



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: January 10, 2017 • 7:00 pm • 1723 Main Street

**It's time for membership renewal. Click here to pay online.
See page 3 for membership details.**

Thank you for your continued support.

‘Three Wise Men’ At Methodist December 21, 1947

Port Norris – A crowd of more than 300 people filled the Methodist Church to overflowing last Sunday evening when the pageant, “The Three Wise Men” was presented by members of the church and the Young Peoples Choir.

It was one of the finest pageants ever presented in the church with the speaking and singing parts perfectly timed and the message one which left a deep impression on all who saw and heard it.

Wm. Riggins, Jr., Harvey Metzger and Jack Carney were the modern wise men who meet on Christmas Eve five years after jointly accepting the Christ as their Savior at a young peoples meeting. The pageant intertwines very vividly and very profoundly the spiritual and material experiences each of the three men have as they seek to carry out in everyday life the pledge they have made to the Master.

Wm. Riffin, Sr., Samuel Friant and Harry Newcomb, Jr. portray Biblical Wise Men of old in a very impressive manner. Other characters, all of who took their parts with ease and grace, were: Truth, Mrs. William Riffin, Jr.: Newsboy, John Lee; Foreign children, Patsy Barraclough, Harry Barraclough and Charles Friswell; Girl from poorer section, Eileen Warren: Self, Mrs. Olin Hickman, Jr; Messenger, Patsy McConnell; Mary, Mrs. Harvey Metzger; Angel, Miss Doris Sheppard; Attendants, Kathryn Randolph, Eleanor Randolph and Lois Ann Chance; Torch Bearers, Beryl Schubert, Betsy Ann Daniels, Eileen



Wasburn, Sally Ellen High, Mary Jane Sockwell, Betty Conahey, Lois Ann Chance and Janis Randolph.

Mrs. Retha Berry directed the pageant with Mrs. Harry Newcomb, Jr., assisting. Mrs. Hester Fagan was in charge of the singing with MacFerren Fowler assisting.

Mrs. William Lee was the organist and Mrs. Lee also gave an organ recital of Christmas music as the congregation was assembling.

The lighting effects were in charge of William Lee and Miss Lucky Blackman handled the decorations. Mrs. Harold McDaniels and Mrs. A.B. Campbell, Jr., were the committee on costumes.

Editor's Note: Thank you to John Lee for sharing this newspaper article from his mother's keepsakes.

How much to you know about Port Norris from Back in the Day?

Take the quiz created by a PNHS member

1. What was the name of the Chevy garage in Port Norris?
2. List 3 Port Norris doctors. *(There are more than 3)*
3. What was the former name of Port Norris?
4. List 2 trucking companies in Port Norris.
5. Where was the Port Norris Little League field located?
6. What oyster company was known as "The Big House"?
7. Name 3 churches in Port Norris. *(There are more than 3)*
8. List 6 street names in Port Norris. *(There are more than 6)*
9. What was the name of one department store in Port Norris?
10. Name 4 gas stations that were in Port Norris.



What was my name?

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Clameye _____ | Meatball _____ |
| Froggie _____ | Driveshaft _____ |
| Jellybean _____ | Q-ball _____ |
| Dink _____ | Lightning _____ |
| Diamond Jim _____ | Dogman _____ |

Answers:

1. Commercial Garage
2. Dr. Harker, Dr. Stetson, Dr. Bradford, Dr. Day, Dr. Sharp, Dr. Ayars, Dr. Robbins
3. Dallas Ferry
4. Port Norris Express, Dagastine's Transfer, Berry Trucking, Baglio Trucking
5. Infield of race track Yock Wock Rd.
6. Port Norris Oyster Co.
7. St. Anthony's Church, United Methodist Church, Episcopal Methodist Church, Port Norris Baptist Church, West Side Baptist Church, John Wesley Methodist Church, Shiloh Baptist Church, Bivalve Mission, Faith Tabernacle, Community Church of God, Supreme Council of the House of Jacob, The Great and Glorious Morning Star Church
8. Just a few there are many; Main St., Church St., Brown St., Bacon St., Pearl St., Market St., Cobb St., High St., Byron St., Cherry St. ...
9. Kelberg's, Goldfarb, Schwartz, Godown
10. Laws and Henderson, Laws and Taylor, Dagastine's, Sal and Joes, Albert Robbins, Amos Dillahey, Mark Stites, Walt Rudolph, Ed Morris, Bud Morris, Corson and Mills, Dan Bateman, Elmer Anderson, Lee Bass, Tony Riviera

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| What was my name? | Dink – Fred Hickman | Q-ball – Nathaniel Offer |
| Clameye – Jim Nichols | Diamond Jim – Jim Hooper | Lightning – Jack Randado |
| Froggie – John Dagatine | Meatball – Leonard Mazzola | Dogman – George Robbins |
| Jellybean – Ed Adams | Driveshaft – Harold Hickman | |

Membership and Renew for 2017

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. Click here to renew or join, 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

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, we will remove you from the list. We do not sell or share your email with anyone!

Our open house and regular meeting on December 13, could not have been more festive. Members decorated the room and windows for all to enjoy! Thank you everyone.

Holiday treats were over flowing, and it was hard to choose which cookie or cookies to try. We also had a visit from Santa who gave out oranges and candy canes. Was a lovely way to start the holidays and end 2016.

2017 will bring challenges to PNHS. We need to continue our building renovations. Getting our building in working order, will enable us to do even more with programs and community involvement.

We hope you will join us for another great year!



Picking of the Month

December 12, 1890 Our liveryman, Warrington L. Hand, has just received a very pretty new hack with the name "Maurice River Coach Line" which he will run to any part of the town to transport passengers. We will venture to say it is one of the prettiest in South Jersey.

December 24, 1890

The reserved seats for DeEsta's entertainment Jan. 3d are for sale at the butcher shop. You should purchase your seat at once as they will soon be gone. Every body goes to hear DeEsta.



NORRIS ASKS

Do you know who Santa is in the photo above?

Happy New Year!

Let us know how you made out on the quiz on page 2 or if you have other questions, drop us a email. Click here to email us.



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Richard Smith, Vice-President
Alvina Baum, Secretary

Robin Berry, Assoc. Secretary
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