

Bay Head Historical Society

Serving Bay Head, Mantoloking and Lovelandtown

P. O. Box 127 Bay Head, New Jersey

Fall 2020

Dear Members and Friends of the Bay Head Historical Society,

It is hard to believe that it was only one year ago that we enjoyed a wonderful Christmas party at the historic beachfront home of Connie and Bill Fortenbaugh. The blazing fire, the sound of the crashing surf and Bill's brief but interesting talk about the history of the house made for a delightful evening.

We knew that 2020 will be a memorable year. BHHS had made plans to replace the roofs on our buildings and the work commenced prior to the "stay at home" mandate. The crew of roofers were able to complete their work, despite endless rainy days, by the end of March. The buildings look good, the cedar shingles on the museum have already weathered to a silvery gray color and the buildings are free of leaks. In April our plumber moved the water valves to a better environment to prevent any frozen pipes.



By late spring it became apparent that opening the museum in June was not going to happen. The Board met to consider our options and it was decided that this would be a perfect time to undertake much needed restoration, renovation and repair projects. Funds, set aside for this project, were available from our 2017 fundraiser. I went through the buildings with most of the Board Members, separately, so that a comprehensive wish list could be compiled. The end result was two pages of large and small projects requiring many different skills.

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Bay Head Historical Society, Board of Trustees

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

The projects were then divided into three groups: repair, restoration, and renovation. Repairs included all the small fixes that were needed to keep the buildings safe and those “never get around to it” things like re-rigging the flag pole and re-attaching the decorative ball atop the pole that was blown off by Sandy. The Bay Head Fire Company was helpful and arranged to do some hook and ladder training and fixing the flag pole at the same time.

Restoration and preservation efforts are in the works to bring the Loveland Homestead back to its authentic interior as much as possible. Wall and trim paint color were selected with some guidance from the Sherman Williams archives. The floors will be cleaned and sealed; and only the most degraded plaster will be removed and replaced with new plaster.



Renovations included a complete makeover of the Dale Cottage which has already been transformed into a unique, small gallery space which is perfectly suited to reflect Slade Dale’s adventures and history of his boating accomplishments. I will share this telling little photograph in hopes that you will visit to see the transformation.

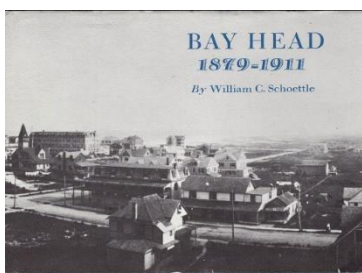
Added to all this is planned exterior cleaning, trim painting and wind barriers installed behind the foundation latticework to retain heat and protect the pipes.

Out the outset, the big question was, who would complete our to-do list and could we afford it? We did not have much luck with local builders, as most were already very busy. I was introduced to Christopher Browning, owner of Smith Browning Consulting, a New Jersey firm. Christopher is a perfect match. He is interested in restorations and has museum experience. With his crew of two, they have the skills to complete all of the required tasks. I think the end result will be very special because communication between Christopher and I as well as Board Members was easy and interesting; imaginative problem solving was the result.

I am pleased to announce that the 4th Printing of LaBonté / Schoettle booklet. This booklet contains 17 photographs from the William C. Schoettle collection accompanied photographs of Dick LaBontés artistic adaptations. The original booklet was privately printed by the Bay Head Historical Society in 2009. We will be selling this perfect remembrance of old Bay Head when we re-open. If we can arrange for mailing or pickup in the future it will be noted on our website. BayHeadHistoricalSociety.org



Several years ago, I was approached by Philip Schoettle, William Schoettle’s younger brother to discuss his interest in reprinting *Bay Head ~ 1879-1911* authored by his brother in 1966. He had a small soft book in hand as a sample of what he had in mind. It was exciting to think that this wonderful history of early Bay Head would once again be available. Most households in Bay Head had a copy, and undoubtedly, many were lost during Superstorm Sandy. Phil and I discussed this many times. We agreed that it would be exactly as the 1966 printing complete with the original dust jacket. At Phil’s insistence, the only addition would be the memorial tribute to Bill Schoettle printed in the Spring 2012 Bay Head Historical Society’s newsletter.



Philip passed away in December of 2019 at the age of 92. He was a frequent and welcome visitor to the Museum. To honor his memory, I have redoubled my efforts to have this important history of Bay Head reprinted. I am hopeful this this can be accomplished in 2021.

Cathie Coleman, President



*Warm Wishes for a wonderful holiday season,
and a happy and healthy New Year.*

This year we are making a special appeal to our members and friends to consider the Bay Head Historical Society in your yearend contributions. We will do our part by applying for grants and state funding whenever possible. Now we ask that you help us to continue our positive initiatives.



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 \$ _____

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

NOW IS THE TIME TO PAY YOUR 2021 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIO DUES.

FALL 2020

