



West Pasco Historical Society, Inc. Museum and Library

4th QUARTER 2003

A Message from the President

Dear members,

This Saturday, the 15th of November, at 1:30 we will be introducing Mr. Dell deChant who will discuss his book "The Sacred Santa." Mr. deChant is under graduate Director of the Department of Religious Studies at USF in Tampa. After his lecture you may purchase his book which he will sign. I hope to see you then.

We have received many donations for the roof fund. I want to thank those members for supporting the Society. We still have a ways to go, so if you intend to help us please send your tax deductible contribution today.

Our General Membership meeting will be on Saturday, November 22nd at 1:00pm. Please plan to attend. You were sent the proposed bylaws along with our present bylaws. There will be an open discussion to discuss and air questions regarding their acceptance. Hope to see you at our holiday events. Enjoy your holidays.

Report on our Season Opener

Phebe Ranson put on a great program about Moon Lake Lodge. She started with a news clip that was aired on TV about the unusual resort. She told of her and others efforts to save the main lodge. There were many fund raisers hoping to save the extraordinary lodge. It was very emotional for her. Her poetry was especially poignant. A display of pictures and a burned log showed the beauty and demise of the lodge. We had a full house which included Mr. Willard Hawn who came for the lecture, he had worked at the lodge. He added to the presentation with more interesting insights into the everyday working of the resort. It was a delightful way to start the season.

Best Lawn Sale Ever

Our Roof- fund raiser was a wonderful success! So many of our members responded to our request for donations with many kinds of saleable items. We had enough merchandise for two days with left overs. It was a lot of work but with the help of over 21 members who - priced items, put them in boxes, carried them out side, set up the tables, worked on one of three shifts each day selling to the public, and worked in many other ways. Thank you, to all who worked on this project. The sale added over \$1,100.to our Roof Fund.



Field trip to Florida Historical Society in Melbourne on January 22, 2004 will have to be cancelled because of not enough participation . Anyone still interested contact Clara Ann Smith. 847-0404



Gift Shop News by Audrey O'Neil

There are several new items for sale in the Gift Shop, glass ware, ceramics, stuffed animals and jewelry. Mary Jane has made a new plaque resembling the War Memorial that is on Orange Lake facing Grand Blvd. Come take a look. Thanks to everyone who helped us at our recent yard sale.

Library News by Bea Baum

New acquisition: 2004 Florida Handbook. Books are being recataloged and is a very difficult task. We are still in need of recipes for the cookbook to be published as a fundraiser. A locking file cabinet has been donated to store all original photos.

The West Pasco Historical Society
 is pleased to announce its Christmas Banquet
 will be held at the Clarion Hotel
 December 10th, at 6:00pm
 all members, guests and the public are
 invited
 cost \$20.00 per person
 Menu: Prime Rib, Baked Grouper,
 Chicken Bearnaise
 dessert & beverage are included
 Music by Lorri and Mike
 Cash bar
 Reservations are required by Dec. 5th
 Call Dannee Brooks 856-4528
 or Elsie Coy 815-0046

Donations received as of November 12, 2003

1112- Wooden toy, horse and carriage. Donated by
 Terry Kline

1112.a- small flow blue platter

1112.b- Book of Poems for Boys and Girls

1113- City Map of New Port Richey. Donated by
 Tom Lawrence

1113.a- Old certificate for shares of stock

1114- A 20" Color Television. Donated by Vickie
 and Thomas McDonald

1115- 1-2 drawer metal cabinet. Donated by Gerry
 Keeler c/o Gateway Honda

1115.a- 1- 4drawer metal cabinet (in library)

1116- 3 photos of the barn on the Jessie Mitchell
 property. Donated by Salah Batrawi

1117- 1923 Sales brochure for the Tea-la Heights
 development in Port Richey. Donated by Thomas
 Balletta

1118- Picture of the sea vessel "The Maine" donated
 by Ray Haydu.

1119- Arrowhead found on Ed Leopold property.
 Donated by Paul A. Hatcher

1120- 3 computer monitors. (Not received yet)

1121- Early Disney World admission tickets.
 Donated by Clara Ann Smith

1122- Bullet mold. Donated by Paul A. Hatcher

1123- 3 Old family pictures of Midwest family.
 Donated by Norma Thomas-Munson

1124- 1 Moon Lake Dude Ranch and Gardens post
 card showing guest cabins. Donated by Richard
 Estabrook, and David & Judy Shedlock

Calendar of Events

November 2003 thru February 2004

November 2003 Program

Saturday, November 15, 2003 1:30pm

Speaker Dell DeChant - "The Sacred Santa"

Book review by author and signing

November General Meeting

Saturday, November 22, 1:00pm

Voting on proposed Bylaws

December Members Christmas Party

Wednesday, December 10th- 6:00pm

Christmas party and dinner at Clarion Hotel

December Wassail Bowl party

Saturday, Dec. 13th evening at Museum, 6:00pm

Christmas music and refreshments, Christmas

Parade at 7:00pm

January 2004 Programs

Saturday January 17th 1:00pm

New Member Reception. Meet our new members
 and bring a potential new member with you.

February 2004 Program

Saturday and Sunday February 7th & 8th Art Show,
 working Artists in Museum

Chairperson: Mary Jane Prichard 845-4936

Friday, February 13th

Fashion show, held at Spartan Manor, 12:00pm

Chairperson: Jeanne Kisby

A FOG FIGURE OR DEATH by G.L. Brandli

My family and the Altarr family who lived down the Mountainside near the village of Lost Creek, West Virginia, had to secure water from a spring about a tenth of a mile around the side of the hill. The water jetted from a crevice in the rock face of a small cliff and flowed into a rocky pool at the base.

It was an early Fall evening and as usual, Mr. Altarr and his two sons, Leslie about age eleven and Carl age seven, were going to the spring to bring in water for the night. The sun was still shining low on the horizon and the three of them were enjoying the warmth of the day and the crunch of fallen leaves beneath their feet. When they had gone about half way, when Carl looked up to his right and said, "Oh, there's my friend, I have to go play with him." The Father looked up also and there in a clearing about 75 yards higher on the mountain was a wisp of what looked like fog, about 2 feet in diameter and about 4 feet tall. It was moving around in the clearing and at times touched the ground and then rose slightly as if flying. Carl started to run toward the dancing fog, but his Father called out to stop and Carl came back. When he did, the fog was gone. Mr. Altarr stood there shaking. Why was he so afraid? He could not explain it, but a prickly sensation ran up his neck as he thought of what he had just seen. They continued their journey and secured the water, but he rushed the boys past that spot on the way back home.

The next day was uneventful and as usual and at about the same time, the Father and the two boys headed out for the spring and water. As they approached the spot where the bank of fog had been seen the evening before, Carl again said, "Oh, look, there is my friend again, I have to go play with him." With that, Carl started running up the Mountainside. Mr. Altarr saw the fog dancing, just as before and he began to scream at his son to come back. Carl continued his sprint toward the clearing and the Father then began to run after him, screaming for him to come back. His fear of the unknown permeated his heart. Running as hard as he could, the Father was about 20 yards behind his son, when the boy reached the dancing fog bank. Carl called out, "I'm here," and threw his arms around the fog which was the same size as he was.

The son spun around twice with his arms around the fog and then fell to the ground. By the time Mr.

Altarr reached him, his son was on his back, a smile on his face, but he was dead. The fog had gone.

It was the subject of discussion for months, but none of the experts called in could explain the event that took the life of one so young.

At one time, I was inclined to scoff in disbelief at the stories told around the coal fire by my older relatives and neighbors. They spoke of Hoop Snakes grasping their tails in their mouth and rolling down the Mountainside. Of Balls of Fire rolling through the night and my uncle worth swore he had seen this. When a Ball of Fire would hit a mountain cabin, someone inside would die at that instant. Then Carl died and my life perspective changed. Let us all listen intently to what others are saying and not be judges of what they believe.

My brother's neighbor near Broad Run, West Virginia, a spinster lady by the name of Guernsey Funk who keeps a Holstein cow on a rope and takes her for evening strolls along the river has a solution for all her problems. When problems do occur in her life, she just places her broom on the floor across the threshold. She believes that problems and bad spirits cannot cross a broom handle and so she remains safe in her home. Who know? My brother says it seems to work for her.



"Tog, you handle Express Mail gift orders. Zok, you take care of voice mail gifts. Toppy, you look after faxed lists. Kak, you manage FedEx requests. Wowo, you cope with priority mail requests..."

NEW MEMBERS

Betty M. Black
6826 Hills Drive
New Port Richey, FL 34653
846-1413 (I)

Philip H. Chesnut
P.O. Box 2057
New Port Richey, FL 34656
846-0066 (L)

Margaret McMeans
4522 Seagull Drive #420
New Port Richey, FL 34652
848-6504 (I)

John & Antonia Miernik
6335 Missouri Ave
New Port Richey, FL 34653
846-7358 (F)

Stephen A. Yarber
6149 First Ave
New Port Richey, FL 34653
849-1717 (F)

CHANGE ADDRESS

Melvin Draft
45 Katherine Boulevard
AL Suite 134
Palm Harbor, FL 34684
372-8841

Andrew K. & Adele L. Gregos
Change zip code to 33763

Roxann Mayros
1870 SW 24th Terrace
Miami, FL 33145

CHANGE INFO

Terry Kline
Change status to Life member

Jeff Miller
Change phone to 848-1333

DECEASED

Ruth Bahr

Chris North

Grace Rossi

West Pasco Historical Society
6431 Circle Boulevard
New Port Richey, FL 34652