

Tidings

Official Newsletter of the Avalon History Center and Avalon Historical Society

Winter 2019 Issue

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A FOND FAREWELL TO SOME VERY GOOD FRIENDS

Jack's Place on Ocean Drive will no longer be counting down to Memorial Day breaking of the seal!



Jack's Place in 2017



Gallagher's Pub



Meany's T-shirt

For more than 90 years the corner of 36th St. and Ocean Drive was the site of one of Avalon's hottest night spots.

It all started in the 1930s when the Ferrigno family opened the Black Eagle, possibly named after the symbol of the Bergner and Engel Brewing Co. part-owned by Avalon's mayor Gustav Bergner. Locally known as the Dirty Bird, the mayoral connection continued into the 1940s and 1950s when Mayor Edith Greenan hosted her famous "election day" suppers.

The 1960s saw Marie Gallagher open Gallagher's Pub on the premises with her nephew Jack Erkert as manager. Jack purchased the business in 1973 and with his wife, Joanne, created what we would call today a "Sports Bar". They brought in sports teams, radio DJs, the Fabulous Greaseband, held charity softball matches with national sporting heroes from New Jersey teams, they had a line waiting at the door to get in and special passes for local and national VIPs. *(continued on next page)*



The Black Eagle in 1941

History Center Programs continue throughout the winter and spring on the first Saturday of each month!

December 7, 4-7pm	Avalon Historical Society Annual Holiday Party
January 4, 1pm	The Unsinkable Titanic – Jerry McNeff
February 1, 1pm	Native Americans of Jersey Cape - MAC Presenter
March 7, 1pm	The Statue of Liberty – Kevin Woyce
April 4, 1pm	The Hidden History of Maritime New Jersey – Stockton College Prof. Stephen Nagiewicz
May 2	Save the Date, program TBD



Business boomed. But with an uncharacteristic miscalculation Jack closed the bar down, refitted as an upscale restaurant and re-opened in 1984 as Meany's. Jack quickly realized his mistake and reversed the re-fit – Jack's Place was back, up and running in just a few short weeks. From then on it was booming business as normal but, the fun had gone out of it for the Erkerts. So, in the early 1990s Jack's Place was sold to Lisa Voellm who ran it with Paul Hand. Wisely seeing the value in the name, they continued to run the popular night spot as Jack's Place. That is until May 22, 2019, when another legend of Avalon's past was demolished, and room was made for the next chapter in Avalon's history.



Jack's Place in 1977

RECENT ACQUISITION FEATURE

Wells and Bond Families

Kit Vernon has long been a generous friend to the History Center, with many donations of some truly wonderful old family photographs taken in Avalon in the late 1890s. Kit is the great grandson of the Rev. Charles H. Bond who named Avalon and who was married to one of Avalon's founders Joseph Wells' sister Lydia Marie. By the way, Joseph Wells was in turn married to the Rev. Charles H. Bonds sister Margaret, making him Kit's great, great uncle.

Just before Christmas of 2018, Kit Vernon's cousin – Joe "Brownie" Bond III, came to the History Center to donate his side of the Bond family tree compiled by his son Tim Bond, and tell his family history handed down through the generations.

An early Christmas present for the History Center as we now have photos, memories and family histories from two of the Rev. Charles H. Bond's great grandsons.



Wells and Bond families in Avalon 1898



Rev. Charles H. Bond 1890s



Joseph Wells 1890s



Kit Vernon, Joe "Brownie" Bond and sister Dede

Relationship of Joseph Browning Bond III to Charles Henry Bond

BOND, Charles Henry (Reverend)
b. 1843, Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, PA
d. 1913-08-02, Norwood, Delaware County, PA
& WELLS, Lydia Marie
b. 1844-05-28, Auburn, NY
d. 1940, Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, PA
m. 1866-06-14, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

BOND, Joseph Browning (was Joseph Edward)
b. 1873-12-20, Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, PA
d. 1934-12-21, Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, PA
& SHAW, Ada Taylor
b. 1878-12-10, Philadelphia, Philadelphia Co., PA
d. 1933-08-05, Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, PA
m. 1901-10, Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, PA



BOND, Joseph Browning Jr
b. 1908-04-02, Norwood, PA
d. 1949-03-21, Philadelphia, Philadelphia Co., PA
& MANN, Mercedes Yolande
b. 1907-04-15, Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, PA
d. 1955-09-15, Kentucky Baptist Hospital, Jefferson County, Louisville, Kentucky
m. abt 1933

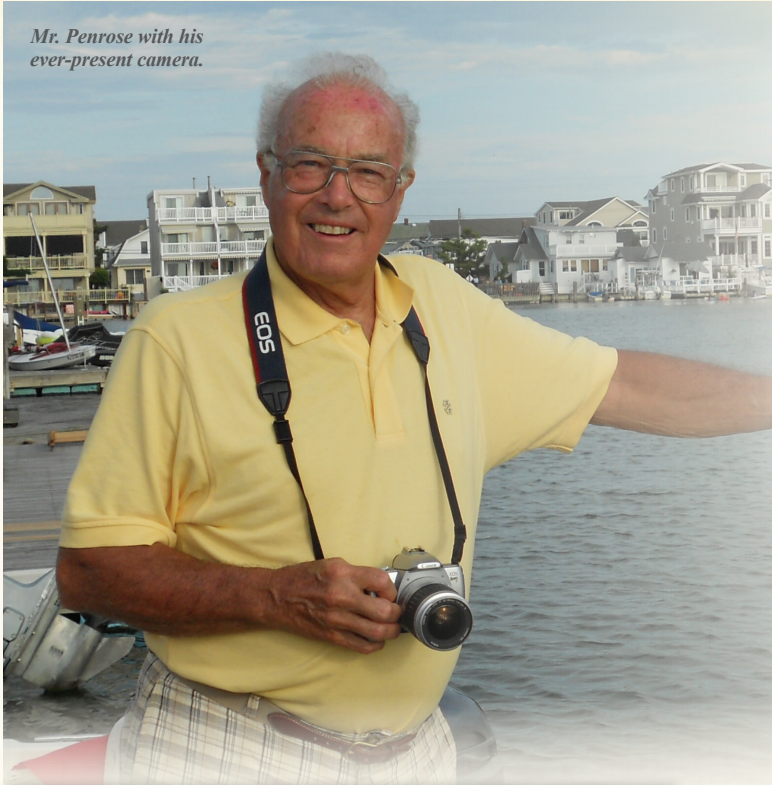


BOND, Joseph Browning III (Brownie)
b. 1938-07-08, Women's Homeopathic Hospital, Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, PA
& REIST, Henrietta Fianna (Penny)
b. 1938-09-01, Williamsport, Lycoming County, PA
d. 2000-07-03, Lansdowne, PA
m. 1959-01-10, Calvary Episcopal Church, Germantown, Philadelphia County, PA



Bond family tree

Mr. Penrose with his
ever-present camera.



Robert Penrose

AVALON HISTORIAN

Robert Litz Penrose, Sr. contributed meaningfully to the documentation of the history of Avalon through his authorship of *Avalon on the Seven-Mile Beach*, a trove of deeply researched information, especially regarding Avalon's early history and origins. Mr. Penrose and his family have kept and lovingly preserved an 1891 home on 9th Street and 1st Avenue, known as the Monstrosity.

He was born to Marie L. and James F. Penrose on October 26, 1929 and grew up in Upper Darby and Wynnewood, graduating from St. Colman's Catholic School, St. Joseph's Prep, and Villanova University. He served as a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Army. He worked in accounting, carpentry and real estate, but his true passions were pursued as hobbies. A longtime participant in Narberth Community Theatre and a member of the Screen Actors Guild, he enjoyed acting as an extra in Philadelphia-based films. He enjoyed sailing and was intensely interested in railroad history, interests which laid the foundation for his exhaustive research on the early development of South Jersey beach communities. He spent many years in the Cape May County archives researching the history of the Jersey shore for his 2006 book, *Avalon on the Seven-Mile Beach*. In his retirement years, he also volunteered at Bryn Mawr Hospital and as a driver for the American Red Cross.

Mr. Penrose passed away, following a battle with Alzheimer's disease, on June 26, 2019. Those researching Avalon's history rely upon Mr. Penrose's work, and his memory will live on as his book continues to be an inspiration and source of knowledge for many generations to come.



Mr. Penrose with his wife of 66 years, Ann Mecke Penrose.



Mr. Penrose with his wife and children.

Front row: Judy Smith, Ann Penrose, Robert Penrose Sr., Amy Entriken.
Middle row: Nancy Penrose, Jean Arlotti. Back row: Carolyn Krulak, Bob Penrose Jr., Lauren Penrose, and Andrew Penrose.

Thanks to the Penrose family for providing the
photos and materials for this tribute.



16th Annual Photo Contest, May-June

Out of approximately 70 entries, Karen Goldberg Won Best in Show with "Here's Looking at You."



Olde House Tour, June

This year's tour featured 6 of Avalon's older houses and attracted approximately 85 visitors (and coincided with the History Center's opening of "Early Avalon", a new exhibit!).



Paper Peddler Trivia Night, June

Thank you to Craig Cunningham, Deb Martinelli and Scott Wahl for another successful trivia night.

Congratulations to the winning team of Mickey & Dave Coskey and Susan & Jim Waters!



Mini Golf Tournament, July

Congratulations to the Yoh family on their recent purchase of "Go Fish" miniature golf on Dune Drive. Thank you to them for accommodating the approximately 45 contestants in this year's fun tournament and their generous donation of half the evenings ticket sales.

CHECK FOR UPCOMING EVENTS:

www.avalonhistorycenter.org, Facebook, our noticeboard, Library website & notice board



Avalon's North End Walking Tours, July & August

Local historian Bruce Tell led groups of approximately 36 and 32 on evening walking tours, using old photographs, anecdotes and local folklore to point out remaining features from Avalon's formative years, the mystery of the "missing" north end streets and recent developments.



Clamshell Tournament, July

On what felt like the hottest day of the year the Avalon Historical Society's William Norman Mackey Annual Clamshell Pitch competition took place at the 30th St. beach.

Singles winner – Rob Broadwater

Runner Up – Randy Dean

Doubles winners – Rob & Mark Broadwater

Runners Up – Randy Dean & Stave Schappell



Behind the Scenes at the Museum, July & August

Part of Avalon Free Public Library's "Monday Funday", 3 history themed kids programs were held at the History Center and included "Avalon's Animals", "Transportation" and "Avalon's Homes – Then & Now."

Check in with the History Center for 2020 themes.



Monthly Teatime at the History Center

Every third Thursday of the month from 11:00am to 12 noon, we enjoy fresh brewed tea, cookies and memories of Avalon.

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AVALON HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS

Thank you to those that have renewed their membership for 2019-2020!

ALAN & NANCY ASKINAS	PAT & JIM FLEISCHMANN	ED & ALICE MARGOLIS	FERD & MOLLY SAUEREISEN
ANN & MARK BAIDA	WILLIAM FLOUNDERS	MICHAEL & CAROL MATT	CARMEN & LOIS SCARPA
BOB & BESS BESTE	SUZANNE & MICHAEL FORD	JEAN MATTHEWS	JOHN & JANA SCARPA
LAWRENCE & BARBARA BLUM	NEIL & SUZIE GALLAGHER	CARL & DONA MATTIA	LYNN D. SCHWARTZ
MARY ELLEN BOWEN	STEVE & ELLEN GEISEL	LEONARD & HELENA MAZUR	CHARLES SCHIFFER
LESLIE BRANDA	GASPER GENUARDI	TERRY & BETTY MCCABE	ALAN & NANCY SILVERMAN
TERRI & JOE BRESLIN	JOHN & SUZANNE GLOMB	JAMES J. & JOSEPHINE MCCABE	WILLIAM & ROSE SMITH
STEVE & HEIDI BURMAN	MIMI & JOHN HAGGERTY	ED & RENEE MCCOMAS	JOHN & SUSAN STICKLEY
STEPHANIE CARR	AL HARING	JOSEPH & GLORIA MESCHINO	JIM & BARBARA SUMMERS
JOHN & TERESA CAVANAGH	JOHN & PATRICIA HAYDEN	WALTER MIKOTA	BUD & CLAIRE THALMAN
PAUL & CAROL COHEN	JOHN & IRENE HEMPSTEAD	MARY MILLAR	JAMES THATCHER
JOSEPH COLALILLO	CAROL & JIM HUNSICKER	JANICE & THOMAS MILLS	DANIEL B. & PAMELA D. THOMPSON
JOHN & MURIEL CUTHBERT	JEAN HUNTER	JAMES MURRAY	EDWINA THOMPSON
WILLIAM & HILARY DAHMS	BONNIE JACK	PHEBE & MICHAEL NOVAKOVICH	E. NORMAN & SUZANNE VEASEY
KEN & NANCY DAVIS	FRANCES JUCHNO	MARTY & LYNDA PAGLIUGH	CARLO & JOANNE VIOLA
ROBERT & PATRICIA DAVIS	JACK KEENAN	EDGAR & PATRICIA PALMER	HERB WAGNER
KAREN & DUTCH DECHERT	GAIL KEPPLER	REGINA & JACK POLSENBERG	JANE WEAVER
JAMES & ANTOINETTE DEEVER	KLAUS/GALLAGHER FAMILY	GARY & CYNTHIA PORTER	BARBARA WILSON
ANTHONY & KAREN DELVESCOVO	AUDREY KOLLER	MICHAEL & KATHLEEN QUINN	LYNNE M. WILSON
MR & MRS JOSEPH P. DENNY	MERRILY LA SCALA	JOE & GLORIA REESE	MURRAY & VICKI WOLF
TERI & OWSLEY DIGNAZIO	PENELOPE LEONARD	WILLIAM ROBINSON	HARVEY & LOUISA ZENDT
JACK & MIMI DONLEVIE	JACK & LINDA LIGNELLI	DONNA ROGERS	LOUIS & DORIS ZUCCA
MIM DOWDELL	ANNA MARIA & NICHOLAS MANNINO	AL & VERONICA ROMAN	

And, as always, to our lifetime members:

THOMAS W. BARRON	BARBARA & BILL GRAHAM	SALLY MCCAFFREY	DON & NANCY RICHARDS
SUSAN COOPER	WILLIAM & FRANCES GRAHAM	MARY MILLAR	SUSETTE ROTH
DAVID COSKEY	LINDA & ROGER HALL	JOSEPH PAQUETTE	IRVIN & ANITA SCHORSCH
BETSY HOLSTEN CROWLEY	MAUREEN HICKS	DAVIS PEARSON	BETTY SHOEMAKER
MARJORIE DELANEY	DR NANCY HUDANICH	ROBERT PENROSE JR	JOE TIPPING
RUSSELL & DOROTHY DIGIALLORENZO	JOAN HUNTER	ANN PENROSE	WILLIAM & DOROTHY TOZOUR
LINDA ECHEVARRIA	LUCILLE JACOBSON	VERONICA POWERS	FRANK WECKERLY
KAREN & FRED EDELSTEIN	DAVID KNOCH	MARGARET QUINN	ROSE WELLS
PAT ELLIS/OLDHAM	MARY JANE KOEN	MICHAEL & JANE RICE	

Thank you to those that donated collections items/artifacts so far this year

MARGET BLUEFELD	JOHN DIGIAMBERARDINO	MCGOWAN FAMILY	D. SKINNER
BOND FAMILY	JACQUIE EWING	SUSAN MCLAUGHLIN	BRUCE TELL
BOROUGH OF AVALON/ AVALON	AL HARING	ELIZABETH PENDELTON	JAMES THATCHER
REC. CENTER	ALEC HICKS	ELAINE SCATTERGOOD	LIZ TRACY
ROSE MARIE CHEW	ROGER JACOBS	CHARLES SCHIFFER	BRUCE UDOVICH
ALLY COHEN	SUE KEEN	ANDREW SCIRANKA	KIT VERNON
DAVE COSKEY	ROBIN MACINTOSH	DORIS SHIRLEY	
CRAIG CUNNINGHAM	CARL MATTIA	PEG SHIRLEY	

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONS TO THE AVALON REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES:

- 141, 33rd Street, built 1916
- 128, 23rd Street, built 1911
- 267, 36th Street, built 1922
- 54 W 8th Street, built 1935
- 252, 35th Street, built 1920
- 2009, Avalon Avenue, built 1922



Is your house more than 50 years old, and retains its original character? It may be eligible for listing on the Avalon Register of Historic Places. Stop by, call, or visit the History Center's website for a copy of the application form.

Virtual house documentation project:

The Avalon Historical Society is seeking to make interior and exterior digital photographic records of early Avalon properties. Please contact the History Center if you are interested in having such a record of your property made and shared or, if you are aware of an early Avalon property due for demolition.

Farewell & Good Luck to Avalon History Director Nina Ranalli!



For almost 5 years Nina Ranalli steered the Avalon Free Public Library's History Center to the forefront of Avalon activities, putting a warm and friendly face to the town museum and welcoming all to experience the past through new and innovative exhibits, programs for all ages, lectures and presentations, social

activities and outreach.

Thanks to Nina's tireless work and enthusiasm, we are no longer a hidden gem but rather a focal point and integral part of Avalon's year-round activities.

While we are saddened to lose Nina's leadership, knowledge, zeal and inspiration, we are lucky to have called her a good friend – to Avalon and to the History Center.

Rest assured, we shall continue to carry on the good work, as well as to follow Nina's progress wherever fortune takes her to shine.

Thank you Nina.





Come join us for the Avalon Historical Society Annual Holiday Party - all are welcome and invited to attend!

**Saturday, December 7
4pm to 7pm
at the Avalon History
Center**

Enjoy food, refreshment, good company and good cheer. And check out this year's collectible, limited edition Christmas ornament, featuring Circle Pizza!



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