

Asbury Park Historical Society, Monthly Meeting: Oct. 16, 2025
Headquarters: Stephen Crane House, 508 4th Ave., Asbury Park, NJ
MINUTES

President Kay Harris called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

Trustees present: Kay Harris, Susan Rosenberg, Andy Skokos, Susan Skokos, Dolly Sternesky, Don Stine

Trustees absent: Eileen Chapman, Teddy Chomko, Jen Stine

Guest members: Kathleen Melgar, Kris Ohleth, Lesley Schierenbeck

Minutes: September 2025 Minutes, prepared by Dolly, were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Andy Skokos

Andy shared the balances from each of 4 accounts,
SCH checking, APHS Checking, Money Market and Gaming.

Membership: Susan Skokos

New total: 96 paid-up members
Members' names will appear in the newsletter.

Fundraising Merchandise: Andy Skokos, Kay Harris

Andy has been selling ornaments online through PayPal.
Kay will be selling ornaments at the Holiday Bazaar in the Grand Arcade,
Convention Hall, Nov. 28-Dec. 21, Fri., Sat, Sun. (hours differ)

Programming Events

- Oct. 30, 7:00 P.M.;**doors open at 6:30. Stephen Crane House, "A Night of Poe and Crane."
Nov.1, Frank D'Alessandro will read "The Tell-Tale Heart" and "The Cask of Amontillado."
- A screening of "I Married a Witch," will follow. **Members:** free. **Non-members:** Donations
In any amount are appreciated.
- Refreshments will include a birthday cake to honor Stephen Crane's 154th birthday.

Bylaws: Dolly Sternesky

- It was decided that the Trustees would meet on a Saturday(s) to present any suggestions for changes or updates. The date(s) will be determined through e-mail.
- Susan R. presented, for consideration, an updated version of the **Mission Statement**.

Stephen Crane House: Susan Rosenberg

- **House Tours:** on-going; Sundays, 12-2 and by appointment
- **Exhibits:** Susan R. has set up 2 exhibits in the SCH.
 - 1.) donated **cups and saucers from the SS Morro Castle**
 - 2.) a donated array of **Baby Parade (1890-1949) silver trophies**.

Don suggested that the trophies go on display in the Asbury Park Public Library.

Stephen Crane House Condo: Andy Skokos

The condo tenant within the SCH is back after several months. Everything is up-to-date.

Outreach: Susan Rosenberg, Kay Harris,

"Quality of Life Festival in Asbury Park," Springwood Park, Sat., Sept. 20 - Kay
Archives & History Day, Brookdale C.C.; Sat., Oct. 4; 9-1 - Susan Rosenberg

Theme: **“The American Revolution in Monmouth County; Conflicting Allegiances”**

- Historical societies and museums displayed their histories on assigned tables.
- Keynote speaker: Jonathan Mercantini, Ph.D., Kean University
- APHS sold one book and one round white/purple ornament: \$26

Note: Throughout 2026, the N.J. Historical Commission and Crossroads of the American Revolution Association will commemorate the historic event. Historic societies and museums are encouraged to participate.

- **Susan R.** suggested that the APHS feature Ken Burns’s new 6-part documentary, “The American Revolution” which could be shared with the public at either the SCH and/or AP Pub. Lib. Legal rights will be sought.

Fundraising Events

- **Oct. 25th. 7:00 P.M.:**Lesley Schierenbeck, member and owner of History Chick
- Tours, will lead a walking tour of A.P., **“Dark City: A True Crime Walking Tour of A. P.”** “Lesley plans to donate the \$20 admission fees to the A.P.H.S.
- Teddy Chomko’s annual **City Lights Tour** is scheduled for Dec. 14th.

Fundraising Merchandise:

- Andy Skokos is selling, online (PayPal), collectable, bronze holiday ornaments of 5 iconic Asbury Park sites, \$25 each. These include Asbury Lanes (newest), Stone Pony, Wonder Bar, Carousel House and Convention Hall (first).
- Don is working to support the restoration of the Schuylkill River Ferris Wheel which fundraiser is Oct. 17th, Phoenixville, PA.. Artistic posters are for sale (\$5 each for the smaller; \$40 each for the larger). Trustees could visit the foundry.

Preservation: Don Stine, Kay Harris

- Don and Kay are working with Madison-Marquette to identify a place for the shipwrecked **SS Morro Castle anchor. Approval from the City of Asbury Park is being sought.**
- Kay is working with Charlie Horner, Asbury Park Museum, to establish **a pole marker** for the Honey Suckle Rose House on Atkins Ave. This effort is in conjunction with the **N.J. Black Heritage Trail project.**

Grants: Andy Skokos

Andy is working on an application for a General Operating Support (GOS) Re-Grant which would provide funds for APHS’s overall operations.

Archives: Kathleen Melgar, Member and Director of the Asbury Park Public Library

Kathleen emailed those interested in joining the Archival Committee which will start off by reviewing the issue of artifacts’ accessibility. Meeting dates range from November - March.

Communications: Phone, Phone queries, Website, Social media, Newsletter

Newsletter: Leslie Schierenbeck - December issue is pending

Inquiries: Kay and Andy; **Phone Inquiries:** Susan R.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:00 P.M.
Minutes submitted by Susan Rosenberg

