

Jenkins Journal

LANSDALE, PA

MARCH, 2016

Ray Walton to receive Holl Award

By CLARENCE KINSEY
(Banquet information, page 3)

Longtime Lansdale Historical Society member and volunteer Raymond Walton has been selected to receive this year's Edwin G. Holl Historic Achievement Award. The award will be presented at the society's annual banquet April 12 at the William Penn Inn.

Walton, who is a lifelong Lansdale area resident and businessman, has been active in the society for many years. His keen knowledge of the area has been a tremendous help to those of us who work with him and he can answer many questions regarding our area's past history. When someone needs information we say "Talk to Ray, he will probably be able to help you with that".

One of his earliest projects was identifying our extensive photograph and post card collections and organizing them into an easy-to-use format. Soon after this writer joined the society, I was assigned to work with him on this and we spent many hours trying to implement a format that was logical and easier to use.

He created our first Lansdale business index on Access



software that made it easier to identify Lansdale businesses, where they were located and what years they were in operation as well as who owned them. When we created our newer business index, he was again involved and this turned into an 18-month project.

He joined the board of trustees and when he retired from the board he was named a Trustee Emeritus. He also participates in many of the society's activities, talks history with guests at our open house gatherings and tours of our facilities, and participates in many behind-the-scenes jobs.

His contributions of knowledge and man hours have been extremely helpful to our society and the community over many years and he was an obvious choice for this year's Holl Award.

Second seating for Spring Tea

Just a few seats are remaining for the society's Sixth Annual Spring Tea to be held Saturday, April 16 at the Village Tea House, West Point Pike and Park Avenue in West Point.

The theme is "A Revolutionary Tea" presented by Stacy Roth, a re-enactor in costume who will explain the lore and history of tea time in the 1700s.

The first seating at 11 a.m. is sold out. Tickets are still available for a second seating at 2:30 p.m. Tickets at \$35 each are available to the Jenkins Homestead, Chantilly Floral, and the tea house. Questions: call the society at (215) 855-1872 or Marti Drumheller at (215) 272-2419.



CLARENCE KINSEY

A message from the president

I wish to thank the Historical Society for allowing me to serve as president for the coming year.

I also wish to thank Dick Shearer for his untiring efforts on behalf of the Society over the last fourteen years. It was through his foresight that the Homestead remodeling was completed and the Research Center was founded and has grown to the repository for information that it now is today. We have copies of the (North Penn) Reporter newspaper from 1870 to the present, access to area obituaries, and large photograph and slide collections, and a history library to mention

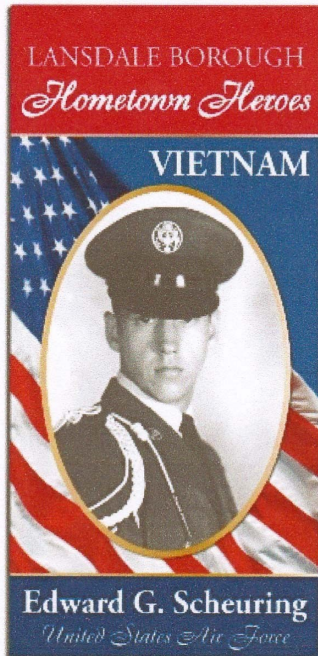
just a few things that he has overseen.

I know that I speak for myself and the Trustees to let him know that we appreciate all that he has done for us. Not to worry, he is not leaving and will remain with us as our vice president and historian.

It is my desire to continue in the traditions that have made the Lansdale Historical Society one of the premier organizations of its kind in the Southeastern Pennsylvania region and I pledge that I will do my best to accomplish that goal.

Clarence

Banners to honor local veterans



Lansdale's main streets will be decorated with new flags this spring honoring the borough's military heroes who have served the country in times of conflict.

The Lansdale Borough Hometown Heroes Banner Program is being championed by our treasurer, Anne Scheuring who has won the approval of borough council for the project.

To qualify, a veteran must have lived in the borough at some point during his or her life (born, raised here, etc.). The program is open to all service people who were in the military during an

active combat period.

The banners will be 24"x48", made of heavy vinyl, printed the same on both sides and will display the service person's photograph (in uniform), include their full name, branch of the military and the era of service.

Each banner requires a completed Hometown Hero form (available at the LHS website), a photograph of the hero in uniform and a payment of \$100 for each banner.

For additional information contact Anne at heroes@verizon.net, or call (215) 855-1743.

Test your trivia knowledge at May program

Do you think you have a good knowledge of the North Penn area over the years? If so, we hope to see you at our final Community Program of the season on Tuesday, May 10. The topic is local trivia and the questions will range from the obvious to the absurd.

We're still working on the format for the show but come prepared to expect the unexpected. Dick Shearer will moderate and several of our research center volunteers will be on hand to settle disputes – of course, we hope there won't be any.

Just to give you an example, here's one possible question:

"Name all the locations of the Big Pixey restaurants."

We'll try to mix up the questions so that audience members of all ages can get in on the fun.

The program begins at 7:30 p.m. at the Lansdale Parks and Recreation Building, Seventh St. and Lansdale Ave. As usual there is no admission charge but donations are greatly appreciated.



THE SOCIETY'S new museum at Lansdale Borough Hall opened February 9. The public is invited to view the exhibits and pick up information at the annex during the borough's regular business hours.

Seminar topic is parades

The society's Saturday Morning Seminar Series will continue this month with a look back at some of the many parades that have taken place in Lansdale over the years.

From the time of its incorporation, Lansdale has been the perfect venue for parades. There's not much more organizers could look for – a long, straight and wide main street, no hills (only a few gentle inclines) and plenty of side streets to stage parade participants.

But there is more: the fact that

train and trolley lines converged on Lansdale from many directions made getting to town easy. And we can't forget that there were many establishments along the parade route for marchers to quench their thirsts.

Dick Shearer will moderate the program which will include a slide show. The date is March 26, 9:30 a.m. The location: the Wissahickon Park Building at E. Main St. and Lakeview Dr. There is no admission charge.



THE JENKINS HOMESTEAD

Jenkins Homestead and Historical Research Center

•137 Jenkins Ave., Lansdale, PA 19446.

•**Hours:** Wednesdays, Noon to 5 p.m.; Thursdays, Noon to 5 p.m.; Saturdays, 9 a.m. to noon.

•**Telephone:** (215) 855-1872; (215) 393-8919 (fax).

•**E-mail:** info@lansdalehistory.org

•Please send mail correspondence to 137 Jenkins Ave., Lansdale, PA 19446.

•**Website:** www.lansdalehistory.org.

Lansdale Historical Society

Annual Banquet

*Featuring the presentation of the Edwin G. Holl
Historic Achievement Award to:*

RAYMOND WALTON

Historian

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

William Penn Inn, Gwynedd, PA
Cocktails, (Cash bar) 6 p.m.; Dinner, 7 p.m.

Menu:

Chicken

Fillets of Tilapia

Roast Prime Rib of Beef au jus

William Penn Inn House Salad

Roasted Red Bliss Potatoes

Stir Fry Vegetable Medley

Peach and Blueberry Cobbler

Tea and Coffee

\$35 per person.

Paid reservations must be received by April 8, 2016

(Clip and submit with payment to the address below)

Lansdale Historical Society Annual Banquet

Tuesday, April 12, 2016,

William Penn Inn, Gwynedd, PA

CHOICE OF ENTRÉE

(Chicken, Tilapia, or Beef)

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone No.: _____ Total amount submitted: _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

Lansdale Historical Society, 137 Jenkins Ave., Lansdale, PA 19446

Summer history camp scheduled for July 12

By PAT RIEKER

Planning has begun for the society's Third Annual Summer History Camp. The theme of the camp is *A Jenkins Farmstead Day*.

The campers will take part in hands-on activities including crafts, games and household skills of bygone eras. They will also learn how the people who lived here used the natural resources available to them to meet their basic needs.

The camp is scheduled for Tuesday, July 12. Children who will enter third grade through sixth grade in the fall are eligible to register. The fee is yet to be determined. Registration forms will be available at the research center and also on the society's website by the end of March.

For the camp to be a success, many volunteers will be needed. Do you have a hobby or craft you would like to teach to a young person? Are you

able to donate a few hours of your time to help children learn a hands-on skill? Would you like to be part of a team who will plan the history camp? For more information or to volunteer, please call or email Pat Rieker at (215) 368-0854 or pkrieker@verizon.net

2016 dues overdue

Have you paid your dues for 2016? If not, we urge you to do it now, without delay.

Because of the cost of postage and printing, it is necessary to ensure that all members who receive this newsletter have renewed their membership for this year. We will remove those who have not done so from our mailing list this spring.

If you are unsure whether you've paid or not, please call (215) 855-1872. We'll be glad to check on your status.



CHILDREN ENJOY THE 2015 SUMMER HISTORY CAMP.

Lansdale Historical Society
137 Jenkins Ave., Lansdale, PA 19446



The Jenkins Historic Complex