

Bayside Historical Preservation Society
Newsletter Spring 2019



Drinkwater students visit Shady Grove

President - Joe Reilly. Vice President- Beverly Crofoot
Treasurer - Heidi Von Bergan, Secretary - Pam Williams
Board of Directors – Marjorie Crowley, Wendy Huntoon,
Harry Rosenblum, Cathie Ross, Joy Sherman, Jane Strauss,
Lisa Webster

President's Report by Joe Reilly

Like many of you, I just can't wait until Spring and Summer get here! After 41 years of having an antique shop, my business partner and I have retired. I will finally be able to spend the majority of my time in Bayside with my family.

Thank you to all the volunteers who continue to keep our BHPS chugging along. Beverly Crofoot has done a masterful job of setting up displays in the Community Hall around the spectacular models of the village made by Dick Brockway. This year, we are featuring the collection of boat building half hulls and models made by the mariner relatives of the Coughlin family. They will be supported by photos and graphics of some of the larger sailing vessels and schooners that sailed up and down the New England coast. After talking with Jim Coughlin last fall, we decided on this theme for our display in the Community Hall. We welcome additions and ideas for enhancing our display.

Rob and Joy Sherman will again sponsor a "Collectors Day" this summer. Last summer's event was a smashing success- please see Joy's article in this newsletter. All are invited to display or attend. The date will be posted as we get closer to the summer.

Thank you to Ted Lovejoy who donated his parent's collection of Northport Souvenir China and assorted ephemera to the BHPS! The Lovejoy collection is a significant one and it is greatly appreciated. In the ephemera are the first documents showing the bill of sale of property from the Wesleyan Grove Association to individuals. These are dated many years before creation of the Village Corporation. You can see this lovely China and paper work on display at the BHPS museum on Pleasant St. on Sundays from 2 to 4 during the summer.

Our children's room upstairs in the museum is coming along nicely. The room is set up to represent what a child's room might have looked like to those visiting Bayside in the early part of the 20th century. We are still looking for children's toys and games from that time period.

This fall, long after most families had left for the winter, several Bayside residents helped students from the Drinkwater School learn about the development of our community. David and Beverly Crofoot, Joe Reilly, Sue Fleming, Art and Sandy Hall, Ned Lightner and Mandy Everett took small groups of elementary students on a walking tour that included the museum and the community hall for activities. This year the students will be using the information they gained about the history of Bayside to create an original play, Northport the Musical!

Many of you were able to catch the NBC-207 television show episode on Bayside, that was done last fall. John Spritz and Joe Reilly were interviewed by the host Peggy Keyser as she toured the village. The photos (although there were none of the Hotel) and the film were wonderful! Luckily, the 207 programs are archived, so you can look them up if you'd like. John Spritz likened our community to Brigadoon!

The BHPS continues to enjoy working with the groups in the village; the Yacht Club, the NVC, the Overseers and the fledgling Bayside Arts program. As Gordon Fuller always says, "We're ALL working to protect, preserve and enhance our wonderful community."

Thanks again to all of you, for your continued support!



Memories of my summers in
Bayside in the forties and the fifties
by Peter V. Freeman

The Green Benches of Bayside

I remember the green benches that were in each of the Bayside parks. In the spring, Jack McAskell would load them on his model T Ford and put the benches in each of the parks. In the fall, Jack would pick them up and store them in the space where the boat trailers are stored today. In earlier days, this space was used for playing horseshoes.

The benches were 8 feet long with carved arm rests on each end and a nice backrest. They were the kind of benches you would see in old meeting halls. They were painted green.

Auditorium Park had some benches and Ruggles Park had benches placed in different locations around the park. Bayview Park had two on the upper part, by the road, one in the lower part and one in the middle, in front of my grandmother's cottage.

Each morning, my grandmother, Mrs. Clarke would sit on the bench and write notes to friends on Penny postcards and then she would walk over to the post office (photo below) and mail them. At that time, we did not have a general store just the post office.

My first meeting with the green bench, that I can remember, was when I was three or four. My grandmother would bring me out and tie me to the bench with some toys and say "Now, play nice." My dog Bobby would stay with me. Bobby would not run off, but I would so that is why I was tied to the bench.

Over the years benches started to fall into disrepair and little by little they were all gone, except for the one in front of my grandmother's cottage. She would have the bench put on our side porch in the fall and each spring she would have it put out in the park. The bench became a

stop for people from the South Shore to say hi to Bobby, me and my grandmother as they would go past on their way to the post office or the dock.

One year, the green bench was gone.

So, if you are walking through Bayview Park and you see a white bench in front of 6 Bayview Park, this is my way of remembering my grandmother.

It also lets you know the Freemans are here.



Collectors' Day

Last summer (2018) BHPS held its first Collectors' Day show downstairs in the Community Hall. Eight Baysiders displayed a variety of interesting collections. They were: Barbara Dugan's Doll collection, David Crofoot's Duck & Seabird Decoys, John Dykstra's historical postcards of Bayside and surrounding Maine areas, Harry Rosenblum's coconut head masks, Joe Reilly's comic postcards, Rob and Joy Sherman's old kitchen implements, Mary Ann Stankiewicz's vintage children's books, and Emily Stetser's array of sewing thimbles.

The event was well attended, with visitors expressing great interest in and lively enthusiasm for the collections.

Because of the success of that first Collectors' Day event, BPHS is considering doing the show again this coming summer (2019) if there is enough

interest among Baysiders to show their collections. It's a fun event. If you have a collection that you would like to bring to Bayside and display to others, please contact

Joy Sherman at shermanjoy1941@gmail.com,
or Joe Reilly at jjvreilly@aol.com

Once the interest is known, BHPS will schedule the event for an afternoon sometime this summer.



David Crofoot discusses bird decoys he has collected and carved.



Rob Sherman explains his collection of antique tools to Pam Williams and David Crofoot.





“Merithew Square Is Invaded by Drinkwater Math Students” By Scott Dyer

On a surprisingly bitter cold December morning, Scott Dyer, arts consultant for the “Northport Project” accompanied Andrea Giddings and her 7th grade math students to Bayside Village for an assignment/challenge. The task for the day challenged students to choose a cottage in the Merithew Square area and then take some measurements that were turned into accurate scale drawings when they returned to school.

Students began the process by photographing a cottage of interest, which turned out to be a daunting task, due to the fact there were so many beautiful and interesting structures in the area. Next came measuring the number of feet from standing position in the street to the front of the building. The second measurement was taken with a clinometer compass to determine the angle of rise from the position to the top of the building. With these two measurements, students later used trigonometry to determine the height of the building.

Many students took their time with their “favorite cottage” by sketching interesting ornamentation, porch layout, etc. From these drawings, they will later be charged with creating replicas of their cottages for the “Northport, The Musical,” which will be presented to the public sometime in May.

As students finished their work, they gathered at the small pavilion in the square for some hot cider provided by Ms. Giddings. Some students expressed the need to return to the area should their photographs and measurements need updating and clarification.

Previously, on Monday October 29, the third and fourth graders from the Drinkwater school visited the Community Hall, Shady Grove and the parks of Bayside. This was the beginning of a year-long project, headed by the music teacher Scott Dyer, to create a musical of the history of Northport to be performed in May. The models and dioramas by Dick Brockway gave an introduction to the Campmeeting - leading to a discussion of life in a tent with family (and later a small cottage like Shady Grove), helping with chores, and attendance at the several services a day. The kids also talked about how a community is created. At the end a letter from Henry Knox invited each one to settle in the new Ducktrap Plantation and settle their own 20 acres.

Thanks to Joe Reilly, Sue Fleming, Art and Sandy Hall, Ned Lightner, David Crofoot for helping with this fun project.

<https://vimeo.com/299301843>

HAULING LOGS

Rob Sherman likes to tell stories, meaning not fibs but tales. Some of them he writes himself, and he's always on the lookout for good ones told by others. Here's one he copped from Ed Zern's "A Fine Kettle of Fish Stories" (1972). Rob identifies the author and has changed some words to avoid plagiarism. The story tells "How to Haul Logs," of interest to Rob since he did that kind of work when a young fellow in Unity, Maine.

A woodsman saw a rawhide (leather) strap on his companion's walking stick and noted that rawhide was unusual: it stretches when wet and shrinks when dry. Few people know how to use that quality. Bad men would soak and stretch the rawhide, tie it around a captive's head, and when it dried it would do the job of killing without bloody hands.

The woodsman went on to tell that his grandfather used rawhide harnesses on his oxen when hauling logs from the woods. All went well until a rainy day when, with a heavier load than usual, the sled wouldn't move and the rawhide stretched for three miles to the grandfather's house.

Then he had a bright idea. He unhooked the oxen and tied the rawhide to the house, thinking that when it dried the sled would be pulled into the dooryard. When he woke the next morning, "sure enough the rawhide had shrunk," but the house had been pulled back the three miles into the woods!

Rob thinks that Baysiders, with their penchant to move their houses for renovation, could save a penny with this ingenious technique.



Roland Bragg moving a house in Round Pound, in the traditional manner.
Penobscot Marine Museum photo LB2005.24.15977



Shady Gove on the 2002 move from Griffin Street to Pleasant Street.



Bob and Jay Shannon, Beverly Cookson, Wanda Brinkley, Peg Louney, Rick Row, Criss, Martha Black, Bob Allen, But Shraga and Ken Shelby (owners of the cottage), Sue Fleming, Dick Brinkley, E. Cline

“There are delightful and lasting friendships whose beginnings were in the *shady groves* of some camp meeting. Take it altogether, the camp is a delightful place. The older people enjoy themselves with their religion and the young ones play croquet and other innocuous games. With fishing and yachting and bathing and swimming and good breakfast, dinner and supper, nobody need feel that the effect of the camp meeting is to mortify the flesh or to make a recluse of the camper.” Republican Journal. August 7, 1879.

The Clubhouse on the Hill in Bayside by Peter V. Freeman aka Peter Clarke
Memories of my summers in Bayside in the forties & fifties

During summers in Bayside in the 40s & 50s, most families came for the summer. Dads would come on week-ends and on their vacations.

The kids would meet up with their friends from summers before. Our group had 4 girls and 5 boys. (Mimi Whitworth, Alma Dykstra, Mary Ellen Short, Honora Samway, Toby Martin, Curt Holmes, David Bryant and me.)

I spent my summer with my grandmother, Mrs. Clarke, at our cottage, 6 Bayview Park.

What our days were like: We hung out at the general store (also the post office) or around the basketball court and the swings. After a while, we would amble down to the dock to swim and sunbathe. But if it was raining or foggy, we had no place to go. We needed a place. We needed a clubhouse.

At the top of the hill, up from the Community Hall on the right, is a larger building that was the stables and servants' quarters (in the 30s) for the larger summer house just across the street, where Mr. Flanders spent his summers with his family members. I got to thinking that the stable & servants' quarters would be a super place for a clubhouse. So I decided that I would ask Mr. Flanders to see what he thought about my idea.

I got Toby Martin to introduce me to his grandfather. I presented my idea to Mr. Flanders. He stated "What would you do for me if I let you use it as a clubhouse?" I stated I would cut the grass and paint around the windows. Mr. Flanders looked me over and, after a while, he said it was a deal. We had A Clubhouse!

We had a room with a ping pong table, room for dancing, and one for doing puzzles. I had a portable record player that played 45 speed records that we played all the time.

(Sh-Boom, Be-Bop-Lula, Walking my Baby Home, The Old Lamp Lighter, Cruising Down the River were some of the tunes.)

I did cut the grass and painted around the windows but only in the front. Boy, that was a lot of windows. (Here is a picture of me cutting the grass.)

We spent most of our time in the park and at the dock.





'Club House' on Shore Road. Eastern Illustrating Photo from glass plate negative, gift of Janet Pattee and transferred by BHPS to Penobscot Marine Museum. Built as a stable and garage by Ira Cobe in the early 1900s, the cottage is now a year-round residence.

Fact or Fiction – A Bayside Family History **By Wendy Huntoon**

Every multigenerational Bayside family has a set of stories that are passed down from generation to generation. These oral histories may include how a family came to Bayside, the formation of community organizations, historical events, family and longstanding friendships and are a traditional way of recording history. However, like playing the game telephone, in each retelling information is added, amplified or changed based on the storyteller's perspective. These narratives become part of our family's history, but what is fact and what is fiction?

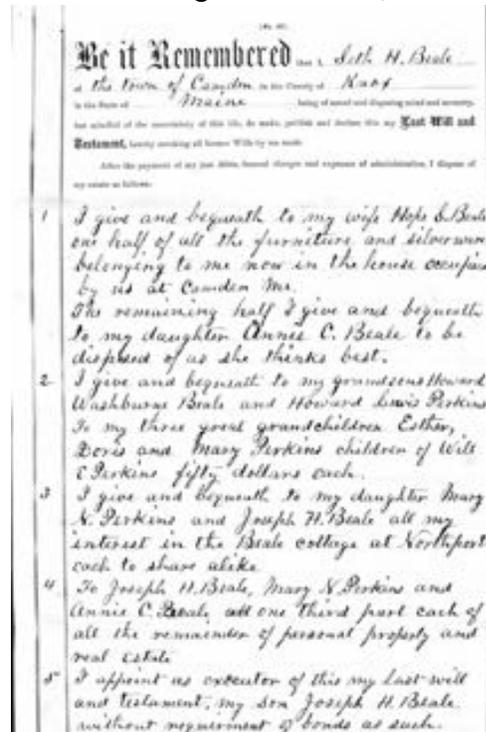
My family has a set of stories that form our family's history in Bayside. My parents met in Bayside as teenagers with my mom coming to Bayside at 13 and my dad from a family who had been in Bayside for at least 3 generations. Dad's family eventually settled on Shore Road having first lived on Maple street and, as the story goes, had little to do with the original Methodist campground. I was told my parents were the first Bayside marriage in the family; others claim it was my dad's great-grandparents Mary Berry Ayer and Joseph B. Ayer. We inherited our cottage from Julia Hamilton whose husband Vaughn was distantly related to my dad's grandfather, Ralph Lindsay Flanders, but no one knew how.

So, how much of my family folklore is actually true? There is now a wealth of information available to confirm family stories. Bayside specific information can be found through the BHPS oral histories, in "If These Cottages Could Talk" and old copies of the Sea Breeze. More general resources include Ancestry.com, the Republican Journal archives at the Belfast Free Library and the Waldo County Registry of Deeds.

My 2nd & 3rd-greatgrandmothers, Mary Berry Ayer (1839-1924) (left) and Hope Strong Berry (1820-1917) (right), are the first members of my family to come to Bayside. Hope and her husband the Sail Maker, Nicholas Berry moved to Camden by 1841. The family was active in the Camden Methodist church, with Mary and her sister Fannie played piano at the church and their brother Wilber became a Methodist minister. Nicholas Berry died in 1862 and it is after his death that both Hope and Mary appear at the Wesleyan Campground. In the August 23&24, 1882 Sea Breeze Hope Berry is listed as residing in one of the society tents: “The society tents are all in p[1]ace and occupied. The following is a list with the name of tent masters and attendant resident clergymen – Camden – Mrs. HS Berry.” Mary and her husband Joseph Ayer, appear frequently in the newspaper records. For example, from the Republican Journal in May 1883 “The Rev. J. M. Frost, assisted by Mrs. J. B. Ayer, pianist, and Miss Evangeline Pearson, cornetist, will be musical director.”

The first Bayside marriage in my family was not my parents in 1955. It could have been Mary Berry and Joseph Ayer, who married in 1861, but, while both were from local Methodist families, no records indicate their families attended the Northport Wesleyan Grove Camp Meeting before their marriage. The first family Bayside marriage was most likely Mary’s mother, Hope Strong Berry who married Rev. Seth H Beale in 1884. Rev. Beale, a prominent Methodist minister whose family had been coming to Camp Meeting for years, was referred to in the September 1879

Republican Journal: “Four cottages in the rear of the street were also destroyed, owned by Rev S. H. Beale, of the E. M. Conference, ...” In 1880 he was listed from Vassalboro and one of the owners of a cottage on Clinton Avenue and in 1882 for the Annual Camp Meeting the “general prayer meeting at the stand led by Rev SH Beale.” In the August 1882 Sea Breeze both Hope and Seth are listed as residing in their respective society tents: Camden for Mrs. HS Berry and Rev in the Unity cottage. Rev Beale was referenced again in the August 1885 Sea Breeze “Rev S.H. Beale and his wife, Miss Annie C Beale, Chas. Beale and wife and Lorenzo Beale and wife, of New Jersey, are vacationing at the Beale cottage near the circle.” At this point, newspaper references to Hope Berry disappear. In researching Hope Berry on Ancestry.com it linked her to a will for Seth Beale, which I initially disregarded. However, when it popped up again, I read it and noticed “bequeathed to my wife Hope S Beale one half of all the furniture and silverware in the house they share in Camden, Me” and also bequeaths “to my daughter Mary Perkins and Joseph H Beale all my interest in the Beale Cottage in Northport to each to share alike.” I realized the connection: Hope had married Rev Beale. Now I was able to track her in the news articles. Married for 23



years, Rev Beale and Hope continued their connection to the area until their deaths, Rev Beale in 1907 at 91 and Hope at 97 in 1917.

I also learned that Julia Hamilton, who left us her house, was the wife of my great-grandfather's 2nd cousin (or 2nd cousin 3x's removed). My family, broadly defined, has owned over 11 cottages in Bayside, including the Beale cottage with many of the properties owned by the female members of the family. For example, Mary Ayer purchased of the lots comprising 9 Maple St. from the Camp Meeting Association in 1901, while her husband, Joseph B. Ayer purchased the neighboring lots making up 13 Maple St.

So, fact or fiction? My family folklore is mostly true, but I found a lot of surprising information while researching my family history.



View north to Huntoon cottage across tennis court. The tennis court is no longer there. Eastern Illustrating photo, glass negative given to BHPS by Janet Pattee and subsequently given to Penobscot Marine Museum by BHPS.

Preliminary TREASURER'S REPORT 1/1/18-12/31/18

General Fund Balance 1/1/18	\$19,499.87	Beg cking bal.	\$3,379.25
Income		Savings bal.	\$16,063.92
Bayside Arts Grant	(5,000.00)	Petty Cash	\$56.70
2018 Donations	1,853.62		
2018 Dues	2,020.00		
Book Sales/Posters	884.06		
Interest Income	8.05		
Misc. Income	29.15		
Reimbursement In (CH Windows)	850.00		
Sales Tax Income	37.94		
Total Income	\$10,682.82	(\$5,682.82 without the BA Grant)	
Expenses			
Advertising	28.85		
Entertainment (party, DJ, honorarium)	617.01		
Insurance	500.00		
Gifts/Donations	1,300.00		
Maine Filing Fee (from petty cash)	35.00		
Membership Maine Archives & Museums	35.00		
Miscellaneous	35.00		
Mission (McKane talk & museum items)	555.07		
Newsletter (printing,postage,labels)	620.50		
Northport Food Pantry Donation	300.00		
Community Hall Window donation	800.00		
Postage (from petty cash)	49.00		
Rent PO Box	82.00		
Reimbursement Out (CH Windows)	850.00		
Sales Tax Paid 2018	5.50		
Utilities	552.32		
Total Expenses	\$ 5,191.25		
Dif	+ 491.57		

WORKING CAPITAL 12/31/18	Assets	
Camden National Checking		\$ 8,862.77 (\$5000.00 BA Grant)
Camden National Savings		\$ 16,128.72
Total Bank Accounts		\$ 24,991.49
Petty Cash		0
General Fund Balance 12/31/18		\$ 19,991.49

Treasurer's Report 1/1/18-12/31/18

Our 2018 members increased to 140 from 124 members in 2017.
 I deposited petty cash to savings to keep the savings account active.
 There were two memorial donations in memory of Ellen Hatcher and Carl Mattesen.
 We were able to donate generously to the Food Pantry and the Edna Drinkwater School and still our income exceeded our expenses without having to take from savings.
 Many thanks to the Bayside Community for all their support.

Respectfully submitted,
 Heidi von Bergen, Treasurer

**SHADY GROVE Cottage and Museum
Pleasant Street
Open Sundays during July and August**

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BAYSIDE HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY
Membership Application/Payment of Annual Dues
2019-2020

Name: _____
Winter Address: _____
Telephone _____
E-mail address: _____
Summer Address: _____
Summer Telephone: _____

Dues and donations – All dues and donations are tax deductible.

First member of Household \$10. _____

Other household members \$ 5. Each _____

Children under 18 Free

Donation _____

TOTAL _____

Please make check payable to BHPS and mail with this form to:

NOTE NEW ADDRESS

Bayside Historical Preservation Society, PO Box 273, Northport, ME 04849.

Please indicate any area of interest you have or ideas for the directors and officers to consider and how you would like to participate in BHPS.



This model of the Steamer Camden was built by Frank Thompson about 1940. He is the great grandfather of Mandy Marriner-Everett who is NVC's newly-hired office manager. Mandy lives in Temple Heights and has a child at the Drinkwater School. The model will be on display in the Community Hall meeting room this summer.



“The “Camden” was built for the Eastern Steamship Line and represented a great change in the Boston to Bangor steamships. At 320 feet in length, she was much larger than previous vessels. She was powered by a revolutionary steam turbine engine and driven by three propellers. The two outside propellers could turn in either forward or reverse, enhancing her maneuverability while the central propeller turned only in forward. She was originally designed to burn coal in 1906, but she was converted to an oil fired steam plant in 1924.” From Bob Witherill’s chapter ‘Steamboats at Northport Campground’ in If These Cottages Could Talk.