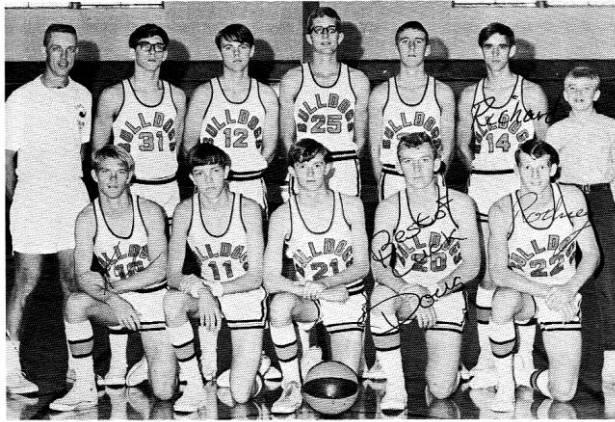


Monthly Publication from the Zephyrhills Historical Association

Volume 14 – Number 2

February 2012

The next Zephyrhills Historical Association meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 6 at the Zephyrhills Depot Museum at 39110 South Avenue. Business meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. and program at 7 p.m. Refreshments will be served.



KNEELING, L to R - Keathal Chauncey, Terry Linville, Richard McLellan, Doug Prowam, Rodney Price. STANDING, L to R - Coach Phillips, Bob Geddes, Dale Palmer, David Krystofiak, Bill Porter, Richard Back, Manager, Frank Hall. ABSENT - Rubin Pickett.



## Speakers

Our guest speaker for the February meeting was Dale Palmer. He graciously accepted our invitation to speak with less than a week's notice when our scheduled speaker was unable to be with us. He graduated from Zephyrhills High School in 1969, where he played basketball and baseball. He was also Junior Class President the year we put on possibly the best Prom ever! Dale talked about all of this as well as reflecting on growing up and teaching in a small town, as Zephyrhills was at the time. He was a teacher and coach at ZHS for thirty-three years. He is now retired. His wife, Ellen, was also in attendance. We enjoyed his presentation very much.

Bobby Winters, who was scheduled for February, will be our speaker at the March meeting. He probably needs no introduction to readers of this newsletter. He's a lifelong resident of Zephyrhills, a graduate of ZHS, and he and his family has been a big part of the growth of our fair community over the years. We look forward to hearing from him. Come and join us.

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Please consider contributing old photos for the website.

My email address is on the opening page

#### ZHA Mission Statement

The mission of the Zephyrhills Historical Association is to research, gather, and share local historical information with all generations, through our literature, programs, and scholarships, and to volunteer assistance to the Zephyrhills Depot Museum and WWII Barracks Museum.

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**Monthly Dinner Out**



Several members meet for dinner at a local restaurant once a month. We meet at 5 o' clock on Friday, a week and three days after our regularly scheduled meeting. This past month we met at Scotland Yard and had the best turn-out ever. We enjoyed good food, good service, and wonderful conversation. Our meeting place varies each month. Usually whoever is having a birthday in that month gets to decide where we meet. It's great fun!

 <p><b>Clereen Morrill Brunty</b>                  ZHS Alumni Contact  <b>clereen@tampabay.rr.com</b>  <b>813-782-8763</b>                  www.zhsalumninews.websiteanimal.com</p>	<p>All types of repairs Over 30 yrs experience</p> <p><b>JIM'S MANUFACTURED HOME SERVICE INC.</b>                  MOBILE HOME SPECIALIST</p> <p>James Brunty, owner                  (813) 782-8763 Insurance Claims</p>
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Editor: Jerry Pricher, 5138 20<sup>th</sup> Street, Zephyrhills, FL 33542  
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**Great find in Time capsule as the  
Zephyrhills First United Methodist Church  
celebrates 100 years**

*by Clereen Brunty*

In 1912 what started with 26 charter members meeting with the Rev. N.J. Hawley in the Grand Army of the Republic hall (GAR), now known as the Zephyrhills American Legion hall, has grown into a church



that is more than 1,000 members strong. On Sunday, January 22, 2012 church community members celebrated the Zephyrhills First United Methodist Church's past, present and future. The current pastor, Rev. Ken Minton is now the 33<sup>rd</sup> pastor of the church which is located on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Roger Lyman Sibley, Sr., who was 9 years old when his family moved to Zephyrhills and 1933 graduate of

Zephyrhills High School, was the construction superintendent for the current sanctuary that opened on June 13, 1963.

While they say it's the people who make up the church, they are also pleased that pieces of the past, such as stained-glass windows, wooden chairs and, of course, the original bell, are spread out throughout buildings on the church campus in the heart of downtown. The bell is the same one that rang from the belfry of the original 1914 sanctuary on 10th Street, where the church's parking lot now sits.

As part of the celebration a time capsule, buried on the cornerstone of the Methodist Church which was moved from the original sanctuary when the new sanctuary was built, was opened and marvelous items were found including letters and booklets dated 1914 even though the congregation was started in 1912. Amongst these items was a significant piece of Zephyrhills history when a January 27, 1910 edition of the Zephyrhills Colonist was found inside. As long as history has been recorded, the Zephyrhills Colonist, now The Zephyrhills News, was always believed the first edition was printed on October 5, 1911 per copy of the Zephyrhills Colonist noted as Vol. 1 No. 1. The 1910 copy was noted as Vol. 1 No. 3 showing that the number must have been restarted with the 1911 edition and believed to have been done when the new publisher, George H. Gibson of Nebraska was invited by Capt. H.B. Jeffries to start a "full service" paper with community news of interest .



(Continued on page 5)

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**Ryals Furniture Exchange**  
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From son James

**God Bless America**



**Rosemary Trotman**  
Zephyrhills Historical Association  
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**World War II Barracks Museum**



The Zephyrhills Barracks Museum is a military museum in Zephyrhills, Florida. It is best known for its World War II exhibits. The City of Zephyrhills has always been known for its connection to air-based activities. Dubbed as the Skydive City, which is one of the largest skydiving drop zones in the world, it shouldn't be surprising that its history has a lot to do with that. It was actually home to the 3rd Army Air Force Base Unit that was a part of the Air University's Army Air Forces School of Applied Tactics. Due to



this kind of heritage, the Zephyrhills Barracks Museum became necessary to preserve and share this part of local history. The site is also known as the Zephyrhills World War II Barracks Museum and the Zephyrhills Restored Barracks Museum.

The weekend of February 17, 18, & 19 saw an influx of visitors to the Museum as folks came from all around. Some brought artifacts with them, and others just came to marvel in the memories. ZHA member John Bolender was very pleased with this years turn-out.



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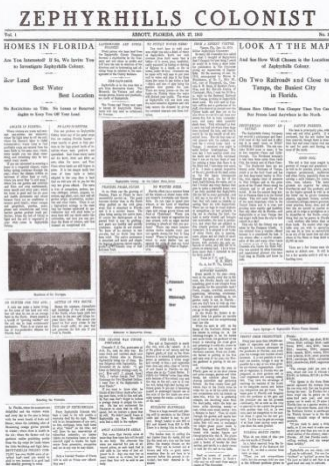
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**(Brunty Article continue from page 3)**



The 1910 edition may be the only copy in existence as many of the old papers and microfilm are missing entire years. *This is an incredible find!* The 1910 edition primarily talked about real estate property available for sale. It was a way to entice northern residents to settle in Zephyrhills where it offered rich soil, warm climate and reasonably priced property. Five acre tracts were sold for \$50.

At the end of the year the church plans to place some of the original items, as well as new items, back into the capsule for future generations to open in the next 100 years. You can imagine what new history discoveries that generation will find!

**Founders Day Parade**

The Zephyrhills Historical Association will be represented in this year’s Founders Day Parade. Clereen Brunty chaired a committee to organize our part. Bob Porter has arranged to have several vintage cars to form the nucleus of our entry. Members are invited to walk in the parade and will be sporting newly acquired ZHA T-Shirts for the occasion. In addition, this year’s Grand Marshal is Greg First, ZHA Member. Set your calendars for March 10, 2012!

**ZHA Scholarship Fundraiser at Ci Ci’s Pizza**

Tuesday, February 21, was our night this month to bus tables at Ci Ci’s Pizza. Patty Thompson, Gail Geiger, Rex & Val Hiatt, and Cris & Jo White were the staff. I am told more than \$150 in tips was collected, and that fun was had by all. Our night for next month is already set for March 19. Make your plans to come to work or contribute. It’s for a very good cause.

<p><b>The Custom</b> <b>FRAME STORE</b></p> <p><b>Picture Framing Gallery</b></p> <p>TUESDAY 10-5 FRIDAY 10-5</p> <p>SATURDAYS 11-3</p> <p>Robert Schultz, Proprietor 352-567-3482 · Fax (352) 567-9712 14115 7th Street · Dade City, FL 33525</p>	<p><b>LITTLE ANGEL</b> <b>CHRISTIAN STORE</b></p> <p>5522 7th Street (behind Kentucky Fried Chicken) Zephyrhills, Florida 33542 Toll Free (800) 290-9650 (813) 782-7600</p> <p><b>labor of LOVE</b> STAN &amp; CHARLOTTE GRAMS</p> <p><b>BIG ENOUGH TO SERVE YOU - SMALL ENOUGH TO KNOW YOU</b></p>
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Dinner – Scotland Yard – February 17, 2012

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- \_\_\_ Boardwalk Booster     (\$ 5 add'l with Annual)
- \_\_\_ Advertisement         (\$15 per year)
- \_\_\_ Scholarship Fund       (Any Contribution)