

March 2025

President's Message - Chris Yates, President

As I write this it is the first day of Spring! Stone Harbor is starting to buzz as everyone prepares for a welcome return to the beautiful beaches of Seven Mile Island. We are hard at work planning the activities we sponsor (are your running shoes ready?) and teaming up with others in town for the events we assist. We are also preparing for our spring meeting - have you answered the brief survey to help us plan a meeting that is as meaningful as possible? On the "government" side of the Borough, lots of things are underway. The town budget and tax rate will be unveiled on April 1 and we will be taking a close look at them. Stone Harbor's state-ordered affordable housing plan will be unveiled not long after that and we will also be taking a close look at that. For both we will try to keep you as informed as possible. Please send us any questions or concerns you have about these or other issues.



If you have an interest in serving our organization as a trustee please raise your hand! We would love to talk to you. We hope to see you soon!

On Being a SHPOA Trustee - Beth Ann Greiser, Trustee, Member, Membership Committee

On a Tuesday at the Tower evening a few summers back, the Stone Harbor Property Owners Association sponsored the band on stage and served the beer/wine at the tent. They were all so friendly, and I casually asked what it was like to be a Trustee of SHPOA.



I realized that this group of SHPOA trustees, with varying backgrounds, cares about Stone Harbor on many levels. They are truly interested in property owners' input and how they feel about town issues directly affecting them (or their renters).

Over these past few years, SHPOA has grown in its ability to inform homeowners (through emails and in-person meetings) of current events. They provide informative summaries of all Stone Harbor Council meetings to keep property owners up to date on key issues affecting us all. Trustees craft and send surveys to hone in on hot topics that concern property owners and share that with the Mayor and Council members. From flood mitigation initiatives, and issues regarding beaches and the bay, to working on instructional sustainable planting around town, Trustees have a wide skillset and share talents to help represent approximately 1/3 of the property owners.



I was a curious individual who asked some questions of some caring SHPOA (past and present) Trustees. As a trustee, I am part of the team on the membership committee and collaborate closely with past and present business owners, lawyers, realtors, and tech gurus. We meet monthly as a committee (Zoom optional) and spend about 10-15 hours on committee initiatives. I encourage anyone who loves our town and enjoys engaging with positive people who share great ideas, please don't hesitate to inquire further and join this volunteer group of multitalented individuals! I'm so glad I did.

If you're interested in being a Trustee, you can find the application form right here. Or if you'd like to find out more, please contact the Nominating Committee at nominations@stoneharborpoa.org.

Harbor Hustle - Geo If Wollery, Trustee, Member, Community Engagement Committee

The 3rd Annual Harbor Hustle will be held on Sunday, June 22nd at 7:30 am. Please join us in celebrating the official start of summer on Solstice weekend. The start/finish location is at 96th and 1st Ave. All proceeds will benefit our race co-host, Shells of Hope, a local charity supporting pediatric cancer research and South Jersey kids battling cancer. Shells of Hope cofounder Grace Martin will kick off the race with the singing of the National Anthem. We thank Seashore ACE for once again being our proud premium sponsor.

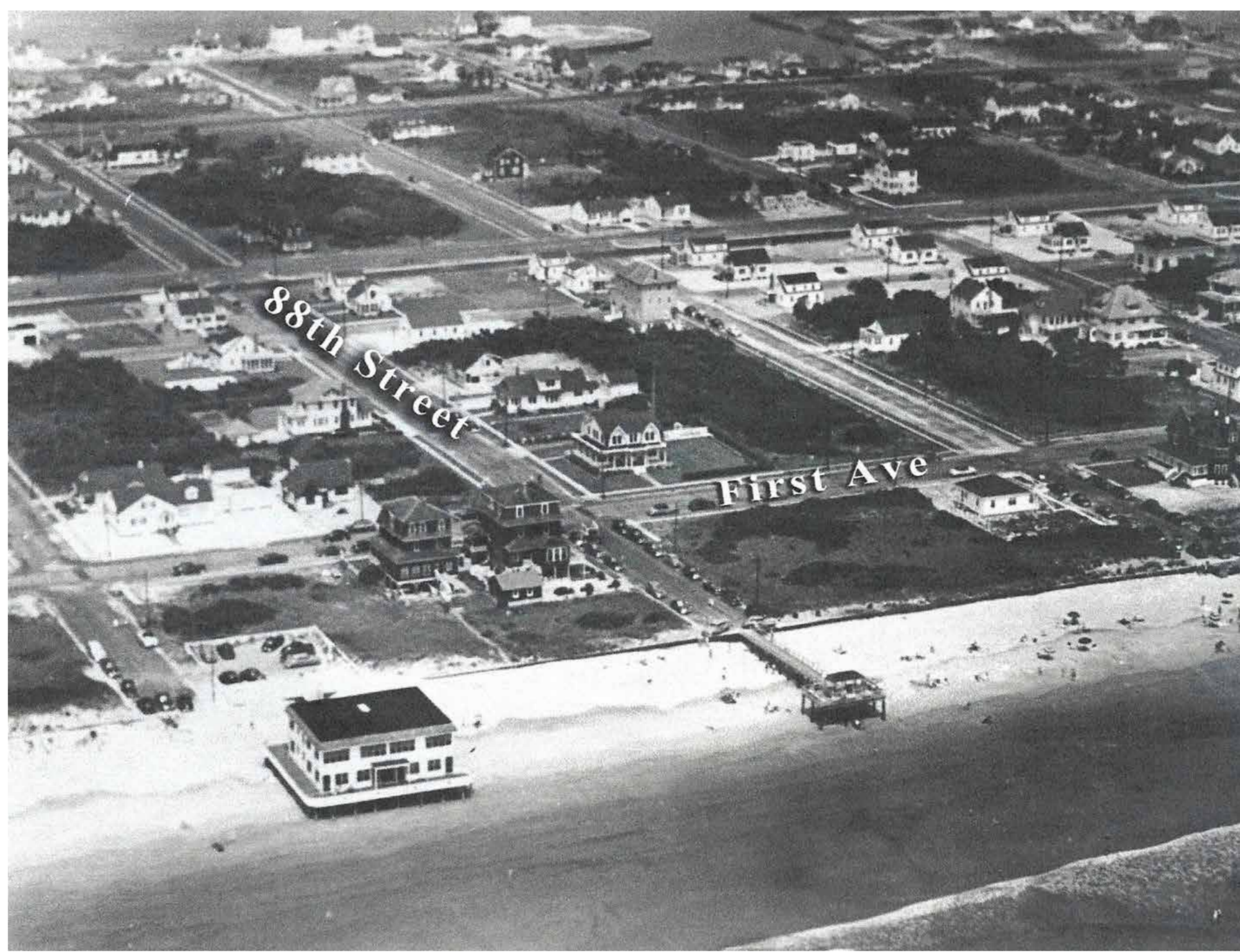


Donations and registration open on March 29th using this QR code:



Historical Stone Harbor - Courtesy of Stone Harbor Museum

Each month we bring you a memory from the past, courtesy of the Stone Harbor Museum.



BACK IN TIME - This aerial photo focuses primarily on the 88th Street and First Avenue area of Stone Harbor and was most likely taken either in the latter 1940s or the early 1950s judging from the automobiles that are visible. Photographs serve as portals and can provide us with remarkable information and even clues when trying to better understand things and events from an earlier time. That being said, let's turn our attention just a bit to some particular elements of the image shown above.

Perhaps one of the first most notable aspects of this photo is that there is no boardwalk visible and we know that Stone Harbor's boardwalk was destroyed by the Great Atlantic Hurricane of September 1944. On the beach, we see two structures: a short pier to a pavilion at the end of 88th Street and a two-story apartment building known as the Nautilus built around 1932 at the end of 89th Street. The Nautilus remained intact until March of 1962 when it too was destroyed in a devastating Nor'easter. Between these two structures along First Avenue are the Herbert and Juergen's Cottages from left to right. What is particularly interesting and worth noting at this time is there were still considerable undeveloped lots of land overgrown with vegetation. Obviously, this photo is a marked contrast with the way that this area looks today in 2025. I do hope that you enjoy looking back in time and viewing these historic photographs of Stone Harbor.

The Museum is at 9410 2nd Avenue and can be found online at www.stoneharbormuseum.org. Please be sure to see Harlan's History which can be found at https://www.stoneharbormuseum.org/harlanshistory/ and also consider donating to the Stone Harbor Museum at https://stoneharbormuseum.org/donations/.

Contemporary Stone Harbor - Scott Jarden, CIO and Chair, Communications & Technology Committee



Each month we bring you a recent photo of interest from around Stone Harbor.



View south, you can tell summer is coming by where the sun goes down.

SHPOA Help Line

As recently announced, SHPOA is pleased to provide our members with a Help Line to identify the best person at the Borough to provide assistance with an issue you might be dealing with. As you know, Borough Administration has overall responsibility for operations with oversight by the Borough Council. If you do need assistance, please reach out to us at Help@StoneHarborPOA.org. We look forward to helping our members wherever possible.



Member's Buzz

In this section we will periodically select some of your comments and perspectives to share with our broader membership. Please feel free to send them for consideration in future issues of The SHPOA Beach Buzz by writing to BeachBuzz@StoneHarborPOA.org.



SHPOA's Beach Cams and other local webcams

SHPOA's site with two beach cams and embedded weather, tide, and water temperature information can be found 24 x 7 at StoneHarborPOA.org/beachcams. There is a simple form that needs to be filled out once, after which you can bookmark the site and access the beach cams whenever you'd like.



- Other local webcams of interest not being run by SHPOA include:
- Stone Harbor Yacht Club Baycam
- Stone Harbor Fire Department's 96th Street Webcam
- Wetlands Institute Osprey Cam looking North

If there are other local webcams that you are aware of and recommend for inclusion on this list, please contact us at Contact@StoneHarborPOA.org.

Calendar of Events

Please go to our website to view our Events Calendar at https://www.stoneharborpoa.org/#calendar, which we will continue to update. If you know of an event that is not listed there, please let us know!



A SHPOA Membership Benefit

We are thrilled to announce a SHPOA member benefit that supports our mission of informing you of what's happening in and around town. Our friends at the Cape May County Herald are offering SHPOA members only an exclusive discount for Herald subscriptions -- 25% OFF with code "SHPOA" -- and they are also providing your association with advertising space in print and online for us to promote the association and the initiatives important to our members. We hope you will consider supporting the Herald and the local journalism which got its start right here on Seven Mile Island. Click here to see recent coverage of Stone Harbor. To subscribe and use the discount, please click on https://capemaycountyherald.com/subscribe/ and use promo code "SHPOA" at checkout to claim your 25% discount. Only valid for new subscribers.



The Beach Buzz editorial team: Janis Oeschger, Homi Kapadia, Scott Jarden, Cynthia Burton, Ted Kestner, and Heidi Yacker.

