



PO Box 564
 Flourtown, PA 19031
 215-233-4600
 www.springfieldhistory.org

The Challenge

PRESERVATION • RESEARCH • EDUCATION

WHEN HOLLYWOOD CAME TO SPRINGFIELD

Presented by Mr. Steven Kampmann

Thursday, May 21st, 2015 – 7:30 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church

Bethlehem Pike & East Mill Road in Flourtown, PA

MAY 2015

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Stealing Home, the Warner Brothers movie which was written and directed by Chestnut Hill native, Steven Kampmann (with partner Will Aldis), was shot in Springfield Township and the surrounding area in 1987. The film, starring Jodie Foster and Mark Harmon, was featured at the *Society's History in Motion* event this past November.

Steven Kampmann will be traveling to Springfield to speak on the challenges of writing and directing the film. Steven has not spoken in a public forum about the making of *Stealing Home*, so this will be a first. This special presentation will provide an entertaining glimpse into the world of movie making. He will show clips from the film pointing out the local homes and landmarks featured in the movie, as well as his method of capturing the beauty of Chestnut Hill and the Springfield area.

Steven graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and earned his Master's Degree in Psychological Counseling from St. Michael's College in Vermont, where he wrote his thesis on a method of recording dreams. At the Vermont State Hospital he studied the art of role-playing, humor, and psychodrama in group therapy. It was studying these techniques that drew his interest to drama, comedy, and ultimately to show business. Steven began his film and TV career as a comedic actor/writer at the legendary Second City Theater appearing both in Chicago and Toronto. He wrote and produced



Steven Kampmann

the hit television show *WKRP in Cincinnati* before co-starring as Kirk Devane on the successful *Newhart* show two years later. He has appeared as an actor in eight movies including *Club Paradise* with Robin Williams, *For the Boys* with Bette Midler, and *Analyze That!* with Robert DeNiro and Billy Crystal. He co-wrote the hit comedy *Back to School* starring Rodney Dangerfield. Other writing credits include *The Couch Trip* with Second City alum Dan Aykroyd and the cult classic, *Clifford*, starring Martin Short also Second City alum. Steven's Christmas film, *Special Delivery*,

debuted on the Fox Family Channel in December 2000. He co-wrote, directed, and appeared in Second City's first feature film in forty years, *Buzzkill*, released on Valentine's Day, 2012. In addition to teaching Dream Workshops all over the country, he continues to write.

Most recently he completed his first dramatic play, *Great Shame*, and is currently outlining his own dream book called *The Dreams Course* based on a series of lectures focused on high school and college aged dreamers.

Please join us on May 21st, as Mr. Steven Kampmann pulls back the curtain to reveal movie magic. The public is invited to attend, and there is no charge for admission. Reservations are not required. Light refreshments will be served.

For more information call 215-233-4600

PLEASE NOTE:

Attendees to the May program are encouraged to bring a canned food item to donate to the First Presbyterian Church's neighborhood food pantry. Please help us to support this important cause.

President's Corner

One hundred and fifty years ago today, on April 23rd 1865, the body of President Abraham Lincoln lay in state at Independence Hall in Philadelphia. The War Between the States was over, but much of the country was in mourning. A great man, a man for the times, was dead. Lincoln's funeral train was re-tracing the route it had taken four years previously, as the President-Elect made his way from Springfield, Illinois to Washington, DC.

On February 22nd, 1861, Lincoln stood before Independence Hall and delivered a speech in which he spoke of the principle of liberty as embodied in the Declaration of Independence.

"Now, my friends, can this country be saved upon that basis? If it can, I will consider myself one of the happiest men in the world, if I can help to save it. If it cannot be saved upon that principle, it will be truly awful. But if this country cannot be saved without giving up that principle, I was about to say I would rather be assassinated on this spot than surrender it."

As I consider President Lincoln's resolve and, ultimately, his sacrifice, I think it's important to remember all those who participated in our country's Civil War. I had at least four great-grandfathers who served in that conflict. Lewis Kellogg (1832-1903) served in Company A, 179th NY Infantry; Philemon Gillett (1829-1901) served in Company E, 179th PA Militia; Ziba Scott (1845-1905)



served with the 18th PA Cavalry; and Joseph Blenkner (1826-1918) served in Company F, 54th Regiment NY Volunteer Infantry.

I appreciate their service, and the service of all our veterans who have served our Country before and since. My father, Bill Kreilick (Master Sgt.-Ret.) is a 20-year veteran of the Marine Corps. He served with First Recon Company in Korea, followed by two tours of duty in Vietnam.

With Memorial Day fast approaching, I would like to encourage each of you to plan a visit to a historic cemetery or war memorial in the area. Volunteers and staff at many of the cemeteries will be decorating the graves of veterans, and holding ceremonies commemorating their sacrifice. Volunteers will be sprucing up the war memorials. I'm sure they would welcome your assistance in the planning and preparation for these events and, of course, your attendance.

This year, I'll be at Mt. Moriah Cemetery (www.friendsofmountmoriahcemetery.org), which straddles the border of Yeadon and Philadelphia, on Memorial Day volunteering conservation services to repair and re-set several monuments, including those of General John K. Murphy, Brig. General Edwin R. Biles, Major John Lockhart, and Lieut. William Rainey Ritchie.

We have our veterans to thank for the liberty that we enjoy. Let's show them that we appreciate their service, and their sacrifice.

T. Scott Kreilick – *President, Springfield Township Historical Society*

BECOME A FRIEND OF STHS

The officers and directors of Springfield Township Historical Society invite you to become a member of our society as a FRIEND. As a Friend, you will help to support our mission of "Research, Preservation and Education," and you will receive:

- Four issues of our newsletter, "The Challenge."
- Discounts on programs and activities (bus trips, tours, etc.).
- Discounts on gift items such as books, maps, prints and tiles.

To sign up as a Friend, please visit our website: www.springfieldhistory.org or complete the form below and send it to: **Springfield Township Historical Society, PO Box 564, Flourtown, PA 19031**

Check here if you do NOT want your name included for recognition in the newsletter.

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- \$100+ William Penn
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YEAKEL CEMETERY UPDATE

The Yeakel Cemetery Preservation Committee is happy to report that the old burial ground has received some much needed attention this winter.

Four large trees were cut down during several snowy days in February by Cox and Company. The trees were a threat to the long-term safety of the cemetery and needed to come down. The weather, limited access, and the close proximity of the tombstones were major challenges. John Cox and his crew used a self-propelled cherry picker to crawl up to the site and used its 120 foot boom to reach the treetops and carefully lower the tree limbs to the ground.

During the warmer weather of late March, the improving conditions allowed for some site-work to take place. S.Vecchione Inc. re-graded the site to divert storm water away from the cemetery wall. Using a mini-excavator and a skid steer loader, the ground was contoured, some rotting old stumps were pulled from



the wall, and the piles of wood and logs were consolidated and neatly pushed aside. The final touch was spreading grass seed and mulch to prevent the erosion of the bare soil.

The completion of this work helps to ensure the survival of this historic cemetery but more needs to be done. The committee is planning to have some of the tombstones cleaned and repaired, applying for listing on the National Register of Historic Places and organizing tours to take place sometime in June. You can help by making a donation, volunteering, and attending a tour. For more information visit www.yeakelcemetery.com.

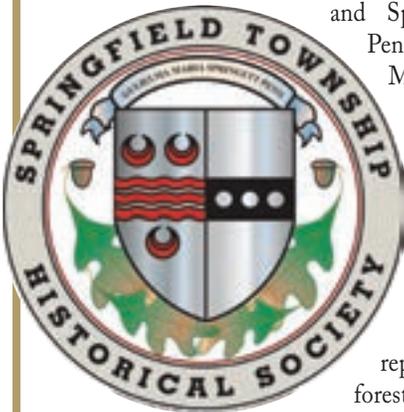


The Story Behind Our STHS Logo

A member recently made an inquiry about the origins and design of our logo. We thought it timely to include some background and history on our logo.

In the 1990s, local resident, architect, and former STHS board member, Kes Lukas, designed the STHS logo. The design was intended to echo the general look of the Springfield Township seal, while depicting elements specific to the township's history. The coat of arms shield represents the combined family crests of the Penn and Springett families (William Penn and his wife Gulielma Maria Springett) who founded our township. Symbolically, the metallic shield and the colorful banner above it are representative of an established society with the strong social structure and manufacturing capabilities. The oak leaves represent the virgin American forests that existed when the area was first settled and the oak tree is closely linked to William Penn's legacy here in Springfield. The shield, overlapping the leaves, represents the arrival of established society. The acorns at the sides represent the seeds of a new civilization planted by the Penn family and those who followed. As an Historical Society, we preserve that link to those original seeds and this logo is our symbol of that connection.

We appreciate the work Kes Lukas has done in designing this logo for STHS, and recently in updating these graphic files to make them compatible with the latest computer technology.

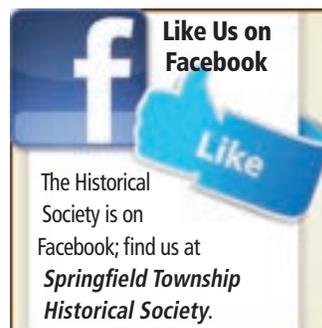


FROM THE
Archives



Spring at the Springfield Hotel c. 1890.

The Springfield Hotel is currently being renovated and will soon be the new home of the Flourtown Farmers Market.



**The Archives are
OPEN
to the Public**

TUESDAYS 7pm – 9pm
WEDNESDAYS 1pm – 5pm
SATURDAYS 9am – 12noon

For more information,
call **215-233-4600**

Archives UPDATE

We are continuing to digitize the photograph collection. Our volunteers, **Dulie Gray** and **Ray Smith**, are working on the Deming Whitmarsh Hall Collection. Our student volunteer **Zack Klebanoff** has scanned our collection of Bethlehem Pike photographs and is working on scanning the photographs of the remaining streets. We need more volunteers, so if you are interested please contact us at archives@springfieldhistory.org.

The archives has recently received the following donations:

- **John Cawley** donated a 10 volume set of Pennsylvania Military Infantry of World War I.
- **Barbara Pio** donated 14 titles and a blueprint of the property owned by Bartolomeo Pio in Springfield Township
- **Linda Stein** sent us an email with copies of pictures she took of Copernicus House/Hawkswell.

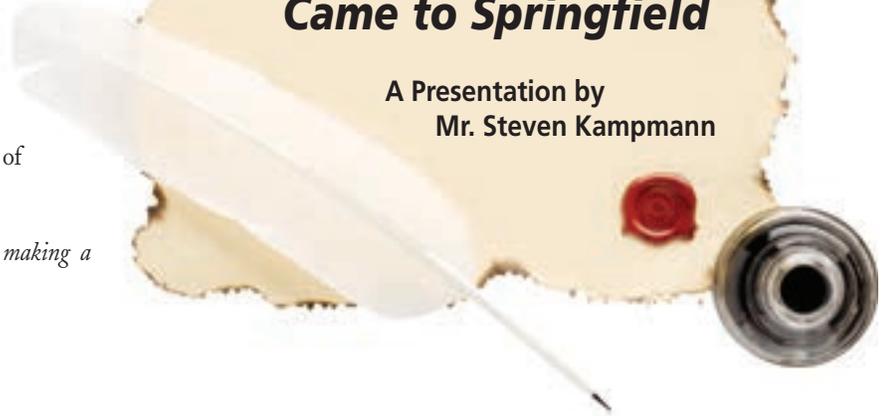
Many thanks to our generous donors. Anyone interested in making a donation is encouraged to call STHS at 215-233-4600.

Reserve
the Date

Thurs., May 21, 2015 – 7:30 p.m.

**When Hollywood
Came to Springfield**

A Presentation by
Mr. Steven Kampmann



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