

# Bay Head Historical Society

*Serving Bay Head, Mantoloking and Lovelandtown*

*P. O. Box 127, Bay Head, NJ 08742*

## Newsletter ~ Fall, 2011

Dear Members and Friends,

I would like to share a few of my thoughts on the recent passing of Dick LaBonté. An artist and historian, his unmistakable style is reflected most prominently in his interpretation of the photographic collection of Bill Schoettle. Their decades long collaboration resulted in paintings which adorn the walls of many houses in Bay Head and beyond. During my eight years as president of the Bay Head Historical Society we were able to exhibit his original works on several occasions. Some paintings had never been viewed in public. I thank Ann LaBonté Neff and the owners of these pieces for allowing this to happen. It was a once in a lifetime treat for those who attended the exhibits. Dick LaBonté will be remembered as a friend, a supporter and an artist.

We had a great season which was dedicated to the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the incorporation of Mantoloking with artifacts and photographs on display in *Early Mantoloking*, followed by *Decoy* which showcased duck and shorebird decoys, both working and decorative, from the collection of Mantoloking's own Connie Pilling. The exhibition was complemented by artist Kate Leigh Cutler's interpretation of many of the decoys on display. Thank you as always for your support and please visit often.

Finally, as we continue to grow, would you consider volunteering some of your time and talents to our effort? We are always looking for innovative ideas, enthusiasm and hands-on help. If interested, let us know through the "Contact Us" tab on the web site.  
([www.bayheadhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.bayheadhistoricalsociety.com))

On a very serious note, there is a trend accelerating in Bay Head which threatens the very essence of our town...the needless demolition which is destroying the town's historic homes and the streetscapes they engender. On a more positive note, there is an effort underway to craft an historic preservation ordinance to try to save what is left. I urge you to attend the Planning Board meetings and learn the facts for yourself. The Planning Board meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM at Boro Hall.

Peter Harrington  
President

**New Museum Staff Member**

Matt Orshansky joined the museum staff in June as a provider of archiving and other services. He is a graduate of Stockton College with a B.A. in Historical Studies. Matt has a real passion for history, working at BHHS Museum is a perfect place to gain experience. His archiving duties, including digitizing, identification and categorizing collections, take most of his time. He is currently working on our latest acquisition from William Schoettle. Matt welcomes museum visitors with enthusiasm and enjoys sharing his knowledge of our rich local history.



**BHHS Gearing Up for the 2012 House Tour**

We’re excited about next year’s House Tour! It is shaping up to be bigger and better than ever. We plan to have two ocean front homes, two bayside homes, and three homes in the town center of Bay Head. All are beautifully decorated and never before opened to the public. Of course, we are bringing back our popular Old Fashioned Lunch ~at an Old Fashioned Price, on the Museum grounds. After lunch, visitors are urged to tour the Museum and enjoy the fabulous exhibit. We also anticipate a small historical boutique here on the grounds of our Loveland Homestead Museum. We welcome your assistance as we prepare for this fantastic tour. If you would like to help out, please contact us through our website: [www.bayheadhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.bayheadhistoricalsociety.com)

**Holiday Party**

Sunday, December 4th, 3 to 5 PM  
200 Main Avenue, Bay Head



Please join us for the members only hoilday party. Michelle and Tom Smith will graciously open their home for the event. Preservation Awards will be presented to recognize those who have made a real effort to protect, preserve and restore wonderful homes in our community. Also, a tribute will be paid to Peter Harrington for eight years of helping the BHHS and the museum to become a special place for all things historical. Feel free to bring your special holiday treat to help bring in the holiday season.

**Museum Hours**

The Museum will be open on Saturdays and Sundays from 1:00 to 4:00 PM through December. Check our web-site, [www.bayheadhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.bayheadhistoricalsociety.com) for special events.

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**Renew your membership, make a donation:** Your contributions help restore and maintain our valuable collections, as well as our buildings and grounds. Funding 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 (223219135). Mail your check to BHHS, P.O. Box 127, Bay Head, NJ 0874

Individual Annual Membership \$30 \_\_\_\_\_ Family Annual Membership \$40 \_\_\_\_\_  
Individual LIFE Membership \$300 \_\_\_\_\_ Family LIFE Membership \$400 \_\_\_\_\_  
Business or Association Annual Membership \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ Other Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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