

# Point Pleasant Historical Society History Term Paper



Box 1273 Point Pleasant Beach, NJ 08742 Editor; Sal Marino

NOVEMBER 2019

THANK

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VETERAN



*Our Meeting on November 11th, Veterans Day, will begin at 7:30PM*

*Our Guest Speaker* for this meeting is **Timothy G. Hart**, Ocean County Historian, Director Ocean County Cultural & Heritage Commission. He will speak on the historic **Cedar Bridge Tavern Project**.

## First Schools in Point Pleasant

Excerpts from a story by our member **Jerry Woolley** published in the *Shore Times*, August 31, 1990

The first public school in Point Pleasant was built during the summer of 1867. It was a one room building, 20 x 34 feet with a six foot portico and a coal burning stove.

The school was located on one acre of land on the south side of Arnold Avenue near the intersection of Lincoln Avenue. Prior to this date, an old dilapidated building was used to hold school lessons.

A second one room school house was built the following year on Lakewood Road near the present Point Pleasant Canal. According to county school records, this school was designated **Point Pleasant Bay** in school district number nine, but was known locally as **Pine Grove Academy**.

In January 1900 the Pine Grove Academy burned to the ground. The school year was completed in Hance's Hall while Brick Township officials contemplated building a new school for West Point Pleasant. This became a reality in January 1901 when a new six room school on Ocean Road was dedicated. This wooden school contained grades one through eight. On the second floor was an all-purpose room that was used as a gym and also contained a piano. There were two outhouses, one for the boys and one for the girls with a wooden fence in between. A bucket of water would be kept in the cloak room with a dipper, as it was unusual for a student to be lucky enough to have his own drinking cup.

In the meantime, the old Arnold Avenue schoolhouse was sold to Issac Cohen for \$92. The building was later moved into town and rebuilt into a store.

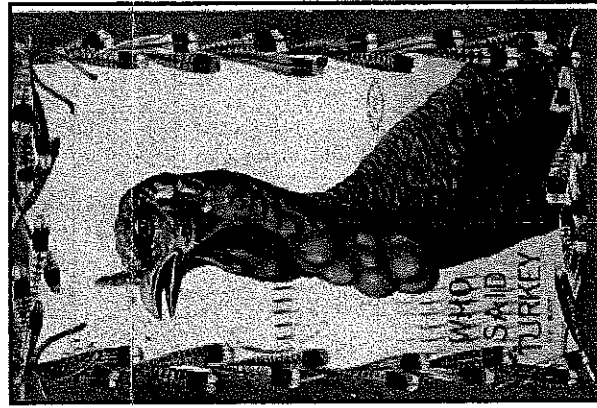
In Point Pleasant Beach, the first graduation from the two year high school program was held in Arnold Hall in 1902. Three students were graduated. A four year high school program was instituted the following year and in 1906 its first five graduates received diplomas.

In 1922, a new high school was completed in Point Pleasant Beach, relieving the severely overcrowded conditions. The old high school was now used as a grammar school and later became known as the **Annex**. It was torn down in 1973. A second addition to the high school opened in 1937 and this school continued to serve as the high school for Point Pleasant Beach, Point Pleasant and Brick Township until the early 1960's.

**THANKS ALSO TO MEMBER HILMAR GRUENDLING FOR HIS RESEARCH**

Happy  
Thanksgiving

Postcard from 1909



Pictures at the right are of "Sweetgrass" (Mrs.

Ellen Golden), a full blooded

Native American. She

was married to John Golden.

The baskets were made by

her and the type of grass

used was sweetgrass.

This became her nickname.

She and her husband

lived east of the canal

in a lean-to abode. It was located

on the point where Burnt Tavern

Road and Old Farm Road come

together.

The lived there until the 1950's.

A little bit of local history that many  
don't know

