

First Town. Your Town.

The mission of the Historic Bath Foundation is to encourage and promote the historic aspects of the Town of Bath.

Summer 2013

Presidents Message

Progress! Progress! Progress! Thanks to you, the handiwork of The Historic Bath Foundation (HBF) is being seen all over the Bath area. It is seen at St Thomas Church, the Bonner House, the Glebe House, at the Palmer Marsh House, the former Bath High School, and at the Historic Bath State Historic Site Visitors' Center. It also was seen at Swindell's Cash Store at the HBF Annual Awards Ceremony honoring the original board members. As you know, HBF played a part in saving Swindell's by assisting its transfer to Preservation North Carolina. HBF is grateful to Ken Friedlein for allowing us to show off his Bath masterpiece. The ceremony was well attended and enjoyed by all. One of the former board members remarked that the founding board members knew that a foundation could help Bath, but did not foresee how large a part it would play.

Surry Everett
President/Chair

Foundation Activities and Accomplishments

2012 HBF Award for Preservation



Pres. Surry Everett and board member Jerry Waters speaking to Rep. Paul Tine



Our founding board members were honored for their vision and foresight. Milo Gibbs, Jr., Jack Whichard, Buck Sitterson, Wayland J. Sermons, Jr.

(Not Present: Eddie Smith, Edwina Shaw, Charles Duckett)



Ken Friedlein talking about the work done to Swindell's Store. He kindly allowed the presentation to occur in this building!



Ladies of Bath, Margaret Midgette, Lynda Baldree, Becky Tuten, Sandra Harrison, Elaine Harrison, Helen Brooks



Former board member Josie Hookway with her granddaughter



Strategic Plan

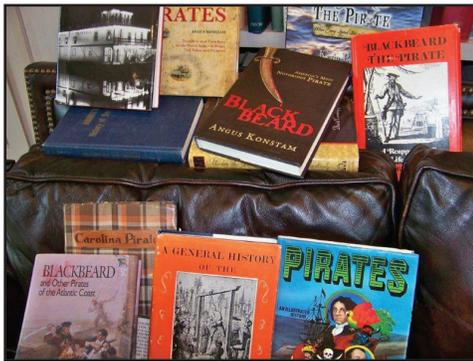
The Foundation's strategic plan has been updated with modified goals and targets. Ongoing collaboration with the State Historic Site, BHSP, the Town of Bath, the Bath Business Alliance and other area organizations will continue to be a primary focus. The sharing of resources, personnel and fund raising opportunities will provide the best opportunity for all Bath area organizations to achieve their individual goals. You may review the details of our recent accomplishments in the accompanying sections of this newsletter.

- Director Jerry Waters

Grant Projects

Library

Description from grant request for the Bath Community Library local history area: The library would purchase wall shelving, table and chair seating, and a lockable glass case for rare and valuable history books on Bath and Beaufort County. These materials would assist students and scholars do valuable historical research for middle and high school students as well as researchers doing major studies for journals, books, and articles. This local history area of the Bath Community Library would also allow those searching their family tree to work on genealogical research. The Bath Community Library has been given a one of a kind historical and genealogical collection of research materials on Bath and Beaufort County. This funding would provide the furniture and shelving to give this collection a proper and fitting home. The Bath Community Library could collaborate with the area school to have tours and programs about the books in the collection. Furnishing of this local history area with a grant from the Historic Bath Foundation to house the research and genealogical collection would allow the library to coordinate with 4th graders doing their North Carolina projects and allows joint programs with high school history classes focusing on North Carolina. It would afford researchers, students, and the public a place to come study Bath and Beaufort County history or local genealogy preserving the heritage of the area.



Small Grants Program

The Historic Bath Foundation created the Small Grants Program to benefit Bath. Each year grants are available to organizations and individuals for projects that promote the preservation, restoration, and historic aspects of the Town of Bath. We are pleased to announce our two awards for 2013:

*Historic Bath State Historic Site-\$450 for "Enhancing Visibility and Visitor Experience at Van Der Veer House".

*BHM Regional Library on behalf of the Bath Community Library-\$6446 for "Furnishings for Local History Collection area at new Bath Community Library".

The Foundation is proud to assist with both of these projects as we continue to work together in North Carolina's oldest town.

-- Director Robin Boyd

Collaborations

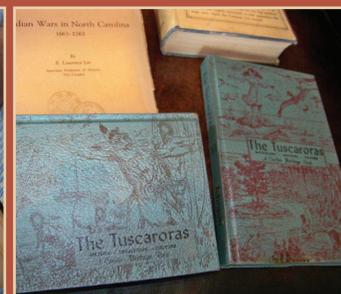
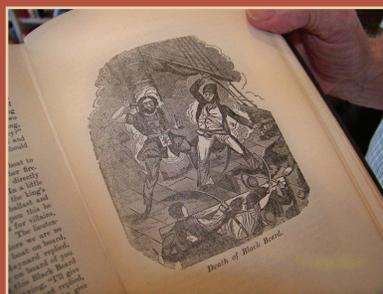
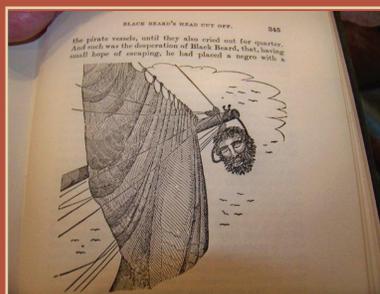
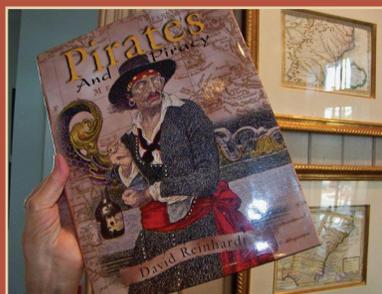
Committee meetings and collaborations are underway to revamp the Historic Bath Walking Tour Brochure. Team members are hopeful to incorporate many forms of media: the internet, smart phones, tablets, and a paper brochure in an effort to appeal to more visitors to Bath. Currently, the brochure includes well-known landmarks in Bath: The Bonner and Palmer-Marsh Houses, St. Thomas Church, Swindell's Store, The Glebe House, and Bath High School. We'd like to add some richer and little known facts, too: the Edna Ferber visit, the major league baseball player, Jimmy Brown, archeological sites, and many others.

Ideas to include eco-tourism interests, including waterways, water depth are being considered. Local resident and producer Clay Johnson has offered to create videos that can be turned into "podcasts" by the Committee as part of an audiovisual effort. And we are exploring using QR codes (bar codes that can be read by smart phones and directed to our website), displaying web pages of informational data about Bath.

Stay tuned for new and exciting info in the fall!

- Director Betsy Boxer

Sample QR Code



Committee and Special Events News

Successful Outcomes

Neil Lassiter of the DOT in Greenville, NC recently reported that they have a project to install two (2) shoulder mounted directional signs off existing US 17 directing motorists to Bath and Belhaven. He also shared that widening NC 92 is to correct the narrow roadway but should benefit bicycle traffic somewhat. There had been some local interest in dedicating a segment of the road for bicycles but there are no plans for a bike lane on NC 92 from the Ferry to Goose Creek at the present time. Something this large and impacting so much private property would need to be applied to be done as a major TIP project and must compete with other like projects in the division.

– Director Jim Clement

Special Events

Fundraising Underway!

Plans for a fall fundraising event are underway. If you missed the Awards ceremony, you missed something extra special. Look for a postcard invitation and emails later this year.

Community News

Come join the Historic Bath Garden Club, meet new friends, learn interesting facts about our plants and animals, and help keep Bath beautiful. The club meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Bath Christian church at 10 AM, every month except December. The meeting usually begins with a guest speaker discussing topics such as birds, weeds, landscaping, etc. The Homes Tour is on the calendar for April 2014. If you would like to have your home included on the tour contact Sallie LaCava 964-3441. Or, come help plan the event and volunteer to be a hostess. For further information, contact Sallie LaCava.

– Carol Persche

Financial Report

The Historic Bath Foundation Inc. ended 2012 strong. Income from memberships, general contributions, fundraising events and investment income was \$38,385 in 2012. Unrestricted assets have grown to \$101,544. Restricted assets for the Museum and one other project remain at \$127,098.35. Grants for five different projects were paid out in 2012 along with the final payment for Lawson's Walk. The first quarter 2013 is up compared to 2012 due to increased memberships. The Historic Bath Foundation is a great opportunity to give back to your community. All the funds are reinvested locally. After grants, cost to print and mail membership renewals and newsletters is our largest expense. The results of your gifts can be seen for generations to come. If you would like to make a tax deductible donation in 2013, please mail your donation to PO Box 238, Bath, NC 27808 or go to our website at HistoricBath.com to pay electronically.

– Director Mariann McQueen

Website Update

The HBF website is being used more frequently by an increasing number of unique visitors. The traffic on the website has increased as has the use of more pages on the website according to website statistics pulled for the site in the first quarter of 2012 and 2013.

Use of web pages doubled since the website statistics were first tracked in quarter 1 of 2012. During the period of January – March, 2012, a total of 455 page visits were tracked, compared to 941 in the same period in 2013. Likewise, 342 unique visitors utilized the website in 2012 compared to a total of 466 in the first quarter of 2013.

– Debra Torrence, Membership Committee Member

The board of directors has recently been involved in a hand-writing campaign which successfully recruited fifty members. We continue to increase the awareness of HBF through attending local events and have established an outreach coordinator, Sandra Tankard, who will provide HBF literature to the surrounding areas. We currently have 170 members and expect to have over 200 members by our annual membership meeting on June 28th. Our goal is to have 300 loyal members by our 2014 annual meeting.

– Director Karen Sayer

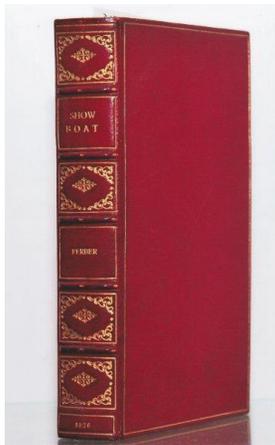
Long Term Planning - Museum

A joint committee of the Historic Bath Foundation and Bath High School Preservation has set a target date of April 1, 2014 for opening a history and art gallery in the former high school.

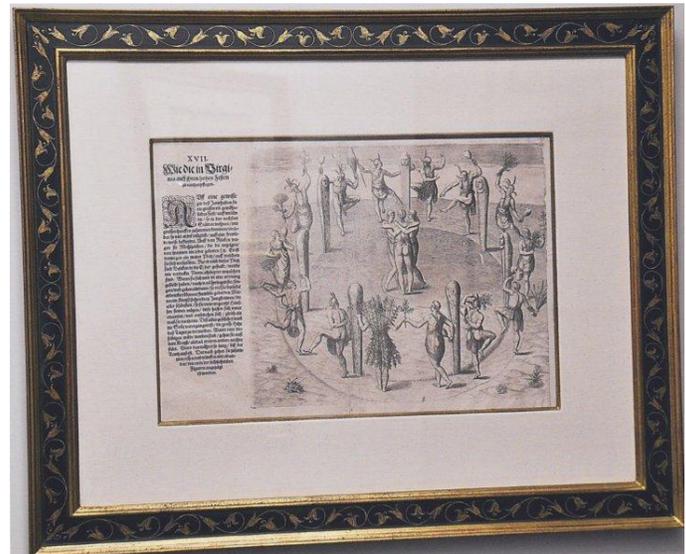
The committee's plans, which are subject to the approval of the boards of the two organizations, call for situating the gallery in approximately 1600 square feet of space in the connector between the auditorium and the South Wing of the school and in what was once the girls' bathroom.

The foundation's museum committee has identified several collections that can be displayed in the gallery. They include antique weapons, maps of the Pamlico area dating as early as the 1530's; Indian prints of Secotan and Pomioc villages engraved in 1595, Chinese Canton porcelain that began coming into America after the China trade was established in 1785; Indian and Civil War artifacts found along the Pamlico, and North Carolina currency from the colonial and Civil war Eras.

- Director Gene Roberts



- Photos taken by Larry Boyd



Gallery-Museum: examples of artifacts to be displayed Spring 2014
(1st edition Showboat novel and posters, rare maps, images and prints related to North Carolina history)

Messages from.... HBF Ex-Officio Directors

The Town of Bath's Wastewater project is progressing. After a wet winter, things are drying out and we are on schedule for completion in November/December 2013. Upon completion, our capacity should be back to 40,000 gal per day and that will enable us to add more homes and expand business in Town.

We are looking forward to Bath Fest and all it brings to Town. We are thankful for the volunteers that have organized the event.

The Planning Board has met and revised some of the zoning ordinances to aid in further development in the B1 and O&I districts. The changes have to do with signage, outward appearance and green space.

Jimmy Latham, Mayor, Town of Bath

Once again, we find ourselves in all too familiar territory with our government officials reviewing the necessity of all the various Boards and Commissions of our State. We are also experiencing pending decisions on the closing of certain historic sites within our State. At this writing, Bath is not one of them, for which we are very grateful; however, the closing of any historical site in our State should be of concern to all of us. While the realities of fiscal responsibility are important, the maintaining of our heritage should be considered important, as well. Hopefully, our leaders will determine the best possible solution, and act accordingly. The Historic Bath Commission remains dedicated to preserving the history of Bath, and providing both financial and operational assistance to our Historic Bath, State Historic Site. We are grateful to the Foundation for their support of our efforts, and for the long standing relationship we proudly enjoy.

Bill Pruitt, Jr., Chairman, Historic Bath Commission

It is always rewarding to see people's enthusiasm for visiting our historic site and lovely town increase as spring temperatures rise! The weather gets us in the spirit of renewal, too – the spring garden is in the ground, volunteers from the Historic Bath Garden Club and others have been working to create a maritime-designed Visitor Center entrance, to freshen garden spaces, and Boy Scout Troop #258 painted the Bonner kitchen and privy. We received a grant from The Historic Bath Foundation, Inc.; before long, people taking the walking tour of the town will be able to identify the Van Der Veer House by a street sign. During this season of rebirth, we have been glad to hear and see progress occurring with reconstruction work on our neighbor, the old Bath High School. Visitors used to remark frequently about the rundown facility but those comments are unheard of now! Truly, I am proud to work in this town that cares for saving the historic structures that helped mold who we are today.

Leigh Swain, Manager, Historic Bath State Historic Site

We are still making great progress on the library and connecting corridor. Some prep work is underway, but the contract for the actual construction has not been let. This is expected to be bid in May.

Both the BHSP and the HBF have appointed members to serve on a joint committee to have recommendations to our respective Boards regarding allocation and utilization of space, and staffing, for a display area in the corridor. Members from BHSP include Claudia Allgood, June Wallace, Karen Waters, Sandra Harrison, and Jimmy Edwards. BHF members are Gene Roberts, Jerry Waters, Karen Sayer, Robin Boyd and Surry Everett.

Connie Bond is Chair of the BHSP Nominating Committee. Anyone wishing to serve on the BHSP board, or to serve as an officer, or to serve on one of our several committees is invited to contact Connie for information (cbond23@suddenlink.net).

Information on membership in BHSP can go to our website- bhspresevation.org -for background and application forms.

President BHSP, Jimmy Edwards

Calendar of Events

MAY

May 18 – Bath Fest. This year's town-sponsored arts festival will have a patriotic theme and will feature arts and crafts vendors, music and theatrical performances, food booths, hands-on arts and craft activities for children. Free, scheduled tours of the Palmer-Marsh and Bonner Houses will be offered during the day. Free of charge. 11 am – 4 pm. For more information, call 252-923-3971.

May 18 – Yard Sale! Bath High School (BHS) Preservation is scheduled to host a yard sale at the old BHS gym during Bath Fest so stop by!

May 18 – Annual Cut-throat Croquet Tournament. Join the Beaufort County Community College Foundation as a participant or spectator as it sponsors the tenth annual Cut-throat Croquet Tournament. *Charge for players, free for spectators.* 11 am – 5 pm. For more information, call 252-923-3971.

JUNE

June 3rd – Bath High School Preservation Annual Meeting. 7 pm at the Bath Christian Church Fellowship Hall.

June 8th – Lecture *America Without Indians: An Imaginary Journey.* Join us for a compelling Road Scholars lecture by Dr. David LaVere. He will ask audience members to imagine that the Western Hemisphere is truly a virgin land, devoid of Indian peoples and then starts on a journey of how the nation may have developed, allowing all to come away with an understanding of just how essential Indians were to the development of the United States. Free. Visitor Center, 207 Carteret Street, 10 am

June 28th – Historic Bath Foundation Annual Membership Meeting, 11am at Bath Town Hall.

JULY

July 11th & 12th – Past Times Day Camp. *A Pirate's Life for Me!* Children ages 5-10 will step back to Blackbeard's day through activities, crafts, and stories. Fee charged: \$20, covers food and supplies. Pre-registration is requested, call 252-923-3971 or email bath@ncdcr.gov. Visitor Center, 207 Carteret St., 10am-2pm.

July 13th – War of 1812 encampment - Held at Bonner's Point.

July 15th – Historic Bath Commission Bi-annual Meeting, 10 am at Bath Visitor Center

AUGUST

August 10, 2013 – *A Woman's Work is Never Done* – Learn about women's chores from the past through demonstrations by the Tar Heel Civilians. Watch spinners and learn how to card wool. View the group's collection of tools and vintage undergarments. Try your hand at cleaning with a washboard and never complain again about doing the laundry! Free. Visitor Center, 207 Carteret Street, 10 am – 2 pm.

SEPTEMBER

September 19th – Historical Film Series – *Midnight in Paris* (2011 PG-13 94 minutes) In this charming romantic comedy, legendary director Woody Allen focuses his lens on an engaged young couple whose experiences traveling together in Paris make them begin to question the kind of life they want to live. Free, refreshments served. Visitor Center, 207 Carteret Street, 7 pm.

September 27th – HBF Board Meeting, 3-5pm at Bath Town Hall.

OCTOBER

October 17th – Historical Film Series – *The Island on Bird Street* (1997 PG-13 102 minutes) Amidst Nazi occupation of Poland, 11 year-old Alex is separated from his family and finds shelter in an abandoned house. Kept company by a mouse and comforted by his father's promise to find him, Alex finds strength by reading Robinson Crusoe Free, refreshments served. Visitor Center, 207 Carteret Street, 7 pm.

Join the work of preserving
Historic Bath
Send your tax-deductible contribution to
Bath Historic Foundation
P.O. Box 238 Bath, NC 27808

Donate by visiting us at
www.historicbath.com!



Post Office Box 238 Bath, NC 27808

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Permit #14

Interested in serving as a director?
Please complete online application
before June 15th or contact us at
historicbath@yahoo.com

2013 HBF Board of Directors Election Proxy Card

This year, we are trying out the use of an electronic proxy card as a cost and time saving measure. To allow a HBF Director or a member in good standing to vote for you, we ask that you complete the required information included in the short online proxy form. **If you do not complete the online form you must mail in a proxy sheet.**

This year's annual meeting and Board of Directors elections will be held on June 28, 2013 at 11 AM at the Town Hall. By submitting a proxy form online or by mail, all previous proxies are no longer valid. If you later decide to attend the meeting, this proxy will be revoked.

You can access the online proxy form on the HBF website home page at historicbath.com. Your proxy form must be received no later than June 15, 2013.

If you are not currently a HBF member and wish to vote, please visit the HBF website (<http://www.historicbath.com/donate.rhtml>) to access membership details. A tax-deductible, annual membership (July - June) is \$25/household. Please mail your membership fee of \$25 to The Historic Bath Foundation, Inc. P.O. Box 238, Bath, NC 27808.

- Thank you! Surry Everett, President/Chair

Historical

landmarks where the beginnings of a State took root...

Intriguing

tales of an infamous pirate and his hidden treasures...

Timeless

tranquility in the "summer-country" nestled along the Pamlico River...

Where else but North Carolina's oldest town would be the backdrop for this drama? Where else but the village town of...

Bath



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