

# BRIDGEWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Summer 2018

Published once each beautiful Bridgewater season!

**Maps! Maps! We want to see  
old interesting Maps!**

**We have a new supporter  
who is sharing some very  
neat new technology  
involving the creation of 3D  
versions of historical maps.**

**Along with this we are  
looking for any interesting  
historical local maps for an  
exhibit hopefully this fall.**

**Welcome New Neighbors  
along Main St.**

**Bridgewater Rod & Reel**

**Fluffy Fannies**

**Spectol Art Space**

**Thanks Linda Dean –**

***The Museum Yard is  
looking very nice this season.***

**Thanks Joe Bowman-**

***The Elks Club Lodge was a  
great location for our banquet.***

## **BRIDGEWATER HISTORIC BROCHURE PROJECT**

The Bridgewater Historical Society is in the process of creating an updated brochure that would provide facts about historic buildings and houses in the town. Several times in the past the town has made available printed information historically important to our village. The information included a short history of the building, architecture, and sometimes a photograph.

Because of Bridgewater's prominence and prosperity since its settlement, the town retains one of the largest collections of vernacular architecture in the Valley. The historical district of Bridgewater focuses primarily on Main Street with its public buildings, churches and the historic school but it includes several cross streets with private homes and Bridgewater College.

Nearby museums have developed information about neighboring towns and we often have residents, past residents and tourists inquire about the history of specific buildings, churches, and residences in Bridgewater. Having information at hand that our volunteers could give to a tourist would be very helpful. The Bridgewater Historical Society wants to help preserve the past and to educate those who are interested in our unique town. Our intent is only to share details that are in the public domain.

## **2018 Annual Banquet**

Over 50 members and friends met at the Elks Lodge #450 in Harrisonburg on April 26 to celebrate BHS membership, volunteers, conduct a business meeting and listen to our guest speak about local history. President of the Society Sharon Kline welcomed guests and thanked them for their support of the past year. Remembered were board member and Secretary Adair McConnell, Anna Mae Will and Jane Garber who had recently passed away. The yearly report included exhibits and activities of the past year and plans for the coming year.

After a wonderful buffet served by Christy of the Triple D Café, a short business meeting was held. The annual financial report was given and filed at the museum for members who wish to view it.

Vice President Larry Elkins introduced our speaker for the evening, Dr. Phillip Stone. Dr. Stone is well known in the Bridgewater community as

former President of Bridgewater College and a Lincoln Scholar. Dr. Stone spoke of valley connections to the Lincoln family and other local residents who were influential in national policies leading up to the Civil War including Harrisonburg resident and Congressman John T. Harris. He reminded us of our duty to learn about our past history and our duty to preserve it.

**Current Exhibit!**

**Banking History**

**[www.bridgewaterhistoricalmuseum.org](http://www.bridgewaterhistoricalmuseum.org)**  
**[bwhsm109@gmail.com](mailto:bwhsm109@gmail.com)**  
**540-237-4017**

Town of Bridgewater has agreed to work with us to implement outdoor lighting at the museum. Interested society members will be meeting with town officials soon to discuss lighting ideas. We appreciate this effort, but we still have many needs:

**VOLUNTEERS ANYONE?**

We have many simple jobs you could help with in as little as a couple of hours each month. We could always use museum attendants, or help with our museum garden beds or building a handicap ramp.

**In collaboration with BB&T, we will celebrate 120 years of banking in Bridgewater with a special exhibit during July and August at the Bridgewater Historical Society Museum. The Bridgewater Branch of BB&T will host an all day celebration on Friday, July 27 with refreshments and banking memories.**

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**[Recipient Name]**  
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[City, ST ZIP Code]