



# Diamond Hill News N

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## Diamond Hill Historical Society President's Annual Report January 6, 2009

Diamond Hill – What a wonderful place to live! Beautiful homes with rich history and great neighbors ..... such a unique neighborhood! I would like to thank the Officers and Directors for serving this year as well as the membership for supporting the Society's activities. The willingness of members to serve and volunteer has been an important element in our success over the years and I appreciate the many unheralded contributions people make on a regular basis. In particular I would like to thank Jim Carrington for his years of service as the Editor of the Diamond Hill News. This publication has been a significant historical document as well as an effective public relations vehicle. I would also like to recognize Jeff Schneider for his work as Treasurer, the driving force on the Endowment Committee, and as the Chairperson for the Calendar Sale. We have made progress on a number of fronts and I would like to mention some noteworthy items from this past year:

### January

- ◆ 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Diamond Hill News
- ◆ Deficit DHHS Budget approved for 2008
- ◆ Major outdoor improvements to the Banker's Home

### February

- ◆ Lynchburg Museum in Old Courthouse re-opens

### March

- ◆ Easter Egg Hunt
- ◆ Waterstone Restaurant on Jefferson Street opens
- ◆ Obtained photographs of the buildings demolished to make way for the YMCA and its parking lot at the corner of Washington and Madison Streets

### April

- ◆ Investment Risk Survey given to the Endowment Committee.
- ◆ Damaged tree removed from the tree lawn

### May

- ◆ Spring Cleanup

- ◆ 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Spring Yard Sale
- ◆ Angela Hamilton of Lynch's Landing Speaks at Membership Meeting

### June

- ◆ June Social at the Hannon's
- ◆ Garage behind 713 Pearl Street, fronting on Grace Street Demolished
- ◆ Groundbreaking ceremony to launch Academy of Music stage house renovation

### July

- ◆ Individual Fourth of July celebrations throughout the neighborhood

### August

- ◆ Jeff Schneider became member of the Historic Preservation Commission
- ◆ Diamond Hill Garden Cleanup

### September

- ◆ Store at the foot of the Clay Street steps sold

### October

- ◆ Retail Merchants Foundation Grant Application Submitted
- ◆ New owners proceed with renovation of the Blackford House and Gardens

### November

- ◆ Fall Cleanup
- ◆ Calendar Sale begins
- ◆ Roy Roberson of Roberson Financial Services presents investments recommendations for DHHS Endowment Fund Management

### December

- ◆ Homes decorated for Christmas
- ◆ Start of 5<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor Master Plan Announced
- ◆ Jim Carrington resigns as the Editor of the Diamond Hill News
- ◆ Josie Alvarenga assumes roll of Editor with the January Edition
- ◆ Norman Hale, new City Parking Manager speaks at Membership Meeting

- ◆ 30+ % Drop in Total Funds Position of DHHS as a result of market decline
- ◆ Police Department Neighborhood Watch participation at meetings.

These items represent some of the many diverse events and activities that affect the Diamond Hill Historical Society and the neighborhood. The City continues to move forward on Downtown Revitalization Projects and supports our requests for neighborhood services. Private investment continues in Downtown with the opening of new stores, restaurants and additional restoration projects. Demolition continues and is a major loss to the neighborhood. Homeowners continue to improve their properties and neighbors help neighbors in these efforts. DHHS members continue to volunteer to support the Society and new fundraising activities as implemented. The DHHS Board continues to make responsible operational changes. Children's activities continue to bring joy to many in the neighborhood. Our Neighborhood Watch continues to be an important part of our meetings. Neighbors move out and new neighbors move in. Along with these items families celebrated many enriching activities including engagements, weddings, births and the passing of loved ones. We live in a vital community.

As I look ahead I would like to recommend the following goals for 2009:

- ◆ Put in place a revised financial management structure to support operations and the goals of the Society.
- ◆ Place greater emphasis on beautification and beautification management with a particular focus on design and accountability.
- ◆ Develop a structured historical research plan and begin implementation to make a significant contribution in 2009.

I look forward to 2009 with the knowledge that we have all of the abilities, skills and resources within our organization to move forward and support the purposes of the Diamond Hill Historical Society.

Respectfully submitted by Patrick H. Gatti, President Diamond Hill Historical Society, January 6, 2009.

### Officers & Directors elected

Our thanks to the following officers and directors who will be serving our organization this year:

- ◆ President: Patrick H. Gatti
- ◆ Vice-President: Katheryn M Brown
- ◆ Recording Secretary: Mari White Smallshaw
- ◆ Membership Sec: Mary Kathryn McIntosh
- ◆ Treasurer: Jeffery Schneider
- ◆ Historian: Fran D Briley
- ◆ Director 2008-09: Julianna K. Neighbors
- ◆ Director 2008-09: L. Robert Halpin
- ◆ Director 2009-10: James J Carrington
- ◆ Director 2009-10: Josiani S. Alvarenga

### Newsletter articles and mailing list corrections

If you have some news you think our members would find interesting, please send it to: [diamondhill\\_news@yahoo.com](mailto:diamondhill_news@yahoo.com)

Mailing list corrections should also be sent to the same e-mail address.

### Thanks for the Good Job!

On behalf of the Diamond Hill Historical Society, we would like to thank the following officers and directors who served our organization during 2008:

- ◆ President: Patrick H. Gatti
- ◆ Vice-President: Leonard R Briley
- ◆ Recording Sec: Nancy J. Zehmer
- ◆ Membership Sec: Marla E Potter
- ◆ Treasurer: Jeffery Schneider
- ◆ Historian: Jean L Hannon
- ◆ Director 2007-08: Jon I Alvarenga
- ◆ Director 2007-08: James J Carrington
- ◆ Director 2008-09: Julianna K Neighbors
- ◆ Director 2008-09: Robert Halpin

We also would like to extend our appreciation to all Committee Chairpersons and volunteers who made the activities during 2008 possible.

### 2009 DHHS Membership Meeting Schedule

Dates	Hosts	Address
Jan. 6, 2009	Jane and George Dooley	508 Washington St
Feb. 3, 2009	Katheryn and Hampton Brown	601 Pearl St
March 3, 2009	Shirley and Robert Eugeni	1416 Harrison St
April 7, 2009	Sally and Jeffery Schneider	307 Washington St
May 5, 2009	Mary Kathryn and William McIntosh	700 Pearl St
June 2, 2009 (June Social)	Jean and Ted Hannon	708 Pearl St
Sept. 1, 2009	Julie and Vernon Neighbors	602 Washington St
Oct. 6, 2009	Katheryn and Hampton Brown	601 Pearl St
Nov. 3, 2009	Josi and Jon Alvarenga	1421 Harrison St
Dec. 1, 2009	David Porter & Charles Bedat	316 Washington St
Jan. 5, 2010	Jane and George Dooley	508 Washington St



## Diamond Hill News

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 P.O. Box 803, Lynchburg, VA 24505  
 Website: [www.diamondhill.org](http://www.diamondhill.org)  
 Email: [dhhscontact@yahoo.com](mailto:dhhscontact@yahoo.com)  
 Newsletter articles:  
[diamondhill\\_news@yahoo.com](mailto:diamondhill_news@yahoo.com)

### Officers & Directors

*President:* Patrick H. Gatti  
*Vice-President:* Katheryn M Brown  
*Recording Sec:* Mari White Smallshaw  
*Membership Sec:* Mary Kathryn McIntosh  
*Treasurer:* Jeffery Schneider  
*Historian:* Fran D Briley  
*Director 08-09:* Julianna K. Neighbors  
*Director 08-09:* L. Robert Halpin  
*Director 09-10:* James J Carrington  
*Director 09-10:* Josiani S. Alvarenga

### Committee Chairpersons

*Neighborhood Beautification:* Dennis Newton  
*Hospitality:* Fran D. Briley  
*Tours:* Julianna K. Neighbors  
*Website:* Mari White Smallshaw  
*Newsletter:* Josie Alvarenga  
*Neighborhood Watch:* L. Robert Halpin  
*Children's Activities:* Mari Smallshaw  
*Street Restoration:* Larry A. Wollan, Jr  
*Auditor:* Charles Bedat  
*Endowment Fund:* Jeffery Schneider  
*Parliamentarian:* Charles K. Bradner

### Meetings

Business meetings are usually held at 7:30 p.m. on first Tuesdays of each month except June, July and August. Owners of properties in the Diamond Hill Historic District and others interested in supporting historic preservation are welcome to attend.

### Membership

Annual dues for Active Members are \$10.00 per person and the initiation fee is \$5.00 (first year). Active Membership is limited to adult members of households owning Diamond Hill property. Annual dues for Associate Members are \$10 per person (no initiation fee). All members receive this newsletter at no charge. Newsletter subscriptions for non-members are \$5.00 per year.

### Publisher's Statement

The Diamond Hill Historical Society (DHHS) is a nonprofit historic preservation organization approved under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. Its purpose is to preserve and encourage—through the fostering of education, research and restoration—the historical and architectural integrity of the Diamond Hill Historic District. DHHS was incorporated in the Commonwealth of Virginia February 22, 1979. Views expressed in the *Diamond Hill News* do not necessarily reflect the position of DHHS or its officers and directors.

## LHF 2008 Awards

During the Annual Meeting of the Lynchburg Historical Foundation the evening of January 6, the following awards were presented:

### Preservation Awards

#### Larry and Thomas Filiaggi (Exterior Projects in Progress) Christ Episcopal Chapel (circa 1870)

Over the past 138 years this little Chapel has been one of four satellite chapels to serve Grace Memorial Episcopal Church located on Grace Street, a grocery store, the Cabell Street Mission for the Salvation Army, a warehouse for the Standard Notion Company and the New Jerusalem United Holiness Church who transferred it to the Lynchburg Historical Foundation in 1983. LNDP acquired the property and sold it to a private citizen. Larry and his son Thomas purchased the building in 2006 and are restoring the building retaining the historic storefront.

#### Gary & Sharon Harvey Interior Project Completed 3561 Fort Avenue – (circa 1913)

This house is classified as an Italian Revival with Craftsman style interior oak trim. The interior space is modified from the "four square plan" with a center main stair hall that divides the main level with a large front-to-rear living room to the right and the dining room to the front and the kitchen to the rear on the left. Upstairs three bedrooms and two baths. 10' plaster ceilings with some oak beams/tray ceilings. This house was one of the first in Lynchburg to have purely electric lighting. Most rooms contain the original light fixtures.

### Merit Awards (Completed Exterior Project)

#### Nikole Branch & Jesse Adams-Doolittle 1002 Wise Street (circa 1845)

Curle-Hughes house is one of the oldest houses on College Hill, as its earliest portion was built in 1845 by George Curle, a prominent Lynchburg builder in the decades leading up to the Civil War. Curle sold the house to sisters Sarah Hughes and Edmonia Johnson, who held it in trust for Sarah's daughter until she came of age in 1867. During the Civil War the house was directly opposite the first of many wartime hospitals in Lynchburg, a structure that before the War was the campus of Lynchburg College (no connection to the present institution) and gave "College Hill" its name. In 1942 the Trevey family purchased the house where they lived until the last Trevey resident, Ted Trevey, left in the late 1960s. The house passed through several owners and finally sat vacant from the early-1990s until 2005 when Nikole Branch and

Jesse Adams-Doolittle purchased the house through the Lynchburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority's Homesteading Program. Nikole and Jesse moved into the house in December of 2007.

#### William Jackson 1118 Wise Street (circa 1906)

Acquired from the Lynchburg Redevelopment & Housing Authority in 2006 this house has seen major renovations.

#### Lynchburg Museum Director -Doug Harvey 901 Court Street Lynchburg Museum (1855)

The Lynchburg Museum is located in the 1855 Greek Revival court house that overlooks downtown from the top of Monument Terrace. Serving as the City's court house from 1855 until the 1960's, the building had deteriorated over the years. As the City began to plan for the American Bicentennial in 1976, it was decided to restore the court house and open it as a museum for Lynchburg. The Lynchburg Museum opened in the late 1970's and operated until a ceiling collapse in a second floor gallery in 2000 vividly demonstrated the need for further restoration. The building was vacated and fully restored by the end of 2005 and exhibit planning and fabrication took place in 2006-2007. On January 31, 2008, the building reopened to the public. The Museum has won several awards since opening for the restoration, preservation, and quality of exhibits.

#### Gary & Sharon Harvey 3561 Fort Ave. (1905)

Constructed of clay masonry block molded with keys on both side for bonding of The exterior stucco and interior plaster. Accented with stained brick water table, window surrounds and horizontal accents. The roof structure is a hip roof with green Italian style clay tile and hidden copper gutters. here were originally four exterior porches: front, right, left side/rear and rear. The left side rear porch was enclosed during the recent renovations with the transparency and massing of the original porch configuration maintained with the use of glazed door and window units. The Second Story addition above the open porch, The reconfiguration of the kitchen window and the enclosure of the rear right-side porch were part of the 200-2002 restoration and renovation undertaken by the current owners.

#### Troy Deacon & Ted Delaney 301 Cabell Street (1873)

One of the first houses constructed during the building boom on Daniel's Hill following its annexation to the city in 1870. The diminutive and delightful front porch occupies the space formed by the re-entrant angle of the

façade. The door and all the windows are topped by shallow rectangular pediments a handsome and perhaps unexpected refinement in a relatively modest house. The house underwent substantial renovations in 2007. The northwest side of the house had to be raised ten inches to level the floors, the windows, shutter, roof slates and interior floor boards were all reworked and the house was rewired and re-plumbed.

#### Karen Kennedy, President, Woodstock Condominium Association and residents 2934 Rivermont Ave. Woodstock Condominiums (circa 1917)

Stanhope Johnson designed the building in 1917. The first and third floors have four apartments each, while the second floor has two mirror image apartments for owners. Allen Chambers said "The Woodstock contains two apartments that were every bit the equal of contemporary private homes." In 1986 developers purchased the building and converted the apartments into condominium. Over the years the Woodstock fell into disrepair with the majority of the problems caused by water damage. In 2002 the resident owners initiated a plan to preserve and maintain the integrity and beauty of the building. In 2007 the work was complete both on the inside and outside totally \$185,000.00 paid solely by the residents.

### Preservationist of the Year Award Phillip Wayne Rhodes

Wayne joined the Jones Memorial Library staff in 1981 as the Research Services Coordinator. He held that position for 17 years before becoming the Director of the Library. As director he coordinated the Library activities including personnel, budget, collection development, automation, public relations, etc. He cataloged manuscripts and other materials for the Library collections. For the past 10 years Wayne has moved the Library forward by his professional manner as director and vast knowledge of the Library collections and genealogical records. His publications are to numerous mention individually with his latest being *Free Blacks of Lynchburg, Virginia 1805-1865* co-authored with Ted Delaney, published for the Southern Memorial Association. He has also written many articles and reviews for three major Genealogist Magazine and Journals.

*Congratulations for the job well done!*

**Traveling Christmas Party**

Hors d'oeuvres, good food, fun and a toast of good cheer were served and rejoiced at several Diamond Hill homes on December 25th. Good friends and neighbors gathered and enjoyed each other 's company for celebration of the Holiday season.



*Steve Smallshaw, Marla Potter, Fran Briley and Sue Baldwin*



*Jeff Potter and Mari Smallshaw*

**Order your DHHS Calendar!**

The calendar cost is \$10.00 - and may be purchased:

- ◆ at the membership meetings
- ◆ at the Lynchburg Visitor's Center, 12th and Church Street



Happy Valentine's Day!

**DH properties for sale**

- ◆ 1223 Clay Street
- ◆ 1225 Clay St: Harris-Sneed House (c.1882)
- ◆ 1301 Clay St: Jordan-Kinckle House (c.1883)
- ◆ 1304 Clay: Ryland-Addison House (1906)
- ◆ 1308 Clay: Stokes House (1906)
- ◆ 1301 Madison Street (c.1820)
- ◆ 1420 Madison: Moore House (1910)
- ◆ 605 Pearl: 1/2 of Owens-Heald Duplex (1899)
- ◆ 709 Pearl: McLaughlin-Batte House (1921)
- ◆ 503 Washington: Dean House (c. 1850)

**Halt Auto Break-Ins!**

In order to prevent a larceny from your vehicles, please make sure you leave nothing of value in your car that is visible to anyone who may look inside.

- ◆ Keep doors locked at all times
- ◆ Leave nothing of value inside the car
- ◆ Park in well lighted areas
- ◆ Leave nothing visible to anyone looking inside and
- ◆ Report any suspicious people looking into cars to the Lynchburg Police Department!

**Feb. Meeting**

**Tues., Feb.3  
7:30 p.m.**

at the

**Jones House  
(1887)  
601 Pearl St**

Hosts: Katheryn and Hampton Brown

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