



# Historic Bakersfield News and Notes

**BAKERSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
A 501(C)(3) NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

## 2021 COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Ongoing:** BHS normally meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7 PM in our building. Please call to confirm date, location and time--call 827-3042. Our meetings are open to anyone and everyone who is interested in the history and future of Bakersfield.

BHS building is now closed for the winter. COVID restrictions allowing, our building will re-open for the traditional Potluck Luncheon on Town Meeting Day, **March 1, 2022**. Town meeting will be a hybrid event this year, in person and via zoom. However, only registered voters attending town meeting in person will be able to vote on articles that are voted from the floor in accordance with Vermont election laws.



Photo by Amber Foote

2021 was another difficult year for all of us. Very few events were scheduled and many that were scheduled had to be cancelled. There was no Independence Day celebration this year. The Spaghetti Supper take-out which happened in May and the Chicken Pie Supper which happened in October were two fundraisers the Historical Society was able to hold. The Annual Holiday Craft and Bake Sale did not take place but the raffle for the barn quilt did.

Sally Tryhorne of Enosburg was the lucky winner of Diana Paquette's wonderful barn quilt!



Photos by Lisa Stone

**IT'S TIME TO RENEW  
YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR  
2022 (SEE PAGE 6)**

## 2021 - in the Rear View Mirror

Story and photos by Linda McCall

The Historical Society started this year with a big project on our to-do list. We needed to start work on the addition to our building to stop deterioration and settling that was accelerated by frost damage following the infamous Halloween Storm of 2019.

We would like to thank Ritchie Ryea and Dan Richardson of Ryea & Sons Masonry, Mike Lanphear and his crew: David Machia, Terry Leroux, and Chris Reed. Thank you to Phil Lumbra who became our “on-call” carpenter to provide carpentry support as needed. We would also like to extend a special thank you to Larry Westcom who on more than one occasion through the years has come to our assistance offering his skills and knowledge to help us be better stewards of the Historical Society building.

We would like to thank our members and friends who helped fund this project through donated dollars and volunteered time and to Jenna Lapachinski of Preservation Trust of Vermont for getting us on track with obtaining building assessments from qualified structural engineers coupled with her guidance in helping us construct a compelling grant application. This support was instrumental in our being awarded a \$10,000 grant from the 1772 Foundation.

By Australian Ballot at the 2021 March Town Meeting, Bakersfield voters approved a request from our Historical Society for \$10,000 needed to help defray costs for repair and maintenance of the Historical Society Building. We received personal charitable donations of \$23,820. A loan of \$40,000 was obtained from the Bakersfield Trustees of Public Funds to supplement funds provided by donors, fundraising, and the 1772 Foundation Grant of \$10,000. The project grew from the initial estimate of \$49,300 to the expanded project which included the back gable with total cost of \$80,460.80. In the spring, we will paint the re-bricked portion of the back addition with a masonry paint to match the color of the main building. This was a major project for our organization! It should add to the sustainability of the building for years to come.

***The following is a partial photo account of the work that was needed and done on the Historical Society building this summer.***

**Late spring/early summer of 2020 revealed severe frost damage to the single story addition and east wall of the main building--peeling paint on the mortar coupled with cracked mortar and slipped bricks on the SE corner of the addition. Gaps between the top row of brick and soffit framing allowed starlings entry to nest and raise their young in the attic spaces. The loose brick on the back wall was a safety hazard. Time was of the essence to get this repaired before further deterioration made it a more costly project.**



Ritchie Ryea moved his equipment on-site on May 27<sup>th</sup>.

He removed some brick and officially began the project on June 1st.

Removal of the brick on the back disclosed that the bricks were newer than those on the main building. This fact was confirmed by Elsie Well's history of Bakersfield which noted that the back wall was rebuilt in the 1970s.

Behind the brick was a plywood wall with variegated clips to tie the brick to the plywood. The west and east walls were boards with spikes tying the brick to the boards.

Based on recommendations from both structural engineers, Jan Lewandoski and Bob Neeld, we decided to include the back gable wall in this project.



(above)

Mike Lanphear's team worked through the 4th of July weekend. Excavation, jacking and leveling were done in preparation for the pouring of concrete footings.

(left)

Footings poured-- concrete work done by Terry Leroux and his sons



The poured concrete foundation was increased from 10 inches to 12 inches thick to accommodate the ledge for the brick. When cured the foundation was sealed and concrete wall built up to sill. Once concrete blocks were set and new pressure treated sills in place, the steel beams were removed.

By the end of July the excavation was done and the new poured concrete foundation was in place. Ritchie Ryea and Dan Richardson of Ryea & Sons Masonry were back to re-brick the gable end of the main building and the addition. Tar paper is used to cover the wood behind the newly installed brick veneer. Per Ritchie's experience, tar paper holds up better and has more functionality than Tyvek. Ritchie installed concrete slab on concrete ledge to raise the brick installation above ground level.



The back gable was re-bricked first with salvaged brick. Note the peak area of the gable is awaiting the installation of a custom built cedar vent by Phil Lumbra. The cedar will come from Mike Lanphear's personal sawmill. The old third floor and attic area lacked proper ventilation. In accordance with *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation & Guidelines on Sustainability for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings*, the new gable vent was added to this project to improve the building's attic ventilation. In light of our hotter summers and global warming it was felt that this change was in the best interest for the sustainability of the building.



The fall weather provided a warm dry spell to get the window sill & casing painted as well as the lower portion of the east wall of the main building. Painting of the brick in the addition to match the main building will be done next spring, weather permitting.



## BAKERSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

### Officers 2021

President: Gary Foote  
Vice President: Carrie Nelson  
Secretary: Sue Tillotson  
Treasurer: Linda McCall  
Assistant Treasurer: Tami Brennan

### Board of Directors 2021

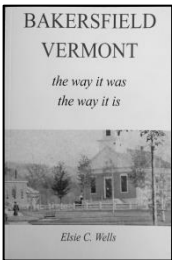
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## JOIN THE BAKERSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Bakersfield Historical Society  
P.O. Box 70 Bakersfield VT 05441  
Find us on Facebook:  
Bakersfield Historical Society, Corp.  
(802) 827-3042

### Support Your Historical Society

We depend on memberships, charitable donations, grants, fundraisers, work of volunteers, and taxpayer assistance to maintain the Historical Society Building for use in the community and to preserve our town's history by safekeeping a resource of local artifacts and information.



### PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE by Bakersfield Historical Society

- Elsie Wells *Bakersfield: the way it was, the way it is* \$25 (shipping is included) The book is also available for purchase at H.F. Brigham Library.
- Map of Bakersfield Village – reprint of Beers Atlas color \$10

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Cut here and send to the Bakersfield Historical Society, PO Box 70, Bakersfield, VT 05441

### 2022 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

BENEFACTOR \$100\_\_\_\_\_ PATRON \$50\_\_\_\_\_ FAMILY \$20\_\_\_\_\_ INDIVIDUAL \$10\_\_\_\_\_

I PREFER TO SUPPORT BHS WITH A GIFT OF \_\_\_\_\_

Our Restoration Gift Campaign is to help in the restoration and use of Bakersfield's landmark building in order to preserve the past for the benefit of present and future generations

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

The Bakersfield Historical Society is a non-profit 501(C)(3) corporation. Gifts and memberships above the family level are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. You can increase the level of your support if your employer has a matching grant program.