



THE NORTH BREVARD HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

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FEBRUARY 2015 NEWSLETTER

President’s Message

By Bill Baldwin

Just wanted to inform all of you that the schedule for membership meetings at Dixie Crossroads for the entire year is as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| February 23 rd | at 2 pm |
| March 23 rd | at 2 pm |
| April 27th | at 5:30 pm (Spring dinner meeting) |
| September 28 th | at 2 pm |
| October 26th | at 5:30 pm (Fall dinner meeting) |
| November 23 rd | at 2 pm |

****Note there are no meetings in May (due to Memorial Day), June, July and August.**

Hope to see you at as many of the meetings as possible.

This is a gentle **REMINDER** that we have not heard from over 25 percent of the members regarding payment of membership dues for this year. If you are in that group, please send your money to the Museum and help keep us solvent for this year. If you have already submitted your dues, disregard this message.

At our January Member meeting, we all were honored to have Rebekah Lyn speak to us. She is the author of the book “Jessie” which we proudly sell at the Museum. Rebekah described her early years growing up in Titusville and how she began as a writer. She also included a listing of all of her

books (all are available on Amazon.com) and future endeavors, which will include a sequel to “Jessie”. All attendees had the opportunity to get a personal autograph for any of her books. Thanks, Rebekah!



*Congratulations to **Rebekah Lyn** on winning the **Patrick D. Smith Literary Award** for “Jessie”! The award will be given February 28th during the **Authors on the Lawn** event at the **Brevard Library Foundation in Cocoa**.*



Happy Birthday, Colonel Titus!

By Joan Harper

On Saturday, February 21st, we will celebrate Colonel Henry Titus’ 192nd birthday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Museum. Because it is a birthday party, refreshments will be served. Birthday presents will be welcomed such as much needed copy paper, paper towels, bathroom tissue, Kleenex, soft soap, 55 gal. trash bags or tall kitchen bags. Come join the party.

Pictures from the Past

By Paul Marion

Who is this cute young lady whose school picture was taken in 1956? Answer is on page 4.



Memorials

By Betty Mattingly

No memorials to report this month. However, it saddens us to report the deaths of Lelia Lowery Lorenzo and Gail Briggs Nolen.

Lelia was born in Titusville and lived here for most of her life. She passed away January 9th in South Carolina. She was a member of the NBHS for many years and was the widow of Herb Lorenzo who, along with Les Widick, did almost all of the work preparing the interior of the original sections of the building for the NBH Museum.

Gail Briggs Nolen, a member of the NBHS, passed away on January 15th in North Carolina. She wrote a book, "Memories of Merritt Island", a history of her life and her family prior to being displaced due to the expansion of Kennedy Space Center.

We send our condolences and sympathies to each of their families.

How To Make Memorial Donations

By Betty Mattingly

Many times we are asked, "How do I send a Memorial to the Historical Society?" The process is as follows ~

Write a note with the following information:

(1) In memory of __[and the name];

- (2) Name and address of the family or person to receive acknowledgement;
- (3) Your name and address;
- (4) Send a check (any amount) to: North Brevard Historical Society, Post Office Box 5265, Titusville, FL 32783.

Acknowledgement cards are sent to the donors and to the families. Names are recorded in the Remembrance Book in the main display room at the Museum.

Afternoon In The Park

by Linda Hinkson

The Museum's 22nd annual "Afternoon in the Park" BBQ will be held at Fox Lake Park on March 21st. Please mark your calendars! Three tickets are included in this newsletter, for your convenience to buy or sell. Please send a check for the tickets and/or return tickets you are not able to use to the Museum by March 6th for our records. This year 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 High School Jazz Band. Our next committee meeting is March 2nd at 10:00 a.m. at the Museum. If you have any questions, or if you would love to volunteer, please call Linda Hinkson at 267-8237.



Membership

By Barbara Batchelder

The NBHS gained 22 members in 2014 ~ and lost several. (Mostly thanks to June Hodson who isn't shy about recruiting.) The dues continue to come in and we thank you for your promptness. A special thanks to everyone who generously included a donation along with their dues. Your continued support of the Museum is greatly appreciated. Welcome to new members: Pamela Kaye Gheen and Joyce P. Abney, both of Titusville; and Sherry Arden of Mims.

Just a thought: Doing what you like is freedom. Liking what you do is happiness.

Windover Dig

By Betty Mattingly

Many of you know or have heard about the **Windover Dig**. Frequently, visitors to the Museum ask questions about it. As Docents, you can provide the following information as an introduction to the subject and then advise other sources:

- In 1982, a backhoe operator discovered a skull in a peat bog being dug from the bottom of a small pond in the Window Farms area in South Titusville. He notified the developers who then notified the authorities.
- The medical examiner advised the bones found were very old and that everything there would be of archeological significance.
- 1984-1986, the pond was excavated. 168 bodies and artifacts were found.
- The archeological study showed that during 5000-6000 B.C. Native Americans buried their dead in the bog.
- Brain tissue was actually in a skull. Unbelievably, woven fabric was also found.



There is an abundance of information on the **Windover Dig** in the files at the Museum as well as on the Internet. Visitors can also be directed to the Brevard Museum of History and Science at 2201 Michigan Avenue in Cocoa for a display of artifacts and more information.

Paper Routes

By Barbara Batchelder

When my family and I moved to Florida, we lived in Indian River City and both my sons had paper routes. When it was rainy, or a bike had a flat, Mom in her night gown and bath robe would take them on their route. I got to know every street in Indian River City. One morning, I was driving a little too fast, and my son was on the hood with his paper bag yelling "SLOW DOWN". It was 3 o'clock in the morning and a couple of porch lights came on; but no harm done and we finished the route. My son thought it was fun, but if it happened today, I would be in jail for child abuse. Bicycle Paper routes for young people are a thing of the past. My boys learned to be responsible for delivering the paper (sometimes with Mom's help) and responsible for collecting from their customers and how to manage their money. All in all, it was a good experience.

Every once in awhile visitors at the Museum ask "where is Indian River City?" It's a thing of the past ... just like bicycle paper routes.

Notice

Any time you take a trip out of town, in county or out of state, please come in and get a few of our attractive rack cards promoting our museum. They can be placed in rest stops and restaurants for tourists coming in this direction.

Guest Comments

By Leigh Lorence

Another great month! Visitors from all over the country explored our museum and had fantastic comments. From Michigan, "I love the history of Titusville. Thank you for showcasing it so nicely!"; Illinois, "Lovely."; Maine, "Great stuff! Very interesting!"; Tennessee, "Thank you. I

really enjoyed it. Awesome!"; Robin from Sarasota (author and owner of *Authentic Florida* www.authenticflorida.com) "Love it! Thank you"; Scott and Dolly from Iowa "I'm sad, starting to feel old when my life is *historical*". From locals we received: "I'll bring my wife next time."; "Noah's first museum visit (5months old) he was fascinated."; Jasmine, "Love it! Miss volunteering!"; "Greatest museum of our area!!" The pride we take in our founding families and the work we do to safeguard their legacy is evident in the comments we receive. Congratulations to all of our past, present and future members! Your labor and protection will never be forgotten.



To Our Volunteers

By June Hodson

You may be hearing a different voice on the phone scheduling shifts for volunteers. Debi Hartling is in training to do the job. You can reach Debi at 514-1523 if you need to speak to her.

Sometimes a situation arises at the Museum that you need to ask about. A list of members who have specific responsibilities at the Museum (along with phone numbers) is posted in the closet above the Docent calendar. Call if you need help.

The Downtown "Friday Nite Live" event on February 13, 2015 will be a Mardi Gras celebration. The Museum will be open until about 9 pm (on the 13th).



Social Media

By Judy Davis

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



Dates to Remember

- **February 16th Board Meeting:** 10:00 am (at the Museum, and members are welcome to attend).
- **February 21st Col. Titus' birthday:** 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (at the Museum).
- **February 23rd Membership Meeting:** 2:00 p.m. (at Dixie Crossroads). Steven Heron, Director of the Titusville Playhouse will be guest speaker.
- **March 21st "Afternoon in the Park":** The event will be 11:00 a.m. until 4 p.m. at Fox Lake Park; the BBQ dinner 12:00 p.m to 2:00 p.m.



Picture from the Past: Donna Baker