

Stone Harbor Museum News

Fall 2015 Newsletter

235 93rd Street Stone Harbor, NJ 08247

www.stoneharbormuseum.org

609-368-7500

info@stoneharbormuseum.org



Stone Harbor Stories Wins Award

The efforts of Jim Talone, Terrie Cwik, and the several other narrators to produce the video, *Stone Harbor Stories*, paid off very well. The League of Historic Societies of New Jersey awarded the video 2nd place in its Kevin M. Hale Publication Awards.

Director Bruce Tell receives the award on behalf of Talone and Cwik.

Also pictured are J.B. Vogt, Head of Awards Committee, and Jane McNeil, President, The League of Historic Societies of New Jersey.



Award Winning Author Reads From Her Book

The audience smiled and nodded in recognition as author Madeleine Mysko read about familiar Stone Harbor landmarks from her novel, *Stone Harbor Bound*.

As Mysko read, the characters in her book came alive to the group gathered at the American Legion Post on the evening of July 1st this past Summer.

An unexpected addition to the author's appearance was the surprise attendance of Ted Walsh, whose painting was used as the cover of *Stone Harbor Bound*. Walsh was in Stone Harbor to open an exhibit



of his work at Beacon Art Shortwave Gallery on Second Avenue. This was the first time the author and painter had the opportunity to meet.

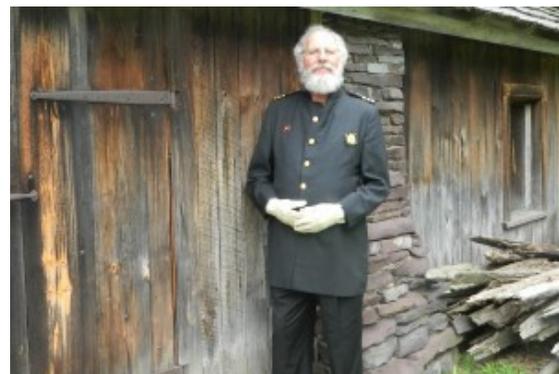
In addition to the considerable number of books sold at the event, Mysko graciously signed copies that had been previously purchased at the museum.

Father of U.S. Coast Guard Makes Appearance

In August, the museum sponsored a visit to the American Legion by historical guest Dr. William Augustus Newell, portrayed by Christian Johnson of the American Historical Theatre. Newell was a U.S. Congressman from Monmouth County and also served as Governor of New Jersey. He was the private physician of President Abraham Lincoln. Newell was invited to help celebrate the 100th anniversary of the U.S. Coast Guard.

In 1848 Newell passed an act to create the United States Life Saving Service, now known as the U.S. Coast Guard, along the coast of Monmouth County. In 1860 President Lincoln appointed him the superintendent of the Life Saving Service.

We are grateful to the members of the Stephen C. Ludlam American Legion Post for opening their home for our programs and to the Horizon Speakers Bureau of the New Jersey Council for the Humanities for making the event possible.



President's Corner

Questions about a future home for the museum continue to be asked. The answer continues to be the same: we don't know. We still have fantasies about a "dream home" and are waiting now for Borough Council to make a decision about the space presently occupied by the Police Department. Council members have been made aware of the interest we have in occupying that space.

Meanwhile, Director Bruce has instituted significant changes that have made the most of the limited space in the museum. It has a new, more open look which highlights the various displays and will provide space for featured displays.

Even though our physical space is limited, we are continuing to broaden the outreach of the museum into the community. Our membership has reached new numbers and we are very grateful for the interest and support of all. Even more important, the level of giving is greater. We now have 16 benefactors- a category created just a few years ago.

Behind the scenes, the museum has entered the digital world. Contents of the museum have been cataloged in the computer, many more photos have been scanned to the virtual archives, and soon, we will be able to communicate with our supporters via email blasts. It is essential that we have everyone's correct email address to accomplish this.

For now, the director, board members and volunteers send their warmest wishes for a

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

AND A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY SEASON!

Terrie Cwik, President

From the Director's Chair

We had a very successful summer season with many visitors and donations. A few of our visitors even signed up to be volunteer docents, which we can't thank them enough for. We also had three interns, one of whom was offered a job at her college museum after her summer here!

We will be spending the winter months setting up some new displays and giving the museum a fresh look. The displays we are working on are an updated time line and The Risley Brothers.

Variety of Artifacts Donated

2015 was a very good year for donations. More than 20 items, including photos and postcards, were added to the museum collection.

Bob and Sally Walton Walker donated two bathing suits circa the 1930's.

The museum also acquired one large, 12 x 12 inch, cornerstone from The Bethel U.M.A.E. Church, donated by The Schnader Family: Hannah, Harrison and Maggie. In gratitude, a Lifetime Membership was awarded to the family.



Museum Staff

<i>Director</i>	<i>Bruce Tell</i>
<i>President</i>	<i>Terrie Cwik</i>
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Rand Bauer</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Margaret Leisenring</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Patty Stump</i>
<i>Borough Council Liaison</i>	<i>Al Carusi</i>

Trustees:
*Bob Ashman, Paul Hughes, Bob Levins,
Marty Lukacs, Kathy Schoenberger,
Lou Schweickhardt, Jim Talone*

Committee Chairs:

Bob Ashman- Finance and Communications
Elaine Heil - Acquisitions
Sari Bauer- Acquisitions Committee Member
Margaret Leisenring- Archival
*Terrie Cwik, Mary Lukacs-
Archival Committee Members*
Linda Picanza- Gift Shop
Bob Levins- Facilities
Bill Stump- Membership and Maritime Annex
Jim Talone- Videographer
Jim Wren- Maritime Annex Co-Chair
Newsletter Editor- Heather Burns

Fourth Graders Learn About Their Towns

The 4th grade class of the Stone Harbor Avalon Elementary School visited both the Avalon and Stone Harbor Museums on Wednesday morning, October 21st. In addition to seeing and hearing about the history of both boroughs, the 16 members of the class had an opportunity to research some of the topics discussed during their time at the Stone Harbor Museum. If the children enjoyed the visit as much as their hosts, the visits were a success.



What Is *Did You Know?*

Children visiting the museum now have something especially for them. Docents Kathy Schoenberger and Marilyn Timms have created a picture book with captions appropriate for young readers. Included are photos of the bathing suit and train displays, and even a photo of Taylor Swift!

While looking at the book, titled *Did You Know*, children are encouraged to find the particular displays in the museum that correspond to the pictures.



Betsy Pappas, a Second Grade student at Stone Harbor Avalon Elementary School, is shown poring over the book with Schoenberger.

Kathy and Marilyn are to be recognized not only for putting the book together, but also for recognizing the need for such an attraction for the future historians.

Summer Visitors

We had more than 750 visitors this summer. This was the most visitors in a season that we have ever had. People came from as far away as California, Colorado, Texas, Wisconsin, Maine, and Canada.

Successful Vintage Home Project Continues

Interest in the “Vintage Homes” project has exceeded our wildest predictions! Initially, we expected 30-40 applications. At this writing, the number of homes “sporting” our handsome plaques numbers 110 and applications continue to arrive. It is rewarding to know that so many homeowners are keeping the original appearance of their early homes and also exhibiting their pride to passers-by.

One example, known as the Douglass Cottage when it was built in 1912, is now owned by Helen and Bob Levins who have completely renovated the interior. When the plaster was removed during the reconstruction, the Levins found the names of the builders,

as well as a bottle of whiskey, on the studs of one of the walls. Their story is one of many told by homeowners on their applications.



A new Walking Tour brochure will be published in time for next Summer.

For those homeowners who have not yet applied, the project will continue.

Additional 10– Year Docents Receive Plaques

The Stone Harbor Museum recently recognized four docents for ten years of outstanding service. Lou Schweickhardt gave out plaques of recognition. Beside Lou are Jim Wren and Terrie Cwik. In front are Jan Dougherty and Karin Wren.



The Museum Needs You

If you're friendly, maybe a little chatty, or even just looking for something to do, we can always use your help. Meet and greet people and neighbors, have fun doing it, and even learn a little history of Stone Harbor and its surroundings that you never knew before.

We had 24 docents this past season, seven of whom volunteered more than ten times. Top of the list was Terrie Cwik at 16 times, followed by Lou Schweickhardt at 14, and Paul Hughes at 13 times. Rounding out the top ten list were Dale Faint and Margaret Leisenring tied at 11 each, John Idler and Joe McFadden tied at 10, and a three-way tie at 9 times each were Bob Levins, Linda Picanza, and Jim Talone. Our newest volunteer, Helene Carlin, was a walk-in who immediately signed up as a docent and volunteered 8 times.

Home Found for a "Necessary House"

During the summer, a visitor came to the Museum wanting to know if we would be interested in obtaining an outhouse! It was found in a backyard and needed to be saved from being demolished. We originally believed it had belonged to the Life Saving Station, but, with a little bit of research, we found that not to be the case. However, the privy did come from that neighborhood and is probably about 100 years old.

As chance would have it, the owners of the "Minnow" (117th St.), who were here for an interview, heard the story and were more than glad to bring it back to its original neighborhood. A thank you goes out to Linda Galer and her husband, Bill Flynn.



Attention Amazon Shoppers!!

Assuming many of our members will be shopping at Amazon this holiday season, we are pleased to tell you that Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase to the Stone Harbor Museum.

In order to take advantage of this generous offer, your purchases should be made at *smile.amazon.com*. When ordering, specify the museum as the recipient of Amazon's gift. The amount will be transferred electronically to the museum bank account. This is a great way show your support of the museum!

Mr. and Mrs. Claus Pay Annual Visit

This past July 22nd, Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus took time from their very busy vacation schedule to visit the museum and chat with some local children about their Christmas wishes. It has become a tradition for the Claus couple to spend a Summer vacation in Stone Harbor before beginning their busy season at the North Pole. Santa gave each of the children a copy of the Stone Harbor coloring book as a souvenir of his visit.



Grant Funding

We were successful in receiving a grant from the Cape May County Culture & Heritage Commission with funds granted by the New Jersey Historical Commission. The funds will be used for general operating expenses. We would like to thank Freeholder E. Marie Hayes and the Culture & Heritage Commission.

