



History Term Paper

Our November 2022 meeting will be held on **Monday, November 14, 2022** starting at **7:30 PM**.

Melissa Ziobro, Professor of Public History, Monmouth University, will present a look back on the 10th Anniversary of "Superstorm Sandy." 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. **After November, our next meeting will be Monday, March 13, 2023.**

“It’s a Little Known Fact:” Thanksgiving Edition

Those who remember the television show *Cheers* (aired on NBC from 1982-1993) may recall resident mailman Cliff Clavin’s tendency to spew inane facts about anything and everything. In true Cliff Clavin fashion, here are some actual facts about Thanksgiving:

- The Mayflower officially departed England for America on September 6, 1620 with 102 passengers on board. The voyage lasted 66 days. The “Pilgrims” actually referred to themselves as “Separatists, and while the Mayflower initially landed off the coast of Cape Cod, they decided to settle in Plymouth, Massachusetts. About half of them survived their first winter in America.
- If you were sitting at the table during the first Thanksgiving feast in 1621, which actually lasted 3 days, you would have enjoyed venison, duck, goose, fish, and porridge or bread made from corn.
- While President George Washington designated November 26 as a Day of National Thanksgiving in 1789, it wasn’t until 1863 when it was decided that Thanksgiving would be observed on the last Thursday in November. President Abraham Lincoln signed that proclamation on October 3, 1863.
- Gimbels department store hosted a Thanksgiving day parade in 1920 on the streets of Philadelphia. This was four years before Macy’s held their first parade in New York City. The Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade route is 2.5 miles long.
- The Dallas Cowboys and the Detroit Lions have played games on every Thanksgiving day since 1966. The Lions will celebrate their 88th consecutive Thanksgiving day game this year.
- About 40,000 acres of cranberries are harvested each year, with New Jersey the third largest producer of cranberries in the nation. Approximately 440 cranberries are in one pound.
- Marilyn Monroe, Meryl Streep, Matt Damon, and Taylor Swift are all descendants of either Mayflower passengers or crew.

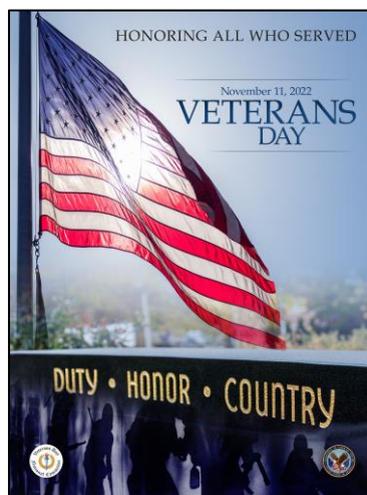


2022 Bennett Cabin Christmas Celebration – Cookies Needed!

The Bennett Cabin Christmas Celebration will be held on December 10 and December 11 from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM at the Bennett Cabin, Riverfront Park, Point Pleasant. December 10th and 11th, 2022 from 2PM to 5PM. All are welcome to visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus. There will be hot chocolate and cookies served, and each family will receive a free photo and a small gift for each child. Christmas decorations abound and there is a festive train set-up to enjoy.

Anyone wishing to provide cookies for the event may call Sharon Morris 732-892-8827 to volunteer. Please let her know by December 1 if you plan on doing so. Cookies can be delivered to the cabin on December 11 and 12th anytime after noon. If you need cookies to be picked up please contact Sharon. Thanks to all who have been our Cookie People in the past and to those willing to help again this year. The children (and adults) appreciate your tasty treats! **Please, no nuts in the treats, as so many have allergies! Thank you!**

Happy Thanksgiving
To you and yours!



**THANK
YOU
TO ALL
WHO
SERVE(D)**



Point Pleasant Historical Society
 Phone: (732) 892-3091
 Email: pppbhistoricalsociety@gmail.com
 Website: pphsm.org

Point Pleasant Historical Society
 PO Box 1273
 Point Pleasant Beach, NJ 08742

This issue features some highlights of the 1950's.
 - Compiled by Len Ludovico - Nov. 2022

1950-The census reported New Jersey's population as 4,835,329.

- June 25, North Korea invaded South Korea, beginning the Korean War.
- Big Sea Day was revived in Pt. Pleasant Beach, in conjunction with Ocean County's Centennial. A tradition handed down from the Lenni-Lenape Indians, this new version was celebrated with a long parade with numerous floats (below). Highlighted was the Miss Rheingold (beer) float, and the newly crowned Miss Seafood Princess. Big Sea Day survived until 1965.



1951-Feb. 6 Penn. Railroad train #733 derailed at Woodbridge and hurtled down a 40 ft. embankment. Eighty-five people were killed in one of the worst rail disasters in N.J. or U.S. history.

- The Molly Pitcher Handicap at Monmouth Park became the first horse race televised in color.
- Jersey Joe Walcott (Arnold Cream of Camden/Pennsauken) became the world heavyweight boxing champion at the advanced age of 37, by defeating Ezzard Charles.

1952-The NJ Turnpike opened. It extended from the Delaware Memorial Bridge to the George Washington Bridge, and took only 23 months to construct!

1953-U.S. Senator Joseph McCarthy began his investigation of "Communist subversion" at Ft. Monmouth, headquarters of the U.S. Army Signal Corps.

1954-The Garden State Parkway is completed through Ocean County, making the Pt. Pleasant vicinity easily accessible to North Jersey tourists and commuters. The planned 164 miles were not completed until 1956. In 1957 a 9-mile connection to the NY Thruway was added.

(Thruway)



Looking down Arnold Avenue, circa 1950

1955-At the Arnold Theatre: "The Long Grey Line," starring Tyrone Power and Maureen O'Hara. A poster reminded the ladies that Wednesday was "Dish" night – collect a set.

1956-All high-school-aged students from Brick Twp. were attending Pt. Pleasant Beach H.S. Brick Twp. was experiencing its explosive growth. The PPBHS authorities informed Brick that because of overcrowding, they could only accommodate Brick students north of the Metedeconk River. Those south of the river/Laurelton Circle would have to attend the new Central Regional H.S.

1957-The Soviet Union successfully launches the satellite SPUTNIK – which also launches the Space Age.

1958-Our neighbor, Brick Township, opened the doors of its own high school for the first time.

- A Central Railroad of NJ morning commuter train derailed and slid off the Newark Bay lift bridge in Bayonne. Both locomotives, and the first two coaches plunged into Newark Bay and sank, immediately killing 48 people.

1959-The average car costs \$1,180.

- The Lincoln penny is redesigned with the Lincoln Memorial on the back side. The wheat-back penny was in circulation from 1909-1958.
- Hawaii becomes the 50th state.