



HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BENSALEM TWP

3211 Knights Road

P.O. BOX 1101 BENSALEM PA 19020

PHONE 215-639-6575

WEBSITE www.bensalemhistoricalsociety.com

NEWSLETTER FOR MAR. AND APR. 2022

Here's hoping that our famous groundhog was wrong in his prediction of more winter. We are all hoping that there's no more snow and ice before Spring.

BRIDGES OVER THE POQUESSING - PART 2

After a quick refresher on Part 1, Patty McCarthy shared her knowledge of the many remaining bridges starting at Gordon's Mill and ending at the Delaware River.

Several of the bridges such as Gordon's Mill, Knights Mill Bridge, and Lower Mill Bridge were built to aide people trying to get to a mill.

The Gravel Pike Bridge was a way to get to the Byberry Meeting to attend services.

Woodhaven Road Bridge is a double road bridge going East and West with a concrete surface.

Red Lion Road is a 3 Arch bridge. In 1833 a petition was made to eliminate the ford and create the bridge. Finished in 1845 at cost of \$17,500. The west bound section lead to the Morrell Estate.

Route 13 City Line Bridge was the 1st bridge built over the Poquessing. Placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1988. Repaired and updated, it is the main road to Philadelphia.

After the Route 13, there are 4 bridges including James Court Bridge, I95 Bridge, Railroad Bridge, and State Road Bridge. There are a grand total of 23 bridges from Trevese to the Delaware. Thanks Patty for all your work and sharing it with us.

NOTE: Repairs to the Byberry Bensalem Bridge have finally begun from the money received before the Pandemic.

February Program---PA. Historical Recovery Services

On Feb. 6th our speaker was Jim Bongiovanni part owner of the above company. He and his friend Bill Beers began the business 7 years ago because they both love history. Using metal detectors they search for items which they give to the property owner and they don't Charge for this service either. The framed objects that Jim brought covered several tables and ranged from coins, thimbles, keys, to silverware. Most objects are found between 3 – 6 “ deep so no large holes to be filled in. Very interesting stories of some of their adventures. Check them out on their website [Facebook.com/pahistorical/recoveryservices/posts](https://www.facebook.com/pahistorical/recoveryservices/posts) and watch the video.. Thanks Jim for sharing your hobby with us.

NEW MEMBERS

Lynn McGrath Tone

Martin White

Frank Christian Weidmann

NEW ADDITIONS

Scott Bennett donated a glass milk bottle-“Dairylee Milk Baby Top Bottle”

Jim Bogan donated a Palm Sunday Bulletin from All Saints Church and a Prayer & Hymnal Book owned by Standish Forde Hansell

Charlotte Mangino donated a 1941 Bensalem High School Graduation Invitation

Sally Sondesky donated a book on World War II

Vicki MacDougall donated the book "Washington Crossing" by David Hackett Fischer

TEST YOUR MEMORY FROM OUR LAST NEWSLETTER

What was the item that your Grandmother might have used long ago? I know someone else remembers what it was used for but just in case you didn't know...it was used for darning socks! Not to just pull the hole together but actually weave the hole closed. Now we just throw the socks away and buy new!!!!

WANTED !!!!!!!!!

Does anyone remember the following places or have pictures we can copy?

Blue Hill Diner (St.Rd. and Rt.13)

Blue Spruce Inn (Trevose)

Cornwells Skating Rink (Rt. 13)

Ernie Buehl's House (Hulmeville Rd)

4 Seasons Swim Club (Mechanicsville Rd.)

Jot down your memories or bring in a picture that we can copy to help solve these mystery places.

COMING EVENT/VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We will hold a FLEA MARKET on MAY 7TH(raindate May 14th)

Volunteers will be needed so mark your calendars and sign up to help.

DUES ARE DUE FOR 2022

Single membership is \$15; Family is \$20 and Business \$75. If your dues are not paid by Mar. 31st you will be removed from our membership list as per our By-Laws.

NEW IDEA

We are considering sending the bi-monthly newsletter to our members via email. To do this we need our members e-mail address which some have already provided. This is just a preliminary discussion with no decision made until sometime later in 2022. If you would like to receive your copy of the newsletter this way, please call Joe Gavaghan (215-639-6522) or email to Bubbajoe58@verizon.net with your address.

CALENDAR

MARCH meeting on SUNDAY at 2 pm and APRIL meeting on THURSDAY at 7 pm.

Mar.6th Sunday "Famous Bryn Athyn Train Wreck of 1921" 2.00
By Thomas Lynskey

Mar. 19th Board Meeting 12:00

Apr. 7th Thursday "Titanic Survivor-Lady of History" 7:00
By Alisa Dupuy

Apr. 16th Board Meeting 12:00

No, I can't do Snapchat or Tiktok but I can write in cursive, do math without a calculator, and even tell time on a clock with hands!!!!

The Board