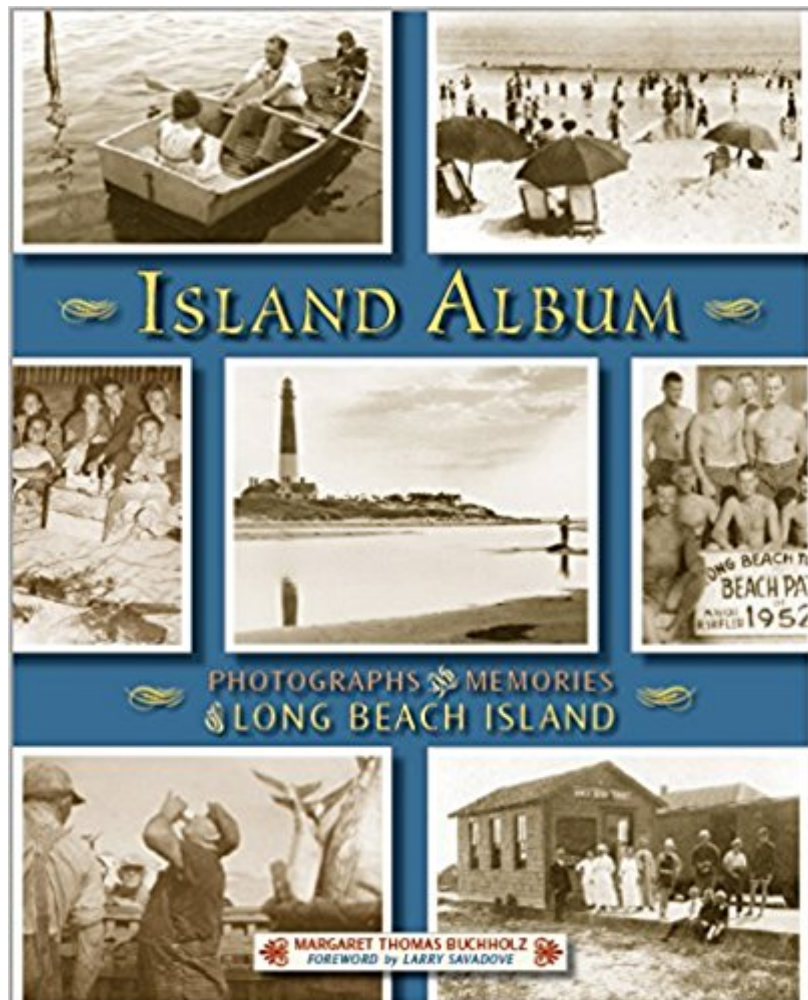




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# Island Album: Photographs & Memories Of Long Beach Island



## Synopsis

Like a great family photo album for Long Beach Island, *Island Album* is a delightful oversize hardcover that will be poured over and shared by the "family" of this New Jersey barrier island resort. Here is Long Beach Island in the days of pound fishing and great hotels, but here, too, are individual fishermen showing off their catches and a gaggle of summer waitresses posing for a group picture in their brief spare time. Children of every decade personify summer as they romp on beaches and mess about in boats. Teenagers are teenagers, recognizable at work and play. Houses evolve from simple shanties into Victorian "cottages" and finally modern structures with walls of glass. But all are home to the families gathered for the camera on porch and dock. The text, drawn from a series of remarkable interviews taped over a ten-year period, combines descriptions of life on the Island with what the Island represents to those who have known it well. This fragile strip of land between bay and ocean captures the imagination today as much as ever, and this loving evocation of its past will delight those who know, and those who have just discovered, this place apart.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 207 pages

Publisher: Down The Shore Publishing (May 15, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1593220219

ISBN-13: 978-1593220211

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 11.2 x 13.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.4 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,753,272 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #30 in [Books > Travel > United States > New Jersey](#) #130 in [Books > Travel > Specialty Travel > Beaches](#) #11729 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Travel](#)

## Customer Reviews

Both an oral and pictorial history of the 18-mile sandbar at the center of the Jersey Shore and an ode to a pioneering way of life long vanished. --The New York Times  
A coffee table book to be savored -- not only by those who love Long Beach Island, but by anyone interested in the history of American seaside resorts. --The Times, Trenton  
Each picture is fascinatingly worth the proverbial thousand words. Monstrous fish; death-defying Scandinavian fishermen; rough tents and

clotheslines pitched on the dunes; grand old hotels; young people in a Ford truck forging across the beach in 1939, passing the remains of a wrecked ship. But as time fades facts, pictures alone couldn't tell the story.... Island natives narrated tales of rum-running, raging storms, and the good life back when. --The SandPaper

Historian and writer Margaret Thomas Buchholz is the author of *New Jersey Shipwrecks: 350 Years in the Graveyard of the Atlantic*, co-author of *Great Storms of the Jersey Shore*, and editor of *Shore Chronicles: Diaries and Travelers' Tales from the Jersey Shore 1764-1955*. Her essays about the New Jersey Shore have been included in anthologies and collections. Buchholz was publisher of the Long Beach Island, New Jersey Shore, newspaper *The Beachcomber* from 1955 to 1987, and is still an editor. She grew up in Harvey Cedars, where her family has been coming since 1833, and currently lives year-round in her childhood home on the Island.

I bought this as a hostess gift for a family that has had a summer home at Surf City, Long Beach Island for generations. They loved it!

## LOVED THE PICTURES

I have read quite a few books about Long Beach Island history, and for sheer fun, this one is my new favorite. If you are at all familiar with the Island, this book will feel like a family album as you search through the hundreds of old black-and-white photographs, which are large, easy to see and captioned, looking for familiar faces and places. The book preserves the day-to-day history of that singular New Jersey barrier island, not only through previously unpublished photos from the collections of Lynn Photo and the late photographer Bill Kane, but also through the amusing and often intimate snippets from taped interviews (by the late Eleanor Smith) of long-time Island residents and old-timers who are also now deceased. The quotes and pictures both are wonderful. I found that I could open this book to any page at random and be thoroughly entertained!

Much more than a fine coffee-table adornment, this well-researched and thoughtfully-edited evocation of the culture of Long Beach Island is a delightful continuation of Margaret Buchholz Thomas's lifelong love-affair with the Jersey Shore. Like going through an old family album with the help of an uncle who knows all the stories and retells them with zest and flavor.

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