



West Pasco Historical Society, Inc. Museum and Library

1st QUARTER 2003

A Message from your President

I wish all of you a very personal Happy New Year. Once again we have a fresh new start, with so many great possibilities for the West Pasco Historical Society in the coming months. This May of 2003 we will be celebrating our 30th anniversary. I want to thank all of you who work hard now and those that worked hard in the past to make this wonderful organization. I'm looking forward to the next six months of our season. I hope I will be seeing you all soon.

You may or may not know that your museum has some large priorities at this time. Repairing the tin roof (tree fell on it in March 2001) and the need for full climate control with new heating and air conditioning for the gift shop and museum room is of high priority. We are fund raising needless to say. You as members can help by paying your dues. Life members may want to give a one time donation. We need people to help on the Fund Raising committee. Please consider one or more of these suggestions.

There are some wonderful events coming up that 1st vice president Clara Ann Smith and 2nd vice president Elsie Coy have planned (see Calendar of Events). Please actively support us by putting them on your calendar and attending.

My best to all.

Midge



A Homecoming for Julie

On Sunday afternoon we had a Tea Party at the museum for a very special person, Julie Obenreder, our founder and first president. We were celebrating her 90th birthday. Early members attending greeted Julie and spoke of the Society's beginnings and how her leadership influenced the success of our organization. They told about the good times spent on early projects such organizing and writing our West Pasco Heritage book. The society's Past Presidents Norma Nelson, Adele Gregos, David Prace, and Commissioner Ann Hildebrand were in attendance. Mr. Scott Black, Mayor of Dade City, spoke of the impact

that winning a essay contest in 6th grade, sponsored by the society, had on his life. To her delight, Julie was presented the key to the city by Councilwoman Ginny Miller. Bless you Julie, and we wish you many more birthdays.



The Christmas Gathering

Elsie Coy and her elves (our student interns, with their siblings) were the highlight of this holiday party held at the museum. The playlet "The tree that tells" reminded us what Christmas is really about. It was a wonderful evening spent enjoying the beautifully decorated Christmas trees. One was laden with ornaments for sale. They were made by Elsie and her committee. Ginger Leatherbery brought a tree decorated in Victorian style in memory of Ann Brandli and the Angel Echo Neighborhood Girl Scouts of Suncoast Council displayed their tree with ornaments made by many of the local troops. Refreshments of cake and ice cream rounded out the evening.



Down the Hall

by Frances Mallett

We at the West Pasco Historical Society are celebrating a very important birthday this month. I should say two birthdays. First is for Julie Obenreder, the second is the birthday of the West Pasco Historical Society. Many years ago the ladies met at Julie's house on a day in May 1973. Some of the ladies were Julie, Norma Nelson, Emma Luina, Ida Brunner, Grace Rossi, Frances Mallett plus others that I cannot remember. From this meeting the Society was born, and all the wonderful things that happened since. All of the research and donations from so many people have made for a wonderful experience for those of us who love our local history. So when we celebrate Julie's birthday we are celebrating the long and exciting history of Florida, Pasco county and West Pasco.

Happy Birthday Julie and we hope to keep working and collecting history for a long time to come.

The Picture in the Window

by George Brandli

After a hard day at school, especially in the Fifth Grade, I was eager to escape from the gaze of Mr. Tolley. He was a giant of a man who walked the hallways carrying a three foot length of broomstick and had no qualms whatsoever of using it on the shins of out of line students. I once saw him lift the back end of a pickup truck out of the mud by himself and I observed him with great respect from that day forward. Another reason to escape those hallowed halls was the "OAT MEAL HOUSE." Our teacher, Mrs. Daughtery had constructed a Health House. The structure was about two feet high and the walls were covered with glued on flakes of oatmeal.

The roof and door frames were made, of glued on raisins and the windows were divided into four squares. Each student had his photograph pasted in one of these squares. At the morning inspection, consisting of finger- nail check, body odor check and general neatness, we were judged. if you passed, all was well, but if you failed any of these tests, the little shutter was closed over your picture for the day. If your presence at school was judged on the appearance of seeing your picture, then I was nonexistent. Very seldom was the shutter left open over my picture.

In those days in the 1930's, although I was not really aware of it, we were poverty stricken. We had some hog meat and as I remember a five pound bag of flour hidden under my parents bed and at times I would gaze at that and know that as long as that was there, we would not starve. Greens from the field next to our mountain home with some bacon strips and mush were the staples of our dinners. In this situation, every one of us had to contribute. Hunting squirrels and rabbits and seining for fish was a part of daily life for me. In the Fall, my fingernails and hands were stained with walnut hull juice and you cannot get that off. However, I could earn for the family 85¢ per half gallon of walnut meat if all were in perfect halves. I also ran three muskrat trap lines and three deadfall trap lines for skunks, fox, and other animals. These had to be skinned, stretched, and tanned before selling them to the traders. My body odor was not of the best quality. Skunk odor was the worse and on some days when the walnut stain was overlooked, the heat of the room brought out the odor of skunk. At those times, I was asked to take my chair and sit in the hallway with the door open so that I could participate in class discussion. With my picture covered and not even being in the room, I was to all intents an invisible person

Never permit yourselves to be a non-person. Keep your picture uncovered.

News from the Gift Shop

by Audrey O'Neil

The cold weather at holiday time was not good for the gift shop sales. We didn't have as many people come into the Museum as in other years. Especially on the day of the Christmas Parade there was not as many customers to buy our hand made Christmas ornaments. We thought they would be an attraction. Since there is now a peg board on the wall, we are able to display more items. Come take a look.



Library News

by Head Librarian Bea Baum

We have new rules for accessing the Vertical File. All materials will be handled by the Library staff, checking out and in by request. Work is progressing well, but refiling is taking a long time. However, the Librarians are doing a fine job. Mr. Mike Olson has borrowed a number of photos to copy for display in his 3 new offices.

Hysterical Historians

Meeting - January 23 - 11:30 at Japanese Toyoka Steakhouse (Rt 19 across from K-Mart)

Hostesses: Sara Spangler - 842-8777, Betty Mathews - 862-1214, Satoka McLouglin - 868-6409

Red Hot Biddies will be hosting a PJ party in downtown Tarpon Springs on January 18, 2003 at Oxford Tea House. Thanks to Janet Jones, dinner will be served from 5-8 p.m. Carol's Dress Shop will be open to 9:00 p.m. Valerie of Illusions and Nine's Niche will also be open. Wear your PJ's and robes over your purple clothes if you like. Don't forget slippers and teddy bears and bandies. Stores are staying open just for you! R.S.V.P. - Marilyn Calliper of Red Hot Biddies at (727) 862-0059 by January 8th.

Cruise is announced for August 31-September 6. Gather at New Orleans for preliminary host. A scripted murder has been planned. Buy your capes and deer stalker hats. First Port of call Cozumel, Mexico, then Georgetown, Grand Caymen and Montego Bay, Jamaica and back to New Orleans. Website is Red HatNews@lists.inno-tech.com

EXTRA EXTRA Second Annual Convention - May 1-4, 2003 at Gaylord Opryland Resort in Nashville. Register soon as space is limited to reserve click on Nashville 2003 info. "Register on Line Now" or call 800-677-9526

Announcements

We need Docents/Hostesses to work at the museum and help on projects. With more active members we would be able to be open to the public more often. If you can give us 3 hours a month please consider helping your museum. Call the Museum at 847-0680 or Midge at 847-3129.

The Museum is looking for a newsletter editor. Our newsletter is sent out quarterly for each season. All news is contributed by chairpersons, the editor is not required to generate articles but may if the occasion calls. Anyone interested call the Museum at 847-0680 or Midge at 847-3129.

Anyone interested in forming a grant writing group please leave your name and number at 847-0680 or 847-3129.



Coming Events

→ Panel Discussion

Saturday, January 25th, at 1:00pm, the Society will host a panel discussion on "Why we are Here?" volunteering in the Historical Society and how can we meet our future goals. Commissioner Ann Hildebrand will moderate the panel members who are, Robert Cook from Lake County Historical Society, Ernest Dibble of the Pinellas County Historical Society, and lastly Mark Hildebrand President of the Safety Harbor Historical Museum. They will speak on membership successes, how the Florida Historical Society can aid our museum and it's development in the future. There will be questions and answers following. This should not be missed.

→ St. Valentines Day Event

Ladies and gentlemen, prepare yourself for the St. Valentine's Day Fashion Show and Luncheon at the Spartan Manor, February 14th, Friday at 12 noon. We are anticipating another fantastic, exciting display by Fraynes Fashions, narrated by Ginger Cavitch and Jeanne Kisby. Our speaker will be T. J. Frayne, our local manufacturer. There will be colorful fashions, door prizes, 50-50, flower auction and of course the "grand prize". There will be a lot of fun for all. And yes we also have a mystery entertainer! The menu: Oven roasted chicken, string beans almandite, oven roasted potatoes, Greek salad followed by dessert. This is a fund-raise is \$15.00 per person. Models include Eleanor Schoepflin, Ginny Miller, Midge London-Prace, Dorothy Browne, Ann Hildebrand, Martha Williams, Shirley Hudson, Joy Lane, Mary R. Jones, Sue Bailey, Forchy Draft, Georgia Robinson, Hollie Hollingsworth, and Wendy Brenner. Tickets can be obtained at the Museum, 847-0680 or calling 846-0011 or 847-3129. Deadline for tickets is February 8th.

→ Jan Glidewell to Speak

Thursday, February 20th at 7:00pm Jan Glidewell from the Pasco Times, Off/Beat column will entertain and tickle our funny bone with his take on life.



Antique Tidbits

by Eleanor Schoepflin

Fishing Collectibles - Try fishing around in your attic, garage or basement for old fishing tackle, including rods, reels, lures, flies, nets, decoys, creels, tackle boxes, even old calendars, prints, or ads, books or ceramics related to fishing. You never can tell what they might be worth to a fishing aficionado. The reels, rods and lures that sell for the most money are rare ones in excellent condition by well-known makers. Even old, standard fishing equipment sells if it's in good shape. Best lure-makers names to look for are Pflueger, Heddon, Hastings, Creek Club, Shakespeare, Rhodes and South Bend. Edward Vom Hofe is one of the biggest names in reels, while Leonard and Orvis are well-known rod manufacturers.

Many rod makers like Garrison and Carlson produced a relatively small number of rods. Top price paid at a 1998 auction in a Boxborough, Mass auction was \$10,120 for a 7-1/2 ft. Everett Garrison trout rod, one of only 700 made by one of the world's premier rod makers. The two-tip two piece rod was the first Garrison rod made in 1945. The original owner paid \$125 for it in 1946. Heddon Punkinseed bait, spooks and spinner lures go for from \$200 to \$300 each.

Creels include those made of woven, whole reed with rawhide hinges and canvas carrying strap, leather-bound split willow with strap and buckle latch, leather strap and harness; splint reed with wooden lid and ventilated bottom weave, spring-peg latch. These sell for between \$135 and \$400.

Tin minnow buckets are also collectible and can bring prices from \$150 up depending on condition. A multicolored cardboard stand-up advertising sign for

Pflueger tackle recently sold for \$358 and a Heddon Dowaagiatic bait casting equipment catalog, 1922, fetched \$770. Certainly, Floridians must have an advantage to "get hooked" on fishing collectibles.



Panel Discussion

Saturday, January 25th, at 1:00pm

The Society will host a panel
discussion on

Why we are Here?

Volunteering in the Historical Society
and how can we meet our future
goals.

Commissioner Ann Hildebrand will
moderate the panel members

Robert Cook from Lake County
Historical Society
Ernest Dibble of the Pinellas County
Historical Society
Mark Hildebrand President of the
Safety Harbor Historical Museum

They will speak on membership
successes, how the Florida Historical
Society can aid our museum and it's
development in the future.

There will be questions and answers
following. This should not be missed.

Thank You !! Thank You !! Thank You

A big thank you to our Refreshment Chairperson Sally Smith and all of her little elves for the tremendous job she has done in the preparation of coffee and refreshments for all of our activities. We were in need of such an individual and Sally stepped forward to fill the bill. We are deeply grateful for her efforts. We don't need to clone babies we need to clone more Sally's.



Fashion Show

sponsored by the

West Pasco Historical Society
Friday, February 14, 2003

Donation \$15.00

Luncheon 12:00 — Show 1:00 pm

Spartan Manor
6121 Massachusetts Ave.
New Port Richey

Fashions by — Fraynes Fashions

Tickets are on sale at the Museum
or call 847-0680 or 846-0011

Deadline for tickets February 8

Door Prizes!! *Door Prizes!!*

Ode to a Christmas Party

*T'was nine days before Christmas at the Hotel Clarion
A party was planned by Elsie so all would have fun
In hopes that each member soon would be there
The candles were lit on each table with care
People soon arrived dressed in beautiful fare
And even the "tax man" Mike Olson was there
A poem was read about Christmas in rhyme
By a fellow dressed up in a tux that looked fine
While an angel lit with a lovely glow
And Christmas music played both fast and slow
With happy full tummies the evening did end
And wishing you all good tidings we send*

DONATIONS RECEIVED THROUGH SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

This museum has been gifted with some significant things this fall:

PHOTO ARCHIVE COMPUTER: from Marchman Technical Education Center, Carole Pearson, Principal: a computer set-up in the library. Our Ginny Miller helped this gift arrive, and to all at Marchman who made this possible, Thank You! Jeff Miller installed some of his fivay.org website on this computer for our library visitors. Jeff made it so simple-- just push one button to see over a thousand photos from our archives and the 1950's Angelo DeCiucies Collection. Stop in the library, everyone has such fun with these photos.

FIRST PERSON 'GROUND ZERO' DISPLAY: On our opening day, we tried to honor Jim Cable of Hudson for his tough stint of medical rescue work after 9/11. Jim, "WPHS First Living History Hero", surprised us with wonderful honors in return. Jim has made a permanent donation to us of the flag he wore on his uniform everyday of the 3 months he worked in the destruction of the World Trade Center, photos he took on site, and he has divided the concrete rubble he had with our museum. One more time, Thank You, Jim. This a donation we sure weren't expecting.

• Unique Awards and Engraving, Main St., NPR, donated half the value of our engraved glass 'WPHS 1st Living History Hero' award for Jim Cable.

• Life Member Clara Ann Smith generously donated a new, large flag motif tablecloth, very fitting and useful for our patriotic occasions.

ANTIQUUE FURNITURE: Thomas Dobie of Dobie Funeral Homes has kindly donated a delicate spool-handled ladies' desk now in use as our Reception Desk. And Thomas Dobie has also donated the brocade-covered sofa new to the Pioneer Parlor area.

• Ruth Teal, St. Mark Village, Palm Harbor: 2 hand-crochet throws to provide color blending for the Dobie sofa.

ANTIQUUE GREETING CARDS: from the Estate of Arthur Reddy, late of Spokane, Wash., by his daughter Virginia Reddy, Hudson: a large group of antique greeting cards. Most of the cards were dated by the users, which is an enormous advantage to a museum. Ms. Reddy also presented these fragile cards in individual archival sleeves, ready for proper museum storage. This curator's staff is very grateful for Ms. Reddy's extra care and expense. We'll keep these ornate and hand-decorated cards together as "The Reddy Collection".

TIN CAN TOURISM IN NEW PORT RICHEY: donated by her family in memory of Betty Seydell, Shuffleboard Club Pres., NPR-- part of the club's original equipment, a 1930's handmade bamboo shuffleboard stick. This stick dates from NPR Municipal Tourist Club's earliest days and was given along with supporting book and plaques, plus a nice cash donation. NPR's Tourist club was a direct part of Florida's famous 'Tin Can Tourism' phenomenon during the Depression, and our Land Boom collection is much improved for this beautiful artifact from those resourceful days.

LOCAL HISTORICAL INFO: from Carole Ritter, NPR: 1945 Chamber of Commerce Report -on 'City Records Examination'. Old local records are Exactly what this museum and library needs, and we commend Carole for

saving it. This boring old book doesn't add much beauty to the place, but it sure directly aids our purpose of finding and hanging onto West Pasco History. Please be on the lookout for other old community records.

• Ellen Plennert Holeman, NPR: 1954-1956 PTA booklets, programs, clippings and 2 photos from NPR's PTA.

• Clifford Grubb, NPR: beautiful heirloom clothing: light lace evening wrap, pair of elbow-length fingerless gloves, long skirt for an infant.

• Charles Turner (i.e., Harley Charley), Port Richey: engraved conch shell (9in. x 8 in.) commemorating the USAF vessel Sybil, found discarded in Tampa.

• Ruth Teal, Palm Harbor: various sewing notions from turn of century to 1930's, especially "Sewing Susan" folder. Also, early cardboard packet of safety razor blades. See the new Notions Box above the remarkably fine Clark Threads Display Desk belonging to Frances Mallet..

• Madlyn Nelson, NPR: World War II newspapers.

• Don Kirby, NPR: three exhaustive volumes on the Civil War. These books are authored by Shelby Foote, the expert who was so effective on the Civil War television programs.

#1084: Ruth Teal and Catherine Barrowman, Palm Harbor: 2nd crochet throw, maroon, for brocade sofa.

#1085: Jeff Miller, from Gulf High School: a better monitor for the library computer.

#1086: West Pasco Art Guild: keys and locks, some for display purposes, and a Civil War Book for library

#1087: Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Doane, New Port Richey: good quality glass punch bowl and 18 matching cups, 1 high quality cut glass ladle, 1 stainless steel ladle

#1088: Bob Davidson, Hudson: microfiche viewer, not accepted

#1089: Elaine Girouard, behalf of Thomas, New Port Richey: blue and white real estate sign, 17" x 24", excellent local item.

#1090: Phil Dahlgren, Veterans Village, NPR: collection of razors, 1 ornate blade in leather case, 1 black handled in box, 1 unusual clear handled, 1 black handled Hollinger, and a 3-pc. safety razor in traveling case.

#1091: Kathy Martin, New Port Richey: 8 oz. coke bottle per display wish list.

#1092: Maxine Clayton, Port Richey: hardbound copy of novel on middle Florida's pioneer life, "A Land Remembered."



Wish List

1. Small computer desk, and printer.
2. A group to clean folding chairs and card tables



West Pasco Historical Society
6431 Circle Boulevard
New Port Richey

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January Program Saturday, January 25th at 1:00pm
Forum on "Why are we here? As members of a Historical Society." A panel of three speakers, moderated by Commissioner Ann Hildebrand, with questions and answers

February Program Saturday and Sunday February 8th & 9th
Art Show - Working Artists in Museum - in conjunction with art show around the lake

February Program Friday, February 14th 12:00pm Luncheon
Annual Fashion Show Fundraiser to follow, to be held at Spartan Manor

February Program Saturday 20th, 7:00pm General Meeting
Jan Glidewell speaker

March Programs March 20th thru March 30th
Chasco Fiesta Celebration Friday, Saturday & Sunday, March 21, 22 & 23th, and 28, 29 & 30th
Exhibit of Chasco Memorabilia starting with the first Chasco Fiesta in 1922
79th N.Y. Volunteer Infantry "Cameron Highlanders" a Civil War re-enactment group will camp on museum's front lawn and will have various activities showing life at that time

April Program Saturday, April 19th

Folk Festival groups will perform native dances, songs, and other traditions.

May Program Saturday, May 10th

Mothers and Daughters Tea held at WPHS 2:00 to 4:00pm

ADDENDUM TO DIRECTORY

2002 #5

NEW MEMBERS

James Cable
10068 Frierson Lake Dr.
Hudson, FL 34669
505-0876 (L)

Patricia A. Falter
3130 Elkridge Drive
Holiday, FL 34691
505-0876 (I)

CHANGE ADDRESS

Susan Dillinger
3611 Richboro Drive
Holiday, FL 34691

Roxann Mayros
2560 Tiger Tail Ave
Coconut Grove, FL 33133

Brenda McLain LaPointe
2004 Pleasure Drive
Holiday, FL 34691