HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BENSALEM TWP.

3211 Knights Road

P.O. BOX 1101 BENSALEM PA 19020

PHONE 215-639-6575

WEBSITE www.bensalemhistoricalsociety.com

MAY AND JUNE NEWSLETTER 2014

We did get a copy of that delicious butter cake recipe but not the name of the baker. Mystery solved....the baker was Tina Lahm. So far we have made several copies of the recipe for other members.

What a wonderful party we had at the Mardi Gras Luncheon on March 2nd. Our hostess, Barbara Johnson, outdid herself with the decorations and organizing the delicious food that our members supplied. The entertainment featured the wonderful voice of Justin Gonzalez who was accompanied by Dimitri Kaurige. The giving of several door prizes completed the event. Many Thanks to Barbara and all the cooks for a great time.

On April 3rd we returned to our evening meetings. Unfortunately our scheduled speaker, Frank Rieghter, had a heart attack and could not do the program. Sally Sondesky gave a condensed version of the William Weiss kidnaping and murder. William had been hidden in a house in Torresdale Manor before being killed. We learned that a person in the audience was the present owner of that house and he knew its history when he purchased it. Another little piece of Bensalem's history.

NEW MEMBERS

Alice & James Louiseau

Joanne & Bill Clark

Doris Schramm

ADDITIONS TO OUR COLLECTIONS

Hazel Lamon donated 3 different reference books and copies of the Burials in All Saints Cemetery and Tullytown Cemetery. Also 9 Directories from 1874 thru 1952

Ed Kisselback donated a Polaroid One Step Camera, case &flashbulb

Alice Lane donated a small glass from the Phila. Gun Club 1877

Betty Ann Musick donated 16 photos of old farms and houseso

Purchased from EBay- Cornwells #1 Fire Co. Patch

Purchased from EBay – Booklet on Ferri's Kartway in Eddington and "But One Race-The Life of Robert Purvis"

Margaret Yeager donated a 1940 Photo of Bensalem H.S. Washington Class Trip with names of the people

Clara Anderson donated photos of Trevose School class of 1948 and of a school spaghetti dinner in 1947.

Frances Jarvis donated a 1928 Cornwells State Bank Savings Book

Sally Sondesky donated a PA State Flag, Souvenir dish of the PA Capital, and a House Mural ornament

Charlotte Mangino donated wedding and anniversary items about the Smith Family of Bensalem

Bob Evans restaurant donated 15 framed pictures from their Andalusia establishment

John McKeough donated various newspaper articles about the Biddle family and Andalusia.

Roberta Phillips donated some office supplies, frames and small flags

Mary Trapp donated articles from 1885 and early 1900's relating to the Ashton family

John Bossler donated Bensalem & Bucks Co political buttons & Postcards

Ladies Auxiliary Trevose Fire Co. donated a cape, hat & record of the 1st meeting

Ray Guim donated a Commemorative Key for the new High School Gymnasium

Debbie Eiser McGinley donated her wedding gown from her marriage at St. Charles in 1982

WISH LIST FOR OUR BUILDING & GROUNDS

If you are downsizing or have extra items you no longer use we need a wheelbarrow, leaf rake and a shovel (spade). If you have an item, please call the office at 215-639-6575 or mention it at a meeting.

SPECIAL SALE

We are holding a Special Sale of our History Books. Get all three volumes for $50.00. Individually they are Book 1 $20; Book 2 $20 and Book 3 $25 so you will be saving $15 and getting all three books. They would make a great gift for someone or for summertime reading.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

We are going to the Moland House in Warwick for a tour on Saturday, MAY 10TH at 1 PM. The cost will be $5.00.
We are car pooling to save expenses. Therefore, we need to know as soon as possible who will need a ride so we can make transportation arrangements. If going to drive on your own, we will provide directions.

The Moland House is on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places. The house was built about 1750 and served as headquarters for George Washington in 1777. It is located at 1641 Old York Road, Hartsville, PA.

Please call Carol 214-245-4856 to sign up or if more information is needed.

CIVIL WAR ENCAMPMENT

Many THANKS to everyone who helped at this event on that cold, windy Saturday and the more pleasant Sunday. We had fewer visitors on Saturday but we sold a lot of coffee and hot chocolate to those who were brave enough to be there. The date for 2015 has been picked and it will be later in April.

MEMORIAL

On Feb. 10th our former President, John Diamond died. John was President from 1998 to 2002. He was also a Bensalem Grad (Class of '45) and a High School teacher. John and Betty joined the Society in 1987. His service will be held on May 10th at 10 am at Pennswood Village, 1382 Newtown Langhorne Rd. We will miss his leadership, friendly manner and wonderful smile.

LEWIS AND CLARK

The Society has been contacted by Tom Brady of the Lewis and Clark Foundation which is running a tour from Penn's Landing to Andalusia by boat and bus. Leaving at 8:30am and returning at 5pm it includes the boat ride, bus to Andalusia for tours of the gardens and house, box lunch and visit to the grave of Nicholas Biddle at St. Peter's Church Cemetery at 4th and Pine. The cost is $160 per person. If you are interested contact Tom Brady at 215-518-8038 or email at tabradyjr43@gmail.com. You can check the website of the Lewis & Clark group at www.lewisandclarkphila.org for additional information.

PICNIC

June 5th will be our annual picnic to end the meetings for the summer. NOTICE: The time is 6:00pm at the pavilion. A deli tray and beverages will be supplied so please bring your favorite salad or dessert to share.

BENSALEM MYSTERIES

We have several mysteries that need to be solved and maybe you or someone you know can help us.

(1) Do you know what happened to the wooden Liberty Bell made by the students at St. Francis School for the Bicentennial Celebration. We have pictures but no answers?

(2) What group started the Memorial Day parade and when was it first held? We have a members' memory of walking in it in the early 1930's. Can someone give us more information about this event that continues even today to honor our veterans.

(3) Do you remember the Eppinger and Russell Creosote plant in Eddington along the Railroad and Street RD? WE have no pictures of this industry.

The Bell

(4) **Who remembers the Blue Hill Diner at Street Rd and Bristol Pike? When was it moved and do you have any pictures of that move?**

During the months of July and August, the Society will be open on Wed. 9- 12 and Sat. 10-12. Stop in for a visit.

CALENDAR FOR MAY AND JUNE

May 1st	**"Civil War Field Medicine" By Mike Jesberger**	**7:00pm**
May 10th	**Trip to Moland House Car Pool at office**	**1:00pm**
May 15th	**Board Meeting**	**7:00pm**
May 17th	**Lewis & Clark Tour see above**	
June 5th	**Picnic and election At the Pavilion**	**6:00pm**
June 19th	**Board Meeting**	**7:00pm**

I AM YOUR FLAG

I was born on June 14,1777
I am more than just a cloth shaped into design
I am the refuge of the world's oppressed people
I am the silent sentinel of freedom
I am the inspiration for which American Patriots gave their lives & fortunes.
I have led your sons into battle from Valley Forge to the bloody sands Of Saudi Arabia
I walk in silence with each of your honored dead, to their final resting place beneath the silent white crosses, row upon row.

I have flown through peace and war, strife and prosperity, and amidst it all I have been respected.

My red stripes symbolize the blood spilled in defense of the glorious nation.

My white stripes signify the burning tears shed by Americans who lost their sons.

My blue field is indicative of God's heaven under which I fly.

My stars clustered together, unify 50 states as one, for God and country.

"Old Glory" is my nickname, and proudly I wave on high.

Honor me, respect me, defend me with your lives and your fortunes.

Never let my enemies tear me down from my lofty position, lest I never return.

Keep alight the fires of patriotism, strive earnestly for the spirit of Democracy. Worship eternal God and keep His commandments, and I shall remain the bulwark of peace and freedom for all mankind.

Written by Thomas E, Wicks, Sr.

HAVE A HEALTHY, HAPPY SUMMER AND WE HOPE TO SEE YOU ON SEPT. 4th FOR OUR ANNUAL ICE CREAM SOCIAL.

The Board