



# THE NORTH BREVARD HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

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Vice President – Joan Harper  
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## MARCH 2015 NEWSLETTER

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### President’s Message

*By Bill Baldwin*

As we muddle through the 30° temperatures, we sometimes forget how great it is to live in Florida until we watch the news reports about the northeast states. Since the 1800’s, this area has been popular for a lot of people seeking a new beginning. Although most of us came to the Titusville during the early space era, Titusville is still our home. Almost daily, I uncover new (for me) data concerning our historic “home town”. Seems the more I learn, the prouder I am to be a” local”, albeit transplanted. In case you didn’t know, there is a support cast at the Museum just waiting to impart tidbits of info on our history. All you need to do is ask.



### Let the Work Begin

*By Bill Baldwin*

At the February Board meeting, the Board approved monies to begin revitalizing the Museum. First, the Board accepted Ron Hampton’s bid to recoat the roof using a 100% silicon coating, which is the best and longest lasting material of that type. Secondly and also approved was the front room wall rework. Every docent I have talked to has been using catch phrases such as “love it” and “beautiful” to express their impression of the work that has already been done, furniture wise, to that area. Basically, the approved approach is to wallpaper the top wall section, paint the bottom 34 inches in a blue to match the carpet and then install a chair rail. So, beginning in about 2 weeks you should start seeing activity in those areas even though we will try to minimize any interfere with normal Museum activities.

### A Taste of Titusville

*By Bill Baldwin*

In case you didn’t attend the February Member’s Meeting, you missed a fun filled speaker in Steven Heron. Steven, Titusville Playhouse General Manager, presented a history of the “Historic Emma Parrish Theater”, a preview of upcoming shows plus a view of his personal history. Besides being the GM, he is an accomplished actor, producer, director and comic. As a jack-of-all-trades, Steven has been the catalyst that has brought the Playhouse into the limelight with first-rate shows with explosive attendance. Titusville really appreciates what he has brought to the town. Thanks Steven.



### Happy 192<sup>nd</sup> Birthday Colonel Titus!

*By Esther /Vulpius*



On February 21<sup>st</sup>, members of the Historical Society celebrated Col. Titus' birthday at the Museum with a decorated cake and assorted cookies made by Barbara, Linda and Esther. It was well-attended; and a nice

assortment of birthday gifts for the Museum was received. Thanks to everyone who participated in this event. Some of our visitors wanted to know where the Col. was; we reported that he was "resting comfortably" at the LaGrange Cemetery. For those who do not know, Col. Henry Theodore Titus was born in Trenton, New Jersey on February 18, 1823 and died August 7, 1881. For more information on our interesting founder, go on line.



## To Our Volunteers

*By June Hodson*

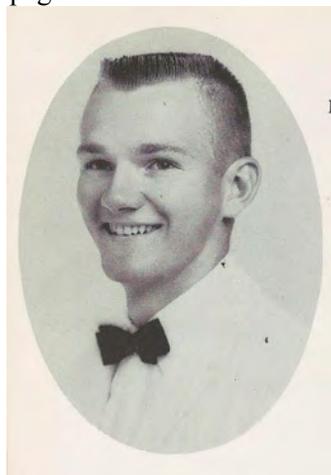
The door to our Museum remains open because of the number of volunteers who are willing to spend hours of their time. We are now in need of more volunteers. We have many shifts with no one willing to spend 2½ hours to fill the vacancies. Several of our regular people are working extra shifts so we do not have to close. All we ask is for 2½ hours per month. If you cannot commit to a regular shift, we would appreciate a commitment to work when you are available to fill one shift, as needed. If you are available, either as a regular or on call, please call me at 431-8695 or Debi at 514-1523. The downtown street parties have given us the opportunity to meet many people who are unable to visit our Museum during regular hours. The next street party is March 13<sup>th</sup>. Anyone who will be available to help can call either of the above numbers. Remember, this is your Museum and we need you.



## Pictures from the Past

*By Paul Marion*

Does anyone recognize this handsome young man whose picture was taken in 1961 in the THS Yearbook? Answer is on page 4.



## Memorials

*By Betty Mattingly*

### In Memory of:

Shirley Nelson Wilson

Shirley N. Davis

Sally Metzger (daughter of long time member, Trudy Metzger)

### Given by:

Neal and Mary Lou Roeder (Titusville)

Carolyn Parrish (Rockledge)

Boe Wooten (Titusville)



## Membership

*By Barbara Batchelder*

We are still collecting membership dues and many of our members have not remitted their 2015 dues. We are fortunate to own our fine building; thanks to the generosity of Mr. Glenn Patch; however, with ownership comes maintenance and general operating expenses. As a non-profit, dues, donations and special events are our only source of income.

Please check your address label on this newsletter. A red dot indicates we have not received your dues. We're all busy and sometimes things get overlooked. If you have sent in your dues, thank you very much for your support.



## Questers Gift

*By Betty Mattingly*

In the November newsletter it was reported that the **Lovie Pritchard #561 Chapter of Florida State and International Questers** sponsored the donation of the historical marker that is now proudly displayed on the front of the Museum buildings. In addition, they have recently reimbursed us for the installation cost of mounting the marker. This was a very nice surprise and we appreciate all they have done for us. Thank you Questers!



## A Book at the Museum

*By Betty Mattingly*

A spiral bound book at the Museum is titled, "Archeological Information- Indian River Brevard County, Florida."

In 1961, NASA selected Merritt Island "as the launch site for Apollo/Saturn V manned flights to the moon". Shortly after that, 88,000 acres were purchased. The Corps of Engineers was the agent for acquisition of

the land and construction of facilities. The KSC is 34 miles long and the width is 5 to 10 miles. It takes up most of northern Merritt Island. Many of you already know all that. This book relates information about the exploration and preservation of archeological sites in the KSC area. Because there was concern for the protection and preservation of sites and artifacts, a survey was initiated in 1965. The University of Florida was involved and approached the project with an outline of what is known about archeology and the early history of East Central Florida. It addresses primitive Indians in the Indian River area, how they lived, how and what they hunted. Shells from shellfish were thrown away and over the years formed mounds – they are called “middens”. These middens hold all kinds of animal bones, pottery shards, and projectiles, etc. There were also burial mounds. There is even mention of treasure hunts of shipwrecks north of Playalinda Beach. This is just a smidgen of what is covered in the survey.

The survey permanently recorded all the site locations in the KSC master plans. There is so much interesting information in this book it is difficult to mention everything that was involved. The facilities and buildings at the Space Center are now 40 to 50 years old and have been undergoing evaluations for historic preservation.

Since there does not appear to have an author’s name, it is now my intention to do research to identify the writer.



## Guest Comments

*By Leigh Lorence*

Things are getting better all the time! Everyone is loving our Museum. From South Carolina “Past resident - Thank you for a look back in time.” Sweden “Lots of interesting things.” Maine “Looking forward to viewing your Museum. Congrats to the volunteers.” Illinois “Love your volunteers.” New York “Lovely collection for diverse interest.” And several comments “Love the new displays.” “Memories Memories.” The Museum is about protecting our history but it is also about transporting us back to our childhoods where we laughed, played and loved without hesitation. I think that is why our guests love visiting. Good memories to all.

## Astronaut With Local Ties

*By Joan Harper*

Shane Kimbrough, who attended part of the first grade at Oak Park Elementary School in Titusville, will return to the International Space Station next year. His mother was DeAnn (Duff) Johnson and was a 1962 THS graduate. He spent part of his youth with his grandfather, Lyle Duff who was a resident and businessman in Mims. Many old timers will remember Duffy’s, Lyles’s restaurant and fruit stand in Mims.



## Afternoon In The Park

*by Linda Hinkson*

The Museum's 22<sup>nd</sup> annual “*Afternoon in the Park*” BBQ will be held at Fox Lake Park. Please mark your calendars! There is going to be a 50/50 drawing, books and desserts for sale. Antique cars will be in the Heliport and music is by the Titusville School Jazz Band. If you have any questions, or if you would love to volunteer, please call Linda Hinkson at 267-8237.



## Social Media

*By Judy Davis*

Check us out on Facebook by going to this site: [www.facebook.com/NorthBrevardHistoricalMuseum](http://www.facebook.com/NorthBrevardHistoricalMuseum); and visit our website at: [www.nbbd.com/godo/history/](http://www.nbbd.com/godo/history/). If you wish to be added to any of our email postings, please contact us at [titusvillemuseum@aol.com](mailto:titusvillemuseum@aol.com). Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or comments at all.



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## OR PRESENT OCCUPANT



### Dates to Remember

- *March 16<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting:* 10:00 am (and members are welcome to attend).
- *March 21<sup>st</sup> Afternoon in the Park and BBQ* 11:00 am to 4 pm (at Fox Lake Park)
- *March 23<sup>rd</sup> Member Meeting:* 2:00 p.m. (at Dixie Crossroads).
- *April 20<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting:* 10:00 am (and members are welcome to attend).
- *April 27<sup>th</sup> Member Meeting:* 2:00 p.m. (at Dixie Crossroads).



Picture from the Past: Frank "Tink" Steele

