

Jenkins Journal

LANSDALE, PA

DECEMBER, 2018

LHS Holiday Church Tour December 15

The society will help spread holiday cheer with *The Churches at Christmas*, a tour of Historic Churches in Lansdale this Saturday, December 15.

Visitors of all faiths are invited to participate in this first-of-its kind tour that begins at noon at the First Baptist Church and continues through the afternoon at the St. Mary Chapel, Lansdale United Methodist Church, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, St. John's United Church of Christ and Trinity Evangelical Church.

The sanctuaries of the churches will be decorated for Advent and Christmas and tour guides will be on hand at each stop to provide information about the history of the buildings and the congregations that occupy them.

Proceeds from the sale of tickets will be divided among the churches.

Ticket sales will be limited, and we strongly encourage they be purchased in advance, at \$10 per person (ages 12 and under free), at any of the six churches on the tour or at the historical society research center.

Those participating in the tour must provide their own transportation from church to church. Guides and narrators will be on hand at the times listed below. The \$10 admission ticket admits participants to all six sites during the times listed below. Visit all or as many as you choose.



The chapel at St. Mary Manor is one of the stops on the church tour.

Here are the times during which each of the churches will be open. The Methodist and Episcopal churches share a time slot, as visitors may park in one place to visit both churches. These times are also printed on the back of each ticket:

Noon-1:30 pm: First Baptist Church, 7th and Broad Streets

12:30-2:00 pm: St. Mary Chapel, 7th

Street and Lansdale Avenue (on the grounds of St. Mary Manor)

1:00-3:00 pm: Lansdale United Methodist & Holy Trinity Episcopal Churches, 4th and Broad Streets

2:00-3:30 pm: St. John's United Church of Christ, W. Main Street and Richardson Avenue

2:30-4:00 pm: Trinity Lutheran Church, 1000 W. Main St.

No programs in January or February

After several years of battling Mother Nature and losing, we've conceded to the elements.

We will hold our next Community Program in March. Hopefully, by then the snow and ice will be gone. Details on the March show will appear in the February *Jenkins Journal*.

From the president...

Looking toward progress, challenges in 2019

By DICK SHEARER

We don't need the calendar to tell us that another year is fast coming to an end. The nip in the air and the rising tide of holiday spirit is filling the air. Indeed, 2019 is right around the corner.

This is the time the society's board of

trustees takes stock of our accomplishments in 2018 and plan for the new year.

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**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL
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Looking toward progress, challenges in 2019

(continued from page 1)

During 2018, we plowed ahead on a number of projects that will be ongoing for the foreseeable future. We have made steady progress in our efforts to convert our newspaper collection to a digital format. The same goes for our vast photographic archives which continue to grow. So too our efforts to copy and file obituaries from a number of local sources.

We participated in numerous outreach programs, among them a walking tour of the Lansdale Cemetery, a tribute to veterans at Memorial Park, our "High School Memories" open house, spring tea and the upcoming

Holiday Church Tour. We supported events like Founders Day, the freight house restoration project and various Discover Lansdale undertakings.

As the headline states, the year ahead offers much progress but also considerable challenges. Among them:

- For the first time in the society's history we will be forced to rent off-site storage space at a climate-controlled facility. During the last 15 years since the research center opened, our rapidly expanding archives are spilling over into the aisles. It

is time to move lesser-used items off-site. This represents a new cost item for us.

- Our computer server, which has served faithfully for 15 years, is overdue for replacement. So is other computer-related equipment that is outdated.
- The interior of the research center is in need of painting and a general reorganization to make better use of the space.
- Perhaps more than anything else we need additional volunteers who can devote a half day or two each week to help

us with a variety of projects. We especially need younger volunteers who can lend a hand physically when we need it.

Fortunately, our overall membership totals are healthy, but don't forget we depend on you for the financial support that allows us to continue our efforts to preserve the past for future generations. We hope we can count on you again (See story on next page).

Let us take this opportunity to wish you and your families a joyous holiday season and a happy and healthy new year.



THE JENKINS HOMESTEAD

**Jenkins Homestead
and Historical
Research Center**
137 Jenkins Ave.,
Lansdale, PA 19446

Hours:

Wednesdays and Thursdays:

11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturdays:

9 a.m. to noon.

Telephone:

(215) 855-1872

Email:

info@lansdalehistory.org

Website:

www.lansdalehistory.org

Like Us on Facebook

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



Society participates in ancestry fair

Three of our members represented the society at the 12th Annual Ancestry Fair hosted by the Bucks County Genealogical Society last month at Delaware Valley College.

Linda Evans, Ruth Madison and Bonnie Williams, seen in the photograph above, distributed literature, shared details of the Jenkins family history and displayed the Jenkins

hair wreath that hangs above the mantle in the homestead's parlor.

The principal speaker at the sold out fair was CeCe Moore, genetic genealogy expert who is a nationally-known innovator in the use of DNA for genealogical purposes. She is a frequent contributor to PBS shows.

Time to re-up membership for new year

Yes, it's that time of the year when we turn to you, our supporters, with a reminder that the January 31 deadline for 2019 dues is fast approaching.

It should go without saying that your financial help is essential for the continued growth of the society. That will be especially true in the coming year. As indicated in the president's column on pages 1-2, we will face costs that

weren't incurred in previous years, among them the need to rent off-site space to store our growing archives collection, the overdue necessity of replacing our computer server, updating our website with professional help and upgrading some of the office equipment in the research center. Add to that the increased cost of routine office supplies like postage.

In spite of these factors the board of trustees voted to maintain our basic membership at \$20 for 2019 but we encourage you to renew at a higher level. Now, more than ever, those additional dollars will make a big difference.

We ask that you consider the society when making end-of-the-year tax-deductible donations. It's a great way to invest in the preservation of our history.

High School Memories display proves a big hit

Ah, those high school days. Life seemed so much simpler and more fun. Of course we tend to remember the good times and forget the poor report cards, the petty squabbles or the teachers who never quite understood us.

There was plenty of time to reminisce about the good old times during the society's "High School Memories" held in October at the Lansdale Parks and Recreation Building.

A committee headed by Linda Evans searched the far reaches of our archives to find many tables full of memorabilia from Lansdale, North Penn and Lansdale Catholic high schools. There were year-books, class photographs, band and sports uniforms, trophies and much more – and it was accompanied by rock music down through the years.

A steady flow of alumni and their friends showed up during the 10-hour event and left with memories of things long forgotten.



Volunteers help sort 500 veterans banners

For the last three years, 500 Hometown Heroes banners have hung above the streets of Lansdale. Now they have been retired and are available for pickup at Borough Hall through December 20 by those who purchased them.

More than 40 volunteers spent December 5 sorting the banners on a series of tables that filled the hall's lobby. According to our treasurer, Anne Scheuring, who led the banners campaign in Lansdale and other nearby communities, the banners have about a three-year lifespan when exposed to the weather. A waiting list for a new three-year banner campaign is now being assembled. Those interested in purchasing a new banner should contact Anne by reaching out to her at the Lansdale Hometown Heroes Facebook page or by calling the society.

Orders will be filled on a first come-first served basis. Again, only 500 spots will be available.



Society seeks another win in Christmas tree contest

Lansdale's annual Christmas Tree decorating display is back for 2018 after a one-year absence. This year the tree display is being held at 15 N. Broad St., thanks to Koehler's Jewelers, owners of the building.

Those who visit the tree display are invited to vote on their favorites. We're pleased to re-

port that the society won the last two contests and was awarded a spot in the front window this year. Anne Scheuring and her committee of helpers decorated all three of our entries

The final days to see the display are Thursday and Friday, December 13-14, 5-8 pm, and Saturday, December 15, 4-8 pm.

Holiday, winter fare on Facebook

Check out our Facebook page for holiday and winter photographs over the next several months. More than 3,200 persons a day go to Facebook/Lansdale Historical Society to revive memories from the past or to learn more about the North Penn Valley's historic past.

A reminder that we are always looking for more vintage photos from the area to feature on Facebook and add to our archives. Send them to kcidlans1@yahoo.com.



2019 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Lansdale Historical Society

Membership Application

Individual Member	\$20/yr.
Couple	\$25/yr.
Patron	\$40/yr.
Sustaining	\$55/yr.
Business	\$100/yr.

Lifetime (55 & Older)

Single \$300 Couple \$500

Additional Donation \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

Please make checks payable to the

Lansdale Historical Society

137 Jenkins Ave., Lansdale, PA 19446

215 855-1872

www.lansdalehistory.org

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