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BEACH & BAY COTTAGE TOUR

From Sunday, July 16 through Sunday, August 6 Tour Attendees tuned in Virtually from locations throughout the world and on Wednesday, July 26 and Thursday, July 27, Patrons enjoyed the In-Person portion of the 31st Anniversary Beach & Bay Cottage Tour.

This year's "Combo Tour" provided virtual visits to 10 beautiful homes and a limited number of In-Person visits to 5 of the 10 homes. Viewers from 42 states, as well as 22 countries visited the 10 incredible homes in the Bethany Beach area from the comfort of their own homes.

The 10 beautiful homes provided plenty of ideas and noteworthy stories. Each home was an amazing testament to the owners and their families. We are so grateful they chose to share their homes with us.

Thanks to our Sponsors, Advertisers, Artists, Restaurants, Donors, and all of those who "attended" the Tour, whether Virtually or both Virtually and In-Person with a Combo Ticket. The Tour raised \$75,000.00 to enable FOSCL to continue to support programs for the South Coastal Library.

Thanks go to the efforts of the Beach & Bay Cottage Tour Committee and the 396 volunteers, again led by Chair Kathy Green.

Your donation to the Beach & Bay Cottage Tour helps the South Coastal Library and the larger community—your support helps in the following ways:

- Funds events, classes, lectures, music, crafts & educational programs for all ages - nobody ever pays a fee!

- Buys Early Literacy computers for children.
- Gets 200 Book Page Review magazines monthly - you get the latest titles and special reviews.
- Provides the library's subscription to Ancestry.com—free in-house genealogy access for all library users.
- Contributes over \$12,000 to the state-wide library e-book catalog for new e-books & audiobook titles/licenses.
- Finances the Junior Library Guild subscription, which provides monthly shipments of award-winning children's books.
- Pays for annual "McNaughton collection" of books—provides leased copies of the latest and greatest titles. When extra copies are no longer needed, they are traded for new titles.
- Funded the purchase of the children's Peek-A-Book kiosk and keeps it maintained. Children watch and listen to award-winning books and multiple copies are ready for check out—they have to borrow the books to find out the ending.
- Provided the new KwikBoost charging station so people can quickly charge phones, iPads, Kindles, Nooks and other portable devices.
- Bought a new Disc Repair machine, worth its weight (and it's heavy) in gold—can clean DVDs, audiobooks and music CDs and even repair many damaged discs, getting titles returned to circulation quickly and saving the library from having to replace 100-200 discs per month.
- Purchased the furniture for the patio at the northwest corner of the building.
- Purchased new furnishings for the Children's Room and will add more in 2024.
- Partner with Lord Baltimore Elementary School to present educational programs for the children.



- Funds the new Maker Space project for the library and community. Provided craft machinery and supplies for people to try their hands at creative works, including a Cricut machine, 3D pens, button maker, and we're not done yet!
- Provides CreativeBug online subscription for South Coastal Library patrons—gives free access to patrons to art & craft classes, patterns, templates and recipes, galleries and forums, and now includes live classes.
- And so much more!

There are many people to thank for their part in making the Tour a success!

Our Ten Wonderful Homeowners:

The Tour would not happen without our gracious homeowners. Thank you to the homeowners who so generously opened their lovely homes to Tour attendees, both Virtually and In-Person. They are: Ross McWilliams & Jim Simpson; Elise Lindsey & Michael Loftus; Darlene & Mark Dunn; JoAnn McLinnis & Eric Seleznow; and Karen & John Blair.

The Virtual Tour only homeowners are: Country Living at the Beach; Barb Calkins & Christopher Dominic; Cheryl & Jeff Powell; Anne Marie & Ken Abod; and Jayne & Don Wolfe.

Our Great Sponsors:

Presenting Sponsor: Leslie Kopp of The Leslie Kopp Group

House Sponsors: [PLATINUM] CRX Construction; MIKEN Builders; and Sea Light Design Build; [GOLD] Bruce Mears, Designer/Builder; and SEA Studio Architects

Tote Bag Sponsors: The Anne Powell Group; G&E/Hockers; PNC Bank; Scott & Shuman PA; Sea Colony Recreation Association; and the Town of Bethany Beach

Raffle Sponsor: Taylor Bank

Hang Tag Sponsor: Pohanka Automotive Group

Video Sponsor: Schell Brothers at Marlin Chase

Our Advertisers:

The many advertisers who support the Tour Admission Book - they are such an important part of our fundraising efforts. Please patronize them and thank them for supporting the Tour.

Our advertisers in alphabetical order are:

Annie Powell, Coldwell Banker Realty [Tote Sponsor]; Art League of Ocean City; Artisans' Bank; A Shade Above; Denise Beam, State Farm Insurance; Beebe Healthcare; Bella Terra Landscaping & Garden Center; Bethany Beach Brewing Company; Bethany Beach Books; Bethany Beach Boardwalk Arts Festival; Bethany Florist; Bethany Brewing; Bruce Mears Designer/Builder [Gold Sponsor];

Barbara Carlson, Realtor; Carolina Street; Coastal Point; Coastal Printing; Cottage Cafe; Creative Concepts; Cripple Creek Country Club; CRX Construction [Platinum Sponsor]; D.B. Fries; Delaware Beach Life; Delaware Botanic Gardens; Denney Lighting & Design; DiFebo's Restaurant & Market; Dewson Construction;

Fire & Ice Festival; G&E/Hockers [Tote Sponsor]; Good Earth Restaurant & Market; Representative Ronald E. Gray; Hasting Associates LLC; Heavenly Luncheon; Hugh H. Hickman & Sons, Builders; Honey's Farm Fresh Gourmet Kitchen;

J. Conn Scott, Inc.; Justin's Beach House; The Leslie Kopp Group [Presenting Sponsor];

Lord's Landscaping & Mercantile; Marnie Custom Homes; McCabe & Sons Landscaping; MIKEN Builders [Platinum Sponsor];

Patti's Hallmark Shop; Perfect Furnishings; PNC Bank [Tote Sponsor]; Pohanka of Salisbury [Hang Tag Sponsor]; Provident State Bank; Sarah Rineer Living; Scott & Shuman, P.A. [Tote Sponsor]; Sea Colony [Tote Sponsor]; Sea Level Designs; Sea Light Design Build [Platinum Sponsor]; SEA Studio Architects [Gold Sponsor]; South Coastal Library; South Coastal Village Volunteers; St. Martha's Episcopal Church; Summer Hill Custom Homes;

Tansey-Warner Realty; Taylor Bank [Raffle Sponsor]; Tickled Pink; Topio Landscape Architecture; Town of Bethany Beach [Tote Sponsor]; Town of Fenwick Island; Town of Ocean View and Town of South Bethany.

Our Raffle Donors

The eleven area restaurants that donated gift certificates for the Restaurant Raffle are: DiFebo's; Fins; Good Earth; Mancini's; Melissa's; Off the Hook; Rosenfeld's Jewish Deli; SoDel Concepts; The Café on 26; The Parkway and Touch of Italy.

The amazing artists and photographer who generously donated paintings and a photograph for the Art Raffle are: Tara Funk Grim; Laura Hickman; Claire Howard; Wayne Lyons; Jeanne Mueller; Damon Pla; Amanda Sokolski; and Cheryl Wisbrock.

The Beach & Bay Cottage Tour Committee:

- The 2023 Beach and Bay Cottage Tour Committee who volunteered both their time and expertise to make this Tour possible. It's a Team effort!
- Those who worked with our generous sponsors.
- Those who solicited and visited our advertisers for ads that help underwrite the Tour costs.
- Those who secured the Raffle items.
- Those who handed out Tour bags at the library's community room.
- The volunteers who welcomed Tour attendees in the In-Person Tour homes.
- The parkers who helped Tour attendees.

- Those who completed all the banking and accounting for the Tour.
- Those who answered the phone, fielded questions and wrote thank you notes.
- Those who wrote and proofread the Tour booklet home descriptions and provided publicity for Facebook (Annual Beach and Bay Cottage Tour) and the Tour brochure.
- Rob Waters of WFilms, our videographer.

We also thank:

- Our local newspaper, the Coastal Point for providing us with great publicity for the Tour.
- The Towns of Bethany Beach, South Bethany, Fenwick Island the Lake Bethany neighborhood for providing safe, accessible parking spaces for the Tour attendees.
- The Town of Bethany Beach for promoting the Tour on its calendar, by getting our banners around Town during the month of July and providing parking spaces for an In-Person home.
- The South Coastal Library staff for their patience in answering countless phone calls and questions.

And:

Last, but certainly not least, we wish to thank all of you who supported the 31st Anniversary Annual Beach & Bay Cottage Tour by donating and/or purchasing tickets. We hope that you thoroughly enjoyed your visits to the homes, that you got some ideas and inspirations for your own homes, and that we can count on you to continue to support the South Coastal Library in Bethany Beach.

The Beach & Bay Cottage Tour is truly a community affair to benefit our wonderful library, and we simply cannot undertake the Tour without the help of the whole community. Once again, everyone's hard work has paid off to benefit the programs and facilities at the South Coastal Library.

We always welcome new faces, so if you would like to get involved with the planning of the 32nd Annual Tour, helping out by volunteering during the Tour days, or having your home on the Tour, please contact us at 302-537-5828 or volunteer@beachandbaycot-tagetour.com.

The dates of the 2024 Beach & Bay Cottage Tour are: Virtually from July 14 to August 4 and In-Person Wednesday, July 24 and Thursday, July 25.

See you there!