



Port Norris

The Past for the Future

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.

PNHS Next meeting: Spetember 10, 2019 7:00 pm • 1723 Main Street

[Visit our website for more details.](#)



LOOK AT HOW FAR WE HAVE COME.

We are so proud and pleased to give you an update on our Meeting Hall, at 1723 Main Street, Port Norris. With the exterior completed, we have spent the last couple of years working on the interior. It has at times been slow going, for many reasons, but we know, it will all be worth the wait.

The electrical work is very nearly complete. The entire building, top to bottom, has been rewired for today's standards and needs. The ceiling, which was removed to provide access for wiring, revealed that we have a structurally sound building. As part of our lighting campaign, new ceiling lights were purchased and

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PNHS Meeting Hall

2019 Legends Awards

In 2008, the Port Norris Historical Society began the annual tradition of honoring people who have made a significant impact on our community. Those who are chosen as "legends" are honored at an awards ceremony.

A family member or close friend is invited to present a brief life history or memoir. The honoree is presented with a commemorative plaque and all is recorded for everyone to enjoy.

The awards ceremony is our primary fundraiser and makes it possible to continue our efforts of preserving the history of our town and keeping it current for today.

We appreciate all who attend and hope you will join us. (See next page for invitation details).

We are also accepting donations for our Silent and Chinese auctions. If you would like to donate, please send an email to pnhs@historicportnorris.org.

THIS YEAR WE WILL HONOR:

19th Century

Gibson Andrews

20th Century

Joseph Marshall Lore, Sr. (Bud)

Luther R. Jeffries, Sr.

Living Legends

George W. Garrison

Irene Green

Annual Fundraiser Legends of Port Norris Awards Celebration

Join Us

Saturday, November 2, 2019

TIME: Noon – 4 pm

WHERE: **Motorsports Park**
8000 Dividing Creek Rd, Millville, NJ 08332

PRICE: **\$35.00 per person**

Please **RSVP by OCTOBER 15** (Firm Date)

Send dinner choice with payment to:
PNHS, PO Box 187, Port Norris, NJ 08349

For questions: pnhs@historicportnorris.org



**Chinese and Silent Auctions will take place during the dinner.
PNHS books and other items for sale. NO ALCOHOL SERVED**

Port Norris Historical Society Legends of Port Norris Awards

2019 Legends to be Honored

19th Century

Gibson Andrews

20th Century

Joseph Marshall Lore, Sr. (Bud)

Luther R. Jeffries, Sr.

Living Legends

George W. Garrison

Irene Green



Courtesy the Lore Family

Legends of Port Norris Awards RSVP

PRICE: **\$35.00 per person**

Please **RSVP by October 15TH** (Firm Date)

Send dinner choice with payment to:
Check payable to Port Norris Historical Society
PNHS, PO Box 187, Port Norris, NJ 08349

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ NUMBER ATTENDING _____

EMAIL _____

Please choose one dinner per person.

(Use numerals if more than one person is choosing the same dinner.)

___ Petite Strip Steak

___ Roasted Salmon

___ Chicken Cutlet

For full menu details and additional
information visit

historicportnorris.org/legends-awards.htm

installed with attached lights that are of a nautical design. Many thanks to all who contributed to this. They are wonderful!

The walls have been patched, sanded and papered. Yes, papered! Not your grandmother's old style, but a very nice texture, neutral in color, to cover all the lumps and bumps of the old horsehair plaster walls. The white paint on the trim gives the room a crisp appearance. Please stop in and see it.

Our collection of historic treasures will compliment all of the hard work. We are continuing the preparation of our main showroom for its debut, with plans for an Open House sometime in 2020. There certainly is more to do, but the big pieces are almost in place.

It is very exciting to reach this point in our journey with our 1890 GAR Meeting Hall, now the Port Norris Historical Society Meeting Hall. We could not have made it this far without much team work and your support. Thank you.

Your continued support is always welcomed. [Donate](#)



Main Room Ceiling Fans



Main Room



Each year the PNHS honors a student who has shown outstanding efforts in history. This year we honored Shawn Ronan. We are proud of his interest in the town and its people.

We also want to give a shout out to a couple of students who are part of our PNHS family. Congratulations to Lily DeFabrites and Vincent Hitchner. Both worked hard and achieved straight A's all year. Job well done by the Class of 2019!

In the photo is Shawn Ronan with PNHS Trustee, Elizabeth Hoffman who present the award, on June 19, 2019.

Fond Memories

My Father Dr. Charles Sharp

By Josephine Blasvaar (nee) Sharp

First of all, I want to say that father was among the most honest and most modest people I ever knew. But I thought people might be interested more in one of his daily schedules which most people could not endure.

From 8 to 9 am he had office hours then house calls in Port Norris, Dividing Creek and Newport. Then office hours from 1 to 2 pm, then house calls to Port Elizabeth, Dorchester and Leesburg. Next office hours from 7 – 9 pm.

In between all this he had to see what was going on at his sand plant, shucking houses, oyster businesses and during the war, the Leesburg ship yard which was building ships for the Navy. And never a day passed that he didn't stop by his childhood home to make sure his parents were okay.

He did take off as much of Wednesdays as possible, but his Sunday afternoons were what he looked forward to and enjoy the most. He owned a tract woodland across the river called Little Mill. He had a small two-room building moved to spot. It was between a lake and an open field. He was able to relax there with no telephone and with the sound of the water rushing over the spillway and watching the deer grazing in the field.

If you have a memory to share, short or long, drop us an email. We would love to include your story.
pnhs@historicportnorris.org

We have a new photograph that is very exciting. Often, many photos that are passed around are the same, just different copies. When this particular one arrived, I was very surprised as I did not recognize it at all. The photo was shown at our regular meeting and some of the members remembered it as Elmer Anderson's store. A house was attached at one time. Now there is a vending business in that location. We would like to thank Kathy Jensen from Cortland, NY. She has no connection to Port Norris, but happened to find it in some boxes she was clearing out, perhaps from an auction. It was helpful that the words "Port Norris" were lightly written on the back. Such a treasure to have a new photograph and add another piece of the puzzle from a long time ago.



Port Norris Pickings

July 26, 1889

A large crowd of disappointed people were in Port Norris yesterday afternoon. The cause was the second failure (on account of rain) of the G.A. R. Post to show us a sham battle.

July 29, 1889

The G.A. R. Post proved Saturday afternoon that they did intend to have a sham battle for about two o'clock, while it was raining, they marched from the hall over to the grove and made ready to fight. About five o'clock they marched to the base ball ground and did their best to show people how a battle was conducted; a mail delivery and dress parade were also shown. About dark a ballon was sent up and everything was a success in spite of three days' rain.

August 2, 1890 Work on the new turn table for the Central Railroad Company is being pushed rapidly forward. The foundation is nearly completed, and in a day or so the track will be laid.



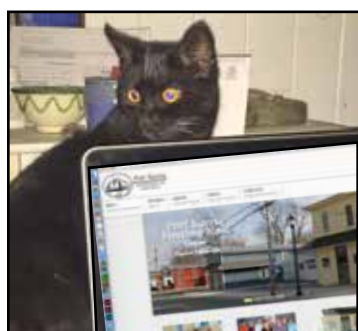
Scarecrow Clothes Needed



Again this year, we will partner with the Lousie E. Moore Senior Center and create a series of Scarecrows to be placed around town. The exact date to be announced, but the last week of October is planned.

Check [facebook](#) for the date, or our [website](#).

If you have old clothes to donate you can drop them off at the Senior Center or [email us](#) to arrange pick up.



NORRIS ASKS

Who built the PNHS Meeting Hall in 1890?

In 1889, the G.A.R. bought a piece of ground on Main St, Port Norris from Charles Lake. By 1890 the G.A.R. had erected a building, constructed mostly by civil war veterans.

historicportnorris.org/building-history.htm



Please Note: Meeting dates and times are posted on the website each month along with the approved minutes from the last meeting. Everyone is always welcome. [Click here to view.](#)

Membership and Renew for 2019

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.

Membership fees are tax deductible.

**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 if 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!

Officers

Rachel Cobb, President
Richard Smith, Vice-President
Alvina Baum, Secretary
Mary Linda Locotte, Assist. Secretary
Faye Hickman, Treasurer

Trustees

Eileen Bernhardt
Ginny Campbell
Gloria Guidera
John Hickman
Elizabeth Hoffman
Joyce Massey
Sam Ricci
Rev. E. Barnes, Lifetime Honorary Trustee

For a complete list of committees see our website. [View Here](#)