



# The Herald

Hark the happenings of the Historic Langhorne Association



160 West Maple Avenue, Langhorne, PA 19047

215.757.1888

<http://www.historiclanghorne.org>



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## March and April Programs Announced

Please join us as HLA welcomes back **Mike Jesberger** who will present a program on the **American Revolution in Bucks and Montgomery Counties**. The program will be held on **Monday, March 23rd, at 7:30 pm**.

Mike is a Revolutionary War and American Civil War re-enactor with a keen interest in the history of these conflicts, particularly as it pertains to the lives of the common soldiers. He has made several prior appearances at HLA and at Langhorne Harvest Day as well as at many local encampment events. His interest in these subjects is infectious and his presentations are always well-attended and informative.



**On Monday, April 27th, at 7:30 pm**, HLA will present a program on a topic of local historical interest from our museum's archives. We are currently looking at a program on Quakerism in Bucks Co., including a display of Quaker wedding certificates from our collection. More details on the specific topic will be available soon at our website, on Facebook and through e-mail notifications to our members and friends.

**These meetings will be held at HLA's headquarters in the Anna Mary Williamson Library, 160 W. Maple Ave., Langhorne. They are free and open to the public and refreshments will be served following the programs. Our gift shop will be open and the building is handicapped accessible at the rear entrance. PLEASE JOIN US.**

## Annual Spring Tea Features a Visit from Jane Austen

Historic Langhorne will present its **Annual Afternoon Spring Tea** fundraiser on **Sunday, May 31st**, from **1 to 3pm**. Once again the event will be held at **Lady Bird's Tea Room and Bakery, 3 Hulme Ave., in Hulmeville**. The Tea will feature **Trish Chambers** in a portrayal of **Jane Austen - Her Life and Times**, as well as a tempting array of sandwiches, scones and desserts to accompany an assortment of teas.

A **flyer is attached** to this newsletter with all of the details on purchasing tickets for this event. Advance purchase of tickets is required and seating is limited. **Please invite your friends and relatives and join us** for this annual event to support Historic Langhorne Association.

## Charles W. Lauble, Jr. Remembered

Historic Langhorne and the Langhorne community lost a good friend recently with the passing of **Charles Lauble on December 17th**. He was passionate about this area and particularly about its history and he put that passion to work for HLA. Charles liked to solve mysteries. When photographs came in of some old buildings in the area, he went out and found them. When an environmentalist came in studying the site of the former Langhorne gas works off route 413, he visited the site, took photos of it and put together an article about how the gas was produced. By searching for old newspapers on line, he obtained hundreds of articles about Langhorne from years ago. He also put together "booklets" on a number of topics such as the Village of Edgewood and the Mathews Mansion in Langhorne Manor. He spoke to numerous community groups and produced many programs for HLA's member meetings. He created CD's dealing with Langhorne History and was instrumental in moving HLA's archives toward the digital age. His passion and his Langhorne memory will be missed by all of us at Historic Langhorne.

**Our headquarters is located in The Anna Mary Williamson Library & Museum**

## Activities at HLA Since Our Last Newsletter

The newsletter has taken a bit of a hiatus during this seemingly endless winter, so here's a summary of what's been going at HLA since the September, 2014, issue:

### SEPTEMBER

- **Our** thanks to Dr. Walter Bien for a very interesting and well-attended presentation on his research work in the New Jersey Pinelands.
- **HLA** agreed to provide a 6-week internship opportunity for two students at Penn State's Abington campus under the direction of Dr. Sharon Ann Holt, a professor in American History and coordinator of the school's Public History minor. Since we were already in the process of preparing for the 125th anniversary of the Library building, it was decided that the students would work with Larry Langhans on a review of archival materials on the Library's construction and operations and prepare a PowerPoint presentation to be given at the Anniversary dinner to be held in November.

### OCTOBER

- **HLA** received a donation of a beautiful Gem Dockash wood-burning stove (circa 1850's) from Nona Baskind in memory of her father, Ralph Basty. The stove had originally been in the home of Anna Newbold at 133 W. Maple Ave. Mr. Basty was living across the street when the subsequent owners remodeled the kitchen. He acquired the stove in trade for his lathe and woodworking tools. He worked on the stove himself until 1985 and then drove it to Maine where it was completely refinished. Thanks to HLA president Jim Maier and Andy Brandley for the significant labor involved in transporting the stove and installing it in front of the fireplace in the library room of the HLA headquarters and museum. This represents a wonderful addition to our collection of local artifacts.
- **Larry Langhans** made a presentation on the history of the Anna Mary Williamson Library building at our October program meeting as part of our celebration of the 125th anniversary of its opening. His talk included many details of the construction process from the contractor's records and diary as well as information on the library's operations. The presentation also featured detailed photographs of the many architectural features of the building taken by our newest Board Member, **Chris Koch**. Chris has volunteered his time over the past few years in helping to restore many of the old photographs in our archives and has transferred the card catalogue information for our Artifacts Collection to a searchable digital file.



- **HLA's** popular **Ghost Tours** through Langhorne Borough were held on Friday and Saturday nights during this month under the direction of **Jim Maier**. This is a significant fund raiser for the organization and we thank the volunteer tour guides (**Beth Connolly, Judy Beck, Julie Beck, Kate Transue** and **Stephanie Skrot**) for their time, effort and enthusiasm, and also **Donna Thomas** and everyone at **Will Travel** for selling tickets and opening their "haunted" building each night for the tour participants.

### NOVEMBER

- **On November 9th**, HLA hosted a dinner at **Bella Tori at the Mansion** in honor of the 125th anniversary of the opening of the Langhorne Library building. The trustees of the estate of Anna Mary Williamson officially transferred the newly-constructed building to the Langhorne Library Association on November 9, 1889. Sixty-five members and guests attended the dinner. HLA thanks Eric Yacker, Paul Manes and the staff at Bella Tori for making this a special event. **[continued on next page]**



From a 1906 postcard

## Activities at HLA Since Our Last Newsletter (continued)

- (continued from previous page) Highlights of the event included: **presentations by two students from Penn State-Abington (see above) and by Larry Langhans on the history of the Library; an announcement by Maria Leonhauser of her generous offer to match Anna Mary Williamson's original \$12,000 bequest for the construction of the building (see Acknowledgements below); the presentation by State Representative Frank Farry of a proclamation from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on the occasion of the anniversary; and a short talk by Romaine Boyer Macht, our special guest for the evening, on her memories of the Library and her role in having the Library building transferred to HLA following the move to its current location.** Thanks to everyone for making this a memorable evening.



- HLA** participated in the Annual **Four Lanes End Garden Club Holiday House tour** again this year. As you might expect, our theme revolved around the anniversary of the Anna Mary Williamson Library building. Various displays traced the process of construction of the building and the operations of the library using original material from our archives such as the diaries and account books of **Robert Ivins**, who supervised the construction, and library sign-in sheets and book catalogs from the early 1900's. Other displays placed the construction of the library in context with historical events, inventions, books and music of 1889. Many thanks to Larry Langhans for coordinating this effort and to the rest of our loyal volunteers for their many contributions.

### DECEMBER

- Santa Claus** made his annual visit to HLA on December 14th. A steady stream of youngsters kept Santa very busy for the entire two hours. Many thanks to Kevin Transue for his help in arranging for Santa's visit and to our volunteers for an excellent assortment of baked goods.

## Acknowledgements

- Prior to the Dinner in celebration of the 125th anniversary of the library, Board Members **Jim Maier, Larry Langhans** and **Jack Fulton** met with **Maria Leonhauser** to discuss her generous offer to match the original \$12,000 bequest made by Anna Mary Williamson. The contribution will be made over three years and is to be used as designated by the Board. Ms. Leonhauser joined HLA as a Lifetime Member in 2012. She currently resides in Michigan with her family; but as a child she lived in the Langhorne area and spent many hours in the old Library, even dreaming that she might live there. So when she decided to write a first novel, she felt it appropriate to have the story set in the Library, but as a residence. She has visited HLA on several occasions to do research for the book and hopes that it will be published this year. We will keep you posted on its progress. Our sincere thanks to Ms. Leonhauser for this investment in the future of the building and the Historic Association.
- Board Member **Chris Prokop and his wife, Diane**, offered a weekend stay at their bed and breakfast, **The Times House, in Jim Thorpe, PA**, to be used for a raffle prize during HLA's November and December activities. Congratulations to **Jack and Lorraine Wysor** for holding the winning ticket drawn by Santa Claus himself during his visit to HLA. **Many thanks to Chris and Diane for this generous offer and we look forward to doing this again in the future.**



## THANK YOU FOR YOUR REDNERS TAPES

For over seven years HLA has been collecting and redeeming your grocery register receipts from **Redner's Market** on Route 1 in Langhorne for which we have now earned almost **\$2,600.00**.

This money goes to help maintain our building and collections. We want to thank all those who have donated their tapes, including those individuals who mail or drop them off anonymously. **If you would like to take part in this program, ask for a Save-A-Tape card the next time you are in Redner's.** You do not need to give your name or any other personal information. **HLA receives 1%** from the portion designated as "**Today's Contribution**" on the **Redner's** tape. We encourage you to join this program and ask only that you be sure that the "**Today's Contribution**" amount appears on each tape that you submit. Also, tapes cannot be more than 3 years old to qualify for redemption.

## Membership Update - 2014/15

**Historic Langhorne wishes to acknowledge the following individuals, organizations and local businesses for their generous donations toward our 2014-15 membership year fund drive:**

**Business Sponsor:** **First National Bank and Trust Co of Newtown**

**Business Benefactors:** **Dunn-Givnish Life Celebration Home  
Langhorne Tax and Bookkeeping**

**Business Donors:** **Masselle's Auto Body, Inc. K.E. Seifert, Inc.  
Wm. B. Parry & Son, Ltd**

**Business Member:** **Marte & Toadvine, Attorneys**

### Lifetime Members:

**Jeff Defrehn, Defrehn Corp. Gerard A. Ehrlen Maria Leonhauser  
William and Judy Maier Richard and Sydney Mason (New)**

### Century Group:

<b>Jane Boyle</b>	<b>Neil and Kim Clabbers</b>	<b>James and Nancy Ennis</b>
<b>Suzanne and Glenn Everitt</b>	<b>Jack and Karen Fulton</b>	<b>Four Lanes End Garden Club</b>
<b>Donna Gruber</b>	<b>Lynda Johnson</b>	<b>Larry Langhans</b>
<b>Romaine Boyer Macht</b>	<b>Tom and Janet Maher</b>	<b>Pat and Lance Mervine</b>
<b>Lou and Linda Procaccino</b>	<b>Barry Truchil and Bernadette West</b>	<b>Florence and Bob Wharton</b>
<b>Gregory Yori</b>	<b>Larry and Carol Zetterberg</b>	

### Patrons:

George and Robyne Bertele	Chris and Mary Blaydon	Joseph A. Blinebury	Gary and Joan Bowman
Michelle Brownlee	Betsy and Pat Carr	Ruth Clewell	Scott & Gigi Cowan
Lois Cwiklinski	Anne and Bruce Dawson	Dale and Kurt Festa	Alan and Diane Haines
William and Nan Kent	Helen and Barry Kirsch	Andrea Lamberth & Richard White	
Karen and Paul Maloch	Linda Manzo	Woody and Jan Mather	Philip and Deborah Miele
Jean Nelson-Noble	John and Eileen Reither	Ellen M. Rossiter	Lillian Rossiter
Jean Candy Rounsavill	Joanne and Paul Schneider	Richard & Wanda Search	Richard N. Townsend
Deborah Weyman	Jack and Lorraine Wysor		

### Individual memberships:

Jeannie Alexander	Allen Co. (IN) Pub Library	Barbara Anderson	Audrey Armbruster
Alfred Barbano, Jr.	Laura-Lee Bearss	Myrl Brut	Betty Bunting
Beth Delaney	Charles Dyer	Diane Eissler	Edith Evans
Betty Ann Flis	Daniel J. Harmon, DDS	Barbara Heffelfinger, Heritage Society of Pennel	
Helga Kogut	Jackie Koob	David Maksymovich	Carol Markee
Sally Marrington	Terry Martian	Linda Matthews	O. Lee Merrick III
Mary Elaine Moser	Lynne Murray (New)	Carl F. Nedal	Brenda Palmer
Edward Pellegrino	Les Penny	Susan M. Randall	Lane H. Riland
P. Leslie Schaumberg	Marvin Strunk	Ernest Tkac (New)	

### Family Memberships:

Norbert and Evelyn Aicher	John and Amy Beiler, Jr	Patricia A. Betz	Walter Bien and Pat Randall
Joseph and Elizabeth Birbeck	Jim and Joan Bodnar	Pauline and Patrick Boyle	Keith, Ann and Janet Briggs
John and Cheryl Brodbeck	Mike and Susan Coyle	Bill and Sheila Dawe	Vincent and Anna Marie Della Vella
Suzanne and Dan Driscoll	Charles & Linda Edwards	Jennie Fazioli-Smith	Alicia Gasparovic & Mike Petrocik
Rich and Valerie Greger	Kay and Tom Haggerty	Wick and Lee Hannan	Sharon and Woody Hill
William and Dawn Hiltner	Lee Ann Horwatt Hitty (New)	Wesley & Karen Hogeland	Al and Laurie Holden
Paul and Kathleen Horwatt	Lance & Staci Horwatt (New)	William and Nan Kent	Paula Leonhauser
Dick and Jane Lima (New)	Bob and Terri Little	Judith Madsen & Janet Doyle	John and Joanna Magee
Mark and Jeanne Maher	John and Elaine Matthews	Ann Marie and Jim McAneney	Cathy and Jay McCarthy (New)
Ward and Shirley McMasters	Margaret and Michael Medernach		Mary H. Metzger
Pete and Dora Mitchell	Ernest and Nancy Pietsch	Clem and Liz Piscitelli	Joe and Susan Reilly
Joseph & Margaret Rothenbach	Stanley and Diana Silverman		Janice Skrot
Mary Tursi-Lowe & Stephen Lowe	Robert E. Wendig, Sr.	Steven and Bernadine Weng	John and Donna Yocum

**Thank you all for your continued support.**

## VOLUNTEERS

We have many projects in search of a volunteer such as updating our deed search files for houses in the borough, helping to improve our website, researching local topics or locating speakers for future meeting programs, helping to expand our membership rolls, developing ideas for periodic exhibitions of our artifacts collection and coordinating genealogy searches. In addition we are always looking for people willing to serve on our Board of Directors. Please stop in during our open hours or contact us by phone or email to discuss your interests and how you might be able to help this organization.

### Historic Langhorne Association's Current Board & Committee Chairs

#### Board Members

Jim Maier	President
Larry Langhans	Vice President
Jack Fulton	Treasurer
Evelyn Aicher	Recording Secretary
Lynda Johnson	Corresponding Secretary

Judy Sloan	Chris Prokop	Donna Thomas
Terri Little	Lance Mervine	Chris Koch

#### Committees

Technology:	Jim Maier
Artifacts:	Evelyn Aicher
<b>Publicity:</b>	
<b>Hostess:</b>	
Archives:	Larry Langhans & Jim Maier
Gift Shop:	Evelyn Aicher & Judy Sloan
Finance:	Jack Fulton
<b>Genealogy:</b>	
<b>Holiday House:</b>	
Library:	Sydney Mason
Membership:	Jack Fulton
Newsletter:	Jack Fulton
Oral History:	Cathy McCarthy
<b>Programs:</b>	
<b>Property:</b>	
Sunshine:	Lynda Johnson
<b>Ways and Means:</b>	
Grant Advisor:	Kathy Horwatt
House Plaques:	Judy Sloan
Tea:	Lynda Johnson

**Picture your name here and volunteer!**

## Coming Attractions at Historic Langhorne Association

**Monday, March 23, 2015, 7:30 pm - Program featuring Mike Jesberger, American Revolution in Bucks and Montgomery Counties - Free and open to the public. Refreshments provided.**

**Monday, April 27, 2015, 7:30 pm - Program to be announced. Free and open to the public. Refreshments provided.**

**Sunday, May 31, 2015, 1 - 3 pm - Annual Spring Tea featuring Jane Austen - at Lady Bird's Tea Room and Bakery, 3 Hulme Ave., Hulmeville, PA. Advance tickets required.**

Handicapped lift available in back of building

### OPEN HOURS

**Wednesdays 10am - 12pm & 7 - 9pm**

**Saturdays 10am - 12pm**

**...Or by appointment**

**Admission is Free & Gift Shop Available**

HLA has three email addresses for communicating with us at our headquarters.

**General email-**

**HistoricLanghorne1@verizon.net**

**Archive email-**

**hlaarchives@verizon.net**

**Research email-**

**hlaresearch@verizon.net**

## W A N T E D

Old photographs, postcards, maps or documents of Langhorne and neighboring towns for our archives. You can either donate the items or we will scan and return them to you. Photos of houses, businesses, streets or events are sought along with event brochures, programs, yearbooks, etc. Call or email us if you would like to donate or loan an item for preservation.

# Historic Langhorne Association Membership Information

## All memberships include:

Quarterly Newsletter Notice of all special events and programs  
10% discount on ALL Historic Langhorne Association merchandise  
(Merchandise available at Association headquarters and Judy's Corner)

## Membership options:

Individual	\$ 25.00	Business member	\$ 50.00
Family	\$ 30.00	Business donor	\$ 100.00
Patron	\$ 50.00	Business benefactor	\$ 250.00
Century Group	\$ 100.00	Business sponsor	\$ 500.00
Worthington Associate	\$ 500.00	Business patron	\$ 1,000.00
Williamson Lifetime	\$ 1,000.00		

Historic Langhorne Association is a 501 (c)(3) organization. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

-----Kindly separate and return-----

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**Membership Year: September 1, 2014 to August 31, 2015**

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name (for business members) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please print clearly (only for event announcements and gift acknowledgement)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership category: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**If your employer offers a matching gift program, please enclose applicable forms**

Make checks payable to: Historic Langhorne Association  
Mail to: 160 W. Maple Ave., Langhorne, PA 19047

## Volunteer opportunities

Historic Langhorne Association is actively seeking members of the community to serve on the governing board of the organization or to participate in one of many committees (Artifacts, Archives, Finance, Fundraising, Genealogy, Library, Membership, Newsletter, Oral History, Programs, Property, or Publicity). If you have any interest in becoming involved in this organization, please stop in to our headquarters during open hours or contact us by telephone or email to discuss, or check the box below and a member of the Board will contact you.

Please contact me about volunteer opportunities \_\_\_\_\_