



THE NORTH BREVARD HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

301 South Washington Avenue

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APRIL 2015 NEWSLETTER

President’s Message

By Bill Baldwin

As you travel north along US1, there is a big Historic Downtown Titusville sign located on the left just south of the Dusty Rose Antique Mall. Very impressive! However, I-95 interstate signs, prior to exit 220, indicate that if you turn east on Garden St. you will magically end up in the historic district. If you were a tourist, you might feel that if you follow the signs you might find what Historic Downtown Titusville has to offer. But, there seems to be a lack of any further directions to the “district” that I have been able to find. Have I missed something or did someone drop the ball on this? Here comes the hard part. I would like for you to give us (Museum Directors) some suggestions as to how to remedy this. Remember, this is indirectly a Museum issue but should be implemented by a downtown historic group. Also, would someone confirm that signs to the historic district do not exist other than those on I-95. Since the town and/or historic groups have been representing our town as a historical area, perhaps we should give a little more tourist guidance to this historic gem we call Titusville.



Volunteer Week Celebration

By Bill Baldwin



Since April is Volunteer Month, the Museum has chosen the fourth Monday to recognize our Volunteer of the Year. The unveiling of our “Volunteer” will be made at the April

Member Meeting. Not only can you enjoy a delicious dinner but have fellowship of other members. In order for us to secure a preferential room reservation and service, we implore you to **call the Museum at 269-3658** and tell the docent to add your name (and number of attendees) to the reservation list.



2015 “Afternoon in the Park” and BBQ

By Linda Hinkson



Congratulations to all of our members who worked so diligently to make this a wonderful Day in the Park! With the excellent food, great THS Band, and the great desserts, the event this year was outstanding. Thank you very much for all the donated desserts. The servers and line checkers got everyone through the lines very quickly. We had many compliments on everything, including the many antique cars we had this year – hope you enjoyed them. Please bear with me while I thank all the people who worked many hours to make this day a success: ticket validation and sales ~ Lynda Siems; Books ~ Barbara Batchelder; Desserts ~ Esther Vulpius; Everything money ~ June Hodson; Photos and Media Ads ~ Judy Davis and Bill Blackwell; Coffee

and Tea ~ Herman Wattwood, Ginny Cooper, Loretta Austin; 50/50 ~ Kathy Alix, Sherry Arden, Donna Baker, and Penny Carlson; Chairman Betty Bennett and all the servers; Bruce Arden for handling the chairs; Kitchen Crew ~ Chairman Mike Ramer, along with his BBQ grill, Paul Marion, Bill Baldwin and Lee Starrick; Harry Bennett for donating and preparing the baked beans (they were delicious); Joanne Register for preparing all the Pork with assistance from her dad, Cash Register. All of the leftover food was delivered to the H.O.W. House on Main Street ~ and they were overjoyed. Thank you all for making the last three years a pleasure for me to work with you.



BBQ Food Preparation Crew ~ Thanks!

By Paul Marion

We would like to thank Dixie Crossroads Restaurant for allowing us to order the food for the BBQ through them and store the it in their cooler until the day of the event. A SPECIAL THANKS to Mike Ramer who has been refurbishing a cooker, and it turned out GREAT. We can use Mike's from now on for our events. We also want to thank Andrew Hubbert (the chef from Dixie Crossroads who cooked the chicken) and Mike Ramer who set up the grill and handled the cooking of all the BBQ chicken. Bill Baldwin and Dale Marion washed and prepared the chicken quarters with help from Kayla LaMattina (Paul's Granddaughter). Joanne Register (Cash's daughter) and Kim LaMattina (Paul's daughter) prepared and cooked the pulled pork with Cash Register's supervision and instruction. Harry Bennett is the first to show up to start his now famous baked beans, which he generously donates; as well as preparing the coleslaw. "Tuffy" Threlkeld assisted with the coleslaw and chicken preparation, as well as filling in on the serving line when needed. Lee Starrick, Frank Russell, and Bill Blackwell filled the serving line and helped in clean-up. A sincere THANKS to everyone in the kitchen, they did a GREAT job to prepare 400 meals!

Thank you Diana Barnhart for your wonderful talk at our March membership meeting. We love the 'spin' you put on your rich generational Titusville history!



To Our Volunteers

By June Hodson

April is National Volunteer Month. At our dinner meeting on April 27th, we will honor all of our volunteers and name the Volunteer of the Year. Our volunteers are our greatest asset. Without these faithful members, we would have no Museum. We are all aware of the many volunteers who work diligently to keep our doors open, but there are many others that work behind the scenes planning events, sorting artifacts and doing all the jobs no one sees. These people are just as important as those you see every day. If you are available to help in any capacity, please call me at 431-8695 or Debi at 514-1523.

The downtown street parties have given us the opportunity to meet many people who are unable to visit our Museum during regular hours. The next street party is April 10th. The theme will be **Celtic Crazy**. There will be Irish and Scottish music and dancing. There will be minstrels visiting our downtown businesses, including our Museum. Anyone who will be available to help can call either of the above numbers. Remember, this is your Museum and we need you.



Memorials

By Betty Mattingly

In Memory of:	Given by:
Shirley Nelson Wilson	Carolyn Parrish, Rockledge **Correction from last month**
Shirley Nelson Wilson	IT Services Department of Great American Ins. Co., Cincinnati, Ohio
David Allen Taylor, Jr.	Herman E. Wattwood, Jr., Titusville



Titusville Collector's Club

By Barbara Batchelder

Have you seen the new Collector's Club display? **CATS, CATS, CATS!** All shapes and sizes. Be sure to check it out. This cute feline display is courtesy of Barbara Mars.

Items of Interest

By Paul Marion

For the past five years we have been storing a period rocking chair thought to be from the Dr. Spell house on Riverside Drive. It was badly damaged with part of one of the rockers missing. The rocker was taken to Dale Briggs Smith to see if he could repair it. Dale did a wonderful job to repair the damaged rocker so it looks like the one on the other side. The rocking chair is now being displayed in the front room of the Museum. Please check it out next time you are in the Museum. Dale is the son of Evelyn Briggs Smith of the Briggs and Benecke families on Merritt Island.



Editor's note: This chair is so beautiful, that the picture above does not do it justice. Please stop by the Museum to enjoy the beauty and craftsmanship of this chair.



History of the Historical Society

By Betty Mattingly

The Historical Society of North Brevard was formed in September of 1966 by a small group of local residents who were interested in preserving the history of this area. The first meeting was held at the home of Bill and Tina Kennedy. Others involved included Ruth Barnhart, Bob Hudson, Rod Northcutt, Kay Phillips, Mary Schuster and Marge Threlkeld. At each meeting, they would decide where to meet next. Meetings were held wherever they could find space. Decisions made by the group included writing the by-laws, designing the logo, formulating the purpose and designating boundaries. The purpose at the time and continues to be "the collection, preservation, recording and displaying historical artifacts, photographs and written records." The area to be covered for history would be from Port St. John to the Volusia County line and the Atlantic Ocean to the St. John's River. In 1971, the City of Titusville awarded the use of half of the Mildred Bruner Library for a Historical Museum. The members cleaned it up and got it in shape for use, but then the Titusville Art League who had the other half of the building, demonstrated the need for more space so that eliminated the Museum at that time. The Historical Society was established as a not-for-profit organization and became incorporated in 1982. The Magnolia Theater was to be renovated to house the Emma Parrish Theater and funds

were raised in 1982 to 1984. The Historical Society was to have use of the space at the west end of the building for a Museum. However, since the Playhouse needed additional funds, the space was renovated and rented as an attorney's office. **Now, the rest of the story ...** The History of our existing Museum will be told at a later date. However, if you can't stand the suspense, you can read about it on the Marker on the front of the buildings or wait until the next newsletter!

Note: This is a re-write from the one published in the Playbills of the presentations of the Pioneer Women of North Brevard and Pioneer Men of North Brevard in 2000 and 2001.



Membership

By Barbara Batchelder

Since our last Newsletter, four new names have been added to our Membership list. Please welcome Patricia Dyer (Titusville), Joyce Rice (Titusville), Jeff Vignes (Melbourne FL) and Nate Drown (Virginia). We're glad you joined us. Some members have responded to the "red dot" reminder that dues had not been received. We thank you one and all for your continued support of the Historical Society and Museum.



Guest Comments

By Leigh Lorence

Gosh, I was astonished by how full the guest book was this month! People from Canada, Oh, MN, IL, MO, WI, PA, SC, GA, NY, CO, MD, MI and even Germany signed in. Wow! And the comments were marvelous, "Beautiful, well arranged, loved it!" "Enjoyed the collection, relived my past." "A gem." "A wonderful stroll back in time." and "Love this Museum!!" I don't think there is anything I can say to top that. As always, thanks go out to all, for it is your support that makes this possible.



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By Betty Mattingly

Super Salesperson, Susan Sherrer at Styles Unlimited (SearsTown) has reached a total sales of **100** of our **Historical Society Cookbooks. THANK YOU, SUSAN!**



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 at titusvillemuseum@aol.com. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or comments at all.



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Dates to Remember

- *April 10th downtown Titusville:* 6 pm to 9 pm ~ "Celtic Crazy". The Museum will be open late this evening.
- *April 20th Board Meeting:* 10:00 am (and members are welcome to attend).
- *April 27th Member Meeting:* 5:30 p.m. (at Dixie Crossroads).
- *May 8th downtown Titusville:* 6 pm to 9 pm and the Museum will be open late this evening.
- *May 18th Board Meeting:* 10:00 am (and members are welcome to attend).
- *Memorial Day is May 25th, therefore there'll be no member meeting.*

A rectangular graphic with a double-line border. It features a pushpin on the left and a paperclip on the right. The text is centered and reads: "Member DINNER Meeting", "Monday April 27th", "5:30 pm at Dixie Crossroads.", "Please call the Museum", "269-3658 with your reservation.", and "Don't miss it!".

Member DINNER Meeting
Monday April 27th
5:30 pm at Dixie Crossroads.
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269-3658 with your reservation.
Don't miss it!