



THE NORTH BREVARD HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

(Located at 301 South Washington Avenue)

PO Box 5265

Titusville, FL 32783

(321) 269-3658

OFFICERS

President – Bill Baldwin
Vice President – Amy Spillers
Secretary – Judy Davis
Treasurer – Linda Siano
Past President– Betty Mattingly

DIRECTORS

Gini Campbell
Michael Knight
Paul Marion
Katie McQuade
Susan Nelson
Esther Vulpus
Herman Wattwood, Jr.

FEBRUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER

(Newsletter Editor – Judy Davis)

President’s Message

by Bill Baldwin

It’s not often that we get super excited about Museum happenings but sometimes the shoe just fits. Such as the case when a few days ago, Joan and Carl (“Tuffy”) Threlkeld came into the Museum and handed Director Herman Wattwood a really, really, really **big** cash donation. The Threlkelds are long-time members of the Museum and the Threlkeld family tree has a lot of history in Titusville. This is truly something to get **EXCITED** about and we send our biggest **THANKS!** to Joan and Tuffy.



“Afternoon in the Park” news!!

by Susan Nelson

Well, now that the hectic holidays are behind us, the 2018 Afternoon in the Park committee is busy working on our upcoming BBQ. The museum and its members should be proud that this event has reached its 25th anniversary! That, in itself, is a major accomplishment.

We are excited to add some new twists to the BBQ. This is a great opportunity to get the members together as well as invite North Brevard to come join us and see what the museum can offer. In trying to make this an "old-timey" gathering, we have added a child's plate to our menu for \$5, so that it will be more affordable to bring the entire family. This will include a hotdog or pulled pork on a bun, with chips, slaw or beans, and a drink (lemonade has been added to the drink menu). We also are going to have some old-fashioned games to keep the little ones occupied, and Amy Spillers is coordinating a Cake Walk, as well as lining up entertainment and music for our shindig.

Instead of just having antique automobiles on display, we are hosting a mini Antique car show this year. We are inviting local vintage car enthusiasts to come out and display their cars, and we will have the BBQ attendees vote on their favorite car. Ballots will be given out when tickets are picked up or validated, and when the ballot is filled out and brought back to the table, the vote will be tallied and the ballot (with the voter's name filled out on it) will be placed in a box. Each person who votes will have a chance of winning one of many gift certificates or prizes, so make sure

you get out and vote! The winner of the People's Choice Award will be made at 2 pm and a trophy and prize will be presented to the lucky person who owns that car. Other prizes will be given out for 2nd through 4th placements, as well. Katie McQuade and I enlisted the support of some of the local downtown merchants and they have donated gift certificates for prizes. This should be a win/win situation for everyone.

Of course, in keeping with past Afternoons, there will be a 50/50 raffle, and a table where museum books and CDs can be purchased. We will also have membership information and will be actively encouraging the public to "make history" by becoming a member of the North Brevard Historical Museum. This is a great organization and we should encourage folks to join us in making sure our museum has a solid future.

Ed Mezick is heading up the food department, and with his valuable food service experience, we are looking forward to things operating smoothly in the kitchen. Bill Baldwin and Paul Marion will be best supporting food preppers, with Harry Bennett lending his supervision to the bean preparation Harry's wife, Betty, has graciously agreed to be guiding the serving staff and making sure our guests enjoy their meals. Herman Wattwood and Ginny Cooper will be serving up the liquid refreshments once again.

The posters and flyers are printed and if you know a merchant or organization that will allow us to display our advertisement, please pick one up and take it to them. Tickets are being mailed out with this newsletter. There will be a drawing for a \$50 gift certificate from Dixie Crossroads for one of the first 100 people to pay for their tickets. So don't wait until the last minute, since those odds are a lot better than the Powerball!!! For those of you that are docents, you will see a display in the museum with sign, entry forms, and a jar for the entries. This is for a chance to win a free adult BBQ ticket and it is for non-members only - another membership enticement. People will only be able to sign up if they come into the museum and fill out an entry form. Winners will be drawn once a week beginning on February 9th, and each Friday, ending on March 16. We are hoping to get some new members by luring them into the museum to see what we are all about.

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help out with the BBQ ~ Judy Davis, Michael Knight, Gini Campbell, Linda Siems, June Hodson, Erich Konjevich, Judy Ball, and Barbara Batchelder ~ and I apologize if I've missed anyone. Of course, I must really thank The Divine Miss M ~ none other than

Betty Mattingly. She is my mentor, hand-holder, cheerleader, and dear friend. I only hope I can do half as good a job as she has done in the past years with this event. Let's all pull together and make our 25th anniversary a great one!!

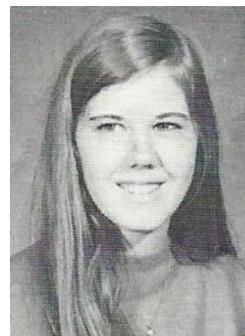


Pictures from the Past

by Paul Marion

Does anyone recognize this lovely young lady whose picture was taken in 1974 at Titusville High School?

Answer on page 4.



"Afternoon in the Park" tickets

by June Hodson

Enclosed with this Newsletter are tickets for the BBQ in March with a return envelope and page. If you plan on attending, please fill in: (1) Numbers on tickets you will use; (2) Amount for these tickets (\$10.00 ea.); (3) Numbers on tickets you will not need; and (4) Total for tickets you will use. Send check for tickets you will use along with unused tickets and filled out page in return envelope to the Museum. You may also bring the tickets on the day of the BBQ and pay for them at that time. More tickets will be available at the Museum before the day of the BBQ and at the park for last minute purchase. This year we are also offering children's dinner tickets at \$5 each (and they are available at the Museum and day of event).



Who Knew??

by Betty Mattingly

Until the **Friday Night Live** evening of January 12th, I didn't! A conversation in the Museum that night with Dan and Jolynn Linder, longtime supporters and active participants of some of our events, revealed that **Jolynn designed our logo**. It was done a good 20+ years ago and the details of exactly how it came about are a little sketchy, but I know the logo has identified the **North Brevard Historical Society and Museum** since the Museum opened in October of 1989, and since most of us have been members. Now that we all now, we can say, "Thank you, Jolynn!" About eight or

nine years ago it was suggested that we come up with a new logo. The Board at that time was emphatically opposed to that idea. "If it ain't broke, don't fix it!"

~ ~ ~
Spotlight

Our museum has many friends in the community that are helpful for us to fit in the downtown area. One such business is **AI Locksmith**. Ken Rac and Joe Snyder have supported us on several "A Walk Along the River" house tours by providing parking for our docents during these events. Their business location is right behind one of the houses on the tour. The front door lock at the museum is sometimes tricky and they have been out several times at no charge to fine tune the lock for us. **THANKS GUYS**. Any time you need locksmith services please call **AI Locksmith**, located at 625 Washington Avenue at the corner of South Washington and South Street.

Your "Board"

by Bill Baldwin

Just had a light bulb! Seems that maybe it would be a good idea to have the membership get a look at the Board Officers and Directors. Therefore, for the next few issues, we will submit a photo (with a mini biography) of one of the Board members.

The Board is very happy to have **Linda Siano** join the Museum as our new Treasurer. Linda came to Titusville a couple years ago from Delaware and proceeded to buy a home in LaCita. She brings with her 30+ years of financial background so you can see why we're enthusiastic. Some of you might remember Linda's mother (Shirley Reed) when she was a docent. **WELCOME ABOARD Linda!**



Volunteers Needed

by June Hodson

Many of our volunteers have resigned, most for age-related health problems. We need more of our

younger members to step forward and fill this void. If you are newly retired or nearing retirement age, we really need you. A very large percentage of our volunteers are over 80 years of age and several are over 90. Our Museum cannot continue to operate without the help of our young people. We also need a new volunteer coordinator-preferably from our younger members. I am in the above mentioned group, and I do not know how much longer I will be physically able to do this.

Pioneer Day at Sams House

by Amy Spillers

On Saturday, February 10th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, the North Brevard Historical Society and Museum will be participating in this great event! There will be living history demonstrations, educational exhibits, live music (Celery City String Band, Chris Kahl and Pine Trio), craft fairs and farmer's market vendors, guided trail hikes, children's games, and food trucks. This event is presented by **The Pine Island Preservation Society** in partnership with the Environmentally Endangered Lands Program. What a wonderful way to spend the day! Have fun while you learn! Bring your family and friends and stop by and see us too! *See you there!*

Directions to Sams House: Starting from the intersection of US 1 and Rt. 405, south of Titusville: Travel east on 405 & NASA Pkwy for 5.8 miles. Turn right (at light) onto E. Ave SW/Space Commerce Way for 2.7 miles. Turn right (going south) on Kennedy Pkwy N/N. Courtenay Pkwy for 3.3 miles. Turn right (going west) onto N. Tropical Trail for 0.5 miles. Sams House is on the right at the end of Possum End Rd.

7th Annual Pioneer Day
 Saturday, February 10th • 10 am - 4 pm
 St. Luke's Episcopal Church
 Sams House/Pine Island Conservation Area
 5555 & 6195 North Tropical Trail, North Merritt Island
 www.mipioneerday.com • FB: pioneerdaymerrittisland

<p>St. Luke's Events</p> <p>10:15 St. Luke's Cemetery Tour "An Archaeologist's Perspective" by Molly Thomas</p> <p>11:00 "The Discovery of Cape Canaveral and What Happened Afterwards" by Dr. Sonny Witt</p> <p>11:30 St. Luke's Cemetery Tour "Founding Families"</p> <p>12:00 Homemade soups (\$5)</p> <p>12:30 Cemetery Stroll where actors in period attire talk about life in their day</p> <p>2:00 "In Celebration of African American History Month: The Legacy of Dennis Sawyer" by Roz Foster</p> <p>2:30 St. Luke's Cemetery Tour "Through the Ages" <i>Advance fee \$2 (732) 452-9362</i></p> <p>Fish Fry dinner: 4:30 & 5:30 pm (\$10)</p>	<p>Sams House/Pine Island Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Florida living history demonstrations and educational exhibits (archaeology, anthropology, historic encampments, spinning wool demonstrations and more) • Presentation on prehistoric and historic dugout canoes by state archaeologist Julia Duggins • 1888 Sams House exhibit: A History of Transportation used by the Sams Family and Pioneers of Courtenay • 1875 Sams Cabin exhibits • Live music by Celery City String Band, Chris Kahl and Pine Trio • Crafts fair and farmer's market vendors • Guided trail hikes throughout the day • Children's crafts and games • Food trucks, BBQ and Kettle Corn
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Memorials

by Betty Mattingly

In Memory of
Bill Mattingly
Arlene Mattingly

Donated by:
The Mattingly
Family

In Memory of the
37th Anniversary
of George and Pat Steele

Donated by:
Lynn Birnbaum



New Display!

By Katie McQuade

Thanks to the efforts of Paul Marion and Susan Nelson, we have a new display in Room 4 (aka the back room). In his ongoing efforts to clean out our storage areas, Paul uncovered this gem, and Susan Nelson researched, cleaned, and mounted it near our other railroad displays. Although we don't know how it came to be ours, this item is a folding train sink, manufactured in 1915 by A. B. Sands and Company of New York. These folding sinks were used in passenger trains and boats to save space by folding upright when not in use. When in use, the spigot swiveled out 90 degrees, and the wooden handled lever worked the pump to access the water, which collected in the metal bowl. When ablutions were complete, the basin section lifted up, causing the water to drain through a pipe in the bottom. The metal portions of the sink are nickel-plated brass. The shiny nickel plating helped to serve as a mirror. A shell shaped soap holder completed this practical and attractive item. Be sure to check out this new display!



From the Visitor Log

by Katie McQuade

We've begun new pages in the Visitor Log for 2018! Already this year we've had visitors from England, Finland, Italy and Germany. One of our Finnish

visitors noted that "Gosh, people used to be small!", an observation most likely based on some of the tiny (compared to me at least) dresses we have on display. An Italian visitor declared the museum to be "The most interesting spot in Titusville". Thanks – we think so!

Our U.S.-based visitors included folks from California, Colorado, Georgia, Indiana, Maine, Michigan, New York, West Virginia and Wisconsin. We also hosted fellow Floridians – a number of Titusvillians, to be sure, but also residents of Jacksonville, New Smyrna Beach, and Leesburg.

One interesting note was from someone who had "lived in the Dixie Hotel from 1958-1964 when it burned." I bet there were stories that person could tell!

Some final notes to Docents: First, thanks for all that you do. We wouldn't be able to be open without you! Second, we would love to have you record any interesting encounters you have while on duty in the black Visitor Information and Volunteer Log volume on the main table. Most of us forget the book is there: there were only about 40 entries for all of last year! Please consider sharing any anecdotes.



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



Dates to Remember

- February 12th 10 am Afternoon in the Park meeting
- February 19th 10 am Board meeting
- March 17th Afternoon in the Park 11-4 (Fox Lake Park)
- March 19th 10 am Board meeting
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Pictures from the Past answer: Lynda (Mattingly) Siems