



CAROLINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

January 2019

P.O. Box 324, Bowling Green, Virginia 22427

Vol. 40, Issue 1

**The Society will meet at 3 p.m. on Sunday, January 27, 2019, at the
Kilwinning Crosse Masonic Lodge located at 102 Chase Street,
Bowling Green, Virginia 22427**

Message from the President

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas for 2018 and a Happy New Year to start off 2019. I can say the Caroline Historical Society, Inc. (CHS) had a very active and productive year for 2018. CHS sponsored several major events and participated in many community activities during the year that helped promote CHS. Special events included the Bowling Green “Clean Sweep”, Earth Day at Fort A. P. Hill, exhibits celebrating the 100th anniversary of World War I and the 75th of World War II, an enjoyable special 50th anniversary celebration of CHS with a USO Big Band Dance at Town Hall, art exhibition of nationally known local artist Joe Umble, and the Holiday Open House and a Local Author Book Signing. Busy year! In addition, CHS received many unique historic items of interest to further expand our collection. Be prepared to see and hear about some of these donated items at our January membership meeting. This adds up to promoting CHS, education of local history, and increasing membership. CHS will be changing exhibits in January 2019 and the new exhibits may include vintage items from Caroline County’s past in the areas of schools and education, businesses, transportation, churches, law enforcement, farming, RF&P Railroad, and other interesting artifacts. If anyone would like to donate or loan items related to these areas of Caroline County’s history, please use the contact information provided at the end of the newsletter.

Although this was a good year in many ways, it was also sad in the loss of several long-standing dedicated members. Our deepest respect and sympathy are again extended to the families of our dear departed friends and members, they are missed.

Update—Old Jail Project: One goal of CHS is to have the county owned Pauly Jail, built in 1900, placed on the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places. Permission for CHS to proceed with the application process was granted by the county in 2018. The Preliminary Information Form (PIF) was completed in December 2018 and sent to the Virginia Department of Historical Resources (VDHR) for their Internal Evaluation Committee to review. Once reviewed and approved, the PIF goes to the State Review Board for further consideration. A decision on the PIF is expected by March 2019. Approval by VDHR would allow a formal application to be submitted for placement on the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places. Final approval to be placed on the National Register of Historic Places is controlled by the National Park Service. A lengthy process that will hopefully open the door for grants to rehabilitate the structure and eventually open to the public.



The program for our January membership meeting will be “Show & Tell” so bring an old artifact with a story and share it with membership. The program originally planned for our meeting will take place at the April 28th meeting.

One of the items on the agenda for our January meeting will be the discussion of the changes to the Caroline Historical Society, Inc.’s bylaws. The officers and board members have reviewed the changes and will be recommending approval to the membership at the meeting. The bylaws were changed in format only and not in the wording or intent. The sections are better organized and easier to follow.

As stated in the bylaws, the election of CHS officers and board members are required every 2 years on the date of the annual meeting. It is that time again and the election will take place at our January 27, 2019 membership meeting. The slate of officers and board members being recommended by the Nominating Committee is as follows:

President – R. Wayne Brooks
Vice-President – Kathy McVay
Treasurer – Kathy Burchell
Secretary – Dale Brittle
Historian – Bernard Collins

Board Member at Large – Joanne O’Quinn
Board Member at Large – Timothy Terrell
Immediate Past President – Bernard Collins

Nominations will also be accepted from the membership prior to the election process.

Report from the Collection Committee

We are cramped! After receiving a variety of historical materials from the now defunct Caroline Museum and a donation of 71 bound volumes of the Caroline Progress dating from 1951-2009, our storage space is filled to overflowing. We are assessing the holdings that we have cataloged through the years and are carefully applying our commitment to “protect and preserve” historical items of Caroline history. In doing so we have found that a number of books which have been around since the inception of CHS, and which we have called our Reference Collection, are not pertinent to our focus on local history and when we do need to do research on an item the internet provides an immediate and comprehensive amount of meaningful information. Still, these books have value in themselves and rather than simply discard them, we are making them available to any members who might value and appreciate them. They are listed below and members may look at them any Friday between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., or by appointment with Carolyn (804-633-6222) or Kathy (804-633-9597).

English China and its Marks
Paperweights and Other Glass
Veteran and Vintage Cars
Historic Cabinet Woods, Directory
Candleholders in America 1650-1900
The Connoisseur’s Complete Period Guide
American Horse-Drawn Vehicles
The Management of Small History Museums
The Romance of the Patchwork Quilt
An Illustrated Encyclopedia of British Pottery and Porcelain

The Art of Tray Painting
Clocks and Watches
The Antiques Book
American Needlework
The American Indian
The Book of Old Silver
British Pottery and Porcelain
200 Years of Blown Glass
Japanese Flower Arrangement

The Caroline Historical Society requests a monetary donation in return for a book.

Caroline Historical Society, Inc.'s 2018 Annual Award

Caroline Historical Society's Annual Award is presented to an individual(s), organization, group, business, or government entity that has generously donated their time and efforts to preserving and promoting Caroline County history. For the year 2018, Dale Brittle was nominated and selected by the Annual Awards Committee to receive the Caroline Historical Society Annual Award. This is the 18th time this award has been presented. Her untiring efforts to research, preserve, publish, exhibit, highlight, and promote the history of Caroline County truly show she certainly deserves this award.

Dale Brittle

Dale Nye Larkin was born in 1943, during World War II. Her father served in the U.S. Army from 1943 until 1945 in the 9th Army Air Force. Dale lived in the Bronx and her family moved to Bergen County, New Jersey, when she was 10. She completed her senior year at Mahwah High School in 1960.

Dale enrolled in Radford College (now Radford University) and obtained a B.S. degree in biology. Her father insured all four of his children received college degrees. She continued to attend Radford and earned a master's degree in counseling. This is where she met her future husband, Gilbert Brittle, who attended Radford and obtained his master's degree in public school administration in 1965. Gilbert and Dale were married in 1966, while Gilbert was principal of Caroline High School.

For two years, Dale taught biology in Douglas Freeman High School in Henrico County and then came to Caroline to teach and work as a high school counselor. Dale became a licensed professional counselor and served on the Virginia Counselors Association board for 30 years. She was frequently recognized for her achievements. Dale was director of guidance service at Caroline High School for more than 20 years and retired after 33 years of service in Virginia public schools.

Dale Brittle has been a long-time active member of the Caroline Historical Society (CHS) and presently serves as the secretary. She also serves as the historian of the Society. Often, she receives questions about Caroline families from persons doing personal research. She researches to find the answers, often reaching out to CHS members for help in her efforts. Those who call receive book reference lists, names of local historians who may be able to assist, and information about the Caroline Historical Society.

Dale volunteers to work each month in the Sidney King Arts Center and Caroline Historical Society. Volunteers assist in keeping the building open three days per week, so visitors may view the arts center and Caroline County history displays.

In 2014, when the Sidney King Arts Center was preparing to open, the Historical Society display cases had to be made ready. The display cases were organized to present Caroline history with exhibits about Bowling Green, Caroline schools, post offices, railroad history, baseball, Camp



A. P. Hill, hand tools, and law books with early references to the county. It took a long time to gather the artifacts and books, to label these items, and to prepare documentation for each exhibit. Plastic sleeves provided the viewer with one-page summaries for each display. Dale Brittle helped Bernard Collins prepare the displays and assembled related notebook binders on each exhibit. Supportive materials included articles from newspapers, magazines, and pictures. She visited a variety of sites in the county and took pictures which were added to many binders.

In 2017, the Commonwealth of Virginia and Caroline County began a year and a half period commemorating the anniversaries of World War I and World War II, highlighting Caroline veterans who served in the armed forces. Wayne Brooks changed the display cases to reflect these periods in history relative to the county. The exhibition included photographs, articles, letters, medals, weapons, and memorabilia loaned by Caroline residents. Dale Brittle stepped in again. She helped Wayne with the documentation and reproduced photographs for visitors' viewing.



Dale Brittle (left) helps two sisters visiting from Italy

Women have certainly made great contributions to our country. In 1987, Congress designated March as National Women in History Month supported by the Presidents of the United States. Dale realized many women in Caroline deserved to be recognized and remembered. She began a “Women in History” project in 2014, supported by the Caroline Historical Society. She researched information and had articles published in *The Caroline Progress* to recognize the past achievements of women in Caroline. These included—in 2015—Mary Adams, Helen Hull Jacobs, Mae Brooks, and Kathy Hancock. In 2016—Dorothy Hamm, Virginia Wright Durrett, Clara Lee Smith and Dorothy Roy. In 2017—Captain Sally Thompkins, Cleopatra Coleman, Carolyn Lane, and CHS Collection Committee volunteers Carolyn Roth, Kathy Burchell, and Mandy Young. In 2018—Carolyn Davis, Leanne Laden, Pauline Campbell, and Kay Brooks. One woman for each week in March was highlighted.

Dale has worked on many projects for the Society, but one of her favorites was researching Rosenwald schools in Caroline County. At the end of the 19th century, Julius Rosenwald established funds to assist African-American communities build schools. Nine were built in Caroline County. In 2015, Dale presented a paper on her findings at the J. S. Reynolds Community College’s “Virginia School Initiative.” Several articles have since been written and have appeared in *The Caroline Progress* and the CHS Newsletter.

For the year 2018, Dale Brittle was nominated and selected to receive the Caroline Historical Society Annual Award. This is the 18th time this award has been presented. Her untiring efforts to research, preserve, publish, exhibit, highlight, and promote the history of Caroline County truly show she certainly deserves this annual award.

Bernard Collins

Flashback



The photo on the left was sent to CHS by Linda Whittaker Tucker in hope of identifying all the Caroline County men in the picture. The picture appears to be from the early 1900s.

Seated on the front row on the right is Thomas Henry Young (1882–1938), who is believed to have married Maude Lillian Gray (1883–1919).

Another seated gentleman member of that group could be Alvin Beasley (Beazley)

If anyone can identify or verify the identities of the four gentlemen, please see the contact information at the end of this newsletter.



Can You identify anyone in this photo from Caroline County? Picture is believed to be an R.F.&P. Railroad work crew. Photographer's business was in Port Royal.

Photo by “H. A. Snowdon, Photographer, Port Royal, Va.” and “Price 50 cents each.”

Holiday Open House & Local Authors’ Book Signing

On December 8, 2018, CHS held a Holiday Open House and Local Authors’ Book Signing from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. at the Sidney E. King Arts Center. The four authors included Linda Thomas, Danette H. Moen, Bernard Collins, and Dr. Wyatt Mangum. CHS was very pleased with the attendance and everyone enjoyed the conversation, cookies, warm cider, coffee, and the Bowling Green Christmas Parade afterward.



Bernard Collins



Linda Thomas



Dr. Wyatt Mangum



Danette H. Moen

Recent Donations to the Caroline Historical Society

Donation of \$2,000 to CHS for Old Jail VDHR application to be on Historic Register
James Presgraves—postcards, letters, and various receipts from the Motley and Boulware families. This collection also included a scrapbook of Miss Maude Motley from the 1970s.
Robert Van Horn—100 letters from 1877 to 1899 of Harriet “Hattie” Rolph, Sparta, Virginia

Dates to Remember

January 27, 2019—CHS Annual Meeting 3 p.m.—102 Chase St., Bowling Green, Va.
April 28, 2019—CHS Membership Meeting 3 p.m.—102 Chase St., Bowling Green, Va.

Caroline Historical Society, Inc., General Information

R. Wayne Brooks, President—wbrooks@bealenet.com—Cell Phone (804) 513-9069
Facebook—Caroline Historical Society, Bowling Green, Va
Web Site—www.carolinehistoricalsociety.org
Location—Sidney E. King Arts Center, 121 Main St., Bowling Green, VA 22427
Mailing Address—P.O. Box 324, Bowling Green, Virginia 22427-0324
Hours of Operation—Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Specials tours upon request

