

TRACKS OF TIME

Monthly Publication from the Zephyrhills Historical Association

Volume 22 – Number 2

February 2020

The next Zephyrhills Historical Association meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 3rd in the meeting room of the *Zephyrhills Public Library*, 5347 8th 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

Cliff McDuffie, former Mayor of Zephyrhills, was our speaker for the February meeting. He conveyed his lifetime story to us, including his stint as our mayor. He seemed to take great pride in a controversial decision made by the city regarding a request to rename 6th Avenue. The request was actually presented to the city council by our own Irene Dobson, and NOT by some outside group from Tampa. In my opinion the whole “grid” argument was silly. What I remember is that the press this city received during the time made us look like a bunch of racists. Given the former mayors reasons having to do with blacks being only three percent of the population and not voting, I would have to conclude that perhaps these criticisms were accurate. We’ll hear more about this when Liz Geiger comes in April. She and Lance Smith were the “Yes” votes on the City Council for renaming the street Martin Luther King Boulevard.

Our speaker for the March meeting is the current Executive Director of the Greater Zephyrhills Chamber of Commerce, Melonie Bahr Monson. I’m not sure I know Melonie, but Bill Kustes has heard her speak, and he says she is an excellent speaker. He is the one who arranged for her to be our guest. We hope you will join us.



Tuesday, March 24th, is our next Give-Back Scholarship Fundraiser at Tubby’s Smokehouse Restaurant on 7th Street in Zephyrhills. We are meeting at 4 p.m. Contact Patty Thompson (813-780-8559 – pattycakeclown1@aol.com) for information.



38461 County Road 54
Zephyrhills, FL 33542
813-788-5969

Email: zephyrhillsmgr@patriotstorage.com

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

Jeff Miller

Pasco County Historian

For a walk down memory lane visit

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 | Rod Rehrig |
| Vice President | Jerry Pricher |
| 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 |
| Fundraisers | Patty Thompson |

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 Jeff Cook
 Jackie & Terry Lindsey
 Andrew Nagy
 Anna Poe
 Rod & Carol Rehrig

Scholarship Boosters

Elsie Burgess
 Maryhelen Clague
 Jeff Cook
 Carolyn Dean
 Polly Gill
 Louie Holt
 Bill Kustes
 Anne Mester
 Dr. Richard Moore
 Andrew Nagy
 Anna Poe
 Jerry Pricher
 Linda Sante
 Steve Spina

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

| | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Raymond Alvarez | Duke Chadwell | Beverly Holmes | Margie Partain | Tim Sanders |
| Darlene Bamberger | Vera Chenkin | Louie Holt | Hal Perdew | Linda Sante |
| Beverly Barnett | Margaret Cherry | Thea Johnson | Shirley Pillow | Margaret Seppanen |
| Elaine Benjamin | Maryhelen Clague | Connie Kirkland | Anna Poe | James Shultz |
| Art Besinger | Jeffrey Cook | Bill Kustes | Bob Porter | Steve Spina |
| John Bolender | Carolyn Dean | Jackie Lindsey | Penny Porter | Al Stone |
| Anna Boone | Irene Dobson | Terry Lindsey | Jerry Pricher | Patty Thompson |
| George Boone | Vicki Elkins | Anne Mester | Carol Rehrig | Steve Turner |
| Lori Brightwell | Greg First | Jeff Miller | Rodney Rehrig | Terry Turner |
| Clereen Brunty | Gail Geiger | Barb Moore | Sharon Reisman | Dave Walters |
| Elsie Burgess | Nathan Geiger | Dr. Rick Moore | Tammy Kay Ryman | Ernie Wise |
| Kathy Burnside | Polly Gill | Rick Moore | Kim Sanders | Madonna Wise |
| Rosemary Carrigg | Betty Hall | Andrew Nagy | Mary Ann Sanders | |

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|  <p>Clereen Morrill Brunty ZHS Alumni Contact clereen@tampabay.rr.com 813-782-8763</p> |  <p>chalet flowers Kim Tim Maryann Sanders owners Ph: 813-788-2874 chaletflowersfl.com 5002 7th Street Zephyrhills, FL 33542</p> |
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PASCO COUNTY HISTORY
From Jeff Miller's site at fivay.org

THE BRADLEY MASSACRE

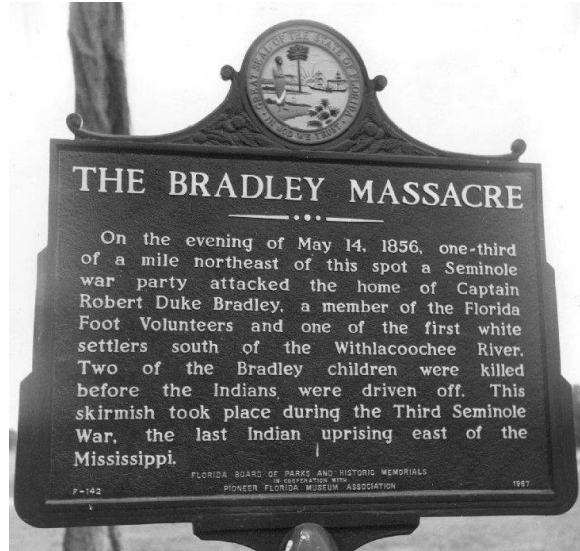
Palatka Democrat Article (1856)

This article appeared in the Palatka Democrat on May 22, 1856.

We learn from Big. Gen. Churchill, of the U. S. Army, that while on his way from Tampa here, he took lodgings for the night on Wednesday, the 14th inst., at the house of Whitfield, thirty-six miles from Tampa. Before he left Whitfield's, he learned that the Indians approached Capt. Bradley's house, a few miles distant. Bradley's family had returned from supper, and the children were in an open passage of the house, when Indians fired a volley, which killed a little girl and mortally wounded a boy fifteen years old; he ran into the house, got a gun and returned to the passage to return the fire when he fell dead. The mother, Mrs. Bradley, ran out and carried her children into the house. The Indians shot at her without hurting her or any more of the children.

Capt. Bradley, who was prostrated on his bed with sickness, arose and returned a fire on the Indians with two or three guns, which he had in his house, which caused them to withdraw. Capt. Bradley had a married daughter living at a distance, but within hearing of the firing. She sent a negro boy to ascertain the cause—he went to Bradley's house and returned without molestation—he did not see the Indians. Bradley thinks there were not less than fifteen Indians, although at first discharge his daughter did not hear more than six or seven reports. He was also of the opinion that the Indians were about his house all night.

Capt. Bradley sent a statement of the facts to Gen. Churchill; and besides this information, Gen. Churchill saw persons who had visited Bradley's house.



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Letter to Gen. Carter from a Committee of Citizens (1856)

This letter appeared in a Tampa Tribune article published on June 3, 1956, one hundred years after it was written. According to the newspaper article, this letter led to the establishment of Fort Broome.

Spring Hill, Hernando County, May 31st, 1856

Gen. J. Carter, Tampa, Fla.:

Dear Sir: Permit us to give you a brief outline of the state of things that exist here.

You are doubtless aware that soon after the murder of Captain Bradley's children by the Indians on the night of the 14th inst., most of the inhabitants of this county, deeming it unwise and inhuman to have their families longer exposed to similar barbarities, left their homes and hastily collected into small parties at the most suitable points in different neighborhoods for the purpose of mutual defense, and for the further purpose of trying, by their united efforts to finish, even partially, the cultivation of their growing crops, and to keep on the lookout from time to time such force as their inadequate means of defense would enable them to spare, to scout and hunt for the Indians.

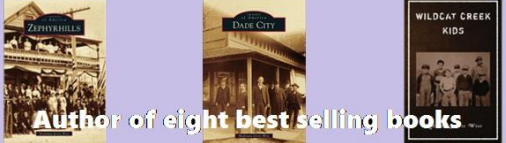

For two weeks past there has been every evidence of the presence of the Indians in our neighborhood, but for the last few days the signs increase with so much rapidity as to excite in our minds well-founded apprehension for the safety of the community, even for a short period of time.

About three evenings ago, the same yellow dog which was seen with the Indians at the house of Captain Bradley on the night of the sad tragedy there, came into his yard again and, after scouting around for some time, skulked off into a hammock near by. On the next morning the trail of four Indians was discovered, where they had been around his premises the previous night.

Two days ago, a Negro belonging to Mr. Bauknight or Mr. Johnston reported having seen some Indians near the plantation of Mrs. Esselman, where said Negro and others were working, and in which vicinity there are quite a number of Indian old fields and settlements.

A party of men went immediately to the place, and, on examination, found fresh signs of seven Indians, which they trailed for some distance, and near a place where they had apparently hated to get water they found a piece of an Indian belt, recently dropped, and plenty of fresh signs about all the Indian old fields above mentioned; and, on the same day, the same or some other party of Indians was trailed into Chocochattee Hammock near the plantation of Wm. Hope.

On the same day a fresh trail of five Indians was discovered in the plantation of Dr. W. T. Mayo, in the Annutaliga Hammock, about two miles N. E. from here, and about eight or ten miles N. W. from where they were seen near Mrs. Esselman's plantation, had evidence which satisfied him that there were Indians in the hammock near his premises, and on the same day, and perhaps near the same hour Thos. B. Dawwhite, passing through a portion of Chocochattee Hammock south of William Hope's, heard distinctly four signals given in different directions and within a few seconds of each other;

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|  <p>Author of eight best selling books</p> <p>Madonna Wise Books Author, Research & Consulting Madonna Jervis Wise Zephyrhills, Florida Murphy, North Carolina</p> <p>813-469-8627 MadonnaJWise@gmail.com http://madonnawisebooks.wordpress.com</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">License # GD1 09084</p>  <p>Garage Doors, Inc. Kerry Ryman Owner</p> <p><i>Residential/Commercial & Gate Openers</i></p> <p>4622 Gall Blvd. • Zephyrhills, Florida 33542 Telephone: 813-782-5926 • Fax: 813-322-8343 kerry@3rgaragedoors.com</p> |
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and on the same day, while Mr. Sutton's hands were working in his field, they heard a noise in the hammock, which they immediately reported, when Mr. Sutton and Mr. Frierson went to examine and found a fresh moccasin track, which they trailed for some distance in the direction of Chocochatee; and again, on the same day, Mayberry Whitehurst saw an Indian within about a mile from the residence of Captain Ellis; and this morning, as a small party were going out scouting, they found the tracks of five Indians that had been prowling about Sutton's house last night, and, as the scout returned this evening, they found where six others had been around the same houses during the day. (Sutton's house, with many others, is for the present abandoned.)

These are some of the evidences which we have of the presence of the enemy in our midst, and we will here add, that such of these reports as have not come under our personal observation are made by gentlemen of high standing and undoubted veracity, and may therefore be relied upon as being substantially correct.

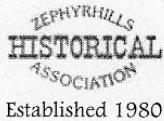
From the fact of so much sign having been seen almost simultaneously in so many different directions and within so short a time, we conceive that we need not be considered "alarmists" if we apprehend that the Indians are concentrating their forces for a murderous attack, and, although no outrage has been committed among us since the sad tragedy at Captain Bradley's, yet the short respite may only be the ominous calm which forebodes a fearful storm.

We, therefore, having been appointed a Committee of Citizens of this neighborhood, to report, we therefore most respectfully ask that you will, at the earliest practicable moment, send to our relief a force sufficient to protect us from the cruel barbarities of this insidious foe, or, at least, to aid us in protecting our lives and property, provided you have the direction or control of such force, and, if not, that you exert your influence to obtain it from the officer commanding the troops in Florida; for we are fully persuaded, from the indications here and the reports from other places, that there are now more Indians on this side of the Hillsborough River than there are beyond it.

Very respectfully,

M C. PETERSON, H. T. FRIERSON, B. W. LESCON, FRED'K LYKES, W. T. MAYO, PERRY G. WALL





ZEPHYRHILLS HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 7TH, 2020

The Regular Business Meeting was called to order at 5:35 P.M. by President Rod Rehrig, who gave the invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The November 2019 Business Meeting minutes were included in the December newsletter. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Jerry Pricher, seconded by Clereen Brunty and agreed to by the group.

The Treasurer's Report for November and December was given by Andrew Nagy, with a motion for approval made by Jerry Pricher, seconded by Patty Thompson and accepted by the members.

There were no new members or guests.

Old Business: Regarding fundraising for Scholarships, Patty said we will be going to Sergio's on January 21 for which she distributed flyers and she advised we will meet at 4 P.M. so we can eat together.

Louie Holt is not here to talk about the Scholarships.

Regarding Founders' Day, we will discuss it in the next Business Meeting and Patty will bring in the paperwork we need.

Other Old Business: None

New Business: Rod announced the upcoming Greater Zephyrhills Chamber of Commerce Event. Pigs N' Z'hills BBQ and Blues Fest at the Airport on January 18. He has raffle tickets for the backyard grill that will be raffled off at \$5 each or 3 for \$10. There will be contestants in both professional and amateur categories of barbecuing with taste testers present. There will also be contestants in the Corn Hole Tournament.

Clereen made an announcement regarding the Lindsey's stating they will be delayed coming down this year due to health concerns as well as estate issues they must see to following the death of Jackie's Uncle. They will be in our prayers.

Other New Business: None

Jerry made a motion for adjournment, seconded by Clereen and approved by all with the meeting concluding at 5:50 P.M.

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

Clereen will be showing slides regarding the Zephyrhills mural. Barbara Bales Moore, who helped paint it, is here also and can answer any questions about it.

**BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 4TH, 2020**

The Regular Business Meeting was called to order by President Rod Rehrig at 5:32 P.M. He gave the Invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

January's Business Meeting Minutes were read by the Secretary. A motion to approve the Minutes was made by Andy Nagy, seconded by Jerry Pricher and accepted by the Meeting.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Andy Nagy, with a motion to approve made by Patty Thompson, seconded by Polly Gill and agreed to by all.

We are happy to welcome guests Mike LeMar and Dick Woodward tonight.

Old Business: Regarding Fundraisers, Patty passed out flyers for February 18 at Sergio's. Also, since the third Tuesday in March falls on St. Patrick's Day, we will plan to go on the 4th. Tuesday, March 24 which will be at Tubby's Q and Smokehouse.

Louie is not here to discuss Scholarships.

Founders' Day is coming up next month, so Patty brought in the Parade application forms and Rod signed them. Patty will check with Bob Porter to verify how many slots we need to get. Andy can sign the check when we meet up at Sergio's and I will send it in to Main Street Zephyrhills. We are encouraged to wear our tee shirts in the Parade. There will be a meeting in March before Founders' Day.

Regarding the Museum, Jerry has been in discussions with the City and has been told that the Association needs to come up with a plan. Our understanding is that we will support the plan the City comes up with which will need to include which items, days and hours. A city preservation specialist is involved. The Jeffries House will not be under our jurisdiction though we may have space at the Depot.

Other Old Business: None

New Business: Rod announced the 17th. Annual Marine Corps League Golf Tournament, which will take place on March 28 at Southport Springs. The cost to sponsor a hole is \$50. Bill Kustes made a motion that the Association sponsor a hole, seconded by Jerry and agreed to by the group.

Clereen says she will head up a committee to audit the books. Andy, Bev Holmes and I will be there and expect to do it sometime this month.

Clereen is taking orders for nametags which are \$8 each.

There was a motion for adjournment made by Jerry, seconded by Clereen and agreed to by the Meeting. The Regular Business Meeting concluded at 5:55 P.M.

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

Our guest speaker tonight is former Zephyrhills mayor, Cliff McDuffie.