



March Meeting

March 8

7 p.m.

(Note special time)

A Concert of Spiritual and Patriotic Songs

with

William J. Ridenhour

accompanied by

James McDuffy

at the

Wissahickon Valley Public Library

Skippack Pike

Blue Bell

This a joint effort with the
Historical Society of Whitpain.

Guests are welcome.



From the President's Desk

Russ Bellavance

As we all continue to dig out from record snowfalls, we eagerly look for signs of Spring. Jeannie and I saw a robin yesterday - so that's one sign. Another sign is that the 1895 Schoolhouse is in need of a good Spring Cleaning. As you know, we are going to have an Open House celebration on Sunday, May 16 from 1:30 to 4 p.m. Members can help prepare in several ways.

First, we need help selling ads for a booklet we are preparing for the open house. Forms will available at the March meeting and are on line at our website.

Secondly, a Spring Cleaning day is planned for a Saturday in late April. If we all pitch in, it should be fun and not too much work for anyone.

The March meeting will be a joint effort with the Historical Society of Whitpain and should be very enjoyable. In order to leave enough time for the entire program, we are going to begin at 7 p.m. - rather than 7:30. The meeting will be at the Whitpain Branch of the Wissahickon Valley Public Library.

Thanks to a grant from the Springhouse Questers, we were able to undertake the restoration of a lovely stained glass piece that was originally commissioned by Dr. R.V. Mattison for his home. It is quite a large piece, and **Bob Whittock** and **John Simon** are in the process of designing a display unit for the piece.

I hope to see you at the March meeting.

"Hannah Till" (Valley Forge National Park Ranger Ajena Rogers), speaker at the February meeting, shares a laugh with new member **Bob Bradley**. Hannah shared stories of the 1777/78 encampment and the role of African Americans in the Revolutionary War and following years.



Wissahickon Valley Historical Society
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Mark your calendar

March 8 - Monthly meeting - Joint meeting with Historical Society of Whitpain - 7 p.m. - Blue Bell library

March 21 - Open House - 1895 Schoolhouse - 1 to 4

March 22 - Board meeting - 7:30 p.m.

April 12 - Monthly meeting - program by **Frank Ruzzo, Jr.** - Collecting Homer-Laughlin china/fiestaware.

May 16 - Open House to celebrate WVHS's 35th Anniversary and listing of the 1895 Schoolhouse on the National Register of Historic Places - 1:30 to 4

Reminder - The Schoolhouse is open each Thursday morning - 10 to 1.



News Briefs -

*In addition to requesting items for our fall flea market, **Josephine Sawicki** is collecting old towels for use at an animal shelter and flip tops from can.

*At the February meeting, new member **Bob Bradley** shared some proposed plans for Hope Lodge - including the possibility of a community garden. Check their web-site for details.

*The new exhibit at the Blue Bell library showcases WWII. **Emmy Simon, Jeffrey Hahn, and Peg Johnston** installed the display.

A local pack of wolf scouts visited the Schoolhouse recently. They practiced penmanship, toured the museum, and heard stories from **Bob Whittock** and **Peg Johnston**. At left - they enjoyed writing on the slate backboard.