

# BAILEYS HARBOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

FALL, 2011

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## OFFICERS

**-Leann Desportes**  
President  
**-Kristen Peil**  
Vice-President  
**-Mary Moran**  
Treasurer

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**Suzanne Bauldry**  
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**Steve Hey**  
**Lynn Mattke**  
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**Kristen Peil**

*Town Board Liaison*  
**Roberta Thelen**

## 2012 MEETINGS TOWN HALL

**MAY 26<sup>th</sup>, 2PM**  
**JUNE 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2PM**  
**JULY 18<sup>th</sup>, 7PM**  
**AUGUST 21<sup>TH</sup>**  
**7:00 PM**



Remember when  
palm trees grew in  
Baileys Harbor?  
See page 4.

## ACTIVITIES 2011

The Baileys Harbor Historical Society is continuing to grow and develop. We have acquired a bit of infrastructure, and we now have a home. With amazing speed, the Town Board has seen to the construction of an office space in the lower level of the Town Hall that will allow us to store our collection safely in a central location. It will also provide meeting space, and we plan to establish a schedule whereby it will be staffed on a limited basis to make our collection accessible to interested parties. We applied for and won a grant from the Wisconsin Historical Society. That, with a donation from the Cordon Family Foundation and funds from the Town will enable us

to acquire technology that will allow items in our collection to be properly catalogued and make them accessible for research purposes. Of course it will take time to furnish the office space, but even in its nascent form it will significantly improve our operations.

We continue to appeal to anyone who has pictures or video of past 4<sup>th</sup> of July parades. We have received many donations, but hope for more. One of our members happened upon pictures of a float from the family business in the 1950's. She can't be the only one! We are looking forward to an engaging program next June that will feature past 4th of July celebrations.

Leann Desportes

## 2012 EVENTS SCHEDULE

**May 26, 2012- 2:00PM- General Meeting- Saluting Our Soldiers and Sailors**

**June 23, 2012- 2:00 PM- General Meeting- 4<sup>th</sup> of July in Baileys Harbor Retrospective**

**July 18, 2012- 7:00 PM- (Annual Nominating Meeting)- Kangaroo Lake by Patty Williamson**

**August 21, 2012- 7:00 PM-The Ridges Sanctuary-a History**

**TBA: Fund Raiser for the Historic Architectural Survey**

## THE MCARDLE FAMILY OF BAILEYS HARBOR

On May 21<sup>st</sup>, Kriss Schorer, a great granddaughter of settlers James & Ann Fegan McArdle, presented a program on the McArdle family of Baileys Harbor. She brought an impressive genealogy of the family that was over fifteen feet long. As Kriss told the McArdles' story, we learned of a close, religious family that valued education and supported the community.

Interestingly, she began with the family roots in Ireland. She explained that many of the Irish families that settled around Kangaroo Lake came from the same area of Ireland and were known to each other. When new immigrants arrived, they were taken in and helped by an established family until they could get on their feet.

Kriss also explained that in the 1930's, Michael McArdle who became a very successful businessman, donated the Town Hall and the Catholic Church and built Maxwellton Braes Resort on the site of the original McArdle homestead.

At around that same time, the current McArdle house on Highway 57 was built, and the earlier house was cut in two and moved to Kangaroo Lake, beginning the Kangaroo Lake Lodge Resort, which was run by the James McArdle family for many years.



Kriss and her cousins also brought a large selection of interesting pictures and artifacts like the vintage Sunbeam irons shown above that Michael asked his sister-in-law to test for Sunbeam.  
Leann Despotes

## BHHS SCARECROW

The Historical Society was represented in the Baileys Harbor Fall Fest scarecrow contest by a scarecrow located in the gardens of the Town Hall. Susie Bauldry volunteered to create the display. She selected Hedwig Peil, her grandmother, as the subject, inserting a photo of Hedwig's face as the face of the scarecrow. The display is entitled "Grandma Peil," as she was known to one and all in Baileys Harbor, and includes a brief story of her life. She worked tirelessly to trim weeds, beautify the cemetery, Immanuel Lutheran Church, and gardens in town, as well as her own. It is most appropriate that she be honored in the lovely garden that is currently developed and maintained by her great granddaughter, Kristen Peil of Greenside Up.



Leann Despotes

## THE AUGUST SCHRAM HALL



The July event was centered on the history of a Baileys Harbor landmark, August Schram Hall, which is currently known as the Harbor Fish Market and Grille. Leann Despotos, working with Shirley Schloss, a granddaughter of August Schram, made the presentation.

The hall was built in 1908 by August Schram, and was attached to his original tavern to the south. It was sided with molded galvanized steel and had an elaborate tin ceiling and a hand made Brunswick mirrored bar. August was just 27 years old when the hall was built, and he had already established a livery business behind the building. He died suddenly from the results of an infected tooth before his 37<sup>th</sup> birthday, leaving his wife, Martha, to raise their four children. During his life and after, the hall and tavern was a gathering place for the

town, used as a dance hall, movie house, boxing venue, roller-skating rink, and venue for variety shows. The south end of the building was turned into an ice cream parlor by Martha, and featured her home made toppings. Martha also provided light meals at wedding dances, as well as feeding the band members who came to provide the music.

After the death of Martha and her second husband, Jack Wasserbach, the hall was sold, and eventually became a restaurant featuring exotic birds in cages. Then it became the Frontier Saloon which was owned by Lance and Joan Nelson who continued the dance hall tradition in a "Wild West" setting. Today, it is owned by Carl and Karen Berndt and is a restaurant and bar specializing in fish and seafood. The Berndts are doing their best to preserve the original features of the building.

Schram Hall survived two world wars, Prohibition, and the Great Depression, and continues to be a gathering place in Baileys Harbor. It is the oldest tavern/bar in Baileys Harbor and has continued in that function since its construction, over 100 years ago.

## THE KROWAS ORCHARD

Our June event featured The Krowas Orchard, a Baileys Harbor four-generation farm located near Kangaroo Lake on Logerquist Road. Kirsten Krowas took us through the early years of dairy farming on Logerquist Road and her grandfather's decision to turn to fruit orchards; first cherries, then apples. The original settlers were Herbert and Margaretha Krowas. Their son Charles (Charlie) took over the farm and developed the business as an orchard that is well known for its quality cherries and apples and other produce. Charlie was an ingenious and inventive businessman. In the 1940s and 1950s he worked at the shipyard, and his son Dan said that he learned a great deal about machinery and hydraulics there. Dan said that Charlie's interest in mechanics and living next to

Simon's junkyard inspired him to construct an early cherry shaker. He and son Dan created many pieces of equipment including a forklift and almost anything that would make the processing of cherries less expensive and easier.

Dan and Cherie's boys, Eric & Andrew, will be the fourth generation of the Krowas family at Krowas Orchard, and the first member of generation five arrived in August.

Following Kirsten's history of the farm and orchard, her father, Dan, answered a variety of questions from the audience about the cherry industry and its history. Even those of us who grew up picking cherries to earn money to attend the County Fair and buy new school clothes learned much more than we had known about our signature industry.

Leann Despotos

## **HISTORIC TRAYS**

The success of the Historic Post Card Event in 2010 inspired a fundraising endeavor. Four of our historic postcards were selected and arranged to create a tray that commemorates the establishment of the town of Baileys Harbor.

### **BAILEYS HARBOR, WISCONSIN**



**ESTABLISHED 1849**

The pictures include an early baseball team, the 1909 4th of July parade, the Kangaroo Lake Causeway, and two bicyclists in suits and derbies riding down Main Street (Highway 57). If you have a friend or loved one whose heart is in Baileys Harbor, this could be a great Christmas gift. The trays are melamine and approximately 9"x14". They are priced at \$22. If anyone is interested in purchase, call Carol Schmidt at 920-839-2627.

## **PALM TREES IN BAILEYS HARBOR? (PAGE 1)**

This is a photo of the Florian II Lakeshore Rib & Steakhouse when it was owned by Florian and Ada Kwaterski and known as the Flor-Ada Club from 1963 to 1972. The play on words of their first names inspired the Kwaterskis to develop a tropical theme for the club and install the palm trees which were quite the landmark in their day. Plastic leis were liberally dispensed as souvenirs of a good time. The club burned in 1972, and was rebuilt as the Florian II; it is currently run by Florian's twin sons, Joey and Jerry who continue the tradition of great steaks and fabulous ribs

## SINCERELY, THANK YOU!

The Baileys Harbor Historical Society would like to publicly thank the following persons and companies who provided additional support during 2011.

### Literature and Photo Images provided for BHHS use.

**Betty Anderson** - 4<sup>th</sup> of July images

**Susie Bauldry** - 4th of July images and post card collection, R&R Event

**Annie Peil** - 4th of July images & movies

**Leann Despotes** - 4<sup>th</sup> of July images

**Clayton & Pat Moegenburg** - 4th of July movies

**Trudy Erickson** - Baileys Harbor Resorts images

**Don Gerdman** - Schmitz Gazebo Brochure

**Barb Anschutz** - 4th of July images

**Fred Johnson** - Set of Door County Almanac Books

**Nancy Goss** - Gladys Barnowski History

### Donations of Time, Help, and Money

**Harbor Fish Market and Grille** - Web page hosting and programming assistance.

**Baileys Harbor Town Board** - Interim office space and collection storage space.

**Laddy Chapman** - Audio/Visual Assistance.

**Jo Cole** - Editing & Proof reading.

**Baileys Harbor Community Association** - Mutual assistance projects.

**BHHS Officers and Board Members** - Treats, setup for meetings

**Lynn Mattke** - Obtaining funds for computer equipment

**Kristen Peil** - Display Cases at Town Hall, R&R Event

**Caleb Whitney** - Help with Display Cases, technology help and advice

**Kriss Schorer** - McArdle Event  
**Dan Krowas Family** - Krowas Event

**Barb Anschutz** - Town Board liaison

**Roberta Thelen** - Town Board liaison

**Doug Smith** - Scheduling & copying

**Carol Schmidt** - Coordination of purchasing and selling of historic trays

**Inge Bacon** - Tax reporting and advice

**Mary Moran** - Financial record management

**Roy & Jo Cole** - Financial contribution

**Howard & Patty Williamson** - Fund Raising advice

**Joan Holliday & Bryan Nelson** - Fund Raising advice

**Leann Despotes** - Publicity, Membership, Newsletters & Schram Event

**Cordon Family Foundation** - Financial donation for electronic equipment

**Mary Ann Johnson** - Photographs & files on Baileys Harbor history, bookcase

**Ron Holden** - Vintage Baileys Harbor brochure

Roy & Jo Cole

## **BHHS MEMBERSHIP**

We now have 61 memberships representing over 90 individuals and two businesses. Fourteen are Lifetime memberships. Renewal reminders are sent each month as memberships become due. The membership levels remain the same: Business \$50, Family \$25, Individual \$15, Lifetime \$150. We hope the current members will continue their

members will continue their support of our displays, events and newsletters as they renew membership. Please encourage your friends, neighbors, and family members to join the Society so they can enjoy sharing information and exploring the history of our community.

## **2012 BOARD AND OFFICERS**

At our September meeting, the 2012 Board of Directors was elected. Half of this Board will serve for one year and half will serve for two years. The actual term is for two years, but since this is the first actual election, the terms must be split. The Board elects the officers of the Society. Terms of the Board members will be determined by lot for this first term. The 2012 Board members are Susie Bauldry(1), Roy Cole(1), Leann Despotes(2), Steve Hey(1), Lynn Mattke(1), Mary Moran(2), and Kristen Peil(2). The officers are Leann Despotes, president; Kristen Peil, vice president; and Mary Moran, treasurer. Secretary's duties are shared.

## **BAILEYS HARBOR 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY**

**Where is the best place to be on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July?  
Baileys Harbor of course!**

**We are planning an amazing retrospect of our historic 4<sup>th</sup> of July parades and celebrations. We are gathering pictures, slides, home movies and all kinds of memorabilia to share with you. We are very excited to present this awesome program. So, if you have pictures or any items about the 4<sup>th</sup> of July that you would like to share, let us know. We will copy and return them to you unless you would like to make them part of our permanent collection.**

**See you Saturday June 23, 2012, 1:30PM at the  
Baileys Harbor Town Hall.**

**Put it on your calendar and bring your friends.**

**Susie Bauldry**

## RESORTS & RESTAURANTS OF BAILEYS HARBOR

The final presentation of the 2011 season was a whirlwind tour of Baileys Harbor resorts and restaurants both past and present. Although Baileys Harbor has a long history of logging, commercial fishing and agriculture, tourism has also been a source of income for many residents.



The show started with an image of a bathing beauty from the cover of a 1950's Baileys Harbor brochure, beckoning all to come and enjoy the 'sights'. All types of tourist accommodations were presented, from the all-inclusive Maxwellton Braes to a 'tourist room' available in a resident's private home. Restaurant offerings range from the 'Snack Shack' to the elegant 'Baileys Harbor Yacht Club'.

Tourist related businesses were spread from Kangaroo Lake to North Bay, from downtown to Peninsula Center, offering something for every price point. With over 200 images and the audience offering stories based on events that had occurred around these businesses we were only able to present half of our show! The audience in attendance agreed the second half should be a future presentation and the evening ended with a thoroughly entertained crowd.

Kristen Peil

## WINNERS! WINNERS! WINNERS!

The 2011 presentations had an added bonus this year, WINNERS! All audience members were treated to a spectacular show on Baileys Harbor history along with one lucky audience member becoming the proud owner of a DVD from a past BHHS presentation. The winners include Dolly Zahn, Carol

Lay, Patricia Williamson and Jane Whitney! Congratulations. For those who were not winners, DVD's of past shows are available for purchase at \$15.00 ea. or \$16.00 if you would like us to mail it to you! These make great gifts for those who love history!

Kristen Peil

## DIGITIZE...HUH?

Have friends and family been hounding you to get your old photographs digitized? If you are like me the first thought that came into your head was 'digitize...huh?' I thought digits were the five highly functional extensions I have on the ends of my palms! No, digitizing photographs is the conversion from a traditional printed on paper medium to the highly malleable computer binary code. Do not let words such as scanning, resolution, and pixels scare you away. Simply put, the time has come for you to take your fragile and precious old images and convert them into a computer-generated image. After you have taken the leap into the digital age you can feel good about not only creating safer storage of your photographs but also having a greater capability of sharing those images. No longer will you need to send out your negatives for reprints; digitized images can go anywhere you want to send them with just a few keystrokes. If you need help getting started watch for a future 'Digitizing' event the BHHS will be hosting in the future!

Kristen Peil