



Staff

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Our Mission

The Ocean City Museum Society, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and interpreting the rich natural and cultural history of this coastal community through memorabilia collections, rotating exhibits, educational programs and area research. The Ocean City Life-Saving Station Museum presents:

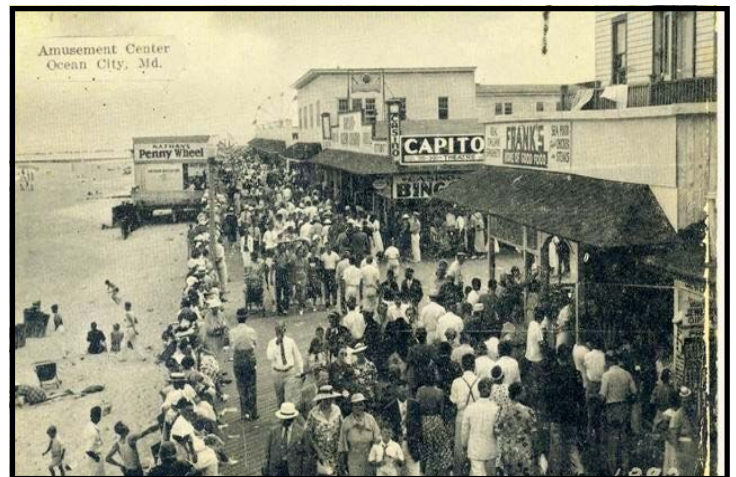
1. The history of the United States Life-Saving Service on the Delmarva Peninsula
2. The past lifestyles and culture of the Town of Ocean City, Maryland
3. The local ancestral records and artifact collections through its internet service

LILLIAN TAUSTIN DOSE:  
HER MEMORIES OF MOVING TO OCEAN CITY

SUBMITTED BY ARLENE DOSE ADVOCAT 2006

WRITTEN BY LILLIAN TAUSTIN DOSE IN 1981

My parents, Fanny Silber Taustein and Isaac Taustein had 10 children. The second eldest married about 1927. That was unusual for a Jewish family because the oldest one must marry first and down the line. All the men in the family must wait for all the girls to marry first. Our parents were happy for somebody to start the ball rolling. In 1930 my mother died at the age of 56, just a few months before we lost a sister. So we were 9 little Indians left with a father - all living at home.



Ocean City's first Bingo Game operated by Lillian and Kurt Dose in 1938 can be seen at the center of this photograph.

In 1934 Kurt [Dose] and I eloped to Greenwich, Connecticut, and were married by a judge. Not only could we not afford a wedding but also Kurt was not of the Jewish faith. Subsequently two more married non-Jews. We were becoming a League of Nations and from an Orthodox family!

After various ventures and a lot of fun - it is the year 1937 and I am pregnant with Arlene. We are in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. We are in the picture taking business. One [picture] for 10 cents, 3 for 25 cents. We have about 5 or 6 machines in different cities. These are only temporary stores because we only stay until practically all the people have their pictures taken and then we move on to other cities.

Towards the end of our stay in Lancaster, Kurt and my brother Sam Taustein came back to O.C. after a few days on the road. They didn't find any stores for our picture taking because Kurt found Ocean City. This was in the spring of 1937 and just a couple of months before the summer season. He fell in love with all the water surrounding Ocean City and the little town itself. (He was a good sailor.) It really looked like a country village. Small white wooden cottages, the main street one block long with a Mom-and-Pop grocery store, a

shack of a post office, a store for the gas company and one for the telephone company where people came to pay their bills. The telephone company proper was in a little cottage near the bridge on Division Street. We had no dial system but we had a wonderful operator and she knew everyone in town. You just picked up the phone and said "Naomi, please ring Mr. So and So" or even by first name, then we gossiped a little while she rang the number. If someone called you and you were not at home she would ring the number where she knew you were. It was a fun way to live. And it was only 44 years ago. As I write this now we are in the Space Age!

We rented a little cottage on Baltimore Avenue at the corner of Wicomico Street. On July 2, Arlene was born. This, our first season in Ocean City, we had a Bingo operation (the first ever in Ocean City), a very large hamburger stand (my job was just to prepare the hamburgers) and a "wheel joint", which is a big wheel that turns - the customer puts his 25 cents on a number and if the wheel stops on his number he wins a blanket! Nothing else - just blankets.

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**Board of Directors**

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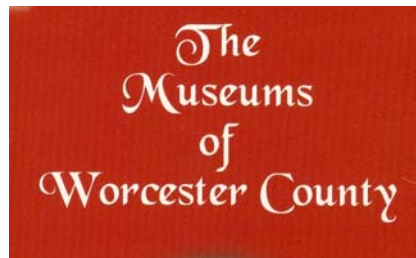
## INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM DAY MAY 18TH

Worcester County's 10 museums will all be open on Friday, May 18, from 1-4 p.m. to celebrate International Museum Day.

This special day, which has been celebrated all over the world since 1977, provides the public with an opportunity to meet museum professionals and learn the important roles museums play in preserving history and enriching cultures.

Each year the advisory committee of the International Council of Museums decides on a theme for this special day of celebration. This year's theme is "Universal Heritage".

This is a great time to visit some of the local museums. It will take more than a day to visit all of them this summer so get an early start by dropping by on May 18 in celebration of International Museum Day.



### THE 10 MUSEUMS OF WORCESTER COUNTY

- **St. Martin's Episcopal Church** at the intersection of Route 113 and Route 589 in Berlin
- **Calvin B. Taylor House Museum** on Main Street in Berlin
- **Ocean City Life-Saving Station Museum** on the Boardwalk at the Inlet in Ocean City
- **The Queponco Railway Station** on Patey Woods Road in Newark
- **Mt Zion One-Room School** at Ironshire and Church Street in Snow Hill
- **Julia A. Purnell Museum** on West Market Street in Snow Hill
- **Furnace Town Living Heritage Museum** on Old Furnace Road in Snow Hill
- **Girdletree Barnes Bank Museum** on Route 12 in Girdletree, between Snow Hill and Stockton
- **Isaac Costen House Museum** on Market Street in Pocomoke City
- **Sturgis One-Room School Museum** on Willow Street in Pocomoke City

## FAMILY FUN AT SPRINGFEST!

Always on the lookout for ways to enhance Ocean City's image as a family resort, the Life-Saving Station Museum will be sponsoring a new event at the 2007 Springfest on Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Using ideas and materials furnished by Seaworthy Small Ships of Prince Frederick, Maryland, the Museum staff and volunteers will provide children the opportunity to work with their parents or grandparents to build and sail a toy wooden boat.

Seaworthy Small Ships will supply three different kits that will be available for purchase at a modest cost. The Museum will provide a suitable place for the children to quickly and easily construct a sailing ship model with the assistance of family adults. A shallow pond will be on site where the children can then sail their vessel. Model construction can be accomplished quickly



Participants of Pine Wood Sailors,  
a program to be hosted by  
Museum Society member  
Tom Wimbrow

and with minimal additional supplies. In fact, only safety scissors and Magic Markers are required to complete construction.

This family activity is both educational and fun. Outcomes include learning about our area's cultural and maritime heritage as well as an increased understanding of history, art, math, science and manual and team building skills.

As an added bonus each adult participating with a child will receive a free pass to visit the museum. Museum members interested in assisting with this new activity are encouraged to contact Assistant Curator Sandy Hurley at (410)289-4991 or by e-mail at [Sandy@ocmuseum.org](mailto:Sandy@ocmuseum.org)

## WHAT'S NEW IN THE GIFT SHOP?

The Ocean City Museum Society is happy to announce the arrival of a newly designed tee shirt featuring our building. The cost of the shirt is \$12.98 - member price is \$11.68. They are available in Blue or Cedar and in sizes small through 2XX-LG. We also have a selection of mugs with the same handsome design. The price of the mug is \$6.98 - member price is \$6.28. Mugs are on hand in 4 colors - navy, cedar, green and black. Either our tee-shirt or mug make a unique Ocean City gift/souvenir.



Our tee-shirt model in the photograph is Corinna Giles. Corinna is an intern from Stephen Decatur High School. We are very fortunate to have her services for this semester. She is helping us with the digital storage of our photograph collection.

## LILLIAN TAUSTIN DOSE...CONTINUED

Then Labor Day came and the town reverted back to a village. Arlene, being only 2 months old, I had to find a place to live here while Kurt and Sam went off with a trailer carrying 3 picture machines to set up in temporary locations. Now Sam and Kurt were partners. The season in Ocean City was just 10 weeks - no more no less. We had to make money to live on until the next season.

Arlene and I lived with Mrs. Evans at the Mt. Vernon on Talbot Street. It was a boarding house. That is 3 meals a day and a room. She charged us \$10 a week! Imagine 21 meals (all you can eat and the food was excellent) and a nice large room for only \$10 each adult. No charge for the baby!

After about 4 weeks Kurt came back to O.C. to get baby and me. We had a truck at that time - a ton and one half, open body. I suppose we got a good buy on it and because Kurt thought we could make some money with it. We did haul pecans up from Georgia a few times and sold them to Acme Stores in Pennsylvania. Now we used it to carry the picture machines. Well, I bundled up Arlene and with a bath tub, potty chair, hot plate, double boiler, etc, etc, and we were off to Chambersburg, PA and settled into a hotel. Oh yes, we also had a baby carriage.

Well, we did fine with the picture machines and then it was springtime and we were ready to go back to O.C. for our second summer and live with Mrs. Evans. We occupied her largest bedroom. It was great not to have to shop and cook. At night I would help in the business and Mrs. Evans was always at home so I had a baby sitter without charge.

Now in the summer of 1938 we have the first Bingo operation right behind the Capital Theater and on the boardwalk (where Playland is now) we had a Fascination Game. There were three very large counters with lots of numbers (like roulette) with dealers behind them. If you have your money on the numbers that light up on a board you win whatever the odds are for the number or combination of numbers. I was the cashier.

In 1940 my brothers Sam and Irving [Taustin] owned the property on 9<sup>th</sup> Street on the boardwalk [south side]. They built the stores, five of them for \$8,000. The largest store was for our new Bingo game. The next largest was our Auction Store, then the first Candy Kitchen, which Sally and Thelma [Lillian's sisters] ran. All the candy was bought then. The Candy Factory came later. And then there was the Blue Dahlia Night Club. Liquor was illegal at that time but we sold it, as did many other places.

The war was on and we carried on our businesses on the boardwalk under a blackout. At this point in time we had one Bingo at Division Street, one at 9<sup>th</sup> Street and one store full of slot machines. The town was quite small at that time. Mostly families came and spent the entire summer at their favorite boarding house or little wooden hotels. It was a happy time for me.

*The President and Board of Directors take great pleasure in welcoming the following new members:*

### **FAMILY MEMBERSHIP** (SURFMAN 3)

*Antoinette Allen & Family*  
Wilmington, DE

*Jim Doerzbach & Family*  
Ocean City, MD

*Michelle Monteferrante*  
& Family  
Potomac, MD

*Frank Mueller & Family*  
Pasadena, MD

*The Snider Family*  
Gaithersburg, MD

We need your  
creative input!

While designing a new brochure for the upcoming season, we felt the need to change our "catch phrase" to something a little more catchy than ***"The Showplace of Ocean City, Maryland"***.

Here are some ideas:  
***"History Happens Here"***

***"Keepers Of Your Memories"***

***"We Play in the Past"***

***"Sail Into the Past"***

Please send us your suggestions...if we choose your phrase you will win one of our new Tee Shirts

## Look What We Found!

Wooden Paddles used in  
making Fisher's Carmel Popcorn

*Gift of Charlie Muskat*



### Ocean City Life-Saving Station Museum

P. O. Box 603  
Ocean City, MD 21843  
(410) 289-4991

We're on the Web!  
[www.ocmuseum.org](http://www.ocmuseum.org)

*Showplace of Ocean City, Maryland*

## PASSPORT TO DISCOVERY

The Museums of Worcester County are kicking off a new and exciting program for this coming vacation season entitled "Passport to Discovery". Designed for children 6 to 14 years of age it is intended to encourage local students to visit the small museums that are in their own backyard and learn a little history along the way.

Passports will be distributed to Worcester County Schools and will be available at any of the ten participating museums. Once students visit a museum and completes an activity, they will have their passport stamped. When they have received three or more stamps they will be eligible for a T-Shirt and their name will be entered into a drawing for a grand prize. Any youngster that is able to get all ten stamps will receive a \$25 savings bond.

The program will run from May 15<sup>th</sup> through the end of October. For more information, please contact Sandy Hurley by phone at (410) 289-4991 or email: [Sandy@ocmuseum.org](mailto:Sandy@ocmuseum.org).



"Passport To Discovery" is a new program  
by The Museums of Worcester County