



# HTHS Newsletter

www.haverfordhistoricalsociety.org

### **Upcoming Events:**

March 26  
Pea Soup Supper to benefit Swedish Cabin

April 12  
Hav. Township Civic Council Convention

April 14 @ 7:30  
HTHS Annual Meeting Grange Estate

April 17  
Arbor Day at the Grange Estate

June 5, 11 - 4  
Heritage Festival along Karakung Drive

June 9  
"Savor the Flavor" at the Grange

### **Inside this Issue:**

From the Archives...  
What's in a name?  
*page 2*

HTHS Photography Contest: Capturing a Sense of Place  
*page 3*

Welcome New Members  
*page 3*

Recent Acquisitions  
*page 3*



## **5<sup>th</sup> Annual Heritage Festival June 5, 2011, 11 am to 4 pm**

It's our fifth year and we're ready to present the best Heritage Festival yet! Join us on Sunday, June 5 to enjoy one of Haverford Township's favorite family events.

- Historical re-enactors and tours of historic sites;
- Live music all day by local bands as well as choral groups and musicians from Haverford Township School District;
- Food from local restaurants and a beer tent for the over 21 crowd;
- Children's activities like pony rides, a scavenger hunt and a model train display; and



The Heritage Festival takes place on Karakung Drive between Lakeside Drive and Manoa Road. Parking is available at either end of the festival along the road. We encourage visitors to walk or ride bikes. A bike parking area will be available near Nitre Hall at the festival. The festival will be held rain or shine.

**Stroll the drive and enjoy the day with the whole family!!**



### **HTHS Annual Meeting @ The Grange Estate**

Thursday, April 14 @ 7:30 PM

Speaker Angela Hewett: "Thomas Leiper: A Man for All Seasons"

Join us for a presentation about the love letters of Thomas Leiper and Elizabeth Gray Leiper and some of their descendants. Thomas Leiper was a close friend of Thomas Jefferson and fought in the Revolutionary War. He had a large stone quarry in Delaware County and a tobacco store in Philadelphia. *The meeting is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served.*

## From the Archives...What's in a Name?

By Mary Courtney

The Haverford Township Directory of 1938 lists attorneys Raymond E. Larson and William R. Toal in Llanerch, S.F. Gettz Auto Service Station on West Chester Pike in Manoa, Reed's Haverford Sweet Shop and the Haverford Township Barber Shop, both in Brookline, and Delchester Farms Dairy in Oakmont. Evelyn Blanchard taught dancing at her home in Penfield. Finnerty's Main Line Express Hauling was on Linden Drive in Merwood. The area surrounding Haverford College, the Friends' Meeting on Buck Land and the Community Center, also on Buck Lane, are identified in this directory as in Haverford. None are listed as Havertown; it hadn't been invented yet.

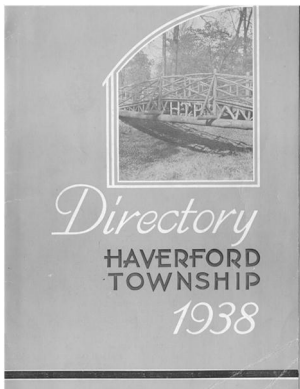
Recently, at a hearing before the Haverford Township Zoning Board, a witness for B.I.G., the corporation suing to build six billboards in the township, said, "Nowhere in Haverford Township is there a sense of place." If this is true, and if we have a slightly schizophrenic response to our important places and heritage-witness the banners flying over Darby Road proclaiming, "Haverford Township Founded 1912"\*- perhaps the problem first arose with the establishment of the Havertown Post Office in 1946.

Haverford Township was served by many post offices over the years. From the earliest days, mail was handled at post offices that were located in general stores, mills or even the train station. People often posted letters and sent parcels while doing business at these establishments.

The Adele Post Office, established in 1892 on West Chester Pike, was at the old grist and saw mill on Darby Creek and a post office could be found at the woolen mills at Cobbs Creek and Haverford Road. The Manoa Post Office- the original Haverford Post Office - was in Samuel Moore's store at West Chester Pike and Manoa Road and the Coreze Post Office operated out of another general store at Darby Road and Ardmore Avenue. Grassland and Llanerch post offices originated in train stations.

Mail was addressed to the recipient, street name, Penfield, South Ardmore, Beechwood, etc., PA. No zip code, of course - that would come much later. Most homes had no street number and many were known solely by their names like "Narbeth," the "Grange," or "Pont Reading." Delivery problems certainly arose and in 1917 Mr. F.A. Jurkat of Cedarville Ohio, wanted to send a letter to Mr. Hugh Savage in Manoa, but he wrote, "as that post office is off the map," he sent his letter to a relative at North 54<sup>th</sup> Street in Philadelphia for delivery to Mr. Savage in Manoa. That may have been extreme, but the need for more efficient mail delivery became apparent as the township grew after World War II.

Eventually the bulk of mail being delivered to the villages of Oakmont, Penfield, Brookline, South Ardmore, Manoa, Beechwood and Merwood passed through the Llanerch Branch of the Upper Darby Post Office. These neighborhoods were considered a branch of Upper Darby Township, at least for mail delivery. In 1945, Township Commissioner H.A. Fritschman wrote to the U. S. Post Office Department to propose establishment of a central post



---

*Prior to 1946, mail was addressed to the recipient using their street name and neighborhood – Penfield, South Ardmore, Beechwood, etc.*

office for the residents of Haverford Township. After a thorough investigation of the needs in Haverford Township, the Post Office Department redesignated the Llanerch Branch to Havertown Branch to offer a "uniform post office address which will enable them to be more properly identified with their places of residences in Haverford Township." It must have seemed a relief for residents in 1946 to adopt the name "Havertown" for their mail and to no longer be confused with Upper Darby, but a shame to lose the use of their village names and sense of place.

\* Haverford Township was founded in 1681/82. It became a first-class township in 1912.

( *In Memoriam*  
*Ken Tiss*  
*December 9, 2010* )

## Recent Acquisitions

Philadelphia A Story of Progress. Herman L. Collins and Wilfred Jordan. 1941. Lewis Historical Publishing, N.Y., Philadelphia and Chicago. Donated by Haverford Middle School librarian Susan Kratzinger

*Lawrence Cabin* a watercolor painting by E. Hughes and large-format black and white aerial photograph of Manoa, Haverford Township over West Chester Pike taken by Victor Dallin c. 1925. Both gifts are from the Hilda Lucas collection and donated by Rich Paul of the Thomas Massey House in Marple Township.

## HTHS Photography Contest: Capturing a Sense of Place

Photo Submissions due by May 28

In conjunction with the 2011 Heritage Festival, HTHS will be presenting a juried exhibition of photographs taken in and around Haverford Township. There will be three categories for submissions:

*Photo Journalism*: Documenting the story of Haverford Township

*Nature*: Capturing the essence of nature in Haverford Township

*Architecture*: A fresh view of the built environment in Haverford Township

Up to three photos may be submitted for entry into the contest. The entry fee is \$10. Adults and young people are encouraged to enter their work. Students will be judged separately from adults in two age categories (12 & under and 13-17).

Photographs will be on display inside Nitre Hall during the Heritage Festival on June 5, and will also be displayed at the Haverford Township Free Library after the festival. Contact the Photography Contest Coordinators to receive an entry form or for more information: Paul Kelly ([pakman6@verizon.net](mailto:pakman6@verizon.net)), Lauren Yacina ([Lauren.Stevenson@verizon.net](mailto:Lauren.Stevenson@verizon.net))




---

### Welcome New Members

Suzanna Barucco & David Kahn  
Kaley Carpenter  
Robert Gerlach  
Viv Majeski  
Mara and Ed Meehan  
Katherine Miller  
Gregory and Debbie Morris  
Debbie Mottis  
Andrew and Julie Spaulding  
Mark Trottnow



## Haverford Township Historical Society

PO Box 825  
Havertown, PA 19083

PHONE:  
(610) 446-7988

E-MAIL:  
info@haverfordhistoricalsociety.org

---

Weg on the Web!

See us at:

[www.haverfordhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.haverfordhistoricalsociety.org)

### ***Mission Statement...***

The mission of the Haverford Township Historical Society is to protect, preserve and promote the history of our community and to sustain its cultural heritage for future generations through educational programs, accessible archives and site preservation.

### **Upcoming Events**

- March 26@5:30** Pea Soup Supper to benefit Swedish Cabin. Garrettford Fire Hall, Drexel Hill, PA
- April 12** Haverford Township Civic Council Organizing Convention
- April 14 @ 7:30** HTHS Annual Meeting Grange Estate
- April 17** Arbor Day at the Grange Estate
- June 5, 11 - 4** Heritage Festival Along Karakung Drive

Send your suggestions, comments and feature ideas for the HTHS Newsletter to Tricia Woodman at [johnwman@msn.com](mailto:johnwman@msn.com) .

---

*2011 Membership Dues are currently payable. Please send your payment in the enclosed envelope. Dues may also be paid at the Annual Meeting on April 14. Thank you for your ongoing support!*

**HAVERFORD TOWNSHIP  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
PO Box 825  
Havertown, PA 19083

