



The Gazette



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Sponsoring Historic Bristol Day - Third Saturday of Each October

BCHF is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit, all volunteer organization.

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President's Corner

This January, it was my privilege to become the 15th president of BCHF. In the words of the bylaws, *"The Mission of the organization is to preserve and promote the history of the area and increase the cultural opportunities for the residents of the community."* All the presidents and the members of BCHF have worked faithfully to fulfill that mission through the 55 years since the founding of BCHF by Joseph Pavone, its first president.



Joseph Edward Pavone (1928-2010) graduated from Bristol High School in 1945 and was drafted into the US Army Signal Corps. While in the army, Mr. Pavone worked as a MOS Army photographer in Germany and developed his lasting passion for art. He studied art under the oil painter Helmut Meyers while stationed in Karlsruhe, Germany. After his military service, Mr. Pavone earned a BFA, MFA, and BS in Education from Temple University's Tyler School of Art. He was a versatile artist who worked in oils, watercolor, sculpture, graphics, mural and china painting. His works have been displayed privately and as public artworks in Bristol and elsewhere in Bucks County. Mr. Pavone taught art in several school systems in Bucks County and gave private lessons in the Radcliffe Art Gallery which he founded in 1961. The gallery became a center for cultural activity in Bristol Borough and led to the founding of the Radcliffe Cultural and Historical Foundation in 1967. It was later renamed the Bristol Cultural and Historical Foundation. He earned many awards including the United States Congressional Special Recognition for Artistic Achievement. Mr.

Pavone died in 2010 and will be remembered for his outstanding contribution to the cultural traditions of Bristol.

As president of BCHF, I will derive inspiration from Mr. Pavone and strive to follow the example of all the presidents who served after him to further the mission of the organization he founded:

- Joseph Pavone 1967 - 1975
- Francis O'Boyle 1976
- Pauline White 1977
- W. Paul Ferguson 1978 - 1979
- Harold Mitchener 1980 - 1981
- W. Paul Ferguson 1982 - 1986
- Thomas Iezzi 1987 - 1988
- Mark Swift 1989
- Mary McIlvain 1990 - 1991
- Christopher Molden 1992 - 1996
- Nancy Maren 1997 - 2001
- Matilda VanAken 2002 - 2004
- Angelo Grisolia 2005 - 2007
- Gerald McCarry 2008 - 2015
- Jeanette Ruano 2016 - 2018
- Harold Mitchener 2019 - 2020
- Jeanette Ruano 2021

Information about Joseph Pavone was derived from the Grundy Archive https://grundylibrary.org/sites/default/files//images/GA.BH_.6%20Finding%20Aid%20EAD.pdf and Bucks Local News (<http://veteransofbuckscounty.blogspot.com/2008/06/joseph-pavone.html>).

Thanks to Helen Younglove for information about the presidents of BCHF.

Deborah Pinney, President

TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Letters and convenient return envelopes were recently sent to all members of BCHF. We often hear how our members really enjoy getting this newsletter to hear about what is going on currently in Bristol and also to read about Bristol's past. You

will find information about the programs planned for the year plus interesting trips and cruises.

We urge you to renew your membership so that we can continue to send you these newsletters on a regular basis.

Programs and Trips

HEAR ALL ABOUT . . . *The Alley and the Island*

Circle your calendar now for Sunday afternoons, **February 6** and **March 27**! BCHF has arranged for two informative programs which we hope will appeal to our members and friends.

Elfreth's Alley. On **February 6**, Ted Maust, Director of the Elfreth's Alley Association, will give a presentation entitled "Little Street, Big City – How Elfreth's Alley Tells the Story of Philadelphia." Elfreth's Alley is an historic street located between North 2nd St. and North Front St., in the block between Arch and Quarry Sts., in the Old City neighborhood of Philadelphia. It dates back to 1702 and is named after Jeremiah Elfreth, an 18th century blacksmith and property owner. Among the alley's residents were tradesmen and their families, including shipwrights, silver and pewter smiths, glassblowers and furniture builders. In the 1770s, one-third of the households were headed by women. As of 2012, there were 32 houses on the street, which were built between 1728 and 1836. The alley is a National Historic Landmark and is considered to be our nation's oldest residential street.

Burlington Island. On **March 27**, Judy Gauntt, President of the Friends of Burlington Island, will give a presentation on the History of Burlington Island. The island comprises 300 acres and, as most of our readers are aware, is located in the Delaware River between Bristol Borough and the City of Burlington. It was first settled in 1624 by the Walloons from the French-speaking area of Belgium and was the first European settlement in NJ. Ms. Gauntt will trace the island's history since that time, including the period when it became the very popular Island Beach Amusement Park.

Both presentations will begin at 2 p.m. in BCHF's headquarters at 321 Cedar St., Bristol Borough.

Light refreshment will be served. A donation of \$4 per adult is requested; no charge for students. The public is cordially invited. Reservations are not required; however, limited capacity dictates first come,



A Note From Ways & Means

Hi Everyone,

I have just a short message this month. The Ways & Means Meeting will be virtual in February and be a ZOOM meeting on **Feb. 16th** at 2pm. Our members will

first seated. COVID vaccinations and masks are requested. In the event of inclement weather, visit BCHF's website, www.bristolhistory.org, or call 215-788-9408 for an update.

Trips

Setting Sail

As stated in recent issues of the Gazette, BCHF is sponsoring a Charleston & Bermuda cruise aboard Celebrity Cruise Line's recently refurbished "Summit," June 2-12 of this year. The ship will depart from Cape Liberty, NJ and BCHF will make round-trip transportation arrangements from Bristol to the pier with the participants sharing that cost. Rates range from \$1,577 to \$2,387 pp double occupancy and include Celebrity's classic beverage package, prepaid gratuities and surf Wi-Fi internet package. For the best cabin location, make your reservation soon with Grand American Tours of Morton, PA, at 1-800-423-0247.

BCHF recently booked space on a "Holy Lands & Aegean Majesty" cruise on Oceania Cruises' "Oceania Nautica," October 6-17, 2023. This cruise will be escorted by a representative of Grand American Tours. There are ten ports-of-call, beginning in Jerusalem (Haifa) and ending in Rome (Civitavecchia). Rates range from \$4,298 to \$8,098 pp, double occupancy, and include round-trip airfare and free internet plus a choice of one of the following "OLife Choice" extra amenities: \$600 shipboard credit, six shore excursions, or alcoholic beverage package (beer, wine, champagne with lunch and dinner).

For a detailed flyer on either of these cruises, contact Helen Younglove at 215-788-9408. A Passport is required for both cruises.

STAY TUNED

The Ways & Means Committee is currently working on day trips for this year, starting in the Spring and running through the Holiday Season. Details will be given in upcoming issues of the Gazette.

be receiving information for the meeting ID and passcode to log on.

Please note the date change to the **16th** for this month only.

(If you would like to join us, please e-mail to: jaruano@comcast.net and state that you would like to participate and see what we're all about.)

Check the Calendar of Events on the last page of the Gazette for what is coming up with BCHF.

MEMORIES OF MILL STREET PAST *By Art Younglove*

During this past Christmas season, I reflected on growing up in Bristol and the joy that Mill Street businesses afforded me as a youngster. I'll begin with the Grand Theatre and the Rohm and Haas Children's Christmas Parties I attended there with my Dad until the cutoff age of 12. Each year on the Saturday before Christmas, we would stand in a long line outside the theatre, waiting to enter its beautiful foyer. Each child was given an age-appropriate gift and a box of hard candy. When seated, we were treated to a great seasonal show hosted by Santa Claus, himself.

Across the street from the Grand Theatre was the Penny Mart. The Easter season comes to mind when they had pink and blue chicks for sale. I was allowed to buy one or two every year.

Next to the Grand Theatre was Norman's Stationery. I loved going in there to see all the pens, pencils, notebooks, and other school supplies on display. They had everything to get ready for the start of each school year.

Back to the Christmas season, and this time to Auto Boys. How many times did I visit Mill Street just to see the electric trains running around their train platforms?! Once I had enough of Auto Boys, I'd cross the street to the next block to see some more trains running around the tracks at Nichols Camera Shop. These displays made me dream of someday having my own train set, and I'd hope Santa was reading my mind.

I never visited Strauss Drug Store as a kid; only later when it became the Mason Jar.

Moffo's Shoe Store had a foot x-ray machine where you could see all the bones in your foot. Neat stuff!!

When older, I had my hair cut at Nick's Barber Shop; Nick Gesualdi was the proprietor. Across the street was Edward's Men's Shop for classy shirts, ties, and suits.

A One Room School House

The headquarters of BCHF on Cedar Street was originally a one-room school built in 1874 and operated by the Quaker Meeting House of Bristol.

There was also a one-room school called the Badger School located where the entrance to Bristol Cemetery is found. On Green Lane, opposite the Bristol Farmer's Market, there was another one-room school. Generally speaking one room schools were located in rural areas.

The oldest wooden schoolhouse was built in 1872 in St. Augustine, Florida and had specific rules for teachers.

1. Teachers each day will fill lamps, clean chimneys.
2. Each teacher will bring a bucket of water and a scuttle of coal for the day's session.
3. Make your pens carefully. You may whittle nibs to the individual taste of the pupils.
4. Male teachers may take one evening each week for courting purposes, or two evenings a week if they go to church regularly.

There used to be an ice cream shop at the corner of Mill & Wood Streets, just up from the parking lot, where my Mom would take me for a treat every so often.

Back to Christmas again! McCrory's 5 & 10 cent Store seemed to me to be gigantic when I would shop there for Christmas gifts. They seemed to have everything I needed as a young schoolboy shopping for his family. Shot glasses for my Dad and Uncle, hand towels for Mom and my aunts, barrettes and shiny jewelry for my sisters, and a toy for my brother. And everything was under budget!!

Next door was Marty Green's Army/Navy Store. How about the stuff in there – hunting knives and guns of all kinds. Wow!

Profy's Appliance Store stands out in my memory because one year they gave out a large scroll-like sheet filled with punch-out circus figures – wild animals, circus wagon, clowns and a big-top tent. A kid's memory-maker for sure!

Pappa John's Ice Cream & Confectionery Store was another popular stop for a treat from Mom. His sundaes were the best!

Finally, although not on Mill Street, I remember the Bristol Theatre. Every Saturday afternoon was a must to keep up with the never-ending storyline of Zorro or Superman or other superstars of that era. The theatre's candy counter was the best; a box of Good & Plenty hit the spot! When empty, I could blow air through the box to make a horn-like sound. This drove the theatre manager crazy; "Peck's Bad Boy!".

My other big memory was later when Grant's Department Store moved onto Mill Street. It was a big-time, two-floor building. I remember thinking: "Wow, Mill Street has made it big time!".

5. After ten hours in school, the teachers may spend the remaining time reading the Bible or other good books.

6. Female teachers who marry or engage in unseemly conduct will be dismissed.

7. Every teacher should lay aside from each day's pay a goodly sum of his earnings for his benefit during his declining years so that he will not become a burden on society.

8. Any teacher who smokes, uses liquor in any form, frequents pool or public halls, or gets shaved in a barber shop will give good reason to suspect his worth, intention, integrity and honesty.

9. The teacher who performs his labor faithfully and without fault for five years will be given an increase of twenty-five cents per week in his pay, providing the Board of Education approves.

Remember . . . this was in 1872!

Hope you enjoyed learning these rules.

Information from the Grundy Library archives

Winder Village *By Carol Mitchener*

During the summer of 1941, there were several articles in the local paper about a building boom that was developing in Bristol Township. The area was the Winder Farm, a tract of about 60 acres. This was the property of the Jacob M. Winder farm along the present Rodgers Road (Route 413). The farm was surveyed and sub-divided into about 240 lots. The water mains of Bristol Borough were extended to the site; the water was supplied by the Bristol Water Works. The first houses were erected in 1940; ten houses were built at that time and ten more were started the following year in 1941. Demand for homes in this location seemed to continue. The new houses were of cinderblock construction with hot air heating. There was a living room, kitchen and attached garage on the first floor and two finished bedrooms and a bathroom on the second floor with an unfinished bedroom over the garage. Bristol Township took responsibility for the streets. The former Winder farmhouse, with five acres of ground, had been converted into four modern apartments; all were occupied. Frontage on Rodgers Road adjoining the property was reserved for retail business properties. The remainder of the tract was restricted to residential development.

The Bristol Township School Board had recently purchased eighteen acres adjoining the development and the Township Junior High School was being constructed. The school property was large enough for athletic fields and playgrounds.

Jacob Winder died at his home on January 24, 1932 and is buried in St. James Churchyard. He was born in Bristol in 1858 at a property located at Radcliffe and Walnut Streets (401 Radcliffe St.). He was educated in the local public schools and at the Friends' Select School as well as the Bryant and Statton Business College of Philadelphia. He was first employed by the Landreth Seed Co. at their Bloomsdale farm and later held positions with C.W. and J. Peirce, Rogers' Mill and Leedom's carpet mills. He was named postmaster in April of 1895 under the Cleveland administration. After retiring

from the postmastership, he entered the grocery and meat business located at Pond and Mill Streets (328 Mill St.). He continued the grocery business and then procured a wholesale liquor license. In 1905 Mr. Winder entered horse racing as a pastime owning a number of notable horses although he never rode any of them. He purchased his first racing horse from a catalogue as a driving horse for his wife, Maggie. It was this horse, the famous Maggie Winder, that developed into a phenomenal racing filly for the season of 1909. In the first year of her career as a 3 year old she established four world's records. Maggie Winder died October 1930 at the age of 25 and was buried on the Winder farm. Her grave was decorated with an American flag. Mr. Winder also owned numerous other race horses of note and all were sons and daughters of Maggie Winder.

When the estate was finally settled, Jacob Winder had given practical thought to his love of horses which had brought him fame and fortune in racing circles. In his will, he left a sum of not exceeding \$200 annually to be provided for each of his three favorite horses - - Maggie Winder, Clara Direct and Windermere. However the provisions of the will could not be carried out due to a shrinkage in the estate of Mr. Winder. Windermere, the only surviving horse, continued to live a life of ease at the Winder farm for several years. Other provisions of the Winder will were of the usual type providing for the widow of the deceased as well as bequests to a few friends. Unfortunately these provisions also could not be carried out because of the lack of assets.

Editor's note: This article was written by the late Carol Mitchener but just recently submitted to this newsletter by her husband of many years, Harold. It was found in her desk among her papers. Carol was a frequent contributor to the Gazette. Harold continues to research and write about the area and BCHF appreciates his many contributions to this newsletter and to our community.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU . . .

Do you have an interesting story or fond memory to share about Bristol Borough? Maybe it was a time in your life that was very memorable . . . a favorite neighbor, teacher, childhood friend or parents of a childhood friend. Maybe it's about a current happening. Don't worry that it is not written perfectly, we can edit for you and correct spelling/grammar.

We would like to hear about your memories, Just send your thoughts to BCHF, c/o Gazette Editor, Box 215, Bristol, PA 19007. Please include your full name and email address and phone so we can get in touch with you if necessary.

Out Of The Past

The following items were excerpted from **February 1932** issues of THE BRISTOL COURIER. 2 cents a copy; 6 cents a week.

2/1 – GIFTS BESTOWED ON MISS MARY MC FADDEN BY BRISTOL FOLKS. A miscellaneous shower was tendered Miss Mary McFadden, 1328 Pond Street, Saturday evening, at the home of Miss Elizabeth Cunningham, 1242 N. Radcliffe Street. The evening was spent in playing cards, and favors were given. Miss McFadden was deluged with many handsome gifts.

“At MOFFO’S. Rubber Heels – Any Kind You Wish – 35c. Hat Cleaning Experts.”

“REAL ESTATE FOR RENT. Apt. on McKinley St. 3 rooms and bath. All conveniences including heat. \$18 during summer months; \$26 during winter months. Eastburn & Blanche, 118 Mill St.”

2/3 – MISS MARIE BUCHLER WINS GRUNDY MEDAL. Achieves Highest Honor in Class with Average of 91.46 Percent. Leon Schiffer Second. Miss Buchler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chris Buchler, Jefferson Avenue, has also secured the honor of valedictorian for the February Class of 1932 at Bristol High School.

“DISCOVERY NIGHT” WILL BE MARKED AT GRAND THEATRE. The Grand Theatre will inaugurate “Discovery Night.” This will consist of numbers by those who desire to become professional actors or actresses and follow the stage for a means of livelihood. There are seven acts booked for tonight. There will also be the regular program of pictures. Price of admission remains the same.

2/4 – SIXTY FAMILIES CARED FOR HERE IN JANUARY. Sum Received \$765.35. Report of the Central Charity Committee for January shows that during that period, 60 families were cared for, with 127 children being involved. Employment was found for one individual and two children were sent to homes. Temporary relief given by the committee included 92 grocery orders, 15 tons of coal in 45 orders, 20 pairs of shoes purchased, two pairs of rubbers bought, one quart of milk daily to each of six families. Rent was paid for one month for one family and numerous articles of worn clothing were distributed. A number of pieces of new clothing supplied by the Needlework Guild were given out.

“A.&P.....Stewing Chickens – 25c Lb. Loins of Pork – 11c Lb. Prime Ribs of Beef – 25c Lb. Sunnyfield Butter – 29c Lb. Maine Potatoes, 30-Lb. ½ Bushel Basket – 34c. Sweetheart Toilet Soap – 4 cakes, 22c. Hershey Kisses – ½ Lb. Bag – 15c.”

2/8 – “TAKE HIS YOKE UPON YOU AND LEARN OF THE MASTER OF LIFE,” IS ADVICE REV. KNOWLTON GIVES GRADUATES OF BRISTOL HIGH SCHOOL. Baccalaureate Sermon Preached in the Bristol Presbyterian Church. “The Choice Is Yours, for Character or for Colorlessness,” Students Are Told.

SEA SCOUTS TEACH GOOD CITIZENSHIP. Boys 12 Years of Age Are Eligible to Join Scout Movement. This is Boy Scout Anniversary Week. Sea Scouting has grown rapidly in Bucks County in the last three years. In Bristol, the S.S.S. “Elks” was organized in June 1930. The first Sea Scout regatta was held at Bristol on the Delaware River in 1930 and was won by the “Elks” ship.

2/9 – 169 MORE BIRTHS THAN DEATHS IN 1931, REPORT SHOWS. There were 169 more births reported in Bristol Borough last year than there were deaths reported, the total births being 292 and the total number of deaths 123.

There were 171 fewer cases of communicable disease reported.

“HOUSE FOR RENT. Garden St., #705. 8 room house, all conveniences, with garage. Rent \$20. Inquire at 316 Jefferson Ave.”

2/11 – DAUGHTERS OF AMERICA TO MARK ANNIVERSARY. The 30th anniversary of Bristol Council 58, Daughters of America, will be observed Saturday evening when a banquet is served in St. James parish house.

“A Load of Salt Water Oysters from Morris River Cove Will Be Here Friday, February 12, at the Market Street Boat Wharf. Boat “Lena G. Bigman.”

BHS GRADUATES HONORED AFTER COMMENCEMENT. Parties Occur at Asta, DiLissio and Pico Residences Here.

2/12 – HALF OF GRADUATES TO CONTINUE STUDIES. Temple Univ. Is Popular. Fifty percent of those who on Tuesday received diplomas from Bristol High School will continue their studies.

“UNITED CUT RATE, 127 Mill Street.....Pepsodent Tooth Paste – 33c. Sal Hepatica – 39c. Pond’s Cold Cream – 43c. Barbasol – 39c. Kotex – 25c.”

“DRIES’ FURNITURE STORE, Pond & Mill Streets.....\$1.50 Card Tables, 79c. Four-piece Bedroom Suite - \$79.50.”

2/20 – CHARACTER AND IDEALS OF WASHINGTON WILL BE BASIS FOR SERMONS IN MANY CHURCHES AT TOMORROW’S SERVICES. “Washington, Defender of Liberty,” “The Patriotism of True Patriots,” “Patriotism and Religion” Are Some of the Themes to Be Used at Bristol Edifices.

FOREIGN WAR VETERANS TO HOLD SERVICE HERE. Arrangements of the program have been completed for the “George Washington Bicentennial Celebration” sponsored by the Joseph A. Schumacher Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and its LadiesAuxiliary, to be held here tomorrow evening in the Sunday School building of the Presbyterian Church of Our Saviour, Wood Street and Lincoln Avenue. The public is invited.

ORCHESTRA TO RAISE FUNDS FOR FREE MILK FOR CHILDREN. At a special committee meeting of members of the Fathers’ Association, president Stanford Runyan told how the free distribution of milk to undernourished children in the public schools had become such a large affair that outside aid had to be asked for. The Fathers’ Association orchestra, under the direction of Joseph Martini, will hold the second annual concert on Tuesday evening, March 15, in the Methodist Church auditorium, Mulberry Street, and the entire proceeds will go to the milk fund.

2/22 – ATLANTIC STAGES TO START ROUTE TUESDAY TO PHILADELPHIA. The long-awaited bus line which plans to operate from Bristol across the Burlington-Bristol Bridge to Philadelphia will begin operation on Tuesday. The buses will operate on an hour schedule during the day, with half-hour schedules in the morning and early evening during rush hours.

OVER 200 PRIZES READY FOR BIG CARD PARTY HERE. Over 200 prizes will be offered at the card party of the Italian Relief Association, which is to be staged at St. Ann’s auditorium tomorrow night. The Italian Relief Association is doing a great work this winter and has need for every cent which can be raised. Since November 11th the association has spent nearly \$2,000 with constant demands being made upon the treasury.

2/27 – ATTEMPT TO BLOW POST OFFICE SAFE IS

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BCHF Calendar of Events For 2022

FEBRUARY Sunday, 2/6, 2:00 PM. "Little Street, Big City: How Elfreth's Alley Tells the Story of Philadelphia". Presented by Ted Maust, Director, Elfreth's Alley Museum. Donation \$4 per adult, students free. Light refreshments follow. The public is invited. BCHF headquarters

MARCH Sunday, 3/27, 2:00 PM. "Burlington Island" presented by Judy Gauntt, President, Friends of Burlington Island. Donation \$4 per adult, students free. Light refreshments follow. The public is invited. BCHF headquarters.

APRIL Plans will soon be underway for our Annual Tea. We hope to have our usual wonderful afternoon of tea sandwiches, desserts and scones with lemon curd and jams. Watch

here for the date.

JUNE Thurs 6/2 through Sun 6/12 Celebrity's cruise to Charleston, SC, and Bermuda aboard the recently modernized "Summit." The ship sails from Cape Liberty, NJ, More details to follow

OCTOBER Sat. 10/15 Historic Bristol Day

- BCHF Headquarters are at 321 Cedar Street, Bristol.
- For current information about activities and events, check out our web site at www.bristolhistory.org.

Follow us on Instagram - -

IG@bristol_historic_foundation

Out of the Past . . . *continued*

UNSUCCESSFUL. Robbers Are Driven from Building by Tear Gas Released when Nitro-Glycerine Bends Door at Base; Wires through Window Attached to Battery Outside. Attempt to Blow Safe Made in 1918 Also Unsuccessful. An unsuccessful attempt was made early this morning to blow open the safe of the Post Office at Beaver and Prospect Streets. The safe blowers, how-

ever, were driven from the building by tear gas which is part of the safe equipment. The fumes of the gas drove the men from the building and the charge of nitro-glycerine was not sufficiently strong to rip the door of the vault.

BCHF Headquarters are at 321 Cedar Street, Bristol.

For current information about activities and events, check out our web site at www.bristolhistory.org.

Follow us on Instagram - - IG@bristol_historic_foundation

THE GAZETTE is a publication of the Bristol Cultural and Historical Foundation, Inc. - Nancy Maren, Editor

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