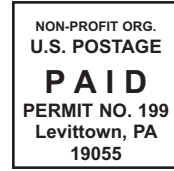




**Bristol Cultural &
Historical Foundation, Inc.**
Post Office Box 215
Bristol, PA 19007

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The Gazette



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No. 6

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Sponsoring Historic Bristol Day - Third Saturday of Each October

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

JUNE 2016

Please, Support the Peach Social on August 4th

The profits from our annual Peach Social are used to provide award money each year for students being graduated from Bristol High School. It is our organization's hope to provide four "Five-hundred dollar" awards at commencement time to four students. Following the mission of our organization, awards are given in "art", "music", "history" and "literature".

Selection is made from the guidance department at Bristol High School and our organization is not involved in the selection of the students.

Our job is to try and raise the funds from our Annual Peach Social. This year's activity will be on Sunday, August 4, 2016 from 2:00 - 4:00 pm. The menu is local New Jersey peaches, vanilla ice cream, angel food cake plus a cold beverage. Cost for this is \$5 per adult and \$3 under the age of 12.

This is served in our air-conditioned headquarters at 321 Cedar Street. Also at this event will be a table where home-baked goods are for sale.

If you are unable to eat your food at our building, we ask that you bring a container for the ice cream, peaches and angel food cake.

Thank you for your support!

BCHF Calendar of Events for 2016

JUNE - Sun., 6/26, noon-5 p.m. BCHF sales & info table at Annual Celtic Day in Lions Park, Bristol Borough. Event sponsored by Celtic Heritage Foundation, 215 788-5232.

AUGUST - Sun., 8/7, 2-4 p.m. Annual Peach Social. Angel food cake topped with fresh peaches & ice cream, plus beverage. Takeouts available with own container. Baked goods table. \$5/adult, \$3 under age 12. BCHF air-conditioned headquarters. **BENEFITS BCHF AWARDS TO BRISTOL HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES.**

SEPTEMBER - Sat., 9/10 (rain date 9/11), noon - 5:00 p.m. BCHF sales & info table at Annual Italian Festival in Lions Park, Bristol Borough. Event sponsored by Bristol Lions Club, www.bristolions.org.

SEPTEMBER - Thurs., 9/29 - Bus trip to Longwood

Gardens followed by High Tea at Hotel DuPont. \$98 BCHF members age 62 & over; \$100 for members under 62. \$101 for non-members age 62 & over; \$103 for non-members under age 62. Reservations were being taken at 215 781-8591 beginning March 14.

OCTOBER - Sat., 10/15, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. 40th Historic Bristol Day. Fee for House Tour & Tea. For details, visit the BCHF's website, www.bristolhistory.org.

NOVEMBER - Wed., 11/16, 7:30 p.m. BCHF's annual business meeting, incl. election of Board members. Program & refreshments follow. Free. Public is invited. BCHF headquarters. Call 215 781-9895 for info.

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

Bristol Riverside Theater - 2016 Performances

Phone 215 785-0100 for information about their summer shows

THE GAZETTE is a publication of the Bristol Cultural and Historical Foundation, Inc. - Harold Mitchener, Editor
Post Office Box 215 • Bristol • Pennsylvania • 19007 • 215 781-9895 • www.bristolhistory.org
Articles for this issue of *THE GAZETTE* were contributed by: Helen Younglove, Jan Ruano,
Kathy Barniskis, Harold Mitchener and Nancy Maren
Photography by Carol Mitchener, Helen Younglove and Jan Ruano

President's Corner

I know you enjoy receiving and reading the Gazette. The next issue will be forthcoming in September. It gives all the hard workers a few months to relax before gearing up for another ten issues.

It takes a lot of volunteers to make this happen as it has for over thirty-five years. During that time Harold Mitchener has served as editor. That is a remarkable accomplishment. Of course, many other people are involved in the tasks needed to publish and distribute the Gazette to you. There is research, writing, photographing, typing, layout, printing, collating and mailing in order to put the Gazette in your hands.

Carol Mitchener, Helen Younglove and Harold do most of the research and writing of articles. Helen does most of the photography that accompanies the articles.

Historical photos often come from the Grundy Library.

Carol does all of the initial proofreading of the articles before they are taken to Nancy Maren who does the set-

up and typing. After another proofreading it is taken to the printer.

The copies then have to be picked up and delivered to Mary Kehoe for folding and placing of stickers and mailing labels. Mary is helped do these tasks by her sister Jody and Lucy Papotto. Nancy Maren provides the mailing labels.

Pauline Michalski then takes the box of over two hundred issues to the post office for mailing.

For the sake of brevity I have skipped a few steps in the process, but you can see that it takes dedicated people to make this happen, especially for the length of time the Gazette has been published. A hearty thank you to all involved in this most important part of our organization.

There are several years of back issues included on our web site www.bristolhistory.org They serve not only as a conduit for historical information but also as history of our organization.

I wish you all an enjoyable summer. Look for your next issue in September.

Jan Ruano

List of 2016 members in this issue. If you do not see your name listed, you can send in your membership dues now. See form on Page 3.

Travel Plans

We regretted having to cancel the planned November 2 bus trip to Harlem, for reasons given in last month's GAZETTE. Our Ways & Means Committee didn't lose any time in investigating possibilities for 2017, including an 3-day/2-night trip to New York's Hudson Valley in late June, a crab feast & guided bus tour of Baltimore in early May, and a bus trip to Philadelphia featuring a "Taste of Philly Food" tour of the Reading Terminal, a guided tour of the U.S. Mint and the magnificent Masonic Temple in late September. Since there is no GAZETTE in the months of July and August, it is hoped that we'll have definite information to share with our readers in the September issue.

In the meantime, we hope you'll give serious consideration to signing up for our September 29 bus trip to

Longwood Gardens, followed by High Tea at the Hotel duPont in Wilmington, DE. Details and a reservation form may be obtained from Sue Watkins at 215 781-8591. Reservations will close on August 26 unless the trip has sold out before then.

As mentioned in the February GAZETTE, the Advisory Committee of St. Mark School, Bristol, is sponsoring an Eastern Caribbean Cruise aboard the transatlantic liner Queen Mary 2, November 26 to December 8. The vessel will make stops at St. Thomas, St. Kitts, Dominica, St. Maarten and Tortola. Rates start at \$2263 per person, double occupancy. Reservations close on July 28. For further information, contact Helen Younglove at 215 788-9408.

Annual Peach Social - Sunday, August 7th Save The Date!

Juicy sliced peaches mounded on angel food cake topped with yummy vanilla ice cream - doesn't 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 2 to 4 PM for this tasty summer dessert. If you like, take outs are available. (Bring a good-sized container!) A baked goods table featuring peachy delights will be on sale, as well. Adults \$5.00

Children under 12 - \$3.00

Stroll along beautiful Radcliffe Street before or after our event using one of our self-guided walking tour brochures.

[The Peach Social benefits awards given to the Bristol High School Graduates.](#)



A Note From Ways & Means . . . COMING EVENTS Please help out by volunteering your time.



Volunteers are needed to help at our saleable table on Celtic Day, Sunday, June 26th. We participate that day from 11:00 to 5:00 and meet under the wharf to sell our BCHF items. We will be selling chances for the Historic Bristol Day picture, a watercolor by local artist, Joseph Sagolla. The time slots are: 12:00 - 2:30 (includes setting up), and 2:30 - 5:00 (includes packing up). Please let Kathy Barniskis know if you can help for an entire time slot or even part of one. 215 943-0258 or . . .

Your help is needed at the Peach Social. If you can come to slice peaches Sunday, Aug. 7th for the social, we get started that morning at about 11:00 - our desserts are really fresh! (Bring a paring knife and cutting board.)

You can volunteer to scoop ice cream, plate up the desserts, serve them, man the beverage table, sell the baked goods and, of course, help to clean up. You can offer help any time between 2-4.

Again, please call Kathy Barniskis, using the info above or Debbie Pinney, chairperson for this event, at 215 788-7537 or . . .

We can use baked goods donations to sell that Sunday, also. They can be dropped off any time after 11:00 on that Sunday. Of course we prefer peach treats, but any pre-wrapped baked good such as muffins, cupcakes, brownies, bread loaves, cookies, or pies will be greatly appreciated. PLEASE no dessert that needs refrigeration. Again, call Debbie or Kathy.

SAVE the DAY! Coming this fall - Historic Bristol Day.

Ways & Means members, Sue Ligato and Kathy Barniskis will be chairing the Volunteer Committee for Historic Bristol Day, Saturday, Oct. 15th from 10 - 4. Help is needed to man ticket tables, welcome visitors to our homes and exhibits that will be open this year, etc. and, of course, help at our BCHF sale table.

JOIN US

Help out and meet some of our friendly hard-working Ways & Means members. It's a good way to "get your feet wet" and see if you'd like to join our committee. The next meeting is on Monday, June 20th at 7:00 at the BCHF headquarters on Cedar Street.

Look for our table at the Canal Festival at the lagoon on June 17th and on each First Friday of the summer months on Mill Street.



Our 2016 raffle picture painted by Joe Sagolla

Out Of The Past

The following items were excerpted from **JUNE 1936** issues of THE BRISTOL COURIER. Price 2¢ a copy; 6¢ a week.

6/1 - -MISS TRACY GIVES RECITAL TONIGHT. Songs, Dances Galore. Pupils of Miss Winifred V. Tracy will present their annual recital this evening in Mutual Aid Hall, Wood Street, Bristol.

WILLIAM E. POPE ORDAINED AT CATHEDRAL IN PHILA. The Rev. William E. Pope, son of Mr. and Mrs. Firman Pope, Linden Street, was ordained in the Cathedral of Sts. Peter and Paul, Philadelphia, on Saturday. Father Pope sang his first solemn High Mass at the 11 o'clock service in St. Mark's Catholic Church, yesterday, before a large congregation.

"ANNOUNCEMENT. Commencing today, the Coal and Building Material business of the Artesian Products Company, Inc., will be conducted by the new firm of Seyfert and Case, trading under the name of The Artesian Coal Company."

6/3 - - SENDS GREETINGS HERE IN THE GIANT QUEEN MARY. On its maiden voyage across the Atlantic Ocean to New York City, the S.S. Queen Mary, the new giant of the waves, bore a message and greeting of goodwill to the Burgess and residents of Bristol, Pa., from the Lord Mayor and people of the city in Great Britain, for which this municipality was named.

YOUNG PEOPLE TO CONDUCT UNION SERVICE OF WORSHIP. The various young peoples' organizations of the churches of Bristol have decided to unite and form a friendship among the church members. Every Sunday night, the services are to be led by the organization of the church in which the union service is held and are to last three-quarters of an hour.

6/5 - - DORRIS SUTTON, MORRIS CARTER RECEIVE MEDALS. Two students of the eighth grade of Bristol High School were recipients of American Legion medals for courage, character, companionship, service, scholarship and other attributes, when the eighth grade held an assembly period in the high school library yesterday afternoon. The recipients were Doris Sutton and Morris Carter.

"Meats of Distinctive Quality. Fancy Sirloin Steak - 45¢Lb. Loin Veal Chops - 38¢Lb. Armour's Star Sliced Bacon - 20¢ 1/2 Lb. Fancy Fresh Eggs, direct from farms in Bristol Twp. - 35¢ Doz. Penn's Manor Asparagus - 25¢ Bunch. JAMES V. LAWLER, 527 Bath St. The house of excellence in Bristol."

6/6 - - TWISTED LIGAMENT STARTED GIRL ATHLETE. Eleanor D. Petrick, Bristol High School athlete, is grateful for a twisted ligament which she suffered two years ago, although she was most unappreciative at the time. That injury in her lower right limb marked the turning point in her athletic career. From it her "foot steps" were led toward the standing broad jump, and today she is unofficially the holder of the women's world record in the broad jump. Her distance - - 8'11-3/4" L.

"Tenth Anniversary! Ten years ago today, The Weed Chevrolet Company was founded at the present location with a small staff of employees with high hopes of success . . . WEED CHEVROLET COMPANY, 1626 Farragut Ave., Bristol."

6/9 - - FAREWELL DINNER FOR THE SENIORS AT ST. ANN'S SCHOOL. A farewell party was tendered the seniors of St. Ann's commercial section by the juniors of that school, Saturday evening. Prizes were awarded to Michael Sionne, Philomena Ferraro, Carl Spinelli and Andrew Cordisco.

73 WILL RECEIVE DIPLOMAS TONIGHT AT BRISTOL HIGH. Genevieve Cherubini and Fred Rondall are honor students who received an average of 90 or better for the four-year period.

6/13 - - 50 PERCENT OF BRISTOL HIGH GRADUATES, CLASS OF 1936, HOPE TO CONTINUE STUDIES.

"The Beavers, 8 Beaver Dam Rd., M. DiTulio, prop . . . Grand

Opening, June 13! Esslinger's Beer. Spaghetti and meatballs and glass of beer - 25¢ . Good music. Fine dance floor."

"Houses for Sale. Buy now at your own price. Special to veterans. Mill St. property - \$4000. McKinley St. bungalow - \$1600. Chas. LaPolla, 1418 Farragut Ave."

6/15 - - CLASS OF NINE GRADUATES IN COMMERCIAL CLASS, ST. MARK'S SCHOOL. The Christian Doctrine medal was received by Rita Dolan, while the American Legion medals were bestowed upon Anna McManus and Walter Smith.

POST OFFICE TO BE OPEN TONIGHT; BONUS MAIL. The Bristol Post Office will remain open until 9 o'clock tonight for the handling of the bonus mail for the ex-servicemen. Members of the Robert W. Bracken Post, No. 382, American Legion, will be present to identify those veterans who are not known to the post office clerks.

6/19 - - LEGION CADETS TO GO ON AIR SUNDAY AFTER-NOON. The American Legion Cadets are going to broadcast Sunday afternoon from 5 to 5:30 p.m. from Station WIBG. The broadcast will be part of the Americanism program of the 9th District, American Legion. The program will include the "9th District American Legion March" and the "Bracken Post Cadet March," both composed by Charles Brodie.

PIEO, PRIDE OF BRISTOL HIGH SCHOOL, PLACES 2nd IN NATIONAL ROPE CLIMB. Roman Piao lost the national title for the 25-foot rope climb in New York City, last evening, by one-tenth of a second.

"Going Out-of-Business Sale! STEINBERG'S 213 Mill St . . . Ladies Attractive Silk Frocks - \$1.88 and \$2.88. Undies, Step-ins, Bloomers - 12¢ Up. New Cotton Wash Frocks - 44¢ Up. Boys Linen Knickers - 39¢ . Boys Summer Suits - 19¢ . Children's Unionsuits - 14¢ ."

"Real Bonus in Modern Furniture! 10-pc. Dining Room Suite in striped walnut with contrasting panels of quilted maple - regularly priced at \$169.50, now \$139.50. 7-pc. Bedroom suite done in Australian walnut, blistered maple and zebra wood - regularly \$149.50, now \$119.50. SPENCERS, Mill Street near the river."

6/26 - - WPA WILL SPONSOR THREE PLAYGROUNDS IN SECTION. Sponsored by the Works Progress Administration, three playgrounds will open in this area on Monday, designed to provide supervised play for both children and adults. The playgrounds will be located at the Bristol High School field, Leedom's field and at Croydon, and will be operated daily, except Saturday and Sunday, during July and August. The playgrounds will be in charge of Michael DeRisi.

HIBERNIANS SET MARK FOR CONSECUTIVE WINS. The Hibernians broke the Bristol Twilight League record for consecutive victories when they won the 14th straight game last night on Leedom's field.

"MANERA'S CAFE, 423 Mill St . . . Hot Dog and Sauerkraut - 5¢ . Pitcher of Beer, served at the table - 25¢ . Real Italian spaghetti every day."

"O'BOYLE'S ICE CREAM. Largest Cone in Town - 5¢ . Jumbo Ice Cream Soda - 10¢ . Milk Shake with Ice Cream -10¢ . Double Dip Sundae with Whipped Cream - 15¢ . Delivered to your door by our yellow trucks."

6/30 - - 1936 STUDEBAKER COUPE. World's only car with automatic Hill Holder. World's largest one-piece top of solid steel. World's roomiest coupe rear deck. World's only car styled by great woman designer. 24.27 miles per gallon. \$29.50 a month after low down payment. TORANO & MASSIELO, 912 Pond St."

"POPKINS SHOES, 418 Mill St . . . Headquarters for Keds. Keds Shortstop - 89¢ . Keds Stride - \$1.19."

What Is A “Gandy Dancer”?

When BCHF sponsored a bus tour to Pittsburgh in May, member Alan Vogenberg saw a word on a sign outside of a former train station that is now part of a complex of restaurants and shops. Alan pointed to the word and this writer did not know of its meaning. He said that Mr. Jones, who lived on Race Street in Bristol was a “Gandy Dancer”. This writer knew of whom he spoke and then researched the information in this article.

“Gandy Dancer” is a slang term used for early railroad workers who would lay and maintain railroad tracks in the years before the work was done by machines.

In the U.S., early section crews were often made up of recent immigrants and ethnic minorities, who vied for steady work despite poor wages and working conditions and hard physical labor. The Chinese, Mexican Americans, and Native Americans in the West, the Irish in the Northeast all worked as gandy dancers.

There are various theories about the derivation of the term, but most refer to the “dancing” movements of the workers using a specially manufactured 5 foot “lining” bar, which came to be called a “gandy”, as a lever to keep the tracks in alignment.

Others have suggested that the term “gandy dancer” was coined to describe the movements of the workers themselves, i.e., the constant “dancing” motion of the track workers as they lunged against their tools in unison to nudge the rails, often timed by a chant as they carried rails, or speculatively, as they waddled like ganders while running on the railroad ties.

In popular culture, there was a song called “Gandy Dancers Ball” recorded by Frankie Laine in 1951, but with gandy dancers as actual dancers at a railroad workers’ ball. Laine sang it with a chorus of dancers in the 1955 comedy film “Bring Your Smile Along”.

It Was “A Lovely Spring Tea”

Comments received from attendees at BCHF’s 21st Annual Tea verified that the affair lived up to its theme of “A Lovely Spring Tea.” Chairperson Kathy Barniskis and her dedicated committee carried out the theme through the table settings, window ledge decor, door prizes, and the program.



Above: A basket containing an assortment of teas and related items was raffled and won by Margaret Wentz, a long time member of BCHF.



Right: Attendees enjoyed the afternoon’s camaraderie and festivity and, upon exiting, remarked “see you next year!”.

Left: Each place setting was named for a flower and a pretty napkin enfolded a packet of Burpee seeds. This was the “Cosmos” table. In the center of every table was a vase filled with Hershey Kisses masqueraded as rosebuds.



Lincoln . . . continued from page 4

gone but there were some pieces of the red from the flag on his chest. It was also reported that the places on his head where the bullet from John Wilkes Booth’s gun had entered his body could be seen.

To make sure that his casket would never be stolen again, Lincoln, his wife Mary and their son that had accompanied his father on the train, had their caskets placed in a hole in the ground inside of the tomb; concrete was poured all around their caskets and allowed to dry. They then placed a stone floor over this. There is an empty stone box marking the site of their graves.

President Lincoln was elected two times and it was from the State Capital of Springfield that he departed for his first inauguration. Mr. Lincoln never returned to Springfield while alive after he departed in 1861.

One of the very popular tourist stops in Springfield is Lincoln’s house

Lincoln was our sixteenth President. He followed James Buchanan from Pennsylvania, who was a member of the Democratic Party and our 15th President. Lincoln was the first Republican President. Andrew Johnson, who had been born in North Carolina was Lincoln’s Vice President. Johnson became our 17th President.

Two of Lincoln’s greatest achievements are the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, and his leadership in guiding the nation to the surrender of General Lee at Appomattox, VA April 14th 1865.

Mr. Lincoln is given credit for saving the nation when it was about to separate in the American Civil War. A likeness of his head is on the U.S. Penny.

2016 B.C.H.F. Membership

The following individuals, families and businesses have joined the Bristol Cultural and Historical Foundation as members for the year 2016. 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.

Andrew V. Accardi	Barbara Fordham	Rita Marie Mathias	Alyssa O’Brien & Sean Smith
Jose L. Acevedo	Barbara & Ernie Freer	Gerry & Catherine McCarry	Clara & Karen Smith
Michael Albertson	Pamela Gadsby	Donald & Donna McCloskey	Mary Ann Smoyer
Donna Albright	Monica Gallagher	Dave McGlynn	Joyce & Howard Smoyer
Russell & Pauline Angermann	Mary, Mark & Christina Gesualdi	Regina McHugh	Gloria L. Snyder
Luke & Mary Antonelli	Miss Anna Louise Getz	Mary McIlvain	Leonard & Danielle Snyder
Irene Arhipov	Joseph M. Gilardi	Pauline E. Michalski	Mr. & Mrs. Joseph J. Stallone
Mary Frances Asta	Timmy & Liz Giranda	Mary Lou Middlekauff	Alan C. Stoneback
Kathleen & Andrew Barniskis	J. Ruano & C. Graff	Marilyn L. Milbourne	Paul Sullivan
Lillian Mitchener Bauserman	Gene & Barbara Gregory	Harold & Carol Mitchener	Jane Sutton & Maryann Lautt
Debbie Bidlingmaier	Linda M. Griggs	Lillian S. Mitchener	Paul & Veronica Swift
Samuel W. Black	Elisabeth Halpert	Gloria & Ed Mittleman	Marie E. Swistak
Dianne Bohrer	Mr. & Mrs. David M. Harris	Fr. Dennis Mooney	Andrew & Joyce Thompson
Patricia A. Bosco	Tom & Pat Harris	Paul Moore	Elaine Tosti
Delores Brown	Andrea Harvie	Mary Jane & Isadore Morici	Elizabeth & Bob Tosti
Bill and Pat Buchanan	Arlene Hausmann	Sheree Napoli	Jeannine VanBuren
Mrs. Lucy Butterworth	Edward F. & Catherine Hickey	John & Gail Nocito	Regina Vasey
Grace Carter	Jeanine Hillesland	Thomas & Eleanor O’Reilly	Nancy & Lisa Vasey
Dawn Casmirri	Nancy Hodgkiss	Michael Olszewski	Ron & Jane Vattimo
Bill & Rose Cattani	Lorraine Hoffman	Dorothy Paglione-Rapp	Alan & Audrey Vogenberg
Anthony & Lois Centafont	Beverly Howley	Mike & Virginia Paleafico	Shirley Volponi
J. Cianciosi	Mr. & Mrs. James B. Humphreys	Jane Paone	Joan Wagner
Ann & Nelson Clements	George Jacoby	Phyllis Pavone	Jesse & Stephanie Walker
Geraldine & Dr. Frances Cole	Nancy Jenca	Mary Petrone	Veronica Ronnie Walker
Howard J. Collier	Donna Jenkinson	Kay Phillips	Mr. & Mrs. Ted Walp
Joan Cordek	Lynda Johnson	Deborah F. Pinney	Marion M. Walter
Alice & Vincent Cordisco	Dee Kaspeitis	Arnold Porter	William & Susan Watkins
Anthony Costantini	Mary & Jody Kehoe	Marie Progin	Barbara Weir
Dorothy Cusano	Clarence King	Johanna Raines	Margaret R. Wentz
Joseph & Jeanne D’Emidio	Tom & Diane King Sr.	Angelo & Melinda Ratini	Pauline White
Phyllis Debnarik	Rosemarie Kirby	Helen B. Raymond	Vernon Wiegand Jr.
Ellanna L. Delaney	Sandra Klug	Janice Rhodes	Helen Younglove
Beth Delaney	Ralph & Jo Lalli	Nancy Riccio	
Francis T. Delia	Albert & Sharon Lalli	Nicholas A. Rizzo	Business & Community
Joanne Delia	Barbara Anne LaRosa	John & Mary Anne Roche	Members
Ginny DiMaggio	Joe & Anna Larrisey	Mrs. Betty Rodgers	Bertucci Maren Associates
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Fidel Esposito	Ms. Jean K. Lowden	Yvonne P. Sampsel	Mothers & Others
Wm. & Pat Esposito	Maryanne Lucenti	Gloria L. Seacrist	St. James Episcopal Church
Immy & Phil Ferrara	JoAnn Maguire	Catherine M. Severi	St. Mark Catholic Church
Pauline Flacco	Gerri Walker & Joe Mancini	Dr. Thomas F. Shaffer	White Monument Co.
Marion S. Flood	Roberta Marino	Deb Shields	
Sonia & John Foderaro	Dawn & Don Martin	Josette Mazzanti Sierputoski	

2016 Membership Form

2014 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

A Replica of Abraham Lincoln's Casket was on Display in 2 Places in Bristol Twp.

The display was at the Galzarano Funeral Home on Oxford Valley Road in Bristol Township and the second place was at the Senior Citizens' Building in Bristol Township on Bath Road.

What made this display so important to Bristol area people was that Abraham Lincoln's Funeral Train passed through Bristol Borough when the Pennsylvania Railroad tracks were on street level in the Pond Street area. This is across from the Bristol Borough Municipal Building at Pond and Mulberry Streets. The Funeral Train was tracing the path that the train from Washington, D.C. to the cemetery in Springfield, IL took when Lincoln was assassinated in Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C. in April of 1965.

A train in which the President-elect traveled to his first inauguration stopped in Bristol to greet the many people who had gathered at the railroad's passenger station area. In Bristol there is a blue and gold sign marking the area where Mr. Lincoln spoke to the people who had gathered there. In the group were children and their teachers from the two schools that were in Bristol. At that time one of the schools was on Wood Street (1837) and the other was on Otter Street (1852). this was February 21, 1861.

Presidential inaugurations, at that time, were in March. (The 20th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, passed in 1933, [Section 1], provided for the President and Vice President to have their inaugurations at noon on the 20th day of January following their election in November.)

The funeral train moved very slowly and the cars were draped in black. There was a picture of Lincoln on the outside of the train. The funeral train passed through Bristol at 5:20 a.m. The bell that was in the old Town Hall at the intersection of Radcliffe and Market Streets tolled very slowly. That bell is presently located on the lawn of the Municipal Building at Mulberry and Pond Streets.



Far Left: The funeral procession of President Lincoln passes through New York City. Sixteen horses draped in silver-trimmed cloth with ostrich plumes pulled the funeral car.

Below: A replica of President Lincoln's casket recently displayed in Bristol Township.

Lower left: Supporters turn out to back Lincoln at a rally in his hometown of Springfield, Illinois



First Lady Mary Lincoln did not travel to Springfield for the burial. She remained in the White House in Washington, D.C. Her only living son, Robert Lincoln, did accompany the casket. In the same car was his brother who had died in Washington, D.C. of a disease several years before.

Mrs. Lincoln originally did not want the dead president buried in Illinois. She wanted him buried under the Capital dome. To convince her to have her husband's body interred in Springfield, she agreed to have her previously deceased son taken along with his father and the two would be buried adjacent to each other in the Springfield Cemetery.

Because the trip in the funeral train would be long, the train carried an undertaker who knew how to prepare bodies for burial. At many of the stops the casket was opened and official people were allowed to pay their respects.

In major cities like New York City, Buffalo etc., the casket was taken from the train and there were special parades for mourners. There were several places where the wagon carrying the casket would stop and the casket would be taken into a building where people could line up and go in and pay their respects.

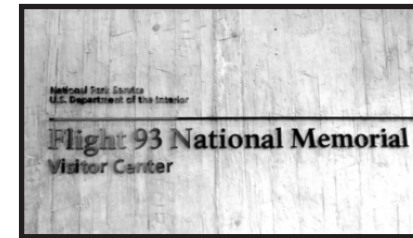
All along the route, especially in rural areas in the evening, there would be people gathering along the tracks and in some areas bonfires would be lit.

When Lincoln first arrived at the cemetery in Springfield, he was placed in a temporary tomb. It was here that a group of men from Chicago robbed the casket and took it several places in hiding. This was done to try and gain money for his body. Finally, they found the casket. It was opened and the body was identified by his son Robert. It was reported that the body was so well preserved that only the eyebrows had disintegrated.

The flag that had been placed on his body was mostly

Continued on page 6

"Pittsburgh Express" Bus Trip - - May 18-20, 2016



First stop was at the Flight 93 National Memorial in Somerset County, PA



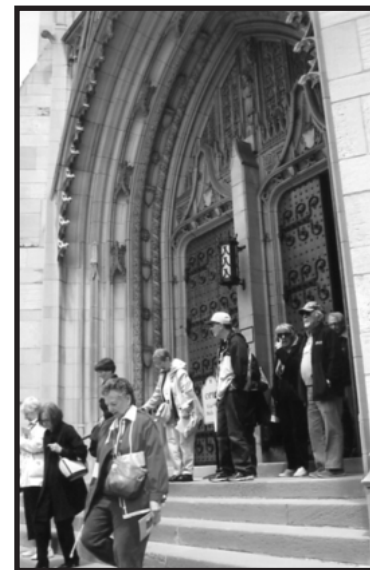
Left: Next was a sight-seeing cruise aboard a Gateway Clipper boat.

Below: Below: Dennis & Carmen Parr (rt.) and their friends at the welcome dinner in the Grand Concourse of the restored P & LE Train Station at Station Square, on the banks of the Monongahela River.



Above: The Pittsburgh skyline

Right: Leaving the Heinz Memorial Chapel on the University of Pittsburgh's campus, after viewing its magnificent stained glass windows.



Left: The University of Pittsburgh's monumental Cathedral of Learning.

Below: Day 3 featured a stop in Mill Run, PA, for lunch and a tour of "Fallingwater," one of Frank Lloyd Wright's most widely acclaimed architectural works.



Left: A self-guided tour of the Phipps Conservatory & Botanical Gardens and lunch in the Cafe preceded a family-style dinner at Buca di Beppo at Station Square

