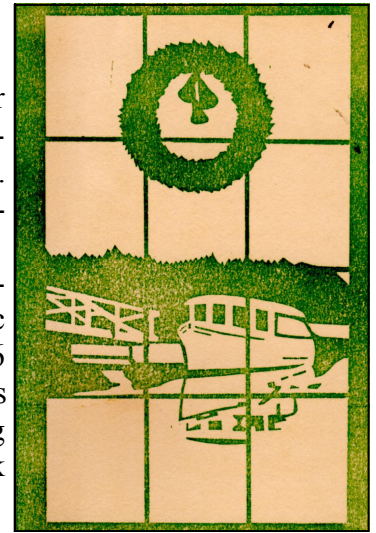


**Fall 2013**

Attendees may be interested in the historical items we have for sale. A magnet depicting 1910s Boothbay Harbor is a fine stocking stuffer, and the society also offers historic photos for sale to the public. In addition, there are books by local authors; Greene's 1906 history and Clifford's 1960 history continue to be popular, as well as the *Sketches* books by Barbara Rumsey. The historical society open house has become a popular event during the Harbor Lights festival. Be sure to come on December 7 and enjoy a relaxing break with us!



This giclée print is numbered 12/50 and measures 25" x 19" including mat. This print was remarked by the artist in the lower right hand corner.

★ This year's raffle is a colorful Maine scene.
★ **"Coastal Maine,"** generously donated by noted
★ local artist **Tony van Hasselt**. Included is a \$50
★ gift certificate for framing donated by **Boothbay**
★ **Harbor Framers**.



Skilled researcher Devyn Campbell will be on hand to assist people who'd like to know more about their Maine Civil War ancestors. He's the museum's chief navigator of Maine's Adjutant General's Reports, printed during the war and including information on the soldiers, their companies, and regiments. Be sure to join us on December 7 for this new exhibit and refreshments!



Boothbay Region Historical Society

President
Kay Wilder

Vice President
Howard Barter

Secretary
Judy Eastwood

Treasurer
Sarah Giles

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Lorraine Hodgdon
Susan Leach
Susan Lloyd
Bill Messmer
Wally Reed
Leigh Reinecke
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Barbara Wilson

Trustees Emeritus
Bea Walker

Administrator
Kathleen Duffy

*Local Historian/
Curator*
Barbara Rumsey

Newsletter Committee
Susan Leach, Editor
Judy Eastwood
Jan Reit
Barbara Rumsey
Kay Wilder

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Boothbay Region Historical Society is to promote interest in the history of the Boothbay region and to preserve the region's history.

BRHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit org.



Message from President Kay Wilder

Another busy year! A variety of speakers, many from the Boothbay region, delighted audiences with their knowledge, their history, and their memories. At the annual meeting in May, we elected new officers and board members and highlighted our summer Dairy Days exhibit with a presentation of local dairy memories, photos, and artifacts. Summer and fall found volunteers hard at work on fundraisers to help supplement our annual fund drive. All monies raised by society events go to defray general operating expenses. There are no frills at BRHS! This year, in addition to our popular bake and yard sales, raffles, and cheese sale, we were honored by a very successful benefit night at Carousel Music Theater.

In September, we once again thanked our wonderful volunteers. Without them, there would be no exhibits, no programs, no special events, and so much more. Local historian and curator, Barbara Rumsey, regularly calls on "her crew" to help organize and maintain the collections that tell the region's story.

This fall, we were pleased to welcome new administrator, Kathleen Duffy. Kathleen is a wonderful addition to the society and we look forward to many years together.

The society and its museum form a core segment of our community. Each year, in addition to general visitors, scores of people stop in to research their family, a house or boat, or general region history. As we move into winter, 2014 planning is underway. If you have an idea for a speaker, exhibit, or program, please let us know. As a valued society member your suggestions are important!

On behalf of the board of trustees, we wish you a happy, healthy, and historic new year!

Kay Wilder

Volunteer Spotlight

Judy and Chuck Davidson have turned a casual interest in local history into action. After renting at a local inn for one to two weeks each summer, in 1972 they decided this was the place for them and purchased a summer cottage on the east side of town. Following retirement in 1986, they were happy to be able to spend four to five months in the harbor each year.

As retired teachers and community volunteers at home, Judy and Chuck knew they wanted to continue volunteering during the summer. About 10 years ago, a friend suggested they look into working at the historical society. What luck for us! From June to October, the Davidsons are faithful members of the Wednesday Volunteers who help to collate, identify, and file items ranging from early business ledgers and receipts to travel brochures from the 1950s. They regularly man tables at society fundraising events, act as greeters or cover the office.

When asked how she views the society's place in our community, Judy said, "Wow, big asset to this town. There is so much material here it's easy to just get lost in time. Barbara Rumsey's enthusiasm for area history is amazing. I especially appreciate the way each volunteer is fully appreciated by everyone connected with the society."

Thank you, Judy and Chuck for *your* enthusiasm and all you do!



New Website is Up!

www.boothbayhistorical.org

New technology has allowed us to create a new look, easier navigation, a photo gallery, and more calendar information. With new functions, we can make more timely updates to society news. Soon we'll be adding more historic photos and museum research tips. The website serves as an introduction to the historical society. Please tell us what features you would like to see.

Thank you to Maine Hosting Solutions for technical and design support, and to Bruce Wood for his years serving as our volunteer webmaster on the previous site.



Summer Speaker Series

There were three guest speakers during the summer of 2013, one appearing twice. All of the presentations were well attended by society members and the wider public.

In June, local resident **James Hanna** shared stories from his days at the old burning dump through its transformation into today's transfer station as well as his recollections of the Boothbay Freezer.

Also in June, the society's own local historian **Barbara Rumsey** spoke on the history of the Boothbay Harbor footbridge. Her talk covered the footbridge's construction, the destructive Freeze of 1918, the later rebuildings, town controversies involving the footbridge, the bridge tenders who provided access to the head of the harbor through the swing section, and the bridge house residents.

In July, Rumsey returned and spoke on "Pursuing Local History and Writing About It," a longer version of a program she presented in February. Rumsey is well known in the area for her popular newspaper columns and detailed books on local history.

In August, the society presented a conversation with local aquaculturist **Gary Arnold**. Arnold has considerable experience farming fin fish and shellfish in Maine and commented on the rise and fall of salmon farming, current threats to raising oysters, and emerging opportunity for production of marine algae.

It was an entertaining and informative summer at the museum.

Thank you!

Whether you attend programs, browse the museum, volunteer, or buy treats, treasures, or tickets, thank you for your interest and support of the historical society. We'd like to extend a special thank you to the following people and businesses for their support:

Benefit night: **Carousel Music Theater**

Art raffle: **Tony van Hasselt**

Mini-raffles: **A Silver Lining**

Grover's Hardware

Jansen's Clothing Store

Boothbay Harbor Restaurant Grp.

Sherman's Books & Stationery

Trevett Country Store

Website

donation:

Cordula Mathias

Brenda Bettinson

Donated

artwork

Reid Ervin

Proceeds:

Steve Ervin

Diane Sumerlin

Membership Matters

Member Passings

We're very sorry to report the death of Judy Cook. She was a faithful member, volunteer, committee member, and trustee. She was on the board from 1996 to 2001 and an active volunteer before and after. Besides helping Barbara Rumsey make visits to the school grades, for 10 years she was a welcoming museum presence to visitors on the summer open days. She also served as a volunteer coordinator for the others manning the place—and she transcribed videos Barbara made in the 1980s. She did everything she could to help us in so many ways.

Pat Moses was another valued member who died recently. She worked in collections and helped man the museum in the same late 1990s-early 2000s period as Judy's time with us. We're grateful to both for the ways they helped us and the community.

Current Membership

Presently we have 660 individual members. Their membership dues are vital for the society's day-to-day operation and we are grateful for their support. Membership benefits include two newsletters, e-updates and a 10% discount in the gift shop.

New Members

Mary R Curtis Doherty	Chatham, NJ
Kathleen Duffy	Wiscasset
Frederic Hougardy	Boothbay
Pam Murray	Boothbay Harbor
Judith G. Palmer	Indianapolis, IN
Sandra Paxson	Boothbay Harbor
Joan Rittall	Boothbay
Suzanne & Kevin Roche	Boothbay Harbor
Mary Jane Rosenfield	Brunswick & Boothbay
Zira & Ansel Schiffer	W. Boothbay Harbor
David C. Schoentag	Lake Fort, FL
John & Rebecca Welsh	Boothbay
Barbara Wilson	Boothbay Harbor



The Boothbay Region Historical Society welcomes new Board Members

From left: Barbara Wilson, Wally Reed, Susan Leach, and Lorraine Hodgdon. Missing from photo: Susan Lloyd.

See Annual Meeting article on Page 5.



Collections by Barbara Rumsey

Robert Rice, Jan Reit, Judy Eastwood, Ken Hanson, Kay Wilder, Judy and Chuck Davidson, Margaret Tew, and high schooler **Robert Campbell** have been helping to bring order to the reference room. Many thanks to all! Work continues on cataloging photos and documents all year round, but our little group expands in the summer with Judy and Chuck—always welcome returnees from Florida. No matter what mass of material I put in front of the volunteers, they turn to and start plowing through it to organize and list the contents. New volunteer, Robert Campbell, is going over the Samples shipyard photo collection to ensure the order is accurate, principally checking the wartime Herb Douglas negatives. He's checked 150 or so—just about 850 to go!

Acquisitions

Artifacts

Coco Webber: clapboard from 1877 house of Ocean Point developer Dr. Crooker

David Tibbetts: 1976 Anderson & Gaw calendar/mirror, Lewis Gulf Service ashtray, fishing handline on red form, soapstone mackerel jig mold, Depositors Trust Company bank deposit bag, Jennifer Barter shooting target

Miles Barter: badge for the A&B Taxi Company (Abbott and Brackett)

Susan Leach and Sally Leach Sewall: copy of the 1948 Linc Rockwell map,

1878 school square, school cardboard triangle, children's puzzle pieces

Anonymous: Town of Boothbay Harbor envelopes for birth records

John Chesebro: three caps for Chesebro Dairy milk bottles, two 1877 Boothbay Registers

Thatcher Pinkham estate: R. D. Gibson painting of the fishing schooner *Natalie B. Nickerson*

Douglas Bartlett: Ethel Fowler 1931 map, Boothbay Harbor and Vicinity

Jane Eames: Irene Nickerson Eames's wedding dress, shoes, corsage, and related photos and documents; a box top from the Maine Trading Post with the logo

Manuscripts

Barbara Leonard: Nan Hallett Wood's scrapbook of the Summer Residents' Association, 1945-1955

Peggy Powis: collection on the Catholic Church

Great Cranberry Island: 1890s autograph book of Josie Dousett with many Boothbay names

Richard Macy: material on *Nellie G II*

Images

Alden Reed: framed photos of the steamer *Westport* at Isle of Springs wharf, a 1910 view from Isle of Springs to north, the 1987 centennial; and drawing of Eastern Steamboat Co.'s 1885 mail line

Joan Rittall: region postcard views

Boothbay Harbor Hospital Auxiliary: John Haapanen painting of Boothbay Harbor stores

Sharon Murray: J. B. Rowe blotter, Bryan Rowe photos, Dunton store photo

Published Material

Mr. Bradley: mid-1900s boat, restaurant, and hotel brochures

Louisa Winchenbach: 1930s *Linekin* ferry schedule, 1958 library lawn band photo

Evelyn Snowman: a 1912 third grade reader from a Boothbay Harbor school, Dept. of Agriculture Farmers' Bulletins from the 1920s, once owned by Charles Marson

Articles

Below are articles by **Barbara Rumsey** that have appeared in the column *Out of Our Past* in the *Boothbay Register* since the last newsletter.

Boothbay Settlement Patterns, 1730-1880

Barter's Island Settlement Pattern, 1730-1860s

East Boothbay Settlement Pattern, 1820s-1830s

East Boothbay Settlement Pattern, 1840s

East Boothbay Settlement Pattern, 1850s-1868

The Rows and the Footbridge Area

The Early History of Bayville, Parts I, II

The 1913 Fire on Mouse Island

Laughing Water Camp

What Remains of the *Boxer* and *Enterprise*, Parts I, II, III

Marjorie Drisko—A Remembrance by Barbara Rumsey



I used to visit Marjorie Cutts Drisko at her home on Park Street for about 20 years. We sat in her kitchen while she made items for the Lincoln Home and Methodist church fairs or went over prospective thrift shop items for her charities. I enjoyed hearing about her 1920s-1930s young years in the Church Square area. Her near neighbors included Bess Reed who lived in our museum and Judge Kenniston north across the street—people who figure large in Boothbay's late 1800s and early 1900s. I was grateful to Marjorie for painting a picture of Harbor life in her little corner. I also attended her and Ruth Malcom's genealogical meetings at Conley's Garden Center occasionally. Even after her death in 2012 she continued to help us, giving a small bequest to help support our work in local history.

Marjorie's best gift to me personally was opening up a whole vista by the simple act of recommending one book. She told me to get and read *A Genealogical Dictionary of Maine and New Hampshire* by a threesome, Noyes, Libby, and Davis. The book was the culmination of 20 years spent by them to catalog all the settlers and places cited in primary sources that the government demanded and from some private sources. Marjorie swore by Noyes, Libby, and Davis for her family research, while I saw the possibilities of unwrapping 17th and early 18th-century Boothbay through the court cases that related to our area in those centuries. I sat in bed many a night making my own index on the inside covers of that book which is really one large index in itself. Primary sources are the bedrock to build upon. One of my books exists because of that book and because of her.



Officers and Trustees Elected at Annual Meeting

Elected as returning trustees at the annual meeting held on Tuesday, May 21, 2013 were Howie Barter, Bill Messmer, and Ann Sutter. Elected to fill one-year terms were Susan Lloyd and Susan Brackett, to fill a two-year term was Lorraine Hodgdon, and to fill three-year terms were Susan Leach and Wally Reed.

Elected as president was Kay Wilder. Re-elected as vice president, secretary, and treasurer respectively were Howie Barter, Judy Eastwood, and Sarah Giles.

Following the business meeting, Susan Leach introduced the program, "Boothbay Region Dairies," the narrative portion was the product of conversations and interviews Barbara Rumsey had with friends and acquaintances during which she captured their early memories of life here. A slide show designed and produced by Judy Dunsford accompanied the readings of Barbara's words by Susan, Carolyn Shubert, and Betsy Spekke. Members of the audience shared their recollections of local dairies and dairymen following the program.

Barbara Wilson joined the board of trustees this fall to fill a vacancy.

Our new trustees: Lorraine Hodgdon has lived in the Hodgdon Island area of Boothbay all her life. She attended local schools and worked locally, first in Dr. Long's office and later at the funeral home. Her husband, Stanley, also a native, ran the S. G. Hodgdon Store, founded by his great-grandfather, and also served as the postmaster at Trevett. Lorraine and Stanley have four children, five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Susan Leach was born in Boston, MA and spent her summers in Boothbay at the Merrow house on Sawyers Is-

land where she and her husband, Larry, recently retired. The house was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2007. Her parents, Sally Merrow Leach and Harry Leach, were founding members of the historical society—so getting involved herself felt just right.

Susan Lloyd came to Boothbay Harbor in 1964 to work at Sprucewold. She returned to Sprucewold the following summer and then spent two summers working at Fisherman's Wharf. She vacationed in the region every year thereafter. After a career in the federal government, she and her husband, Tom Frieids, bought a summer house in Boothbay in 2004, and she went to work for the Boothbay Region Chamber of Commerce. Now fully retired, they happily reside in East Boothbay but spend winters in Washington, DC.

Wally Reed's family has been in the Boothbay region for generations. Wally grew up here, went to local schools, and then graduated from Thomas College. He and his wife, Elizabeth, a teacher in the Southport School, now live in his family home. He worked at BIW until 1997, then owned and operated Topside Inn for six years, and has now been with Signal Point Condominiums for about ten years. He has two children.

Barbara Wilson moved to Boothbay Harbor in the early 1980s to buy Captain Sawyer's Place from her parents. In 1987, she sold it back to her parents and took a job working for the town of Boothbay Harbor. She retired last April and has spent much of her time since then volunteering at the library and at the historical society. She is delighted to be joining the society's board of trustees.

Books, Maps, Magnets, Note Cards — Great Holiday Gifts!

Members receive a 10% discount.

Visit our website boothbayhistorical.org to view images of additional items for sale, including maps.

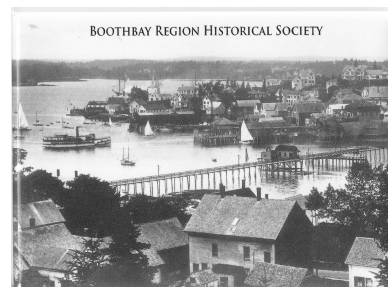
Books

<i>The Boothbay Region, 1906-1960</i> , Harold B. Clifford, 1961 (reprinted 1982)	\$12.95
<i>Boothbay, Maine Marriage Intentions, 1766-1904</i> , Fred Bennett	\$25.00
<i>The Boothbay Playhouse</i> , Jerry Vermilye, 2010, Paper	\$19.00
<i>The Boothbay Playhouse</i> , Jerry Vermilye, 2010, Hardcover	\$28.00
<i>Boothbay Region Historical Sketches, Vol. II</i> , Barbara Rumsey, editor, 1999	\$15.00
<i>Boothbay Region Historical Sketches, Vol. III</i> , Barbara Rumsey, editor, 2006	\$16.00
<i>Boothbay Region Revisited</i> , Boothbay Region Historical Society, 2004	\$20.00
<i>Colonial Boothbay, Mid-1600s to 1775</i> , Barbara Rumsey, 2000	\$16.00
<i>Family History of the Boothbay Region</i> , Francis B. Greene, 1932	\$25.00
(This 1932 book duplicates the genealogies in the last 185 pages of Greene's 1906 history)	
<i>History of Boothbay, Southport, and Boothbay Harbor, Maine</i> , F. B. Greene	\$60.00
<i>Hodgdon Shipbuilding and Mills, 1816-1916</i> , Barbara Rumsey, 1995	\$15.00
<i>I'm Different, A Biography of Ethelyn P. Giles</i> , Carl R. "Chip" Griffin, 1999	\$14.00
<i>Maine Coastal Vessels of the Steamboat Era</i> , Alden Stickney, 2008	\$24.00
<i>Reminiscences of a Boothbay Shipbuilder</i> , James P. Stevens, 1993	\$10.00
<i>Shipping Days of Old Boothbay</i> , George W. Rice, 1938 (reprinted 1986)	\$45.00

Other Items

Tote Bags, cream colored canvas with straps and logo in navy	\$28.50
Historic Canning Labels, frameable wall art, choose lobster, mackerel or clam	\$10.00
Note Cards, set of 6, Alden Stickney's drawing of our building	\$3.50

We are happy to mail your order, just email brhs@gwi.net or call Kathleen at 207-633-0820.



Our magnet makes a great stocking stuffer!

\$4.50 each or 3 for \$10

Mark Your Calendar
Holiday Open House and
Opening of Civil War Exhibit
Dec. 7, 2013 10am-2pm
Annual Meeting
May 20, 2014 4pm

**Open Year Round
Hours of Operation:**

Thurs. through Sat.

10 am – 2 pm

Local historian, Barbara Rumsey,
is available for research questions
on Saturdays from 10–2 or by
appt. only on Wednesdays.

Phone: 207-633-0820

Email: brhs@gwi.net

Web: boothbayhistorical.org

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Maine Memory Network grant project

We are on target to have 70 images from the museum's collection online by the end of December as part of the Maine Memory Network's permanent database. Sign on to www.mainememory.net to view the wonderful images under Contributing Partner: Boothbay Region Historical Society. The society receives part of the proceeds of all sales. Here is a copy of one photo now available:



Winter scene in Boothbay Harbor ca. 1920

Although automobiles were becoming common by 1920, horses or oxen were required for moving heavy objects like this log, being pulled through the center of town on a snowy Townsend Avenue, probably bound for the Atlantic Coast Company (a couple of blocks away), builder of large schooners.

Give the Gift of Membership.

A gift membership may lead someone to discover his/her family history, learn about the house or street they live on, or gain insight into times past. Your support helps us preserve local history for generations to come.

Membership Form

Members receive newsletters twice a year and a 10% discount on gift shop items.

Name _____

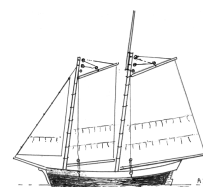
Address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Choose Your Membership Level:

- ☐ Regular \$ 15.00
- ☐ Family \$ 25.00
- ☐ Contributing \$ 50.00
- ☐ Supporting \$150.00



Please send checks payable to:

Boothbay Region Historical Society
P.O. Box 272, Boothbay Harbor, ME 04538-0272

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