

### Alternate Giving Ideas

The Wildwood Historical Society, Inc. and the Boyer Museum were made possible through the contributions of many individuals in our community.

The gifts you make today help preserve the memories of the past. Please consider the Historical Society in your will.

### Friends of the Wildwood Historical Society, Inc.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
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Membership Class	
<input type="checkbox"/> Life . . . . .	\$200.
<input type="checkbox"/> Business . . . . .	\$50.
<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor . . . . .	\$50.
<input type="checkbox"/> Contributing . . . . .	\$25.
<input type="checkbox"/> Family . . . . .	\$15.
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual . . . . .	\$10.
<input type="checkbox"/> Student . . . . .	\$5.

**Renewal**    **New**  
 Please check membership class and  
 enclose fee with application.

**Wildwood Historical Society, Inc.**  
 George F. Boyer Museum  
 3907 Pacific Avenue  
 Wildwood, NJ 08260

AV-13-1



. . . . . a message from  
 the President

Hi Everyone!  
 This year we are **Celebrating 50 years of history.** Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 15. We will be holding our annual **Post Card/Collectibles Show and Open House** AND celebrating 50 years of gathering, preserving, and presenting the history of the Wildwoods to locals and visitors alike. We hope you will join us at the museum for this celebration between the hours of 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM. At 12:00 noon, we will have a brief program and we will be introducing Kathy Boyer Maher, the daughter of our founder, George F. Boyer. We are very proud of this milestone and hope you can take the time to drop in to see us.



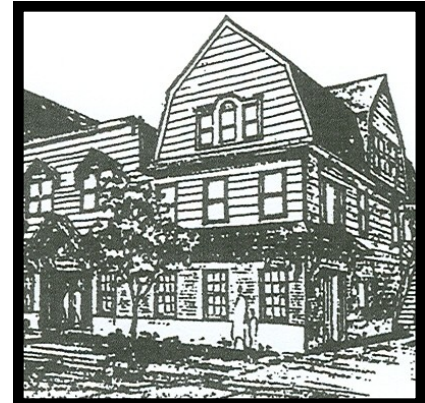
We were closed during the winter months, but continued to take calls and be available for those special requests.

Also, I am happy to announce the pavers have been installed, and if you haven't already ordered one for you, your business or a loved one, we urge you to give us a call and we will put an application form in the mail to you. It's a great way to be remembered and to support your local museum.

Make note of our new summer hours: Tuesday through Saturday, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. We will be closed Sunday and Monday and all national holidays.

Hope to see you soon at the museum.

*Anne Vinci*  
 President



## Taylor Fish Co.

John Ogden Taylor (1867-1934) was one of the first commercial fisherman to ship fish from Wildwood and also one of the first of the fishermen to use pounds. At that time, it was necessary to obtain licenses from the War Department to operate these traps.

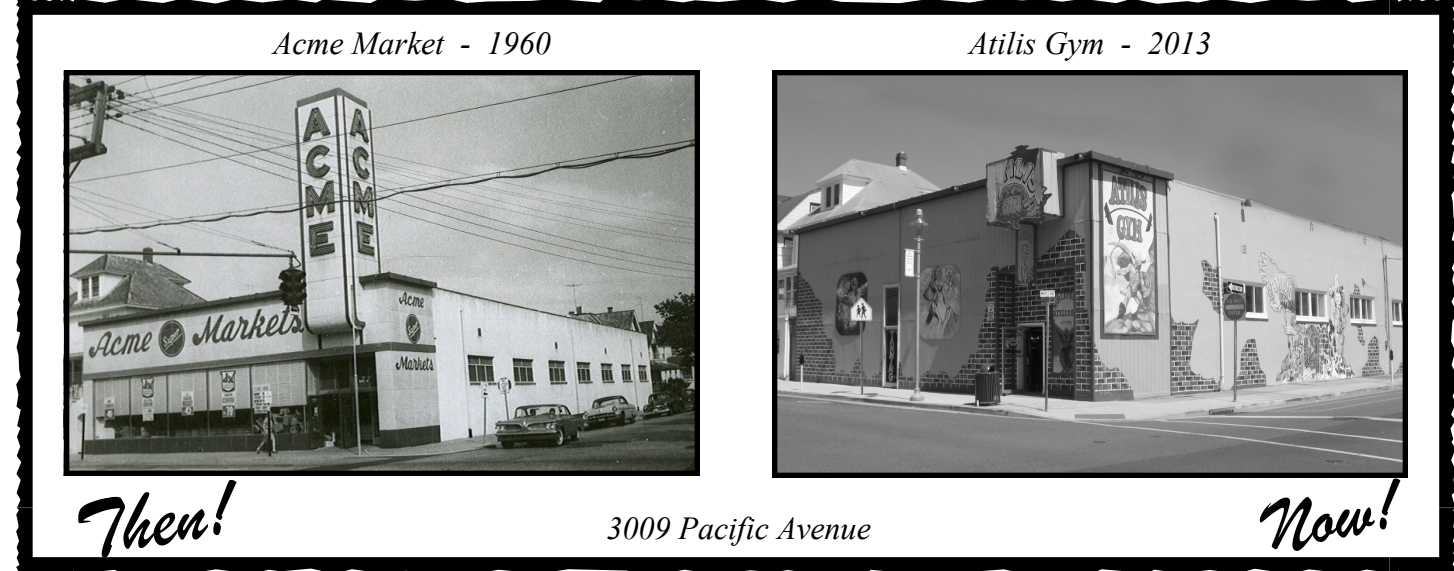
They were constructed with stakes which were about 75 to 80 feet long. The stakes were drug by horses to the beach, across the sand and into the water; then taken to the shoals where they were driven to the bottom. Nets were fastened between the poles to trap and hold the fish. Itemized reports of the amount of each kind of fish caught each

### The Wildwood Historical Society, Inc. Preserving the history and memories of the Wildwoods . . .

month, had to be sent to the Bureau of Fisheries. The pounds had to be dismantled during WW II since the enemy submarines could use them as markers.

The Wildwood Historical Society is fortunate to have one of the last two Taylor Fish Company boxes here at the museum thanks to Lois Ann Taylor from North Fort Myers, Florida. Mrs. Taylor also sent us a ship's compass from that time and a collection of photos of the pound fishermen at work. If you have an interest in this part of Wildwood history, stop in to take a look. *Thank you Mrs. Taylor!*

**Just to let you know . . .** The City of Wildwood's Centennial Book is available at a cost of \$20 a copy. Treat yourself to some great memories. Copies will be available here at the museum.



*Then!*

3009 Pacific Avenue

*Now!*

**MEMBERSHIP**  
 We are always looking for new members to help preserve Wildwood's history. Now is the time to renew your membership. If you have done so already, we thank you. Because of rising costs of maintenance and utilities, donations are welcome, too! Memberships help to cover the cost of mailing, notices, newsletters and notification of special events.

**Wildwood Historical Society, Inc.**  
 George F. Boyer Museum  
 3907 Pacific Avenue  
 Wildwood, New Jersey 08260  
 609-523-0277



**City of Wildwood Basketball League – 1949-50**  
 Left to right, front row: Sal Fulginiti, Dan D'Amico, Coach Leonard Catanoso, Bob Olivieri, Chuck Norton. Back row: Gus Langford, Bob Moore, Fred Grosse, Jack Long, Mike Branca  
 Photo courtesy of Jack Long

## New Acquisitions . . . . .

**Barbara Melacon** gave us a great photo of an elegant home that used to be at 2400 Atlantic Avenue. It was taken in the 1960s. From the **Kay Estate** we received photos of 7802 Pacific Avenue and 7505 Pacific Avenue. Also taken in the 1960s. We also received a Greater Wildwood Hotel-Motel Visitors Guide, Vol. #29. From **Charles Hunter**, we received a collection of old cameras and equipment. **Chris White** gave us a collection of Wildwood Souvenirs that include a trivet, trinket box and plate.

**Inge Laine** brought in a photo of Ron Pearson and his fishing vessel the "Quest." **Mary Field** dropped off a photo of the WHS graduating class of 1916 and **Dr. Carey Stone** gave us a number of Wildwood souvenirs including a small dish picturing Fountain Park in Wildwood. **Tracy Berger** dropped off a collection of photos that included the Hereford Lighthouse, the Boardwalk and the North Wildwood Mummer's Parade. **Jerry Kern** gave us an 1893 map of Anglesea showing North Wildwood thru **29th Street**. Check out our North Wildwood binder for this bit of history.

**Lois Taylor** was in touch with us from Florida about a 100 year-old "Taylor Fish Co." box along with a compass. Friends, **Karen and Bill Dougherty** were kind enough to pick it up and get it to the museum.

**Helen Rague** stopped in with a collection from her late brother, **Willy Fulginiti**. It included photos and 1940s yearbooks. (See photo below from Fulginiti collection). **Ben Lauriello** gave us photos of Bergan's Fish Market, Dock Street, and Ganser's Bakery with a gas pump next to the building.

This is all that space will allow. Come in and see for yourself!  
Until next time . . . . .

Visit our  
Gift shop!



*On a Saturday in January, 1949,* local residents gathered at the Wildwood High School auditorium to be entertained by members of the Wildwood Fire Department for what was billed as the "20th annual Old-Style Firemen's Minstrel".

William Patterson sang "Rambling

Brand new this year in our gift shop is the new publication by Dr. Joseph Salvatore and Joan Berkey, "US Coast Guard Training Center at Cape May"

The book is a part of the Images of America collection. This is a must for local and navel history collectors. This is a collection of the Coast Guard Base History for over the last 100 years. Cost is \$22.

Books and DVDs are available that deal with the history of the Wildwoods and also souvenir picture mousepads for \$6 each. That favorite grandchild is not to be forgotten with the Talking Tram Car for \$12.

Proceeds benefit the Museum  
Also available by mail  
Call for shipping and handling charges  
Call (609) 523-0277



Photo courtesy of the Estate of Willy Fulginiti

## HOURS

Closed Sunday, Mondays and  
all National Holidays  
Summer Hours  
Open Tuesday through Saturday  
9:00 AM to 2:00 PM  
Call for Winter Hours Information

## 2013 Executive Board

President	Anna M. Vinci
Vice President	Phyllis Bethel
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Secretary	Larry Lillo
Gerald Barton	Alexander Brannen
Joyce Jackson	Klaas Kramer
Chris Mento	Mary Ellen Shields
Robert J. Scully, Sr.,	Emeritus

Anna M. Vinci, Editor

Rose" and Stanley Kalbach crooned "You Were Only Fooling". Bob Penkethman, Jr. belted out "Bluebird of Happiness," and the Grand Finale consisted of the quartet of Henry Colbert, Ted Morrison, Phil Sternman and Don Long who gave a stirring rendition of "Stout Hearted Men."

The gentlemen pictured below did a specialty number. They are left to right: Willy Fulginiti, Roy Parson, and Jim Barkalow. Some of them may be gone, but are not forgotten. *Thanks, guys!*



*George F. Boyer*  
1904 - 1976

George F. Boyer's name appears on our museum, but who was the man?

As we celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the George F. Boyer Museum, we recall the legacy of the man who founded it.

George Frederick Boyer was born in Philadelphia on September 6, 1904, the son of a fireman and a home-maker. Around 1932, while employed as a butcher in

Philadelphia, he came to Wildwood one summer and eventually settled down here, working as a butcher in the Acme and later opening his own grocery store on Pacific Avenue, a busy shopping area in the 1950s. He served the community as a volunteer fireman at the Pine Avenue Firehouse (Wildwood Fire Company No. 1) from 1943 to 1956 and then as a paid member of the Wildwood Fire Department until his retirement in 1974, at age 70.

Philadelphia, he came to Wildwood one summer and eventually settled down here, working as a butcher in the Acme and later opening his own grocery store on Pacific Avenue, a busy shopping area in the 1950s. He served the community as a volunteer fireman at the Pine Avenue Firehouse (Wildwood Fire Company No. 1) from 1943 to 1956 and then as a paid member of the Wildwood Fire Department until his retirement in 1974, at age 70.

His real local fame, however, came from his role as the City of Wildwood's first and only official historian. While serving with the fire department in 1959, he came across the stump of a tree (now known as the "W" tree) in the old city hall. Running down the origin of the tree—which turned out to have a rich local his-

tory—sparked a tsunami of information, as he talked to local residents and researched and collected old records. One thing led to another, and in January 1962, Boyer was appointed to the city's newly established historical commission and became the first president of the Wildwood Historical Society.

Tireless in his efforts to collect and preserve local artifacts, he spoke to school and church groups as well as civic organizations, urging them to "act now...to gather those irreplaceable links with the past and preserve them for generations to come." Founded by Boyer, Wildwood's first historical museum opened in 1963, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Municipal Building; six months later a Library of New Jersey History was added.

In addition to collecting artifacts and curating the museum and library, Boyer penned several books and numerous magazine and newspaper stories about the history of Wildwood and the surrounding area. *Cape May County Story*, co-authored with J. Pearson Cunningham, was published in 1975, followed by

# Our 50<sup>th</sup> Year

a solo effort, *Wildwood: Middle of the Island*, in 1976. He was also a motivating factor in helping to have a Wildwood landmark—the first school building in Holly Beach City, known as the Mini House—preserved in Holly Beach Park.

In October 1976, the City of Wildwood honored Boyer for his "long and devoted service" by renaming the museum the George F. Boyer Historical Museum. He passed away a month later, but his legacy lives on. The museum continues to welcome visitors and locals alike, just as it did a half-century ago under Boyer's care. *(We thank George Boyer's daughter, Kathy Maher Boyer for contributing this article to our newsletter)*

## Thank You, Brick Donors!

Ruth Beck Goldman  
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and Betsy Tomlinson  
Nancy Pierpont Gutek  
Lori Roach  
Kathy Skouras  
Chris White  
Wildwood Civic Club

## SPECIAL REMINDERS

We will be celebrating **50 Years of History** on **June 15, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM**, at our annual **Post Card/Collectibles Show and Open House** at the museum. Admission is free, donations are appreciated. Refreshments will be served.

ALSO, "**Boardwalk II**" video by Bob Ingram and Tony Deutsch will be available very soon at the museum. Price is \$20 including tax. Call us to check for availability.