

Bayside Historical Preservation Society

P.O. Box 304, Belfast, Maine 04915-304

NEWSLETTER

Winter 1997

I am sorry to have to start this letter with the sad news that Elizabeth (Liz) Lewis, our Vice President, died in September 1996. Liz was an enthusiastic supporter of the founding of the Bayside Historical Preservation Society. Her experience as a long-time member of the Bangor Historical Society was invaluable to us during the past two years in which we set the goals and direction of the BHPS. Liz was also an Overseer of the Northport Village Corporation. She will be sorely missed by the Bayside community. Gifts in her memory may be sent to the Elizabeth J. Lewis Arthritis Foundation, c/o Eastern Maine Charities, P.O. Box 404, Bangor ME 04402 or to the Bayside Historical Preservation Society at our address shown above.

The BHPS had a successful second year. As of October 1996 we had 122 members (compared to 131 members the previous year.) Some of our charter members didn't renew their membership; we hope this was an oversight. We have kept their names on our mailing list so that they will receive the renewal form this Spring for the 1997-1998 year.

Our events last summer were well-attended. Some 50 hardy souls braved Hurricane Bertha's wind and rain to attend the annual meeting in July. They were rewarded by a very interesting presentation by Earle Shettleworth, Director of the Maine State Commission on Historical Preservation, who made the hazardous trip from Augusta that evening to show pictures of early Bayside and to discuss its history. We had a good turn-out for the Robinson Ballet. The children in the audience were entranced by The Little Tailor and, of course, Lojosis, based on a Bayside legend, is always a special attraction. Jean Witherill and her co-chairs, Priscilla Ryan and Susan Mayer did a wonderful job with the food concession at the Bayside Arts Festival. Any of you who partook of the food knows how excellent it was. The food concession, along with the raffle run by Betty Wilson and Jane Phillips, raised over \$400 for the BHPS archive fund. The Arts Festival Committee donated \$137 to the BHPS in memory of Bobbie Webster. The Maine Sailing School Days Reunion was a great success with 45 people attending the dinner. Ellie Lagner organized the reunion with the BHPS providing some financial support. Following breakfast, people sat around and reminisced about the Sailing School days. These discussions were recorded for our Oral history project. Also, an extensive collection of photographs from 1938-1945 was donated for the BHPS archives. Many, many people helped to make these events successful and we thank them all.

You may remember that this time last year we were working on an application to the Century Project for a grant. We eventually decided that we wouldn't apply for one, but rather would carry out selected projects on our own at our own pace. We felt this was more appropriate for our Society which is essentially a seasonal one composed largely of people who are on vacation! Happily, several members volunteered to work on two specific projects. Billy Cressey, Martha

**Officers:** Z.Huntoon, President; E.Lewis, Vice-President; J. Coughlin, Treasurer; E.Lagner, Secretary  
**Directors:** G.Allen, B. Crofoot, M.Duane, L.Horowitz, A.Kimball, J.Reilly, J.Witherill

Borgeson, Janet Pattee and Bob Witherill offered to work on researching the Steamships which visited Bayside in the early days and Gina Cressey offered to head up the Oral History Project.

Gina reports that last summer she interviewed (and recorded) 4 people and is looking forward to conducting many more interviews this summer. Nancy Freeman volunteered to transcribe the tapes over the winter. Gina needs volunteers in several areas: **Narrators**-- people willing to spend about an hour sharing their memories while being recorded. **Interviewers**-- good listeners who will contact the narrator, arrange to meet and record their interviews. Before getting started they'll receive training on interviewing. **Transcribers**-- make a written record of the tapes ( at their convenience--no deadlines!) This is an enjoyable and rewarding project which will bring many Baysiders together--maybe for the first time. Donating a few of hours of your time now will ensure that tomorrow's Baysiders can know the history that today's Baysiders helped to make. If you can spend some time on this let Gina know the dates you'll be in Bayside so she can set up a schedule that suits you. Her winter address is **Ms Gina Cressey, 58 Park Way, Sea Cliff, NY 11579; Telephone: (516) 676-5445 (winter); (207) 338-5455 (summer)**

We have two events scheduled for next summer. The BHPS Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday July 12, 1997. This will be an important and interesting meeting. Important because an election of Officers and Directors will be held ( the two year term of most of the members of the present board expires the end of June.) Interesting because there will be an exhibit of prints of Janet Pattee's glass slides of early Bayside. Earle Shettleworth generously offered to have these prints made. Janet, Earle Shettleworth's Commission and the BHPS archives each have a copy of the prints. Then on Thursday, August 21, the River City Harmonizers will perform in the Community Hall. This group of women, who sing Barbershop style arrangements, will present songs dating from the early days of Bayside to the present time. (Alice Strong, her daughter Susan, and Jeanette Tardif's daughter Pam are members of the group.) We decided to hold the event on a Thursday night , since week-ends in Bayside seem to have become very busy. We plan to invite members of other Historical Societies in the area and will serve dessert and coffee following the performance.

A third event is under consideration. The Arts Festival Committee suggested that its donation in memory of Bobbie Webster might be used for putting on an exhibit of Bobbie's work. We would like very much to do this. If you have a painting by Bobbie which you would be willing to put on exhibit please let us know. My insurance agent told me that my home-owner's policy would cover any painting on loan for up to a couple of days. You may want to check your policy.

We thank you all for the support you've given the BHPS. Membership applications for 1997-1998 will be sent out around the beginning of June. We hope you have a good winter and we're looking forward to seeing you this summer.

*Bayside Historical Preservation Society*

*P.O. Box 304, Belfast, Maine 04915-304*

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 1997

In another month Bayside will be busy again and the Bayside Historical Preservation Society will start its third year. Enclosed is a membership application form and we do hope that you will join us again this year.

We have three events planned for the summer. Please make note of the dates on your calendar.

**BHPS Annual Meeting: Saturday, July 12, 1997, 7:30 P.M. Community Hall**

Election of Officers and Directors of the BHPS will be held. A nominating committee will offer a slate of candidates and nominations from the floor will also be accepted. Following the meeting, there will be an exhibit of prints of Janet Pattee's glass slides of early Bayside. We hope you can help in identifying some of the cottages and people shown in these pictures.

**Exhibition of Bobbie Webster's Paintings: Sunday, August 10, 1997,  
10 A.M.-5 P.M., Community Hall**

An exhibit of paintings by Bobbie Webster, a respected Maine artist and a long-time Bayside resident who died last year, is being sponsored by the BHPS with the support of the Arts Festival Committee. Anyone who has a painting by Bobbie and would like to have it included in the exhibit, please let Jean Witherill (338-3196) or Joanne Coughlin (338-5166) know or indicate your interest on the back of the application form. The paintings will be on loan for at most two days. I was told by my insurance agent that my home-owner's policy will cover any paintings I lend for the exhibit. If you plan to lend a painting for the exhibit please check your policy to make sure you are covered. The BHPS does not carry insurance of this type.

**River City Harmonizers Concert: Thursday, August 21, 1997, 7:30 P.M.  
Community Hall**

This group of women sings barbershop style arrangements and will sing songs dating from the early days of Bayside to the present time. We plan to invite members of other Historical Societies to join us. During the social hour that follows we can compare notes (no pun intended) with them.

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The BHPS has received several interesting things for our archives. We have been given a complete set of prints of Janet Pattee's slides and many people who attended the Maine Sailing School reunion last summer have given us photos from that period. Mrs Gnutti made us a gift of a family bible she found in her cottage and we intend to try to trace the family whose bible it was. We also have the tapes and transcripts from the Oral History project. Since we are beginning to receive such items, we have begun the effort to provide safe storage for our archives. Also, Ellie Lagner (our secretary) and Beverly Crofoot (our archivist) are developing an accession process through which any item we receive can be properly identified and catalogued.

In addition to the on-going Oral History and Steamship projects, we hope to start a project tracing the history of the cottages in Bayside. If you are interested in helping on one of these projects please indicate which one on the back of the enclosed membership application form.

We are looking forward to the summer (Spring has been late this year) and to seeing you at the events we've planned. We're already thinking about next year's events and if you have any suggestions for things the BHPS might do, please indicate them on the reverse side of the membership application. We welcome suggestions.