

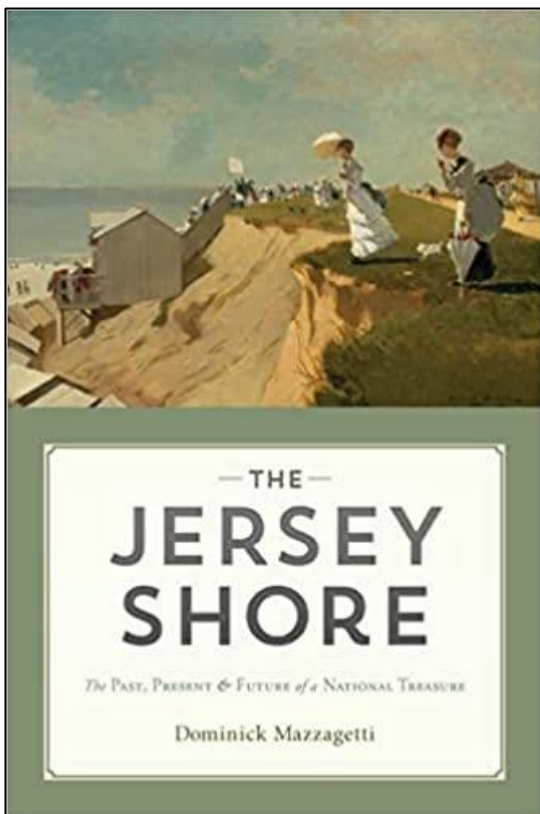


**Join us in person on March 14, 2022 at 7:00 PM for our first meeting of the year!**

Monmouth University Specialist Professor of Public History and former US Army Fort Monmouth Command Historian Melissa Ziobro will talk on how the US Army Signal Corps employed women as telephone switchboard operators during WWI. The “Hello Girls” worked long hours to ensure battlefield communications. Their Chief Operator, Grace Banker, hailed from new Jersey. After the war, the women fought for veteran status, and they are being considered for a Congressional Gold Medal today.

Meeting location: Woman’s Club of Point Pleasant Building, 513 St. Louis Avenue, Point Pleasant Beach. Face coverings are optional, and your decision to mask or not mask will be respected by all.

## *The Jersey Shore: The Past, Present & Future of a National Treasure by Dominick Mazzagetti*



Dominick Mazzagetti retells the history, culture, and landscape of the Jersey Shore in his 2018 book titled *The Jersey Shore: The Past, Present & Future of a National Treasure*. Mazzagetti references both Point Pleasant and Point Pleasant Beach numerous times throughout his work but our hometowns feature prominently in *Chapter 8: The Rise of Resorts, Ocean County*. He chronicles the birth of the Point Pleasant area and how John Arnold founded what was known as “Arnold City” and created 300 50-by-100-foot lots while the Point Pleasant Land Company created lots from the ocean to the bay over 250 acres they purchased in 1877 (Page 159).

A very intriguing inclusion is the description of Point Pleasant Beach from two eighteenth-century writers, both of whom used the word “wild.” Historian Gustav Kobbe wrote in 1889: “The coast at this point possesses remarkable wildness, remind one of the eastern side of Cape Cod. The sand is heaped up in high, snow-like dunes, overgrown here and there with tufts of salt grass. In stormy weather the drifting sand fills the air like the spray of the surf.” (page 160). Writer William Nelson echoed Kobbe’s sentiments twelve years later when he wrote, “There is an attractiveness about the place that brings thousands to its doors each summer, among them those in search of wild shore and ocean scenery. Marine painters have reproduced it on canvas, and yet come in hope that the coast storms of the previous winter have produced something new. The scenery at the point is wild and picturesque. On all sides are great piles of sand washed up from the sea and drifted into

fantastic shapes by the winds that sweep in mad fury across the peninsulas during the heavy storms,” (Pages 160-161).

Mazzagetti’s book is arranged chronologically with chapters devoted to the early, desolate beaches and the shore’s earliest Native American residents; the rise of resorts along the entire coast; the coming of railroads and the birth of Atlantic City; religion’s impact; chronicles of shipwrecks, lifesaving, and lighthouse; the impact of fires, storms, and war; the twentieth century transformation; and the twenty-first century shore. Mazzagetti’s rich descriptions and poignant language engages readers from start to finish, and even the wisest shore trivia or history buff is sure to learn a thing or two from his evident and thorough research.

Mazzagetti writes in his introduction, “For the millions of us who grew up in New Jersey, the Jersey Shore has a pervasive hold. We may not remember the first time we were dipped in the ocean by our parents, but the Jersey Shore has become part of who we are...the shore evokes compelling memories. As teenagers it may have been the freedom of being on our own on the boardwalk for the first time, learning to sail in the bay, or lifeguarding on the beach. As adults, we continue to be drawn to the shore to give our own children and grandchildren the experiences we so enjoyed,” (Page 1). We sometimes forget how fortunate we are to live with the Atlantic Ocean in our backyard and the sea breeze blowing through our windows. Point Pleasant and Point Pleasant Beach truly are treasures in their own rights and certainly enhance the Jersey Shore’s placement as a national treasure.

*The Jersey Shore: The Past, Present & Future of a National Treasure* by Dominick Mazzagetti, published by Rutgers University Press on June 20, 2018, can be purchased online through the following websites: Rutgers University Press, Amazon, Barnes and Noble. Dominick Mazzagetti is also the author of *Charles Lee: Self Before Country* (Rutgers University Press), which received an Honorable Mention for the American Revolution Round Table of Richmond’s 2014 Book Award. Mazzagetti is a lawyer and banker with a fervent interest in American history. He has served as law secretary to the chief justice of the New Jersey Supreme Court, and was Acting Commissioner of Banking in the administration of New Jersey Governor Tom Kean.



## Local Events of Interest



### Point Pleasant Beach and Boro

**First Fridays:** Come out and celebrate Point Pleasant Beach on First Fridays! New theme each month. Arnold and Bay Avenues, Point Pleasant Beach. 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM. First Friday of the month: 3-4, 4-1, 5-6, 6-3, 7-1, 8-5, 9-2, 10-7, 11-4, 12-2

**4-7-22:** Ladies' Night Out. Arnold and Bay Avenues, Point Pleasant Beach. 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM.

**4-9-22:** Point Pleasant Beach Little League Opening Day Parade & Ceremonies. Parade from Arnold Avenue to the Point Pleasant Beach Little League fields. Ceremony and games to follow. 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM.

**4-23-22:** Point Pleasant Boro's 17th Earth Day Celebration. Hosted by the Point Pleasant Borough Environmental Commission. Riverfront Park, River and Maxson Avenues, Point Pleasant. 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Rain date: 4-24-22.

**5-19 to 5-21-22:** Sidewalk Sale Days in Point Pleasant Beach

**6-4-22:** 32nd Annual Summerfest In The Park In Point Pleasant Boro. Community Park, 2225 Bridge Avenue, Point Pleasant, (732) 295-8850. 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM. Rain date: 6-5-22.

**6-10 to 6-12-22:** Point Pleasant Beach Grand Prix Boat Race Weekend

### Brick Township Historical Society

**3-8-22:** Meeting and Speaker on the Hindenberg, Herbertsville Firehouse, 611 Herbertsville Road, Brick. 7:30 PM

**5-21-22:** Tours in honor of the Brick Township Green Fair, Havens Homestead Museum, 521 Herbertsville Road, Brick. 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

**6-11-22:** Annual Giant Yard Sale, Havens Homestead Museum, 521 Herbertsville Road, Brick. 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Rain date: 6-12-22.

### Belmar Historical Society

**4-9-22:** Open House at the Belmar Historical Society Museum, 900 E Street, Belmar. 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**4-12-22:** Piracy to Prohibition-Rum Running on the Jersey Shore (Presented by Kristen Hohn, Monmouth County Parks System), Taylor Pavilion, 5<sup>th</sup> and Ocean Aves., Belmar. 7:00 PM

**5-23-22:** New Jersey Shipwrecks (Presented by Dan Lieb, President, NJ Historical Divers Association), Belmar Boro Hall, 601 Main St. (6<sup>th</sup> Ave. entrance), Belmar. 7:00 PM

### Ocean County Historical Society

#### Upcoming Free Virtual Programs

To register for any of the Zoom programs below, please e-mail us at [oceancountyhistory.zoom@gmail.com](mailto:oceancountyhistory.zoom@gmail.com) stating the date of the program(s) for which you are registering, your zip code, and the email address that we should use to send you instructions for accessing the program. All programs begin at 2:00 PM

**3-20-22:** Tracing Cranberry Inlet History

**4-24-22:** Waves of Hope

**5-1-22:** Black Baseball in America in the Era of the Color Line

**6-5-22:** The D-Day Invasion

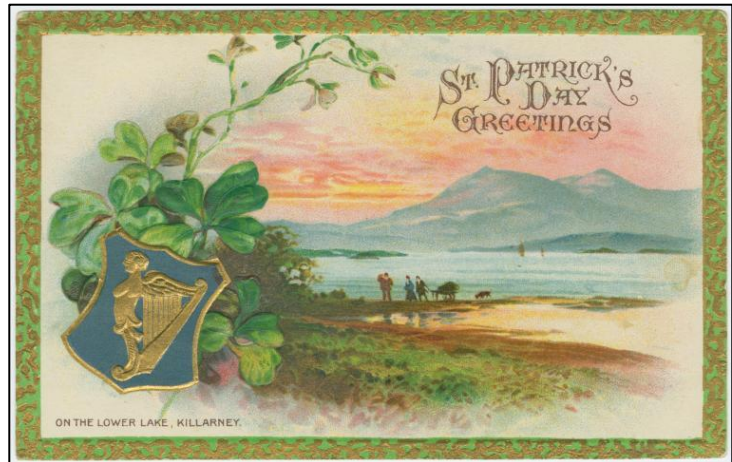
**Thank you to everyone who donated cookies for the Bennet Cabin Christmas Weekend in December! Your support is greatly appreciated.**  
- Sharon Morris

## History of St. Patrick's Day

St. Patrick's Day is celebrated each year on March 17, which is the anniversary of St. Patrick's death in the year 461. The holiday has been observed as a religious holiday by the Irish for over 1,000 years. St. Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland and the country's national apostle. He was born in Roman Britain but kidnapped and brought to Ireland as a slave when he was 16 years old. He escaped but returned to Ireland and is believed to have brought Christianity to its people. One of the most well-known legends of St. Patrick is that he used a native Irish clover's three leaves to explain the Holy Trinity of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Even though legends associated with St. Patrick with banishing snakes from Ireland, research suggests that snakes never occupied the Emerald Isle since there are no snakes in the country's fossil record and water has surrounded Ireland since the last glacial period.

Today, there are more than 100 St. Patrick's Day parades held in the United States, with New York, Boston, and Savannah (GA) home to the largest celebrations. Locals can once again celebrate in person this year at either Belmar/Lake Como's St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 6, 2022 and the Ocean County St. Patrick's Day Parade in Seaside Heights on March 12, 2022.

(Source: History.com; Image: Royalty Free Vintage Postcard)



## Visit Our Museum and Our Website at pphsm.org

The Point Pleasant Historical Museum is open on Thursdays between 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM and by appointment. Please email your appointment request and include as much information as possible about what you are interested in researching/seeing to [ppbhistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:ppbhistoricalsociety@gmail.com) and someone will get back to you. Our website at [pphsm.org](http://pphsm.org) is available to you anytime!



➔ **PPHS annual dues are due in April!** ←

**Don't delay...send in your membership form and \$10 dues today!**