



# Federal Point Historic Preservation Society

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## Newsletter

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Rebecca Taylor, production

History Center Hours: Tues, Fri, Sat 10-4

[www.FederalPointHistory.org](http://www.FederalPointHistory.org)

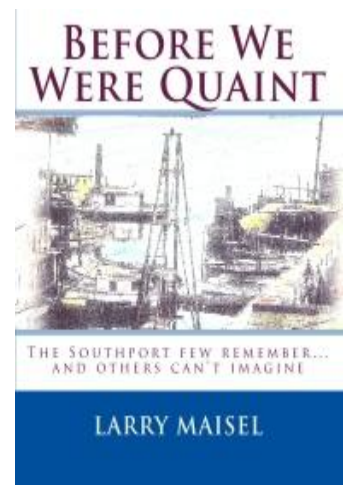


### September Meeting Monday, September 19, 2011 7:30 pm

The Federal Point Historic Preservation Society will hold its monthly meeting on **Monday, September 19, 7:30 pm at the Federal Point History Center**, 1121-A North Lake Park Blvd., adjacent to Carolina Beach Town Hall.

This month our speaker will be Larry Maisel, author of the book *Before We Were Quaint*. This book punctures the myth about the nature of the small North Carolina coastal village of Southport. Today it is known as "the town with all the antique stores," but its past is very different. From the mid 1800s to the 1950s Southport was a hard working, sometimes kind of rough, even industrial, town, not merely a fishing village. Only later could it be called "quaint." The author unfolds that past for us.

**Larry Maisel** is a retired broadcast journalist and executive, now living in Southport, NC. Much of his journalism career was spent in the South, where he covered City Hall District Attorney Jim Garrison's Kennedy Assassination Investigation in New Orleans; the civil rights movement in Louisiana, Mississippi and Virginia; and state and local politics in Virginia and West Virginia. He worked in radio news in Maryland. He has also written and produced a number of documentaries. His first, in 1965, *An April Day in Appomattox*, on the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Robert E. Lee's Surrender at Appomattox Court House, and the last, in 2005, *Vanishing Village: The Southport That Used to Be*. That followed *Southport Remembered: Glimpses of Our Past*, produced in 2001. A writer and columnist, his column, "As I See It," has appeared in the Southport newspaper, *The State Port Pilot*, and the monthly *Brunswick Alive*. In 2006 he co-authored *Lelia Jane: A Very Gentle Lady* with another Southport historian, Susie Carson.



### Last Month's Meeting

Our August meeting was a fascinating look at the history of the Pleasure Island Sea Turtle Project. Susi Clontz talked about how she first got interested in working on the beach during turtle nesting season. For a number of years she and her husband Rusty did the entire beach BY THEMSELVES. By 2001 there were volunteers to

help them, and in 2003 the non-profit The Pleasure Island Sea Turtle Project was incorporated. Jodi Smith, current director of the Project then talked about what they are learning about the turtles and how they are educating the public about the turtles. As we are right in the midst of turtle hatching season they showed us a video tape of a nest “boiling” and the babies making their way to the ocean.

### **President’s Message**

Fellow Members,

Labor Day is over! Can you believe it? I hope everyone came through Irene with no trouble. If you missed the Pleasure Island Sea Turtle presentation you missed a lot of valuable information. Many thanks for a job well done.

Our speaker for our next meeting is Larry Maisel from Southport. His book is Before We Were Quaint. Also, I hope that with everyone’s help we can finish the brochure on Sea Breeze, and its importance to Federal Point. Don’t forget the SHAG was invented there.

Thank You,  
Barry

### **Oral History by Ann Hertzler Dorothy McQuillan Part 2. Family**

Dot moved on the Wilmington side of the swing bridge when she was about 8 or 9 years old. Dot and her cousins used to catch the school bus on the sound side of highway 421. White children went to Carolina Beach School. She went to a Black school with about 2 rooms. Oak Hill School was up the road as if you’re going into Oak Hill or Oak Grove cemetery. It’s been torn down and has a church and cemetery behind it. The nurses came to give injections. Miss Barnhill was one of the teachers. Miss Newkirk came down and helped sometimes. Now it’s still a school, but the name is changed.

Dot learned to cook at home on a wood stove watching her Mom and her husband’s aunt cook biscuits and such. Her grandmother kept her A&P “8 o’clock” coffee pot on the back of her wood stove. Her grandmother made Dot’s aprons, dresses, and a lot of her own clothes. Dot’s mom wasn’t into sewing too much. Lots of people had gardens.

Dot married James Kenneth McQuillan. When Dot first got married, they lived on her husband’s uncle’s property. Her first home was right behind her current address, 7809 Carolina Beach Road, Wilmington, NC. Dot’s husband used to work for Dub Heglar in Kure Beach. Her uncle Ben had a truck to pick up trash from Carolina Beach.

Dot was married 52 years. Most of her children were born in the 50s in the community hospital which is now torn down. Dot went to New York for awhile where her kids started school. When Williston opened up, they had the big Williston band. Her cousin was the Drum Major who led the band. One of her girls went to college not too far from Virginia and one went to East Carolina. They were always into sports and basketball.

The family liked to do a monthly dinner at Dot’s house. Many would bring a certain meat or a vegetable. Dot said the best way to feed a big family is to cook a big roast or turkey or



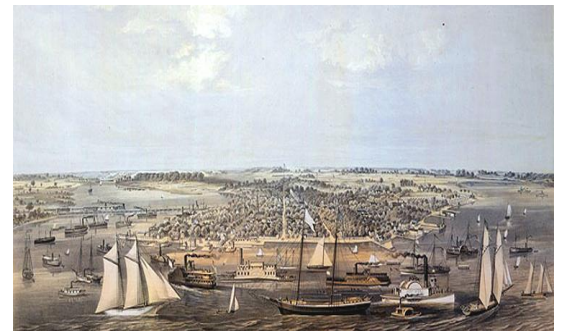
ham. Greens can be mixed many ways - turnips with kale or with mustard greens; fresh collards with a little sugar but no vinegar and no hot peppers. Dot uses smoked bones with greens but would rather use old fashioned fat back. Dot's momma put corn dumplings on her greens. South Carolina people love rice. She cooked a lot of rice alternated with cream potatoes or macaroni and cheese – the kind that doesn't come out of a box. Dot's son went to culinary school. He loves to cook pig's feet and pinto beans in his crock pot. He said, "Momma, you need a crock pot." Dot said she didn't need any crock pot.

Dot keeps her favorite recipes in her head - no drawer, no notebook. If the cake was good, she'd ask, how did you make that pound cake? And she'd remember how many eggs and how much butter and how to do this and do that. Dot loved fruitcakes, especially from the A & P in Carolina Beach. A fruit cake looks like an old fashion raisin cake with different fruits. Dot cooked the old-fashioned raisin cake in her iron frying pan and it came out so pretty and round. Lemon extract, a little bit of vanilla, two or three sticks of butter, beat the eggs up and put in there - makes a good pound cake.

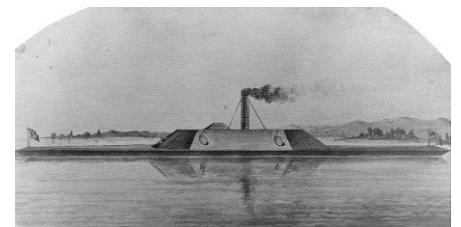
### Civil War Quiz

I had planned to fill this space with a report on the **Flags over Hatteras** conference that was supposed to happen on Hatteras Island the weekend Irene blew through. Needless to say that didn't happen, and there is some doubt that they will be able to reschedule it this fall.

In preparation for the event I read a great book called *The Civil War in Coastal North Carolina* by John S. Carbone. I had no idea just how vital a part the eastern sounds, rivers and barrier islands played throughout the war. So here's a quiz on the other coastal war. See how much you know!



- 1) What was the name of the US ironclad that sank off Hatteras in December 1862?
- 2) Before the war what was North Carolina's most important export?
- 3) At the beginning of the War what were the two largest towns in North Carolina?
- 4) What percent of blockade running trips were successful?
- 5) North Carolina's four ship navy was called what?
- 6) In the summer of 1861 what forts did the Confederacy build along North Carolina's Outer Banks?
- 7) Which Union General first proposed the attack on the Forts on the Outer Banks?
- 8) What Union General commanded the Union expedition to take Roanoke Island? Who was the Confederate Commander charged with the defense of the Albemarle and Pamlico Sounds?
- 9) The fall of what North Carolina town in March of 1862 "alarmed and outraged" Confederate leaders in North Carolina and Richmond?
- 10) On what island did the Union Army establish a "freedman's colony?"
- 11) In what NC city was there a major outbreak of Yellow Fever in August 1894?
- 12) What ship enabled the Confederate troops to recapture the town of Plymouth?



## *Society Notes*

- ❖ **DONATIONS!** **Judge Gil Burnett** has donated a group of framed pictures showing the Burnett Cottage (one of the first structures the Society plaqued) before and after Hurricane Hazel. It's on the wall by the side door. Be sure to take a look the next time you're in the History Center.
- ❖ Our sympathies go out to **Debbie and Ron Price** on the passing of Debbie's mother Hazel Logue. Hazel served as Vice President of the Society for several years and was always cheerful and a joy to be around.
- ❖ This month we recorded 36 visitors to the **History Center** and 32 members and visitors at our monthly meeting. The Gift Shop took in \$194.02. We assisted two authors, Lois working on her *Images of America* book for Arcadia, another author working on a book about Capt. John Harper, and the screenwriter/producer working on the movie on the history of the Shag. What everyone seems to want: pictures, pictures, pictures!
- ❖ Thanks to our History Center Volunteers: **Lois Taylor**, for helping with the Newsletter mailing and **Demetria Sapienza** who comes every Tuesday to scan photos for the DIP. (Digital Image Project). **Demetria and Juanita Winner** also subbed for Rebecca when she needed a Saturday off. **Phil Sapienza** helped open the display cases to get the bugs cleaned out -- you don't know how heavy the glass is!
- ❖ **Hurricane Irene.** On Friday August 26 Rebecca and **Lois Taylor** packed up the gift shop to get it away from the big front windows. And later that day **Darlene and Leslie** came in and put the copier and materials on the wall behind it into the Library. Turns out the only problems we had were wet carpet at the front door AND wet carpet under where the copier sits so they saved us! If there's anyone who does NOT live on the beach who could help with hurricane preparation please let Rebecca know. It turns out that just about everybody who lives on PI is VERY BUSY with getting their own property secured and heading out of town. Thanks, also to **Darlene Bright** for getting the Gift Shop back up and running on Tuesday morning. I don't know how she remembers exactly where everything goes.
- ❖ **A huge thanks to Sylvia Dickinson for cleaning the History Center in August!** The kitchen shines and the whole place looks great. We do still need volunteers for a 2 hour --- one time only, shift for cleaning of the History Center. We have people signed up for September but have plenty of openings for the Fall.
- ❖ **New Members:** Welcome to **Elizabeth Mead** of Wilmington.
- ❖ Thanks also to **Lois Wheatley** who is allowing us to share in the scans of the vintage photos she is collecting for her book. They are making a great addition to our Digital Image Project.

### ***Our Business Members***

Beach Portraits Photography  
Britt's Donut Shop  
Coastal K-9 Bakery, Inc.  
First Bank  
First Citizens Bank  
Frank's Pizza  
Got-Em-On-Live Bait Club  
Hanover Iron Works, Inc.  
Historical Society of Topsail  
Island  
Hoplite Pub & Beer Garden  
*Island Gazette*  
Kure Beach Fishing Pier  
Monarch Mortgage  
B. Parker Protective & Lock  
Pleasure Island Chamber of  
Commerce  
Shuckin' Shack  
SlapDash Publishing  
The Shoppes at Squigley's  
Taylor's Heating & Air, Inc.  
Tucker Bros. Realty Company  
Winner Fishing and Cruise  
Boats  
Winner Marine Construction  
and Salvage, LLC

**Please take time to let our  
Business Members know how  
much you appreciate their  
support.**



## *Louisa May Alcott is coming to Wilmington.*

The New Hanover County Public Library and UNC-W have received a NEH grant to present programs about the life of Louisa May Alcott. Upcoming events are free and open to the general public.

**Civil War Medicine: Saturday October 15, 1:00-3:00**-Main Library, Downtown Wilmington. Speakers include: Don Johnson, Assistant Professor of History, UNC-W; Jodi Koste, Archivist, Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences, Virginia Commonwealth University

**Louisa May Alcott and Social Reform: Thursday November 3, 7:00-8:30pm**, UNCW Randal Library Auditorium. Speakers include: Candice Bredbenner, Associate Professor of History, UNCW; Glen Harris, Associate Professor of History, UNCW Patricia Turrisi, Associate Professor of Philosophy & Religion, UNCW

**Closing Event: Thursday November 17 - Thalian Hall - 7:00-9:00pm** Documentary Film *Louisa May Alcott: The Woman Behind Little Women*. Panel Discussion: Kathleen Berkeley, UNCW; Shannon Silva, UNCW. A reception and Louisa May Alcott Birthday Party to follow immediately at the Main Library.

## *Federal Point Historic Preservation Society Events Calendar Summer/Fall 2011*

**Monday, September 19, 2011: Membership Meeting. 7:30-9:00 pm** Larry Maisel author of *Before We Were Quaint* will share stories of old Southport and of the relationship between the two banks of the Cape Fear River. A former broadcast journalist, he moved to this area in 1990 and worked closely with the late Susie Carson on two of her books.



**Monday October 17, 2011: Membership Meeting. 7:30-9:00 pm.** Elaine Henson, author of *Carolina Beach, A Postcard History* will talk to us about the **Bame family** and their relationship with “The Beach” over the past 80 years, which grew to include owning several beach businesses, hotels, piers, as well as providing two Carolina Beach mayors, and a fire chief over three generations.

**Monday, November 21, 2011: Membership Meeting. 7:30-9:00 pm.** Mark Wilde-Ramsing is back to present the news from the wrecksite of *Queen Anne's Revenge*, as well as other activities in the world of underwater archaeology including a look back 50 years to the beginnings of the Fort Fisher lab and the salvage of the blockade runner *Modern Greece*.



### **Answers: Coastal North Carolina Civil War Quiz**

- 1) Monitor;
- 2) “naval stores” ie. tar pitch and turpentine;
- 3) Wilmington and New Berne;
- 4) 75%;
- 5) The Mosquito Fleet;
- 6) Fort Oregon, Fort Hatteras, Fort Clark, and Fort Ocracoke;
- 7) Benjamin Butler;
- 8) USA General Ambrose Burnside; CSA General A. P. Hill;
- 9) New Bern;
- 10) Roanoke;
- 11) New Bern;
- 12) Ironclad CSN Albemarle

**Officers**

President – Barry Nelder  
Vice-President – Annette Winner  
Secretary – Lois Taylor  
Treasurer – Demetria Sapienza

Leslie Bright  
Elaine Henson  
Jack Travis

**Directors**

Thomas Gray  
Cheri McNeill  
Pat Bolander

Jean Stewart  
John Gordon  
Skippy Winner

**Federal Point Historic Preservation Society**  
**P. O. Box 623**  
**Carolina Beach, NC 28428**

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***Beach Portraits Photography***

*Business member John Gregory has come up with a great way for members to preserve their family history AND benefit our Society. For a \$75 donation to our Society you will receive a Gift Certificate for one Family Portrait Session AND a finished 10 by 13 Portrait. This is an exceptionally generous offer and is worth \$185 retail.*

**Author Lois Wheatley still needs your help!** She’s gotten a lot of great pictures from a number of our members but could still use more. So it’s not too late to open your photo albums and your Carolina Beach memories so that she can make this a truly great and meaningful publication. Lois can be contacted at (910) 465-6801 or at [lois@theloissite.com](mailto:lois@theloissite.com). She will scan your photographs and return them to you as promptly as possible.

**[brad@oceandrivemovie.com](mailto:brad@oceandrivemovie.com). Movie Research!** Bill Yoder of OD Movie Development came by the History Center recently. Currently under development is a feature film based on Chicken Hicks and the birth of the Shag. He is looking for pictures and stories of people and places on the Carolina Beach Boardwalk from the years 1943 to 1955. His contact information is **Brad Yoder, Producer, 336-307-5252.**