



West Pasco Historical Society, Inc. Museum and Library

VOL XI, #3

WINTER 1998

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

By Mary Jane Prichard

WEST PASCO HISTORICAL SOCIETY EVENTS

- Nov. 7** "Harvest Time" is the theme for the Tupperware fund raiser at the WPHS Museum on November 7 at 10:30 a.m. The "Fall Festival" theme demonstration will be presented by Mrs. Arline Kovacs, Tupperware sales representative. Arline will demonstrate many quick and easy uses for Tupperware holiday and birthday gift ideas.
- November** The Museum display for November is titled, THE ART OF HANDWORK.
- Nov. 13-15** The West Pasco Quilters Guild will have a display of their quilts and demonstrate quilting projects from 1 to 4 p.m.
- Nov.-Dec.** An Invitational Christmas Tree decorating contest by different organizations in the area is scheduled for the Holiday Season.
- Dec. 16** CHRISTMAS DINNER CELEBRATION OF WPHS MEMBERS and GUESTS
- WHERE:** MAGNOLIA VALLEY C.C.
7223 Massachusetts Ave., New Port Richey
- WHEN:** December 16, 1998
- RESERVATIONS:** \$12.25 (includes tax and tip)
- ENTREE:** Roast Loin of Pork, Roast Beef or Salmon
RESERVATION COUPON ON BACK PAGE OF THIS NEWSLETTER
- Jan. 9, 1999** MARIO BATTISTA will be speaking and showing slides about the history of the American Flag on Jan. 9 at 2 p.m.
- Feb. 12, 1999** ANNUAL FASHION SHOW-
SPARTAN MANOR



*Jessie
Coville
Hyde
1902 - 1998*

JESSIE C. HYDE, a volunteer of the Reference Library of the West Pasco Historical Society and Museum, died Thursday, October 22, 1998 at age 96. She was born in Avon, New York on August 4, 1902. She graduated from Geneseo Normal College as a teacher, and in later years received a Masters degree from the University of Buffalo, New York in Library Science. She served several years as teacher and librarian at Pine Hill High School in Cheektowaga, New York, a suburb of Buffalo. She supervised the school library until her retirement in 1963.

She and her husband moved to New Port Richey in 1965 where she joined the New Port Richey Art Guild and formed their Art Library. She developed an interest in oil painting which resulted in many beautiful scenic paintings.

In 1984 Jessie was appointed librarian and helped accumulate material for the library in the West Pasco Historical Society. Her knowledge of Pasco County and area impressed people who sought her help in finding out about local history. She was always there to help and advise.

Memorial services were held at North Meadowlawn Funeral Chapel, 4244 Madison Street, New Port Richey, Friday, October 30 at 3 p.m.

Memorial donations may be made to the West Pasco Historical Society, Inc. Museum and Library in her memory. These donations will be used for a copy machine in the library that Jessie loved.

DOWN THE HALL *Frances Mallett*

Our participation in New Port Richey's first FOUNDERS DAY CELEBRATION was most interesting to those of us at the Museum.

Enlarged photographs of early days seemed to attract both old and young. We had requests of copies of some.

There did not seem to be as many participants in the costumes contest as we had hoped; but the costumes of those who did were great!

We had some young people who had bought older homes in the area that were very interested in the history of those

homes. Several even joined our Society.

The whole day seemed to be a great success and hopefully the celebration will continue in years to come.

Congratulations to the City and to the Community Cooperative for their efforts.

The newspapers in the area never did print the family names that were sent to them. Consequently not many of the local pioneer descendants came forward to receive their name badges that were prepared for them. The badges are being held at the

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Museum for any of the descendants to claim by just visiting the Museum.

The names of the founders known to us are as follows:

Casey	Luikast	Stevenson	Falaney
Hill	Casson	Miller	Baker
St. Clair	Baillie	DeCubellis	Pierce
Knowles	Hatcher	Bailey	McKay
Frierson	Swartsel	Grey	Draft
Poole	Sawyer	Clark	Weiskopf
Hope	Hermes	Nicks	

MEMBERSHIP

Julie Hall and Edie Hempel

To date we have 274 members in 215 households. We are counting on all our members to renew their memberships for the calendar year 1999. In a few weeks notices will be mailed - please send your remittance as soon as possible.

Have you visited the Museum and Library lately? Come - see all the changes that have been made. We are open to the public Friday and Saturday from 1 to 4 p.m. As a member you can be very proud of what we have in our building - the past being preserved for the future generations. More can be done in 1999 with your support!

Docents - Volunteers - Host - Hostess - 1999

Clara Smith, Chair

Volunteers are the most important people in the day-to-day operation and care of the WPHS, Inc. Museum and Library. Please contact us if you might be willing to give 3 hours each month to host or hostess in our Museum. Volunteering is fun, enriching, and provides interesting friendships and excellent hobby/study experiences.

Call **CLARA SMITH** at 868-3601 if you are willing to help us with this important duty to keep the Museum open to the public in 1999 and beyond into the new millennium.

AN (AD) TRIBUTE TO VOLUNTEERS

Courtesy of Jack Drummond

Volunteers are like Ford...
they have better ideas.
Volunteers are like Coke...
they are the real thing.
Volunteers are like Pan Am...
they make the going great.
Volunteers are like Pepsi...
they've got a lot to give.
Volunteers are like Dial soap...
they care more, don't you wish everyone did?
Volunteers are like VO-5 Hairspray...
their goodness holds in all kinds of weather.
Volunteers are like Hallmark Cards...
they care enough to give their very best.
Volunteers are like Standard Oil...
you expect more and you get it.
Volunteers are like Frosted Flakes...
they're GR-R-R-R-E AT!
Volunteers are like General Motors...
They are the mark of excellence.

HALLOWEEN REMEMBERED

By George Brandli

In the past, I have been submitting articles pertaining in the most part to money, donations, income, expenses, etc., however, this time, in the spirit of the season, I wish to relate an item from my teen years I will entitle "Over the Waterfall."

It was Halloween night, about ten o'clock. A pale quarter moon was shining down on the village of Lost Creek, West Virginia and a slight mist was in the night air. A group of boys, wandering the brick street~ searching for a reason to do a good deed to some deserving person, stopped by Mrs. Allman's home. Mrs. Allman was the organist for the Methodist Church, but was a widow lady. As we rested on the edge of the old horse trough across from her residence, someone thought that her chickens would be happier and more content if they were placed in her outhouse rather than in the chicken coop. This made sense as they really did not get out much.

Now this particular outhouse was a real marvel of efficiency. The front was anchored to the bank above the creek, about six feet up from the swirling waters. The creek was a dirty yellow from the sulphur leaking from the coal mines, but was a considerable stream. The back of this building was held up by two hickory poles imbedded in the stream bed. You could go in, take a seat, and whatever would be moved rapidly downstream. Just like today, only more open.

So, quietly, these seven boys sneaked up on the chicken coop and gently removed the hens from the roost. Each boy had about three or four. Then, rushing down across the lawn, they threw the door open and tossed in the chickens and slammed the door. (Now, you understand that I was on the sidelines and was urging these other boys to not do this thing). But, on with the story. Someone it seems accidentally leaned on the front of the outhouse and it toppled over backwards. As it tilted over, we heard a horrible scream, or was it a screeching sound. We thought it came from the splintering of the hickory poles. The outhouse hit the water with a satisfying splash of water and almost went under on its back.

We stood on the bank with our mouths gaping open at what had just happened. Then, as the outhouse stabilized, the door of the building opened, much as a submarine conning tower hatch would open and there, in the moonlight, in her nightgown and sleeping hat, surrounded by her crew of White Leghorn chickens, was Mrs. Allman. We were frozen in place by this sight. But, then the current of this swift flowing stream turned the building until the peaked roof was pointed down stream, just like the prow of a ship and away went Mrs. Allman and her squawking crew. We had never heard such language from a church organist before, but the vessel veered around a turn in the creek and then it went over the waterfall. Oh, it was only about a four foot drop, but it smashed the ship, I mean the outhouse. The lady was unhurt and we were innocent (remember what I said about my participation before.)

Next year, in our town of 600, we had over fifteen officers of the law patrolling our street, the brick one, plus all the dirt alleys. All was peaceful and serene and all chickens stayed where they belonged.

From the President's Desk

The West Pasco Historical Society's 26th year was started on a successful note. Our season opener hosted Del Cunningham (Falling Feather) and Laurie Squires (Two Feather) as our main speakers. The program was introduced by our very own Norma Nelson. The speakers told us many interesting things about Indian life, both in the midwest and in upstate New York.

Falling Feather, a member of the Blackfoot tribe, spoke about, 'From out of the past...' An exhibit of Native American artifacts was presented by Two Feather, of the Iroquois Nation. Later, the audience was delighted by Indian dances performed by Tyler Coon (Young Eagle), age 7, and Monique Robert (Rainbow Butterfly), age 8, in full regalia. As an extra treat these performances were videotaped by TCI Channel 5, Pasco You Are The News. (Your Curator has copied it and it is available in the Museum.)

The Society was invited to display a table at the Baker House Annual Cracker Fish Fry. In addition to the good "eats" we enjoyed a good turnout, sold a lot of books and calendars, and met a lot of people. Thanks to Frances Mallett, Laura Helm, Carol Tuzzeo, and Midge London-Prace for manning the table.

We also participated in the first New Port Richey Founder's Day. The Society was to recognize the Founding Families of New Port Richey (please refer to Frances Mallett's piece for more details), sponsor an old time costume contest, furnish Cracker Storytelling by George Brandli, and exhibit a display of early New Port Richey photos. Nearly 100 people came through the Museum that day.

I'm sure that many of you driving by the Museum last month saw some strange activity. We had the Old Schoolhouse and the Gazebo tented and treated for termites. As you all know, we have an old building and it is a constant struggle to keep ahead of the bugs. Thanks to our share of the Dream Playhouse Raffle proceeds we were able to pay for this without using treasury funds. We even had some money left over to buy a brand new coffee maker for the kitchen.

I want to thank all of you for your support of the Society, without it we would not succeed. Please remember that our new 1999 calendar is now available. In it, we feature a collection of Fred Pietsch's art and was published as a memorial to him. This calendar is an important fundraiser for the Society. They do make great giveaways and can be purchased at the Muscum and at many shops around town.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

We will be accepting advertisers
for our newsletter.

The cost is \$10.00 per letter
or \$35.00 per year.

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FLOWERS BY GRU

VISIT OUR CHRISTMAS SHOP OPEN NOV. 1ST

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Greeting Cards 2 for \$1.00
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LIBRARY NOTES

By Elizabeth Jones, Librarian

So that all of our members may become acquainted with the new books we have added to our library, I am listing them below;

PANTHER GLADE - Helen Cavanaugh
DIANGO - John Cech
CAPTAIN MORGAN MASON - Dorothy Francis
JOHN HAWK, WHITE MAN BLACK MAN - B. Leviri
OSCEOLE SEMINOLE REBEL - Celia Bland
THE SEMINOLE - Merwyn
STRAWBERRY GIRL - Lois Lenski
THE HISTORY OF Jupiter Lighthouse - B. DuBois

You may be interested in the videos we have that you may view in the Indian Room or if you prefer, take them home to see.

I hope you all will take advantage of what we have. At present the new books are on exhibit in our case but we soon will have all them on the shelves.

Curator Committee

By Midge London-Prace

The following donations were given to the Museum, and we extend our thanks:

1. Audrey O'Neil donated three vintage needlecraft magazines, dated 1915, 1927, 1930. These will be shown with our new "The art of handwork" exhibit and is a perfect addition. She also donated a Woman's Home Companion, 1946, along with a cigar box and an American flag that will be added to our growing flag collection.
2. Gladys M. Kitzler donated three items that quickly became a new exhibit in the museum room. They are: (1) a Radioptican projector (Magic lantern) with viewing postcards. It's close to the first version of a slide projector, (2) a Stereoscope Eye Comfort viewer, with 3-D pictures, and (3) a Sawyers View Master. I'm sure most of us remember clicking through the round disc and seeing pictures of exotic places. Unfortunately it came without discs, so if any one would like to donate some viewing discs we would be appreciative, as that would complete the exhibit.
3. Carolyn Vogt donated a decorative wall hanging plate showing the Quester's headquarters on Quince street, Philadelphia. We're grateful for all the many donations given to the museum over the years by the Questers groups.
4. Mary Jane Prichard, through her nephew's neighbor, acquired a micro wave/convection oven which is now residing in our kitchen. It's larger and more versatile, we do thank David Spriggs for the loan of his microwave over the past years.
5. David Prace loaned us his Royal portable typewriter, circa 1949 (that his aunt gave him for college) which will be added to our typewriter collection in the museum room.

Wish List: Copy Machine,

Small P.A. System, Clothes Rack for Vintage Clothes

CHRISTMAS PAST - CHRISTMAS PRESENT

Our member and former Curator, Doris Szymanski, has been selected to display her extensive collection of Christmas memorabilia at the Pasco-Hernando Community College West Campus Library at 10230 Ridge Road. The collection will be on display from December 1 through January 4.

Doris stated: "My collection of Christmas treasures started years ago with Santas and has grown considerably in the last eight years to number over 3,500. I collect what appeals to me, not necessarily the most costly ~ Doris is not just interested in Santa, she also collects ornaments, Christmas books, Christmas postcards, Snowbabies and many types of Christmas trees, houses and Christmas garden toys, some of which date from the 1930's. The Christmas trees date from 1910. The mediums represented are soap, glass, porcelain, iron, resin, chalk, rubber, cloth, clay, papier-mache, wood and others. Much of her collection has been gifts from family and friends. Doris says: "It is my pleasure to share with you what has been a very joyous collecting hobby for me."

Don't miss this opportunity to see this quality collection of one of our members. Remember December 1 to January 4, PHCC Library, Ridge Road. For additional information, call 847-2727, ext. 3007.

New Addendum #4

Add to List

Wayne & Anette Konga 841-7702 (F)
7042 Grand Blvd., New Port Richey, FL 34652

Eleanor Shoepflin 868-5425 (I)
12811 Charter Oak Way, Hudson, FL 34667

Change of Address

Belva Green
90 Highland Ave #1204, Tarpon Springs, FL 34689

Virginia Tinsley 404-943-9829
300 Johnson Ferry Rd., Apt. 901A, Atlanta, GA 30328

Delete - Deceased: Jessie Hyde

1999 CALENDAR The Perfect Christmas Gift

The new 1999 Calendar is now available for your gift giving at the WPHS Gift Shop or at Flowers by Gru 6124 Grand Blvd. The cost is \$4.00.

HELP!

Used and new items are needed for our Gift Shop and the Auction to be held in March. Please donate now. Questions on Auction items call David at:

848-2809

CHRISTMAS DINNER CELEBRATION OF WPHS MEMBERS AND GUESTS

WHERE:

MAGNOLIA VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB

7223 Massachusetts Avenue, New Port Richey

WHEN:

DECEMBER 16, 1998 AT 6:30 P.M.

RESERVATIONS:

\$12.25 (Includes tip and tax)

Roast Loin of Pork _____

Roast Beef _____

Salmon _____

**MAKE YOUR RESERVATION AT THE MUSEUM OR SEND A CHECK AND
CHOICE OF DINNER BY DECEMBER 9TH (Attn: Audrey O' Neil)**

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

MEMBERS PLUS GUESTS _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

 **CLIP &
MAIL**

West Pasco Historical Society

6431 Circle Boulevard

New Port Richey, FL 34652