

# TRACKS OF TIME

Monthly Publication from the Zephyrhills Historical Association

Volume 21 – Number 7

July 2019

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

## Speakers

I have been on the Library Board for close to two decades now, and I can tell you we have been blessed with fine directors throughout that time. At our last meeting Lori Brightwell gave her usual Director's Report, and I was so impressed with all the activities the library is currently conducting that I felt I must give her an opportunity to share it with a larger crowd. I've asked her to come be our speaker for the August meeting to let us in on what she and her staff and volunteers are currently doing. I think you will all be impressed. Lori also was instrumental in persuading a few people to get a "Friends of the Library" group started, and things are moving along splendidly on that. I hope she'll devote some of her time to talking about the group. Perhaps some of our members would be interested in being a part of such an endeavor. We hope you will join us!



**Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, is our next Give-Back Scholarship Fundraiser**  
at **Sergio's Italian Restaurant** on Hwy. 54 West in **Zephyrhills**. We are meeting at 4 p.m. Contact  
Patty Thompson (813-780-8559 – [pattycakeclown1@aol.com](mailto:pattycakeclown1@aol.com)) for information.



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5x5 | 5x10 | 10x10 | 10x15 | 10x20 | 20x20 | RV | BOAT

**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.

<u>Executive Board</u>		
President	.....	Jerry Pricher
Vice President	.....	Rod Rehrig
Secretary	.....	Anna Boone
Treasurer	.....	Andrew Nagy
<u>Board Members</u>		
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Polly Gill		
Beverly Holmes		
Patty Thompson		
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Refreshments	.....	Polly Gill
Newsletter	.....	Jerry Pricher
		Clereen Brunty
Programs	.....	Jerry Pricher
Scholarship	.....	Louie Holt
		Jerry Pricher
Archivist	.....	Louie Holt
Depot Museum	.....	Carolyn Dean
Jeffries House	.....	Clereen Brunty
Fundraisers	.....	Patty Thompson

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 Maryhelen Clague  
 Greg First  
 Bill Kustes  
 Jackie & Terry Lindsey  
 Andrew Nagy  
 Rod & Carol Rehrig  
 Margaret Seppanen  
 James Schultz

Scholarship Boosters

Ray Alvarez  
 Elsie Burgess  
 Maryhelen Clague  
 Carolyn Dean  
 Greg First  
 Thea Johnson  
 Bill Kustes  
 Dr. Richard Moore  
 Andrew Nagy  
 Anna Poe  
 Jerry Pricher  
 Linda Sante  
 Margaret Seppanen  
 James Schultz

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

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Kathy Burnside	Polly Gill	Barb & Rick Moore	Tammy Kay Ryman	Ernie Wise
Rosemary Carrigg	Betty Hall	Dr. Rick Moore	Kim Sanders	Madonna Wise

	<p><b>Clereen Morrill Brunty</b>                  ZHS Alumni Contact</p>		<p><b>chalet flowers</b>                  Kim Tim  Maryann Sanders                  owners</p>
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**CLASS OF '69 RULES AT ALUMNI FEAST**  
 Group Celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
*Story and photos by Dave Walters*  
*Zephyrhills Free Press*  
*July 4, 2019*

It's been a half century since the Zephyrhills High School Class of 1969 walked the halls of ZHS for their senior year.

To look at them, it seemed like yesterday they were the top dogs at ZHS.

For the last week, the Class of 1969 has been gathering, sharing memories and creating new ones. Their 50th reunion culminated Sunday with hundreds of other ZHS grads at the Annual ZHS Alumni, Teachers and Friends Reunion at the Lions Club.

"Our bodies don't feel like it's yesterday," joked Jerry Pricher, who went on to teach at ZHS after graduating in 1969. "To look around here and see all of us, it just brings back so many great memories. We were a very tight class."

Anna Poe, who met her high school sweetheart Bill Poe at ZHS, recalls smacking that same sweetie for calling her a name she didn't like. It didn't take long for her to forgive him, because she eventually married him.

"I went to the football games and watched him play football and he ran track with Jerry," Anna said. "Those are such great memories."

Many from that graduating class never left Zephyrhills. They watched the town grow.



"We stayed involved," Anna said.

Dale Palmer, a standout athlete for the Class of 1969, would argue that the Class of '69 was the best ever at ZHS. The Bulldogs were state runners up in baseball and regional runner up in basketball that year. Palmer was so proud to be part of ZHS, he went on to teach and coach at the school.

"It's amazing to see how many are here," Palmer said. "It's also amazing to see how many couldn't be here because they aren't with us anymore. It brought back a lot of memories and craziness that happened."

Bernice Curtis Rooks was the winner of the oldest alumnus as she proudly represented the Class of 1940. Coming from the one-room schoolhouse in Crystal Springs, Rooks stepped into ZHS at the location where Stewart Middle School stands today.

"I don't know if there are any others left but me," said Rooks, who drove a school bus for seven years while she attended USF and then went on to teach in Zephyrhills for 26 years. "I remember my Latin teacher Bertha McKillips. She taught me Latin, English and American History. She just saw that we got it. She made sure we understood it."

 <p><b>Zephyrhills Museum of Military History</b>  <i>A City of Zephyrhills Facility</i>  <b>Open Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.</b>  <b>39444 South Ave. (813) 780-0078</b></p>	<p><i>Artistic Expressions</i>          5906 7th Street          Zephyrhills, Florida 33542          813 783-7731</p>  <p><i>Custom picture framing</i>  <i>Prints Needlework Photos Paintings</i>  <i>Computer photo editing</i></p> <p>Beverly Koehler Barnett, Owner      aeframer@gmail.com</p>
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It's been just a year since Justin Cooksey walked across the stage to get his diploma as a proud ZHS grad. When he stepped into the reunion, he was the youngest grad and he was in awe of the history around him.

"It's great to be around this much history," said Cooksey. "I see myself and my class back here for our 50th reunion. It's so cool to see these people come together to share these memories.



Bernice Curtis Rooks, Class of 1940 and Justin Cooksey, Class of 2018 at Zephyrhills Alumni, Teachers and Friends Reunion.

Cooksey was the youngest graduate and Rooks was the eldest with 79 year separating the two.



Jerry Pricher and his coach, Bill Kustes



Dale Palmer pointing at his yearbook picture



Class of 1969 with the Springfield's '69 VW bug

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In Memory of

**Ryals Furniture Exchange**  
 And Great Parents  
**Powell & Maude Ryals**

From son James

**God Bless America**



Class of 1954, with Bill Baker



Class of '69 with Bill Baker, 5th grade teacher



Teachers – Past & Present

### First Ever ZHA “Christmas in July” Dinner

*Catered by Gail Fisher*



Front Row: Penny Porter, Bob Porter, Clereen Brunty  
2<sup>nd</sup> Row: Shirley Pillow, Carol Rehrig, Maryhelen Clague, Bill Kustes  
3<sup>rd</sup> Row: Anna Poe, Carolyn Porter Morris, Patty Thompson, Rod Rehrig, Margaret Cherry, Rose Carrigg, Beverly Holmes, Anne Mester  
Back Row: Jackie Lindsey, Terry Lindsey, Jan Monroe, Jerry Pricher



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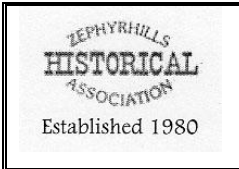


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## ZEPHYRHILLS HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

### BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2019

The Regular Monthly Business Meeting of the Zephyrhills Historical Association was called to order at 5:43 P.M. by President Jerry Pricher, who gave the Invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes from the May Meeting were read by the Secretary, and a motion for approval was made by Rod Rehrig, seconded by Beverly Holmes and agreed to by the meeting.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Andy Nagy, with a motion to approve made by Clereen Brunty, seconded by Sharon Reisman and accepted by all.

We were happy to welcome guests Zac Marci, Gary and Tina First with daughter Sarah and Annica Morgan.

Old Business: For our next Fundraising event, Patty Thompson said we will go to Sergio's on June 18 at 4:00 P.M. Clereen will send out flyers via email.

Louie Holt announced that the Scholarship recipients are Robyn Thomas, Sarah First and Annica Morgan. He presented checks for \$1,000 each to Annica and Sarah. Annica told about how her education at USF is progressing and that she is participating in research studies at Moffitt. Sarah First has been studying mechanical engineering and has worked on the Apache program and will be interning at Disney where she will do research and conduct safety audits. Louie offered words of encouragement on behalf of the Association. Clereen took pictures of the girls receiving the Scholarship money as well as pictures with the Scholarship Committee.

Other Old Business: None

New Business: Rod announced that there will be a groundbreaking of the new Veterans Administration building at 10 A.M. on Friday. The Honor Guard will be participating and the barbershop quartet will be singing. The location is on Eiland Blvd. behind the Panda Buffet.

Other New Business: Jerry brought up the July meeting, that there was none last year, that attendance is usually down and there's no fundraiser in July and August.

Rod made a motion that we plan for a "Christmas in July" party if Bill Kustes can get the Wedgewood community room for us. Jerry also said he will see about having Gail Fisher cater it for us. Beverly seconded the motion and there were no objections. There was discussion and Andy asked what the cost would be. Jerry said it wasn't likely to be more than \$10 each.

Robyn Thomas arrived with friends Kerrie and Dylan. Louie presented a \$1,000 check to Robyn, Clereen took pictures and Jerry then presented her with a framed certificate. She thanked our Association and stated she is going to USF and will major in archeology.

There will be no Fundraiser in July but there will be a night out at the Village Inn on July 12 at 4 P.M.