

# Tidings

Official Newsletter of the Avalon History Center and Avalon Historical Society

Winter 2017 Issue

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## THANKS FOR JOINING US IN 2017!



Collections Coordinator Bonita Risley with students at Go Green! Mini-Camp



Staff celebrating the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Borough of Avalon at the Mayor's Cup Bocce tournament



New exhibits, including the history of the EMS in Avalon



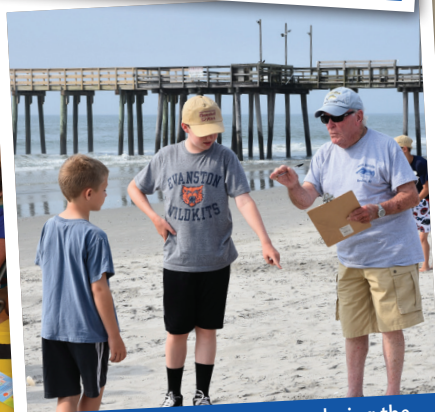
Four Chiefs of the Avalon Fire Department, visiting during the Avalon's Heroes Open House



The History Center's traveling display on children and schools in Avalon



Third Annual Paper Peddler Trivia Night



Joe Reese officiating a game during the annual Clamshell Pitch





### Nina Ranalli, Director

A Cape May County native, Nina always dreamed of a career in museums, and is thrilled to be coming up on three years at the History Center. When she's not at work, you can find her reading, doing yoga, or snuggling her dog.



### Bonita Risley, Collections Coordinator

English but, very much European. It took her 15 years to find her ideal job here at the Avalon History Center where she has been for the past 5 years, looking forward to many more. When not at work she can be found gardening on her 5 woodland acres, chasing her 7 pet bunnies, playing with her 3 spoiled cats or sailing up & down the south Jersey coast in her 30' sailboat.



### Bill Mengel, Interpreter

Bill has been a resident of Avalon for the past 30 years. He has a great love of the Island and its history and is a part time staff member of the Avalon History Center. Bill enjoys greeting visitors to the Center and discussing the history of the island. He enjoys antiques and barbershop memorabilia.

**Congratulations to the following properties. Their applications were approved and they are now listed on the Avalon Register of Historic Places!**

75 W. 32<sup>nd</sup> St.  
581 21<sup>st</sup> St.  
1218 1<sup>st</sup> Ave.  
2629 1<sup>st</sup> Ave.  
86 W. 26<sup>th</sup> St.

128 27<sup>th</sup> St.  
151 37<sup>th</sup> St.  
3188 1<sup>st</sup> Ave.  
148 31<sup>st</sup> St.  
2293 Ocean Drive

1406 Dune Drive  
45 34<sup>th</sup> St.  
260 36<sup>th</sup> St.  
35 W. 24<sup>th</sup> St.  
1048 Avalon Ave.

46 8<sup>th</sup> St.  
2588 1<sup>st</sup> Ave.  
659 22<sup>nd</sup> St.  
126 Ninth St.

Keep an eye out for upcoming features on these wonderful old homes! Is your house more than 50 years old, and retains its original character? Stop by, call, or visit the History Center's website for a copy of the application form.



2588 1<sup>st</sup> Ave, built in 1947.



148 31<sup>st</sup> Street, late nineteenth century and today.





## Thank you to those that have joined or renewed their memberships in 2017:

NANCY & ALAN ASKINAS  
ANN & MARK BAIEDA  
MARY ELLEN BOWEN  
BARBARA & KEVIN BLUM  
CHRISTOPHER & LESLIE BRANDA  
JOE & TERESA BRESLIN  
SANDRA & BRUCE BUCKLEY  
ROSE MARIE CHEW  
EDWARD J. & SARA J. CLARKE  
CAROL & PAUL COHEN  
MARTIN J. Jr CONNOR  
MAUREEN CORRIGAN  
CHUCK & LYNN COVINGTON  
JOHN & MURIEL CUTHBERT  
NANCY & KEN DAVIS  
DR ROBERT & PATRICIA DAVIS  
APRIL & JOSEPH DENNY  
RUSSELL & DOROTHY DIGIALLORENZO  
TERI & MICHAEL OWLEY D'IGNAZIO  
JACK & MARIANNE DONLEVIE  
ABNER & MIM DOWDELL  
LINDA ECHEVARRIA  
BARBARA ECKHARDT  
Dr HENRY & KAREN FINGER  
PAT & JIM FLEISCHMANN  
WILLIAM FLOUNDERS  
ELYSE FOCHT

SUZANNE & MICHAEL FORD  
NEIL & SUZIE GALLAGHER  
STEVE & ELLEN GEISEL  
GASPER GENUARDI  
RICHARD GRENIER  
JOHN & MIMI HAGGERTY  
AL HARING  
DICK HERB  
LYNN HOLT  
JEAN HUNTER  
FRANCES JUCHNO  
JACK KEENAN  
ED & ALICE MARGOLIS  
JEAN & MICHAEL MATTHEWS  
CARL & DONA MATTIA  
TERRY & BETTY MCCABE  
JAMES J. & JOSEPHINE MCCABE  
SUSAN H. MCLAUGHLIN  
WALTER JR MIKOTA  
JIM & BARBARA MURRAY  
KATHLEEN & MICHAEL NESTOR  
PHEBE & MICHAEL NOVAKOVICH  
EDGAR & PATRICIA PALMER  
ELIZABETH PAPASTAVROS  
REGINA & JACK POLSENBERG  
ROBERT & ANGELA PRYBELLA  
MICHAEL & KATHLEEN QUINN

JOE & GLORIA REESE  
CHARLES & MARTHA RICHARDSON  
DONNA ROGERS  
CARMEN & LOIS SCARPA  
JOHN & JANA SCARPA  
ERIC & KIMBERLY SCHIELS  
CHARLES SCHIFFER  
NANCY & ALAN SILVERMAN  
WILLIAM & ROSE SMITH  
KATHY MAKOWSKI - STURDY SAVINGS  
BANK  
JIM & BARBARA SUMMERS  
BUD & CLAIRE THALMAN  
JAMES THATCHER  
DANIEL B. & PAMELA D. THOMPSON  
WILLIAM H. Jr & DOROTHY TOZOUR  
MARY VERSAGE  
CARLO & JOANNE VIOLA  
KATHLEEN WATERS  
JANE WEAVER  
ROSE WELLS  
JOSEPH & LISA WHITE  
KEN & PAT WILLIAMS  
BARBARA WILSON  
LYNNE M. WILSON  
LOUIS & DORIS ZUCCA

## And, as always, to our lifetime members:

THOMAS W. BARRON  
PAUL COHEN  
SUSAN COOPER  
DAVID COSKEY  
BETSEY CROWLEY  
CLAIRE CUSHNIE  
MARJORIE DELANEY  
RUSSELL & DOROTHY DI GIALLORENZO  
LINDA ECHEVARRIA  
KAREN & FRED EDELSTEIN  
PAT ELLIS/OLDHAM  
BARBARA & BILL GRAHAM  
WILLIAM & FRANCES GRAHAM  
LINDA & ROGER HALL  
MAUREEN HICKS

BETSY HOLSTON  
DR NANCY HUDANICH  
JOAN HUNTER  
LUCILLE JACOBSON  
DAVID KNOCH  
MARY JANE KOEN  
ELSIE KUHN  
VERA JANE MAYER  
SALLY MCCAFFREY  
MARY MILLAR  
JOSEPH PAQUETTE  
DAVIS PEARSON  
JOE PENDRAK  
ROBERT PENROSE JR

ROBERT & ANN PENROSE SR  
GARY & CYNTHIA PORTER  
VERONICA POWERS  
MARGARET QUINN  
MICHAEL & JANE RICE  
DON & NANCY RICHARDS  
SUSETTE ROTH  
IRVIN & ANITA SCHORSCH  
BETTY SHOEMAKER  
JEANNE SYKES  
JOE TIPPING  
WILLIAM & DOROTHY TOZOUR  
FRANK WECKERLY  
ROSE WELLS



## Photo Contest Winners 2017

### Nature

- **1<sup>st</sup> Place** "Bananaquit, Dominica" by George Rose (Best in Show)
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Place** "Feeding Time" by Penny Blom
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Place** "Proud Momma" by Karen Goldberg

### Scenic

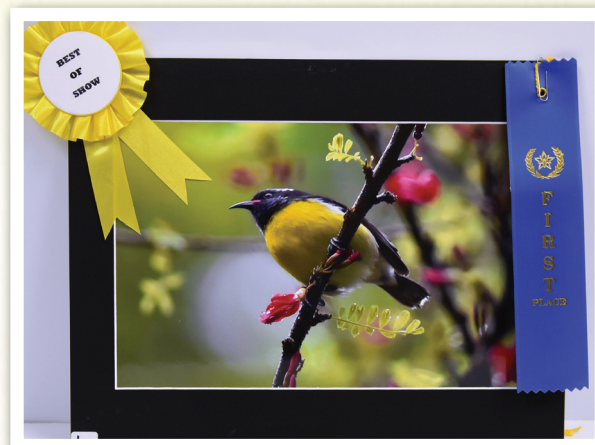
- **1<sup>st</sup> Place** "See the Lights" by Karen Goldberg
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Place** "East Point Light" by Karen Goldberg
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Place** "Sunrise at the Avalon Pier" by Eileen Skultety

### Portrait & Personality

- **1<sup>st</sup> Place** "Girlfriends: Intimate Conversation at Vernazza, Cinque Terre, Italy" by Eileen Skultety
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Place** "Madonna and Child and Venice Beach, CA" by Leslie L. Branda
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Place** "In the Beginning – Sea Isle's 1<sup>st</sup> Beach Tag" by Janet Halasek

### Avalon

- **1<sup>st</sup> Place** "Joy, Sunrise at the Beach" by Eileen Skultety
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Place** "Avalon Breach Path – Early Morning" by Janice Kubiak
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Place** "After Sunset" by Penny Blom



Best in Show



Clamshell Pitch Doubles Runners-Up Grayson & Will Gotro, with their trophies.

## Clamshell Pitch Winners 2017

**First Place Singles:** Joe Butler

**Second Place Singles:** Dave Apostolico

**First Place Doubles:** Matt Curtis & Paul Cataldo

**Second Place Doubles:** Grayson & Will Gotro

## Mini Golf Winners August 2017

A BIG thank-you to Go Fish Mini Golf for sponsoring \*two\* Historical Society fundraisers this summer!

At the August event, winners for "Best Score" in the children's category were Harrison Perry and Kevin Bernhard, adult category best score winners were K. Bernhard, Ricky Meister and Arnie Schneider. Winners for "Most Holes in One" children's category were Maddie and Ellie Dher, Kevin Bernhard, Preston, Riley and William Hoffman, adult category most holes in one Ricky Meister and Taimur Sajed.







*Accession Number 2017.028.001*

Anna & Mitch Schiles donated this water canister with hose & pump, found in their Avalon home at 37<sup>th</sup> St., believing it to be a 1925 fire extinguisher for fighting fires in the sand dunes. On further investigation it turned out to be a 1940's, 4 gallon, galvanized steel fire extinguisher with wooden hand pump, manufactured by Tamco, of Tiffin, Ohio, made specifically for use by Civil Defense groups during WWII.

Galvanizing is the process of applying a thin layer of protective zinc coating to steel or iron, as a means of preventing corrosion. However, as we can see from the WWII era canister, the zinc layer eventually flakes leaving the steel exposed & prone to deterioration. Therefore, we at the History Center, are currently exploring options for removing the flaking zinc layer & re-coating in order to prevent any further damage, while maintaining the canister's historical integrity.

While we would prefer to send the canister to a professional vintage metal restorer to be cleaned & "hot dipped" in liquid zinc, we are also considering in-house cleaning & conservation by means of gentle sand-blasting followed by zinc spraying using a compressed air gun. By this "cold method", small particles of melted zinc are distorted & mechanically adhered to the steel surface.



## Thank you to those who donated objects in 2017!

1. Ruth Thraen, Chief McCormick & Avalon Police Dept.
2. James Thatcher
3. Carol MacFeat
4. John McCorristin
5. Avalon Vol. Fire Dept.
6. Charles Covington
7. Kevin Scarpa
8. Dee Phillips
9. Frank S. DiMinno Jr.
10. Craig Cunningham
11. Al Haring
12. Charles & Sandra Arning
13. Avalon EMS
14. Linda McGovern
15. Mimi Haggerty
16. Susan Rhoads
17. Diane Gilbert
18. Kathleen Whiteman
19. Regina Polsenberg
20. Graham Hueber
21. Marget Bluefeld
22. Robert Cobb for Norman Cobb
23. Robert & Diane Bieri
24. Anna & Mitch Schiles
25. Lynn Schwartz
26. Michelle Petrucci
27. Dave Garafolo
28. Deb Martinelli
29. Sue Keen
30. Robert MacFarland
31. Barbara Roddy Cumby
32. Bruce F. Udovich
33. Dave Coskey
34. Rose Marie Chew
35. Len Haltrecht
36. Gary S. Gowens
37. Art & Sandy Ridler
38. Walt Mikota
39. Ray Anderson
40. Sandy Finley
41. Bob & Carol Bertrand
42. Katie Simons
43. Rose Wells



Playbills donated by  
Barbara Cumby Roddy

## Avalon Players Items

Did you know that next year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Avalon players?

Dennis Soens, Bonnie Matt & Ginny Lynch formed Avalon's very own performing arts troupe in 1968, putting on their 1st production – "A Taste of Broadway" in Avalon's Community Hall.

2018 will see Avalon Players reunion featuring items from the History Center, among them donations such as this Songbook & Playbills from 1987 onwards, donated by Regina Polsenberg. Date forthcoming—please contact us if you are interested in attending!



Posters donated by Barbara Cumby Roddy





## Sallie D. Arning Painting

This oil painting on canvas of Martha Cromley's 1940's fishing cottage once on Ocean Drive, painted by local artist Sallie D. Arning, was donated by her son Chuck & his wife Sandra Arning.

Said to be a Sears Roebuck cottage purchased from Gimbel Bros. in Philadelphia & shipped to Avalon, it was in fact 2 separate 10'x11' cottages. However small, Martha Cromley wrote lovingly of her cottage as a "Life-size dream doll house" & its charm didn't escape the artist eye of Sallie Arning.

The photograph of the cottage is from June 1986, also donated by Chuck & Sandra Arning, as is the 1994 photograph of artist Sallie & homeowner Martha.

## Aluminum Fishing Net Buoy

WWII anti-Submarine mine? Early bowling ball? Kettle Bell fitness weight?

No – It is in fact a 20<sup>th</sup> Century aluminum gill net fishing float, which replaced the much more attractive glass floats. This would have been used in Avalon's back bays.

It was found & donated by Marget Bluefeld.

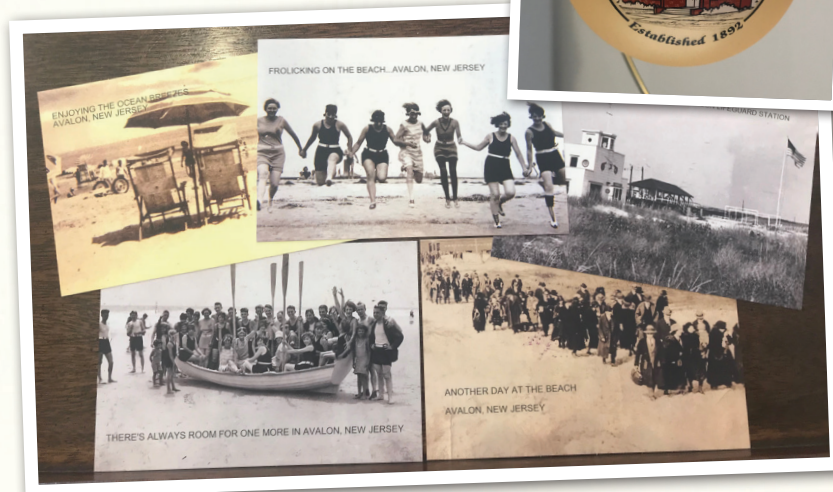




**Don't miss the History Center's series of off-season programs, the first Saturday of each month!**

- **December 2** from 4pm-7pm: Holiday Open House. Enjoy food, music, good company and good cheer!
- **January 6** 1-2pm: special viewing of photo slideshow. The History Center has many more photos in its collection than are currently on display. Don't miss this viewing! Check our website or call for further details as the time approaches.
- **February 3** 1-2pm: Barber Shop Quartet performance by Cape Shore Chorus.

**Stop by to check out new gift shop merchandise, including this year's Christmas Ornament & vintage photo postcards of Avalon.**



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