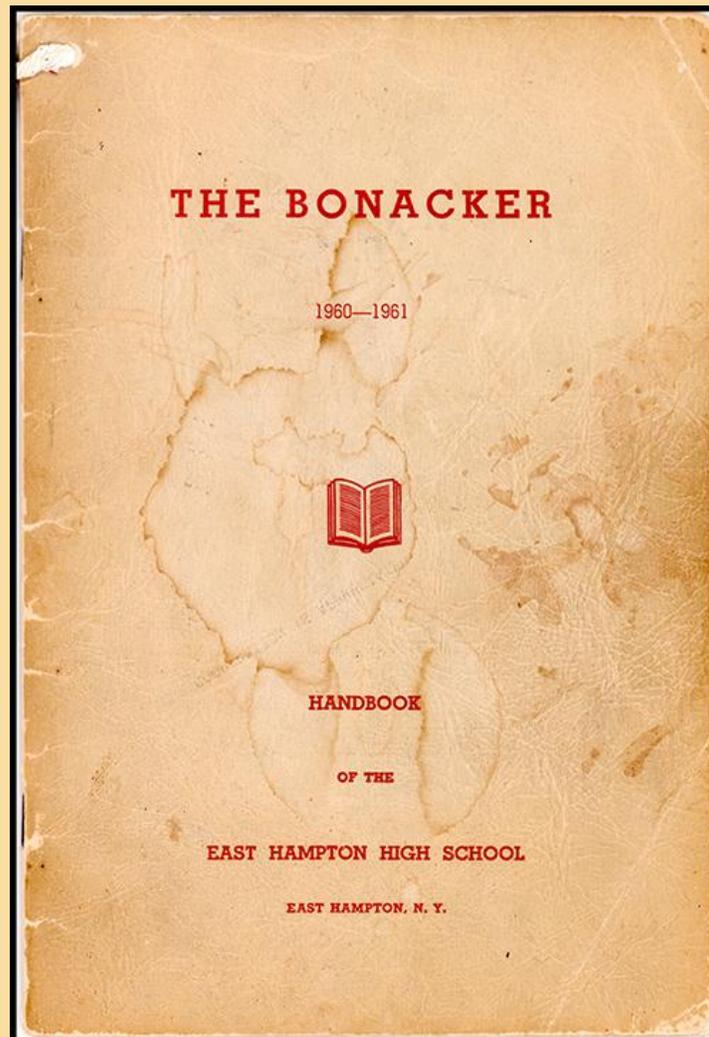




Item of the Week *from the* Long Island Collection

LONG ISLAND COLLECTION | DIGITAL LONG ISLAND | EAST HAMPTON STAR ARCHIVE



The Bonacker, Handbook of East Hampton High School, 1960-1961

While in pursuit of a minimal lifestyle, you may contemplate whether or not something "sparks joy" at the suggestion of Japanese organization guru, [Marie Kondo](#). However, as you rummage through your basement, attic, or spare bedroom, please always consider donating or lending items to the [Long Island Collection](#). Even if something appears to be of little consequence, you never know what kind of value it may hold for your local community.

Such is the case with the student handbook above, *The Bonacker*, which was published for the 1960-1961 school year at East Hampton High School. On the

surface, a student handbook isn't very exciting. It normally contains contact information, school policies, and time schedules. It's not sentimental like a yearbook, but can reveal information we might not have appreciated before.

For example, do you remember the school song? Perhaps you sang it at football games, graduation, or other special gatherings. Displayed towards the front of the book, the song begins, "East Hampton High is marching; Follow the lead; Firm friends and classmates; We will ever be..."

A listing of the school's teachers is also provided, which reveal much about their expertise and schooling, as well as their personal hobbies and interests (which would be unheard of today). For instance, a blurb for one English teacher stated that she previously attended three universities, managed a motel in Montauk with her husband, and enjoyed reading, cooking, and golf in her spare time.

Class descriptions are also given with multiple offerings. A student could take an English class at a "non-college" or "college entrance" level; even "Secretarial English," which was college entrance level, but with more of a focus on spelling, grammar, and letter writing. Citizenship Education was taught instead of Social Studies, French was the only foreign language course offered, and Homemaking was made available at eleven different levels, which included marriage preparation, child care, home nursing, and community health.

In looking at last year's [East Hampton High School Student/Parent Handbook](#) available online, it's very interesting to compare and contrast the two. It shows how the community has changed over time and what is deemed necessary and important in the educational needs of our children.

EXPLORE MORE

[The Digital Long Island Collection](#) is part of New York Heritage Digital Collections. Included are searchable scans of deeds, drawings, etchings, inventories, letters, maps, paintings, pardons, patents, photographs, plans, postcards, prints, sculptures, sketches, textiles, tiles, yearbooks and more to come.

[The East Hampton Star Archive](#) is a fully searchable, online digital archive of our local weekly newspaper, that features each complete issue of the paper from 1918-1968, exactly as it appeared in print. Visit the archive online, for a tour of our Town's history that will fascinate both the amateur and professional historian!

[The Karl Grossman Research Archive](#) is an extensive collection of materials digitized from the personal archive of Karl Grossman, an investigative reporter, columnist, author, and current professor of journalism at SUNY Old Westbury. The archive brings together a decades long career in reporting and journalism with topics ranging from the economy and pollution to fishing and East Hampton Town. Patrons are capable of searching this 9,500+ item collection by collection name, year, title, or keyword search.

[The Local Artist Research Archive](#) is a collection of over 19,000 items digitized from Guild Hall, containing materials including personal letters, photographs, news clippings, and art catalogs concerning artists of the East End. Patrons are capable of searching this archive by collection, title, or keyword search.



We are an archive dedicated to the history and people of Long Island, with a special interest in all things East Hampton and East End. Unlike some small local history rooms in other public libraries, we have over 100,000 items including, but not limited to, rare books, maps, photographs, deeds, postcards, letters, newspapers, and whaling logs. We also have a dedicated and hardworking staff ready to help you with any questions you may have. Unable to make it to the library? No problem! We upload images from the collection to [Digital Long Island](#) on a weekly basis, so there's always something new and interesting to behold.

Please visit us at the Library, make use of our extensive online digital resources, or contact us for assistance. Public hours are: Mon. - Tues. and Thurs. - Sat., 1:00-4:30 p.m.

Researched and written by Gina Piastuck, Department Head, Long Island Collection.

Gina Piastuck joined the East Hampton Library in 2007 as a librarian and archivist and has served as the Head of the Long Island Collection since 2009. She's a graduate of LIU Post's Palmer School of Library and Information Science and holds both an M.L.I.S. degree and a Certificate in Archives and Records Management. Her responsibilities managing the Long Island Collection include providing reference and research assistance to patrons on and off site, as well as the acquisition, arrangement, description and conservation of rare and new materials pertaining to the history and people of Long Island.

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