

Bay Head Historical Society

Serving Bay Head, Mantoloking and Lovelandtown

P. O. Box 127 Bay Head, New Jersey

Fall 2019

Dear Members and Friends of the Bay Head Historical Society,

As the 2019 season draws to a close, I am pleased to report that we have had a very productive year. Three, much-needed, landscaping projects have been completed. We were able to get the State of New Jersey to commit to on-going mowing and cleaning of their easement and drainage system on our property. We followed up by re-configuring and planting the berm at our northern property line to mitigate the effects of excess rainwater. Lastly, the western border was cleared of under-brush and heavily mulched to prevent re-growth. We did try a vegetable garden, but the heavy late Spring rains would not cooperate. Next Spring...pumpkins.

We could not dedicate our resources to maintaining our property without addressing the issue of preservation and restoration of our buildings. The Loveland House roof is close to 30 years old and has some leaks which could potentially compromise our collections. We plan to have the roof repaired, and new cedar shakes installed. The Slade Dale building roof is losing shingles with every wind event, and lastly, our shed roof has many leaks. We plan to replace these roofs with architectural style, high-performing asphalt shingles. I expect that this work will be completed before late spring. This significant effort is going to be expensive. After many hours of discussion, estimates, and Board meetings, we feel that these decisions are timely and appropriate. They will have a lasting impact on our property for many years to come. Your continuing support is essential to us. Please consider us in your year-end giving.



Cathie Coleman, President

Bay Head Historical Society, Board of Trustees

*Catharine Coleman ~ President, Robert Klein ~ Vice President, David Kellogg ~ Treasurer
Doris Czarnecki ~ Secretary, Tom Van Nostrand, Toms Royal, Patricia Burke, Linda Clarke*

ARCHIVING EFFORTS

The Bay Head Historical Society's efforts to improve the appearance of our property has been very positive. Therefore, from June until late October, we concentrated our time and energy on what is inside our buildings. Our initial goal was to catalog the William C. Schoettle collection using PAST PERFECT, a museum management program. That awesome task has been completed, and we have added all other items to our database, with the exception of the furniture and decoys. Over 2500 individual pieces are now cataloged.



Brittany



Theo

Brittany Smith, who interned with us last year, returned to spear-head the cataloging of artwork, photographs, glass slides, negatives, exhibit information, books, letters, newspaper clippings, and more. Dylan Morrow was on board to help bring some organization to what could have been total chaos. Theodore Lattanzio from London, England, returned to volunteer again. As a "Pocket Project Volunteer," he was able to choose a project that was interesting for him and contributed to the goals of the museum. He spent his time transcribing some turn of the century personal letters and articles, which helped us to appropriately catalog them in our database. We hope that additional volunteers will help us identify some of our "mystery" ephemera.



Dylan

BHHS will be purchasing the *MultiMedia Upgrade of PAST PERFECT*, which will allow us to match our existing stored photo data into our new catalog system.

What is next? I have made an application to the New Jersey Association of Museums, Artifacts Assessment Program for an initial collections survey, which includes "evaluations of environmental conditions in storage and exhibition areas, condition of artifacts, storage arrangements and collection management process, and documentation systems, processes, and intellectual access, NJAM." A team will visit our museum and suggest storage plans, follow up for projects, disaster preparedness, and scope of work for grant funding.

I expect that by the end of this process, we will have sufficient information to apply for grant funding that would help us obtain the appropriate archiving materials.

VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS

Loveland Homestead is preparing for another beautiful Victorian-inspired holiday exhibit. Our Christmas trees will be decorated with hand-made objects and antique glass ornaments. Victorian Christmas decorations were very popular in America starting in the mid 1800's. Christmas was declared a national holiday in 1870. Trees were decorated with hand-made ornaments, cornucopias filled with candy and small fruits, nuts, and popcorn garlands. Many of the decorations were made from found materials, scraps of fabric, paper cutouts, and all kinds of natural things such as pinecones, acorns, twigs, flowers, and seashells. The trees may have had real candles that were briefly lighted on Christmas morning, always with a bucket of water nearby.

There is one ornament that always draws attention, the gilded walnut. Whether it is a simple walnut gilded and hung with a bright ribbon or carefully cut in half, cleaned and filled with particular messages or some small treasure like a coin or a tiny baby doll...they always surprise.

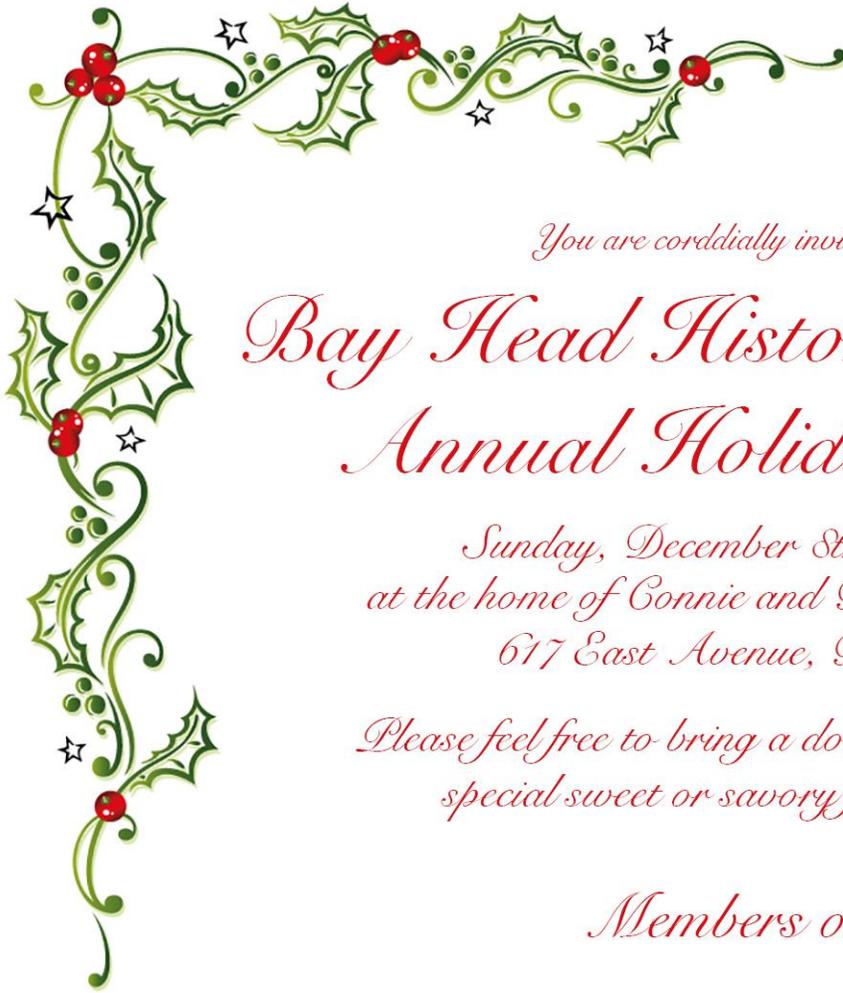


For those who are crafty and patient, directions for making these holiday treasures follows:

You will need walnuts, knife or nutcracker, gold acrylic paint, paintbrush, strong glue, and red or green narrow ribbon. Carefully split the walnut shells in half with a knife* and remove the meat. Make sure to keep matching halves together. Paint the outside of the shells and allow them to thoroughly dry. If you wish to place a message or trinket inside the shell, do it now. Cut an 8" or 9" piece of ribbon, tie the ends in a small knot and glue it at the top inside of the shell just below the rim. Put glue around the remaining edge and seal. Traditionally the shells without an inside surprise can be hung on their tree. Enough filled shells should be made for each Christmas guest, put them in a large bowl, and place that on your holiday table to be chosen at random by your guests. They may decide to keep or exchange their walnut with another guest.

*I said it takes patience, I have resorted to a Dremel after starting with a dozen or so shells, managing to smash most of them to bits without two halves that even remotely fit together.

This year we will enhance our display with vintage holiday and Bay Head postcards. The museum will be opening on December 7th from 12:30 until 3:30. Each family will receive a hand-made vintage style ornament to take home and hang on their tree. After that, the museum will be open on Saturdays and Sundays from 1:00 to 4:00 until Saturday, December 22nd. We look forward to seeing you at the Loveland Homestead Museum. Don't forget that the Loveland Homestead is an excellent place for last-minute gift shopping. Books, posters, and decorations are available. You might want to give a yearly membership.



You are corddially invited to the

Bay Head Historical Society Annual Holiday Party

*Sunday, December 8th, 4 to 6 pm
at the home of Connie and Bill Fortenbaugh
617 East Avenue, Bay Head*

*Please feel free to bring a dozen or so of your
special sweet or savory finger foods.*

Members only



Renew your membership, make a donation: Your contribution will 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, NJ 08742.

Individual Annual Membership \$40 _____

Family Annual Membership \$50 _____

Individual LIFE Membership \$400 _____

Family LIFE Membership \$500 _____

Business or Association Membership \$150 _____

Other Donations \$ _____

Name: _____

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The Newsletter is available in color on our website: BayHeadHistoricalSociety.org Fall 2019

NOW IS THE TIME TO PAY YOUR 2020 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

