WINSTON C. NEWMAN

In April, 77 years ago, Winston Newman was born where Forked River Beach is now and spent most of his early life in Toms River. His first boat was a little rowboat he fixed up as a kid, to fish in the Toms River. When he got older, he worked for a boat rental in Waretown and had his own sailboat to sail Barnegat Bay.

Winston built at least a half a dozen garveys. His biggest was his 26-footer, built in 1950. This was used to dredge crabs and scallops. When the bay wasn't frozen, he could dredge up to 35 bushels of scallops a day. They would have to be unloaded, hauled to his house, dumped on a board, cleaned, shucked, packed and shipped to the Fulton Fish Market in New York.

In 1959, he built his own scallop house next to his residence on Rosehill Road in Barnegat. He employed his own children, Pat and Winnie, and some local girls to help with the cleaning and opening of the scallops. When they were all packed and ready to go, Holmes Trucking hauled them away. Winston pulled four drags to catch the bay scallops. Back in the 30s his clams were sold at 30 cents a hundred, because there wasn't as much demand. He could tong 4,400 clams in one day. He could get 27 at a grab with his homemade tongs. The handles were made out of mahogany.

When the bay was frozen, Winston would cut and sell firewood, pick pine cones and gather laurel roping.

In the summer, in addition to harvesting the bay, the Newmans collected blackberries and cherries, grew a garden and sold the fruit and produce. Homemade jellies and pies were also sold at their roadside stand.

The only time he couldn't go out in the bay was when his boat sunk in the '62 storm. It was tied up at the Barnegat public dock, got loose and sank. After a two-week period, when he was allowed to return to the bay, he raised it and fixed it all up and tried to scallop, but for two weeks all he could hook was refrigerators, washing machines and bedsprings.

Today, Winston and his wife, Mary, are retired and living in their home on Rosehill Road in Barnegat.