

BAY VILLAGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

"Preserving the Character of Our City"

HTTPS://WWW.BAYHISTORICAL.COM/

Potluck and Program

Holly Tramba, Vice President

Thursday, November 17—Bay Lodge

6:00 p.m. social, 6:30 p.m. potluck dinner, 7:00 p.m. program

Main Dish – provided by The Bay Village Historical Society

Last name beginning with:

A-L bring a side dish for ten; M-Z bring an appetizer or dessert for ten.

Bring your own place setting.

Please bring a beverage of choice. Alcohol is permitted at Bay Lodge.

There will be a \$10 charge for non-members at the door.

East Fourth Street:

The Rise, Decline, and Rebirth of an Urban Cleveland Street

Alan F. Dutka will trace East Fourth Street's story, which has mirrored downtown Cleveland's dynamic rise, decline, and rebirth. Once home to Cleveland's opera house, central markets, and five-and-dime stores, Fourth Street fell into disrepair in the second half of the 20th Century. East Fourth Street serves as the center of a chic entertainment and residential district – perhaps the coolest place in Cleveland. Mr. Dutka's book, East Fourth Street: The Rise, Decline, and Rebirth of an Urban Cleveland Street, will be available for purchase and signing.

RSVP to Holly Tramba; 440-537-1581 or e-mail:

htramba@sbcglobal.net by November 10.

The Christmas Spirit Shoppe in Bay Village

Pamela Ebert

On December 6, 2022, The Gift Shop will be participating in the St Raphael Christmas Boutique.

We will be selling our popular Bay caps - two are baseball-style caps and one is a warm stocking cap. All are blue with BAY embroidered in white lettering. The mesh trucker-style baseball caps are \$30 each, the fabric baseball caps are \$25 each, and the stocking caps are \$25. One size fits all. All are available at the Rose Hill

There will be many other Christmas treats for you to buy, items for children, for the home and always the fun Mystery bags.

The hours are from 5:30 to 9:00 PM in the PAC at St Raphael School. There is a small admission fee at the door.

All the vendors donate an item to be raffled off that evening.

It's a fun way to kick off the season. We hope to see you that evening!

The caps will also be for sale at the Village Project winter open house on Dec. 1 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. The Christmas Boutique is being held at 27378 W. Oviatt.



November 2022



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## Collections

## Michele Yamamoto, Collections Assistant

For those of you at the Historical Society who do not know me, I began working part-time for the Bay Village Historical Society in September of 2021. My primary job is to help President Cathy Flament in the care and cataloging of our collections both in the Osborn Learning Center and the Rose Hill Museum.

My background in museum work involves studies and internships in college as well as working professionally in museums and archives across the United States, both in collections management and development. I have worked in institutions big and small, in various states of organization. I was very impressed upon meeting Cathy and viewing the storage rooms and all of the quality work being done at Rose Hill and Osborn.

For the past year, my focus has been on helping to catalog and preserve the thousands of photographs and papers at the Osborn Learning Center. This involves numbering, scanning, describing and properly housing the items in our collections so that they can be easily accessed for years to come by members of the Historical Society and the public. This is accomplished physically through our filing and storage systems and also digitally in our collections database, Past Perfect.

The database makes such a difference for accessing the collections that have been entered into it so far. No longer will a researcher need to spend hours thumbing through reams of papers and photographs to find what they need. A quick search in the database, using a variety of search criteria, will lead you to an exact photo, paper or object. Over 8,000 records so far have been created since we began using this system in 2018. Many of these records include photographs of objects and scans of photographs and papers, providing a digital copy of items in our collections. This is still a work in progress as we continue to catalog the items we already possess and receive new items concerning Bay history into our collections every year. For an organization of our size, the number of cataloged and preserved objects, in such a short time, is quite an achievement.

Collections I personally have cataloged and researched since September 2021 include but are not limited to:

- Chauncey Howard Franks WWII photo collection
- Ernest Wuebker Family photo collection
- Ernie Olchon's Gas Station photos and WWII scrapbook
- Clement/McIlvried Family photos
- Lawrence Blazey reference materials, including photos and news clippings
- Bay Village Public Schools early archival materials
- Memorial Day parades and ceremonies, 1940s-2002 photos
- Cahoon Memorial Park buildings
- Bay Village historic homes photos
- Bayway Cabin research
- Bay Village Public Library photos and scrapbooks, 1920s-1980s

I have also enjoyed working on the Bay Village Historical Society's website blog "Glimpse of the Past," through which we highlight a piece in our collections to share with the public. In our posts, also shared via email and Facebook, we delve deeper into the history behind a photo, paper or object from the collections, sharing its history through story and photographs. We began the post in January of 2022 and have received a lot of positive feedback and comments. Occasionally, our posts are printed in various local papers. You may access our past posts by visiting our website, [www.bayhistorical.com](http://www.bayhistorical.com) and clicking on "Glimpse of the Past." We would love *your* ideas or submissions. We have already posted articles from three members of the Historical Society and I would be happy to give you any help you need to create one yourself.

This past year we have partnered with various organizations such as the Bay Village Branch Library to showcase their stories and to celebrate milestones through research, preservation and display of items concerning their part in Bay Village history.

Moving forward, I will keep updating you through the newsletter on the work I am doing to help preserve and share special memories and the history of Bay Village. The catalog work, of course, is never-ending and I also hope to report on some new activities as I enter my second year at the Bay Village Historical Society.

Thank you so much for your time, support and interest in preserving Bay Village history. We could not do this without your help!

## President's Message

Cathy Flament

Thanks to those who stepped forward to help with our ongoing projects. There is always something new going on and it makes it so much more fun when there are more people involved. Have an idea you would like to see? We are always looking for new ways to improve our outreach to bring our local history to life. If you are looking for something to do over the winter months, let us know.

A vintage spinning wheel has arrived that is in working order! Thanks to the generous donation of Dana Kontras of Florida, we are in the planning stages of featuring spinning demonstrations. There are a number of members who have expressed an interest in learning how to spin wool. We have been in contact with a spinning guild which has offered to provide lessons over the winter, so we will be ready to go when we reopen. If you are interested in learning the art of spinning, you are welcome to join in. If all goes well, we will be featuring demonstrations over Christmas.

On a similar note, Janet Verdier has been coming on Sundays to weave rugs on our 1800's loom with assistance from Evelyn Allan, creating rugs that are available in the gift shop. These make a unique gift or slice of history that also supports the Historical Society. Plans are underway for the loom to be restrung over the next few weeks as we are nearing the end of the warp. It is heartwarming to see this early pioneer fiber art craft shared with the community.

The Portrait Gallery is in the final stages of completion and we couldn't be more thrilled. Visitors frequently express how impressed they are with the results and they do look amazing. It is so gratifying to know that the originals are preserved appropriately for generations to come. Please come and see the results of this extensive redo. Our gratitude is extended to the Cahoon Park Trustees for their financial support.

This summer proved to be a busy one. One of the major contributors to our additional traffic were those celebrating their class reunions. It was exciting to not only connect with Bay grads, but we heard some great stories. Keep in mind, that if you have a group that would like to tour the museum, we are available for private tours during the season.

Wilbur Cahoon's homestead, Avon's first settlers, is now open. He was the brother of Joseph Cahoon, our original settler. The family arrived from Herkimer, New York on September 14, 1814, four years after Joseph and Lydia settled in Dover. Construction of the historic 12-room Greek Revival style home began in 1825. Be sure to visit this extension of our local history. The home is located at 2940 Stoney Ridge Road, Avon. They are open Sundays 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Wednesdays 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Admission and parking are free.

If you were unable to attend our last general meeting, you missed an amazing talk. Angie George spoke on Mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century cooking and baking and not only inspired us with her talk, but also with 1860's clothing. Stay tuned for some interesting outfits we have planned for Rose Hill. Let's truly bring history to life.

Additional signage has just been placed throughout Rose Hill and the Osborn Learning Center supplementing what we had previously installed. Feedback regarding the signage has been positive as it helps our visitors to identify pertinent items in the collection and their provenance. The Bay Village Foundation was instrumental in supporting this initiative.

Thanks goes out to Claire Boettler for her dedication in manning the Cabin this season. The number of visitors walking the path has positively impacted our exposure in the valley. This is an easy way to become involved and share what the early families experienced. Due to unpredictable weather at this time of year, it is now closed for the season but will reopen in the spring.

Our website continues to evolve. The latest feature added is the autobiography of Margaret Van Allen Cahoon (1810-1894), wife of Joel, mother of Ida. It is a fascinating narrative that you are sure to enjoy. She relays stories from her childhood growing up in Washington D.C. such as experiencing the burning of Washington. Her family's home also frequently welcomed Supreme Court Justices we only read about in history books. If you haven't had a chance to check it out, I encourage you to do so. It is a wonderful portrayal of history with a local connection.

## President's Message—continued

Be sure to join us for the upcoming meeting and don't forget to stop by at Christmas. As you are planning your Christmas list be sure to add the new "Bay" beanies available at Mojo's and Rose Hill. We also have the baseball hats that have been a huge success. The medallions featuring various venues in Bay are the perfect way to celebrate our community. All are available on the website.

This will once again be a special time to view Rose Hill that will be fully decorated with some interesting and festive displays. The traditional carolers who grace the west lawn of Rose Hill have been repainted by Pamela Ebert and we have a surprise edition of a sleigh.

If all goes as planned, we will be "unveiling" the restored hooked rug in the Country Kitchen and hair wreath in the Victorian Parlor. Both are unique items in our collection. Make visiting Rose Hill a special holiday tradition during the season and be sure to invite friends and neighbors.

May your Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons bring memories you will treasure for years to come.

### Rose Hill Gift Shop

**Pamela Ebert and Monica Thomas**

The gift shop has had an upgrade by Monica Thomas and Pamela Ebert and as the holiday season comes to Bay Village Rose Hill will be offering unique gifts in the shop.

If you have some treasures around your house that you would like to donate to be sold that will help us enhance our revenue, we would be happy to accept them. Items that sell are stationary, candles, seasonal items, jewelry and small antique items. The items do not need to pertain to Bay Village history.

Please let either Monica or Pamela know and we will be happy to receive them—*Thank you.*

Monica [Mrthomas1970@gmail.com](mailto:Mrthomas1970@gmail.com)

Pamela [Blinglady17@gmail.com](mailto:Blinglady17@gmail.com)

### A Visit from Santa

**Cynthia Eakin**

The Bay Village Historical Society, in cooperation with Bay Kiwanis, will again be bringing Santa Claus to Bay Village. He will ride through the city streets aboard a fire truck the afternoon of Sunday, Dec. 4, departing from Bay Lodge about 2 p.m. He will end up at the Cahoon Memorial Park gazebo about 4:30 p.m. where he will help light the city's holiday tree. A map of his route will be published in the Westlake/Bay Village Observer and on the Facebook pages of the society and Kiwanis. Rose Hill Museum will be decorated for the holiday season.

### Membership— Thank you to the following for their generous donations

**Eric Eakin**

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