



THE NORTH BREVARD HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

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FEBRUARY 2016 NEWSLETTER

President’s Message & Apology (hopefully accepted)

By Bill Baldwin

Last month’s issue of the Museum Newsletter was missing a section concerning member’s meetings and a preview of the speaker(s) for January. Actually, I did submit an article (late) concerning the member meeting which then forced a new format layout. After all that, the article still did not get put in and upon re-check and before putting it to bed, I reviewed the newsletter for content, failed to pick up on the omission and subsequently blessed it as ‘OK’. My bad! Hopefully, it won’t happen again.



2016 Member Meetings

By Bill Baldwin

Member meetings for this year have been scheduled as follows (all being held at Dixie Crossroads):

- January 25th at 2 pm
- February 22nd at 2 pm
- March 28th at 2 pm
- April 25th at 5:30 for dinner
- May 23rd at 2 pm
- September 26th at 2 pm
- October 24th at 5:30 for dinner
- November 28th at 2 pm

At the January meeting, we were fortunate to listen to Ron Ecker’s Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Association presentation which included a full history of the Lighthouse, plus a look at its future.

In February, the speaker will represent the Titusville Mural Society. Luann Malark, President of the Mural Society, will give us insight into Florida’s mural

history and show how it can be adapted to fit our little ‘ole Titusville, especially the Museum.



Pictures from the Past

By Paul Marion

Does anyone recognize this handsome young man who was voted Most School Spirit and his picture was taken in 1960 in the THS Yearbook? (*Answer on page 4*)



History can be more than art

By Bill Baldwin

In case you haven’t heard, the Museum is in process of finalizing “our” mural, which should go on the north wall of the Museum. The latest approach is to create about six panels made up of different scenes. The idea is to present various historical scenes of Titusville and/or North Brevard and breaking those

scenes into areas like commerce, places of interest, education and early space to name a few. Our ideas should be presented to the artist, Keith Goodson, within the next couple of weeks so he can review our wants, couple that with his idea(s) then submit cost criteria. Our gut feeling is that cost could range from \$12,000 to \$15,000.

Just how are we going to underwrite the cost? First, the Board has decided to dedicate the proceeds from the “*Afternoon in the Park*”. Secondly, we have established a Museum “mural fund” and anybody can donate to it. Thirdly, a couple of people have already agreed to sponsor a scene that would represent part of their family’s history (ex. Karen Sisson and Sisson’s Corner). Lastly, Betty Mattingly would like to have a scene showing a Titusville High School, early years, as part of the display. Betty has even proposed a match (but not exceed \$2,500) to any THS alumni donation. Okay grads ~ it’s up to you! If you decide to make a donation, please make the check out to “North Brevard Historical Society” and in the *memo* area, indicate if it is for the “Mural” or “THS Mural”.



Afternoon in the Park and BBQ

By Betty Mattingly

- A major fundraiser for the Museum
- Proceeds this year are designated for a historical mural on the North exterior wall of our Museum building

As you have noticed, your newsletter included three (3) tickets, an insert and a small envelope. This is our 23rd annual “*Afternoon in the Park and BBQ*”. All 23 have been successful. With your support, this record will continue. There are several options in regard to the tickets. In the past, members have:

- Purchased all 3 and used all three
- Purchased all 3 but were unable to attend and returned the tickets
- Purchased all 3, used some and returned the rest
- Returned all 3 if unable to purchase or use

When you arrive at the Park, please stop at the ticket table at the front entrance and have your ticket(s) validated. ***It would help tremendously if you would send your check in early.*** This will reduce confusion and holding things up when people are trying to pay for tickets, dues or explanations about tickets left at home or being lost.

Please remember the event is from 11 am to 4 pm. Come early and stay late to enjoy the music, visit with friends, and take time to look over the antique cars

and wonderful dessert table. Also be reminded that the meal is served from 12 noon to 2 pm and take-out is available.



Treasurer's note

By June Hodson

Our membership renewals were due on January 1st. As of this date, we have over 100 members who have not yet renewed. The future of our Museum depends on these renewals. If you are among these tardy members, please send in your renewal as soon as possible.

Included in this mailing, you will find three tickets for our BBQ plus a form and return envelope. If you expect to attend, please return the filled out form and a check to pay for any tickets you expect to use. Any unused tickets may also be returned. This would also be a good time to pay your past due membership.



Items of Interest

By Paul Marion

Two new portrait pictures have been welcomed into the Museum. Both are of early pioneer men of Titusville.



Stewart portrait ~ Oscar Alexander Stewart was born October 1872 in Bonaventure, Brevard County, Florida. Oscar was the oldest son of Alexander A. Stewart, the first Clerk of Court for Brevard County. A. A. Stewart was the Clerk of Court for 41 years and Oscar spent nearly 25 years working for his father in the Clerk’s Office. During this time Oscar bought up abandoned land and orange groves at tax deed sales from northerners that had fled back north from the heat and mosquitoes. Oscar then sold the land and groves to northerners during the boom years. He was an orange grower, realtor, and later an insurance agent. Oscar married Eugenia Maude Marion and lived next to his two

sisters at 925 Indian River Avenue in Titusville.

Crofton portrait ~ Lemuel C. Crofton was a longtime Attorney in Titusville who had a great interest in the history of the area, particularly the LaGrange Community Church. He served as both City Attorney and County Attorney, and spent several terms in the Florida Legislature. Citrus growing was his hobby.

100 year old metal insurance sign ~ The Globe Insurance Co. was established in 1803 for the business of fire and life insurance. In 1864, it merged with Liverpool and London Insurance to become Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance Co. In 1919, it became a subsidiary of Royal Insurance Co. Oscar A. Stewart was the local agent for the Co and he insured many downtown businesses and homes during the later part of the 19th Century and into the early 20th Century. This sign was found at 100 First Street, the home of Lester N. Nolle. It is hung in the front room of the Museum, and was donated by John Autrey.



Chamber of Commerce display

By Debi Harting and Penny Carlson

On January 14, 2016, Penny Carlson and Debi Hartling completed the first Museum Chamber of Commerce display for the New Year. It will be changed out seasonally. All items in the display are from the Museum, except the dominoes. The display contains artifacts and information about Col. Titus and the infamous domino game. The rest of the items are connected to the orange industry back in the day. Thanks to Barbara Batchelder for her guidance and patience and for all the years she handled this most important project. Stop by and check it out.



Downtown Merchants and Friday night street party

By June Hodson

Our street party for February theme will be "Mardi Gras". Last year's "Mardi Gras" was very well attended and we had a very enjoyable

evening at the Museum. A Minstrel group came in early in the evening to sing for us and, although there were few guests here at the time, our volunteers enjoyed the music. Because Paul Marion will probably not be able to help for this, we will need extra volunteers for this evening (Friday February 12th) either from 3 pm to 6 pm or from 6 pm to closing. If you are able to help, please call me at 431-8695.



Window Displays

By Amy Spillers

Changing window displays every month, sometimes twice a month, and on a rare occasion a third time in a month, can take a lot of planning and extra hands. In order to display or showcase historical items, monthly themes, holidays, and local events, a new Window Display Schedule has been created and posted inside the storage room door above the Docent Scheduling Calendar. Why, you might ask, do we need one of those? We are looking to you for ideas on any upcoming events we might have overlooked, in order to avoid those last minute changes. This will also help me, in the event something comes up and I can't change the window out. Helpers can then look at the Window Display Schedule and change out the windows with ease. On your next visit to the Museum, look over the 2016 Window Display Schedule. If you know of an event coming up within any month this calendar year, please use a pencil and add it to the month the event will take place. Or call me, Amy Spillers at 264-1519, and **please** leave a message.



Memorial

There were no memorials received for the month of January.



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



The poster is framed with a decorative border. It features several starburst graphics: one in the top left with 'BBQ', one in the top right with 'LIVE MUSIC' and a musical note, and one in the bottom left with 'BAKE SALE' and a cake icon. A small illustration of an antique car is in the bottom right. The text is centered and reads: 'COME JOIN US AS THE NORTH BREVARD HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS IT'S 23rd ANNUAL "AFTERNOON IN THE PARK AND BBQ" AT FOX LAKE PARK SATURDAY, MARCH 19TH 11:00 a.m. till 4:00 p.m'. A box below this states 'BBQ CHICKEN OR PORK LUNCH \$10.00 SERVED 12:00 THRU 2:00'. At the bottom, it says 'Tickets available at the Museum, 301 Washington Ave, Titusville or onsite at Fox Lake (Big Pavilion) 321-269-3658 for information'.

BBQ

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LIVE MUSIC

BAKE SALE

Antique Cars

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\$10.00
SERVED 12:00 THRU 2:00

Tickets available at the Museum, 301 Washington Ave, Titusville
or onsite at Fox Lake (Big Pavilion) 321-269-3658 for information



Pictures from the Past answer: Jackson (Jack) Lee Blankenship



Dates to Remember ~

- **February 8th BBQ Committee meeting** at 10 am at the Museum.
- **February 12th Friday Nite Live event (downtown)**
- **February 15th Board meeting** at 10:00 am at the Museum (and members are welcome to attend).
- **February 22nd Membership meeting** at 2:00 pm at Dixie Crossroads.
- **March 7th BBQ Committee meeting** at 10 am at the Museum.
- **March 11th Friday Nite Live event (downtown)**
- **March 19th "2016 Afternoon in the Park" and BBQ** at Fox Lake Park from 11 am to 4 pm.
- **March 21st Board meeting** at 10:00 am at the Museum (and members are welcome to attend).
- **March 28th Membership meeting** at 2:00 pm at Dixie Crossroads.
- **April 4th BBQ Committee follow-up meeting** at 10 am at the Museum