



Presents Portsmouth's First Citizen

- *The Hon. Norman R. Hamilton-1932
- *John A. Morris-1939
- *Edward W. Maupin, Jr.-1940
- *The Rt. Rev. Msgr. F. Harold Nott-1941
- *Frank D. Lawrence-1942
- *RADM Felix X. Gygax, USN-1943
- *George T. McLean-1944
- *Thomas Alva Willett-1945
- *The Hon. Lawrence W. l'Anson-1946
- *Leslie T. Fox-1947
- *Sol Fass-1948
- *Maywood O. Lawrence-1949
- *Abner B. Hill-1950
- *The Hon. Porter Hardy, Jr.-1951
- *Lewis C. Warren-1952
- *The Rev. Ernest K. Emurian-1953
- *J. Roy Rodman-1954
- *O. B. Woolridge-1955
- *Harry A. Hunt-1956
- *The Rt. Rev. William A. Brown-1957
- *Arthur J. Lancaster-1958
- *Fred Beazley-1959
- *Arthur Lee Cherry-1960
- *Richard F. Wood-1961
- *Russell Mills Cox, M.D.-1962
- *George T. Ewell-1963
- *Lester Lloyd Knight-1964
- *John Tydings Nix-1965
- *Wilfred Fleming Magann-1966
- *Dr. Robert Monroe Campbell-1967
- *The Hon. John Ashton MacKenzie-1968
- E. Saunders Early, Jr.-1969
- *Robert Murdaugh Reed-1970
- *Mearl A. Kise, Ph. D.-1971
- *Paul Curtis Stokley-1972
- *The Hon. Richard J. Davis-1973
- Herbert K. Bangel-1974
- P. Stockton Fleming-1975
- *Emily Nichols Spong-1976
- Frank Langley Kirby-1977
- George Delman Eastes-1978
- Daniel W. Duncan Ph. D.-1979
- *Robert William Wentz, Jr.-1980
- *RADM Jamie Adair, USN, Ret.-1981
- *Emile S. Sayegh, M.D.-1982
- *Peter Eustis-1983
- Bradford L. Cherry-1984
- John Paul Conwell Hanbury-1985
- *J. Herbert Simpson-1986
- Anne Hyde Long-1987
- W. Ashton Lewis-1988
- P. Ward Robnett, Jr.-1989
- *Arthur J. Lancaster, Jr.-1990
- Herbert A. Haneman, Jr.-1991
- The Hon. Morton V. Whitlow-1992
- Maury Wise Cooke-1993
- Zelma Goodman Rivin-1994
- Junius H. Williams, Jr.-1995
- J. Hunter Brantley, Jr.-1996
- Ernest F. Hardee-1997
- Horace S. Savage, Jr.-1998
- G. Robert Aston, Jr.-1999
- David R. Tynch-2000
- Michael J. Blachman-2001
- Diane Pomeroy Griffin-2002
- R. Scott Morgan-2003
- Nancy Glison Wren-2004
- Arthur A. Kirk, M.D.-2005
- William H. Kline, Jr.-2006
- James W. Holley, III-2007
- Albert J. Taylor-2008

*Deceased

Advisory to the Media

Contact: Megan Korving, PSL First Citizen Committee Chair (757)373-2333

For Immediate Release: February 5, 2010

Donald W. Comer, Jr. to receive 2009 Portsmouth's First Citizen Award

Portsmouth- Don Comer, a dedicated and generous Portsmouth business owner, has been chosen as this year's First Citizen of Portsmouth.

Portsmouth's First Citizens are individuals who embody the spirit of citizenship through their service to the community for the sole purpose of and in the spirit of giving without financial compensation, and outside of the scope of their employment. The First Citizen Committee, which is comprised of the former First Citizens, has chosen Don Comer to receive this award at a banquet in his honor on April 30, 2010 at the Portsmouth Renaissance Hotel.

Don Comer, the longtime owner of the former Don Comer Ford, has not stopped working in Portsmouth since selling the business several years ago. Mr. Comer is an active member of the Churchland Rotary Club and through the Rotary has exemplified their motto of "service above self" in the associated charitable projects. He has been a member of the board for Bon Secours Hampton Roads Health Systems, Inc. and the Portsmouth Community Foundation. Mr. Comer has also been active on the PortsEvent Committee and the Lefcoe Leadership Board and Fund. Through the Portsmouth Partnership, Mr. Comer has worked tirelessly to "put feet on the street" of Portsmouth to benefit the city and its retailers.

Don Comer is a man of integrity and diplomacy and utilizes those traits to the betterment of the community. His goodwill extends to all he meets, and he has even extended his musical talents by volunteering his popular band for several local charitable events. Mr. Comer serves Portsmouth and its citizens with his energy and strong values.

The Portsmouth Service League is proud to present 2009 Portsmouth's First Citizen. The Portsmouth Service League is a non-profit, volunteer organization comprised of women who are interested in the welfare of their community.

Proceeds from this banquet will benefit EdMarc Children's Hospice and a local charity to be chosen by Mr. Comer. For inquiries about sponsoring or attending this event, please visit www.portsmouthserviceleague.org or call 775-0514.