



The Herald

Spring
2014

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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Next Program - Sunday, March 9th, 2pm - "The Magic of Lionel"

Please join us on **SUNDAY, MARCH, 9th at 2:00 pm**, when **HLA** hosts Neill Hartley as **Joshua Lionel Cowen** in this exciting and magical one-man show about the founding and history of one of the greatest toy companies ever created! A fully staged presentation that will entertain and educate audiences of all ages. Experience the magic of toy trains and the timeless pleasure of model railroading and learn about Joshua Lionel Cowen's incredible skill at marketing with indelible images that have helped sell more than 50 million train sets and more than 300 miles of track each year! A short informational section about the history of railroads, and of the toy train world beyond the Lionel years, and a question and answer period will conclude the presentation. HLA will also have several model Lionel train setups to view before and after the presentation.

Neill Hartley is a professional actor who tours with a series of one-man shows. He has performed with many local and regional theaters and is on the theater faculty at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. Learn more about him at www.neillhartley.com.

PLEASE NOTE THE SPECIAL DATE AND TIME. This program will be held at the Anna Mary Williamson Library, 160 W. Maple Ave., Langhorne. The program is free and open to the public and refreshments will be served following the program. Our gift shop will also be available and the building is handicapped accessible at the rear entrance. PLEASE JOIN US.

April Program - Gettysburg Address with Mike Jesberger

Please join us as HLA welcomes back **Mike Jesberger** who will present a program on the **Gettysburg Address and President Lincoln's visit to the battlefield**. The program will be held on **Monday, April 28th, at 7:30 pm at the Anna Mary Williamson Library, 160 W. Maple Ave. in Langhorne.**

Mike is a Revolutionary War and American Civil War re-enactor with a keen interest in 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.

The program is free and open to the public and refreshments will be served following the program. Our gift shop will be open and the building is handicapped accessible at the rear entrance. PLEASE JOIN US.

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

Reporting from the HLA Archives - Sept., 2013 to Jan., 2014

The last five months have been a very busy time at the old Library. We have had approximately 140 visitors during our regular open hours, not including the large number of people who visited us during the Garden Club's annual Holiday House Tour. Our theme for the Tour was an exhibit of model trains contributed by members and friends and family of members. This exhibit has remained in place since then and is partly responsible for the large number of visitors. These included two groups of Boy Scouts from Pennel and Yardley who visited on Saturday, January 25th to view the exhibit and to hear a short talk from Larry Langhans on Langhorne history in general, local rail and trolley history and the Library building itself. The Lionel train sets will remain on display at least through the March 9th program (see earlier article).

We have also received many new additions to the archives including:

- A collection of campaign literature from the 2013 Langhorne Borough mayoral election. - Larry Langhans;
- A CD ROM from Chris Koch with additional restored photographs and a CD with a database of the location of the photos he has restored for HLA;
- An 8"x10" sepia photograph of a country road scene labeled "Near Middletown Cross Roads" from The Margaret R. Grundy Memorial Library, Bianca de Mattia, Special Collections Librarian;
- Received an e-mail from Bill Roach, Jr. of McLeansville, North Carolina with a scan of an article from the DVA, June 25, 1970, about the closing and razing of Davenport's garage;
- A 4"x 5 3/4" color photograph of former Presidents of the Historic Langhorne Association from Judy Sloan;
- Six 8" x 10" copies of postcards from the Langhorne-Pennel area, two black and white photographs of the interior of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Pennel, 8" x 10" black & white aerial view of Pennel, 1969, A 12 1/4" x 15" copy of a plan of the property of Charles Thompson, Langhorne, Bucks Co. PA., from a survey by Edward Pickering, Jr. Woodbourne, Pa 10-11-1928, showing the property on the north side of Richardson Avenue, bounded by Cherry Street - from Historical Society of Bensalem Township;
- Mary Tursi-Lowe donated a wooden chest of Boy Scout material that belonged to her father and uncle, members of the troop at the Langhorne Presbyterian Church;
- Program from the Booster Club of the Bethlehem A.M.E. Church, 32nd Year Banquet on June 28, 1981 at the Langhorne Country Club, Rev. A.L. Caesar, Pastor. Langhorne. - from Judy Nangle Sloan;
- copy of a photograph of the twin-house at 205-207 West Maple Avenue, with three ladies and a child in front. Note on photograph indicated 1902. - from Judy Nangle Sloan;
- Collection of letters and other material relating to Civil Defense in the 1970s that belonged to William F. Stanford, 201 W. Richardson Avenue, Langhorne, who served as Civil Defense Director of Langhorne Borough. - Terry Martian, The Estate of William F. Stanford;
- Collection of newspaper home sales advertisements, flyers and post cards advertising homes for sale in Langhorne Borough and vicinity from approximately 1997 - 2007. The ads were collected by Mrs. Elaine Sangillo, 333 and donated by her daughter, Karen Sangillo Saukaitis
- Collection of papers from James T. Vansant, Hulmeville including receipts from Langhorne businesses from 1914 - 1915; Collection of papers from the estate of Garret Goodnoe, including documents from Langhorne and the Peoples National Bank, 1892-1893; Papers from John J. Brennan, 1950, for a property he owned on the Old Lincoln Highway, Langhorne; A sheet from the Bucks County Mortgage & Guarantee Company, Arthur P. Townsend, President, offering investments in 6% First Mortgages - from Historical Society of Bensalem Township.



Larry Langhans presented a program to the Langhorne Rotary on November 7 where he displayed some artifacts from the HLA collection. HLA also received a request from Langhorne Borough for photographs and articles about Chris Blaydon to be used in a display at a borough ceremony honoring him for his long service to the community as mayor.

Jack Fulton has been corresponding with Mr. John Jarratt of Nottingham, England regarding the an airplane built by Milton Anderson based at the Silver Star Airport. Jack provided him with some information and we recently received a letter of thanks from Mr. Jarratt. We also received a letter from Janine Penfield of Concord, Massachusetts asking if we held records from the period of 1755 - 1763 on town meetings or other civil matters relating to French Neutrals or Catholics who had come to this area. Not having any, we did some research in the Bucks County History Books, but found only references to people of "French Origin" or Huguenots. Larry Langhans spoke with her by phone and is in the process of sending a more detailed letter. We received an e-mail from Mary Beth Weyant of Pittsburgh asking if "Wee Willie's" restaurant had been in our area. Back in the forties and fifties her father and uncle had come to the Langhorne Speedway every year. She had found a photo of them in front of Wee Willie's and wondered if we knew anything about it. We could not locate anything in our files.

HLA's annual visit from Santa Claus on December 15th was a great success with approximately 40 children coming to sit on Santa's lap and view the train exhibit. Many thanks to Kevin Transue for all of his help in making the arrangements with Santa and for his wonderful contribution to the model train exhibit (Santa and his HLA elves pictured at right).



Membership Roster - 2013/14

Historic Langhorne wishes to acknowledge the following individuals and local businesses for their generous donations to our 2013/14 membership campaign.

Business Sponsor: First National Bank and Trust Co of Newtown

**Business Benefactors: Begley, Carlin & Mandio, LLP
Langhorne Tax and Bookkeeping**

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Business Member: Marte and Toadvine, Attys. at Law

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Worthington Associate/Century Group:

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Beth Delaney	Vincent and Anna Marie Della Vella	Joan Douglas	Suzanne and Dan Driscoll (new)
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Marvin Strunk	Mary Tursi-Lowe (new)	Robert E. Wendig	Steven and Bernadine Weng
Deborah Weyman	Jean White & Don Minnick (new)	Jack and Lorraine Wysor	John and Donna Yocum
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Transue (Honorary)	Beth Connolly (Honorary)		

Thank you all for your continued support.

Membership Roster - 2013/14 (continued)

Membership income is our most important source of revenue. If you have not had the opportunity to renew your membership for the 2013-14 membership year or if you would like to become a new member, we have enclosed a membership form on the last page of this newsletter. Please contact Jack Fulton with any membership questions.

Building Update

It has been a difficult winter for everyone and the Williamson Library building is no exception. We have already exceeded our annual budget for snow removal, but we thank Lance Scape Lawn Services for keeping up with the relentless snow and ice. Fortunately we did not have any significant tree damage from the heavy snow followed by ice; however, the old slate roof has taken a beating including the loss of a number of roof tiles and a number of the snow guards that had just been installed. We will be assessing this damage over the next week to determine a short-term as well as a long-term course of action for the roof.

2014 Spring Tea - A "Downton Abbey" Affair

If you are a **Downton Abbey** fan, you should be looking forward to attending HLA's 2014 Spring Tea. The event is scheduled for **Sunday, April 27th**, at **Lady Bird's Tea Room and Bakery in Hulmeville** from **1:00 pm to 3:30 pm**. Be sure to **save the date** and **order your tickets early** as seating will be limited to 50 people.

"The Sounds of Downton Abbey", a musical program featuring songs that provide the soundtrack to the sweeping saga, from the early Edwardian period to the 1st World War and into the Roaring Twenties, will be presented by Terri Evans, a vocal music professor and a former Miss Alabama/Miss America who has also performed on Broadway.

Terri will draw upon the "Downton" score, including the show's theme song, "Did I Make the Most of Loving You?". Terri will be accompanied by her husband of 23 years, the Grammy-nominated composer and arranger, Marion Evans. Together they will delight you with their program.

Lady Bird's Tea Room and Bakery (formerly Wild Violets Tea Garden) has been fully renovated and you will enjoy the new surroundings. The owner has been very generous to HLA and will serving a tea with assorted tea sandwiches, absolutely delicious scones, jams, cream and a variety desserts, as well as delicious teas.

Please watch our website for further details on cost and ticket availability; but for now, please **Save the Date!**



THANK YOU FOR 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 more than **\$2,270.00**.

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 Redners. You do not need to give your name or any other personal information.

PLEASE NOTE: HLA receives 1% from the portion now designated as "**Today's Contribution**" on the Redner's tape. We encourage you to continue to send in your Redner's tapes 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.

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
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Committees

Technology – Jim Maier
Artifacts – Evelyn Aicher
Publicity –
Hostess – Sandi Kaiser
Archives – Larry Langhans & Jim Maier
HLA Gift Shop – Evelyn Aicher & Judy Sloan
Finance – Jack Fulton
Genealogy – Sandi Kaiser
Holiday House –
Library – Jean Noble
Membership – Jack Fulton
Newsletter – Jack Fulton
Oral History –
Programs -
Property –
Sunshine – Lynda Johnson
Ways and Means – Jean Noble
Grant Advisor – Kathy Horwatt
House Plaques -Judy Sloan
Tea – Lynda Johnson

Picture your name here and volunteer!

Coming Attractions at Historic Langhorne Association

Sunday, March 9th, 2014, 2:00 pm
Joshua Lionel Cowen, portrayed by Neill Hartley. Free and open to the public. Refreshments provided.

Monday, April 28th, 2014, 7:30 pm
The Gettysburg Address and President Lincoln's visit to the Battlefield with Mike Jesberger - Free and open to the public. Refreshments provided.

Sunday, April 27th, 2014, 1:00 to 3:30 pm
Spring Tea - Lady Bird's Tea Room and Bakery, Hulmeville - Advance tickets required. See website for further details or call HLA at 215-757-1888.

OTHER LOCAL EVENTS:

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.