



# Port Norris

# Be a Part of History Today

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY

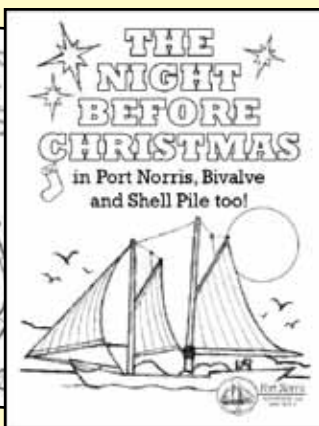
The Port Norris Historical Society is dedicated to preserving the history of our unique village, located in Commercial Township in Cumberland County, NJ.



### Current Happenings:

**PNHS Next meeting: December 8, 2015 • 7 pm @ 1723 Main Street**

**Come See us at Second Friday by the Bay @ the Bayshore Center at Bivalve on December 11, 2015 • 5:30 - 8:30 pm • Holiday Marketplace [BayshoreCenter.org](http://BayshoreCenter.org)**



**We have a new fund raiser item.**

**The Night Before Christmas  
In Port Norris, Bivalve  
and Shell Pile Too!**

**A coloring book, for all ages.**

This is a rewrite based on stories of locals from many age groups.

A must read for a little holiday cheer.

Available at 2nd Friday by the Bay Dec 11th.

### Legends 2015 Honored Review

Family and friends of the 2015 Legends of Port Norris gathered on Sunday, November 8th to honor men and women who significantly impacted the history of this town in a variety of ways. The recipients this year were: Legends in History: Thomas Hand.

20th Century legends, whose legacies are still warmly remembered, were: Charles O. Moore, Sr., Margaret Louise Mints Ogden, Sal DiGrazio, and Lillian Rodgers.

Living legends, accompanied by their proud families, were: John Hickman, Larry Milbourne, and Hannah Nichols.

Their stories are being added to the website and we hope you will visit [historicportnorris.org/legends-15.htm](http://historicportnorris.org/legends-15.htm) for their life stories as well as our past legends.

The Port Norris Historical Society is pleased to host this memorable event annually. If you have someone you would like to nominate for next year you can submit a form, visit [historicportnorris.org/legends.htm](http://historicportnorris.org/legends.htm).



Above right: The Legends Dinner.

Below right: A special evening for Hannah Nichols, current County Clerck. From left to right, Fletcher Jamison, Deputy Mayor; Judson Moore, Jr., Mayor, Hannah Nichols, past Township Committeemen; Barney Hollinger, Dick Smith and John Hickman, 2015 Living Legend.

*More photos on the website.*

## Moment in History

### A Port Norris Photo Treasure Found in California

If you missed the October newsletter you can read all about how the PNHS received many wonderful photographs on the website. This is Part 2 in a series. If you have any information to share, please email us. [historicportnorris.org/newsletter.htm](http://historicportnorris.org/newsletter.htm)



Wilson Lee Shropshire

## Part Two

### Wilson Lee Shropshire

Born on June 19, 1870

Died on December 23, 1911

Whitefield Shropshire (1817-1875)

Caroline Elizabeth Shinn (1826 -1883)

Their Children

<b>Abigail A Shropshire</b> (1847- )	Unknown Shropshire (1856- )
Phebe E Shropshire (1848- )	Arabella "Aurilla" Shropshire (1859- )
Edward Shropshire (1849- )	George S. Shropshire (1863- )
Asa Robbins Shropshire (1853- )	Amanda Shropshire (1865- )
Sarah I Shropshire (1854- )	<b>Wilson Lee Shropshire (1870- 1911)</b>

Married in 1892, Maud Reeves, she was born in 1874, in Mauricetown, NJ.

## Port Norris Pickings

**December 19, 1890**

Wilson L. Shropshire spent yesterday at Mauricetown.

**December 24, 1890**

J. R. Pritchard and W. L. Shropshire were in Mauricetown yesterday.



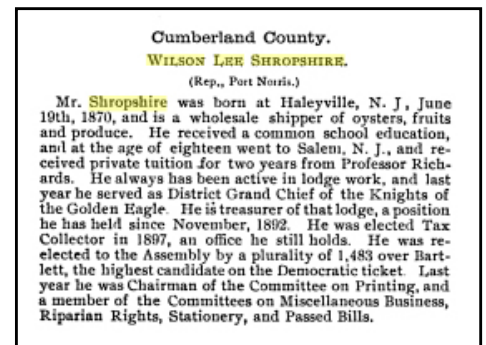
## From the Manual of the Legislature of New Jersey 1899

Source: Google Books

### Cumberland County

#### Wilson Lee Shropshire (Rep., Port Norris.)

Mr. Shropshire was born at Haleyville, N.J. June 19th 1870, and is a wholesale shipper of oysters, fruits and produce. He received a common school education, and at the age of eighteen went to Salem, N.J., and received private tuition for two years from Professor Richards. He always has been active in lodge work, and last year he served as District Grand Chief of the Knights of the Golden Eagle. He is treasurer of that lodge, a position he has held since November, 1892. He was elected Tax Collector in 1897, an office he still holds. He was reelected to the Assembly of a plurality of 1,483 over Bartlett, the highest candidate on the Democratic ticket. Last year he was Chairman of the Committee on Printing, and a member of the Committees on Miscellaneous Business, Riparian Rights, Stationery, and Passed Bills.



## Historical Sketch of Port Norris By Harry C. Barraclough

... On Tuesday nights Cumberland Castle, No.65, Knights of the Golden Eagle met in Knights of Pythias Hall. The Knights of the Golden Eagle were organized November 5, 1892 with the following charter members: Gibson C. Andrews, Edwin L. Newcomb, **Belford Harris** [See October newsletter], Roscoe Shull, Frank G. Deamer, B. L. Bates, **Wilson L. Shropshire**, Jesse R. Pritchard, Benjamin F. Butler, Richard Lacey, Everett Hollinger, Oscar Buzby, Sylvanus A. Ladow, David Ott, Eli Hollinger, Charles Harris, and Charles Pettit. The charter was granted at the Grand Castle session held at Trenton on September 5th, 1893, signed by Joseph Arnold, Grand Chief, and E. D. Senseman, Grand Master of Records. ... [historicportnorris.org/historicalskech.htm](http://historicportnorris.org/historicalskech.htm)

## Pickings of the Month **November 21, 1888**

Jack O'Brien has a novel idea of laying out oysters which is done by giving them two tides and one after they are placed in the scow. This third tide, he says, has a tendency to make the oyster retain the flesh it gains on the first two tides.

**November 4, 1890** Yesterday was a big day in the oyster business, the biggest ever known in Port Norris. 41 cars left here. The freight amounted to \$1170. The next largest was \$1120, a day last year.

See More Pickings at [historicportnorris.org/pickings.htm](http://historicportnorris.org/pickings.htm)

**On Saturday, November 21**, Storytelling Session: Rum Running and the Bayshore Empire at Bayshore Center at Bivalve, was a great success. So many interesting and charming stories. Basic historic facts of the time were present as well by Flavia Alaya. More photos and stories to be shared soon. Below left the police posing with the contraband and on the right is a section of the Saturday audience.



Photo: Courtesy of the Swank Family



**Membership and Renewal for 2016** We would love to add your name to our growing list of members. Please give some thought to joining the PNHS. Membership fees are for Individual - \$10, Family - \$15, Benefactor - \$50 and over, and Student - \$1 (no voting privileges) and entitles you to discounts on our merchandise.

**Would make a great stocking stuffer!**

Click here to renew or join, [historicportnorris.org/membership.htm](http://historicportnorris.org/membership.htm).

Or mail your check to: Port Norris Historical Society, PO Box 187, Port Norris, NJ 08349.

Thank you for your support. Membership is key to applying for grants as well as your dollars help us continue with all of our endeavours.

**See us on Facebook and our website [historicportnorris.org](http://historicportnorris.org)**

If you are getting this email from a friend and would like to be added to our list, please [click here](#) and we will add you. If we received your email at one of our events and you do not wish to receive this newsletter, click here [web@historicportnorris.org](mailto:web@historicportnorris.org), we will remove you from the list. We do not sell or share your email with anyone!



## NORRIS ASKS

**Do you know how many Lodges were in Port Norris during it's hay day?**

Answer: This list is what we know. If you know of others in Port Norris let us know.

1. Knights of the Pythias No. 76
2. The Jacob Shinn Post #6, Grand Army of the Republic
3. Improved Order of Red Men
4. Knights of the Golden Eagle
5. Ku Klux Klan
6. Mystic Castle No. 7
7. Pride of Port Norris Council, No 115 - Daughters of America
8. Junior Order United American Mechanics

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