The SUN by-the-sea’s **Bathing Beauties**

Sent in from: Jean Rowand, a lifetime Wildwood by-the-sea Vacationer

Catherine A. (Neidhardt) Smith holding Jean (Smith) Rowand on Boardwalk, 1942

Carrie (Frickman) Neidhardt, on left, with unknown friend.

Jean (Smith) Rowand in coach in front of 228 W. 25th Ave., 1942

Note: The Skate Park and Allen Park would be off in the distance to the left. The Cafiero’s house would be on the corner next to the two houses

Jean (Smith) Rowand on back porch of apartment, 1942

Note: The marshland in background is now the SuperFresh parking lot.

Catherine A. (Neidhardt) Smith and friends on 25th St. beach, 1938

Catherine A. (Neidhardt) Smith standing on front lawn of 228 W. 25th Ave., 1943

Catherine A. (Neidhardt) Smith on right, with friends on 25th St. beach, 1938

Catherine A. (Neidhardt) Smith with William G. Smith, Jean (Smith) Rowand in front of ground fl. apartment at 228 W. 25th Ave., 1942

Note: this house has recently been replaced by a townhome

Catherine A. (Neidhardt) Smith on beach at 25th St., 1938

Catherine A. (Neidhardt) Smith holding Jean (Smith) Rowand on back porch of apartment, 1942

Paul E. Smith holding Jean (Smith) Rowand in front of 228 W. 25th Ave., 1942
The SUN by-the-sea’s Bathing Beauties

Diane Miodusewska (McMonagle,) (9 yr. old with big smile in center is my Mom) with her Mother and twin sister Blanche on left, older brother Ted and sister Jean in back, with Aunt and cousins on the beach in Wildwood, summer of 1945. Sadly my Mother lost her Mother a few months after this photo was taken.

Second Week in July

Every summer, the second week in July, we travelled 90 miles from suburban sameness to a carnival island, five miles long, near the tip of New Jersey’s tongue.

Mom and Dad picked the north town where we stayed at Nelson’s back cottage, spread out beach towels on the sand, snagged fudge popsicles & ice cream sandwiches from beach vendors on foot, handing over hot change from belt dispensers.

After a dinner of tomato slices and corn-on-the-cob we clambered aboard “The Flyer” (the little roller coaster that could), to sail above the ocean, bringing cool relief to sunburnt shoulders.

A trip to the moon would have been shorter except we would have missed little truck farms brimming with beefsteak tomatoes, white corn tall as twirling batons, blueberries big as a cat’s eyes.

After snaking our way through the deep dark Pine Barrens, the sun shines on us again and we call out names of wild places, the ones found only here: Delsea Drive, Tuckahoe, Estelle Manor, Burleigh.

Soon soggy grasslands come into view and the fresh-caught salt air finds us, the welcoming embrace we long for when a small backseat voice asks “Are we there yet?”

—Michele Picozzi

Future poet Michele Picozzi (right) poses for a photo with her maternal grandmother and baby sister at 25th St. beach during the second week in July, 1939.

Steve Murray in middle with Uncle Ron and his older friend Chris, Wildwood 1960.

1970 Wildwood Beach Still friends since 1968!
Left - Alice (Anderson) Biondi-Savino of Wildwood - WHS ’70
Right - Debbie (Caringi) Agostino of Philadelphia

1940 Maple Ave.Beach, Wildwood
September 18, 1911- July 4, 2009

Alice MacMahon
Sent in by her granddaughter, Alice Biondi-Savino
“Let us dance in the sun, wearing wild flowers in our hair…”  ~Susan Polis Shutz

The SUN by-the-sea’s Bathing Beauties

Rebecca Mullen, 97 is summering at her North Wildwood cottage, where she enjoys easy summer days tending to her vegetable garden and hanging laundry and evenings at the Boardwalk Chapel enjoying their nightly programs. Rebecca’s mother and father photographed their family with high regard as seen by this page of photos. Rebecca has quite a library filled with photo albums that her mother neatly arranged in chronological order. Top right photo shows that Rebecca, in her pram as an infant on the beach, was destined to have sand between her toes. Below is Rebecca and her mother in 1914 in their hometown of Newfield, NJ.

July 4th, 1946, 22nd St. Beach, North Wildwood—
3 sisters Mary Eakin, Rebecca Mullen, Ruth Sardom

Spring of 1947 22nd St. Boardwalk
Rebecca is 2nd from right with her 2 daughters, Rebecca and Grace

c. 1950s-Young Rebecca and Gracie Mullen with their cousins, Martha & Tom Ernis
The SUN by-the-sea’s Bathing Beauties

These photos were graciously sent by readers who love reminiscing with the SUN, a group of nostalgia buffs dedicated to conveying a sense of fun and reflection with each turn of the page. Since its inception, our hope at the SUN has been to provide locals and tourists with the original nostalgic newspaper. We accomplish this in part through the contributions of “bathing beauties” like those celebrated here in our ever popular Annual Bathing Beauty Edition. We make every effort to recapture priceless memories in print and find a home for each treasured photograph. While reading The SUN, enjoy your stroll down memory lane!

See more of these on pages 32 and 46.

Don’t forget to...Dig out those old photos! and mail to:
SUN by-the-sea P.O. Box 2101, Wildwood, NJ 08260 or email to: sun-by-the-sea@verizon.net

“Memories are a family album filled with images and dreams.” —Anon.

Mary and Bill Edger—They both recently passed away. Mary in 2007 at 81 and Bill September 08 at age 84. They were lifelong “Wildwooders” and owned a home at 16th & Delaware in North Wildwood until 2005. This picture was taken on Wildwood Beach in August 1948 as newlyweds.


Larry Lillo Sr. with children Ronnie & Larry—Wildwood by-the-sea, 1950s

Phyllis Pampinella and Pat Alazio—Here Phyllis Pampinella and Pat Alazio of Wildwood Crest are posed on Atlantic City beach with an ice cream man in the 1950s.

Betty Lou McKenna Larkin & Beatrice Sternmen Korzeniowski—Betty passed away recently but she will always be fondly remembered by her best friend.

Patti Craft—Summer of 1975

Larry Lillo with children Ronnie & Larry—Wildwood by-the-sea, 1950s

Fran Flynn—Wildwood by-the-sea, 1960s

Sisters! Ella Weber Davies (Michelle’s mom) Anna Weber Cooper and Pauline Weber Ebner, bathing beauties in the summer of 1957.

All above from Shirley Seibel, North Wildwood Beach 1969

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