



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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February 25th Meeting: Langhorne People (part II)

Please join us on **Monday, February 25th, 2013, at 7:30 pm**, as we look back on the lives of more of the interesting people from Langhorne's past **and** test your knowledge of Langhorne history. We hope you will find this to be an enjoyable way to spend a cold winter evening. Refreshments will be served and valuable (???) prizes will be awarded to the winners of the Langhorne Quiz.

Future meetings:

Monday, March 25th, 2013 at 7:30 pm - topic to be announced. We are investigating a presentation on the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. The building next to the Hotel on Bellevue Ave. was an Odd Fellows hall and there were a number of others in the area. If you can share any information about this organization, please contact us.

Monday, April 22nd, 2013 at 7:30 pm - topic to be announced. We are preparing a program on Mollie Woods Hare that we hope to have ready for this meeting. Please see our next newsletter for more details

Annual Spring Tea features Annie Oakley

Come and meet Miss Annie Oakley at Historic Langhorne's annual Afternoon Tea on **Sunday, April 28th, 2013, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm** at the **Wild Violets Tea Garden** in Hulmeville, PA. **Kim Hanley (RememberingtheLadies.com)**, actor, historian and educator, will present a first-person interpretation that will introduce us to one of the best-loved and most famous women of her generation. Annie amazed audiences all over the world with her sharpshooting, horseriding, action-packed performances as part of Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show from 1885 to 1902. In an age when most women stayed home, she traveled the world and forged a new image of American women. **Please see the enclosed flyer for more details on the Tea and how to purchase tickets.**

Annual HLA Surflight Theater Trip Announced

HLA will sponsor its annual theater trip to the **Surflight Theater** in **Beach Haven, NJ** on **Thursday, June 20th**, to see **"George M"**. The show is a flag-waving musical hit with music and lyrics by George M. Cohan that traces Cohan's life story and how he became a giant of the American musical theater. The trip will include lunch at a restaurant near the theater. More details on the trip, including cost and times, will be available in our next newsletter and on our website.

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

HLA ARCHIVES SURVEYED BY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA

During the week of December 10, 2012, a team from the Historical Society of Pennsylvania did a survey of the archival holdings of the Historic Langhorne Association as part of its Hidden Collections Initiative for Pennsylvania Small Archival Repositories. Under the direction of Andrée Mey Miller, Project Coordinator, project surveyors Celia Caust-Ellenbogen and Faith Charlton spent two days reviewing our collection.

Funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the project's goal is to raise awareness of the often hidden archival collections in the many small, primarily volunteer-run historical repositories in the greater Philadelphia area, such as local historical societies, historic sites, and small museums with archival collections and then to make them more accessible. There are an estimated 120-150 small archival repositories in the five-county Philadelphia area. The Society will create an online directory of all small archival repositories in the five-county Philadelphia area making descriptive information on the collections publicly available. The survey has already been completed in Philadelphia and Montgomery Counties.

Once each survey is completed, the team will issue detailed reports to repositories, including collections descriptions, assessments and information for managing their archival holdings. HLA looks forward to receiving our report.

Information about the project can be found at <http://hsp.org/about-us/hidden-collections-initiative-for-pennsylvania-small-archival-repositories>. Information about the repositories is at <http://dla.library.upenn.edu/dla/pacscl/ancillary.html?id=collections/pacscl/repositories2>

Coming Attractions at Historic Langhorne Association

Monday, Feb 25th, 2013, 7:30 pm
Langhorne People/Langhorne Quiz - free and open to the public, refreshments provided.

Monday, March 25th, 2013, 7:30 pm
Program to be announced - free and open to the public, refreshments provided.

Sunday, April 28th, 2013, 1 - 3:00 pm.
An Afternoon Tea, featuring Annie Oakley - Wild Violets Tea Room, Hulmeville, PA. Advance tickets required.

Sunday, June 2nd, 2013 - Annual Strawberry Festival. Details to be announced in our next newsletter.

Thursday, June 20th, 2013 - Bus trip to Surflight Theater, Beach Haven, NJ to see the musical "George M". Further details to be announced.

HISTORIC LANGHORNE GHOST TOURS

Join us this fall for our annual Ghost Tours through Langhorne Borough. The tours are approximately one hour walking tours and begin at the Historic Langhorne Association headquarters building.

Tours will run on Friday and Saturday nights throughout October. Please follow our website (historiclanghorne.org) for this year's schedule and further details.

If you or someone you know would be interested in joining our team of tour guides or if you have any stories about ghosts in your home, please contact Jim Maier by calling the Association or sending an email.

2012/13 Membership Update (as of 1/31/13)

Business Support:

First National Bank & Trust of Newtown (Sponsor)

Langhorne Tax and Bookkeeping (Benefactor)

Dunn-Givnish Life Celebration Home (Donor)

K. E. Siefert Plumbing (Donor)

Marte & Toadvine, Attorneys at Law (Donor)

New Zealand Travel, Inc. (Donor)

Wm. B. Parry & Son, Ltd. (Donor)

First Federal of Bucks County (Member)

Four Lanes End Properties L.P. (Member)

Masselle's Auto Body (Member)

Webster Insurance Agency (Member)

Individual and Family Support:

Lifetime members:

Jeff Defrehn (Defrehn Corporation)

Gerard A. Ehrlen Maria Leonhauser (new)

William and Judy Maier

Williamson Associate:

Jack and Karen Fulton

Century Group members:

Neil and Kim Clabbers

James and Nancy Ennis

Alicia Gasparovic

Richard and Cheryl Hoffman

Lynda Johnson

Judy Sloan (Judy's Corner)

Larry Langhans

Tom and Janet Maher

Romaine Macht

Lance and Pat Mervine

Paul Schneider Public Relations

Donna Thomas

Richard Townsend

Gregory Yori

Four Lanes End Garden Club

Patrons:

George Bertele

Donna and Jim Betz

Chris and Mary Blaydon

Joseph Blinebury, Jr.

Dr. Gary and Mrs. Joan Bowman

Betsy and Pat Carr

Scott and Gigi Cowan

Lois Cwiklinski

Anne and Bruce Dawson

Suzanne Glenn Everitt

Donna Gruber

William and Dawn Hiltner

Paul and Kathy Horwatt

Elsie and Jack Knight

Nora Lagler

Andrea Lamberth & Richard White

Theresa E. Little

Thomas E. Maclin

Mark and Jeanne Maher

Terry Martian

Woody and Jan Mather

Philip and Deborah Miele

Jean Noble

Lou and Linda Procaccino

John and Eileen Reither

Jean Candy Rounsavill

Richard and Wanda Search

Jim and Cheryl Thompson

Barry Truchil & Bernadette West

Florence and Bob Wharton

Individual and Family members:

Evelyn and Norbert Aicher

Jeannie Alexander

Allen Co. (IN) Public Library

Audrey Armbruster

Charlotte Arton

Rosemarie Barth

Laura-Lee Bearss

John and Amy Beiler

Alice and Pat Betz

Joseph and Elizabeth Birbeck

Jim and Joan Bodnar

Jane Boyle

Ken and Janet Briggs

Jane Brill-Trezza

John and Cheryl Brodbeck

Myrl Brut

Betty Bunting

Bill and Sheila Dawe

Beth Delaney

Vince and Anna Marie Della Vella

Joan Douglas

Eugene Edwards

Charles and Linda Edwards

James Edwards

Diane Eissler

Edith Evans

Jennie Fazioli-Smith

Dale and Kurt Festa

Betty Ann Flis

Richard Gimbel

Sharon Gimpel

Jean and Emerson Green

Kay and Tom Haggerty

Alan and Diane Haines

Daniel J. Harmon D.D.S.

William Harpel

Bob Henderson

Sharon and Woody Hill

Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Hogeland

Al and Laurie Holden

Nancy Jansyzeski

William and Nan Kent

2012/13 Membership Update - continued (as of 1/31/13)

Individual and Family members (continued):

*Mary Ann W. Keyes
John and Karen Klein
Bob and Terri Little
David Maksymovich
Linda Matthews
Margaret and Michael Medernach
Pete and Dora Mitchell
Brenda Palmer
Clem Piscitelli
Dr. Lane H. Riland
Joseph and Margaret Rothenbach
Marvin Strunk
Julia Wheatley
John and Donna Yocum*

*Helen and Barry Kirsch
Jeffrey Kochanowicz
Judith Madsen and Janet Doyle
Carol M. Markee
James and Ann Marie McAneney
Mary H. Metzger
Mary Elaine Moser
Edward J. Pellegrino
Susan M. Randall
Ellen M. Rossiter
P. Leslie Schaumberg
Robert E. Wendig, Sr.
Alma Willits*

*Barbara and Joe Kittel
Helga M. Kogut
Jim Maier
Sally Marrington
Ward and Shirley McMasters
Marjorie and Jeff Minton
Carl F. Nedal
Ernest and Nancy Pietsch
Joe and Sue Reilly
Lillian H. Rossiter
Stanley and Diana Silverman
Steven and Bernadine Weng
Jack and Lorraine Wysor*

Thanks to everyone for your continued support!

Strawberry Festival - Sunday, June 2nd, 3 - 7 pm: Our annual strawberry festival will include the traditional strawberries, ice cream and cake as well a number of vendors, musicians, face-painting etc. If you or someone you know is interested in having a vendor table or can provide musical entertainment, please contact Larry Langhans at the Association by telephone or email. More details on the Festival in our next newsletter. **We also will need volunteers to help set up and serve.**

VOLUNTEERS

HLA welcomes **Dwayne Palcko** as an enthusiastic new volunteer. He is currently working on scanning material from the Woods School for our archives.

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



THANK YOU FOR REDNERS TAPES

For five years HLA has been collecting and redeeming grocery register receipts from **Redner's Market** on Route 1 in Langhorne for which we have earned more than **\$1,800.00**. 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.

Langhorne People — Jeremiah Langhorne (1672/73-1742)

(Part of a continuing series)

Jeremiah Langhorne was the son of Thomas Langhorne (1633-1687), an itinerant Quaker minister in England. Thomas Langhorne moved his family to Pennsylvania in 1686, originally settling on property near the Brandywine Creek. Shortly thereafter, he purchased 860 acres in Lower Bucks County near the only ford on the Neshaminy Creek (later known as Galloway's Ford), where the road from Philadelphia to Trenton (now U.S. Rte 1) later crossed. The property came to be known as Langhorne Park. Thomas Langhorne died suddenly in 1687.

Jeremiah Langhorne's substantial political career began in 1697 when he was first elected to the Pennsylvania provincial assembly. He would eventually serve in this body for 34 terms between 1697 and 1740 including two terms as speaker. In addition, he was appointed to the Provincial Supreme Court in 1726 and served as Chief Justice of this body from 1739 until his death in 1742. Langhorne served in many Bucks County offices including Prothonotary, Justice of the Peace, Recorder of Deeds, Register of Wills, Tax Commissioner, County Commissioner and Treasurer. Over the years, he acquired large tracts of land throughout Eastern Pennsylvania and he was a co-founder in 1726 of the Durham Iron Works located on land that he owned in the northeastern part of Bucks County.

Langhorne had never married, so following his death in 1742, ownership of Langhorne Park passed to Thomas Biles, son of his sister Sarah Langhorne Biles. Eventually, the property passed out of family hands and the principal mansion-house was finally demolished in 1857.

As part of his will, Langhorne also made provision for the eventual freeing of slaves working at Langhorne Park including provisions for their future welfare (land, houses, livestock, etc.).

In 1876, the coming of the Bound Brook Railroad (later the Reading Railroad and now SEPTA) with its station midway between Attleborough and Hulmeville was cause for controversy over the naming of the station. The matter was settled by calling it Langhorne as the tracks crossed Jeremiah Langhorne's former Langhorne Park estate. Subsequently, Attleborough petitioned to change its name to Langhorne and received court approval for this on June 15, 1876, ostensibly to honor the memory of Jeremiah Langhorne.

[Sources: The Langhorne of Langhorne Park, by D. Brenton Simons, 1997; and Langhorne Centennial (1876-1976)]

New Donations to HLA's Archives

Larry Langhans, Archives chairman, reports that the following items have been recently added to our archives collection:

The Langhorne Presbyterian Church is celebrating its 125th Anniversary this year. In researching the church's history, researchers found references in the 1888 minutes of the Langhorne Library Association to members of the church first meeting the old town library. Susan Thomas, member of the Anniversary Committee, donated a CD ROM containing eight photographs of the church during the years 1890 – 1909 along with notes about its history.

HLA Board member **Donna Thomas** has donated two post cards from the early 1900s. One shows the **Parry Building**, now known as the **Hicks House**, and the other shows the **Richardson House**.

Dale Flowers of Maryland has been researching his family for years, especially those in the Langhorne area. Several times a year Dale sends us updates on his research. Recently he sent us a CD containing much of his work and an e-mail with information from the Middletown Township tax records about the **estate of William Flowers**, owner of **Flowers Mill**. Did you know that in 1840 a cow was valued at \$12.00 and that Flowers paid a county tax of \$4.28 on his county taxable assets?

Photographs of HLA activities from the years 1989 and 1991 brought back memories of the teas and Holiday House tours of those years. Thanks to **Dale Festa**, former HLA President, for the pictures. Present Board member **Lynda Johnson** donated a booklet of photographs from HLA's portion of the **2011 Holiday House Tour** that featured a Teddy Bear collection.

**Historic Langhorne Association's
Current Officers & Committee Chairs**

President- Jim Maier
Vice President- Larry Langhans
Treasurer- Jack Fulton
Recording Secretary- Evelyn Aicher
Corresponding Secretary- Lynda Johnson
Technology- Charlie Lauble & Jim Maier
Artifacts- Evelyn Aicher
Publicity- Jean Noble
Hostess- **Open**
Archives- Larry Langhans & Jim Maier
HLA Gift Shop- Evelyn Aicher & Judy Sloan
Finance- Jack Fulton
Genealogy- Sandi Kaiser
Holiday House- Jean Noble
Library- Jean Noble
Membership- Jack Fulton
Newsletter- Jack Fulton
Oral History- Open
Programs-Open
Property- Charles Lauble
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!

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

OPEN HOURS

Wednesdays 10am - 12pm & 7 - 9pm

Saturdays 10am - 12pm

...Or by appointment

Admission is Free & Gift Shop Available

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.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Historic Langhorne Association
160 W. Maple Avenue
Langhorne, PA 19047
215.757.1888
**Preserving our PAST
To enlighten the PRESENT
And provide for the FUTURE**

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