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VOL 30Sponsoring Historic Bristol Day - Third Saturday of Each October

No. 6BCHF is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit, all volunteer organization.

JUNE 2011

BCHF Peach Festival To Benefit Awards Given To Bristol High School Graduates

“Juicy sliced peaches mounded on fluffy angel food cake topped with yummy vanilla ice cream” - does this sound like a good way to enjoy a Sunday afternoon? Join your friends and neighbors at the Bristol Cultural & Historic Foundation Building at 321 Cedar Street on Sunday, August 7th from 3 to 6 PM for this tasty summer dessert. If you can’t stay, takeouts are available. (Bring a good-sized container!) A baked goods table featuring “peachy” delights will be on sale. Additional parking at the Masonic Hall lot is available now!

Adults - \$5.00 Children under 12 - \$3.00

This is a good chance to view and take a chance on winning the beautiful watercolor by local artist, Joseph Sagolla that we raffle off each year at our Historic Bristol Day Event, being held this year on October 15th from 10 AM to 5 PM. The watercolor includes a waterfront scene that has the ferry, William Doran, which connected Bristol and Burlington, NJ.

The BCHF Peach Festival fundraiser benefits the awards given to Bristol High School Graduates.

From Two To Three

In last month’s GAZETTE, we announced two bus trips for the balance of the year. Now we’re adding another - - the Brooklyn Lights Tour on Tuesday, December 13. Some of our members have asked why a few of our day trips have been on a weekday. The reason is that some sites we want to visit are not open to groups on weekends. Hopefully, we’ve been giving sufficient advance notice to allow those who are employed to request a day off.

1st - **Saturday, June 18** - Guided walking tour of Laurel Hill Cemetery (a National Historic Landmark), preceded by a catered, hot buffet luncheon. \$55 for BCHF members and \$60 for non-members. Contact Helen Younglove at 215 788-9408.

2nd - **Tuesday, October 4** - - Trip to Manhattan including a guided tour of St. John the Divine Cathedral (largest Cathedral in the world), a Tea and tour at Gracie Mansion (official residence of the Mayor of NYC), and free time at Eataly (the largest artisanal Italian food and wine marketplace in the world, co-owned by Iron Chef Mario Batali). \$76 for BCHF members; \$79 for non-members. As of this writing, only a few seats remain. Call Tillie VanAken at 215-788-6630 for current status.

3rd - **Tuesday, December 13** - - “Brooklyn Christmas Lights Tour,” with 4-course dinner. This riding tour features the festively-decorated homes of Dyker Heights, the Italian-American section of Brooklyn made famous in the PBS documentary “Dyker Lights” and seen on TLC’s “Crazy Christmas Lights,” as well as homes in the Bay Ridge section. The bus will leave the 100 block of the Mill Street parking lot at 1:30 p.m. sharp and return at approximately 10 p.m. Preceding the tour, we’ll dine at Tommaso’s Restaurant. All-inclusive cost is \$88 for BCHF members and \$91 for non-members. A \$50 pp deposit is required to hold a reservation; balance due by November 9. Contact Helen Younglove at 215 788-9408.

N.B. - All our trips are handled on a FIRST PAID - FIRST BOOKED basis, and monies are non-refundable unless the cancelled reservation can be filled.

Congratulations Bristol Riverside Theatre

This is the 25th Anniversary Season of the Bristol Riverside Theatre. The first stage production offered to the public was THE GOOD EARTH, a play based on the book written by Bucks County author, Pearl Buck. At the time of the first show, Louise Rainer, an award winning Hollywood actress, flew in from Switzerland to grace the audience. She had acted in the first Hollywood movie of “The Good Earth.”

This writer was very happy to see live theater come to Bristol and at the time purchased season tickets.

Twenty-five years later, the tickets continue to arrive for the quality performances at Radcliffe and Market Sts. Bristol can be proud of this cultural addition to the community.

This anniversary year promises to provide a list of very special performances. The Mainstage Season with the five offerings include Barrymore, Gypsy, A Raw Space, Steel Magnolias and Rent. There are also Special Events that include Larry Gatlin, Chita Rivera, Pam

Continued on Page 7

BCHF Calendar of Events for 2011

JUNE - Sat., 6/18. Bus trip to Laurel Hill Cemetery for “Sinners, Scandals & Suicides” walking tour preceded by a catered 3-course hot luncheon. \$55 for BCHF members; \$60 for non-members. For flyer / reservation form, call 215 788-9408.

JUNE - Sun., 6/26 1 PM. BCHF sales & info table at Annual Celtic Day in Lions Park, Bristol Borough Sponsored by Celtic Heritage Foundation, .215 788-5232

JULY - 7/25 - 8/1. Trip to the Canadian Rockies & Glacier National Park. Call 215 788-9408 for brochure.

AUGUST - Sun., 8/7, 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. BCHF Headquarters. Benefits BCHF Awards to Bristol High School Graduates.

SEPTEMBER - Sun., 9/11, Noon. BCHF Sales & info table at Annual Italian Festival in Lions Park, Bristol Borough. Sponsored by Bristol Lions Club.215 785-2677

SEPTEMBER - Tues 9/13, 7:30 pm at BCHF. Joint program with Friends of the Delaware Canal on “Historic Sites along the Delaware River.” Light refreshment. Free.

OCTOBER - Tues, Oct. 4. Bus trip to NYC, featuring Tea & Tour at Gracie Mansion, free time at Eataly’s Iron Chef Mario Batali’s massive, new supermarket, and tour of Cathedral of St. John the Divine. \$76 for BCHF members; \$79 for non-members. Deposit of \$25 pp due by June 24; balance due by Aug. 28. For flyer/reservation form, call 215 788-6630.

OCTOBER - Sat., 10/15, 10 am - 5 pm. 35th Annual Historic Bristol Day. House tour & tea, sailing regatta, crafts, walking tours, entertainment, exhibits, food & more. Fee for house tour & tea. Discount on advance ticket purchase.

NOVEMBER - Wed., 11/16, 7:30 p.m. BCHF’s annual business meeting including election of Board Members, followed by program and refreshments. Free. BCHF Headquarters.

DECEMBER - Tues., 12/13 Brooklyn Christmas Lights Bus Tour incl. 4-Course Dinner. \$88 for BCHF members; \$91 for non-members. 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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The 35th Anniversary of Historic Bristol Day Is Being Planned

Each year on the third Saturday of October, BCHF brings to the community a celebration of Bristol’s past. The preparations for this year’s event are well underway and it happens that this year is also the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the American Civil War (1861 - 1865). At that time Abraham Lincoln was the President and for him it was a challenge to try to have the United States remain as one nation and not permanently divide into two separate countries. There was no state not affected by the conflict and many people lost their lives. Historic Bristol Day this year will focus on the anniversary of the conflict by having several portions of the day devoted to Bristol at the time of the war.

One of the events at the top of the list is a special regatta on the Delaware River. This event promises to be a major attraction for those in attendance. The regatta will be sponsored by Bristol’s own Anchor Yacht Club. The club, which was organized in 1906, has been a special organization in the town for the past 105 years. Located along the river in the Pine Grove section of town, the Anchor Yacht Club continues to use the Delaware River as their main venue. The river, during the Civil War, was a major avenue of transportation, especially between the town and Philadelphia. Steamboats carried not only troops but also products and equipment needed for the war effort. The Delaware Canal which was in full operation, brought much needed anthracite coal to this area.

Other activities so far being considered for the day are first person Civil War heroes speaking at various locations and town walking tours where the guides highlight buildings that were part of the town during the war. Within both St. James Cemetery and St. Mark Cemetery, adjacent to both churches, are the graves of men who served in the war.

At the Canal Lagoon is a statue of one of two Bristol Congressional Medal of Honor recipients, Michael Dougherty, who valiantly served the nation during the Civil War. Also near the public elementary - middle school is a portion of railroad track that was present when President-elect Abraham Lincoln stopped to

address the crowd that had gathered to hear him speak as he proceeded to Washington to be inaugurated as the 16th U.S. President.

Even the watercolor by artist Joseph Sagolla, which will be chanced off at the end of Historic Bristol Day, focuses on the Delaware River waterfront at Bristol.

Activities for children of all ages are being planned for the St. James Youth Center on Walnut Street.

Bristol was part of the Underground Railroad and the well-known slave who guided many slaves to freedom has a statue in her honor at the waterfront park. The Harriet Tubman statue with her pointing to the North Star, has special meaning to Bristol. It is not known that Harriet Tubman ever visited Bristol, but it is known that several of Bristol’s families are direct descendants of this noble lady. Bristol’s Quakers were very active in the Underground Railroad movement and several houses that were occupied by Quaker families were “stops” on the railroad.

Historic Bristol Day will have various displays available, including a special Baseball Display at the Margaret R. Grundy Library.

Vendors are being invited to participate in the celebration and it is hoped that there will be open houses too. Various public buildings and houses of worship will welcome visitors. There will be many more items to include once the final plans have been concluded. The important thing for our readers to do is to reserve October 15, 2011 for attendance at Historic Bristol Day. Don’t just wish you had been there; BE THERE!

Ronnie Walker and Donna Albright, co-chair people of this 35th Historic Bristol Day, welcome anyone who can contribute items or ideas related to the American Civil War to contact our organization at 215 781-9895 and leave a message. Someone will return the call as soon as possible. If anyone would like to volunteer to help work on that day the same telephone number should be used.



From Out Of The Past

The following items were excerpted from **June 1951** issues of THE BRISTOL COURIER

6/1 - - TO GRADUATE 164 FROM BRISTOL H.S. TUESDAY EVENING. At Grand Theatre. The following course are listed: Academic, 37; Commercial, 60; Industrial, 58; General, 8; Equivalent Diploma, 1.

TWO DELAWARE SPANS REGISTER BIG GAINS. Burlington-Bristol Bridge Leads All Other N.J. Crossings.

6/4 - - FIFTH WARD SPORTING CLUB DEDICATES NEW BUILDING WHICH MEMBERS AND FRIENDS CONSTRUCTED WITH OWN HANDS. Structure a Monument to Four Members of Organization Who Paid Supreme Sacrifice in World War II.

GOODWILL FIREMEN DEDICATE NEW FIRE STATION; UNVEIL PLAQUES AND UNFURL FLAG BEFORE LARGE AUDIENCE.

MILITARY HONORS TO BE ACCORDED HOLDEN. Soldier Who Met Death in Korea to Be Buried Here Saturday.

6/6 - - AWARDS MADE AT COMMENCEMENT OF BRISTOL HIGH. Announcement was made of a \$1600 scholarship at New Jersey College for Women to Marie Pierro, a \$1600 scholarship and grants at Juniata College to Marjorie Mannherz, and a \$1800 scholarship at Rider College to Daniel McDevitt.

“Announcement . . . We have now added **HOT PLATTERS** to our menu. Served daily from 11 to 2 and from 5 to 8. Sundays from noon to 8 P.M. O’BOYLE’S ICE CREAM.”

6/7 - - CPL. JOSEPH L. DEWSNAP, 24, EDGELY, ONE OF NINE KILLED IN MILITARY ‘PLANE CRASH IN TAKE-OFF AT KELLY FIELD, TEXAS; WAS VETERAN OF WORLD WAR II. Former BHS Student Had Been Employed by Thomas L. Leedom Co. Here before Being Called back into Service.

“HARRIMAN FOOD CENTRE, 1504 Farragut Ave . . . U.S. Choice Boneless Veal - 89¢ Lb. Meaty Rib Pork Chops - 39¢ Lb. Mrs. Paul’s Deviled Crab Cakes - 43¢ Pkg. Fresh Creamery Butter - 73¢ Lb. Heinz Baby Food - 10 Jars, 95¢. Scott Tissue - 10¢ Roll. Astor Coffee - 83¢ b.”

6/9 - - SEVEN COMPLETE THE COMMERCIAL COURSE, ST. MARK’S. The graduates are: John Peter Wilson, Elizabeth Anne Elmer, Irene Barbara Monti, Dolores Marie Wildman, Anne Marie Dunn, Mary Patricia Dugan and Florence Marie Ferry.

6/13 - - SCHOOL BOARD TO UNDERWRITE PLAYGROUNDS. BOARD VOTES \$1800 TO OPEN SCHOOL YARDS AND CONDUCT PROGRAM.

“This Bank Closed All Day, Thursday, Flag Day. FARMERS NATIONAL BANK OF BUCKS COUNTY, 244 Radcliffe Street.”

6/15 - - ROTARIANS HONOR “CITIZEN OF THE YEAR”. George Ardrey Given Testimonial Dinner by Bristol Rotary Club.

“Preview! Bristol Twp. Ranch Type Brick Homes. MARGO GARDENS. \$10,250. Monthly Payment \$51.88, Plus Taxes. F.H.A. Approved.”

“GILARDI’S MENS STORE for Gifts for Dad. Polo Shirts - \$1.50 to \$3.95. Mayfair Slacks at \$7.95 to \$12.95. Palm Beach Ties, Frosted with Nylon - \$1.50. 322 Mill Street.”

“POPKIN’S SHOES, Mill & Pond Streets . . . Florsheim Shoes for Father’s Day - \$19.95. Other Florsheims to \$22.95.”

6/18 - - DeLONG-KELLY CEREMONY IS A SUNDAY EVENT. The ceremony which united Miss Helen Kelly and Pfc. Donald DeLong in marriage yesterday was solemnized in St. James Episcopal Church at 2 p.m. Seventy guests were invited to the reception at the DeLong residence. Pfc. and Mrs. DeLong are

Congratulations . . . Continued From Page 1

Peterson, Ben Vereen, and three special shows, “My Mother’s Italian, My Father’s Jewish and I’m in Therapy,” “Pinkalicious - The Musical,” and “Defending the Caveman.” Also during the summer of 2011, three Summer Musicales will take place. These musical programs include “Great Balls of Fire” - (A Legacy of the

spending a week at Ocean City, N.J.

“SARA C. GRANZOW Presents “Talk of the Town”. 16th Annual Dance Revue Given by Her Pupils, at the Grand Theatre, Friday, June 22, 8 P.M.”

“Summer Casuals and Dress-Ups at a New Low \$8.95. MARY MALONE DRESS SHOP, 236 Otter Street.”

6/20 - - MOTOR, SAIL RACES ATTRACT BIG CROWD. Bristol Yacht Club had its official opening season Sunday. There was a good turnout to watch the afternoon’s events, including a water ski exhibition.

ASK BIDS FOR CONTRACT POST OFFICE. Bids for the conduct of a contract post office station, located on the Mill Street area, will be accepted at the post office building, Beaver and Prospect Street, through July 5.

6/21 - - D.V.B.S. ENROLLMENTS HIGHER THAN IN 1950. Daily Vacation Bible Schools are being conducted in this area now.

“SCHIFFER’S, 230 Mill Street . . . 20% - 30% Reduction on All Materials. Seersuckers, Dotted Swiss, Cotton Piques, Organdies, and More.”

6/22 - - HEARINGS CONTINUE INTO NEED FOR INCREASED BUS SERVICE IN THE BRISTOL AREA TO PROPERLY SERVE THE POPULATION INFLUX EXPECTED BY LOCATION OF U.S. STEEL PLANT IN AREA. Neibauer Bus Co. Opposes Granting Franchise to The Larrisey Lines.

“Effective Monday, June 25, the following Bristol Barbers will close every night at 7 p.m. (except Fridays - open to 9 p.m.). Closed all day Wednesday. D.A. NOCITO, HOLLYWOOD BARBER SHOP, NICK MANNHERZ, JOHN NOCITO, JOSEPH BORNICE, JAMES WHYNO, FRANK DELIA.”

6/25 - - BRACKEN POST CORPS WINS FIRST HONORS. Bristol Group Places First in Competition at Reading. Gets Several Awards.

“ST. JOHN TERRELL’S MUSIC CIRCUS, Lambertville, New Jersey. June 26 through July 1. “Die Fledermaus” (new Metropolitan Opera version). Tickets 90¢ to \$3.60, incl. tax.”

6/27 - - AEROMODELEERS WIN FIVE MAJOR EVENTS. Bristol Aeromodelers competed Sunday at a large model aircraft speed and stunt contest at Wilmington, Delaware. Among other awards, James VanSant won first place in the Class A senior speed event.

6/29 - - S.P.C.A. REPORTS ON ITS RECENT ACTIVITIES. The Bristol branch of the Bucks County S.P.C.A. met at the residence of Mrs. William Harding, 905 Garden Street, and heard reports of the work of the Branch. 9 Dogs, 16 cats and 2 raccoons were destroyed. 7 Dogs and 15 cats were taken to the shelter at Lahaska.

THREE NEW AREAS TO BE INCLUDED IN DIRECTORY. Winder Village, Edgely and Bath Addition Will Be Added to the 1951-52 edition of the Bristol City Directory.

6/30 - - “BLUE CROSS’ OPENS BRANCH OFFICE HERE. A new branch office of the Associated Hospital Service of Philadelphia, Southeastern Pennsylvania’s Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans, was formally opened here Friday. A brief tape-cutting ceremony was held at the new office in the Grand Theatre building, Mill Street and Highway.

“WANTED. Young Men between the Ages of 21 to 35 to Learn Plastering. Steady Work. BRICKFORM, 911 Wood Street.”

“Attention Members: St. Ann’s A.A. Saturday and Sunday Evenings, for Your Dancing Pleasure. 3 Chaps and a Chick. Healthfully Air Conditioned.”

Fifties), “The Sweetest Sounds” - (An evening with Richard Rodgers & friends), and “Lights Up on Broadway” - (An evening of Broadway favorites).

Now would be a good time to start making plans to attend these quality offerings. BRT phone for questions or ticket purchases is 215 785-0100.

Bristol Lions Summer Concerts - 2011

Bristol Lions Park, Bristol, PA - All concerts start at 6:00 PM

June 5, 2011 . . . Three Hour Tour Band
June 12, 2011 . . . Special Blend Band
June 19, 2011 . . . Gary Tosti (Garyoke)
July 3, 2011 . . . Society Music Makers Band
July 10, 2011 . . . Doris Simon Swing Band
July 17, 2011 . . . Jay Ded Band
July 31, 2011 R.G. M. Project Band
August 7, 2011 . . . Soundwaves Band

August 21, 2011 . . . First Time Around Band
August 28, 2011 . . . Point Blank Band
September 4, 2011 . . . Tri County Band
September 11, 2011 . . . Bristol Lions Italian Festival
Monday Blues Jazz Orchestra

For Information Contact
George Pizzullo 215 788-2996



Above: The Brooklyn Bridge, with Lower Manhattan in the background.

Below: “Digging in” for Grimaldi’s famous Neopolitan style pizza.



Last Stop - Villabate Alba - to purchase some Italian sweets for home.



“A Slice of Brooklyn Pizza” Tour Wednesday, April 27

Right: Tony Muia, owner & operator of the Brooklyn tour, directs attention to the bridge.



Above: One of the homes that will be decorated when we do the “Christmas Lights Tour,” December 13

Left: 2nd pizza stop - L&B Spumoni Gardens - for Sicilian style “pie”

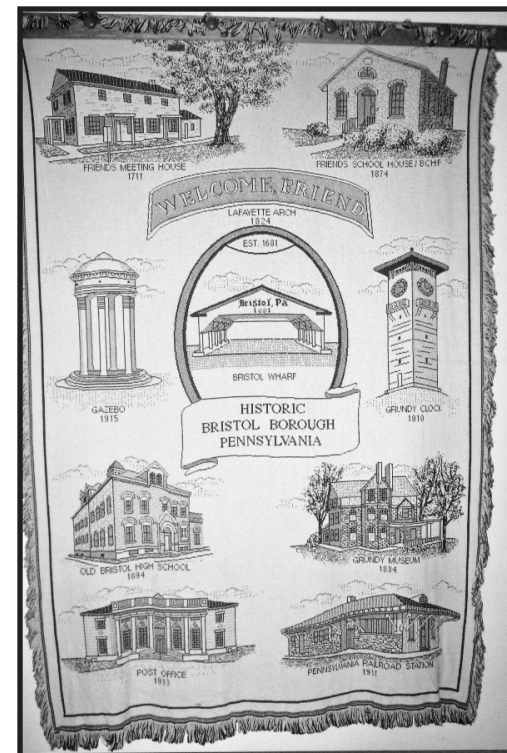
Below: One of Coney Island’s landmarks - Original Nathan’s



Do You Have a Throw?

As the autumn season approaches, when our thoughts often turn to “Holiday Gifts”, BCHF is suggesting the Historic Throw of Bristol. This quality fabric of 100% cotton manufactured in North Carolina is available in three colors - Navy, Cranberry and Forest Green. The price remains at \$35. On the Throw are pictured ten historic images in the Borough of Bristol. Included are the Quaker Meeting House - 1711, Gazebo in the Canal Lagoon - 1915, Old Bristol High School - 1894, U.S. Post Office - 1913, Pennsylvania Railroad Station - 1911, Grundy Museum - 1834, Grundy Clock Tower - 1910, Friends’ School House (BCHF headquarters) - 1874, Bristol Wharf - 1681, and the WELCOME FRIEND Arch) 1824.

For sale at two Bristol locations, Great ID’s By Ann at Radcliffe and Mulberry Sts. and at Mignoni Jewelry Store at 200 Mill St. It will also be for sale at the BCHF table on June 26th at the Celtic Festival and on September 11th at the Italian Festival and Historic Bristol Day, October 15th at the Ways and Means table. For purchases at other times, please call BCHF headquarters 215 781-9895, leave a message and Susan Swift will return the call as soon as possible.



An Interesting Assessor’s Report

An article in the April 17, 1879 “Bucks County Gazette”, published in Bristol, stated that the report from the assessor of the 2nd Ward (a political division of Bristol) was as follows: There were 322 houses, and those dwellings were occupied by 271 males over 21 years of age, 306 women and 673 children. Within the ward were 23 horses, 7 cows, 9 pleasure carriages and 7 gold watches. To this writer, the most fascinating item on this list are the gold watches. The assessor for the Second Ward was Joseph S. Peirce, a son of Cyrus and Ruth Peirce. He was one of thirteen children (6 sons and 7 daughters). The family were very devout Quakers and were very much involved in the Abolition Movement. The family home in Bristol was the former St. Mark Convent at 921 Radcliffe Street which also included land back to the canal.

Joseph S. Peirce was born in a house on Arch Street (Philadelphia) next to the home of the American heroine Betsy Ross. His education was in Philadelphia and also at Byberry which was part of Bucks County then; now it is part of Philadelphia County.

Joseph left Pennsylvania for a short time to find employment in Maryland. In 1851, he returned to Bristol where his parents and siblings resided. In his younger years of employment in Bristol, he worked at a forge on Buckley Street. (For those living in Bristol prior to 1960, there was a bridge over the canal on Beaver Street called the “Forge” Bridge. It was great when covered with snow for those wanting to sled

down a hill.)

Mr. Peirce was an active agent of the Underground Railroad, as were other members of the Peirce family. (Readers are reminded that the Underground Railroad was a “secret organization” to supply help to slaves attempting to flee from the United States to Canada where slavery had been outlawed. The Underground Railroad was not under the soil.)

There is an interesting story where Joseph helped a Captain Dangerfield from Philadelphia, who was an escaped slave and had mysteriously disappeared. The slave was sheltered in Joseph’s home on the night of his disappearance. At midnight Mr. Peirce rowed the slave across the Delaware River to Burlington. Together they took the “Owl” train south to Camden from Burlington. The slave and Mr. Peirce met another agent who relieved Mr. Peirce of his duty and the Quaker returned to Bristol.

Shortly after the Civil War ended, Joseph Peirce traveled to the oil-well region of northwestern Pennsylvania but he returned in 1868 to join his brothers, Charles and Joshua, to form the firm of Peirce Brothers known as the Bristol Improvement Company. This firm divided the former Cyrus Peirce farm above Lafayette Street into lots and financed and influenced new manufacturing firms to locate in the Borough of Bristol. The Grundy Co. was the first of the manufacturers to relocate in Bristol. This was the year of the Centennial anniversary of the U.S. in 1876.

2011 B.C.H.F. Membership

The following individuals, families and businesses have joined the Bristol Cultural and Historical Foundation as members for the year 2011. If your name does not appear below, and you would like to continue to support the work of the Foundation, you may join now using the coupon at the bottom of this page. Additional members will be noted in our September newsletter.

Donna Albright	Linda M. Griggs	Mary McIlvain	Catherine Smoyer
Russell P. Angermann, esq.	Elisabeth Halpert	George & Dorothy McMurtry	Leonard & Danielle Snyder
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C. Graff	Jeanine Hillesland	Pauline Napoli	Sidney Taylor
Tom & Lois Campbell	M.C. Hirsch	Sheree Napoli	Richard L. Tosti
Sarah E. Carter	Lorraine & John Hoffman	John & Gail Nocito	Elizabeth Tosti
Grace Carter	John N. Holman	Dorothy Paglione-Rapp	Elaine Tosti
Anthony & Lois Centafont	Lois Houser	Ruth P. Palmer	Violet Tranter
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Lucile Cronin	Gustav Kaechelin	Barbara A. Pisanick	Shirley Volponi
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Elaine Golak	Dave McGlynn	Mary Ann Smoyer	
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2011 Membership Dues:

Individual \$12.00

Family \$24.00

Business \$50.00

Name:

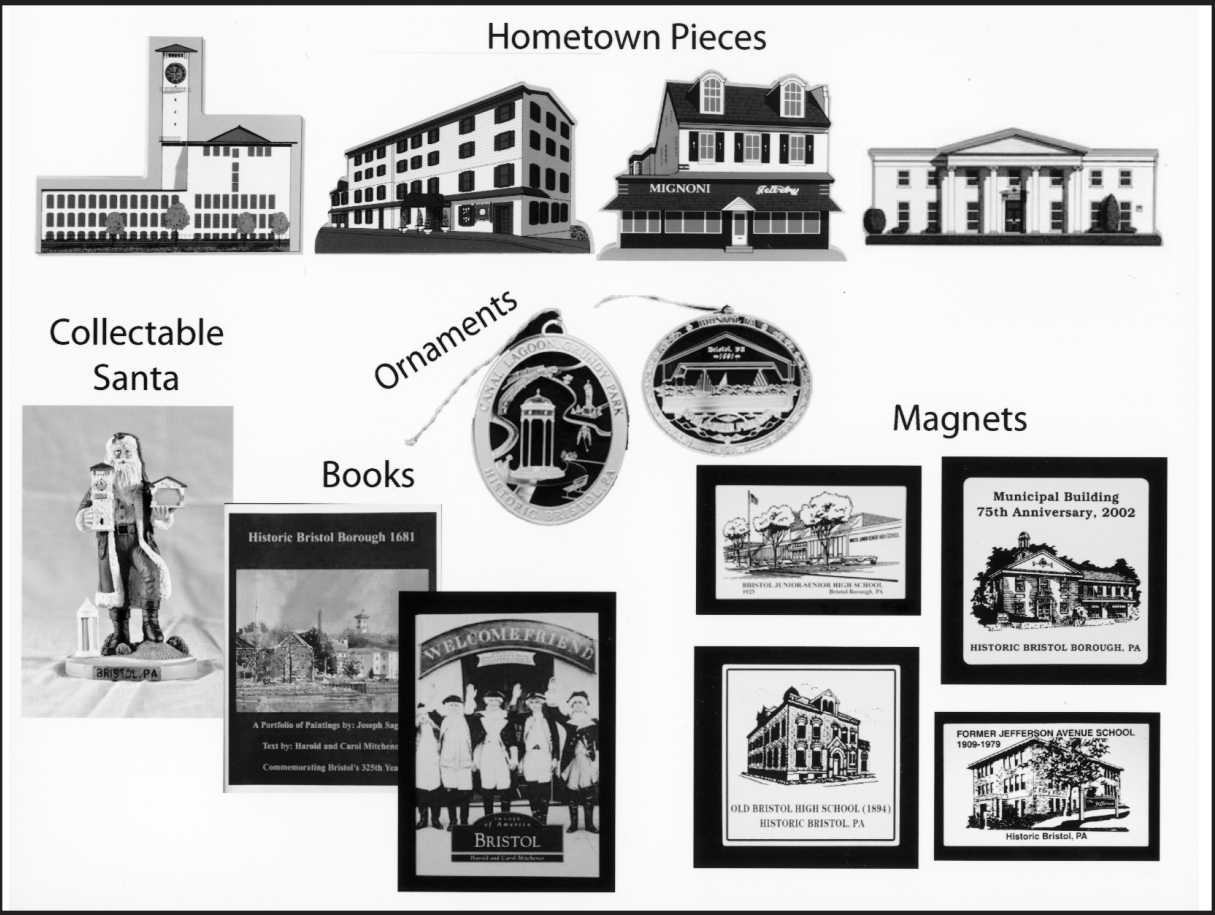
Address:

City

State

Zip

Make check payable to B.C.H. F. Mail to: B.C.H.F., P.O. Box 215, Bristol, PA 19007



George Washington Did Not Sleep Here

In American history, it has always been popular to brag that George Washington “slept here” when talking about various historic buildings. Some historians comment that it would have been impossible for the Father of Our Nation to have slept in all of the properties mentioned.

Here in Bucks County when the Continental Army had escaped across the Delaware River from New York City and New Jersey, it is documented that Washington used numerous Bucks County dwellings as “headquarters”. In the year 1776, prior to the famous Christmas night crossing which brought defeat of the British and Hessian troops at the Battle of Trenton, multiple sites were used.

Both armies would secure private houses for the use of their top officers to serve as headquarters in the planning of the battles. It was particularly important in winter, as that season was a time for planning and

regrouping of the troops.

On River Road in Lumberville, beginning in the 1740’s, a hotel stood to welcome travelers. The site presently is known as the Black Bass Hotel. When in that area, the American Continental army had tried to seek shelter for their top officers, including George Washington, in this building. The owner, being loyal to the Crown, refused to have Washington and his Continental officers as guests. Naturally there were other houses in Bucks County that readily welcomed the commander of the army.

It is interesting to note that when U.S. President Grover Cleveland (1837 - 1908), whose grave is in Princeton, New Jersey, was serving as our 22nd and 24th President (1885 - 1889 and 1893 - 1897), he stayed numerous times at this very hotel while enjoying fishing in the area.

Assessor’s Report . . .

Continued From Page 3

Joseph S. Peirce also conducted a coal business in town and he was succeeded by his son, E.M. Peirce in

1888. Beginning in 1902, Joseph lived with his son on Radcliffe Street.

Joseph actually died in Worcester, Massachusetts at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Edith Getchell. The date of his death was April 24, 1911.