



Boothbay Region High School football team c. 1960

A Window to the Past

Boothbay Region Historical Society News

September 2022

Researching and preserving our history

Your stories will not be forgotten

From Our Archives



Some of the members of the Boothbay Region Fishermen's Co-op in front of their building across from the Catholic Church, circa 1948. They formalized the organization in 1949. Front row: Carl Reed, Lester Reed, John Trask, Gordon Trask, Fred Fossett, manager Hornblower from Bath, Ken Holmes. Back Row: Stan Reed, Dennis Genthner, Lowell Newcomb, Ken Fossett.



A view of Jimmy Juliano's wharf with fishing boats and gear in winter 1948.

Before Sea Pier, Part II

By Barbara Rumsey, 2019

These articles profile the history of the Sea Pier location on Boothbay Harbor's east side.

[Note: the first article in the series, "Sea Pier Property, Part I" was in the March 2022 enews]

The next known occupant of the wharf was Juliano Brothers' Bay Fish Company, with Jimmy Juliano the manager in charge who lived in Woolwich. He bought snails and groundfish and he had a fish market on the property. He bought no lobsters so he sold no bait. It was described in the Register as a fish packing and shipping firm when it

Late in 1967 Malpeque Shrimps Limited opened for shrimp processing, employing many local people, including women who packed the shrimp at night. Jimmy Juliano, who managed it, hired Terry Brewer to work there as well as his wife Sheila who packing shrimp. Terry cooked the shrimp and loaded trucks with frozen shrimp. Malpeque also went under. Next Ken Brown located North Atlantic Fisheries there in the 1970s to deal only with herring. He too went out of business.

To backtrack a little, back in 1949 the Catholic church had rented their waterfront lot next south from the memorial dory to the first fishermen's co-op, the Boothbay Region Fishermen's Cooperative Association. Included in the lease was a wharf and small building. Douglas Carter heard that Mace Carter brought the building to the site for the co-op in the 1940s. It doesn't appear to me to predate the early 1900s. By 1960 a total of over 100 fishermen were in the organization. In 1970 the church wanted to double the rent and the men started leaving for other places.

Douglas Carter started a second co-op-like business in February 1971 by going around to convince the lobstermen who'd lost their site to go in on the new business at \$100 each; 36 signed up. The new "co-op," called the Boothbay Region Lobstermen Inc., was incorporated February 15, 1971. Douglas was seen as a reliable business man, so Depositors Trust Bank gave the new co-op a 110% loan for the business. Brown Brothers had been buying product from the fishermen, and Brown's had bought the future "co-op" site from Caldwell. They agreed to sell the property to the co-op in return for the "co-op" members continuing to sell their product to Brown Brothers. Once the business was underway, Douglas's wife Becky worked there also for several years managing the kitchen and cooking in its restaurant at times while Douglas was managing. Douglas continued to lease the lot from the Catholic church.

Billy Hallinan, age 68, lived on Sunset Road when young and he started hanging around the east side wharves at about the age of 12. He was given spending money for helping the fishermen with chores, loading bait and so on. Within five or six years in about 1968 he got his first small lobsterboat and sold his catch to the first co-op. When that business came to an end, he started selling to the second co-op.

The future Sea Pier lot stayed vacant for some time after going under. Eventually Bob Fish, Andy Holmes, Joe Russell, and David Lovejoy started Oceans East Aquarium there in the 1980s. It had screens and projectors with a seating area and tanks, It ran for seven or eight years, but it too was behind financially and the bank put it on the market

president and owned 25% of the shares, but the other fishermen didn't want to expand or bring in younger or more fishermen.

Douglas hoped the aquarium lot would be prevented from being developed in a way that would be detrimental to the fishermen. He went ahead and bought it with John Fish, with Douglas holding 51% of the stock. He resigned from the "co-op," and its members agreed to buy him out. They soon asked him to come back since they'd started losing money, though he'd left it in good shape with no debt and a surplus. They bought his 51% of the aquarium lot, which Douglas hoped they would bring into the business, but it sat idle since the majority didn't want to put money into fixing it up.

Douglas left the Boothbay Region Lobstermen Inc. in spring 1996 after at least 12 years of managing it; eight managers had preceded him. His 25% share in the business was bought back by the business. Don Page, the manager, sold the 51% share in the idle aquarium lot on April 8, 1996 to Bob Fish, who, in turn, deeded it to Douglas. He still wanted to bring in younger fishermen so he spent his time fixing up the future Sea Pier site, tearing out the aquarium, setting new pilings, and replacing rotted subfloors—generally refurbishing the whole property, mostly by himself. He wasn't planning to encroach on the co-op's fishermen, but rather to deal with the fishermen they weren't opening up to. The "co-op" disbanded about five years later as the partners aged and the business lost money.

For more articles by Barbara Rumsey about the Boothbay region check our website www.boothbayhistorical.org/out-of-our-past

SPEAKER SERIES

Past Images of Ocean Point, Maine



The Homestead, Capt. Brewer, Ocean Point, Maine

Thursday, September 29, 4:30 pm

Susan Kimball Clark

Boothbay Region Historical Society presents “Past Images of Ocean Point, Maine,” an illustrated talk by Susan Kimball Clark. Susan grew up and raised her family on Ocean Point, watching the area change over the years. She began to realize the extent of what was being lost, and started collecting photographs, stories, old maps, and whatever information she could find to illustrate the history of Ocean Point. The images she found, often old postcards, included horses and wagons, steamships, lost architecture, lighthouses, and lighthouse keepers. In 2016 she published her book, “Past Images of Ocean Point, Maine.”



Author and Ocean Point resident Susan Kimball Clark.

Admission is free. Donations are gratefully accepted. Currently all talks are offered both in-person and on Zoom. The Zoom link is on our [website here](#). **Doors open at**

CHEESE AND BAKE SALE FUNDRAISER



New this year, we are offering [Pineland Farms](#) Reserve Cheddar. This delicious cheese is aged for two years, giving it a bold sharp scrumptious taste. You will want to try it!



Friday, October 7, 10 am to 2 pm
Saturday, October 8. 10 am to sold out
at Boothbay Region Historical Society

"The dairy cows at Pineland Farms comprise one of the oldest registered Holstein herds in the United States. Purchased from Michael Wilson who, with his predecessors developed the "Trina" family. In 2005 we began making cheese using milk from our Holsteins and we quickly became the largest producer of cheese in Maine, winning numerous awards including several first-place honors from the American Cheese Society."

And delicious baked goods!



Boothbay Region High School football team c. 1960

**We need your help digitizing
and preserving our collections**

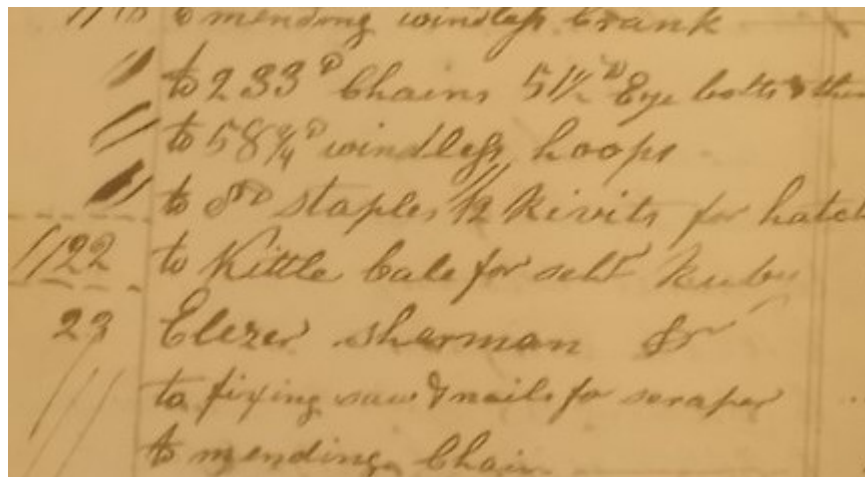
Can you volunteer an hour a week?

A survey we conducted last March demonstrated that digitizing the collections was not only a top priority for our members but also for the community at large. Volunteers have begun scanning our extensive collection of photographs and documents chronicling the Boothbay region's history, but with many thousands of items in the collection, more volunteers are needed. Volunteers for this exciting project will be trained at the Boothbay Region Historical Society and all scanning will be done there.

Digitizing will protect and preserve delicate documents as well as make our collections available to a much larger audience. Our collections include not only photographs, family files, and history files, but also paintings, ship models, furniture, farming and fishing artifacts, account books, day books, logs, ledgers, diaries, oral histories, year books, maps, surveys, nautical charts and artifacts, vessel plans and more.

If you have a little time now that summer is coming to an end, and would like to join this exciting project, or have questions, email Kathy Goldner at boothbayhistoric@gmail.com. We thank you! And researchers all across the country will thank you.

Researching?



Account book of Wm McCobb blacksmith 1828-1834

Check our [website](#) for a list of [family names](#) and of [history files](#) in our archives. If you call ahead 207-633-0820 or email us at brhs@gwi.net we can have the relevant files ready for you.

Let's celebrate our cultural heritage together

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72 Oak Street
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*We're open year-round,
weather permitting
Thursday through Saturday, 10 am to 2 pm.*

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