

# Bridgeville Historical Society

102 S. William Street, P. O. Box 306, Bridgeville, DE 19933

Sept. 2013



## Another Successful Auction-Social

The 35th annual Auction-Social held in the redecorated banquet room of the Bridgeville Fire Co. on Sept. 7, was enjoyed by 100 members and guests. The net profit for this year's fundraising event was \$6,635.34 with about 25% of that coming



Howard Hardesty, Alice Min, auctioneer Frank McCraghan, and Judi Richards, with tickets for the 50-50 raffle and door prizes

Chairpersons, Eleanor H. Bennett, and Dickie and Sally Ray were pleased with the attendance and the items donated by members and local businesses. They wish to thank all who were involved during the many months of planning and assisted during the event.



Sally Ray, Ann W. Jones, Jayne Smith, Louise Tyndall, and Margie Allen enjoyed the social hour before the auction.



Ruth Skala, Steve and Shelly McCarron look over the many items offered for the auction before deciding on their bids



Jan & George Bunting, Ann W. Jones, Eleanor Bennett, Nanette Corey, Gerri Coble looked over auction items during the social hour



Heidi and Curtis Spicer in line ready for the delicious food prepared by the Bridgeville Fire Co. Ladies' Auxiliary.



Sonny Hardesty and Dickie Ray admired the watermelon with Bridgeville's sign carved into its side by Shelly McCarron.

## Bridgeville Historical Society

### 2013-14 Officers

President . . . . Howard E. Hardesty  
 1st V. President . . . . Alice D. Min  
 2nd V. President . . Phyllis A. Jones  
 Secretary . . . . . Judi Richards  
 Treasurer . . . . . Sharon Hawk

### Directors

Eleanor Bennett Charles Hawk  
 Gerri Coble Byron Lewis  
 Michael Collison Bill Nennstiehl

## Next Meeting

Wednesday, Nov. 13, 2013

St. Mary's Parish House  
 N. William St. - 6:30 p.m.

Bring a covered-dish. Meat and beverages will be supplied by BHS.

**Guest Speaker: Richard Harris, Jr.**

**"H. P. Cannon & Son and Memories of Bridgeville"**

### Membership Dues

Single . . . . . \$15.00  
 Family . . . . . \$25.00  
 Patron . . . . . \$75.00  
 Life member . . . . . \$500.00

**Dues may be mailed to**

Bridgeville Historical Society,  
 P. O. Box 306, Bridgeville, DE 19933

*How cute...*



The granddaughter of Mike and Joanne Collison sitting on one of Union United Methodist Church chairs with her doll made by Susanne Hunsberger. "Best purchase we have ever made at a BHS auction," said the Collisons.

## Summer Cemetery Project

On May 18 and June 26, eleven members of the Society participated in a project to clean and repair older monuments in the Bridgeville Cemetery. Over fifty monuments and markers were scrubbed to remove the accumulated moss, lichens, and grime.



Row 1 -L-R: Shirley Absher, Alice Min, Howard and Kay Sue Hardesty. Row 2: Bill Nennstiehl, Eleanor Bennett, Jay Absher, Byron Lewis, Charles Hawk, Mike Ballenger

Those monuments were mostly those from early Bridgeville families who do not have descendants living in the area. Memorials of Civil War veterans were also cleaned in remembrance of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War.

The Society thanks Jay Absher and Charles Hawk for the use of their power-washers.

William V. Sipple & Son were hired to do the repair work.



Charles Hawk cleaning the Spotswood bench



Phyllis Jones and Shirley Absher hard at work



The stone of John Manlove before and after repairs

## Museum & Park Matters

To attract more visitors to our museum in the Old Fire House, the Society purchased an new "j-flag" to be placed in front of the museum on days that it is scheduled to be opened. A new "sandwich board" was also purchased, but had not arrived when the photo on the left was taken.



It must have helped as the number of visitors has doubled on the Sunday open dates.

Thanks to Byron Lewis, a sleeve was fabricated to cover the flag holder when it is not in use decreasing the danger of someone falling over the post.

**Cahall Park** has seen much activity this year as eight weddings were held in the park. The rentals for those weddings has certainly contributed to the maintenance costs.

### Interesting Donation

Rita and Roger Hovermale recently donated a key to the door of Jacob's School that was located near Royal Farms at the intersection of Routes 404 and 13. The one-room school operated from 1863 until it consolidated with Bridgeville in 1929.

The 5½" folding key (with lock and hinges) were purchased at William Cannon's Hardware in Bridgeville about 1917 for \$18.67 when a new vestibule was built on the school.

The key had belonged to Rita's father, Virgil Cannon, who wrote a book on **The History of Jacob's School**.



## Apple Scrapple

The BHS museum and the Davis Building will be open on Saturday, October 12 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for the Apple Scrapple Festival. The recent donation of a Bridgeville-made "Durbin" farm wagon from Mark and Kathy Williams will be on display for the first time in front of the museum.



Tom Wimbrow has made seven wooden stands to hold the "Minute of History" boards that will be displayed in the bandstand in Cahall Park. Fourteen of the boards will line the sides of the bandstand in the new frames with several others on easels in the center. Both exhibits will be cancelled if rain or high winds prevail. Do plan to stop by the BHS historic complex.

## Christmas in Bridgeville

Chairpersons, Michael and Joanne Collison are pleased to report that two-thirds of the 94 spaces have already been reserved for the 38th "Christmas in Bridgeville" craft fair.

This major fund raiser will be held at the Woodbridge High School on Laws St. on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Volunteers will be needed to help sell raffle tickets on a large-screen television to be given away that day and to sell 50-50 tickets. Greeters will also be needed at the door.

If you can volunteer for an hour or two on that day, please call Mike and Joanne at (302) 337-7784.

## Meeting - May 8, 2013



President Hardesty and Michael Collison receive a poster for the Society from the guest speaker, Thomas J. Ryan. The poster has the phrase "WILLIAM IS NO MORE" and refers to the Museum and Visitor Center at Gettysburg National Military Park's exhibit on local Civil War hero, Lt. William J. Fisher. Lt. Fisher's father, Isaac, while traveling to Gettysburg to learn more of his son's fate, wrote to his wife, Sarah, "...I have retired to my room to grieve in private. Our worst fears are realized and I know that **William is no more**." Their son had been killed July 2, 1863 on the Wheatfield

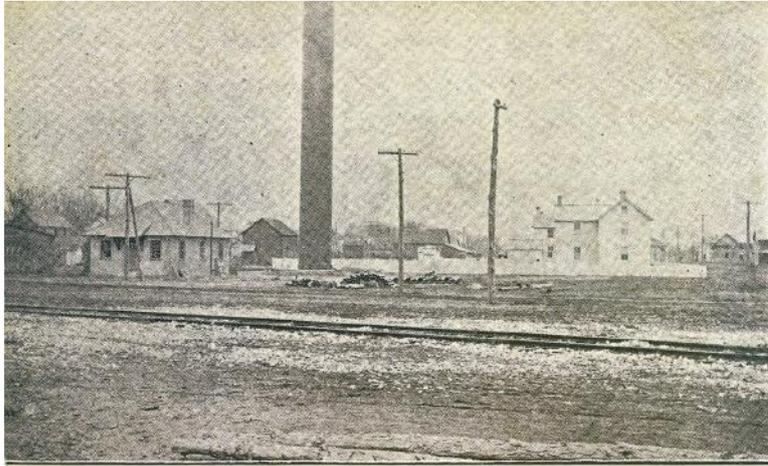
## New Brochure

A recent project of the Archives Committee has been to produce a brochure promoting the Bridgeville Historical Society. Thanks to Michael Ballenger and Alice Min for chairing this project and Gerri Coble for supervising its printing. A short history of the Society and of the Town of Bridgeville plus a membership form are included. The tri-fold brochures are placed in the Town Hall and the Bridgeville Public Library and are included in welcome baskets.



Jeanne Torbert, Michael Ballenger, and Alice Min evaluating an early draft of the brochure

# Then and Now...



Stand Pipe and Power House, Bridgeville, Del.

Pub. by O. J. Willey

On the left is a postcard mailed in 1911 showing the stand pipe and power house in Bridgeville on Railroad Ave.

The photo below was taken this year from approximately the same location. Note the "Kern House" on the corner of Railroad Ave. and Walnut St. had not been built then.

The last photo shows the base of the old stand pipe as it remains today behind the Seagull Fence & Concrete Co. Most people know that building as the old police station.



## Bridgeville Historical Society

P. O. Box 306

Bridgeville, DE 19933

### Remember the Dates

#### **Oct 6** *Museum Open*

11:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

#### **Oct. 12** *Apple-Scrapple Festival* 10:00 a.m - 3:00 p.m.

Old Fire House & Davis Building open  
New - Display in the bandstand

#### **Nov 13**

##### **General Membership Meeting** Covered-dish

St. Mary's Parish House - 6:30 p.m.

Program: *Richard Harris, Jr.*  
*"H. P. Cannon & Son and*  
*Memories of Bridgeville"*

#### **Dec 7** *Christmas in Bridgeville*

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m

Woodbridge High School

#### **Jan. 8, 2014**

##### **General Membership Meeting** Covered-dish

St. Mary's Parish House - 6:30 p.m.

Speaker - *To be announced*