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BOOTHBAY REGION
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

October 2025

Researching and preserving our history, so your stories will not be forgotten.



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Welcome Ann Boyd

**Join us as we welcome our new Office Manager
Ann Boyd to the Historical Society!**

Ann brings years of family history to the society, as her family roots reach back into the 1700's. She was born in Boothbay Harbor and attended school in the local community. She received a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Maine at Farmington and taught special education for many years in the Augusta School District. Soon after retirement she returned to Boothbay Harbor to the family home where she grew up. Ann enjoys the outdoors, gardening, family research and spending time with her two sons, two grandsons and two granddaughters. Please stop by and say hello to Ann!



Cheese & Treats Sale!

Mark your calendar! Our popular Cheese & Treats fundraiser is back! This will be held at the museum on Saturday, October 11, 2025, from 9:00am until sold out. In addition to a variety of delicious baked goods, the society is pleased to offer a special 2-Year Reserve Cheddar cheese from Maine producer Pineland Farms Dairy. This classic cheddar cheese has been aged for full flavor. \$19.00/lb. Stock up for special occasions!

The sale will be held rain or shine at the museum, 72 Oak Street in Boothbay Harbor. For more information contact the society at 207-633-0820 or info@boothbayhistorical.org. Proceeds from this sale will support the society's mission to preserve and share the Boothbay Regions history. Send us your favorite cheese recipe via mail or email. A drawing will take place on the day of the sale, and the winner will be published in a follow-up newsletter.



Step back in time at the old 'Gray House'

Celebrating a successful fundraising event at the Leach House! Thanks to everyone who attended and our generous sponsors, we met our fundraising goal of \$6,000!

On September 13, 2025, the Society presented a unique evening at one of the oldest homes in the region. Located on Sawyers Island overlooking the Sheepscot River, the history of the Gray House (now Leach) reaches back into the 1700s, including a time when the house served as an inn and tavern for local residents and waterborne travelers. In 2007, the Gray House was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

cannon left from the War of 1812, and more. Later, guests gathered under a tent overlooking the water for taste bites and tavern lore intertwined with the history of Gray House. Well-known Maine food historian, Sandra Oliver, described early foods and beverages found in taverns and inns, as well as the average home. A buffet of food and beverage samples took guests back to that early era. Historical archaeologist, Tim Dinsmore, shared stories of early tavern life and more recent excavations at the Bryant-Barker tavern in Newcastle.

The Society is indebted to Sally Leach Sewall for once again opening her family's historic home for a fundraising event to support the Society. We would also like to honor the memory of Sally's sister, Susan. As a trustee, Susan was always enthusiastic about supporting the Society and sharing region history through exhibits, speakers, and events such as this house tour. Sally and Susan followed in the footsteps of their parents, Harry and Sally Leach, who first opened their home to the Society in 2006. The Leach family embodies the Society's mission to maintain and pass on the region's rich history.



You did it!

Thank you to our generous Challenge donor and to all who met the Challenge. With your help, we now have over \$2,000 to purchase much-needed archived materials and tools to care for and exhibit our collections. Soon, we will begin assessing our oldest treasures to ensure they are stored according to the latest conservation recommendations. Wherever possible, centuries-old ledgers and diaries will be digitized or transcribed. Picture railings will be added to exhibit rooms. Delicate textiles will be repacked in new archival boxes. At the same time, we will continue to photograph or digitize the thousands of artifacts and documents held in the museum. All thanks to you!

Volunteers needed!

Are you a photographer? Can you help transcribe or digitize diaries, tax rolls, and deeds? Do you have a few hours a month to help wrap delicate books and

Thank you for investing in the Society's mission to preserve
Boothbay Region history for future generations!



Volunteers come in all shapes and sizes, yet with one feature in common – they enjoy being part of a community. Our community of volunteers helps the society function in many ways that benefit the larger Boothbay Region community. Our current effort to digitize the museum's holdings would not be possible without a dedicated crew of weekly volunteers. Others work on cataloging new acquisitions, inventorying room contents, or applying light conservation to artifacts in need of some TLC. How about helping us plan special events and fundraisers. Or bring us some new ideas! If you are interested, please contact the office: 207.633.0820, info@boothbayhistorical.org and ask for Connie Hartley, Outreach & Development Manager. *Thank you!*

We would like to thank the volunteer Museum Greeters who helped us welcome many visitors this summer!



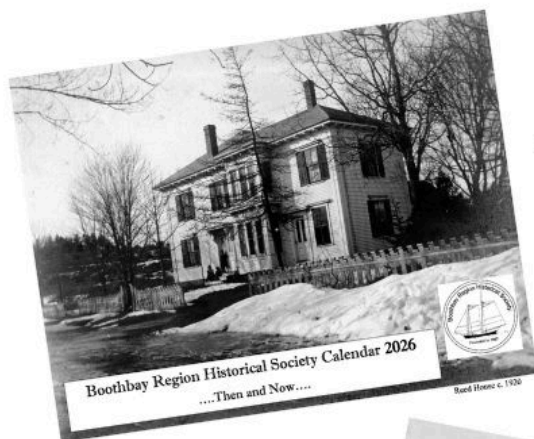
Celebrate the holiday season with us at our Annual Holiday Open House on ***Saturday, December 6 from 10 am to 2 pm, sponsored by Hammond Lumber Company.*** The event will be held at the museum house located at 72 Oak Street, Boothbay Harbor.

basket raffles! Our gift table will feature a selection of items for sale to include books, historical maps, and our 2026 Then & Now Pictorial calendar. Come and share your family stories with us! Tell us what the Boothbay Region Historical Society means to you!

There is no charge for this event as it is our chance to say thank you to the community for supporting the work we do to preserve and promote the history of the Boothbay Region.

It's Here!

2026 Then & Now Pictorial Calendar



**Original Black
& White Photos
from the Past**

**Color Photos
of Today**



Can you recognize each location?
The perfect Holiday gift for just \$15.00.
Available at the museum or call to order.



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Thursday through Saturday

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