

Bay Head Historical Society

Serving Bay Head, Mantoloking and Lovelandtown

PO Box 127, Bay Head, New Jersey 08742

Newsletter ~ Fall 2016

WHAT A GREAT YEAR THIS HAS BEEN!

2016 will stand out in my reflections on the Bay Head Historical Society. I am happy to report that by the time we opened in June, the exterior and first floor repairs were completed. The Loveland Homestead Museum looks as good as ever!

This year's show "All Aboard" has been a big success with record attendance. We all must thank museum manager/curator Cathie Coleman and Tim Ferrie and Steve Lang from **The Train Room** in Point Pleasant Beach for the awesome model railroad display featuring the loop and various trains of Bay Head. This display, donated to the Bay Head Historical Society, in turn, it will be loaned to Info Age in Wall Township for long term display. Special thanks must also go to our great docents, Linda Clarke, Cathie Coleman and Pat Burke, who made this display come alive for our visitors.

"An Evening for the Museum" fundraiser was held at the Bay Head Yacht Club on September 23rd. It was an evening of good food and drink, great fellowship and exciting silent and live auctions. Thanks to our sponsors, donors and bidders we exceeded our goal of \$100,000. I would like to thank the other members of our fundraising committee; Pat Burke, Cathie Coleman, Bob Hein, Christine Hesse, Priscilla Hiby, Dave Kellogg, Ed King, Jane Ridolfi ~Committee Chair, Toms Royal and Tom Van Nostrand. Now we can continue to restore and preserve the Loveland Homestead Museum. THANKS, EVERYONE!

"All Aboard" will continue to be open on Saturday and Sunday, 1-4pm through December 18. Come visit our added attraction, the Victorian Christmas display, beginning Sat. December 4th. A limited number of Victorian decorations as well as Kent Mountford's book, *Silent Maid* will be available at the museum.

It's been a fabulous year!

Doris Czarnecki, President

A HISTORY OF THE BAY HEAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

When Bay Head was incorporated in 1886, it was basically a summer resort for affluent families from the Philadelphia and Princeton areas. Their Shingle Style, Stick Style and Queen Anne style “summer cottages” are still the reason for the charm and character of Bay Head.

In 1990 there was a surge in new construction in our area, which alerted our founding mothers, Evalyn Shippee, Allison Goetting, and the Nancy Petracco, to the risk of a change of character to the community. Very few people at that time seemed to be aware of the history and/or architecture that makes Bay Head so special.

The first effort was to acquire the old railroad buildings in the center of town to restore and showcase the town’s history. When that effort failed, they enlisted others to help and two years later, in 1993, the Bay Head Historical Society incorporated as a 501c (non-profit) organization.

In 1995 an architectural history firm was commissioned to survey every structure in town to give us a report as to our architectural significance. They reported that 2/3 of the town qualified for both the State and National Registries of Historic Places. The Town Council at that time declined to apply for the designations.

Following a second survey several years later, with Council support, the town was accepted for placement on both the State and National Registry of Historic Places in 2002, and a Historic District was created. The inclusion of Bay Head into the State and National Registries of Historic Places gives the Bay Head Historical Society (and the Borough itself) some clout with state and/or federal agencies who want to come in to change something (for example widening the streets). It is, by New Jersey law, necessary for them to check with us first.



In 1995 the search for an appropriate location for a museum began, and the current building was purchased in 1998. Total renovation was completed in 2000 and the Museum, known as the Loveland Homestead, was opened. The museum is located just over the town line of Bay Head, in the Lovelandtown section of Point Pleasant. The building was originally constructed in 1867, with a substantial addition in 1887. This location is highly appropriate because of the entwined history of Lovelandtown and Bay Head.

Originally, the museum was furnished as a Victorian style farmhouse and featured the William Schoettle collection of photographs. While the Schoettle collection remains the backbone of our collection, we have transformed the museum into a gallery space with a permanent Bay Head display, and two rooms for seasonally

changing shows featuring Head of the Bay history. The Museum is open from early June through December. Hours are available on our website.

In the past we have held house tours of historic Bay Head and Mantoloking homes. Our last house tour was just two weeks before Super Storm Sandy, which then proceeded to damage and/or destroy every home on the tour. Future house tours are being considered.

From its inception, the organization has recognized the importance of maintaining our historic heritage through our annual Preservation/Restoration Awards to buildings in Mantoloking and Bay Head.

In addition, we publish 2 newsletters a year and hold a general membership meeting in June, with a featured speaker. Our 600+ members are invited to a yearly holiday party and have free admission to the museum.

The museum continues to be a place for education, awareness, and enjoyment, while also serving as a social center for the entire community.

Membership is open to everyone; everyone from anywhere is welcome. We suggest a donation from non-members.

Our website is: www.bayheadhistoricalsociety.com

**Written by President Doris Czarnecki with lots of help from our first president, Evalyn Shippee

BOARD OF TRUSTEES CONSIDERS ADDITIONAL REPAIRS

The Loveland Homestead building is in very good shape following last winter major preservation work. With the help of Architect Jeff Schneider, Spencer Builders and Tim Crimmins, masonry craftsman, the job was completed at an affordable price. The west end of the building was elevated with helical piles and new piers; the chimney was totally rebuilt and the cracked walls and window were replaced.

Now the Board of Trustees is considering additional preservation and updates. The electrical system is our highest priority as there are some areas with no outlets or the existing wiring may be unsafe. The walls and ceiling on the second floor are long-standing issues which need to be addressed as well as the porch railings. The Museum grounds are also on our list. The garden will be completely redone as well as the dune grass planting on the south side of the Dale Building, and the flagpole area. We will be reaching out to local resources for guidance in securing native and sustainable planting for these areas. Lastly we plan to purchase a much-needed bike rack which will add to the safety of our parking lot. If you would like to be involved in this effort, please contact Cathie Coleman@netscape.net



You are cordially invited to the
Bay Head Historical Society's
Annual Holiday Party

Sunday, December 4th, 4 to 6 pm
at the home of Bob Hein and Silke Stutz
204 East Avenue, Bay Head

Preservation Awards will be presented.
Members only

Many members have suggested that we renew the old tradition of bringing some of their favorite holiday goodies to share with other party goers. Great Idea! Please feel free to bring a dozen or so of your special sweet or savory finger foods. If you would like to bring something, contact Cathie Coleman (732-840-5974) so that we can fill in the gaps and insure an enjoyable start to the holiday season.



Renew your membership, make a donation: Your contributions help restore and maintain our valuable collections, as well as our buildings and grounds. Income allows us to continue to present exhibits and programs which are interesting and educational. Your donation is tax deductible; your check is your receipt. BHHS is a tax-exempt corporation (22-3219135). Mail your check to BHHS, P.O. Box 127, Bay Head, N.J. 08742

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Fall 2016

Now is the time to pay your 2017 annual membership dues