FROM THE EDITOR



Kate Chadwick
kate@capemaymag.com

ONE OF THE MORE CHALLENGING aspects of working in print publishing is the concept of—well, time travel, I guess. As I write this letter in January, with some patches of snow still on the ground, I'm thinking about the early spring season, which is when this issue will be circulating. (No, February is not spring, but it *is* Spring Training and that's close enough for me.) Similarly, when I'm writing the summer issue version of this letter, it will be in early May for an issue that comes out in July. It's an exercise in mental dexterity, imagination, sentimentality, and, I dare say, hope.

Even as we publish stories about local historical events, architecture, dining, shopping, or people—both those still with us and who have passed—as well as what might lie ahead, it's a way of coloring in the background of what I envision as a big black-and-white drawing of this town. There is a sense of optimism involved in chronicling…well, anything.

I recently had a conversation with a friend about likes and comments on social media; he was lamenting that something he posted had limited engagement and asked if that bugs me when it happens to me. When I said, "I don't post for likes," he challenged me, "If not that, then why?" I said "I just like to document stuff, for my own sake and for posterity. And just for the heck of it." "I guess you're in the right business," was his wise response. And indeed, I am—and am grateful for it.

If you've read Bernie's Publisher's Note in this issue, you'll see that I got on board this train almost 11 years ago. In that time, I've not only (I hope) sharpened and honed the somewhat rough skills I brought with me but have learned more than any class could teach me about this town. It's almost like a relationship with a person, when you love a place. You know you love them pretty early on; you don't figure out exactly why and just how much unless and until you've gotten to know them. And then the longer you know them, the more you love them.

A couple of months ago, I received the new issue of a magazine I subscribe to; it's also named after a (bigger) city, to the north of us just a bit (starts with a "ph"). I looked at the masthead and the table of contents (and then the contents themselves) and realized something pretty cool: we produced more content with a far smaller staff than this other fine publication. Small but mighty, we are.

Bernie and I typically check with each other on what our letter topics will be so we're not both writing about the same thing. But in this case, I decided to follow his lead. In this day and age—and especially in this industry—20 years of anything is a pretty big deal. I'm thrilled to be a part of it, and we appreciate all of you for coming along for the ride.

Whatever role you play, thank you for being a part of *Cape May Magazine.*

