

# The Port Norris Historical Society

## General Meeting

March 12, 2019

**Attending:** A. Baum, E. Bernhardt, V. Campbell, R. Cobb, F. Hickman, J. Hickman, L. Hoffman, M.L. Lacotte, J. Lacotte, J. Massey, S. Ricci., P. Smith, R. Smith, R. A. Smith.

Meeting called to order by President, Rachel Cobb.

**Womens' Month Recognition:** Joyce M.- Port Norris was a great place to grow up; Rachel - her grandmother demonstrated strength and character while raised a family of six; Alvina – her sister Mary Ella had inner strength; Mary Linda L. – Phil Galiyano, her aunt, hard-working,

**Review of Meeting Minutes:** It was explained that although monetary amounts (in the treasurer's report) included in the minutes are removed when published on the society's website as to keep amounts undisclosed to the public. To clarify Steve Shavelin's association with the PNHS, the word *plumber* will be added after his name. A motion was made by Dick S., seconded by Eileen and approved by a unanimous vote to approve the minutes as amended.

**Treasurer's Report:** Faye reviewed the receipts and disbursements for the month of February. In addition, an itemized report of the Soup Sale for 2019 was presented with a total profit of \$5, 315.00. Faye explained a payment of \$35.00 was made to the girl who worked in the kitchen, since she had not received a share of the total tip monies which were divided among the young people who volunteered. Regarding the South Jersey Gas bill, it was stated that our organization is considered a business and billed likewise. A

motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Ginny C., with a second by Liz H. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

**Donations:** Faye reported Donna Bailey made a monetary donation in memory of Craig Bailey. We also received a \$50.00 donation from Carol Gromer for one light. Rachel displayed the decoys which Dave Smith, Dick's brother, carved and donated to the PNHS. It was decided to save the decoys for the silent auction at the Legends Awards luncheon. We received a book titled A List of Cumberland County Young Men called for Military Service (1917).

**Correspondence:** We received a note from Dom Capaldi thanking us for the PNHS items sent to him by Ginny C.

Ryan Boyer, whose 6<sup>th</sup> great grandparents (William and Anna Dallas 1784) contacted Rachel. He is interested in gathering information about his family, who lived in Louise Mints home.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Soup Dinner Review: Dick** – This year's dinner sales realized the most profit ever. Members provided feedback for next year's dinner including: (1) A sign listing the soups; (2) a third person needed to handle the 50/50; (3) salad area should be set up after the soup servers; (4) not as many soup selections, but more of the most popular soups; (5) cannot increase the number of ticket sales, maxed out on sales. A special meeting will be held at a later date to discuss suggestions, etc.

**Sponsor Certificates:** Dick proposed presenting certificates of appreciation to the sponsors of our soup dinner. He would like to purchase inexpensive frames for the certificates. The cost will be

approximately \$5.00 - \$8.00 for each framed certificate. A motion made by Joyce M. and seconded by Sam R, to purchase the frames and have the certificates printed was unanimously approved. Dick will deliver the certificates.

**Collections:** Pat S. stated that Mike V. is near completion of his construction work on the building and then the committee can begin working on the collections. We need to revise/update our collections form to allow space for a written description of the donated item. Mary Linda L. recently spoke with Pat Carney Cavender and asked if we had received an oak folding table, which her family wished to donate to the PNHS. The Carney family had owned the table since the Port Norris Hotel caught fire and burned. Dick confirmed Mike Carney did donate the table.

**Membership:** Ginny C. stated we have 64 current members for 2019. Membership dues for the new year will continue to be collected.

**Welcome Committee:** Pat and Faye have not visited any new families/residents.

**Chamber of Commerce Meeting:** Sam R. reported the Chamber had no official meeting during the month of February as there were not enough members present to constitute a quorum.

**Cookbook/Newsletter/Note Cards:** Rachel C. stated concerns expressed by Joan Robbins regarding the absence of recipes submitted in honor of her husband and Legend, Dave Robbins. To reprint the cookbooks would be too costly, with a loss of profits. A viable solution was proposed to purchase index cards with Dave R.'s picture and his crab imperial recipe printed on one side. On the reverse side would be pertinent contact information for the Port Norris Historical Society. A card would be included with the

purchase of each cookbook. In the future, if there is a need to place a reprint order of cookbooks, corrections will be included for Dave R. recipes. A motion was made by Joe L. and seconded by Liz H. to purchase 250 two-sided printed cards at a cost of \$55.00; members approved by a unanimous vote. Rachel will e-mail a mock-up of the recipe card to Joan R. prior to placing order.

### **General Business:**

**South Jersey History Fair** – Rachel reported the Gloucester County Historical Society's plans for their event on June 8<sup>th</sup>. Mauricetown Historical Society will share a booth with Civil War group. It was suggested we consider sharing a booth with Bay Shore or another organization. The cost of a booth is \$50.00, but if we share, the cost would be \$25.00. We would need 2 tables and a few chairs. Rachel is going to follow through with the historical society to get additional information.

**Legends Dinner** – Mary Linda L. reported the committee met with Sarah Banker at the NJ Motorsports Park on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Petite strip steak, Roasted salmon and Chicken cutlet were selected as the main entrees, which includes vegetables and a garden salad with dressing on the side. It was decided to have cheesecake served to guests rather than a dessert buffet. We will be using their centerpieces with fall colored linens on the tables. Layout of additional tables for Chinese auction and sale items were reviewed. The PA system and microphone issues were discussed; if we use their system, we cannot move the podium closer to the middle of the room. Mary Linda will check with Elmer Library regarding borrowing their microphone and amplifier; rental equipment was also suggested. A final count is requested two weeks in advance, with final payment the day of the event. Faye H. was asked to mail a tax-exempt form to Sarah. To simplify seating arrangements, a

recommendation was made to include the name of the family legend on the RSVP.

**Veterans' Memorial Park: Dick** - A black brass plaque (4"x2") with gold letters for the PNHS bench was ordered, costing approximately \$30.00. Dedication ceremonies are scheduled for Saturday May 18<sup>th</sup>, rain or shine, with parking on the street. The township is awaiting delivery of the second order of inscribed brick pavers; a third order of 25 bricks has been placed. Members were asked to continue to collect plastic bags for the Port Norris Fire Company Ladies Auxillary to obtain another bench.

**Building** – Dick stated he will get an estimate from Mike V. to remove a side door and to sheetrock over the opening. This door had previously been boarded up and covered on the outside of the building.

**Bathroom:** Steve S. will begin installing bathroom fixtures, volunteering his time. Sheldon Plumbing, Steve's boss, has donated all fittings, piping and connections needed. A motion was made by Eileen B. and seconded by Joe L. to give Steve S. a monetary gift in the amount of \$100.00 in appreciation of his time. Faye H. will issue a check when work has been completed.

### **Other Comments and Concerns:**

**Mauricetown Historical Society** – Dick S. will be the featured speaker at the monthly meeting, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm. Having lived in Port Norris his entire life, Dick has a wealth of knowledge to share about life in this community. Many people who reside in Mauricetown have moved to the village and are not familiar with Port Norris as locals remember it.

**September Meeting** – Due to employment commitments, Rachel will no be able to attend the September meeting. In addition, Mary Linda L. has a conflict and will be absent. A reminder there is no meeting in July.

**New Residents** – Alvin Shourds and his fiancé have purchased the former Haleyville school building and are very interested in the history of the area. He is from North Jersey and his fiancé, who is from PA, is working at the Bayshore Project. A woodworking shop is part of his plan for the school building, which was also the Comcast building for a number of years.

**Stained glass ship** – Rachel had a conversation with Debbie Hollinger with regards to a ship in stained glass. Debbie told Rachel to get the measurements for the piece.

Meeting was adjourned by Rachel C.

Mary Linda Lacotte, Assistant Secretary