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## From the President's Desk

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As I write this message, we are just days away from the BHS Annual Dinner on June 5<sup>th</sup> at Nuchies. Unless something goes wrong, next year I would like to have it at the BHS building so that we can show off the newly remodeled interior. At that time, besides the Event Room, Main Hallway, and Carriage Room being remodeled, the Bristol Sports Hall of Fame, the Military Museum, and the Country Store will also have been remodeled.

June is the time for you to renew your BHS membership. Membership forms are at the end of this newsletter. The back side of the membership form lists the various volunteer activities that one can volunteer for at BHS.

My "crystal ball" told me that our latest renovation (due to the November water damage) should be completed by mid-July. The Bristol Sports Hall of Fame, the Military Museum, the Country Store, and the hallway between will have been remodeled. On our second floor we will have two newly remodeled storage rooms and a newly remodeled lower level storage room.

A new event happened at BHS this Past April where we celebrated "Preservation Day". I would like to see this done as a yearly event. Visitors are encouraged to bring Bristol photos, documents, and other Bristol memorability to be scanned, photographed, or donated so that these items can be preserved and become part of the society's collection. A Video Tape interview was also done with a former Mayor and a former sports star. This was made possible due to the Edward W. and Audrey K. Mink Memorial Fund at the Main Street Community Foundation.

A question that I have for readers of this newsletter: "What would you like to see BHS do that's not presently being doing.

Email me at [say-man@att.net](mailto:say-man@att.net).

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.

Remember to renew your BHS membership!!

*Mike Saman, President*

## ***BHS ANNUAL TAG AND BAKE SALE – A BIG HIT!!***

The annual BHS Tag Sale fundraiser was held over Memorial Day Weekend. A big THANK YOU to all the volunteers who helped us prepare for this event. It was a huge success. Although there were items left over, many tag saler's left with rare finds thanks to our offerings. Those who didn't find a tangible item found lots at the Bake Sale and everyone left with something and happy! Again, THANK YOU TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS!!!

## ***MUSIC AMONG THE MEMORIALS***

On Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at 2PM, there was a live concert on the Memorial Boulevard in Bristol featuring music from the Revolutionary War through Vietnam.

It combined 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 featured lead singer Wanda Houston who has lived and performed professionally throughout the U.S. and Europe. Wanda was accompanied by the Scott Heth quintet.

The concert was a joint presentation of the Bristol Historical Society and Team Bristol. It was a beautiful sunny afternoon for the concert and it was enjoyed by many. Thank you to all who helped to bring this together!

## ***COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE***

The Collections Committee has been accepting hat boxes and many garments from the 1930's – 1970's. The Committee thanks you for that! One new item that has been accepted is a silver hot-water urn from the Sessions family. It is on display in our gift shop. One item, and we only need one – the Committee is looking for a non-electric "Gone With The Wind" lamp, which is a double glass globe lamp that was used in the Sessions house.

## ***BRISTOL HISTORICAL SOCIETY PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS***

Our March program "Tales from the Milkman" was so well attended that we had to turn many people away because we were at full capacity. In the meantime, Nutmeg TV has aired the program numerous times. We will be repeating this wonderful program sometime in the future. Stay tuned!

On April 25<sup>th</sup>, Colleen Nicastro, Director of Interpretation for the American Clock & Watch Museum, presented her program "Radium Dial Painters: Their Fatal Brush with Death" to a very interested audience. Although the topic was serious in content, it provided insight to a historic time in the clock industry, even here in Bristol.

The Bristol Historical Society observed Preservation Day on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. This was an opportunity for the public to share stories, donate materials, or to be interviewed by Bob Montgomery.

Among the donations received that day were pictures of the first Stafford School building, a 1934 Farmington Avenue School yearbook and pictures of Bristol's Sesquicentennial Parade of 1935. All of these items were a great addition to our collection because we did not have anything like this in our collection.

**BRISTOL HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
THIRD THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS**

Our Third Thursday program held on May 16<sup>th</sup> was presented by Cortlandt Hull and Bob Adamczyk. The program was on "Hollywood's Golden Age, 1939: the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Excerpts from six films were shown and discussed that evening. Throughout the remainder of the year, Cortlandt will continue to present movies from 1939. Watch the Bristol Press for dates or check the Witch's Dungeon website for details – [www.preservehollywood.org](http://www.preservehollywood.org).

**BRISTOL HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
SUMMER PROGRAMS**

Mark your calendars for these upcoming programs!

Thursday, **June 20<sup>th</sup>** our program will feature letters that were written by the servicemen employed by the J.H. Sessions Company.

Saturday, **July 13<sup>th</sup>** at 1pm Bob Montgomery will present Bristol History 102, a Bristol trivia challenge. If you have some interesting trivia questions, please contact Bob at the Bristol Press, [bmontgomery@bristolpress.com](mailto:bmontgomery@bristolpress.com) or at 860-973-1808.

Thursday, **July 18<sup>th</sup>**, our program will highlight the last 100 years of St. Stanislaus Church. The program will be presented by Lidia Jasinski. It will include a video program and the history of the parish with several parishioners sharing stories of their time in the parish.

Thursday, **August 15<sup>th</sup>**, our summer programs will conclude with Tom Vaughn and a program/demonstration on clock making.

The above programs are free to members; non-members - \$5.00.

**BRISTOL SPORTS HALL OF FAME – TRIVIA NIGHT**

The Bristol Sports Hall of Fame recently held their annual program at the Bristol Historical Society. This year's program was a Bristol Sports Trivia night with eleven teams participating and over 60 participants. The winning team, The Trivia Legends consisted of Dave Greenleaf, Hal Kilby and Reinhard Walker. It was a very fun night for all and everyone learned a little more about Bristol sports. Thanks to Director Ellie Wilson for suggesting this program and to Director Dave Mills for organizing the program.

**BRISTOL SPORTS HALL OF FAME SCHOLARSHIP GOLF TOURNAMENT**

The Bristol Sports Hall of Fame annual scholarship golf tournament will be held on Monday, July 29<sup>th</sup> at Chippanee Country Club. Proceeds from this golf tournament support the \$9,000 in scholarships that we award at our annual Scholar Athlete Dinner in April of each year to local high school students. For more information on playing or becoming a sponsor, please contact Don Soucy at 860-384-0256 or at [drs.1947@yahoo.com](mailto:drs.1947@yahoo.com).

**SAVE THE DATE! BRISTOL SPORTS HALL OF FAME Annual Induction Ceremony on Friday, Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019!**

## **DAY OF CARING, 2019**

May 17<sup>th</sup> saw lots of activity at the Bristol Historical Society. 12 students from area high schools came and made our building and grounds shine! They pulled weeds, planted flowers and raked outside while the crew inside dusted and polished our woodwork throughout the building and cleaned and washed our display case windows and doors. Thank You to: Layla Wazorko, Ashley Allen and Kylie Biggs from Lewis Mills; Alexis Jilian, Samuel Lavoie, and Zachary Lavoie from Bristol Eastern; and LeAnne Elwell, Kiley Flores, Nithaive Sarcol and Arthur Valentine from Terryville High Schools. Great Job by All!!

## **EVENTS AND PROGRAMS**

### **JUNE, JULY, AUGUST 2019**

6/05	Wednesday	BHS Annual Dinner, Nuchies, 5:30pm
6/08	Saturday	CONNECTICUT OPEN HOUSE DAY, OPEN 9AM – 5PM; See Special Events
6/20	Thursday	Third Thursday program: J.H. SESSIONS & SON, 7pm
6/21	Friday	Adult Coloring Craze Party, 7-9pm. \$5.00 pre-paid Registration. Walk-ins welcomed!
6/26	Wednesday	SAVE THE DATE! Annual Meeting, 6pm.
6/28	Friday	Movie: "GULLIVER'S TRAVELERS", 7pm
6/29	Saturday	Movie: "GULLIVER'S TRAVELERS", 7pm
7/13	Saturday	Bristol History 102, a Bristol trivia challenge, 1pm
7/18	Thursday	Third Thursday program: ST. STANISLAUS CHURCH, 100 Years, 7pm.
7/19	Friday	Adult Coloring Craze Party, 7-9pm. \$5.00 pre-paid Registration. Walk-ins welcomed!
7/26	Friday	Movie: "ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES", 7pm
7/27	Saturday	Movie: "ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES", 7pm
8/15	Thursday	Third Thursday program: WITH ITS CLOCKS, BRISTOL REGULATES THE WORLD, 7pm.
8/16	Friday	Adult Coloring Craze Party, 7-9pm. \$5.00 pre-paid Registration. Walk-ins welcomed!
8/23	Friday	Movie: "THE WIZARD OF OZ", 7pm
8/24	Saturday	Movie: "THE WIZARD OF OZ", 7pm

## **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, 2019. This lively evening features a silent auction that begins at 5:30pm while guests enjoy wine, soft drinks, and finger foods. At this time, bidders can also preview a group of live auction items that often includes collectibles, art, furniture, antiques, and the occasional fun and eclectic items. Bidding for the live auction begins at 7pm. Professional auctioneer, Paul Stansel, keeps the bidding lively and entertaining. If you have an item that you would like to donate, please call Steve (860-944-6567) or Maya (860-986-4894) or email [auction@bristolhistoricalsociety.com](mailto:auction@bristolhistoricalsociety.com) and we can arrange to pick up appropriate items.

Please plan on attending this event – it's always a tremendous amount of fun and an important fundraiser for our organization. Tickets are currently available at the Society and are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door. For more information call the office at 860-583-6309.

## **MILITARY MEMORIAL MUSEUM**

The Jack Denehy Gallery will remain closed for renovations.

Look for the reopening with all new exhibits in late August, 2019.

### **CONNECTICUT OPEN HOUSE DAY, JUNE 8, 2019**

The Military Memorial Museum is proud to participate once again in Connecticut Open House Day. Museums throughout our state will open their doors to invite friends and neighbors to discover the treasures our many museums have to offer. Beginning on June 8, 2019, you can pick up a "Passport" to use in all six Bristol participating magical museums from June to early September. Have your Passport stamped at each museum during those months to enter a drawing to be held during Bristol's Mum Festival.

The Memorial Military Museum stamp is: A Dog's Paw Print for Sgt. Stubby.

### **MILITARY MEMORIAL MUSEUM PRESENTS:**

#### **THE MAGIC OF CONNECTICUT HEROES**

At a **Museum for All Ages**, activities and a movie will introduce adults and children to Bristol's WWII heroes and a real life WWI animal hero.

Sgt. Stubby, a Connecticut bull terrier, is the most decorated canine in the history of the United States Army. Enjoy discovering the training and combat exploits of this historic dog in the recently released animated movie, "**Sgt. Stubby: An American Hero.**" Savor some "treats" during the show.

Participate in a hands on, interactive presentation by Memorial Military Museum Officer, Tim Denehy, who will bring together the stories of pilot **Warren "Gus" Beach** as well as the crew of the B-17 plane "Invictus." Discover their dedication and heroism during the height of WWII.

We shine a spotlight through a special display on the June 6, 1944, D-Day stories of two Bristol natives.

**Captain Edward Wozenski** led his men through the fighting on Omaha Beach and through the hedgerows and became Bristol's most decorated hero of WWII.

**Ernest Blanchard**, a radio operator in the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, parachuted into the French village of St. Mere Eglise where German troops were waiting to attack them.

On this 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day, the world is revisiting the battle sites and the stories of the brave men who were there during the epic invasion to free Europe.

Schedule:	10am – 11:30am:	"Sgt. Stubby: An American Hero" movie
	Noon – 1:00pm:	Hands on, Interactive Presentation
	9:00am – 5:00pm:	Spotlight on Edward Wozenski and Ernest Blanchard

***Uncle Sam Wants You: To visit the Military Memorial Museum on June 8, 2019, 9am – 5pm, Free Admission!***

## **CONNECTICUT OPEN HOUSE DAY, JUNE 8, 2019**

### **THE MAGIC OF THE PAST**

Visit the Bristol Historical Society on June 8, 2019 and join the hundreds of adults and children who will be going to Connecticut museums throughout our state that day. This date is the annual Connecticut Open House Day and the doors at 98 Summer Street will be open from 9am to 5pm to welcome you to our 1890 building. Pick up a "Passport" to use when you visit the six participating magical Bristol museums beginning on June 8<sup>th</sup> to early September. Enjoy your visit to each unique museum and have your personal Passport stamped to enter into a drawing to be held during the Mum Festival.

**Photo Op Fun:** Use your modern cell phone to take photos of your children with distant and recent past objects. Available all day.

**"Vintage Clothing":** Items from the Bristol Historical Clothing Collection will be on display. All vintage pieces will delight adults and children as they imagine fashion in times gone by. Children can strike a pose modeling some pieces of clothing. Smile!

**"Yoda's Back in Town!"** Star War buffs introduce your children to Yoda and share your memories of imagining faraway galaxies. Share their smiles and you take photos of them with their new friend.

**Stop at the "WHAT'S IT?" Table** Challenge yourself and your children to a guessing game of "What's It?" objects from the collection. They may not know what a dial telephone is, but do you know what's a **Firkin**?

Settle in at **1:30pm for Classic Cartoons.** Laugh along with your children as you see cartoons from your childhood shown as real movies on a large movie projector. A movie projector? What's it?!?!

### **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

On Friday, May 3, 2019, several amendments to the BHS bylaws were adopted at a special meeting of the general membership. Changes include defining our relationship with the tenant museums, a year-long tenure requirement for Board nominees, and a formal written nomination period, so that members can nominate Board candidates even if they cannot be present at the Annual Meeting. The new bylaws can be viewed at any time on the Society website, [www.bristolhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.bristolhistoricalsociety.org).

**THE ANNUAL MEETING** will be June 26, 2019 at 6:30pm. The Governance Committee will soon be posting a slate of nominees and nominations by members that have come in. Executive Board positions that will be voted on are Second Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary, as well as some general Director positions.

### **ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE STARTS JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup>!**

Attached is this year's Membership Form. If you are an annual member, your membership will expire on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Please fill it out and mail back to the address found on the form. If you are signing up to volunteer, please note that page 2 (the back of the form) now has brief descriptions for each volunteer area to help you decide where you would best use your skills. Thank You!



**BRISTOL  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY**

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

*JULY 1, 2019 – JUNE 30, 2020*

P. O. Box 1393 / Bristol, CT. 06011-1393

Please fill out form and return with appropriate Membership dues.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

If this is a Family Membership, please list additional and/or children's names (under 18):

Civic Organization/Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile/Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Types and Dues:**

- |                                                      |         |                                      |          |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual                  | \$30.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Civic Group | \$100.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High School/College Student | \$10.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Business    | \$200.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family                      | \$50.00 |                                      |          |

***VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!***

*Your time and talents are important to us! The back of this form has a brief description of what each Committee listed below does to help you decide which Committee will best serve your skills. Please indicate by numbering 1, 2, and 3, etc. the areas you are interested in helping. That Committee's Chairman will contact you before the event. Thank You!!*

- |                     |                                         |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| ___ Annual Auction  | ___ Membership Committee/Mailing        |
| ___ Annual Dinner   | ___ Building Committee                  |
| ___ Annual Tag Sale | (improving & maintaining the premises.) |
| ___ Christmas Fair  | ___ Collection Committee                |
| ___ Event Baking    | ___ Program Committee                   |
| ___ Hospitality     | ___ Scholarship Committee               |

Office Use Only: Date \_\_\_\_\_ Payment: \_\_\_\_\_

## Membership Application

### Volunteer Opportunities – Brief Descriptions

ANNUAL AUCTION	Held in September. Help is needed in securing, cleaning, and displaying auction items. Volunteer time is usually needed 1 week before, during event, and directly after.
ANNUAL DINNER	Held in May or June. Volunteers sell ads to local businesses to be part of the program book for the Annual Dinner. Volunteer time starts in January thru 1 month before the dinner. A few volunteers are also needed the day/evening of the dinner.
ANNUAL TAG SALE	Held in May or June. Runs for 2 days. Volunteers are needed to help sort items which starts the week before (during the day), setting up, pricing, and cleaning/polishing items. Volunteers are also needed during the tag sale to answer questions, help wrapping, cashing out, bake sale, etc.
CHRISTMAS FAIR	Held the first Saturday in December. Volunteers are needed the week before (during the day), much like the tag sale for setting up, pricing, and cleaning items. They are also needed the day of to help customers with purchases. There is also a bake sale and kitchen help is also needed as vendors and volunteers are served lunch.
EVENT BAKING	A few times a year we put out a call to those who enjoy baking to help supply baked goods. It could be for the tag sale, Christmas Fair, or for special events.
HOSPITALITY	A volunteer could act as a greeter, helper, or refreshment server at special events. As this doesn't happen often, we still offer the opportunity.
MEMBERSHIP/	The Membership Database is updated frequently and maintained by the Membership Chairman. Mailings have been taken over by emailing. Once a year there may be a mailing going out but only to those not having emails. What was once a great volunteer opportunity has become a thing of the past.
BUILDING COMMITTEE	There are monthly meetings. The upkeep of an old building requires a great deal of knowledge in the construction industry. Renovations and/or improvements continue as we strive to maintain and provide this beautiful historical building for everyone's enjoyment.
COLLECTION COMMITTEE	Are you a detailed and organized person? These attributes are key for a volunteer on this Committee. You will learn about and help expand our Collection. Items are rotated periodically for everyone's enjoyment. Saturday's are the day this Committee meets.
PROGRAM COMMITTEE	Are you good at coming up with new ideas? This Committee meets monthly on a Tuesday. They are always looking for types of programs that capture Bristol's history for the Third Thursday each month; programs that would also entertain our audiences.
SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE	This Committee meets after Scholarship Applications have been received from the local high schools sometime after March. The goal is to choose a high school senior worthy of the Scholarship. Volunteers will meet when all the applications have been submitted. Previous teaching experience is helpful. The Scholarship is given out at the Annual Dinner.