



Bristol Cultural &
Historical Foundation, Inc.
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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.

FEBRUARY 2012

Two Months and Two Special Dates Each Month Are Offered for Members and Friends

February 12 is the date of the ANNUAL TEA and February 29 is the slide presentation and discussion for "Trains & Canyons of the Southwest" trip. March 25th is the 1st Person portrayal of Alice Roosevelt Longworth by impersonator Kim Hanley and March

31st is the Docent-led Tour of "Van Gogh Up Close" Exhibit at the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

Why not check details for these offerings and join in one or more. Hope to see you there.

Time's Running Out

February 24 is the reservation deadline for our private, docent-led tour of the "Van Gogh Up Close" exhibition, Saturday, March 31, 9:20 a.m., at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Price is \$38 for BCHF members and \$40 for non-members.

This traveling exhibit's only U.S. stop is Philadelphia. It will feature more than 40 landscapes and still lifes, including major loans from museums and private collections in Europe, North American and Japan.

The exhibit focuses on Van Gogh's works from 1886 to 1890. The pieces are described as "the artist's most daring and innovative works that broke with the past and dramatically altered the course of modern painting."

To sign up, contact Mary McIlvain at 215 788-5232 but be sure to do so by **February 24**.

Attention Travelers!

* A presentation on the "Trains & Canyons of the Southwest" trip (Sept. 29 - Oct. 8) will be given by a representative of Collette Vacations on **Wednesday, February 29, at 7 p.m.**, at BCHF headquarters. An RSVP on planned attendance would be appreciated by Monday, the 27th, at 215 788-9408. Note to possible trip participants: A savings of \$100 per person is offered for bookings by March 20!

* A deposit of \$200 per person is due by **March 15** for the Mackinac Island / Frankenmuth, Michigan, 6-day/5-night bus trip (June 17-22). Balance is due by April 27.

* The departure point for the April 17 bus trip to the Bronx has been changed from the 100 block of the Mill Street parking lot to **the Beaver Street side of the Grundy Ice Skating complex**, located on Beaver Street between Canal and Pond Streets, opposite Snyder-Girotti School. Trip participants are asked to make a note of this change and to pass the word to everyone in their party.

* BCHF is sponsoring a 13-day/12 night Southern Caribbean cruise, February 3-15, 2013, sailing from New York City on Norwegian Cruise Line's "Norwegian Pearl." Ports of call are: San Juan, St. Thomas, St. Lucia, Barbados and Antigua. Plan now for a getaway from next winter's blahs with family and friends!

For flyers/reservation forms for the longer trips, contact Helen Younglove at 215 788-9408. The Bronx trip is sold out but a waiting list is being maintained by Ellanna Delaney at 215 788-4138.

BCHF Calendar of Events for 2012

FEBRUARY - Sun., 2/12, 3 pm, At BCHF Annual Tea. Theme: "A Fashionable Tea" highlighting dress styles popular in the 20th century. Traditional Tea fare. \$18 per ticket. To check availability, call 215 788-9408

FEBRUARY - Wed., 2/29, 7 PM, at BCHF. Slide presentation and discussion of "Trains & Canyons of the Southwest" trip by rep. of Collette Vacations. RSVP planned attendance to 215 788-9408 by Mon., 2/27.

MARCH - Sun., 3/25 2 PM at BCHF. Program: 1st person portrayal of Alice Roosevelt Longworth by historical impersonator Kim Hanley, who has portrayed Abigail Adams and Annie Oakley at past BCHF programs. Light refreshment. Donation of \$3 per person requested.

MARCH - Sat., 3/31, 9:20 AM at Phila. Museum of Art. Docent-led Tour of "Van Gogh Up Close" Exhibit. \$38 per BCHF member; \$40 for non-members. Reservation deadline: 2/24. Call 215 788-5232.

APRIL - Tues, 4/17. "Best of the Bronx" bus trip, incl. a riding tour, lunch & free time on Arthur Ave., "The Real Little Italy." \$86 for BCHF members; \$89 for non-members. **SOLD OUT**; call 215 788-4138 for wait list.

JUNE - 6/17 TO 22. Bus trip to Mackinac Island & Frankenmuth, MI. \$570 pp double; \$550 pp triple. Cancellation insurance available. \$200 pp deposit by 3/15; balance due 4/27. Call 215 788-9408 for flyer & trip insurance form.

AUGUST - Sun., 8/5 between 3 & 6 PM. Annual Peach Festival. Angel food cake topped with fresh peaches & ice cream, plus beverage. takeouts available; bring container. Baked goods table. \$5 adult, \$3 under age 12. Benefits BCHF awards to Bristol High School Graduates.

SEPTEMBER - 9/29 TO 10/8. "Trains & Canyons of the Southwest" trip by Collette Vacations, featuring Scottsdale & Sedona, AZ, the Grand Canyon, Santa Fe, and the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta. Book by 3/29/12 for a \$100 per person savings. Call 215 788-9408 for detailed flyer.

OCTOBER - Sat., 10/20, 10 AM - 5 PM. 36th Annual Historic Bristol Day. Theme: Harriman and the Shipyard. Details to be announced at a later date.

NOVEMBER - Wed., 11/28, 7:00 PM. BCHF's annual business meeting incl. election of Board members, followed by program & refreshments. BCHF headquarters. Free.

FEBRUARY 2013 - 2/3 through 2/15. 13 day/12 night Southern Caribbean Cruise on the "Norwegian Pearl" from NYC. For cruise flyer call 215 788-9408.

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

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Additional research by Carol Mitchener. Photography by Dave McGlynn

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

Have you responded to the request letter? Now is the time to complete the membership form and mail it with your dues check. In the June issue of *THE GAZETTE*, the names of all members will be listed. Please join and support our organization.

BCHF'S WISH LIST

Time escaped us and we neglected to send our wish list to Santa. So we're going to direct that short list to our members in the hopes of their delivering what we request - especially since we've tried very hard to be good boys and girls!

First, we'd like our membership to grow, so we need current members to spread the word about the work of the Foundation.

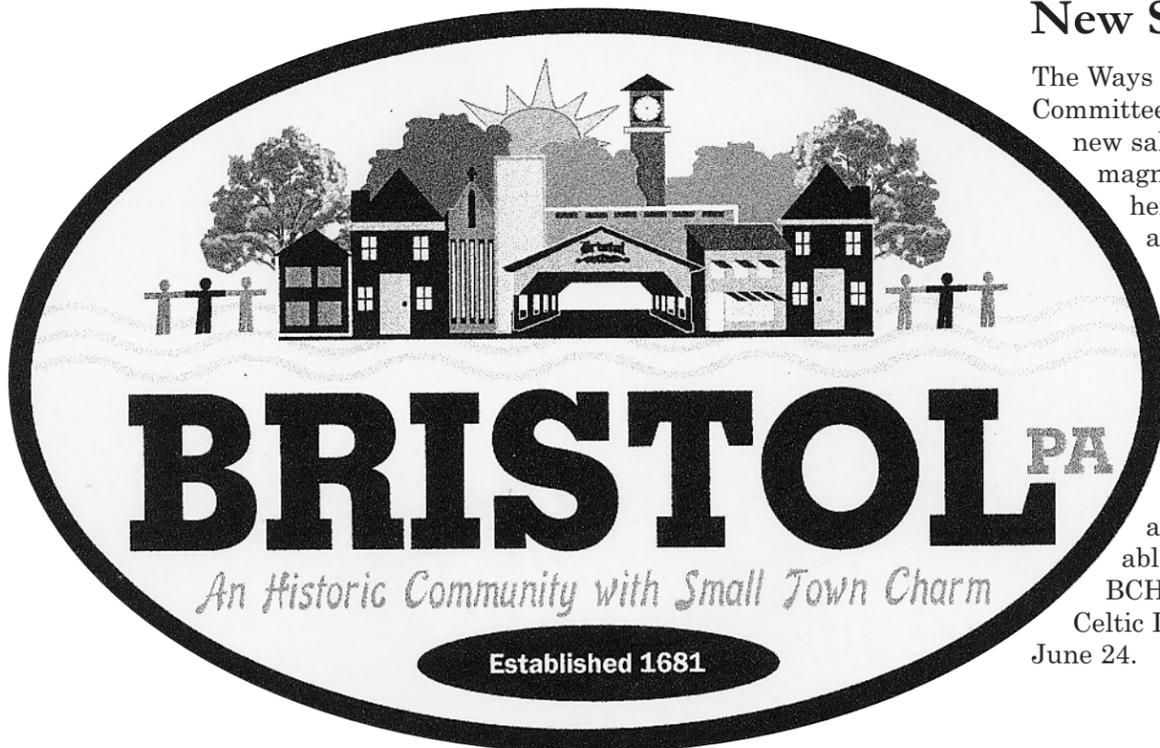
Next, we'd like more of our members - BOTH MALE & FEMALE - to become actively involved in the Foundation's undertakings. We're not asking for a lot of time; two or three hours per event is the standard. On Historic Bristol Day (3rd Saturday every October), we particularly need volunteers for a myriad of tasks. We've been especially lacking able-bodied males to help with logistics (delivering and retrieving signs, tables and trash receptacles, etc., etc.). Incidentally, a Historic Bristol Day plan-

ning meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, February 15, at BCHF headquarters!

We'd like to see our Ways & Means Committee expand, and new members be willing to relieve sub-chairpersons who've been handling the same activities for several years.

Lastly, we'd appreciate potential volunteers offering their services in advance, thus saving us the task of making numerous phone calls, which usually end up in "phone tag." Or, if anyone can suggest a more efficient contact procedure, we'd certainly welcome it.

Please make our wish(es) come true! Call and leave a message on BCHF's answering machine at 215 781-9895, or contact President Gerry McCarry at 215 788-5631, Vice President Jan Ruano at 215 788-2106, or Ways & Means Committee Chairperson Kathy Barniskis at 215 943-0258.



Car magnet shown actual size

New Salable

The Ways & Means Committee has procured a new sales item - a car magnet, pictured here. The graphics are in color, and you'll notice that the sun is shining over the scene! Price is \$5 each, including sales tax. The magnet will be among the salable items on BCHF's table at Celtic Day, Sunday, June 24.

From 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 - 35¢. 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. 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 - 25¢ Lb. Loins of Pork - 11¢ Lb. Prime Ribs of Beef - 25¢ Lb.. Sunnyfield Butter - 29¢ Lb. Maine Potatoes, 30-Lb. 1/2 Bushel Basket - 34¢. Sweetheart Toilet Soap - 4 cakes, 22¢. Hershey Kisses - 1/2 Lb. Bag - 15¢."

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 ANNIVER-

SARY. 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 - 33¢. Sal Hepatica - 39¢. Pond's Cold Cream - 43¢. Barbasol - 39¢. Kotex - 25¢."

"DRIES' FURNITURE STORE, Pond & Mill Streets . . . \$1.50 Card Tables, 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 Ladies Auxiliary, 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 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, however, 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 nitro-glycerine was not sufficiently strong to rip the door of the vault.

Bristol Riverside Theater - 2012

"A Raw Space" - - January 31 - February 19, 2012

"Steel Magnolias" - - March 20 - April 8, 2012 / "Rent" - - May 8 - June 3, 2012

Phone 215 785-0100 for tickets, dates and additional information.

25th Anniversary - Congratulations, Bristol Riverside Theatre

HE DID IT AGAIN

General Washington knew he could not “rest on one success” if he were to win the American Revolutionary War. He knew that the surprise at Trenton on the day after Christmas, 1776 was only the beginning.

There were those who thought the Continental Army should have immediately moved on to Princeton after the victory at Trenton; however, it could have been a disaster. His men were physically weakened from the attack on Trenton. They had to move over 900 prisoners and all of the items that were taken from the Hessians at Trenton back across the Delaware River.

General Cadwalader did move across the Delaware from Bristol and began working his way toward Trenton. A spirit of “resistance and insurrection was again fully awakened” and at the beginning of January 1777, Washington was now leading over 5,000 troops from Pennsylvania into New Jersey. Washington hoped to conquer the British outposts between Trenton and New York City.

The British General Cornwallis was ordered to come south along the Delaware River and counter-attack Washington’s army and retake Trenton.

Washington’s troops positioned themselves on the south side of Trenton at the Assunpink Creek on higher ground with the creek in their front. As the British approached on January 2nd, a cannonade ensued and continued until darkness made further activity useless. It was the British intent to begin again, once there was daylight.

The American commander-in-chief suspected that this would be the British strategy; he needed to make a move, without detection, toward Princeton. He silently decamped, but left fires burning and a small group of about 400 men to make noise using shovels and digging during the night to convince the British that their enemy was just across the creek.

With the arrival of daylight, the British recognized that they had been tricked; they also guessed that Washington was most likely on his way to Princeton. The weather seemed to favor the Americans for their rapid escape. For two days, before the temperature was higher and had made the roads softer, the soft snow and mud would have made it almost impossible to move heavy equipment and men toward the college town. With the weather turning much colder and the ground becoming

frozen again, the road beneath the Americans was solid.

Washington decided to take Quaker Road toward Princeton, which was not the one most often used, and avoid the Post Road. At the same time the British troops were moving toward a small town on the way to Trenton with 800 troops using the Post Road. Eventually the two groups discovered each other and fighting ensued.

By this time the American troops were physically tired and the British were able at first to drive the Americans back. General Mercer and a small group of Americans were surrounded; the British ordered a surrender. They mistook Mercer for Washington. Mercer drew his sword and charged. In the confusion, Mercer was severely beaten, run through with bayonets and left for dead. Cadwalader’s men arrived but were not able to halt the British advancement. Fortunately, General John Sullivan’s division stabilized the American line with Washington rallying the troops. He began an offensive movement. The British decided to charge again and try and break through the American lines. The next thing happening was that the British were fleeing down the Post Road with American troops in pursuit.

In Princeton, the majority of the British troops fled toward New Brunswick; however 194 took refuge in Nassau Hall of the college which had thick walls. The American Captain Alexander Hamilton had his troops open fire on the building and forced those inside to surrender.

In the Battle of Princeton, 28 British had been killed, 48 wounded and 323 captured. The Americans had 23 killed, (including General Mercer) and 20 wounded. Washington quickly moved to Morristown to take up winter quarters. These recent victories greatly helped the American cause. The Americans had wrestled from the British almost all of New Jersey which they claimed from the Americans. Amboy and Brunswick were the only posts remaining in British hands. The British that remained were in an almost constant “state of alarm”.

Some of the information for this article was obtained from two books The Crossing by Harry Fast and The Winter Soldier by Richard M. Ketchum.



OH PINE OF MINE

Many, many years ago
A Pine tree the Kehoe’s did plant
It grew so tall and so erect
But alas, it began to slant!

Mary and Jodi were fearful
Their neighbors, I’m sure, shared their plight
That the giant pine with its listing spine
Would come crashing down some night

What to do about the tree
Did cause them much concern
They were reminded constantly
Each time they passed the berm

Then much to their amazement
Bristol Borough to the rescue came
They cut down the tree and
Hauled it away using a mighty saw and crane

Now it stands proudly on Mill St.
Looking as stately as it did in its prime
The main attraction it will be
During this festive Christmas time !!

By: Lucy Papotto

Please note:

The lovely tree donated by Jodi and Mary Kehoe from their lawn, which served as Bristol’s Christmas Tree at the corner of Mill and Radcliffe Streets, originally was planted as a very small tree by Samuel and Dorothy Black. The Blacks are members of BCHF and currently live in Kentucky. They formerly lived in the house owned by the Kehoe family. Mary and Jodi had moved the tree further away from the house as it was growing too large for the area in which it had originally been planted.