

BAYSIDE HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Spring 2013



CITY OF BANGOR, ship model by Dick Brockway, displayed at Shady Grove.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Joe Reilly

I'm sitting here in my office in our barn in our new house in Portland during yet another blizzard and my thoughts head up the coast to Bayside. The thought of all of the people and activity in Bayside transports me from this cold winter mix to time in the warmth of the summer in our wonderful community.

The BHPS continues to chug along. Our museum and community hall space have been visited by so many who spend time in Bayside. The Community Hall space has been aptly managed by Beverly Crofoot, our vice president. There is always something interesting on the walls of the downstairs meeting room, thanks to her! Dick Brockway's incredible scale models of the Community Hall, the Old Hotel and a Street scene in Bayside over the years are treats for the eyes. Harry Rosenblum has promised to make the Antique Fire Wagon that sits out in the hallway 100% authentic.

This year, we're interested in painting the inside of the museum as well as "freshening up" the plantings around the yard that Lisa Webster and her daughter Allie put in for us a few years back. They established a well thought out garden plan for the yard so our work there should be minimum work for us to do. Inside the museum, we continue to collect furnishings and artifacts from the development of the Wesleyan Grove Campground

to the Bayside that we know today! Curious and exciting things are still being found in Bayside attics! We will devote a small space in the museum to the continued observance of the sesquicentennial of the Civil War. Please make sure to go out to Islesboro to their museum to see our co-sponsored Civil War exhibit.

Thanks to Rob Sherman, Harold Hede and Dick Brockway for their maintainance of our cottage and the informative signs around the village. It seems as though Rob Sherman is able to repair just about anything! Best wishes to long time member and our own personal electrician Carl Rand as he recovers from illness. We hope to see him on his porch with Shirley real soon! Thanks also to Allen Gnutti for the beautiful porch flowers on the cottage and Sue Fleming for continually supplying fresh cut flowers for all of our functions. Thanks to our cleaning crew for both opening up and closing down the cottage. They were Debbie Gnutti, Ed and Pam Williams , and Beverly and David Crofoot.

Perhaps the most exciting news is that coming in 2015 will be 100th anniversary of the Northport Village Corporation. Thanks to NVC Overseer Denis Wang, a committee has formed to begin to plan the "party" to celebrate the 100th! He's also written an article in this newsletter detailing the work.

The committee is comprised of volunteers from all over Bayside. In the first meeting we began to talk about all the "what ifs" that might accompany such a celebration. The Bayside Centennial Celebration Committee has room for more volunteers and certainly many more ideas. Nothing at this point is off the table.

The enthusiasm for a variety of activities that were discussed was infectious. These activities included things for children, boat and water, parades, movie nights, use of the greens and community hall, fireworks and even a fly by from Owl's Head. Now remember, we're just in the ideas stage. Incorporating the Historical Society, the Yacht Club and the Garden Club into the plans was agreed to be crucial. And lastly, there was some beginning discussion about fund raising. Grandiose plans tend to be a little expensive!

Judy Metcalf let us know that there are three other big dates coming up. Next year, the Northport Yacht Club turns 75 years old and in 2016, the Northport Golf Club will also celebrate their 100th anniversary. In 2015 the Bayside Historical Preservation Society turns 20.

Bayside continues to be the kind of place that inspires and ignites enthusiasm and excitement. It's rich history and welcoming streets invite the newly arrived as well as those who have been here to enjoy a more peaceful time, an easier time in their lives. Thank you to all of you for your continued support for the BHPS and we look forward to a wonderful summer.

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## **BHPS Officers and Directors:**

President, Joe Reilly; Vice-President, Beverly Crofoot; Secretary, Pam Williams; Treasurer, Heidi von Bergen; Directors, Angela Cassidy, Sue Fleming, Debbie Gnutti, Harold Hede, Amos, Kimble, Harry Rosenblum, Jane Strauss.

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100 Years – Northport Village Corporation

In preparation for Bayside's up-coming centennial celebration in 2015, a committee has been formed to begin planning for all the facets for the grand event, including timing, activities, and fund-raising. The themes for the centennial will be fostering a greater sense of place and understanding of the history of Bayside as well as celebrating and strengthening our community spirit and pride. Our committee is open to all, from generational 'old timers' to summer visitors, as we realize that this celebration belongs to all the constituencies that value the special place that is Bayside. After our first meeting last fall, the committee will begin meetings again in early summer. For more about times and location, please contact me at drdeniswang@gmail.com or inquire at the NVC office.

Denis Wang, NVC Overseer

<http://www.baysidemaine.com/pdfs/centennial/2012-09-01-bayside-centennial-minutes.pdf>

The City of Bangor (see photo elsewhere in newsletter) returned to the campground for the summer of 2012. This steamship was part of an exchange between the Penobscot Marine Museum and the Bayside Historical Preservation Society. Dick Brockway's model of the Eddington Society cottage was on display in Searsport as part of the exhibit, Summer Folk: The Tourists of Penobscot Bay. Postcards, maps, souvenir china from the BHPS collection were selected by Cipperly Good, Collections Manager at PMM, to enhance the depiction of life on the Wesleyan Grove Campground.

On July 24, Beverly Crofoot gave a talk at the Belfast Free Library titled "The Tents, the Pretty Girls and Home-made Gingerbread." Quoting news articles from the Republican Journal and other Maine newspapers and showing Eastern Illustrating photographs as well as ones from Bayside family photo albums, she sketched a picture of life on the campground from the 1880s to the first decades of the 20th century. Crofoot's talk was recorded by Ned Lightner and so can be viewed at <https://vimeo.com/46355719>.



On the left is Lincoln cottage on South Shore.

**EVERY SUMMER BRINGS NEW STORIES AND WE WANT OUR
GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN TO KNOW ABOUT THE GOOD OLD
DAYS.**

By Gina Cressey

One of the most enjoyable Bayside volunteer activities I've taken part in is the Oral History Project. Zelma Huntoon and Beverly Crofoot and got this started before the BHPS existed. They realized that many of the older folks had great Bayside memories, and when they went, their stories would go with them. Getting interviews on tape, and later transcribing them to paper, was a way to keep them alive for people who came along later to enjoy.

One of the people who was interviewed early on shared his early memories of travel to Bayside from his home in a nearby town. He described hitching up the horses, tossing a pot of beans in the wagon, and "beating it to Bayside." What an image!

Barbara Webster (grandmother of Picture-of-the-Day Dan) offered a colorful description of childhood boat trips from New York, starting in 1908. Her family traveled on the old Eastern Steamship Lines, and spent two nights on the water, sometimes pitching and rolling, before arriving in Northport to spend the summer in the cottage atop Bayview Park which is still loved by the Webster family.

I believe the distinction of longest-running family in the same house belongs to the Lincoln family. David Crofoot and I had the pleasure last fall of interviewing Adelaide Lincoln, whose grandmother bought their North Shore cottage in 1893. Her mother spent her childhood there as did Adelaide and her eight children. The two great-grandchildren who visit in summer with their parents are the sixth generation to rusticate in the same lovely spot overlooking Penobscot Bay.

Many of the people Adelaide spent happy summers with long ago are still in Bayside and love it as much as she does: Jo Huntoon, Jeannette Tardif, Ellie and Dick Lagner, JoAnn Coughlin, Bob and Jean Witherill, and Ralph Robinson. I've interviewed most of these folks over the years, but there are plenty of others with wonderful stories to share.

It's been fun hearing about the dances and movies of yesteryear, mail call (twice a day!) at what is now the Blair Agency, stores in the village, the old sailing school, and so much more. The magic of a Bayside childhood changes little from one generation to the next and the bonds formed early in this special place linger long.

Is taking part in this project something you might be interested in? A handful of people each willing to record one or two interviews this summer would help bring us up to date. The BHPS will suggest names and provide recording equipment, as well as some brief training on getting best results. The interviews generally last less than an hour and are held at a time and place agreed upon by both parties, usually the interviewee's cottage. It's not a big time commitment, it's always fun, and you're making a big contribution to Bayside's future by preserving stories from the past. We also need people who can listen to the recordings and type up a transcript. If volunteering in one of these capacities interests you, get in touch with Joe Reilly or Beverly Crofoot.

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Did you know?

The original Yacht Club building was on the wharf! The wharf and club house went out with a storm in 1945. Not until the spring of 1950 was the present club house built for a cost of \$978., raised from community baked bean suppers.

Extracted from Bob Witherill's history of the Yacht Club.



From a stereo card, Collett's cottage is on the left.

In late winter the Officers and Directors of BHPS announced the transfer of ownership of its collection of Eastern Illustrating glass plate negatives to the Penobscot Marine Museum. This collection originally came from Janet Collett Pattee who first came to Bayside as a six-month old baby in 1919. Her grandfather, Job Collett, built their first home at the top of Ruggles Park in the 1860s.

Janet's daughter, Penny Matthew, recalls the family story "that Job and two friends had the 'parts' of the cottage sent on a boat from Bangor. Then put them together in Bayside.

Penobscot Marine Museum photography archivist, Kevin Johnson, was absolutely thrilled with the arrival of the "new" negatives. "I have become obsessed with reuniting the Eastern Illustrating & Publishing Co." says Johnson "and this group of Bayside negatives is a major step in that direction." The negatives will be scanned and added to the museum's online database in the coming months and will soon be available to anyone with access to the internet.

BHPS will receive from the Penobscot Marine Museum archival prints of these negatives. These photographs will be used to augment displays in the cottage museum, Shady Grove, and at the Community Hall.



East Northport Chapel, built 1903, see newspaper excerpts elsewhere in this newsletter.

Elizabeth Garber, new owner of the Northport Chapel, writes:

At 87 Bayside Road, we continue to enjoy morning light coming through two stained glass windows that remained with the building after it was discontinued as a church and first became a home in the 1960's. The house was renovated several times over the years but still has many original features of the church. Much of the wooden wainscoting ceiling remains as well as board walls, wooden floors, church closets for choir robes, and of course the wonderful bell tower. Even though the tower's taller narrow Gothic spire details were changed when it was rebuilt in the 1980's to a shorter perhaps Romanesque style tower, it is still a magical place to watch the Bay and treetops after you've managed to maneuver through trapdoors and up the ladder!

My housemates and I focused our first year on developing gardens: raised beds for growing most of our vegetables, flower beds for perennials and annuals, pruning the already established shrubs, thinning the trees around the house, and planted raspberries/blackberries/blueberries, and grove of plum trees. More fruit trees and bushes will come, but this summer, I hope to enjoy more time on the bay in my kayak, once our gardens are planted.

A Good Hard Frost by Elizabeth Garber

Enough's enough, the gardeners mutter in mid October. Done with dahlias' insistent scarlet blooms, done with summer squash, done with green peppers. They glower impatiently at enormous tomatoes ripening under a froth of yellow blossoms edging toward a pale sun. Passersby admire late summer gardens, yet the gardeners murmur, *I want to get on with things*. They feel disloyal as they glare at the tidal wave of nasturtiums surging up the pea fence, hurtling unrestrained over the lawn, but something holds them back, until the frost comes.

For weeks the gardeners eye their thermometers hopefully when nights drift cold, wake disappointed to another warm sunny morning, tired of exuberant cukes dangling from the trellis. Yet finally, the morning comes when a crystalline blanket collapses the squash patch, the twelve foot tomatoes sag on their stakes like dying opera divas, glossy eggplant and pepper leaves wither. The gardeners sing. *Oh joy. At last.*

Over breakfast they exchange plans, like racing car drivers revving their engines. *Where to begin?* It's the nasturtiums they decimate first, sinking arms down to the roots to rip and tear, drawing back a summer's growth like fishermen hauling in a huge catch, filling wheelbarrow after wheelbarrow with their green loot, overflowing the compost bins.

A smorgasbord of tasks, and the gardeners are giddy, racing on greedily. Slash the summer squash, yes! Wrench down the pole beans, yes! Knock and pile corn stalks for the neighbor's goats. Cleave cabbages after their kiss of frost, leave their decapitated green and purple heads to line the porch. A giant's pleasure in ripping and breaking eggplants from worm-laced loam.

All the chilly afternoon, wool caps pulled low over ears, the gardeners pillage their summer's artistry. They eye the Brussels sprouts, sighing, *Finally, I can slice them thin, sauté them in a hot skillet, after this good hard frost.*

The East Northport Chapel

From the Republican Journal – February 26, 1903.

When Cyprian H. Bryant (1865-1940) was appointed by the East Maine Methodist Conference to the charge at Northport, in May 1899, he felt that there was need of a more suitable place of worship than the school house which had been used for many generations... At the time the East Northport Ladies' Aid Society was organized....The Society immediately began raising money by fairs, festivals and cottage suppers, and by the use of the invincible needle...Their zeal is evidence by the fact that in a short time and in a small community they raised nearly \$500.

The land, 90 x 95 feet, was given by Mr. H. L. Kochersperger of Chicago. The corner stone was laid Nov.1, 1900.... Poem was read by Mr. M. B. Whiting. The box under the cornerstone contains a copy of the Bible, the hymn book, the names of the members of the Aid Society, and copies of religious and secular papers of the day, including The Republican Journal.

The sills and flooring were put in place the same fall and the walls raised the following summer. The outside was finished in the summer of 1902, and the inside during the fall and early winter. There now remains only a small amount of work to be done in draining and grading the grounds and this will be attended to in the early spring.

The chapel is 24x38 feet with a wing 12x24, and contains two rooms, 23x37 and 11x23, which can be thrown together when necessary to accommodate 200 people. The frame is of the best hemlock and spruce from Morse & Co., Bangor. The chapel is lighted by eight memorial windows the largest costing \$100. The memorials are to Col Thomas Knowlton, Mr. and Mrs. Vinal Hills, Washington Pitcher, Rebecca Pitcher Brown, Mrs. Janette Knowlton, Nina Mahoney and Mrs. Davis. Mathews Bros of Belfast made the window frames and furnished the inside finish, which is of cypress and Southern pine, oil finished. The work was done by Northport and Belfast carpenters under the direction of Mr. Bryant.

Services were held in the chapel last Sunday morning, with a sermon by Rev. S. A. Bender, President of the E. M. C. Seminary, Bucksport, and the dedication services took place in the afternoon. At 2 p.m., the appointed hour, the auditorium and the vestry, which had been made one by opening the folding doors between, were filled, and a few later arrivals were obliged to stand....

Rev. E. S. Philbrook was the first to offer congratulations....There are no lighthouses, Mr. Philbrook said, between Fort Point and Negro Island (now called Curtis, ed.), but he rejoiced to know of another spiritual beacon now kindled....on beautiful Penobscot Bay. He spoke of the memorial windows as emblematic of a soul. The exterior view was fair, but when viewed from the interior, with God's sunlight bringing out their latent possibilities, they were indeed beautiful.....

An informal handshaking was held in the church, the pastor receiving many congratulations and having a pleasant work for parishioner and visitor alike, while he greeted friends and acquaintances from far and near.

The long worked for chapel is now a reality, and the weekly services held within its walls will become a potent factor for good in the community. The Journal joins with many friends wishing both pastor and people well merited success and prosperity.

Final Treasurer's Report 1/1/12-1/31/12**Heidi von Bergen**

Income

2012 Donations	375.50
2012 Dues	2,125.00
Book Sales/Posters	675.32
Interest Income	29.46
Misc. Income	84.33
Sales Tax Income	28.68
Shipping Income	10.00

Total Income**\$3,328.29**

Expenses

Events (Pipe & Drum)	250.00
Insurance	350.00
Maintenance	341.19
Me Filing Fee	35.00
Mission (dance lessons, acquisitions)	1,339.57
Misc. Expenses	51.03
Newsletter (printing and postage)	513.00
Postage & Shipping	26.90
Rent P.O. Box	140.00
Sales Tax Paid*	4.60*
Utilities	409.07

Total Expenses**\$3460.36**

Dif.

- 132.07

*Somehow I missed a digit in the calculations and noticed it when doing this report. I have corrected the problem, paid the correct sales tax and the 2013 financial report will show a larger than usual sales tax paid.

General Fund Balance 1/1/12**\$24,480.97**

Working Capital

Assets 12/31/12

Bank Accounts

Camden National Checking	8,283.94
Camden National Savings	15,973.89

TOTAL Bank Accounts**\$24,257.83**

Petty Cash

81.04

Total Assets**\$24,338.87****General Fund Balance 12/31/12****\$24,338.87**



SHADY GROVE Cottage and Museum

Pleasant Street

Open Sundays during July and August

BAYSIDE HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY Membership Application/Payment of Annual Dues 2013-2014

Name: _____

Winter Address: _____

Telephone _____

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
Bayside Historical Preservation Society, PO Box 304, Belfast, Maine 04915.

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

Bayside Historical Preservation Society
PO Box 304
Belfast, Maine 04915

Eastern Illustrating photograph of the 1936 Swim Meet.

