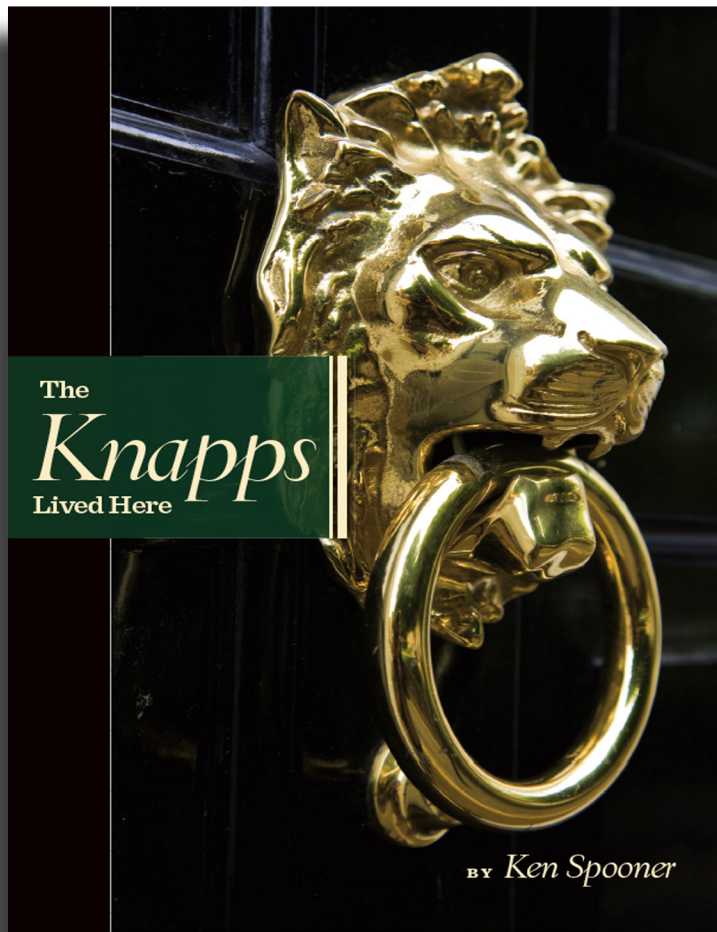


IT'S A BOOK !

After A Decade Online At Spoonercentral.com THE KNAPPS LIVED HERE Is Now A Book.



On a Sunday afternoon in 1959, in a small seaside town on Long Island, 11 year old Ken Spooner watched along with most of the townfolk as his personal playhouse, the Knapp Mansion, burned to the ground. Over 40 years passed before he would write a short story memoir of that day, triggering a very long journey through the first decade of the 21st century, to discover just who the Knapps were (no one seemed to know) and who was the arsonist.

The author takes you with him through a folksy interwoven narrative that allows the reader to discover, as he did in realtime, the history of one of the Highest-Society, and Lowest-Profile families America's gilded age has ever produced. Travel inside the many Knapp mansions, where 5 U.S. Presidents, Wall Street tycoons, musical greats and icons of 19th & 20th centuries were guests. Wealthy and worldly, the Knapps entertained with yachting, aviation, hunting, fishing, horse & dog shows, golf, while trotting the globe, interacting with many other historical figures from all fields along the way. Names like Morgan, Duke, Sperry & Hemingway in places as far flung as New York, Paris, London, Florida, Bimini, & North Carolina's coast where a 2,500 acre Knapp Lodge gave birth to the Ducks Unlimited organization. You will also get to know many of the people who were employed by the Knapps both in their business and personal lives - lives that occasionally were closely intertwined.

Three generations of the Joseph F. Knapp family from 1832- 1952 are covered in great detail here. Some were just children during the Civil War, who lived to see the start of the Cold War.

When asked by some how the Knapps made their money, Spooner likes to answer casually, "They printed it ! - they owned American Lithographic Co. the largest printing firm in the world, and if they needed a little more, then they could borrow it from their life insurance, as they also owned Metropolitan Life Insurance too." As finance director at Met Life, magazine tycoon J. P. Knapp signed off on the loan to the Rockefellers that financed construction of Rockefeller Center. Met Life, who at one time had more capital on hand than the U.S. Govt, also financed the building of the Empire State building. A great American, Mr. J.P. Knapp, personally loaned the federal government interest free money for conservation projects during the depression and he funded public schools out of his pocket in his adopted state of North Carolina. His Knapp Foundation, founded in 1929, continues his philanthropic work today.

This is the third book from Nashville songwriter Ken Spooner. He has previously written "Long Ride On A Short Track" about the early days of Stock Car Racing in the North east and "If The Devil Danced In Empty Pockets - He'd Have A Ball In Mine" an auto biography of his 40 years inside the popular and country music industry. These works will be available again through E & M Books this year.

You can now order this 384 page, illustrated book, with very rare photos, direct from the printer online. Just go to Spoonercentral.com and use the IT'S A BOOK! link to the printer's secure server OR you can order it at Amazon, Barnes & Noble and other major book sellers. If you would like a signed copy, send check to Ken Spooner **6219, Henry Ford Dr.*** Nashville, TN 37209 *new address

It is also available in an E book version for \$9.00

**THE KNAPPS LIVED HERE - NON FICTION - \$28.00 - FIRST EDITION SEPT. 2010 -
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