

# *Bay Head Historical Society*

*Serving Bay Head, Mantoloking and Lovelandtown*

*PO Box 127, Bay Head, New Jersey 08742*

Newsletter ~ Fall 2015

Greetings and thank you to all our members and friends.

This year marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Bay Head Historical Society. We have created a museum of which to be proud. Over the years, Loveland Homestead has been changed from an 1800's farm house display to an outstanding gallery where we have hosted many great shows over the years. Look back at over 30 exhibit posters on our web site, [www.BayHeadHistoricalSociety.com](http://www.BayHeadHistoricalSociety.com). We will continue to display artifacts, memorabilia, photographs, furniture, paintings, decoys and other treasures from the head of Barnegat Bay.

We are grateful to our founders for all their vision, for seeing the need to preserve the history and architecture style of Bay Head. We are very proud and grateful for the William Schoettle photographs and memorabilia which are the foundation of our collection.

This season's successful exhibit was closed after Labor Day, so that repair work could be done on structural issues that had been exacerbated by Superstorm Sandy. The northwestern corner of the building is being elevated and stabilized. We hope to replace broken windows and repair plaster cracks caused by the settling of that corner.

The repairs will be costly, therefore we are planning an exciting *Evening for the Museum*, Friday, September 23, 2016 at the Bay Head Yacht Club. Mark your calendar and join us for an evening of cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, silent and live auctions and some great fun. If you have any ideas or contributions for the auctions, contact Jane Ridolfi at [32bridge@gmail.com](mailto:32bridge@gmail.com).

If you are interested in becoming a Trustee or taking an active role separate from the board, please contact us through our web site "Contact" section.

I look forward to seeing you at our Annual Holiday Party on December 6<sup>th</sup>. Invitation with details is on the back page.

Doris Czarnecki

President

# Lovelandtown

By Sal A. Marino

Lovelandtown is located east of Bridge Avenue on the Bay Head side of the Lovelandtown Bridge. It is bordered on the west by the Point Pleasant Canal, on the south by the head of Barnegat Bay, on the east by Bay Head and the northern border is Bridge Avenue. Of note is that the Bay Head Historical Society's Loveland Homestead is in Lovelandtown!



Of the 41 original homes in the 1830's settlement, there are but a handful left. Although it was never incorporated as a municipality, it was recognized on maps in the 1890's.

According to Esther Loveland Kinsley in "*Lovelandtown, a small hamlet in Ocean County*" by Pauline S. Miller, "Lovelandtown has undergone many changes since 1817 when Charles Stout built the first house in what would become known as Lovelandtown". The family names that first settled this area along with Stout are Curtis, Cook, Johnson, Pearce, Tilton, Van Note and, of course, Loveland.

Being a small hamlet in the 1800's would have meant a self-sufficient village. Everyone contributed to the daily life and certainly looked out for one another. According to the late Bob O'Brien, founder of the N. J. Museum of Boating and Trustee of the Bay Head Historical Society, "the center of boatbuilding started and thrived in Lovelandtown." It was, and is, a maritime-related community that once rejected an offer from Edward Howe and David Mount, two of the principal developers of Bay Head, to join the town to the east. Why Captain John E. Loveland refused to join the newly organized town in 1886 is anybody's guess. They subsequently joined Point Pleasant in 1920. Both communities were a part of Brick Township at that time.

Lovelandtown has more things in common with Bay Head than they have with Point Pleasant. The emergency services, police, fire department, etc., are closer and consequently the residents applied for secession in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century to no avail.

## THE BAY HEAD ELECTRICITY WAR OF 1901

The Point Pleasant trolley and electric company thought it was their right and destiny to enter Bay Head, even though Bay Head residents wanted to preserve the rustic charm of the town as a change from the speedy tempo of the city.

According to the Toms River Courier front page article of June 20, 1901 *"CUT ELECTRIC LIGHTS DOWN"*

Bay Head residents had a lively sensation on Sunday morning last when it was discovered that electric light wires had been strung through the borough during the night in defiance of the authorities. There was still a livelier sensation when the borough fathers armed with axes destroyed both wires and poles....Last winter the new Grenville Arms Hotel was built and wired throughout for electric lights. The borough refused a request to connect electricity to the hotel.

"Saturday night the lighting company put a force of linemen at work after everybody had gone to sleep. Next morning the astonished burghers found poles planted and wires strung from the hotel to the Delaware and Atlantic phone line...four men, two on the poles and two on the ground, were connecting up the line, Mayor Pennington charged upon the first two, who, being treed, had to surrender, The two men on the ground escaped Marshall Forsythe by skipping across the borough line. What to do with the prisoners was a question: some suggested the county jail, others a fine. As they were but employees however, the Mayor arraigned his captives as disorderly, reprimanded them, and as they were hungry, bought them a breakfast and sent them off.

But the wires and the poles did not escape so easily. In solid phalanx with sharp axes and dull, headed by Mayor Pennington, Councilmen Will Parker, Pearce, Johnson, Marshall Forsythe, Road Commissioner Lige Chadwick and others made deadly onset. The poles were hacked down and wires cut where they crossed the streets. The telephone company managers (sic) were also notified that if they allowed their poles to be used for light wires their franchise would be revoked and poles cut down. They hastily explained that the use of their poles was a mistake."

Pictured is a single bulb hanging on the porch at Felton Cottage in June, 1905 at the wedding of Ethel Peters and Capt. Smedley Butler, USMC.



Excerpted from "TROLLEYS Across the Sand Dunes" by Joseph F. Eid 1977.





You are Invited to the  
**Bay Head Historical Society's**  
Annual Holiday party

Sunday, December 6th, 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



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

Individual Annual Membership \$40 \_\_\_\_\_ Family Annual Membership \$50 \_\_\_\_\_

Individual LIFE Membership \$400 \_\_\_\_\_ Family LIFE Membership \$500 \_\_\_\_\_

Business or Association Annual Membership \$150 \_\_\_\_\_ Other Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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Primary Address \_\_\_\_\_

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