor Manor's charming, low-ceilinged kitchen and admired the painted white floor. Others tried to guess the name of the serene blue/gray paint (Enlightenmint? Nantucket Fog?) on the towering walls of the Greek Revival-style library. The simply-renovated guest bath with black and white tile and antique brass and glass shelving was stunning. Many liked the guest room which was decorated with lively, red Pierre Deux toile wallpaper. The adjacent barn, once part of the old Premium River Mill, and its huge chandelier from a European church, was the perfect ending for many.



Guests on the tour were given the House Tour Journal, written by Larchmont resident and author Kate Kelly Schweitzer with the assistance of Susan Emery and the research team. This year, the amount of detail about each property was prolific and the information fascinating. We thank Kate and Susan for their months of hard work.

Tour-goers were invited to a post tour reception at the Larchmont Yacht Club where they were treated to an exhibit and sale of work by talented artists from the Mamaroneck Artists Guild. The Spring House Tour is the Society's primary fundraiser during the year and the sale of tickets along with journal advertisements help support the Society's many programs. Heartfelt thanks go out to all involved for their support of this very special program.

-Patti Roberts

## Century Homes Club: What Is It & Does My Home Qualify?

The Century Homes Club (CHC), sponsored by the Larchmont Historical Society, is always looking for 'new' 100 year old house members. (Notice that the home is the member. Owners come and go but the house has the age and history).. Eligibility for membership starts with age and also considers the percentage of original appearance and details still in place. To determine if a house is eligible for the CHC the homeowner must take several steps starting with the LHS archives.



LHS has an extensive archival collection located on the third floor of the Mamaroneck Town Center. The Society's archivist, Lynne Crowley, can help the homeowner identify the age of their home. In some cases the date is readily available and in others the date can lead you on a lengthy and interesting quest. We encourage the homeowner to discover the original date but recognize that this may take time that they do not have. In this case, for a fee of \$50 the archivist and/or an LHS board member can assist you. Several good sources to determine a house's age include original blueprints, maps, tax records, newspapers and phone directories. Once the century old date has been determined for the home, the application process can begin.

To complete the CHC process we ask for \$200 to cover our costs for the plaque. As a member, the house proudly displays a 10" X 7" solid bronze oval plaque and the homeowner is invited to an annual cocktail party. The bronze plaque is typically placed to the left of the front entrance but in some cases it's situated to the right. The plaque indicates the year and when available the architect and/or house name. For example, our most recent member was once the "Manor School for Girls" and was constructed in 1906 (see image). The plaque is intended to be a permanent feature of the house that can be enjoyed by the homeowners and the passersby. Our 2008 spring house tour highlighted three new members in the Manor (12 Hazel, 75 Prospect, 4 Pryer Manor) joining over 20 other CHC members.

If you live in a home that you think is at least a century old (pre-1908) please contact the Larchmont Historical Society's archives at 381-2239. The process is a great way to not only learn about your house but to enjoy Larchmont's rich history.

- Ellen Martin

## Jean Kerr Puts Larchmont on the Map with “Please Don’t Eat the Daisies”, Published 51 Years Ago.



Jean Kerr, a witty essayist and feted writer of comic theatre, offers an incredibly humorous collection of how-to’s for surviving life while making sure that you get what you need in her self-deprecating and tongue-in-check collection of essays, Please Don’t Eat The Daisies. Ms. Kerr’s sentiments are very relatable, a woman trying to find balance in her life and achieving her goals. But despite the essays and fictional pieces being written more than 50

years ago, what makes Ms. Kerr’s approach to trying to ‘do it all’ - having a career, being a wife and/or mother - so timeless is that she doesn’t take herself too seriously in any of her roles. Although the book was popular during her lifetime, a movie based on the book starring Doris Day and David Niven was released in 1960 and a TV series followed later in the decade, Ms. Kerr’s down-to-earth advice and self-reflection is still refreshing funny today.

Ms. Kerr and her renowned husband, Pulitzer Prize-winning theatre critic Walter Kerr, lived in Larchmont for over forty years at 1 Beach Avenue in Larchmont. A passing mention was made of this celebrated wife and husband duo of writers, theatrical collaborators and parents of six children, in our most recent House Tour booklet *Creative Icons and Historic Houses*, as friends of the Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Phyllis McGinley Hayden, who lived for several years at 12 Hazel Lane. The Kerrs were enticed to move to Larchmont by Ms. McGinley Hayden, and found their most whimsical house built overlooking the sound; this unique abode was featured in our 2003 House Tour *Around the Square* after Jean Kerr’s passing in 2003.

Many of Ms. Kerr’s experiences while living in Larchmont served as fodder for her pieces, such as how she and Mr. Kerr found their uniquely-constructed but beautifully situated house in *Kerr-Hilton*. The Kerrs had four boys at the time they were looking for houses in Larchmont (they went on to have another boy and a girl while in Larchmont), and they wanted “a house that would have four bedrooms for the boys, all of them located some distance from the living room – say in the next county somewhere.”, but couldn’t find anything within their price range. After a year of looking, to pass the time while waiting to view another house, the Kerrs’ real estate agent took them to 1 Beach Avenue ‘just for laughs’ and after the tour the Kerrs replied “‘It’s the nuttiest house

we ever saw, we’ll buy it.” With fondness Ms. Kerr recalls that “Most of our friends agreed that, like New York, it was a great place to visit but you wouldn’t want to live there.”; or about the contractors whom they brought in to assess the house’s reconstruction (the house had been owned by an former automobile manufacturer, Charles B. King, who made many eclectic alterations during his residency): “Without exception, they all burst into peals of hilarity the minute they set foot inside the door.”

And some pieces which make even the non-Larchmonter appreciate Ms. Kerr’s entertaining work include her droll view on the introduction of children into a family: “Now the thing about having a baby – and I can’t be the first person who has noticed this – is that thereafter you *have* it, and it’s years before you can distract it from any elemental need by saying, ‘Oh, for heaven’s sake, go look at television.’” Or her unique approach to trying to work and keep from being distracted by her children and her own procrastinating: “Out in the car, where I freeze to death or roast to death depending on the season, all is serene. The few things there are to read

in the front-seat area...I have long since committed to memory. So there is nothing to do but write, after I have the glove compartment tidied up.”



Other of Ms. Kerr’s amusing musings on aspects of everyday life which still resonate today: she tries to understand fad diets but can’t resolve herself to accept them in *Aunt*

*Jean’s Marshmallow Fudge Diet* because “any girl who has had nothing to eat since nine o’clock this morning but three hard-boiled eggs will be about as jolly and companionable as an income-tax inspector.”; or her theory for making sure you get recovery time after an operation in *Operation Operation*, “if you feel terrible, look terrible. Save that blue ribbon until the happy moment when you notice that you can comb even the back of your hair without becoming so faint...”

So although Please Don’t Eat The Daisies is over fifty years old and out of print, Ms. Kerr’s intelligent and amusing reminiscences about trying to keep everything in perspective is worth a modern reading. Trying to find a copy of Please Don’t Eat The Daisies to read gives you an excuse to visit to the Larchmont Library or the Larchmont Historical Society Archives this summer to skim through their copies. And perhaps most importantly, reading this book and learning about such a talent as Jean Kerr will remind you why you love Larchmont so much, as Jean Kerr wrote in the 1991 Larchmont Centennial Book “Larchmont is not just a village; it’s a way of life.”

- Roberta Warren

## Sons of Former LHS President Undertake Cross-Country Bike Ride to Raise Money for Cancer Research



“Three Men, Six Wheels, 4100 Miles, One Goal” reads the website of three Larchmont natives, Justin Merolla, Jamie Merolla, and Ben Herrmann who set out from San Francisco on June 1 to ride cross country — 4100 miles—to raise money

for cancer. In early August they will join 5500 other cyclists in the Pan-Massachusetts Challenge, an event that raises money for the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The Merolla boys are sons of the late Susan Merolla, who was on the LHS board from 1986-92, serving as president from 1990-92, during which time she headed the Larchmont Centennial Celebration.

Susan died in 1995 of breast cancer at the age of 42, and her husband, Joe, a business consultant and avid cyclist who rode in the Pan Mass Challenge in previous years, died of a pulmonary embolism in 1998 at the age of 46, leaving the three Merolla children (the brothers (6 and 9 yrs old), along with sister Spencer (age 13)) in the care of their good friends, Ann Engelland and Harri Taranto.

This year the brothers along with long-time good friend Ben Herrmann decided upon the cross-country ride to celebrate both Susan and Joe Merolla: Susan, for her long and difficult fight against breast cancer, and Joe for his original plan of cycling to help raise money for a cure. The boys’ goal is to raise \$75,000 by trip’s end.

Biking an average of 80 miles per day, they will stop in local communities to visit cancer patients and oncology specialists to raise awareness about what they are doing. (Their route is mapped out on their website [www.panusachallenge.org](http://www.panusachallenge.org). The site was designed by Spencer, making the undertaking a total family effort.) The boys will time their ride to arrive in Sturbridge, Massachusetts by August 2 for the start of the 29<sup>th</sup> annual PMC. The 200-mile ride, with more than 5000 riders, spans Massachusetts, ending in Provincetown on August 3, which coincidentally was Susan’s birthday.

The team will be blogging about their ride at [www.panusachallenge.org](http://www.panusachallenge.org). They have provided links on the blog so that people can donate online to support their efforts to raise money for cancer. For anyone who prefers to send a check, checks can be made payable to the PMC, Jimmy Fund, or the Dana Farber Cancer Institute. To sponsor a rider, checks need to

be sent in by that rider. For this team, please send checks to the boys care of Dr. Ann Engelland’s office (921 W. Boston Post Road, Mamaroneck, NY 10543).

All three riders are MHS graduates. Justin was working in finance in Boston but plans to work in film after the ride; Ben Herrmann lives in New York City and will attend law school in the fall; Jamie is a student at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut.

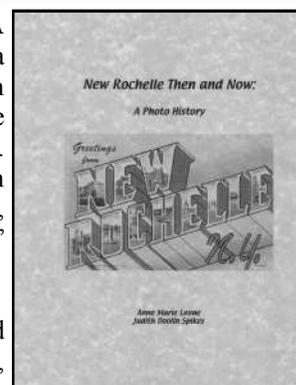
Susan combined motherhood with community service and a love of running. In addition to overseeing all the activities involved with the celebration of the Larchmont Centennial during her presidency of the LHS, she also served as treasurer of LMC-TV and was the village representative to the Tri-Municipal Advisory Commission.

LHS members are encouraged to support the team in memory of her wonderful leadership of the LHS.

- Kate Kelly

## New Book in “Then and Now” Series

“New Rochelle Then and Now: A Photo History” (2004) is the third in a series by Larchmont Village Historian Judith Doolin Spikes and Anne Marie Leone, an Ossining photographer. They have authored a weekly series in the Rivertowns Enterprise newspaper, “Then and Now in the Rivertowns,” for the past four years.



Like “Larchmont Then and Now” (2002), the inaugural volume, the New Rochelle book pairs early 20th-century views with photos of the same sites today, along with a brief historical background of each. (A third volume, “Irvington Then and Now,” was also published in 2004.)

The New Rochelle book contains 150 full-color 4-by-6 inch photos in an 8.5-by-11 inch spiral bound format. Included are the waterfront, the residential areas south of the Boston Post Road, and the central commercial district. The book is organized geographically, from south to north, and is roughly chronological as well. It may be used to guide a walking tour by beginning at Hudson Park and proceeding westward almost to the Pelham line, then returning eastward through the Southern Tier. The survey of the business district begins at the westerly intersection of Main and Huguenot streets and proceeds easterly along Huguenot, the older of the two thoroughfares, almost to the Mamaroneck line, then returns along Main Street to the point of departure.

Both the New Rochelle and the Larchmont photo histories are available for purchase at Anderson’s Book Shop.

-Judith Doolin Spikes

## Celebrating Grace Huntley Pugh, Community Resource and Founder, Mamaroneck Artists Guild

There are many very talented people in our community who give unselfishly of their time and talent to improve the lives of others. Few, however, can match the vibrant contributions of Grace Huntley Pugh.

Grace Pugh, who turned 95 years old this year, has been rightly recognized many times for her vision, leadership, spirit and generosity. Most recently, Grace's life and contributions were celebrated in an art exhibition at the Mamaroneck Public Library.

Grace Huntley Pugh was an editor, painter, historian, historic preservationist, conservationist and a researcher. She attended Wellesley College and graduated from Barnard College with a BA in History of Art and Architecture in 1934. She then pursued graduate studies at the National Academy of Design Art School, the Art Students League, Parsons School of Design. Grace's first job was as artist-in-residence and head of the art department of Briarcliff Junior College. She then was an art director at Young and



Rubicam, the advertising agency and also worked in Pittsburgh at the Carnegie Institute.

Grace spent decades painting, drawing and sketching our communities, particularly Mamaroneck Village, the harbor and sail boat races in Long Island Sound. Her artwork allowed her to make impactful and lasting contributions. In 1971, Grace painted Harbor Island with cherry trees around the boat basin. What was unusual about the painting is that there were not cherry trees in Harbor Island, at least not at that time. It was Grace's vision of that harbor with the trees that inspired the people of our communities to raise money to have the trees planted. The story gets better: While Mamaroneck planned to plant 80 Japanese cherry trees, because of Grace's beautiful painting, people were so inspired that enough money was raised to plant 350 trees. That is some legacy.

Grace once said, "My paintings are about people and places I love – my family, children, dancers, musicians, architecture, my favorite spots in Europe, my favorite spots in and around Mamaroneck, New York, where I live."



From left to right, Grace Huntley Pugh, her daughter Gigi Sundstrom and State Senator Suzi Oppenhiemer

About her art, the Hudson River Museum once wrote: "Grace Huntley Pugh is a realist. Though quite individual, if one can point to an influence, perhaps Cezanne would be right. Her use of a restrained palette plus a questing touch that strips the accident from the forms beneath indicates at least a parallel preoccupation. She brings to her paintings a freshness that is always pleasant. Her paintings of children are charming and reveal a real affection for them."

In 1953 Grace was the organizing chairman and the first president of the Mamaroneck Artists Guild (<http://www.mamaroneckartistsguild.org>). The guild started soon after the end of World War II with a group of very spirited people. The members were full of energy for new found freedom that the end of the war instilled in them. It began in a carriage house studio in the backyard of the Pugh's home. Her husband, Cresson Pugh, created a back yard studio for Grace from an old carriage house built in 1947/48. It was called the Windhorse Studio. Grace invited other artists to join her in the studio where they had a live model and were able to concentrate on their art. From this beginning, the artists came up with the idea for the guild so that a small but serious group of artists could make Mamaroneck a haven for professional artists. After a short period, the guild moved to the Art Barn off Mamaroneck Avenue and stayed there for about 20 years. The Art Barn was a magical space for artists to gather with a courtyard, waterfall, space for exhibitions, art lessons, and events such as Punch and Judy shows. Gigi Sundstrom, Grace's daughter, said, "I have wonderful memories of the Art Barn and the Mamaroneck Artists Guild. My parents would get together with other artists and put on amazing shows, parties and costume balls. It was a fun, creative, almost bohemian group of very talented, professional artists. The guild allowed them to pursue their art locally, without needing to go into New York City. The guild gave Larchmont and Mamaroneck a vibrancy that I was blessed to witness." The guild is still strong today and located in Larchmont at 126 Larchmont Avenue with over 300 artist members.

In 1976 she helped revitalize the Mamaroneck Historical Society, and as Charter President from 1980 to 1982, created, designed and edited their newsletter. Grace initiated a grass-roots effort to create the Historic Preservation Ordinance. It was passed by the Village of Mamaroneck Board on May 10, 1982. At that time she was also appointed the first chairman of The Landmarks Preservation Advisory Committee. Grace also encouraged interest in the community for Mamaroneck's historic cemeteries. Beginning in 1980, Grace worked to preserve the Peter Jay Mansion Property in Rye and was an ardent protector of the Guion Creek Wildlife/Bird Sanctuary and Marshlands area.

Grace wrote about the Jay Heritage Center in early 1993 on the beginning of the restoration of the property: "To quote from the new pamphlet of the Jay Heritage Center, 'Recapture...the singular beauty symbolic of the dreams of a young nation... Recapture...the legacy of John Jay...the integrity and commitment to the common good.' The Jay Heritage Center has started the process of selecting an architect for the restoration and rehabilitation of the Carriage House as an environmental center according to the Secretary of Interior's standards. Happy 1993 – Gracie Pugh."

Thank you, Gracie Pugh.  
- Elaine Everhart

## Honoring our '99

May 25, 2007, marked the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the dedication of the Richard M. Kemper Park, a World War II memorial on the grounds of Mamaroneck High School. The Adolph Kemper family donated the Park to the Mamaroneck School District in loving memory of Lt. Richard Kemper who was killed in action in Normandy, August 6, 1944.

During World War II, it was customary throughout America to hang Blue Star Banners in the windows of the homes of those serving in the armed forces. It was not unusual to see banners with more than one Blue Star—one for each person in the service. In the event an individual made the supreme sacrifice, his or her Blue Star was replaced with a Gold Star.

There are 99 names of Gold Star honorees on the granite monument at the center of the Memorial Park. To honor these individuals, the Larchmont Historical Society, the Mamaroneck Historical Society, American Legion Post 90 (Mamaroneck), American Legion Post 347 (Larchmont), the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Kemper Memorial Park Preservation Fund are jointly sponsoring a commemorative project. Gold star placards (9" x 15") have been prepared to present to the relatives of each of one of these heroes and to the current residents of the homes where the 99 once lived. They are also being displayed at local memorials to the 99. The placards are designed to be placed in a window, on a wall or in the ground.



The flagpole outside VFW Post 1156 on the Boston Post Rd in the Town of Mam'k is dedicated to the memory of Joseph A. Merigliano and John Ehret, two of the 99 honorees at the Richard M. Kemper Park, and is marked with a gold star placard.

At 155 Beach Avenue, the former home of Richard Kemper, a Gold Star placard is on display. Angelo Mancino says he was very proud when he heard that his home had once been the Kemper family home. When he was contacted about the Gold Star placard project, background

information about Richard Kemper and his death, the two Mancino boys, 12 year old Michael and 9 year old Matthew, poured over the newspaper articles and clippings. They were fascinated and interested by the story--so much so that the Mancinos decided to invite Jean Kemper Hoffman, Richard Kemper's sister, and her son, Richard Cantor to visit their home.

"We are a very patriotic family and we treated Mrs. Hoffman like a visiting dignitary", states Mr. Mancino. Jean was thrilled to be allowed this opportunity to see again the home where she grew up and was married. She even brought her wedding photos (one of which included the famous entertainer Eddie Cantor, who served as Best Man). The screened in porch had always been her father, Adolph's, very special place. The home continues to hold lovely memories for her.

Mr. Mancino would like to keep the Gold Star placard on display as long as possible. His family has great respect for those who serve in the armed forces and to be participants in this project is meaningful to them all.

It is important to remember that all of the individuals honored at the Richard Kemper Park were our neighbors. They attended our schools and houses of worship, played in our parks, shopped in our stores and enjoyed our social events.

As you travel around the Larchmont-Mamaroneck area, please note these tributes to "Our 99" and to our community's history. If you are related to one of them or the current resident of a former home and are interested in displaying a Gold Star placard or if you have any questions, please contact Jan Northrup at 834-5757.



At the corner of Beach and Addison, a Gold Star Placard marks the former home of the Kemper family. Lt. Richard Kemper, MHS Class of 1937, was killed on August 6, 1944 in Normandy. In his memory, his family donated the Richard M. Kemper Park, a World War II Memorial, to the Mamaroneck School District.

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lhs@larchmonthistory.org

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please enroll me as a member of the Larchmont Historical Society. My tax-deductible dues for one year are enclosed. Annual membership year is: September - June..

New Member       Renewing Member

Please indicate membership category:

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$ 15	<b><u>Make checks payable &amp; mail to:</u></b>  The Larchmont Historical Society P.O. Box 742 Larchmont, NY 10538
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$ 25	
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior (65+) & Student	\$ 5	
<input type="checkbox"/> Institutional or Business	\$ 40	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining	\$ 50	
<input type="checkbox"/> Life (individual only)	\$150	

I would like to volunteer to help on the following committee(s):

<input type="checkbox"/> Spring House Tour	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum Planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Grant Research/ Writing
<input type="checkbox"/> Membership	<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter	<input type="checkbox"/> Century Homes Club
<input type="checkbox"/> Exhibits	<input type="checkbox"/> Fire History	<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising
<input type="checkbox"/> Publicity	<input type="checkbox"/> Monthly Programs	<input type="checkbox"/> Special Events
<input type="checkbox"/> Archives		

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_



Larchmont Historical Society  
PO Box 742  
Larchmont, NY 10538

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