



THE NORTH BREVARD HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

(Located at 301 South Washington Avenue)

PO Box 5265

Titusville, FL 32783

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OCTOBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

President’s Message

by Bill Baldwin

When in rains, it rains and rains and rains. So goes it when hurricane Irma slammed us and I guess we should be grateful that Maria decided to stay out in the ocean. A lot of us were without power as well as sustaining damage due to winds. The Museum had to be shut down for a week but we were able to re-open on Sept. 19th. Hopefully that will be the last closing this year due to storms.



House Tour **CANCELLED**

With great regret, the House Tour Committee has decided to cancel the tour this year. Hurricane Irma did sufficient damage to a few participating houses and some owners were not confident that their homes would be fully recovered to the extent needed to support a tour date of December 2nd. It appears that hurricanes have been coming all too frequently. The Museum would like to **thank** the homeowners, house leaders, organizers, sponsors and docents for their work involved in preparing for this event. An additional “**thanks**” must be extended to those businesses that also intended to help with the tour, either monetarily or physically. Any monies already collected for Ads or personal sponsorships will be returned to all participants. You will either have your check returned or a Museum check will be sent to you. Who knows – we are already thinking that maybe Next Year?????



Pictures from the Past

by Paul Marion

Does anyone recognize this lovely young lady?

Answer on page 3.



Museum Hurricane Damage Report

by Bill Baldwin

We are indeed lucky to have withstood IRMA with only minimal damage. The 6 foot metal awning that was above the rear double doors can’t be found and a couple of 3 footers were bent but overall, we’re in good shape. It looks like we might need to get some new ones. As a footnote, when we re-opened we found a crab in the middle of the floor of Room 1. Maybe the water was higher than we thought.



New Phone/Internet???

by Bill Baldwin

The Board decided to change phone & internet services when our old carrier (AT&T) increased our costs to \$122 per month. We are now in process of converting to Spectrum who we contracted for similar services at a rate of \$80 per month. However, the conversion is not without issues but should be complete by the end of October. Other than that, we should not see any more problems with the changeover (fingers crossed).



From Our Past

by Mike Knight

Titusville Gulls Semi-Pro Baseball Team

The Titusville Gulls semi-pro baseball team players for 1947 were identified from the picture by Dr. Jim Clark. Dr. Clark was a four year letterman in baseball from Titusville High School. He played baseball for THS during the 1950-1954 baseball seasons. His uncle, Joe (Buster) Brown was the manager of the Gulls during the time Dr. Clark played baseball for THS. Dr. Clark had a close association with most all of these players because his uncle allowed him to participate in team practices with the players and he came to know most all of them. The team consisted of some local players and some students from Rollins College. They played at the old Draa Field when it was in the Baseball configuration. There was a large multi-tiered wooden stadium that provided different levels of view of the field for the observation of the game by the crowd. The stadium had restrooms, two locker rooms with showers, lockers and a dressing area for the players. Dugouts were provided on either side of the stadium for the home and visitors. Day games were played there normally but high wattage lights were mounted on top of the stadium that provided lighting for night games at Draa Field. About an equal amount of day and night games were played there during the season. A circular wooden fence was positioned around the outfield and there were bull-pen areas provided for each team on their respective side of the field.

1947 of the Central Florida East Coast League, identified from the 1947 Gulls Team Picture

Row Position	Name	Local or Rollins College	Position Played
T/1	Jack Mendel		Utility
T/2	Earl Joyner		Utility
T/3	Doug Barnhart	Local	Infield
T/4	Harvey Cox	Rollins College	Outfield
T/5	Smiley Wellman	Rollins College	Infield
T/6	Jim Blalock	Rollins College	
T/7	Jim Cavello	Rollins College	Pitcher
T/8	Bob Hartman	Local	Utility
T/9	William Levan	Local	Manager
B/1	Buddy McBryde	Rollins College	Catcher
B/2	Bob Lassiter	Rollins College	Pitcher
B/3	Milford Talton	Rollins College	Infield
B/4	Kenny Duff	Local	Outfield
B/5	Selby Bailey	Local	Coach
B/6	Roscoe Ray		Utility
B/7	George Whidden	Local	Infield
B/8	Courtland Flake	Local	Utility
B/9	David Marese	Local	Batboy



Draa Field



1947 Gulls Baseball Team



Spotlight

The Museum is eternally grateful for the support from the community and especially our business friends. For this month, we would like to extend our deepest **THANKS** to Dixie Crossroads. Dixie Crossroads co-owner, Laurilee Thompson, has always been a tremendous supporter of the Museum by providing us with a meeting/dinner place, lending a helping hand for the "Afternoon in the Park" events in addition to her generous monetary support. It is always a pleasure to interface with Laurilee's right hand and chief scheduler, Dawna Thorstad, when we want to schedule an event there. A big **THUMBS UP** to all the crew at Dixie!



Alligator Foot Change Purse

by Susan Widick Nelson

If you haven't visited the museum in a while, there is a very interesting item on display that was donated by Ms. Wanda Evans Clark. On a recent visit to her apartment at Addington Place, I was treated to a lovely display of family photos and memorabilia. Always gracious, Wanda was nice enough to indulge my questions as I asked about different items. I had recently had the pleasure of reading "Ever This Day" which is the written history of Wanda's ancestors, as told by her mother, Leah Losley Evans. (This is in the reference section of the museum, and is a fascinating love story/family history, and a must read if you are performing docent duties and find yourself in between visitors.) One item that caught my eye while I visited Wanda was an alligator foot change purse in beautiful condition. When asked about this, Wanda Told me it was given to her mother when she was about 16 years old. I quickly did the computation after asking when her mother was born, and Realized that this item was over 100 years old! She then offered to donate it to our museum, so that it could be

shared with folks for many years to come. I was able to take a picture of a portrait of her mother at about the age that she was when she received this purse. In the following weeks, I was able to put this item in a shadowbox frame, along with a miniature framed portrait of Leah, and a brief background of this purse. It is currently on display on the wall above the Panelrama in the main room of the museum. I was lucky enough to be at the museum on the day Wanda and her son, Clayton, came by the museum to see the shadowboxed purse, so I asked her to pose with the display. By the look on her face, I think she was happy with her decision to donate this personal piece of the Losley family history. Thank you so much, Wanda, for sharing this with all who visit the North Brevard Historical Museum!



Wanda Evans Clark

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

Pictures from the Past answer: Vickie Witte Miller



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Dates to Remember

- ***October 16th*** Board meeting at 10 am at the Museum.
- ***November 20th*** Board meeting at 10 am at the Museum.
- ***November 27th Membership meeting at 5:30 pm*** at Dixie Crossroads for dinner and membership meeting.
- ***December 18th Board*** meeting at 10 am at the Museum.