

Monthly Publication from the Zephyrhills Historical Association

Volume 15 – Number 5

May 2013

The next Zephyrhills Historical Association meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 4th 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

We were thoroughly entertained at the May meeting by the ZHS Chorus, under the direction of Luan Gore. What a performance!



There will be no speaker at our June meeting. Instead we will take the opportunity to show some of the work we've been doing on our pictorial demonstrations, and it will give us the chance to see our new projector and screen in operation.

Thursday, May 30th, is our Ruby Tuesday Scholarship Fundraiser

We are meeting up at 5 p.m. on that day, but you can come anytime.

Contact Clereen Brunty for flyer (20% of sales goes to scholarship fund)

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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.

 <p>Garage Doors, Inc. Kerry Ryman President</p> <p>36413 SR 54 • Zephyrhills, Florida 33541 Telephone: 813-782-5926 • Fax: 813-788-6773 E-mail: kerry@rymanconstruction.com License # GDI 09084</p> 	 <p>ABBOTT STATION RESTAURANT</p> <p>813 322 3686</p> <p>5327 Gall Blvd. Zephyrhills, FL 33542 www.AbbottStation.com</p>
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Member Spotlight
Ken Cummings and Betty O'Dell

By Clereen Brunty

Another member of our Zephyrhills Historical Association is **Kenward Leon Cummings** who is better known to us as Ken or Kenny. Ken was born on February 9, 1930 to Leon and Bernice Cummings in Akron, New York, which is 20 miles East of Buffalo. He lived in Akron for 62 years before moving to Zephyrhills, FL.


Ken has a brother, Elwyn, who passed away in 2010 and a sister, Audrey Tuchols, who lives in Corfu, NY. Growing up in Akron, Kenny lived on a farm and attended 1st – 12th grades at Parker High School and graduated in 1949. He worked bailing hay most of his high school years and after graduation he got a job working for the Erie County Parks Department in Akron. He was a laborer and equipment operator for the first 10 years and then became Foreman for an additional 4 years when he was promoted to Superintendent for another 23 years. After retiring in 1986, Ken also worked part-time for an electrician in Akron.



He married Miriam Miller in 1954 and enjoyed his honeymoon in a cabin on Lake Canadian. They were married for 18 years and had no children at that time. In 1974, Ken married Marion Garrett in the First Baptist Church of Akron. They enjoyed a lot of sightseeing on their honeymoon in Toronto, Canada. Ken says it was nice to be married to women with similar names so he didn't have to worry whose name he would call out in his sleep!!!

Ken and Marion raised her three daughters, Cheryl Smith who lives in Lockport, NY; Mary Printup and Kay Garrett who both live in Akron, NY. Ken enjoys visits with his 6 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren; Brenda who is mother to Kelsey and Shannon, Colleen, mother to Kyle and Andrew, Henry with one boy, Henry Jr., Becky is mother to Colin and Carson and final 2 granddaughters, Jessica and Amanda, do not have any children yet.



<p>Shirts & Caps, founded in Zephyrhills in 1982, is now an internet-based national supplier of custom screen printed t-shirts. Still family owned and operated; find us online at www.ClassB.com!</p> 	<p>Artistic Expressions Custom Picture Framing specializing in the framing of needlework 5906 7th Street Zephyrhills, Florida 33542</p> <p>(813) 783-7731 Beverly Koehler Barnett, Owner E-Mail: aeframer@aol.com</p>
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On October 1951, Ken was drafted into the Army and started at Fort Devens, MA and then transferred to Fort Dix, NJ for 16 weeks of basic training before being sent back to Fort Devens, awaiting assignment for at least a month. Then he was sent to Okinawa, Japan, where he served in Security Operations. He was assigned to the Motor Pool Services in Okinawa with the 860 3rd First Army AAU (Admin Assist Unit) and had advanced to the rank of Corporal. Ken was discharged from the Army in 1953.

While living in Akron, Ken was a member of the First Baptist Church in Clarence for 60 years. After moving to Zephyrhills, he now attends the Zephyr Christian Church located on the corner of North Avenue and 23rd Street. Ken was also a member of the Kiwanis organization in Clarence, NY and helped serve at many of the BBQ chicken dinners. He also held the position of President for 1 year. He assisted the Little League football team and

enjoyed helping the kids for at least 5 years while in NY.

Ken is very crafty in woodworking, shown by the various items he has made in and around his house. There is a windmill, flower cart, gazebo that houses Mother Goose, as well as some small shelves that displays his collection of miniature antique “Ford” trucks and cars as well as a variety of elephant figurines. Ken will say he is a handyman by trade. His favorite color is red, favorite music is anything country/western, enjoys watching comedy movies and loves to eat at Village Inn.



In 1992, Ken moved to Zephyrhills. In 1994 Ken became a member of the Zephyrhills Historical Association and helped at the flea market and pig roast that the association held as fundraiser events. He also held a position as Board Member for 2 years. Now he enjoys coming to meetings and especially our “Dinner Night Outs”!

Ken met Elizabeth “Betty” O’Dell at one of the flea markets the historical association was having at the Depot in September 2006. He saw a new lady helping out and was introduced by Margaret Seppanen, another historical member and lifetime resident of Zephyrhills. She would ask Kenny if he could take Betty home afterwards which he was glad to do not knowing the method to her madness...Margaret was playing cupid! In May of 2007 Kenny asked Betty if she would like to go out to Remington Steak House

in Wesley Chapel and she graciously accepted. Food is always the best way to get acquainted with someone you are interested in. They have been dating ever since!

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Now the story of **Elizabeth “Betty” Ann Galeucia O’Dell** begins on November 1, 1930 when she was born to Daniel W. and Olive I. Galeucia of Dalton, Massachusetts. Betty is the middle of seven siblings, Warren, June, Nelson, Betty, Richard, Daniel and James. Besides Betty, the only brothers and sisters still living are Warren who lives in Pittsfield, MA and June who lives in Worcester, MA.



At the age of 4, Betty’s family moved to Hinsdale, MA after her mother inherited \$500 and was able to purchase a farm. She attended Kittredge Grammar School in Hinsdale, MA. As a child, her mother taught her how to work the phone switchboard. When the manager of the phone company went into the military he convinced her mother that she would be a great switchboard operator, so they moved into the place where the equipment was housed. They even had the only fire system and were in charge of notifying the Fire Department where to go to a fire based on the phone calls they received from the residents. Betty would earn 35 cents an hour to run the switchboard and would help her mother until she moved to North Adams, MA after she married.

During high school, Betty enjoyed going to the square dances in Cheshire, MA with her date, Mike. He introduced Betty to his friend, Ward O’Dell, who was at the dance with his girlfriend, Janie. A few days later, Ward would call Betty while she was working the switchboard and asked if he could take her out to a movie. That date turned out to be the start of a new romance.

After graduation from Pittsfield High School, Betty & Ward married on June 25, 1949 in the Windsor Church by the same minister who married her parents. Now the minister was in his 90’s. And ironically enough, the organist was also the same woman from the 1923 parents wedding. This meant a lot to Betty who had her best friend Gerry, be her maid of honor and Ward’s best man was Bob who was Mike’s brother that Betty used to date. All came full circle now.



For their honeymoon, Betty & Ward took a bus to Springfield, MA to spend a week in a hotel and enjoyed seeing Kenny Rogers perform while visiting an amusement park. Years later they saw him again at the Grand Ole’ Opry in Tennessee and it brought back great memories of their honeymoon time.

Betty and Ward moved to North Adams, MA where she worked for Sprague Electric as Receive and Shipping Clerk. This company made batteries, ceramics, condensers and other parts for large corporations such as NASA, Raytheon, GE, and IBM amongst others. They also made gas masks and cameras for Kodak. Working from 1952 – 1992 she earned a starting pay of \$1.08 per hour to \$14.00 per hour and primarily took care of the International shipping area. Ten years later, they

moved back to Hinsdale and lived in a mobile home on Betty’s parent’s property while building their house.

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Ward and Betty have two daughters, four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Daughter, Lorraine, is married to David Hardy who now live in Zephyrhills. Lorry and David attended the same school growing up in Hinsdale and graduated from Dalton High. After school, Lorry got a job working at Mary Smith Florist in Dalton, MA and David went into the Navy. One day while David was on leave, he went into the florist and ordered a dozen red roses and asked Lorry on a date. Soon they married and had a daughter, Samantha, who is married to Jay Lloyd, an Army Captain Physician's Assistant. Samantha has two boys, Willie and Jay, Jr., and live in Fayetteville, NC. Samantha & David's son, David, Jr. is in the Coast Guard and he and his wife, Danielle live in Cape Canaveral, FL. When Lorry and

David moved to Zephyrhills, she got a job at Marion Smith Florist (how ironic to work at a florist with similar names as in MA) where she has worked in the florist business now for over 10 years and David works at our local Wal-Mart.

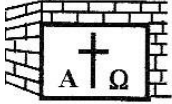
Daughter, Pam was married to Harvey and had two boys. First son, Harvey, Jr. has 4 sons, Angel, who lives in California; Gavin, Griffin and Hudson who live in San Antonio, TX and second son, Barry & wife, Karen live in Dalton, MA and have 1 son, Jason, who lives in Dalton, MA. Pamela passed away of cancer in 2004.

The O'Dell family sold their house in Hinsdale and moved to a house in Cheshire, MA where



they lived from 1979 to 1992. When Lorraine was 5 weeks old, they enjoyed traveling the 48 U.S. states and camped in pup tents and slept on bed rolls. Betty recalls having to wash Lorry's diapers in the river as disposable diapers had not been invented in the earlier years. They used outdoor plumbing and enjoyed the wilderness and adventure. The following year they took the Lewis and Clark trail through the upper states to Washington state and then traveled through the providences of Canada back to Massachusetts.

In 1992 Betty and Ward retired and moved to Webster, FL. Betty got a job mentoring the 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade students at the local library. She also parked cars at the infamous Webster Flea Market. After moving to Florida they purchased a 36' motor home and took their final trip before Ward passed away in 2000. Betty moved to Zephyrhills in 2003 to be close to her daughter and family.

<p>CornerStone  Baptist Church 7th Street & 8th Avenue Come be our special guest Coffee & 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 Ryals Furniture Exchange And Great Parents Powell & Maude Ryals From son James God Bless America</p>
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A couple of historical facts about Betty’s family...her ancestors came to the states on the Mayflower in the early 1600’s and her great-grandfather, Charles Hathaway, fought in the Spanish American War and is a cousin to Susan B. Anthony who was a prominent American Civil Rights leader, who played a pivotal role in the 19th century. She was one of the important advocates in leading the way for women's rights to be acknowledged and instituted in American government.

Betty attended the First Congregational Church in Hinsdale, MA and was a teacher to the nursery age children. She also sang in the choir at the First Methodist Church in Webster and now attends the Zephyr Christian Church in Zephyrhills where she enjoys being in the church’s Women’s Club.

As a child, Betty enjoyed being in the 4H Club and Girl Scouts where she learned to bake cookies and biscuits and still has her first cookbook. She also learned how to knit socks and hats for the men in the service. She also was trained to climb up the fire tower and watch for planes with her binoculars as this was during the WWII time period.

Betty was a member of The Grange in Hinsdale. She volunteered to help with fundraiser dinners and sang in the minstrels in Dalton and Pittsfield Community Centers. After she married, she was a member of the Women’s Fire Auxiliary and made dinners for the firemen from various firehouses. Ward was a volunteer fireman and trained the new men as they were hired. She has been a member of the Zephyrhills Historical Association since 2005 and has worked the Gift Shop, Board Member and helped at the association’s yard sales & flea markets. At times she would also volunteer at the Zephyrhills Depot Museum to help Margaret Seppanen with filing news articles before Margaret retired as Museum Curator.

Betty says her favorite color is Blue and her favorite music is anything by Kenny G and Lionel Richie. She enjoys romance, comedy and drama movies. Reading any romance novels by Debbie Macomber is one of her favorite past times. Her favorite restaurant is Red Lobster. Today she still enjoys knitting, reading and sewing. She had always sewn her children and grandchildren clothes and continues making specialty outfits, like the outfit on the Mother Goose in Ken’s gazebo.



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Dr. L. L. Lamb, First Doctor in Zephyrhills

by Jon R. Ferguson

All my life I had remembered Dr. Lamb as Dr. Lewitt Louis Lamb. I must have been incorrect because each of the census records shows him as Lloyd Lewitt Lamb or some variant spelling of same. He had an office in the little building behind the beauty salon/dress shop on 5th Avenue and 8th Street if my memory is correct. That same building was later used by at least one other doctor. Dr. Lamb was a general practitioner and made house calls. There was a standing joke about him...that no matter what you were seeing him about, you would wind up with a tube of Ungentine.

Lloyd L. Lamb was born in 1869. His parents were John J. and Maria G. (mnu) Lamb. The 1880 Federal Census reports the family farming in Lake Butler, Bradford County, Florida. There were eight children: Richard A., Samuel W., Wallace N., Adam Grantham, Nellie, Fennie O., Lloyd L. and George P. A 12-year-old black male, Henry President, was a servant. John J. Lamb was born in South Carolina. Maria was born in Georgia. Before the 1885 State Census was taken, the three older sons were no longer at home.

L. L. Lamb and Lillie E. (mnu) married in 1895. She was also born in 1869. In 1900 they lived in Columbia County Florida with two small children: Mannie J. (female) and J. Durand. In 1910 they were living in Pine Hill, Bradford County, Florida and had another daughter, Marie.

They had moved to Parrish, Manatee County, Florida by time for the 1920 Federal Census. In 1930 they were living in Kenansville, Osceola County, Florida, with no children at home.

The 1940 Federal Census reveals that Dr. Lamb is a Physician in Private Practice in Zephyrhills, Pasco County, Florida, living at 619 Tenth Street North. He has completed his fourth year of college. His work consumed much time. He claimed to have worked 60 hours the week before the census. He also reported that he had worked all 52 weeks in 1939 with "0" income.

Dr. Lamb and his wife both died in 1951 and are buried in the Oakside Cemetery, Zephyrhills, Pasco County, Florida



Rosemary Trottmann Scholarship goes to Aisling Cooney presented by Jerry Pricher on May 22, 2013

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