



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 – *vacant*
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JANUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER

President's Message

by Bill Baldwin

Welcome to 2018. Hope everyone had a happy and prosperous holiday. Actually, most of us are probably suffering from Christmas Syndrome, which is generally characterized by: lightness in the pocketbook, too much overeating and just plain tired. Even so, recovery is inevitable.

This new year has some “positives” that we are looking at. Susan Nelson and Ed Mezick have already started planning for the annual Picnic in the Park being held in March. Hopefully, the big room (Room 2) at the Museum will take on a new look under the guidance of Amy Spillers. A 2018 Historic House Tour is a possibility however no planning or decision has been made at this point especially since hurricanes have cancelled the event for the past two years. All in all, we have a lot on our plate but we will need help from a few of our members. So, this is our THANKS in advance.



AFTERNOON IN THE PARK – 2018

by Susan Widick Nelson, Chairman

Greetings, members! I hope you celebrated this holiday season with family, friends, food, and fun and that 2018 is welcoming in you in good health.

Saturday, March 17, 2018 is the date for our 25th Afternoon in the Park. Betty Mattingly twisted my arm very gently this past year and passed on the torch to me to be the Chairman for this event. As most of you probably know, this is one of two major fundraisers that the North Brevard Historical Museum sponsors, the other one being the Historical House Tour. Hurricanes Irma and Matthew have thwarted our efforts on the House Tour two years in a row, so it is more important than ever that we have a successful “**Afternoon**” event so that we can keep our Museum financially healthy and continue being able to provide our services to the public.

That being said, I think we should try and use this social event as a way of enticing new members, as well as getting our regular members together. I think we should promote the **25th Annual** aspect of our gathering as a way of showing the community that we are a permanent, reliable, and valuable part of North Brevard and an important part of the Titusville downtown neighborhood.

There will be a meeting at the museum on **Monday, January 8th at 10:30 am** to kick off the planning for the BBQ. All members who would like to offer their help or ideas are encouraged to attend this meeting. We would really like to make this event, which has been around for a **quarter century**, one that will encourage ALL of North Brevard to WANT to come out and take part. Thankfully, Betty has graciously volunteered to

mentor me as I navigate this new territory, and I am hoping that as many of you that have helped out before will lend your experience and assistance again.

If you have any questions, please call me (**Susan Nelson**) at **321-544-2814**. I look forward to trying to live up to the successful efforts of those who have nurtured this event into a 25 year old **“tradition”** for our museum and community.

Note: Below is a collage of photos from the 2017 Afternoon in the Park. Please join us in 2018 so you can be pictured in the photos.



by Amy Spillers

Our next Membership luncheon meeting will be held on January 22, 2018 at 12:00 noon at Dixie Crossroads. Our speaker will be from *Aging Matters in Brevard*. *Aging Matters* offers many services for seniors like Meals on Wheels, Handyman Services, Transportation and much, much more. Come join us for lunch and learn more about what they offer. Hope to see you there!

Special Note: *Due to previous commitment, our luncheon will probably be held in the “Cove” room instead of the “Refuge” room where we generally meet. The “Cove” is located on the left just before you get to the “Refuge”. It’s a little smaller but should be okay.*



Pictures from the Past

by Margaret Vessels

You can't forget this local, handsome, young man's smile. Can you guess who attended FSU? Answer on page 3.



Volunteer Coordinator needed

by June Hodson

We need a Volunteer Coordinator. I have agreed to do this on a temporary basis, but the key word here is temporary. If there is anyone in our membership who is willing to take this job, please contact me at (321) 747-4950 or e-mail at nbhsjune@gmail.com. I will be willing to work with you until you are comfortable. Our volunteers are very cooperative, and, with a little help the job is not that difficult. I will not be able to continue long term, so it is essential that we have someone or the Museum doors will close. This is **urgent**. I have put in several years in several jobs with the Museum. I am getting old and tired and would like to retire.



Dues Reminder

This is just a friendly reminder that 2018 dues are now being graciously accepted. Actually this does not affect most of you since you've already paid but there are a few that have not. Also, remember that the dues have gone up \$5 starting Jan, 1, 2018.



Volunteering

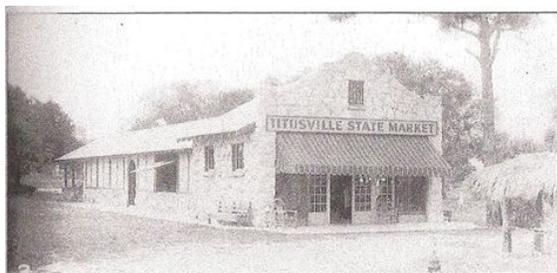
by Gini Campbell

When I first began volunteering at the museum, I was amazed by the amount of historical artifacts on display. It wasn't until I started working with

different people that I found the real treasures within these four walls. Each Docent (volunteer) tells their own unique story. As I listened, I could picture the lives unfolding; the gentleman that was born and raised here, now in his nineties, the lady who decided to fulfill her dream of getting a college degree at 40! The list goes on and on. These wonderful people donate many hours at the museum because they are proud of our town, and are the central part of Titusville's history.



Titusville State Market



The Titusville State Market occupied an interesting and unique position in our system of Florida State Markets, through its centralizing of the palmetto industry, as well as by reason of its general emphasis upon home crafts. At the time of its opening on April 20, 1940, this was the 27th unit of Florida's chain of markets throughout the state.

The building was constructed by the WPA using locally mined coquina rock on the west bound side of Washington Ave. between Broad St. and Orange St. It was a long, narrow building and had an office area at the front of the building and hinged sides that could be opened up for open air viewing products for sale inside.

In the 1940s in Florida history, there was an emphasis on the collecting, curing, and sale of raw materials such as palmetto fronds, for use in basketry and other craft work. Officials of the Titusville Market, and of the state organization, had attempted through the years to promote an interest in the revival and development of palmetto braiding and weaving, and other home industries, both as means for the pleasant occupation of spare time, and the production of supplemental income.

The Titusville Market was successful during the years it was in service. When the demand for these products declined, the building was utilized for several different functions such as the Titusville Chamber of Commerce, a satellite office of the Florida State Tag Agency, an office for the Florida State Unemployment Agency, a tourist club meeting headquarters, a recreation center and a library before it was eventually torn down.



Community Spotlight

Our little Museum has a lot of friends in this town and none bigger than Larry Rhodes of **Brevard Aluminum Construction Company**. Larry and his people installed and/or repaired the awnings at the rear of the Museum following damage done by hurricanes. Also, he made it a \$1,000 gift to the Museum. This says a lot about the business people in this community. Here's a plug: "for any awning needs, see Larry at 4655 Calle Corto (just west of Ron Norris Ford off Hwy. 50)". We (at the Museum) can't express a big enough "**THANK YOU!**"



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: Paul James Marion





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



OR PRESENT OCCUPANT

Dates to Remember

- *January 8th* BBQ planning workshop at 10 am at the Museum.
- *January 15th* Board meeting at 10 am at the Museum.
- *January 22nd* Membership meeting at noon at Dixie Crossroads for lunch and meeting.
- *February 19th* Board meeting at 10 am at the Museum.