Max Pollikoff and his wife Florence began coming to Amagansett when the area south of Main Street was still much more remote. "Listen to this," Frank Eck — he owned the Elm Tree Inn — would tell them, "a place of our own. It's just like the old days in Europe." So, Pollikoff came to know the area. It was a large room where I guessed the hotel once stood. "He used to come in and wave at me outside his window — that's stupid — but one day he looked interested in my fiddle. He had one himself."

"You've got to get more,' he'd say, 'Yes, you're right, we've got to find another place.'" So, they ended up at the Elm Tree Inn and when there was finally something happening in the area, they moved their business there. "As soon as I knew it was getting busy," he said, "I knew it was time to move."

"I was going to slip off. The dirt kept playing a violin!" he said. "I heard a fiddler. I looked out and there Frank Eck like Don Quixote himself sitting on his nag and there's a fiddle."

"I sat out back in my bathing suit playing a violin!" he said. "And there Frank Eck — he owned the Elm Tree Inn — he starts playing the violin when he was four years old. He won a scholarship to the 'Blue School of Music in Paris. He study composition at the Fontainbleau School of Music in Paris, and then he played for the first time here he visited Europe."

Pollikoff has been primarily interested in discovering talented American composers and giving them a chance to be exposed to critical attention in New York through his exhibitions in "Music In Our Time." He has put on the program for the benefit of a high school kid. Everyone there — plumbers, electricians, the entire Amagansett generation. "The composers represented were all United States composers. When I say United States, I mean Canada, Mexico and Central America, too.""

"Music In Our Time" started in Amagansett about 13 years ago, he said. "The point. Troy Melnick, bought the old Hall on Main Street, and I came over to his house one day and looked it over. It was a lovely place."

"Let me explain," interrupted Mr. Pollikoff. "I saw a picture of a fiddle in a play I've done. When he was a kid, he played a strident tet by Charles Forrester. He wrote it. He and his wife, they were three, played it."

"I'm a fiddler," said the violinist. "I'm interested in my fiddle. I know the fiddle's history. When I was a kid, I was interested in the fiddle."

"I got Norman Dello Joio and we played it and I went almost berserk. Our American composer, I might be looking for what I want. I don't want to play Beethoven or anybody anymore. "I'm a fiddler," said Mr. Pollikoff. "I'm a fiddler.""