



BRISTOL HISTORICAL SOCIETY
SPRING NEWSLETTER
Vol. 4; Issue 1 - March, 2019 - May, 2019

From the President's Desk

As I write this message, we are just one month away from the start of the spring season at the Bristol Historical Society.

Last year I started my message as follows:

"Back in April 1971 BHS began renovations on this historic building making it safe for the public to visit. Today, 47 years later we are still renovating. This time the renovation is an internal one. Renovations should be completed before the end of March. Internally we will still be moving things around looking for that perfect spot. This renovation will allow us to do rotating exhibits which was difficult to do in the past. We were able to store everything inside during the renovation so it will be easier to find the items and relocate them."

We completed the renovation in April and not in March due to the completion of the carpet insulation that covered the downstairs. All renovations were done under budget.

Just before the Winter BHS Newsletter went out, we had a pipe break in the fire sprinkler system in the attic. Yes, we have a service contract on the sprinkler system. We didn't know the extent of the water damage until recently, so it was not reported at that time. This pipe break sent thousands of gallons of water from the attic to the basement. That's four floors of water damage. That has put us back to re-doing some renovation work on the south side of the building on what was already done and hit some new areas that were fine until now. Sections of the attic insulation/flooring will need to be replaced. Two of the storage rooms on the second floor will need to be totally redone (also lost items in these two rooms). On the first floor, the Sports Hall of Fame Museum, The Military Museum, and the Country Store all will need to be remodeled. In the basement the storage room used for our auction and tag sale items also suffered damage and will need to be remodeled. The biggest problem now is finding the water that went into the plaster walls, ceilings, and floors. We need to either repair or replace those walls and ceilings. There are also water problem issues with the new carpet. When I arrived "that Saturday morning" the water in the Gallery Room was over the carpet as I walked in. The water was up to my shoelaces in the Gallery Room, and in the other three rooms and it was also seeping into the Carriage Room, main hallway, and the Event Room. There are many issues that we are facing. Yes, we have insurance but with insurance there are deductibles and things get prorated due to age. The new carpet was only 7 months old. We will keep you posted.

Here's to the next 47 years...Cheers!!!

Bristol Historical Society is a 'living history book' of Bristol's past. We would like to grow and preserve this treasure. We have a grand building in which to grow!

Mike Saman, President

www.bristolhistoricalsociety.org

P.O. Box 1393 / 98 Summer Street
Bristol, CT. 06011-1393/860-583-6309

President:

Mike Saman

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BHS ANNUAL TAG AND BAKE SALE!!

The annual BHS Tag Sale fundraiser will be May 24th & 25th! Tag Sale hours will be 9AM – 2PM both Friday and Saturday. This is Memorial Day Weekend. Any gently used donations would be greatly appreciated. Pickups can be arranged if necessary. Contact Jackie Vigue at 860-944-0738. Last year the bake sale proved to be popular. If you enjoy baking, please consider sending something to share! Items can be brought in Friday after 8am and until 2pm for Saturday. Thank you!

MEMORIAL MILITARY MUSEUM

The Jack Denehy Gallery will be closed for the winter for renovation and installation of new exhibits.

MUSIC AMONG THE MEMORIALS

On Sunday, May 26th at 2PM, there will be a live concert on the Memorial Boulevard in Bristol featuring music from the Revolutionary War through Vietnam.

It will combine both popular home front music and military songs of the day with an emphasis on World War II, the Korean War and Vietnam.

The performance will feature lead singer Wanda Houston who has lived and performed professionally throughout the U.S. and Europe, on Broadway stages, in films, recordings and television. She has worked in varying capacities with Michael Jackson, Barbara Streisand, John Turturro, Eddie Izzard, Natalie Cole, Eartha Kitt, Patti LaBelle, Sam Harris and on the stages of the Pasadena Playhouse, Universal Studios, Radio City Music Hall, Madison Square Garden and Carnegie Hall. Wanda will be accompanied by the Scott Heth quintet.

The concert is a joint presentation of the Bristol Historical Society and Team Bristol and is open to the public. **Admission is free.**

Parking will be allowed on the Memorial Boulevard for easy access to the concert site. Bring your own chair or blanket and **be aware that no food or drinks are allowed.** Enjoy a trip down memory lane as we listen to the music that was popular through the centuries during America's fight for independence and freedom.



Bristol Central High School's Vice Principal stopped by the BHS Store to pick up some Bristol items to gift to host families in Italy, where he and some students will be traveling this Spring.

BRISTOL HISTORICAL SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications for the 2017 Bristol Historical Society Scholarship in the amount of \$750 are accessible in the guidance office of each of the three local high schools OR on the Bristol Historical Society website. Applicants must be legal residents of Bristol who plan to attend a two- or four-year college or university. An interest in pursuing the study of history is preferred but not required. Applicants must have a minimum 3.0/B average for 7 semesters.

Criteria for selection are academic achievement, school or community involvement and an interest in history including the history of Bristol. As part of the application process, applicants are being asked to react to the following statement in a one page essay: *Bristol has had many interesting people, places, organizations and events in its history. Select one to research and describe how your choice has impacted the Bristol community.* Applicants are asked to cite reference material used in their research.

Applicants are asked to email their completed applications to lizph12@sbcglobal.net no later than April 5th. Please give the release form to the guidance secretary after the application has been emailed. Deadline for returning the release forms to the guidance office is also April 5th.

Liz Phelan, Chairperson

COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE

We are in dire need of millinery hat boxes to replace those that were ruined in our recent water pipe damage. Old sheets and blankets would be helpful to protect our portraits in storage.

In addition, our collection needs clothing from the 1950s and 1960s – zoot suit, wide ties, poodle skirt, saddle shoes, etc. Items can be brought to the Society either Wednesdays or Saturdays from 10am – 2pm.

PEWTER ORNAMENTS

There is a limited supply of the Lake Compounce Wild Cat Roller Coaster ornament for 2018 still available for your personal collection or gift giving. You can also find some previous ornaments, also in limited supply, for sale. Ornaments sell for \$12 and are available either Wednesdays or Saturdays 10am – 2pm at BHS.

UP-COMING PROGRAMS

The Adult Coloring Craze continues to meet on the following Friday evenings from 7-9pm: March 15th; April 12th; May 17th; June 21st, July 29th, and August 16th.

THIRD THURSDAY PROGRAMS

Our Third Thursday program is scheduled for March 21st (snow date is March 28th) at 7pm. Al Goodwin, Jim Cleveland and Bernie O'Keefe have put together an interesting program on the Elton Dairy for us.

Colleen Nicastro, Director of Interpretation for the American Clock & Watch Museum, will present her program on the Radium Dial Painters: Their Fatal Brush with Death, on Thursday, April 25th at 7pm. Behind the story of the Clock & Watch industries' success, lies a tragic story of employee sacrifice. For a time, little was known about the toxic working conditions of the young women in the dial painting industry. Their story was eventually heard, but many did not live to see that day. This is a program not to be missed!

The above programs are free to members, and \$5 for non-members.

PRESERVATION WEEK, April 21-27, 2019

In celebration of Preservation Week (April 21-27, 2019) we encourage Bristol residents to come to the Bristol Historical Society on Saturday, April 27th between the hours of 10am – 2pm and bring any items they wish to donate or allow us to copy for our collection. Created by the American Library Association and partner organizations in 2010, Preservation Week raises awareness in the archival community. Memories and treasures should last a lifetime and be passed on. It inspires actions to preserve personal, family and community collections and also raises awareness the role libraries and historical societies play in providing on going preservation and information.

THE BRISTOL SPORTS HALL OF FAME

The Bristol Sports Hall of Fame will host a "Bristol Sports Trivia Night" at the Bristol Historical Society on Thursday, May 2nd 2019. The program will begin at 7pm and is free to the public. Doors will be open at 6:30pm and refreshments will be served. There will also be prizes for the winning teams! Please visit the BSHOF website at www.bshof.org for more details about this fun night or call 860-589-2415.

Bob Kalat, President

THE WITCH'S DUNGEON CLASSIC MOVIE MUSEUM

Coming in March will be our tribute to the films of 1939: the 80th Anniversary. THE MAN IN THE IRON MASK directed by James Whale and starring Louis Hayward & Joan Bennett (on real film) with classic cartoons will be shown on FRIDAY MARCH 22ND AND SATURDAY MARCH 23RD at 7pm at THE BRISTOL HISTORICAL SOCIETY. Donation is \$3.00 per person all ages. Refreshments are also available.

The Witch's Dungeon Classic Movie Museum film series on 1939 Hollywood's Golden Year – 80th Anniversary will continue with a classic movie on real film plus short subjects – once each month, dates to be announced soon.

Check the Witch's Dungeon website for details – www.preservehollywood.org

EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

MARCH, APRIL, MAY, 2019

3/15	Friday	Adult Coloring Craze Party, 7-9pm. \$5.00 pre-paid Registration. Walk-ins welcomed!
3/21	Thursday	Third Thursday program: ELTON DAIRY 7pm. Members free; non-members \$5. (Snow date: Thursday March 28)
3/22	Friday	Movie: "THE MAN IN THE IRON MASK", 7pm
3/23	Saturday	Movie: "THE MAN IN THE IRON MASK", 7pm
4/12	Friday	Adult Coloring Craze Party, 7-9pm. \$5.00 pre-paid Registration. Walk-ins welcomed!
4/25	Thursday	Third Thursday program: RADIUM GIRLS 7pm. Members free; non-members \$5.
4/27	Saturday	Preservation Week Event, 10am – 2pm.
5/16	Thursday	Third Thursday program: HOLLYWOOD GOLDEN AGES, 1939
5/17	Friday	Adult Coloring Craze Party, 7-9pm. \$5.00 pre-paid Registration. Walk-ins welcomed!
5/24	Friday	Tag and Bake Sale, 9am – 2pm
5/25	Saturday	Tag and Bake Sale, 9am – 2pm
5/26	Sunday	Music Among The Memorials, 2pm, Memorial Boulevard
6/5	Wednesday	SAVE THE DATE!! BHS ANNUAL DINNER, Nuchie's
6/26	Wednesday	SAVE THE DATE! Annual Meeting, 6pm.

THE BRISTOL HISTORICAL SOCIETY WINTER EVENTS

On December 2nd, the 12th Annual Holiday Craft Fair attracted many old and new visitors to our building.

They enjoyed crafts, Christmas Boutique items and delicacies from our Bake Sale. This successful annual event is due to the efforts of many volunteers and entails a great deal of advanced planning, advertisement, preparation, and decorating BHS for Christmas. On the day of the fair, it is gratifying to open our doors and welcome visitors to BHS in the spirit of the holidays. The following volunteers deserve recognition for their work and dedication in making this event a success: Bob Adamczyk, Lisa Bell, Maya Bringe, Mary Campbell, John Denslow, Sylvia DuPont, Tom Dickau, Yolande & Dave Fournier, Al and Jane Goodwin, Ken Hintz, Cortlandt Hull & "Yoda", Andrea Kapchensky, Joanne King, Nancy & Lucy Krueger, Lidia Jasinski, Tom LaPorte, Joe Moroczky, Mike Saman, Paula O'Keefe, Pearl O'Rourke, Karen Pescarmona, Lynda Russell, Maureen Sonstrom, Steve Vastola, Ellie Wilson and Noreen Zurell.

As we anticipate the warmer months, please keep BHS in mind when you spring clean. The Christmas Boutique needs donations of gently-used Christmas items for the 2019 Fair. Items can be dropped off on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10am until 2pm. Thank you for your continued support!

On December 27th, Winter Wonderland IV, a post-Christmas event for children, brought over 150 parents and children to BHS

There was an array of fun activities that included: magic shows, face-painting, live art with Cortlandt Hull, vintage cartoons by Cortlandt Hull, craft and science fun, a reading mascot, a sing-a-long, floor games, fire safety, door prizes and free refreshments. Parents were offered tours of the Bristol Room. The following organizations, members and volunteers pitched in to entertain both parents and children: Bob Adamczyk, Barbara Badore, John Bartucca, Debbie Belanger & Family, Lisa Bell, Maya Bringe, Bristol Fire Dept./Fire Inspector Tim Callanan, Bristol Parks Dept., Bristol Public Library, Mary Campbell, Elizabeth Christophy, John Denslow, Tom Dickau, Al & Jane Goodwin (sing-a-long), Jodi Dickson, Cortlandt Hull (advertisement flyer/promotions & "Yoda"), Lidia Jasinski, Andrea Kapchensky, Nancy & Lucy Krueger, Tony & Sherry Leone (Magic), Crystal Maher & Family (face painting), Joe Moroczyk, Paula O'Keefe, Karen Pescrmona, Pat & Murdo Smith, Tom Vaughn, and Noreen Zurell.

Mary Houle and Mike Saman, Winter Wonderland IV Co-Chairs

"BRISTOL 101"

"Bristol 101", our recent fundraiser held on January 17th, brought together famous Bristolites for our guests to interact with. It was a bit like the lantern tours at West Cemetery, but indoors. This well attended event and enthusiastic audience heard Albert Rockwell, portrayed by Bob Adamczyk describe his life, inventions, entrepreneurial skills and his two wives. Albert was a co-founder of New Departure and manufacturer of the 1st ball bearings in the U.S. He donated the land for Rockwell Park and Memorial Boulevard.

Lisa Doyle-Bell, portraying Helen Welch Atkins McKay, was known for running off to Europe to marry a famous clockmaker. Heir to the Welch estate, her magnificent residence, Brightwood Hall, later sold to Albert Rockwell. After his death in 1925 it remained unoccupied until 1928 when it was sold and demolished.

Chauncey Jerome, who owned the largest clock making company in the state, was portrayed by Tom Vaughn. He spoke of how he made and lost his fortune. He was also responsible for the construction of North Main Street because he felt that there should be a road there.

The last historical Bristolite was Florence Emlyn Downs Muzzy, portrayed by Maya Bringe. Her husband, Adrian Muzzy, established Muzzy's Department Store. Florence was a teacher before marriage, an author and organizing regent of the Katherine Gaylord Chapter of the DAR. Muzzy field is named after their 2 children who died in childhood.

Undertaker, Pembroke Gateman was played by Cortlandt Hull.

STAY TUNED. PERHAPS WE'LL DO ANOTHER SUCH TYPE PROGRAM!

2019 ANNUAL MEETING

Save the date for the 2019 Annual Meeting which will be June 26th at 6pm. Watch the June Newsletter for more information about specific board positions to be filled and bylaw amendments.

Thank You to All of Our 2018 Annual Appeal Donors!

The 2019 Appeal will soon begin, but before it does, we would like to express our gratitude to those who contributed to last year's Annual Campaign. Your gifts are instrumental in our mission to preserve Bristol's rich history and bring that history to the community. Gifts to the Annual Appeal are unrestricted, which means that they can be used to support a wide range of needs, including heating, electricity, insurance, maintenance, special events, educational materials, and community outreach. Therefore, every program, every exhibit, and every day the building is open to the public to come in and see exhibits or do research depends on the generosity of supporters like you.

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE (\$1,000 AND ABOVE)

Barnes Group Foundation, Inc.
Bruce Alexsavich
Linda Manning
Bernard & Jean Sue O'Keefe

FOUNDERS (\$500 TO \$999)

Robert Houle
Mike & Janet Saman
Patricia Pearl O'Rourke
Thomas Ward

PATRONS (\$250 TO \$499)

Tom & Jeri LaPorte
Nancy Denehy
Carol Denehy
Steve Vastola & Family

Benefactors (\$100 to \$249)

Maya Bringe & Mark Bianchi
Andrea Kapchensky
Tollman Spring Co., Inc.
Martin Stein
Jacqueline & John Vigue
William & Carol Anderson
Noreen Zurell
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Chet & Lynda Russell
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Matt & Elaine Sportelli
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Carolyn Thiery
Gerald & Patricia Thompson
Eleanor Wilson
Ellen Zoppo-Sassu

FRIENDS (UP TO \$99)

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Michael Thomas
Deborah Ahl
Sherwood & Kathleen Anderson
Keith Barton
Deborah Belanger
Carol Carter
Rita Elliott
Ingrid Gilona
Al & Jane Goodwin
Don Goranson
Marilyn Grochowski
Joanne King
Lucy Krueger
Nancy Krueger
Dacruz Manufacturing
Jean Masotti
Laura & Craig Minor
Jeanne Moore
Michael & Colleen Nicastro
Ron & Sandy Piasecki
Maureen Sonstrom
Lindsay Vigue
Mernie Whitcomb
Jean Rasulo
Madeleine Bauer
Robert Adamczyk
Aline Burns
Robert Cummiskey
Paul J. DiNoia
Marilyn Dormody
Sylvia DuPont
Mary & Robert Houle
Robert Kalat
Peter & Gloria Kaplenski
Bob & Judy Kelly
Bob & Joan Lagasse
John & Bonnie Lodovico
Mr. & Mrs. Elliot Nelson
Susan Paradis
Leo & Alice Peltier
Elizabeth Phelan
Richard & Brenda Pinete
Joyce Raspanti
Susan Roesch
Nancy Roy
Lois Saman

Connie Scott
Matthew Strus
Betty Talmadge
Mr. & Mrs. Rupert Twombly
Tom Vaughn
Frank Zbikowski
Mary Ellen Zoppo
Kathleen Connolly
Lisa Doyle-Bell
Cortlandt Hull

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE EVENING ON THE HILL AUCTION!

The 13th Annual Evening on the Hill Auction will take place on Saturday, September 7, 2018.

We are currently looking for donations for the auction. If you have items that you would like to donate, please call Steve (860-944-6567) or Maya (860-986-4894) or email auktion@bristolhistoricalsociety.com and we can arrange to pick up appropriate items.

THE BHS ANNUAL DINNER IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!

The BHS Annual Dinner is quickly approaching and the committee is asking for your support! Please consider placing an ad in our booklet, becoming a dinner patron or attending the dinner for a night of fun and fellowship. (See details on the Ad Sponsor Form included in this newsletter.) By including your business or personal ad in our book, you are showing the community that you support the preservation work we do and the wonderful events the Bristol Historical Society holds all year long. Full page ad sponsors will be listed on our website and linked to their website. Complete the Ad Sponsorship Form provided or download one from our website. BHS members will also be out in the community asking for your support. We look forward to seeing your ad in our booklet! Thank You!

The dinner will be held on June 5th at Nuchie's. Tickets are \$35.00 for Adults, \$15.00 ages 14 and under.

Awards will be presented to the Scholarship recipient, BHS Volunteer of the year and the Community Service Award.

Complete and mail in the invitation found below to BHS to reserve your seat.

AN INVITATION TO THE BRISTOL HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S ANNUAL DINNER, 2019 Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Festivities begin at 5:30pm with Dinner served at 6:15pm.

Nuchie's Restaurant Cost: \$35. Adults; \$15. Age 14 and Under Cash Bar

Featuring: fruit salad, pasta, roast sirloin of beef w/portobello sauce, chicken cordon bleu and dessert.

Please return completed form by May 24, 2019 to:

Bristol Historical Society, Attn: Andrea Kapchensky; P.O. Box 1393, Bristol, CT. 06011-1393

- I/We shall attend. Enclosed is my completed form and check:
#Adults _____ #Children _____ Ticket Total = \$ _____
- I/We would like to support the annual dinner as a patron: \$ _____

Name(s) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Please contact Andrea Kapchensky at 860-589-2490 if you have any questions.

Bristol Historical Society 2019 Annual Dinner Ad Reservation Form

www.BristolHistoricalSociety.org

BHS Contact :

BHS Contact Phone:

Advertiser's Name:

Advertiser's Business Name:

Advertiser's Address:

Phone:

Email:

Website:

Please check a box:

- Full Page Ad - \$100 (Size: 7.5"w x 10"h)
 Half Page Ad - \$50 (Size: 7.5"w x 5"h)
 Quarter Page Ad - \$25 (Size: 3.75"w x 5"h)

Ad Specifications:

- Use correct ad dimensions
- Grayscale or B/W, 300dpi
- JPG, TIF, PSD, PDF file formats accepted
- Files should be print ready

Check one:

- Use last year's ad
 Print ready ad attached (no staples please, see ad dimensions listed above)
 Email print ready ad to ads@bristolhistoricalsociety.org (Please see ad specifications)
 Text supplied on form:

Notes:

Advertiser's Signature:

Please make checks payable to: Bristol Historical Society

Mail to: Bristol Historical Society, Attn: Paula O'Keefe, P.O. Box 1393, Bristol, CT 06010

COMPLETED FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED BY: TUES, APRIL 30, 2019.

Sponsors donating \$50.00 and over will be listed on our website for 1 year
and will be linked to your website! (Please supply domain name.)

See reverse for sample ad sizes.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date:

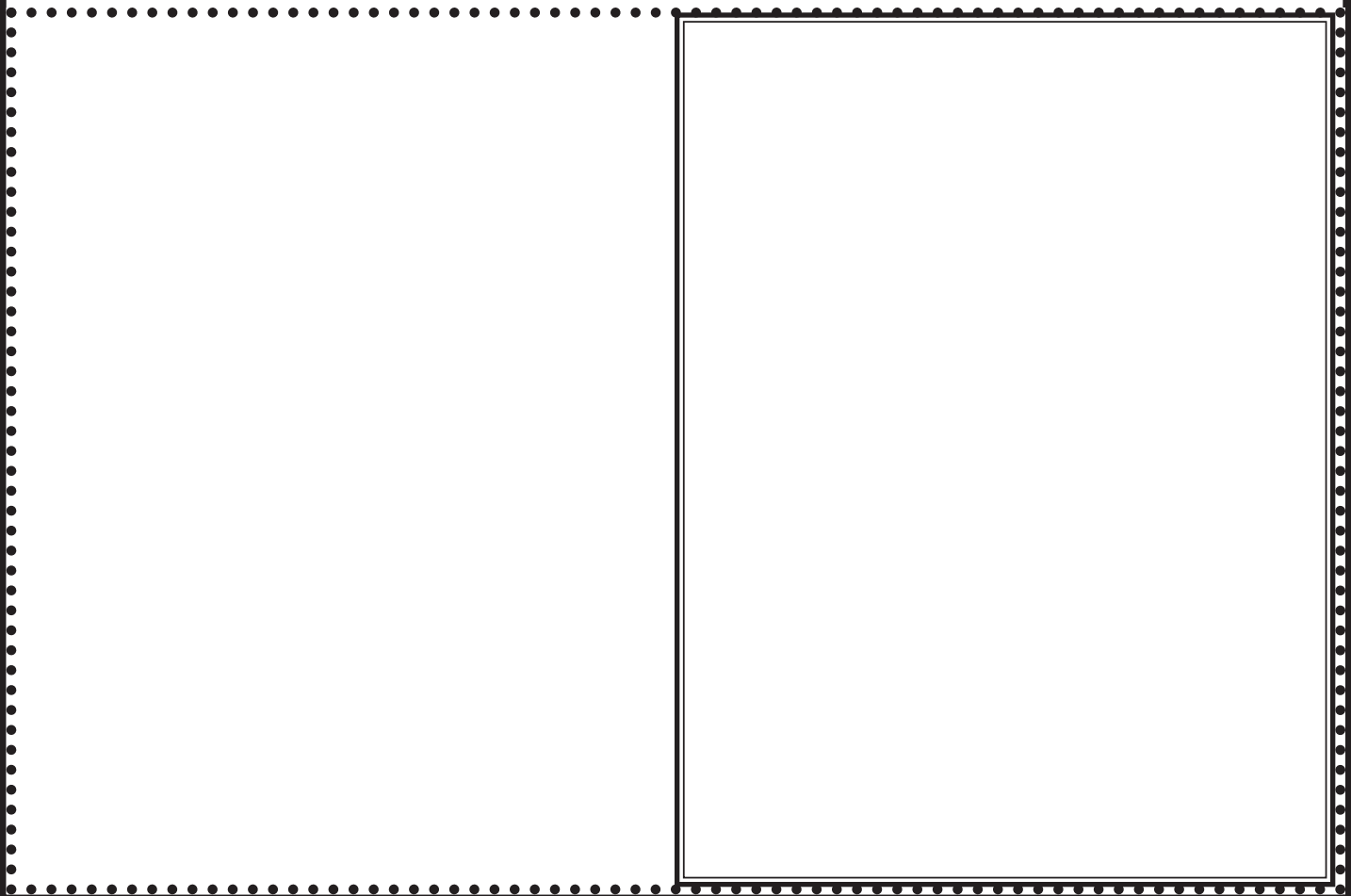
Amount Due: \$

Paid: Cash

Check #

Bristol Historical Society 2019 Annual Dinner Ad Sizes

- **Full page ad:** 7.5" w x 10" h Price: \$100
- **Half page ad:** 7.5" w x 5" h Price: \$50
- == **Quarter page ad:** 3.75" w x 5" h Price: \$25



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS!

All Bristol Historical Society members are eligible to submit nominations for the BHS Volunteer

Of the Year Award and the BHS Community Service Award. Previous winners are not eligible.

Mail nominations to: Bristol Historical Society; P.O. Box 1393, Bristol, CT. 06011-1393 by May 10th! These awards will be presented at the Annual Dinner Meeting at Nuchie's on Wednesday, June 5, 2019. The Nomination Forms can be found below.

Call for NOMINATIONS for

BHS Volunteer of the Year & Community Service Awards

All Bristol Historical Society Members are eligible to submit nominations. Previous winners are not eligible.

Your name: _____ **Phone:** _____

I nominate the following person or organization for the following:

BHS Volunteer of the Year Award: _____

BHS Community Service Award: _____

Mail nominations to: Bristol Historical Society, PO Box 1393, Bristol, CT 06011-1393 by May 10th!

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