



THE NORTH BREVARD HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

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MARCH 2017 NEWSLETTER

President’s Message

by Bill Baldwin

Sometimes, at the end of the month, it is tough to get the creative juices going especially when trying to define and create an article for the newsletter. Today is one of those and the mind is drawing a blank. Don’t get me wrong, Judy Davis is fantastic about not pushing for an input but at the same time she needs to meet her deadline of creating the newsletter for publication. Then all at once it came to me. The prevailing concept is that the Directors, or a few insiders, are the only ones that should write newsletter articles for the newsletter. This idea is dead wrong. This is your newsletter and therefore your ideas, thoughts or human interest short stories are important and should be shared with all Museum members. If you want to help be “creative”, please submit your input to any board member or email it to Judy at titusvillemuseum@aol.com. Consider this your invitation to share your stories.



Museum Parking – Part 2

by Bill Baldwin

There is definitely a new “street look” around the Museum. The city has completed resurfacing Main Street and has added new lines for the bike trail, car traffic and parking. Three parking spots were added on Main just north of the Museum albeit located in what seems to be the middle of the road. The city manager has stated that the

city will install a barrier to prevent US1 north traffic from turning into the parking places and/or the bike lane. All in all, north downtown area parking is still down from what was in place in the days prior to the “bike lane”. Regardless, use extreme **CAUTION** if you park on Main St. just north of the Museum when opening your driver’s side door. Door replacement is pretty expensive.



Pictures from the Past

by Paul Marion

Does anyone recognize this lovely young lady whose picture was taken in 1959 in the THS yearbook? Answer on page 4.



Afternoon in the Park and BBQ

by Betty Mattingly

The February newsletter, sent to all members, contained three (3) tickets, a half sheet form to fill out regarding the tickets and an envelope for a response. Sending in your response **early** will save time when checking in at the Validation Table as you enter the Pavilion.

Our committee members have been doing all they can to make this annual event a success again. The fantastic BBQ meal consists of chicken or pork, baked beans, coleslaw, a roll, tea or coffee. By the way, Paul Marion, Food Chairman, arranged for the Board to have a pork tasting session. We all agreed that the pork met our standards and should be acceptable by those selecting pork as their choice. **The meal is served from 12 to 2 pm** and take out is available. So ... head out to **Fox Lake Park on Saturday, March 18th, 11 am to 4 pm** to eat, listen, look and visit.

In addition to the meal, homemade desserts will be available. You will also be able to enjoy watching line dancers, listen to music – probably the great “oldies” that most of our members will remember. If that’s not enough, you can enjoy checking out the antique cars and a few demonstrations like stained glass, basket weaving and crocheting.

As a reminder, this is our **24th Annual AITP and BBQ**. It has been a popular fund raiser for many years now evolving into a social get together for our members, friends and supporters. **See you there!!!**



Displays

by Amy Spillers

Our Museum doors stay open because of the generosity of others. Simply put, without donated artifacts, pictures, and supporting documents of people, and past events that help shape North Brevard's history, we wouldn't have very much to display.

During Black History Month, we had several people come into the Museum and ask about the Black History of North Brevard. Let me share a few stories with you.

Andrew Jackson Gibson



Andrew Jackson Gibson and his wife, Miley Macon, settled here in 1876. Gibson opened the first barbershop and shoe repair shop in Titusville. He also became Brevard County's first jailer, and fed prisoners their meals that he and his wife prepared in their small home. Gibson also worked as the Superintendent of the only public road in Brevard County, Dixie Highway, and held these two public offices at the same time. In addition, Gibson also opened a restaurant across the street from the Titus House that was famous for serving fresh oysters and seafood. Gibson school was later named after him and he was considered a man ahead of his time.

Harry T. and Harriette V. Moore



Harry T. Moore and his wife Harriet V. Moore were Teachers, grove owners, and Civil Rights activists. They organized the first Brevard County branch of the NAACP. While sleeping in their beds on Christmas evening 1951, their 25th wedding anniversary, the Moore's were murdered when a bomb exploded under their bed. The explosion could be felt and heard several blocks away. If you haven't already visited The Moore Cultural Center located at 2180 Freedom Avenue in Mims, I highly recommend it.

Hiram Mann



Another legendary man was Hiram Mann, Lt. Col. USAF. A man of determination, Mann never gave up the dream of becoming an aviator. Mann eventually became a member of the historic Tuskegee Airmen 332 flight group, an elite squadron of African-American airmen during

World War II. He flew 48 combat missions over Europe during the war and affectionately nicknamed both his fighter planes "Boss Lady" and "The Iron Lady" after his wife, Kathadaza "Kitty" Mann. Hiram Mann retired in Titusville in 1974 and passed away in 2014. He was 92 years old.

There have been many people of color born here, live here, and die here that have shaped the history of Titusville and North Brevard. Some were Grove owners, Educators, Activists, Superintendents, Councilmen, Clergymen, Doctors, Dentists, Lawyers, Police officers and Firefighters, Business owners, as well as sports figures. We would like to invite those still living or the descendants of these important people to share more of their contribution to North Brevard's history.



Friday Night Live

by Katie McQuade

The Downtown Titusville Merchants Association *Friday Night Live* events continue to draw both new and familiar friends into the Museum. The February 10th edition, with a Mardi Gras theme, brought us an especially festive crowd. Many thanks to June Hodson, Victor Cary, Michael Knight and Paul Marion for supporting the Museum "after hours"! We will be open late on March 10th for the next *Friday Night Live*, and look forward to experiencing "Marley Madness"!



Social Media

by Judy Davis

Check us out on **Facebook** and on our website below. If you wish to be added to any of our occasional e-mails, please contact us. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or comments at all.

- Email: titusvillemuseum@aol.com
- Website: www.nbbd.com/godo/history/
- "Like" us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/NorthBrevardHistoricalMuseum



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Dates to Remember

- *March 6th* Afternoon in the Park and BBQ meeting at 10 am at the Museum.
- *March 18th* annual Afternoon in the Park and BBQ 11 am to 4 pm at Fox Lake Park.
- *April 17th* Board meeting at 10 am at the Museum.
- *April 24th* Membership meeting at 5:30 pm at Dixie Crossroads.

Pictures from the Past answer: Dollie Mae Aliff Boggs