



## NEWSLETTER

# Rutherford Historic Preservation Society

## Rutherford Non-Profit Organizations Community Association Summit

The RHPS was invited by the Rutherford Chamber of Commerce to its first Non-Profit Organization Community Association Summit. The Summit took place on Friday, April 28th and was hosted by the Rutherford Congregational Church. The purpose of the summit was to bring together both non-profits and businesses that share a common bond as members of the Rutherford Chamber of



Commerce and provide them an opportunity to get to know each other's needs and increase the size of their networks. The Summit was well attended. The RHPS wants to thank the Rutherford Chamber of Commerce and the Rutherford Congregational Church for this fantastic opportunity! We look forward to the next Summit!

## “Rutherford TreeFest 2023”

The RPHS was honored to take part in this year's Annual Rutherford Treefest presented by the Rutherford Shade Tree Commission. The event took place on Saturday, April 22nd at Lincoln Park. The RHPS joined the other vendors as hundreds of people gathered to learn more about Rutherford's organizations, participate

in the festival's family-fun events, buy some toys and crafts, listen to live music performed by local bands and watch live dancers from the Backstage of Performing Arts Center. It was a day full of fun for everyone who attended. The RHPS was grateful for the opportunity to spread awareness of our organization!



# The Rutherford Historic Preservation Society is proud to announce the winners of our First Annual Historic Home Awards!

The RHPS presented its 2023 Historic Home Award Certificates to the homeowners of the following homes honoring their appreciation and stewardship of their home's historic heritage:

- 154 Fairview Avenue - Building 38 Lot 4 - on the corner of Fairview and Wood Streets. This home was built on September 24, 1926 by or for Gerhard D. Depken who owned G.D. Depken & Sons, a plumber and heating business. Depken served as president of the Hillside Cemetery Association. This home is currently owned by Leonardo and Jill Rodriguez.

- 131 Sylvan Street - Building 136 Lot 8 - a "Second Empire" style home built between 1876 and 1895. Featured in "Passaic and Rutherford Points of Interest". It was known historically as the James Rutherford House. In 1928, it was owned by Albert M. Thomson and Nellie Thomson. It was later owned by Renee V. Bovee. The house had an

unusual feature – a metal two-car garage built in November 1928. This home is currently owned by Henry and Donna DiFonto.

- 352 Park Avenue - Building 27, Lot 18 - built between 1913 and 1917 as a Vernacular shingle style with Tuscan columns. It was built for or by Louis G. Dehn. His wife was Katie Dehn. This house had an unusual feature -

the pseudo-Palladian arrangement of the windows in the central upper bay. Other owners included J.T. Kavanaugh and Henry P. Sliker. This home is currently owned by Hassan and Maria Franca Sharafi.

The RPHS would like to thank the homeowners and all who attended our May 22nd Award ceremony.



A special thank you to Rod Leith, Rutherford Historian, for his research on these three homes and to Mark Giordano, of Computype Co, for designing the certificates.

Pictures Provided By Bonnie and Mike Corcoran

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## Rutherford’s “Memorial Day Parade”

The RHPS marched in the Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 27th to honor our fallen service men and women. The parade began at Sunset Park on Union Avenue and ended with a beautiful rendition of TAPS as well as a brief address from the Mayor and Council at Borough Hall. We would like to thank everyone who showed their support by attending this important event.

## Rutherford’s “2nd Annual PrideFest”

The Rutherford Pride Alliance and the Rutherford Arts Council, two 501(c)3 non-profit organizations, partnered together to produce Rutherford’s 2nd Annual PRIDEFEST which took place on Saturday, June 3, 2023 at Lincoln Park. This family-friendly event included educational vendors, food vendors, a beer garden, live entertainment, raffles and additional kid-friendly activities. The RHPS was a proud sponsor at this event and would like to thank all who attended and visited the RHPS booth.



## A Visit to the “New York Society of Model Engineers” Headquarters

The New York Society of Model Engineers invited the members of the RHPS to attend a private tour of their amazing facility which is located on Hoboken Road in Carlstadt. Formed in New York City in 1926, the club features two incredibly detailed layouts (“O” and “HO” gauge). During our visit, we were told about the long history of the club, past notable members, the vast memorabilia on display, and answers to all of our questions. We were privileged to see “behind the scene” as dedicated members worked preparing for their upcoming centennial celebration. We want to thank the members of the NYSME for their hospitality and hope that this is the beginning of a relationship between our two organizations.