

Monthly Publication from the Zephyrhills Historical Association

Volume 16 – Number 3

March 2014

The next Zephyrhills Historical Association meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 1st 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 include drinks, which are provided, and food brought in to share by members.

Speakers



Our speaker for March was Willie Broner, retired teacher and coach from Pasco High in Dade City. Willie posted over three hundred wins as a basketball coach there, and has been honored a number of times for those efforts. He introduced his lovely wife, Doris, and remarked that she was the best thing that every happened to him. He told us of his upbringing, his injury in Vietnam, and the long recovery which followed. He talked about his education and about finding a job teaching in Pasco County. Most of us were unaware that he coached basketball at South Sumter, in Bushnell, before finally being offered the job as head coach at Pasco. The rest, one might say, is history. Find out more about Willie on page 3. Those in attendance enjoyed his presentation very much.

Louie Holt will be our presenter for the April meeting. He will be sharing some of the work he has been doing on our pictorial presentation project. This is an ongoing project for us and has been in the works for awhile. Louie recently took the helm and has done some great work in selecting and organizing the pictures. The pictures will be displayed using the equipment we purchased just for this purpose. We hope you'll come join us.

Thursday, March 27th, is our next Ruby Tuesday Scholarship Fundraiser

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

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Broner honored by state Legislature

Pasco boys basketball coach Willie Broner caps a period of honors with a Tallahassee trip at Rep. Mike Fasano's invitation.

By JAMAL THALJI

© St. Petersburg Times, published May 6, 2000

So there was Willie Broner, sitting in the west gallery of the state house in Tallahassee on Wednesday morning.

There was Rep. Mike Fasano, R.-New Port Richey, on the floor of the house, saluting Broner.

There was the entire Florida House of Representatives, giving Broner a standing ovation.

There was Broner, standing and waving back.

And Broner's reaction to all this was ...

"It was nice," Pasco's boys basketball coach said. "It was really nice."

So ended Broner's trip to Tallahassee, at Fasano's invitation, to honor the longtime coach for dedicating his life to coaching and teaching, for his work in the community and most importantly for winning his 300th career game this year.




"It felt good," Broner said. "We just sat up there and watched all the big people making all those decisions. Everyone's in a rush, trying to find out who's voting for this and who's not voting for that.

"It was exciting, and it's a great honor."

Broner, Pasco's athletic director, has been feted all year long. First by the Dade City Commission, then the Pasco County School Board and then his own school, which passed out T-shirts to staff members honoring his 300th win and presented him with a plaque at a ceremony.

Fasano had invited Broner and his family to spend the day in Tallahassee, and have lunch with him. But Broner had to respectfully decline, because wife Annie Doris Davis had to return to Dade City on Wednesday afternoon to complete some business.

<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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So the two set out for Tallahassee Tuesday evening, spent the night at the residence of an uncle of Broner's and were at the Capitol at 9 a.m.

Broner and Fasano met outside chambers afterward, and Broner told the state representative there were a few things he wanted to discuss with him. Broner asked if he could make an appointment to come see Fasano in his New Port Richey office.

Fasano said he would rather come see Broner in Dade City.

Which is fine with Broner, because he's got something on his mind.

"The county has (recreation centers) in Hudson and Land O'Lakes," Broner said, "but not one on this side of the county. I think it's time that we got our own park, and I wanted to ask Mr. Fasano how we would go about doing that."

Broner said that while Dade City and Land O'Lakes have county parks, the kind of recreational complex that other Pasco County locales have, complete with indoor gyms, tennis courts and swimming pools, could be put to good use on the east side of the county.

"Dade City needs a pool badder than anything," Broner said. "Most of the kids around here haven't even learned how to swim yet."

Broner is always involved in youth sports in the area, and has put together a few youth basketball leagues of his own over the years at the Pasco gym.

"We could really use a rec center like that out here," Broner said. "It would give the kids something to do, and it would help keep them out of trouble, I believe."

Broner said after watching the legislature in action, he won't be giving up his day job any time soon.

"That's one job I don't want," he said, laughing.

ZHA Presentation at Bahr's Mobile Home Park



Sharon Reisman, Clereen Brunty, Patty Thompson, Margie Partain share what Zephyrhills Historical Association is all about. Saturday they were invited to the Bahr's Mobile Home Park Spring Bazaar to display information about the Rosemary Trotman Scholarship that is awarded to a Zephyrhills High School graduate. A slideshow of photos of our town from long ago were shown as well as the ladies handed out bookmarks and postcards.

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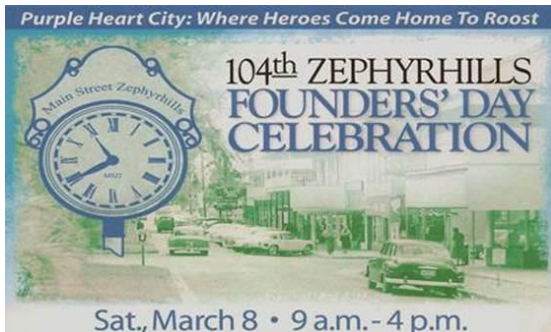
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Founders' Day 2014



We are so proud to win again this year but in a different category – Best Miscellaneous Car/Truck. Thanks again to all those who participated. A special thanks to Bob Porter for inviting his Model T car buddies to join us as well as showing his own cars. They are always a big hit!



PARADE ENTRY WINNERS

Best Business Entry
 Ryman Construction

Best Youth Organization
 ZHS JROTC

Best Marching/Walking Unit
 Zephyrhills High School Band

Best Mobile Home/RV Park
 Sundance 55+ Community

Best Equestrian Unit
 Pasco County Parks & Recreation

Best Miscellaneous Car/Truck
 Zephyrhills Historical Association


Best Club Entry
 AMVETS Post #550

Best Religious Organization
 First Baptist Church

Best Display of Theme
 [Purple Heart City: Where Heroes Come Home to Roost]
 Sundance 55+ Community

Best Overall Entry
 Southern Charm RV Park

Peoples' Choice
 (Votes cast/tabulated at Main Street booth)
 Southern Charm RV Park

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1910 Ford Model T owned & driven by John Gallerani



Ford Model T owned & driven by Bob & Penny Porter



1919 Ford Model T owned by Bob Porter and driven by J.R. Geiger



Model T Speedster owned by Bob Porter and driven by Marcelo Nobrega



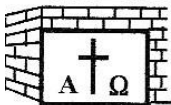
1926 Ford Model T Speedster owned by Alan King and driven by his son



Model T Depot Hack owned and driven by Paul and Wanda Hermann



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Founders' Day 1960

This article appeared in the Tampa Tribune on Mar. 9, 1960.


Miss Lynn Nichols was crowned Miss Zephyrhills tonight after winning the contest staged at the Municipal Auditorium to climax the two-day, golden anniversary Founder's Day Festival. The new queen is the daughter of Mrs. R.R. Nichols and the late Mr. Nichols, and won the title over nine other girls competing in the finals of the contest, one of the features of the 11th annual Founder's Day event. Chosen first maid was Miss Delores Jones, whose guardian is Mrs. Elizabeth Flemming, Miss Linda Freeburg, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Freeburg, was named second maid. More than 8,000 spectators jammed the city's main street this morning to watch the longest parade in Zephyrhills history. Music of three bands—Pasco High School of Dade City, Gulf High School of New Port Richey and the hometown pride, Zephyrhills High School—enlivened the line of march.

Parade Officials: J. Robert Hinds was parade marshal; Freddy Peterson, famed Danish-born artist was the master of ceremonies for the fun and frolic event. He was joined on the reviewing stand by R.L. Bryan, Bartow, first secretary of the Zephyrhills Colony Company, the initial developer of the town; Mrs. Harry L. Rice, Mayor of Zephyrhills, and Pasco County Sheriff Leslie Bessenger. F. Earl Hart and C.A. (Biff) Hough were co-chairmen of the annual event sponsored by the Lions Club.

Judges for the parade entries were Mrs. G.H. Whitman, Joe Collura and Pasco County Agricultural Agent, J.F. (Jimmy) Higgins, all of Dade City.

Prizes Awarded: Prizes were awarded by the Lions club in these categories: Best decorated out-of-town floats—Plant City Queen/Strawberry Festival, first; Dixie Lily Milling Company, second; and Culligan Soft Water Service, San Antonio, third. Hometown floats included: Bufferteria, Inc., first; Bank of Zephyrhills, second; and Joe Herrmann's Inc, third.

Best decorated automobile—Gold Star Mothers of the Veterans of Foreign Wars; oldest vehicle in the parade—PeniSaver stores oxen-driven rare schooner brought here by L.W. Wilson of Arodarko, Oklahoma; best decorated bicycle—David Guthrie; most typical mounted cowboy in the parade—Sandy Simons; most typical mounted cowgirl in the parade—Linda Reece.

<p>Gail Fisher Special Events Coordinator Cell (813) 997-2358</p>  <p>SILVERADO GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB</p> <p>Office (813) 788-1225 • Fax (813) 780-7869 36841 Clubhouse Drive • Zephyrhills, FL 33542 www.golfsilverado.com</p>	<p>Brantley Smith Owner and Operator</p> <p>Dependable Service Satisfaction Guaranteed Reasonable Rates Licensed</p> <p>NATHAN C. GEIGER Lawn Service</p> <p>813-782-7577</p>
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Best pioneer costumed man in the parade—Owen Lefevre; best pioneer costumed woman in the parade—Mrs. Martha Windnagle.

Oldest in Residence: Woman living longest time in Zephyrhills was Mrs. Edwina Beaver, who came here as a baby from her native Hudson on March 10, 1910, eight days before Abbott changed its name to Zephyrhills. Man living longest time in Zephyrhills was G.R. (Bob Williams, who moved to Abbott from his native Delhi, Louisiana, on November 9, 1909.

Best matched horses and riders as a group were the Egypt Temple Shrine Patrol. Residents and visitors found themselves tossed into the “lions den” hoosegow and had to “fine” themselves out with coin of the realm, which went into the sponsoring group’s eyesight conservation fund. Everyone either watched or “joined” in as kiddies rode all manner of time-honored contraptions, ate cotton candy and popcorn and patronized food and drink booths manned by members of local organizations.

Talent Show: Miss Alice Zimmerman directed a talent show in the early afternoon and there was a pie-eating contest for youngsters. Mrs. Jody Evans pounded the ivories for the corn-huskers who furnished music for square dances and Virginia reels.

The festival got under way yesterday at the Zephyrhills West Elementary School in ceremonies in the new cafetorium at which County School Superintendent, Chester Taylor of Dade City officiated.

Street Dancing: Street dancing and community singing to lively music by Mrs. John Thompson on her electric organ played on the reviewing stand along with a 100-year old foot pedal reed organ played by Mrs. T.O. Mays who were also on the afternoon agenda. Mrs. Wynn Jones led the singing.

Preliminary judging of 27 beauty queen contestants took place at intermission time of “Scandals of ‘60,” a follies production by Zephyrhills Junior Woman’s Club with Mrs. Robert Ahrens as director in municipal auditorium last night.

Merle M. Bright, Mrs. A.J. Thompson, Mrs. Henry L. Kinnard, Jr. and Ralph Barefoot, served as judges and selected the finalists from whom the queens and maids were chosen. The ten finalists were: Karen Etter, Lynn Nichols, Linda Freeburg, Alice Faye Bemby, Sandra Pricher, Delores Jones, Margaret Ann Johnston, Ann Fazio, Carolyn Maddux and Janet Weicht.

Pasco County Place Names

from Jeff's site at fivay.org

CLINTON AVENUE in Dade City was named for Capt. Clinton Edward Spencer (1838-1924), according to Lucy Spencer Lock.

DADE CITY and the earlier FORT DADE were named for Maj. Francis Langhorne Dade, a U.S. Army officer killed by Seminoles at the start of the Second Seminole War.

DARBY was apparently named for John W. Darby, an early settler. He married Olinda Bradley. Darby was also called St. Thomas and Amelia.

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