



February News 2018



Susan Leach

(1956-2018)

When Susan joined the Boothbay Region Historical Society board in 2013, she made an immediate impact. Whether overseeing production of the BRHS Newsletter, running the annual yard sale, working with the exhibit committee, or helping to organize the society's 50th anniversary celebration, her energy, determination, and sense of humor never flagged. Susan was a good friend to the Boothbay Region Historical Society and will be sadly missed.

More memories will be shared in our spring newsletter.

NEW MONTHLY BRHS NEWSLETTER

We are pleased to launch this monthly newsletter with articles about our collections, Boothbay region history, and BRHS news. You are currently subscribed, if you would like to change your subscription, you may do so at the bottom of the newsletter.

FROM OUR COLLECTIONS

Sounding Lead

By Barbara Rumsey

The historical society has many fine examples of items that were crucial to local lives in earlier times. The sounding lead is one of them.

The sounding lead is believed to be the oldest navigational instrument in the world. It consists of a weight on a rope that was marked at intervals with cloth or leather to measure depth. By swinging and dropping the lead plummet and eyeing the marks, the water's depth could be known. Also the nature of the sea bottom could be determined to help locate optimum fishing grounds. Tallow placed in a hollow in the base of the lead would pick up bits of bottom—rocks or mud or sand or clay and so on. The findings would be noted on the chart or compared to prior findings to detect the location. This lead, donated by John Hodgdon, belonged to his father, Doug Hodgdon of East Boothbay, who fished locally and up east with East Boothbay men including Wes Alley and Brink Chapman.



Sounding Lead, 7 1/2" long,
Boothbay Region Historical Society

SAVE THE DATE

Boothbay Region Historical Society
ANNUAL MEETING

This meeting is OPEN TO THE
PUBLIC

Join us
TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2018, 4:00 pm at
Boothbay Region Historical Society



BRHS Hires Outreach Manager

We are pleased to announce a new member of our staff. Kathy Goldner was hired in January to help us reach out to the community and our members, and to work with collections and exhibits. Kathy has a B.A. in Art History from Boston University and has worked in publicity, community outreach, collections, and educational programming in museums and galleries in Massachusetts and Maine, including Penobscot Marine Museum and Boothbay Railway Village.



Members' Corner

Your membership makes the historic preservation work of the Boothbay Region Historical Society possible!

Thank you to our newest members:

Sarah Fahnley, Boothbay, Maine
Merry Auld Tea Co., Boothbay, Maine
Betsy and John Zolper, Vienna, Virginia
Hilary Bartlett, Boothbay Harbor, Maine
Brian and Vanessa Brown, Boothbay, Maine

Not a member yet? [Click here to join.](#)

Boothbay Region Historical Society is open all year,
Thursday through Saturday, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.



For more information

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Boothbay Region Historical Society

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