



# 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  
Katie McQuade  
Susan Nelson  
Esther Vulpus  
Herman Wattwood, Jr

## FEBRUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER

(Newsletter Editor – Judy Davis)

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- \*\* Museum closed on Thursdays \*\***
- **February 13<sup>th</sup>** Mary’s Celebration for Col. Titus’ Birthday
  - **February 18<sup>th</sup>** Board meeting at 10 am (Museum)
  - **March 18<sup>th</sup>** Board meeting at 10 am (Museum)
  - **March 23<sup>rd</sup>** “Spring Fling” (Fox Lake Park)
  - **April 15<sup>th</sup>** Board meeting at 10 am (Museum)
  - **April 22<sup>nd</sup>** Member meeting at 5:30 pm (Dixie Crossroads) **\*\*please make a reservation\*\***
  - **May 20<sup>th</sup>** Board meeting at 10 am (Museum)



### President’s Message

by Bill Baldwin

Hope you were there for Monday’s Membership meeting. Attendance was a little lower than expected but Mike Linthicum’s presentation was exceptional. Mike, a Civil War reenactor, selected a topic covering a view from the medical treatment of soldiers (mostly southern) during/after the war and it was informative and well received. A lot of us can identify with some of the details Mike revealed.



The Society’s business presentation was short and probably not so sweet. The required Annual Report reading was both required and maybe a little boring. However, one fall out that affects all docents is that Judy Davis is creating new “docent” badges and should be available next week. The clip-on badges show only the docent’s first name and the Museum logo. We suggest that badges remain in the Museum (most of us would take them home than leave them there). Please use the badges so visitors can call you by name and not just “Hey You”.



### 2019 Member meeting schedule

The remainder of the 2019 Dixie Crossroads Membership schedule is as follows:

- April 23<sup>rd</sup> (Tuesday) Dinner @ 5:30 pm
- September 23<sup>rd</sup> (Monday) Lunch @ 12 pm
- November 12<sup>th</sup> (Tuesday) Dinner @ 5:30 pm



### Cracker Day

by Harry Bennett and Laura Matthews Ward

Dear Friends and Classmates,

Back in the 1960's when Cracker Day was started by Judy Flake and Paula Matthews they did not envision that it would endure for 50 years and bring all of us such pleasure and enjoyment. It started as a simple "bring a covered dish and share with friends" get

together in the Titusville and Mims area. That grew quickly to a fish fry that would always happen "the last Sunday of October". It was a wonderful way for all of us who have our roots in Titusville to see each other and stay in touch. Sadly, all things do end and we have decided that it is finally time to close the chapter on Cracker Day. Rising costs, age and health of workers, and a drop in participation were just a few of the considerations given to this decision. Therefore, Sunday, October 28, 2018 was the final Cracker Day. We have certainly enjoyed our many years spent with classmates and friends and we will miss you all. In an effort to contact as many people as possible regarding this, we are asking that you forward this to your classmates that may attend Cracker Day to advise them of the change or send it to anyone that you feel may value the information.



### BBQ & Member Picnic

by Bill Baldwin

It was decided at the February Board meeting to change the date of our annual "Afternoon in the Park" outing and possibly have a members only event in March. The reasoning behind this is: too little prep time and loss of leaders in some critical event areas of the "Afternoon" outing. The 2019 "Afternoon in the Park" has been re-scheduled for October 19<sup>th</sup> and with the same format as previous years. Additionally, we are planning a "Spring Fling" to be held March 23<sup>rd</sup> at Fox Lake Parks Page Pavilion, which is a 100+ person pavilion located just inside the entrance to the park. The format for that is still in limbo but would possibly be (1) a pot luck with the Museum supplying the meat, bread, drinks and paper goods or (2) a catered affair or (3) hot dogs & burgers. Either way, this will be for members only.



### BEHOLD the asterisk (\*)

by Bill Baldwin

FYI an \* or a red dot might show up next to your name in the address area of this and future newsletters. This is just a gentle reminder that your 2019 membership dues have not been paid as indicated in our records. Please disregard this notification if you have already paid and we apologize for any error on our part. Delinquent dues and registration can be taken or sent to the Museum any time. Mailed dues should be sent to the North Brevard Historical Museum, PO Box 5265, Titusville, FL 32783.



### Book Signing Event at January Street Party

By Katie McQuade

There was a great turnout at the museum during the January 11<sup>th</sup> "Let It Snow" downtown street party (postponed from December due to an apocalyptic weather forecast). Over 100 people made their way through the rooms: friends, locals, snowbirds, and folks from far afield (including the Philippines and Germany). The reasons were several: we had beautiful weather, a promise of "snow", and not least, the appearance of local author Rebekah Lyn, who was promoting her books "Jessie" and "Destiny's Call". These books are the first two installments (there will be a third) of the Coastal Chronicles, set in Brevard County during the early years of the space program. Both volumes are currently for sale at the museum, but the street party offered the added enticement of a personal signature by the author. Michael Knight, Paul Marion and my husband John Autry had a great time supporting Friday's event. The Downtown Titusville Merchants' Association sponsors Friday Night Live street parties on the second Friday of each month. If you would be interested in supporting one of these events, (either the 3-6 or 6-8:30 shift), please contact me (321-268-1637).



Author Rebekah Lyn



### Memorials

by Betty Mattingly

In Memory of:  
Bill Mattingly and  
Arlene Mattingly

Donated by:  
The Mattingly  
Family

In Memory of:  
Patricia Widick

Donated by:  
Herman Wattwood Jr  
Susan Widick Nelson

If any of you wish to honor or remember someone, please call me at 267-2993 and I will be happy to review the process with you.



## Mary's Celebration for Col. Titus' Birthday

by Amy Spillers

You may have heard the quote "Behind every great man is a great woman". Well, as far as Titusville is concerned, Mary Evalina Hopkins Titus helped her husband, Col. Titus, become a man to be remembered in the history of Titusville. Mary had the status, the money, and the land! And she was generous to all class of people in Titusville. As we remember Col. Henry Theodore Titus on the date of his birthday, February 13, 1823, please join us on Wednesday, February 13, 2019, for Mary's Celebration to remember her husband's birthday. Cake and Punch will be provided. As in past celebrations, Museum members brought gifts for the Colonel, consisting of paper products i.e. paper towels, toilet paper, copy paper, Kleenex (tissues), small paper or plastic drinking cups, kitchen trash bags, paper plates, plastic cutlery, liquid hand soap and hand sanitizer. All items are needed and used on a daily basis at the Museum. It's a great time for a little socializing and helps to fulfill the needs of the Museum. Hope to see you there!



## Allenhurst

by Margaret Vessels

Our Museum is visited by so many interesting people on a daily basis. Docent's Gini Campbell and Eric Konjevich were visited by Bill Krause and his dog, Penny. Bill and Penny were interested about information about the town of Allenhurst out by Haulover canal. Below is the record of his trip out to Allenhurst. Thanks Bill, for your donation of the wonderful artifacts.

## GHOST TOWN OF ALLENHURST

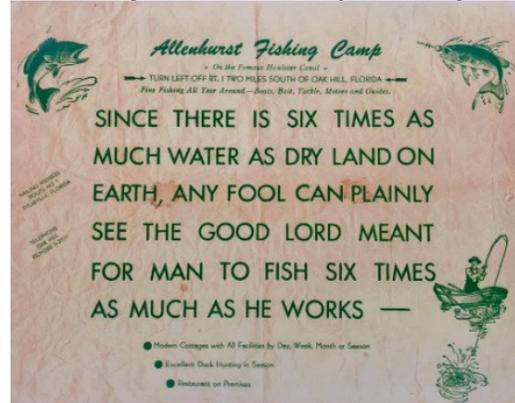
by Bill Krause

This week's adventure took Penny and me to the remote Ghost Town of Allenhurst, Florida. Before we explored on location we prepared by visiting the North Brevard Historical Museum located in Titusville Florida. Virginia Campbell and Erich Konjevich, docents of the museum, were extremely helpful searching for information. They found an old black folder which contained original photos and other primary source Allenhurst documents. I was truly amazed as there is very little information or photos that exist on line. Allenhurst is located in Brevard County Southeast of Duck roost Point just Northwest of Haulover Canal. It is in the very North side of NASA property just off Route 3. Allenhurst was nationally famous for sports fishing. Locals and visitors from the Northeast flocked to the area for its trophy redfish, snook, and sea trout. The town prospered for many years. Its demise came in

the early 1950s when NASA bought out all property. Some were forced out while NASA demolished the remnants of the town. NASA needed this huge expanse of land for a then missile testing range. Sixteen other communities were also displaced in this buy out. Today the area still remains famous for its fishing. It was cold today so there were no mosquitoes to plague us. Penny and I were very successful in searching the area for relics from a former era. After four hours our treasure included an early 1900s Coca Cola Soda Water bottle as well as two Indian Head Pennies and a Barber dime all from the early 1900s. All of these items will be donated to the North Brevard Historical Museum.



Virginia Campbell and Bill Krause display primary source documents of Allenhurst. Photo by Erich Konjevich



Paper placemat from the Allenhurst Fish Camp restaurant.

(\*\*note: the remainder of Bill Krause's photographs are located on our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/NorthBrevardHistoricalMuseum](http://www.facebook.com/NorthBrevardHistoricalMuseum) \*\*)



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](mailto:titusvillemuseum@aol.com)
- Website: [www.nbbd.com/godo/history/](http://www.nbbd.com/godo/history/)
- Like us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/NorthBrevardHistoricalMuseum](http://www.facebook.com/NorthBrevardHistoricalMuseum)



North Brevard Historical Museum  
301 South Washington Avenue  
Titusville, FL 32796  
(321) 269 3658



## OR PRESENT OCCUPANT

	 <p><b>Save The Date!</b> <i>Pioneer Day</i> Saturday · February 9, 2019 10 am - 4 pm Sams House &amp; Cabin at the Pine Island Conservation Area 6195 N. Tropical Trail, Merritt Island (321) 449-4720</p>
<p><b>2019 Pioneer Day at Sams House</b> <i>by Amy Spillers</i></p> <p>On Saturday February 9<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., <b>The Pine Island Preservation Society</b>, in conjunction with The Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands Program will host <b><i>Pioneer Day at Sams House and Cabin</i></b>. Sams House is located at 6195 North Tropical Trail, Merritt Island. Parking is available at St. Luke's Episcopal Church nearby (5555 N Tropical Trail) with shuttle service running between the two sites all day. This year's theme in the 1888 Sams House will be on Education. In addition to other items of interest, a group of volunteers from our Museum will display information on the Clifton Colored School. I hope you will stop by and visit with us and partake in the festivities, and enjoy the many interesting exhibits on display.</p>	