

## Model of Langhorne Train Station Now Resides at HLA

The old Langhorne train station is now but a memory, but thanks to Mr. Richard Bleiler of Lancaster, a beautiful, hand-made model of it resides at HLA. Richard Bleiler lived in Bucks County for most of his adult life and lived in Langhorne/Middletown for 20 years before retiring to Lancaster County. He started his career with Bell Telephone on Bellevue Avenue and lived in Langhorne (Middletown) before retiring and moving to New Holland. He had a huge large-gauge train platform in his basement and made a number of beautiful wooden buildings for it, including the Langhorne train station, that have been displayed in libraries, rec centers, and train shows in Lancaster. When his daughter, Pat Mervine of Langhorne, told him that the old station had been demolished, he called her and asked if HLA would like to have the model as a remembrance of what used to be. Of course the Association's board more than gladly accepted the offer and the model is now on display in the library.

Larry Langhans

## Kentucky Derby Tea

The Kentucky Derby Tea was held on May 2, 2010. Barbara Kittel, chairperson, would like to thank Pat Linton, co-chair, Jean Noble, Judy Sloan, Evelyn Aicher and Janet Maher. Debby Klimowics, proprietor of Wild Violets Tea Room in Hulmeville provided the delicious soup, tea sandwiches, scones and tea. Special thanks to Claire Kelly (Sugar Plum Dream) for the sinful Bourbon Ball Truffles and tea cookies and Eileen Misti. Jean, Pat and Janet made the irresistible finger desserts. Jack Linton arranged the spectacular rose floral arrangement.

Paula Molino, owner of Fashion Fix, did a wonderful presentation. Local businesses contributed services and items to our raffle. Thank you all for helping to make this such a special event.

Hat Contest	1st place	Lynda Johnson
	2nd place	Jean Noble
	3rd place	Loretta Linton

Door Price	Rose Flower
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(Continued from page 1)

Arrangement Karen Costagna

Raffle Bag #1 Lucille Rooney  
Raffle Bag #2 Pat Linton  
Raffle Bag #3 Evelyn Aircher

A wonderful time was held by all.

Barbara Kittel



### **OPEN HOURS**

Wednesdays 10-12 pm  
7—9 pm

Saturdays 10-12 pm

Or by appointment  
**Admission is Free**

## **DONATIONS TO HLA ARCHIVES**

During the past several months, our archives have been enriched by numerous donations. Edna Brakmann Wilson has donated a yearbook and class photographs from her mother's Langhorne-Middletown High School class of 1932, along with two color photographs showing the intersection of Bellevue and Maple Avenues, lit with holiday lights, during a snowstorm in 1986.

Louise Wile of Morrisville has sent us a program from the Langhorne Players production of "Monique," on Friday, April 28, 1961. Mike Schwartz, also of Morrisville, donated a flyer announcing a "Come Meet & Greet" Ronald Reagan at the Oxford Valley Mall, probably from 1980 as it was "Paid for by the Reagan- Bush Committee."

We have received a number of new photographs. Judy Sloan gave a photograph from the early 1900s of the Parry Lumber Yard, now the Pennel Shopping Center, Jim Maier donated a photograph of North Bellevue Avenue showing the former Bell Telephone building, and Jean Candy Rounsavill loaned a photograph which we scanned of the Candy family of Langhorne at church.

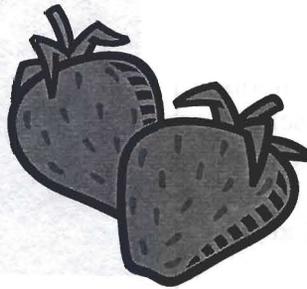
Anne Harris Dawson of Massachusetts sent us a "25 Merits" card she received from her 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, Ruth Ehrlen, in Langhorne in 1944, for "Department, Scholarship, Punctuality." HLA President Jim Maier donated a ticket "Souvenir of Your Flight - Silver Star Airport, Langhorne, No. 1689" from April 29, 1934. Bob and Rita Farley of Langhorne contributed a copy of a 1776 British Spy Map of Southeastern Pennsylvania. Stephen Jolly of Langhorne loaned us a 1926 copy of the development plans for Langhorne Gardens, located across Woodbourne Road from the Oxford Valley Mall.

Dominic D'Orazio of Parkland recently donated a copy of a transcript of an oral history which he wrote following an interview with long-time Langhorne resident Clara VanSant. In it, Mrs. VanSant talks about her early memories of the area. Dominic is in the Historic Preservation Program at Bucks County Community College and the project was part of the requirements for his Oral History Course.

(Continued on page 6)

Historic Langhorne Association's

# STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL



SUNDAY, JUNE 6, 2010

3:00 – 7:00 PM

FOOD (Fresh strawberries on ice cream and cake!)

LIVE MUSIC

CRAFT VENDORS

FACE PAINTING

ENTERTAINMENT FOR CHILDREN

HISTORIC EXHIBITS

**Special Guest –**

**Author Kathleen Zingaro Clark**

4:00 – 5:00 PM signing her books *Images of America:*

“Bucks County Inns and Taverns” and

*Images of America: “Bucks County”*

**BENEFITS THE WORK OF THE HISTORIC LANGHORNE ASSOCIATION**

Corner of W. Maple and Hill Avenues, Langhorne

215-757-1888 - [www.historiclanghorne.org](http://www.historiclanghorne.org)

*(Continued from page 2)*

Finally, Mr. Matt Vandenbraak of Delaware, son-in-law of William Thomas, one time teacher, principal and Supervising Principal of Langhorne-Middletown Schools, sent us a 65 page copy of "A History of Langhorne-Middletown Schools, Langhorne, Bucks County, PA: 1692 – 1942," written by Mr. Thomas. The document contains photographs of many of the one-room schools that once existed in the area along with a fascinating history of each school. Mr. Thomas served the schools from 1920 to 1946 and was followed by Dr. Oliver Heckman. Mr. Thomas died in 1988 at the age of 91 in Stone Harbor, New Jersey.

Larry Langhans

## Rear Entrance Construction

Recently you may have noticed construction activity in the back of our building. This is the long awaited handicapped accessible entrance under construction. After the final permits and approvals were received the project went out for bidding. The winning bidder was Twining Construction of Newtown, PA.

As of this writing, they are past the halfway point with all excavating done, footings, block work and concrete cap poured. Still to be finished is the exterior stonework which will match the buildings foundation, the pavers in the parking area, a small concrete pad and a couple of shrubs.

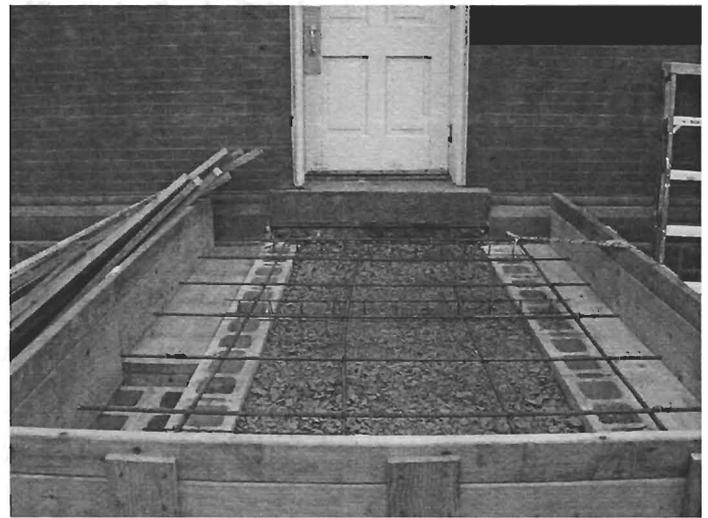
In the next few weeks we will be ordering the wheelchair lift unit which will be placed between the new step location and the building. This lift will take a wheel chair from ground level to the rear door level, allowing access to our building where it was previously inaccessible.

This entire project has been designed to fit in with the historic nature of the building. Our original rear steps were reused and repositioned on a new foundation. The upper concrete cap has been dyed to match the red stonework on the building. The railing will be black iron. The shrubs that will be planted will be consistent to a species that would have been in this area in 1888.

Jim Maier



**New Footing Poured For Step Area**



**The Block Work Is Done And The Concrete Form Is Finished and Awaiting Concrete**



**Here The Concrete Cap Is Finished And Our Original Steps Are Being Reinstalled On The New Foundation**

## Volunteers Needed

Our organization is one made up entirely of volunteers. We appreciate everything that they do and we certainly could not run our organization without them. However, we need a few more volunteers! There are small projects around the building that need to be done. We also have a few open positions that we would like to fill.

1. **Programs** - someone needed to explore and finalize program suggestions.
2. **Genealogy** - volunteer needed with an interest in genealogy to assist researchers inquiring about genealogy information in our files. These files should also be computerized.
3. **Oral History** - volunteer needed to interview residents of the area to record their memories and history.
4. **Newsletter Editor** - This could be our final newsletter unless we find an editor soon.
5. **Holiday House** - volunteer needed to chair the Holiday House Tour theme preparation for our organization.

If you have any interest in any of these openings, please do not hesitate to call, email or stop in to see us.

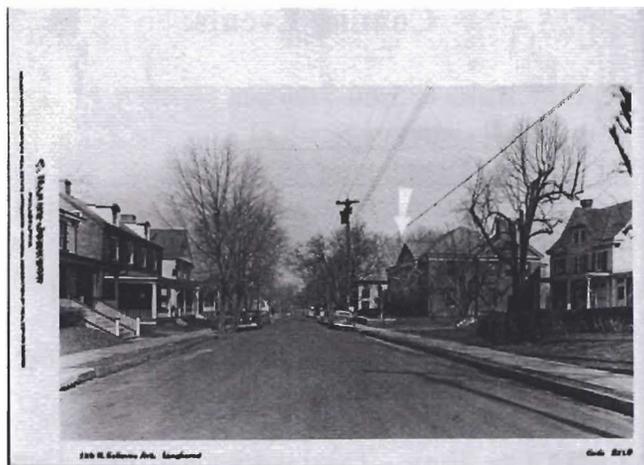
Jim Maier

## WANTED

Old photographs, postcards, maps or documents of Langhorne and neighboring towns for preservation in our archives. You can either donate or loan material and we will scan and return the item(s). Photos of houses, businesses, streets, events are sought along with local event brochures, programs, year-books, etc.

Contact Larry, Charlie or Jim at 215~ 757-1888 or email [historicianghornel@verizon.net](mailto:historicianghornel@verizon.net) if you have items that you wish to donate or loan for preservation.

Jim Maier



Late 1940s photo of North Bellevue Avenue recently donated to our archives

With the upcoming 4th of July Holiday soon upon us, the following comes from the American Legion United States Flag Code

## FLAG ETIQUETTE

- The flag when flown at half-staff should first be hoisted to the peak for an instant and then lowered to the half-staff position.
- When the flag is displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the field of stars should be in the uppermost corner and to the observer's left.
- The flag should not be displayed on days when the weather is inclement, except when an all weather flag is used.
- When displayed on an automobile, the staff should be fixed firmly to the chassis or clamped to the right fender.
- The flag should never be used as clothing, bedding or drapery.
- The flag should never be fastened, displayed, used or stored in such a manner as to permit it to be easily torn, soiled or damaged.
- The flag should never be displayed with the field of stars down, except as a distress signal.
- The flag should never touch anything beneath it, such as the ground, the floor or water.

## Coming Events:

**Sunday, June 6, 3:00-7:00 pm**

### Annual Strawberry Festival

#### At Historic Langhorne Association

Come celebrate the local strawberry harvest and enjoy fresh strawberries on pound cake with vanilla ice cream. Fun, food and crafts for all ages!

**Farmers Market – Tuesday’s 3pm.** Beginning June 8 through Tuesday, October 26<sup>th</sup>.

**LBBA Car Show** - Third weekend in June. Date TBA. Please check with the Langhorne Borough Business Association for date at [LBBA.info](http://LBBA.info)

Historic Langhorne Association will have special hours the day of the car show. Our library will be open with a slide show of photographs from our archives collection of cars and other forms of transportation from years ago, including photos of the Langhorne Speedway! Stop in and take a break from your walk on Maple Avenue.

## Historic Langhorne Association’s 2010 Officers & Committee Members

President– Jim Maier  
Vice President– Larry Langhans  
Treasurer– Jack Fulton  
Recording Secretary– Evelyn Aicher  
Corresponding Secretary–Barbara Kittel  
Technology– Charlie Lauble & Jim Maier  
Artifacts– Evelyn Aicher  
Publicity– Jean Noble  
Hostess– Nancy Pietsch  
Archives– Larry Langhans & Jim Maier  
HLA Gift Shop– E. Aicher & Judy Sloan  
Finance– Jack Fulton  
**Genealogy– Open**  
**Holiday House– Open**  
Library– Jean Noble  
Membership– Jack Fulton  
**Newsletter– Open**  
**Oral History– Open**  
**Programs–Open**  
Property– Charles Lauble  
Sun Shine– Nancy Pietsch  
Ways and Means– Jean Noble  
Grant Advisor– Kathy Horwatt  
House Plaques–Judy Sloan  
Tea– Barbara Kittel