

Monthly Publication from the Zephyrhills Historical Association

Volume 15 – Number 1

January 2013

The next Zephyrhills Historical Association meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at the Zephyrhills Depot Museum, 39110 South Avenue. The business meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. and the program is at 7 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

## Speakers



Our speaker for the January meeting was Gregg Hilferding, Vice President of Marketing at ClassB.com and a graduate of Zephyrhills High School. He presented us with a history of the company. The company began as a result of Gregg's mother making t-shirts for her kids' scout troops. Other parents were so impressed with her work that she got more and more requests, followed by requests for other types of work. A company developed which soon involved the entire family and products which were quite varied. Nowadays the company is much more specialized and internet based. It's now a multimillion dollar company, still with close ties to Boy Scouts of America. Everyone in attendance enjoyed the presentation very much.

Our speaker for the February meeting will be Norm Pricher, retired CPA and a 1954 graduate of ZHS. He and his wife, Kay, have become very involved in storytelling in their retirement. He's promised to bring one along. He will also talk a bit about his upbringing here, including high schools sports. His football and baseball coach, John Clements, is expected to be in attendance, along with his wife, Beanie. The Board recently voted to offer the two of them Honorary Membership in ZHA. This promises to be a memorable evening. We hope you all can attend.



### EAST 54 MINI STORAGE

Boat • RV Storage  
*Business Workshop Rental*

**813.788.5969**

**John Bolender**

38461 CR 54 East • Zephyrhills, Florida 33542

**Jeff Miller**

**Pasco County Historian**

For a walk down memory lane visit

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

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.

**Executive Board**

President	.....	Cris White
Vice President	.....	Jerry Pricher
Secretary	.....	Margie Partain
Treasurer	.....	Bill Kustes
Alternate	.....	Patty Thompson

**Board Members**

Nathan Geiger  
 Bob Porter  
 Penny Porter  
 Jo White

**Committees**

Ads for Tracks	.....	Patty Thompson Vera Chenkin
Hospitality	.....	Rose McKell
Refreshments	.....	Gail Geiger
Newsletter	.....	Jerry Pricher Clereen Brunty
Programs	.....	Irene Dobson
Scholarship	.....	Margie Partain Jerry Pricher

**Boardwalk Boosters**

Greg First  
 Bill Kustes  
 James McElwee  
 George Boone  
 Mary Helen Clague  
 Jim Satterfield  
 Roselyn McKell  
 Clereen Brunty  
 Terry & Jackie Lindsey  
 Maurice Humphries  
 Polly Humphries  
 Vicki Elkins  
 Gina King Granger  
 Margie Partain

**Scholarship Boosters**

Jay & Kathleen Burnside  
 Rick Moore, MD  
 Jerry Pricher  
 Betty Hall

**ASSOCIATION FUNDRAISER**

The Zephyrhills Historical Association is having a scholarship fundraiser day at Ruby Tuesday restaurant in Zephyrhills on **Thursday, January 31<sup>st</sup>** from 11:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m. as part of their Community GiveBack Program. We are raising money for our Rosemary Trottman (former ZHS teacher and founder of ZHA society) and Zephyrhills Historical Association Scholarship Funds to be awarded in May to ZHS graduates who the committee selects. A flyer **MUST** be provided to the server for the association to receive 20% of your food purchases. For a flyer or more information, contact Clereen Morrill Brunty at (813) 782-8763 or [clereen@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:clereen@tampabay.rr.com).

Please come join us for our monthly dinner out at a special time this month to coincide with our fundraising effort. We will be meeting at Ruby Tuesday on January 31, 2013 at 5 p.m. If you come join us then you will not need the additional form. We hope to see you there!

 <p><b>Clereen Morrill Brunty</b>                  ZHS Alumni Contact  <b><a href="mailto:clereen@tampabay.rr.com">clereen@tampabay.rr.com</a></b>  <b>813-782-8763</b>  <a href="http://www.zhsalumninews.websiteanimal.com">www.zhsalumninews.websiteanimal.com</a></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>
--	---

Editor: Jerry Pricher, 5138 20<sup>th</sup> Street, Zephyrhills, FL 33542  
 Phone: 813-788-2547    email: [jerry@pricher.net](mailto:jerry@pricher.net)

## Member Spotlight

Clereen Morrill Brunty

A True Zephyrhills Native and Proud of it!!!



**PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE** – this best describes Clereen Brunty who is proud to say she is a true native of Zephyrhills. Not many can say that. It started in 1955 when Zephyrhills did not have a hospital so her parents, Clyde & Vera Morrill, trekked to Dade City where she & her twin brother, Clyde, Jr. were born at Jackson Memorial Hospital (the current Sheriff's Office today) by the lovable Dr. Harry G. Brownlee. Her parents were such an inspiration to her and instilled wholesome values that she still lives by

today. Besides Clyde, Jr. who still lives in Zephyrhills, Clereen has an older brother, Wendyll Howard, who also lives in Zephyrhills and an older sister, Elaine Howard Edenfield who lives in Plant City, FL.

**PAST** - She says she has seen a lot of changes in Zephyrhills over the years and don't think she could ever move away as her roots run very deep. She says, "It is nice to have grown up in a small town where everyone knew each other and you didn't have to lock your doors or close your windows. Everyone looked out for each other and was always willing to help".

Clereen attended all twelve school years on the same campus grounds; East Elementary, Zephyrhills Junior High and Senior High were located on 11<sup>th</sup> Street and 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue in separate buildings. In Elementary there were 2 classes for each year grades 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup>. She remembers the little sink in each classroom and the bathrooms were in the hall between to share. There was a cloak room to hang your sweaters & coats and a great playground with a tall slide, monkey bars, tunnel and swings. This was a time of making up your own games including jump rope, dodge ball, hide and seek to name a few since the electronic age was only a futuristic idea.

Junior High was a long building attached to the Elementary School for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and Senior High School was in the infamous red brick building for 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades which was the most challenging years of her life as she prepared herself for life after graduation. The red brick building that was built in 1926 was torn down in 2007 and a newly modern school was built on the same grounds.

<p><b>Rinnai</b></p> <p><b>BAHR'S</b></p> <p>Lenny Bahr Kevin Bahr Owners</p> <p><b>PROPANE GAS AND A/C INC.</b></p> <p>4441 Allen Rd. Zephyrhills, FL 33541 Ph. (813) 782-5013 bahrs.ac@tampabay.rr.com · www.bahrspropanegasandac.com</p>	<p><b>Amana</b> LATES AND LINES AND LINES</p> <p>Sales Service Installation</p> <p><b>Artistic Expressions</b> Custom Picture Framing specializing in the framing of needlework 5906 7th Street Zephyrhills, Florida 33542 (813) 783-7731 Beverly Koehler Barnett, Owner E-Mail: aeframer@aol.com</p>
---	---

Her most favorite memories of school are the years as a member of the Zephyrhills High School Marching Band from the second half of 6<sup>th</sup> grade until she graduated in 1973 with most of those years under the direction of Mr. John T.V. Clark. Mr. C. Paul Steuart took over the high school band the last couple of years and she strived to be 1<sup>st</sup> chair flute as often as possible. That was a big deal back then. Going on band trips, marching in parades and performing at halftime shows at the football games was so much fun even in those old, smelly, wool uniforms. The Bulldog Marching Band earned Superior rating at many competitions which made us all very proud.



In Clereen’s younger years she was a Brownie Scout and Girl Scout earning many badges. Camping out and going to WTVT Channel 13 station in Tampa to be on the Uncle Bruce and Mary Ellen Shows was so exciting as a young kid. She also attended the First Baptist Church in Zephyrhills and was baptized when she was 10 years old while attending the summer Vacation Bible School. She was also a member of the churches GA’s (Girls Auxiliary), where she attained the Queen title for memorizing all the bible verses required. She was also a member of the church youth choir and performed in several concerts. At the age of 13, she was initiated into the Order of Rainbow for Girls, Zephyrhills Assembly #30 which was sponsored by the Masons & Eastern Star. She attained the highest position as Worthy Advisor and received her Grand Cross of Color merit and was appointed as Grand Representative to the state of Maryland in 1973 while attending Grand Assembly in Jacksonville, FL.



In 1974 Clereen married her high school sweetheart, James Brunty and is very proud of being together for over 38 years! They have one daughter, Christy, who also graduated from Zephyrhills High School in 1992 and lives in Wesley Chapel along with her boyfriend, Shane Miller and her son, Zackary, who is a Senior in high school this year. He attended ZHS all his school years except the Senior year due to recently moving. Clereen was told her mom also took some business courses at Zephyrhills High after graduating from her Georgia school and became the first official secretary of ZHS in 1934. This makes a 4<sup>th</sup> generation of ZHS students in her family.

<p>Dine In - Take Out Delivery - Catering</p> <p><b>The Sandwich Spot</b></p> <p>39013 CR 54 Zephyrhills, FL 33542</p> <p>"Best Cubans in Town"</p> <p><b>813-783-6396</b></p> 	<p style="text-align: right;"></p> <p><b>MAIN STREET</b> <i>Zephyrhills, Inc.</i></p> <p>5224 7th Street • Zephyrhills, FL 33542</p> <p><b>Gina Granger</b> Executive Director</p> <p>(813) 780-1414                      Fax: (813) 783-3475</p> <p><a href="http://www.mainstreetzephyrhills.org">www.mainstreetzephyrhills.org</a> Email: <a href="mailto:info@mainstreetzephyrhills.org">info@mainstreetzephyrhills.org</a></p>
--	--


Her first job was in her Junior year under the school work experience program as cashier at the Kentucky Fried Chicken in Zephyrhills when it was in the building that is now Barb’s Restaurant on Hwy. 301. Six months later she transferred to D.C.T. (Diversified Cooperative Training) and got a job as an assistant in the school’s library during the time when double sessions were going on. I learned so much under the guidance of Librarian, Betty Hall and Associate Librarian, Charles Rodgers. After graduation she worked at St. Leo College when it was a private school, working in the Admissions Office. It was exciting to meet prospective students from all over the world, giving campus tours and later being Secretary to the Director of Admissions, Father J. Dennis Murphy, O.S.B. This gave her opportunity to take some courses at the college to further her career.

After six years at St. Leo, Clereen was offered a job at Flagship Bank of Zephyrhills which made it closer to take her daughter to kindergarten. She was a teller in the remote drive thru only office on Hwy. 54 West (now Elaine Riegler State Farm Insurance across from Betmar Acres Mobile Home Park) for the first six months then was transferred to the Main Office as a Loan Processor for another five years. She was then offered a position as a Customer Service Representative at the same office which she accepted and did for an additional fifteen years and met many wonderful customers. Taking care of clients needs was her niche. She says she always used the Golden Rule as her direction which then led her to her favorite position as Private Banker servicing the Medical & Legal clients in the East Pasco, Hernando & northern part of Hillsborough Counties which she did for the final ten years. She was able to take early retirement the end of December in 2010 after serving over 31 years of service!

Over the years the bank name changed many times due to mergers and acquisitions from Bank of Zephyrhills to Flagship Bank of Zephyrhills to Flagship Bank of Pasco County to SunBank of Pasco County to SunBank & Trust Company and as it is known today, SunTrust Bank. The original Bank of Zephyrhills opened its doors on November 11, 1949 on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue where Times Square is located today. This was the second bank in Zephyrhills as The First State Bank opened in 1912 and closed in the late 1920’s due to the depression. She remembers as a young girl taking her savings to the bank and having it posted in a passbook. She never thought she would end up working in a bank much less for 30+ years.



**CHALET FLOWERS**

5002 SEVENTH STREET  
ZEPHYRHILLS, FLORIDA 33542  
**813-788-2874**

MARY ANN · KIM · TIM SANDERS

**LITTLE ANGEL CHRISTIAN STORE**



5522 7th Street (behind Kentucky Fried Chicken)  
Zephyrhills, Florida 33542  
Toll Free (800) 290-9650  
(813) 782-7600

STAN & CHARLOTTE GRAMS

**BIG ENOUGH TO SERVE YOU - SMALL ENOUGH TO KNOW YOU**

**Present** – Clereen has been very involved with the Zephyrhills High School Alumni Association for over 25 years holding positions of Secretary and Treasurer during those years as well as being the alumni contact and reunion organizer. She wants everyone to know there is an annual all-school reunion held on the last Sunday in June at the Zephyrhills Lions Club on Dean Dairy Road. For more information visit the official ZHS Alumni News website she manages at [www.zhsalumninews.websiteanimal.com/](http://www.zhsalumninews.websiteanimal.com/). She also keeps her own Class of 1973 in touch with each other and works on their reunion committee. This year their class will be having their 40<sup>th</sup> reunion!!! She says, “Where has all the time gone?” Seems like yesterday we were in school wishing graduation would hurry up and come. Always remember you get what you wish for!

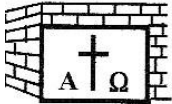
Within the last ten years she have been working on a ZHS Alumni Directory listing anyone who attended, worked or taught at all of the Zephyrhills schools. No one had a comprehensive address listing that could be found so she took it upon herself to do the major research. She started with the 3x5 index cards from the annual alumni reunion and expanded to going thru all the annuals/yearbooks she could find and contacting family members to provide the missing address information. Also getting mailing lists from class reunion committees was a big help. Surprisingly alot of graduates still live right here in Zephyrhills! Her goal is to reconnect classmates and keep everyone informed of events the school would be having such as Homecoming Games and what their classmates were doing now as well as special events the town would have such as Founder’s Day celebrations.

In 2009 Clereen held a position as Vice President and President of the ZHS 100 Committee to help with preparation of the town and school’s 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations. Many projects were accomplished by the committee such as selling ZHS centennial T-shirts, coffee mugs and bricks from the old schoolhouse as a fundraiser; a historical marker and dedication ceremony was



made for the campus at Raymond B. Stewart Middle School; having a 100-ton bronze bulldog named “Gus” installed in the atrium of the high school; brick wall built in front of the school marquee with lettering “100 Years of Education 1910 – 2010”; involvement with the mural painted on the side of the old Peoples Supermarket building (now known as Hynes Discount Supply) on the corner of 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Hwy. 301. And the finale was the ZHS Alumni Homecoming Social and Dance held at the high school. Also the ZHS 100 Committee

helped Main Street Zephyrhills in planning the Centennial Founders Day celebration by forming class years by the decades and having them dress in that time period and decorate their float accordingly for the parade. This was the longest parade Zephyrhills had ever seen!

<p><b>CornerStone</b>    <b>Baptist Church</b>                  7th Street &amp; 8th Avenue                  Come be our special guest                  Coffee &amp; Donuts 10:30***** Worship 11:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M.                  Dr. Neal Resue—Pastor                  * NealDoe1956@verizon.net</p>	<p>In Memory of  <b>Ryals Furniture Exchange</b>                  And Great Parents  <b>Powell &amp; Maude Ryals</b>                  From son James  <b>God Bless America</b></p>
--	--

**Future** - Being a historical co-writer for the Zephyrhills News during the centennial years have taught her so much about the town she calls home. Interviews with many pioneers and longtime residents, learning the history of many of our wonderful old buildings is very interesting and like a puzzle. Growing up she heard many pieces but it didn't all fit together until she got involved in working on these articles. She thanks Madonna Jervis Wise for being instrumental in helping her learn more about her hometown.

Clereen says her interests are traveling with her hubby, spending time with the family, photography, scrapbooking, working in her flower garden and of course keeping her friends and school classmates in touch with each other along with supporting her community. Her favorite daytime TV show is "The Young and The Restless" as well as "The Bold and The Beautiful" which she has been watching for over 20 years. She says being in the Y&R Fan Club has made them like a second family to her! Her favorite TV & movie series are the original Star Trek shows and the Harry Potter Series. Her favorite TV channel is the Hallmark channel with all those inspirational movies that often bring tears to her eyes before the movie is over. She has three different collections which are Gone With The Wind figurines of all kinds which represents the Past; The Young and The Restless plates, ornaments and photos to represent the Present and her extensive Star Trek collection to represent the Future. Her favorite color is purple and her favorite restaurants are Red Lobster and Cracker Barrel.

Clereen has been a member of the Zephyrhills Historical Association since 2005 but has only been an 'active' member since 2011. She is co-writer with Jerry Pricher on the Tracks of Times monthly newsletter. She has served on several committees including Scholarship Committee, chairperson of the Nominating Committee and member of the Auditing Committee as well as spearheading one of the 2013 fundraiser programs. She also helps with various projects the association takes on and inspires others to participate in helping to preserve the history of Zephyrhills for future generations.

**A Personal Note From the Desk of the Editor**



I don't know how long Clereen and I have been working together for the ZHS Alumni & Friends Luncheon, but I know it's been a long, long time. Our families go back even farther than that, however, as the picture illustrates. It's from the March 12, 1966 installation of officers of The Order of the Eastern Star. Otis Pricher and Vera Morrill are Worthy Patron and Matron. Clyde is sitting next to Vera and my mom is in the back row. I am reminded of Clyde Morrill on a daily basis, as he did all the cabinet work for our house sometime in the early sixties. It still looks great. Now THAT is some fine workmanship!

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>WATSON CLINIC</b> <small>LLP</small>  <i>Dermatology at Zephyrhills</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Rick L. Moore, M.D.</b>                  Dermatology</p> <p>6901 Medical View Lane                  Zephyrhills, Florida 33542  <a href="http://www.WatsonClinic.com">www.WatsonClinic.com</a></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Office: 813-788-7867                  Fax: 813-783-7187</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Dependable Service                  Reasonable Rates</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Satisfaction Guaranteed                  Licensed</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>NATHAN C. GEIGER</b>                  Lawn Service</p> <p style="text-align: center;">813-782-7577</p>
--	---

**Zephyrhills Historical Association Donates Items to Atkins Group Home**



Each year the Zephyrhills Historical Association donates money or articles of clothing to local organizations in need. Christmas Eve, December 24, 2012, took ZHA members Patty Thompson, Betty O'Dell and Ken Cummings to the Atkins Group Home in Zephyrhills who presented socks, gloves and beanies to the men who live there. The residents enjoyed receiving the much needed items and thanked the association for the generous gifts. Below is information about the group home. Make sure to visit their website and make a donation. Your contribution will be greatly appreciated...

38839 5th Avenue  
 Zephyrhills, FL 33542-4606  
 Phone: (813) 788-3117  
 Website: <http://www.atkinsgrouphome.org>  
 Email: [agh788@aol.com](mailto:agh788@aol.com)

**About Atkins Group Home Inc. - A non-profit Group Home for the Developmentally Disabled**



*Photo provided by Atkins Group Home Website & copyright approved by Cathi Kelly*

We have been serving the Zephyrhills community for over 30 years. Our initiatives for the developmentally disabled are designed to maximize our residents' potential. We were founded as Scott's Group Home in 1976 by Arlene Scott as a home for developmentally disabled girls and boys. We were converted to Atkins Group Home in the 1970s to serve developmentally disabled males. Our director from 1981-2006 was Chip Atkins. We are currently managed by our board of directors. We are a private, non-profit IRS approved 501(c)3 organization. Atkins Group Home has received the highest rating from The Delmarva Foundation. If you would like more information about Atkins Group Home's rating, please go to Florida Developmental Disabilities Resources.

**The Atkins Group Home Mission Statement**

It is the mission of the staff to assist each young man:

- To achieve his full potential
- To cultivate independence
- To offer excellent care in a loving, secure, and safe environment
- To ensure they are happy, healthy, and able to be the best person they can be

Our staff work to enable these young men to develop self-confidence, a positive self-image, the highest level of independence, to feel that they are important to others, and to know that this is their home.

 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Manolo's Italian Restaurant</b>              "Italian Cuisine at its Best"</p> <p style="text-align: center;">38445 5th Ave. Downtown              Zephyrhills, FL 33542</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(813) 715-7077              (813) 715-7047 fax</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="mailto:manolosrestaurant@yahoo.com">manolosrestaurant@yahoo.com</a>  <a href="http://www.manolositalianrestaurant.com">www.manolositalianrestaurant.com</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Cutting Edge Beauty Salon</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Joni Gauger  <i>Stylist / Owner</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">6132 Ft. King Rd.              Zephyrhills, Florida              33542</p> <p style="text-align: center;">813-782-4001 or 813-469-3437</p> 
--	--