

Monthly Publication from the Zephyrhills Historical Association

Volume 18 – Number 7

July 2016

The next Zephyrhills Historical Association meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> in the meeting room of the *Zephyrhills Public Library*, 5347 8<sup>th</sup> Street. The business meeting is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. and the program is at 6 p.m. Refreshments include drinks, which are provided, and food brought in to share by members.

### Speakers



Our speaker for the July meeting was Suellen Smith, current cafeteria manager at Zephyrhills High School. She recently received a couple of awards in regard to her community service in that capacity, and she made a trip to Washington, DC in the bargain. She talked about this and the activities which brought it about, which continue at ZHS. What started as a project to collect prom dresses for high schoolers who could not afford them has expanded to include all manner of wardrobe for both

male and female students. It's a wonderful endeavor and is greatly supported by the community. It would not have been possible without the vision and energy of Suellen and her staff. She's a wonderful person, and she was a terrific speaker!

Our speaker for the August meeting will be Hazel Massey, who was the cafeteria manager at Zephyrhills High School for a number of years. She was also very active in the Order of the Eastern Star at the time my parents and Clereen's mother were also active. Her daughter, Melanie Massey Foltz, is still active in that organization. Melanie was our speaker just a few months ago, and we've been looking forward to her mother's visit ever since. We hope you'll join us.



**Tuesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, is our next Give-Back Scholarship Fundraiser**

at **Beef O'Brady's in Zephyrhills**. We are meeting at 5 p.m. on that day.

Contact Patty Thompson (813-780-8559 - [pattycakeclown1@aol.com](mailto:pattycakeclown1@aol.com)) for information.

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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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 <p><b>Clereen Morrill Brunty</b> ZHS Alumni Contact</p> <p><b>clereen@tampabay.rr.com</b></p> <p><b>813-782-8763</b></p>	 <p><b>chalet flowers</b></p> <p>Kim Tim  Maryann Sanders owners</p> <p>Ph: 813-788-2874 chaletflowersfl.com</p> <p>5002 7th Street Zephyrhills, FL 33542</p>
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46<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ZHS ALUMNI, TEACHERS & FRIENDS REUNION LUNCHEON  
SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 2016



Jerry Pricher, Class of 1969, welcomes crowd



Cynthia Craig, Class of 1976, 50/50 draw



Bob Winters, Class of 1965  
50/50 Winner (donated back \$334)



Jo Ann (Hile) Randall, Class of 1972  
Traveled Farthest (Salem, Oregon)



Casey Harrison (2016), Bernice Rooks (1940)  
Oldest and Youngest Graduates Present



King Family  
Most Family Members Present



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DOOR PRIZE WINNERS



Jeanna (Ripley) Long  
Class of 1986



Artiste Parsons  
Class of 1959



Joel Edris  
Class of 1986



Claude English  
Class of 1966



Vicki (Kingston) Thomas  
Class of 1968



Mary (Fish) Young  
Class of 1966



Class of 1946 — 70<sup>th</sup> Reunion  
Hazel Boatwright Massey



Class of 1956 — 60<sup>th</sup> Reunion  
Bobby Fullwood, Carol (Sibley) Wideman,  
Margaret Seppanen  
Missing: Nathan & Gail (Smith) Geiger



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ZHS JROTC Bulldog Battalion, GO FOR IT!



Class of 1966 — 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion

*Back Row:* Gary Womack, Billy Lowe, Harriett (Morton) Weicht, Daniel Colandria, Carol (Dunkle) Weeks, Lucinda (Lamper) Colburn, Linda Sante, Mary Ann (Gerlach) Neuhofer, Peggy (Bracknell) Foote, Sheila (Slaughter) Rickard  
*Middle Row:* Walt Achillich, Carol (Grace) Reffit, Janice (Williams) Bassett, Sheryl (Kingston) Burnsed, Marilyn (Rooks) Dayton, Hope (Wintersteen) Lont, Lavon (Pope) Beavers, Lyn (Griffin) McGavern, Alan Murphy  
*Front Row:* Neil Naber, Claude English, Brenda (Shireman) Mitchell, Shearon (Owens) Hunt, Helen (Chenkin) Hill, Mary (Fish) Young, Myra (Bialik) Sperry, Dexter Uterhardt, Jon Stephenson.  
*James Collins, Hal Morton and Vonnie (Kinsey) Padgett were there but had to leave prior to photo*



Zephyrhills Teachers – Past & Present


*Seated:* Judy (Carlsen) Gibson, Class of 1961; Bernice (Curtis) Rooks, Class of 1940; Terry Turner; Artiste Parsons, Class of 1959  
*Standing:* Jerry Pricher, Class of 1969; Luan Gore, Class of 1977; Barbara (Rooks) Pittman, Class of 1969; Barbara (Bales) Moore, Class of 1971; Melanie (Massey) Foltz, Class of 1969; Lynn (Nichols) Timmons, Class of 1960; Bill Baker, Class of 1954; Betty Jo (Turner) Hyder, Class of 1948; Bill Kustes

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**Zephyrhills Museum of Military History**  
 A City of Zephyrhills Facility

**Open Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**  
 39444 South Ave. (813) 780-0078

**Fellowship Of Family, Friends And Food**

*Hundreds Attend Annual ZHS Reunion  
Zephyrhills Free Press, June 30, 2016  
Story and photos by Keri McAlpine*



Mayor Gene Whitfield and  
Reunion Committee President Jerry Pricher



Linda Locke Arant, class of 1978,  
looks through yearbooks

Zephyrhills High School alumni, teachers and friends enjoyed their annual summer blast from the past on Sunday with some folks travelling from across the country.

The reunion is held every year on the last Sunday of June at the Zephyrhills Lions Club and includes non- alumni who may have any kind of connection with the school.


“The biggest thing about this reunion as opposed to a class reunion is you get to see people from all the years,” said Jerry Pricher (Class of 1969), president of the ZHS reunion committee. “My brother graduated in 1954; I will see his classmates and I’ll see my classmates from 1969. We’re all in the same room and we all know each other. You know, it’s a small community.”

The get-together began at 11 a.m., when guests were able to mix, mingle and catch up with others for a couple of hours before a buffet was spread out.

Mayor Gene Whitfield led the room in the Pledge of Allegiance, and a short prayer followed. A moment of silence was shared in remembrance of lost classmates in the past year.

Everyone brought a covered dish to share, and with more than 200 in attendance it was a feast for the eyes and stomach.

Fried chicken, biscuits, green beans, casseroles and not to mention two flanking dessert tables took over one side of the hall.

<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>
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On the other side of the room, another two rows of tables were covered with yearbooks, scrapbooks and poster boards all containing pictures from the past. Guests moseyed through the memorabilia throughout the afternoon, smiling with the turn of each page.

Bill Baker graduated from ZHS in 1954 and began teaching in Zephyrhills in 1959 after finishing college. Now living in Atlanta, he makes the eight-hour drive every year to visit his friends and hometown.

“It brings a lot of memories back. My favorite years [teaching] were here in Zephyrhills,” he said. “It’s just something I look forward to every year.”

At 2 p.m., Pricher announced Delaney Copeland from the class of 2016 as the winner of the ZHS CAPS Scholarship. Alexandra Harwell and Felicia Riggs were also recognized as the winners of the Rosemary Trotman award.

Bob Winters (1965) won the 50/50 raffle with a prize of over \$300, which he donated back to the reunion association.

Pricher went on to recognize those in attendance.

The King Family was recognized for having the most family members at the reunion, with a total of 13.

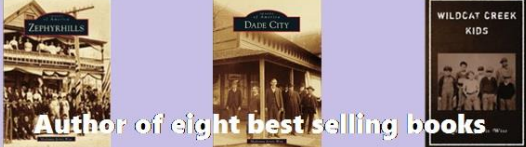

Bernice (Curtis) Rooks (1940) was the oldest graduate in attendance this year, and Casey Harrison (2016) was the youngest.

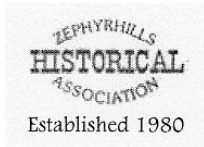
JoAnn (Hile) Randall (1972) was recognized for travelling the farthest to attend this year’s celebration – 3,000 miles from Salem, Oregon.

The annual reunions have been around since the late '70s, and Pricher said there are always a couple of people each year who travel from the west coast to visit their alma mater.

“I think people who grew up here tend to keep their roots. They don’t forget where they grew up. They may move away, but they don’t forget where they came from. It’s a close-knit community in that way,” Pricher said.



 <p><b>Author of eight best selling books</b></p> <p><b>Madonna Wise Books</b>                  Author, Research &amp; Consulting                  Madonna Jervis Wise                  Zephyrhills, Florida                  Murphy, North Carolina</p> <p><b>813-469-8627</b>                  MadonnaJWise@gmail.com  <a href="http://madonnawisebooks.wordpress.com">http://madonnawisebooks.wordpress.com</a></p>	<p><b>Cutting Edge Beauty Salon</b></p>  <p>813-782-4001      813-469-3437</p> <p><b>Joni Gauger</b>                  owner/stylist</p> <p>6132 Fort King Rd.                  Zephyrhills, Florida 33542</p>
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## ZEPHYRHILLS HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

### BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

JULY 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2016

The Zephyrhills Historical Association meeting was called to order by President Rod Rehrig, who led in the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the Invocation.

The minutes of the June 7 meeting were read by Secretary Anna V. Boone with motion to approve by Jerry Pricher and seconded by Bill Kustes.

The Treasurer's report was given by Treasurer Clereen Brunty with motion to accept by Bill Kustes, seconded by Tenci Alexander and approved.

Old Business: Regarding fundraisers, Patty Thompson distributed flyers for the next event which will be at Mike's Smokehouse on July 26. Since there was only \$20 from the May fundraiser at Mike's, it will be added to the amount with the July event. The Rosemary Trottman Scholarship Fundraiser for June was held at Sergio's Italian Restaurant and garnered \$82.22. Sergio's closes for part of August, so the fundraiser will be skipped for that month and will be held there on September 27.

New Business: For July's birthday night out, Bob Porter has chosen Scotland Yards. The date will be July 15 at 4 pm.

Other New Business: There are two new membership applicants; Urbian Winslow (Buck) and Judy Gibson. Buck is a Civil War rein actor, a professional Santa, is active with the Florida Pioneer Museum, serves as an assistant chaplain with the Marines and is a minister. Judy introduced herself. She came to the area in 1950 and reflected on some of the changes she has seen over the years. Judy is a '61 graduate of Zephyrhills High School.

Jerry motioned for the meeting to adjourn seconded by Tenci Alexander and approved by all. The meeting ended at 5:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Anna V. Boone, Secretary, Zephyrhills Historical Association

Addendum to July 5 minutes: Elizabeth O'Dell proposed helping the local effort with mailing expenses for the shipment of goods to the Troops serving overseas. As the meeting has adjourned, she will bring it up next meeting.

The guest speaker tonight will be Suellen Smith, who is the Zephyrhills High School Cafeteria Manager.