

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 _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Telephone _____ E-Mail _____

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.

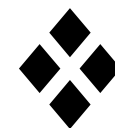
Renewal **New**
 Please check membership class and
 enclose fee with application.

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

AV-10-2



Wildwood Historical Society, Inc.



The George F. Boyer Museum

Issue #26

The Wildwoods By-The-Sea, New Jersey

Fall, 2010

..... a message from
 the President

Some time ago, we were given back issues of *SHOUT* magazine, a seasonal publication that showcased the entertainment on the island. We are now in the process of getting prices to have the newspapers scanned and put on a more stable media. These will serve as an invaluable research tool for the museum. We thank **Dennis Grant**, publisher of the paper who gifted them to us.

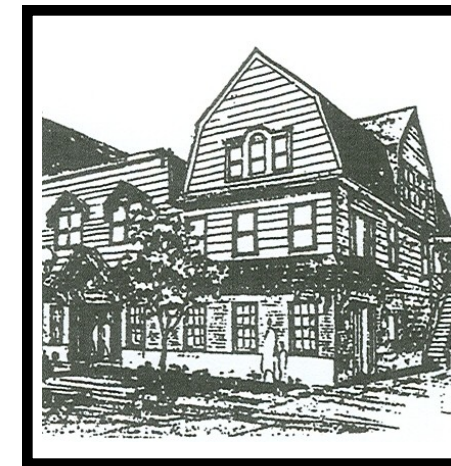


In connection with this project, we have solicited donations and want to thank the **Ancient Order of Hibernians** and the **North Wildwood Flea Market Committee** who made substantial donations. The contributions will be used to complete this project. These organizations are commended for giving back to their community.

We also announce that our Curator of many years, **Bob Scully**, has tendered his resignation. Bob's resignation was accepted with regret, but he will continue to serve on the Executive Board as his time allows.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all those who have supported the museum in any way during past years. Please know that the staff and Board Members wish you all a **Happy Holiday and Healthy New Year.**

Anne Vinci, President



Preserving the history and memories of the Wildwoods . . .

The Wildwood Historical Society, Inc.



Martino and the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra. **The Riptide** offered Fats Domino, Wayne Newton, Lloyd Price, Mickey Shaughnessy, Kay Ballard, Mel Torme and Dee Dee Sharp. **The Beach Club** had the Beachboys, The Marvelettes, Chuck Berry and Marvin Gaye, while **Hurricane East** offered The Platters, Brook Benton and The Shirelles. Clubs like the **Martinique**, **Rainbow**, **Beachcomber**, **Emerald**, **The Manor** and **The Elmira** brought so much entertainment to our island. Wonderful memories of a great summer!

Entertainment Blast from the Past

It was the summer of 1964, and the Wildwoods were host to a long list of entertainers. The **Surf Club** showcased Chubby Checker, The Four Aces, Johnny Ray, Frank Sinatra, Jr, Al



Wildwood High School, 1949

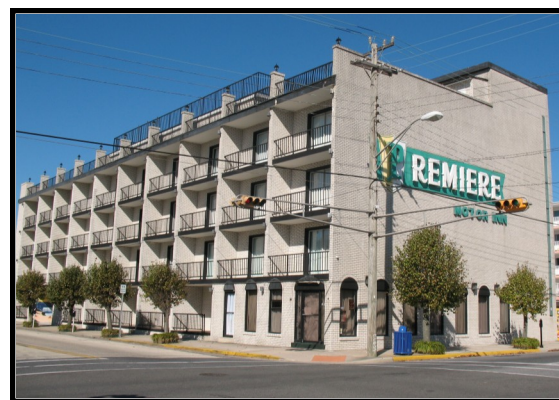
First row, left to right: Sonny Jones, Dave Arabia, Russell Buckingham, Bill Robinson, B. J. Jones, Joe Deihl, Don Twist. Second row: Len Serman, Jim Wheaton, Fred Grosse, Jim Shevlin, Ben Tamini, Sal Fulginiti and Coach George Betz. Cheerleaders: Martha Seigle Anzelone, Cass Olivieri Bratten, Unknown, Unknown, Dot Langford, Unknown. Photo courtesy Helen Fulginiti Rague (WHS 1946)

Fitzgerald's - 1966



Then!

Premiere Motor Inn - 2010



Now!

3214 Atlantic Avenue

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! Membership dues help to cover the cost of mailing, notices, newsletters and notification of special events.

MEMBERSHIP

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

New Acquisitions

The staff here at the museum has been busy, gathering, preserving and presenting various artifacts throughout the summer months. **Mike Stafford** of the Sea Isle City museum gave us a collection of aerial photos of North Wildwood taken in August, of 2009, before the dunes were erected. **Chris White**, a frequent, visitor brought us some very old Wildwood souvenir pennants. Old menus from the S. A. Wade Tavern and The Lodge Restaurant came to us from **Joe Duncan**. Our own, **Bob Scully**, brought in several issues of "Ship Ahoy," the WHS yearbook from the 1930s. He also brought in photos going back to the 1920s. **Dom Capacchione** gave us photos of the Boardwalk fire of December 17, 1991, while **Dave McVey** gave us a collection of photos of the fishing vessel *Irma Pauline* along with newspaper clippings. They can be found in our *Fishing Industry - Otten's Harbor Book*.

One day a gentleman by the name of **Charles F. Leiby, IV**, from Absecon, came into our museum and gave us an unusual collection. It consisted of medals belonging to the first fire chief, Wilbur W. Washburn. Also patents that Washburn had applied for, for boring, and a cutting and punching shingle machine. We also have a photo of Washburn demonstrating the shingle cutting machine. **Ayne Zaberer** of Zaberer's Restaurant fame sent us a collection of news articles and photos from the restaurant. Mrs. Zaberer now resides in Florida. **Diane Benero Copeland** who currently resides in California sent us a collection of photos taken in Wildwood and North Wildwood, in 1997, before the building boom. **Sharon Jolly** donated two books, *Great Storms of the Jersey Shore* and *Jersey Diners*. They are here for your perusal.

Our faithful volunteer, **Inge Friesenborg Laine** gave us a box of slides from the Hunt's Boardwalk fire of August, 1981, and a collection of old bottles. **Tom Bradshaw** sent in a Polk Directory from 1967, that lists residents and businesses on the entire island. **Pat Carty** sent us a "brand new old shirt" with the Corson's Men's Shop label in excellent shape, and a Sellright Beverage promotional booklet from years ago. **Pary Lion Woehlcke** (WCHS, '64) gave us *Annscrip* yearbooks from the early 60s, plus a great collection of photos and artifacts from her family, which we were happy to receive.

There you have it, and the list is by no means limited to the above acquisitions. You'll just have to come in and check us out.

Until next time

Visit our gift shop!

Available are books, VHS tapes and DVDs dealing with the history of the Wildwoods. New book additions include *Naval Air Station-Wildwood* by Dr. Joe Salvatore and Joan Berkey. Cost is \$22. We also have available *Wildwood By-the Sea: Nostalgia & Recipes* by Anita S. Hirsch for \$20 each. All prices include tax.

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

Very recently we acquired two more books for your interest. They include *Lifeguards of the Jersey Shore* which might be an appropriate gift for a one-time lifeguard in your family. The cost is \$25, tax included.

The second very interesting book is *Wildwood's Neon Nights & Motel Memories*, by Robert and Melinda Williams. The book is well done and contains 220 color photos featuring the Wildwoods' motels, neon signs, arcades and retail shops. The book covers the period from the 1950s to the present. The cost is \$25.

For that favorite grandchild, we now carry the Talking Tram Car for \$15. Stop in and take a look!

HOURS

Closed all National Holidays
and Sundays

SUMMER HOURS

Monday thru Saturday, 9:00 - 2:00 PM

WINTER HOURS

Thursday thru Saturday, 9:00 - 2:00 PM

2010 Executive Board

President	Anna M. Vinci
Vice President	Phyllis Bethel
Treasurer	Mary Ellen Shields
Secretary	Larry Lillo
Alexander Brannen	Anthony Canzano
Michael Eagan	Doug Ford
Joyce Jackson	Scott Jett
Klaas Kramer	Chris Mento
Robert J. Scully	

Historian/Manager - Robert Bright

Anna M. Vinci, Editor

Meet our new Board Member



Joyce Fidell Jackson

Joyce has been a resident of North Wildwood for over 50 years. She was married to the late Henry F. Jackson (WCHS '58). As a teen in the 50s she worked at Laura's Fudge in the Dayton Hotel. She went on to work for Atlantic Human Resources, the City of North Wildwood, and then in 2007, after 30 years of service, retired from the N.J. Unemployment Office as a clerk and claimant rep. Her interests include reading, bike riding, and dining out with friends. She is the mother of one daughter and grandmother to the light in her life, her five year old grandchild, Lila.

Welcome to the Board, Joyce!

Old Boardwalk Amusements

In our last issue I asked readers if they remembered a "dark ride" called "The Mystery Castle." I received very few letters, but everyone seemed to remember the castle for the same things.

Charles Carr (WHS '57) wrote, "You asked about the Mystery Castle. I knew it well. It was the cheapest thing on the Boardwalk and seldom changed. Why we went in so often, I can't imagine. It had the distorting mirrors and the air jets. I used to take our family friends from Western Pennsylvania on the Boardwalk and we always went through the castle. There were 5 kids and they thought it was funny that I knew the secret of getting through. By following the wall you didn't get lost. After the room in the center, then you went back out another way. While you went through there was the roar of the roller coaster that went overhead as it did the Old Mill."

From **Elaine Penkethman Gardiner** (WHS '59): "I had forgotten all about this amusement until I saw



The Mystery Castle at 3514 Boardwalk in 1960.

your call for comments on it. I went through it many times as a child. Though my memories of the scary figures and such that one encountered in the castle are vague, I do have two dear memories. The first is the crazy mirror room. Great fun! The second is of a walkway, I think as we were exiting, where a wind machine blew one's skirt up—a la Marilyn Monroe in that famous photo."

Jack Beaver (WHS '57) wrote that he remembered "there was a lighted room in the middle and port-

holes to look in like shadowboxes." He also mentioned "the mirrors that reflected your image in strange shapes as well as air jets that blew the ladies' skirts up."

There you have it, memories of the Boardwalk. My own personal memory was a harrowing experience. I had the "stay close to the wall" down pat so you didn't get disoriented, until my Uncle Al took me on the amusement. Somehow I got turned around, got lost, and started to scream and cry. The more I yelled, the more he laughed. until the amusement attendant had to open a side door and let me out. Good thing Uncle Al was a favorite of mine. I could never have forgiven him otherwise.

At left is the amusement ride "Ye Old Mill," mentioned by Charles Carr. It was a boat ride through a dark tunnel and sometimes referred to as "The tunnel of love." I can't recall what scenes were available in the tunnel, but it did exist for quite a while under the roller coaster or the "Jack Rabbit".

If anyone has any favorite "vintage" rides, let's hear from you. And, if you happen to have a photo, e-mail it along with your comments to wildwoodhistoricalsociety@hotmail.com.



Ye Old Mill and Roller Coaster at Cedar Avenue and the Boardwalk.