

Name: Schuler

Abstract Title: Evidence Suggests the Midgetts Were Actually Mighty

Abstract Description: The Midgett name is well-known on the Outer Banks for the family's service in the US Life-Saving Station and eventually the Coast Guard. There is an extensive number of members of the Midgett family who have served in these service positions, however what gives the family their reputation of being "mighty," comes from members of the Midgett family in the 19th century whose herculean rescue efforts were nationally recognized. Stories of these efforts come with a variety of myths and legends about the men and women in this family. Revisiting the story of the Midgett family, this talk will explore how this family came to be known as the Mighty Midgetts of Chicamacomico, incorporating not only the stories written but also the keeper's wreck reports and federal summaries of these events that confirm the Midgetts were actually very mighty.