As the staff unearthed some old photos, I came across a photo of the fire that took the Hurricane Club in 1964. If anyone remembers the Ruthlynn Hotel also on Pacific Avenue, it was still standing and pictured in the photo, until it, too, gave way to fire in 1981. We also have photos given to us by a gentleman by the name of Osman M. Corson from Cape May Court House. He forwarded a collection of old photos taken by his father-in-law, Jacob A. Eberly, Jr. who summered and worked here between 1912 and 1917. As a teenager, he was an amateur photographer employed by one of the boardwalk photo shops, and snapped quite a few pictures. One of them was of Fun Chase Pier in 1912, a firemen’s parade in 1917, and did you know that Wildwood had a Dog Parade in 1916?

In July, the museum hosted a book signing and open house. On board were authors Rob Ascough and Al Alven signing their new book “Images of America, Hunt’s Pier.” The book celebrates the history of Wildwood’s famed “Oceanic Wonderland” with 128 pages of vintage photographs and memories. Also on hand was Anita Hirsch to sign her latest book “Wildwood By-the-Sea: Nostalgia and Recipes.” We have both books available for sale in our gift shop. They make great gifts for anyone who has every visited our island. To top off the day, we had a continuous screening of Diane Pooler and Scott Hand’s video “The Hunt’s Legacy.” That, too, will also be available for purchase very soon. It is an in-depth view of Hunt’s Pier.

In closing, think about this: Bumper sticker of the year - “If you can read this, thank a teacher and, since it’s in English, thank a soldier”

Anne Vinci
President of Wildwood Historical Society, Inc.

Fire at the Hurricane Club in 1964. Hurricane was located at 3800 Pacific Ave. (On the SW corner of Garfield & Pacific Aves.) The Ruthlynn Hotel is the building on the right which burnt down in 1981.