

TRACKS OF TIME

Monthly Publication from the Zephyrhills Historical Association

Volume 23 – Number 1

January 2021

There will be NO scheduled meeting in February.

Future Meetings

I'm not at all sure when we can anticipate meeting together. I know that we are planning to meet in person for our April Library Board meeting, but that is late in the month. I think it might be possible to meet in May, but that remains to be seen. I went AWOL for a couple of months in regard to the newsletter, so I beg your forgiveness. In a normal year we would be preparing for Founders Day at this time, but it does not appear that there will even be a parade, at least in March. Since the scholarship committee does their work entirely online we should be able to continue that project uninterrupted. I think we are going to be okay in regards to funds, but Andy is both our treasurer and scholarship committee member, so they will know precisely how much they have to consider in scholarships.

I am leaving the following notice for another month so as to include Andy's address here. I would still encourage you to send some extra if you can. I've been asked to remind you to make your checks payable to ZHA and not to Andy. I'm sending what I have to Andy with today's mailing, so it's my fault your check has not been posted, Margaret.

From the Desk of the Editor Membership and Advertising

It's time again to ask for your monetary support in regard to our organization and this newsletter. Dues are \$15 per year, advertising for members is \$15 (non-members is \$25), Boardwalk Booster is \$5, and contributions to the scholarship fund are welcome in any amount. **Please make checks payable to ZHA & mail to: Andrew Nagy, 5548 23rd Street, Zephyrhills, FL 33542.** Thanks in advance.

There will be NO fundraisers for the time being.



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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.

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Treasurer	Andrew Nagy

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 Polly Gill
 Beverly Holmes
 Patty Thompson

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		Clereen Brunty
Programs	Jerry Pricher
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 <p>Clereen Morrill Brunty ZHS Alumni Contact</p> <p>clereen@gmail.com</p> <p>813-782-8763</p>	 <p>chalet flowers</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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 Phone: 813-788-2547 email: jerry@pricher.net

Sad news...we lost 3 more members in 2020

JAMES BARRY SHULTZ, 74, of Zephyrhills went to be with his Lord and Savior on December 2, 2020. Born in Lancaster, Pa. on October 15, 1946 to Alvia and June Elizabeth (Meck) Shultz, he grew up in Litiz, Pa.

After graduation from high school, he entered the U.S. Navy, where he served for 15 years as a Navy Corpsman working with U.S. Marines; attaining the rank of Chief Petty Officer. He served three tour of duty in Vietnam and was wounded five times.

Jim had a Doctor of Divinity degree and a degree in Culinary Arts. He worked as a chef in Litiz for many years. For the past 50 years he played Santa Claus; dressing the part for the holiday season as he entertained visits from children here in Florida at Dice’s Ice Cream, the YMCA, the Lion’s Club, and the Marine Corps Toys for Tots program. He will be missed this Christmas season.

Jim was a Life Member of the Sgt. Major Michael Curtin Detachment 1124 of the Marine Corps League in Zephyrhills, where he has served as Jr. Vice Commandant and Chaplain. He also was a Life Member of the George R. Baxman Post 8154 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars; belonged to the Zephyrhills Chamber of Commerce; the Zephyrhills Historical Association; and the Lion’s Club, where he served as Santa for their Toys for Tots events. He participated in local parades as Santa for some of these organizations.

He was married four times, with his wife Sandy predeceasing him in 2002. Sandy brought her three children to their marriage. Jim is survived by them and by his sister, Linda Shultz of Litiz, Pa.

Cremation is being handled by Whitfield Funeral Home, and he will be buried at the National Cemetery in Bushnell, Fla. at a future date. A memorial service is being planned for January 2021.

CAROL ANN REHRIG, went to be with her Lord and Savior on November 10, 2020. She was born in Ybor City, Tampa, on May 8, 1946 to Charles Fawcett and Marina Delatorre Fawcett.



Carol attended Plant High in Tampa. She married Rodney B. Rehrig, Sr. on December 8, 1969, and celebrated their 50th anniversary in 2019. She doted on her beloved husband, children, and grandchildren.

Spending time with her family was what she loved most, as well as walks on the beach and collecting shells. Her talents included being a loving mother, wife, and nana; cooking; baking and decorating beautiful cakes; crocheting; drawing and painting. Carol was a member of the Marine Corps League Auxiliary where she served as chaplain and later judge advocate. She was also a member of the VFW Auxiliary and the Zephyrhills Historical Association.

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Beverly Koehler Barnett, Owner aeframer@gmail.com

Carol is survived by her loving husband, Rod; son, Rodney Rehrig, Jr. (ZHS 1988) and his wife, Karen; daughter, Dana Rehrig Dingman (ZHS 1984) and her husband, Robert; son, Michael Japp and his wife, Cherie; and six grandchildren, Blaine, Tristan, Garrison, Keller, Thomas and Sherry. All who knew her loved her. She is predeceased by a daughter, Renee Rehrig Scheirer.

GAIL MARIE SMITH GEIGER, 81, (ZHS 1956) went home to be with the Lord, November 28, 2020 after complications from a short illness. Gail was born in Zephyrhills, to Eileen Reichart Smith and Austin C. Smith on May 28, 1939.

Gail was a longtime resident to Zephyrhills area, known most for her sweet smile and loving kindness to everyone she met. She and her husband of 59 years, Nathan, owned and operated Geiger's Feed Store for 40 years. Together they help support many FFA students treating each and every one as family. The store was a center point in town for people to stop by and talk. After the store closed, she enjoyed being a merchandiser for Hallmark for 15 years, where she continued to visit the folks she knew and loved as she did at the Feed Store on a daily basis. Gail gave of her talent playing the piano for 70 years in local churches. She and Nathan had been long time members of the Zephyrhills Historical Association. She was a devoted Wife, Mother and Nana.



She is survived by her husband, Nathan Geiger (ZHS 1956); daughter, Sharon Geiger (ZHS 1980) of Zephyrhills; grandsons, Matthew Akins and wife, Amanda and Brent Akins; great-grandchildren, Sydney, Grayson and Easton of Webster; sisters, Peggy Smith Davis (ZHS 1955) and husband, Earl of North Carolina and Mildred Smith Carter (ZHS 1958) and husband, Bill of Tampa; sister-in-law, Phyllis Geiger Debien (ZHS 1954) of Dunedin; son, Alan Geiger (ZHS 1984) and family of Virginia; and many nieces and nephews.

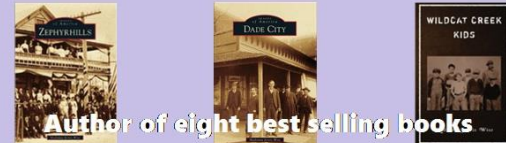

GAIL SMITH GEIGER

Jerry Pricher's Personal Perspective

I have known Gail almost my entire life. I remember her parents from First Baptist Church when I was young. She accompanied my mother's solo voice countless times at the piano. She accompanied me as well a few times. She was all business at the piano, but she was always sweet and kind in her dealings with people. The same was true whenever I did business at the feed store. She and Nathan were always very helpful.

I saw a lot of Gail after Kris and Jo White moved in next door to me. Kris and Gail had a running dialogue about rainfall that I found amusing. Kris thought the world of both Nathan and Gail, but I remember several conversations with him where we suggested she was a saint. I joined the Association largely as a result of this friendship. Bill and Margaret had been after me for years, but this finally brought it about.

After my heart surgery in 2015 Gail and Jo helped me with food when I had a decreased appetite. They were both very supportive and have my undying thanks. I feel very fortunate to have known Gail.

 <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>License # GDI 09084</p>  <p>Garage Doors, Inc. Garage Doors Sales & Service</p> <p>Kerry Ryman Owner</p> <p>Residential/Commercial & Gate Openers</p> <p>4622 Gall Blvd. • Zephyrhills, Florida 33542 Telephone: 813-782-5926 • Fax: 813-322-8343 kerry@3rgaragedoors.com</p>
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