


1972

History News

Florida Historical Society
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HISTORY NEWS

The Annual Meeting

The Florida Historical Society will hold its seventy-first annual meeting in Fort Pierce, May 10-12, 1973, at the Port St. Lucie Hilton Hotel. The St. Lucie Historical Society and the Indian River Area Historical Commission will be the host organizations. Dr. E. Ashby Hammond, University of Florida, and Dr. Thelma Peters, Miami, are in charge of the program, and they invite anyone interested in reading a paper to correspond with them. Dr. Hammond's address is P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History, 404 Library West, University of Florida, Gainesville 32601. Dr. Peters is at 11357 N.E. West Biscayne Canal Road, Miami 33161.

Arthur W. Thompson Memorial Prize in Florida History

Eugene Lyon of the history and social sciences faculty, Indian River Community College, Fort Pierce, is the 1971-1972 recipient of the Arthur W. Thompson Prize for his article, "The Captives of Florida," which appeared in the *Florida Historical Quarterly*, July 1971. The presentation was made at the Florida Historical Society's annual meeting, May 13, 1972, in Jacksonville. The prize of \$100 is given annually for the best article appearing in the *Quarterly*. Professor Lyon holds degrees from the University of Florida and the University of Denver, and is presently working on his doctorate at the University of Florida. He served as city manager of Vero Beach before accepting a teaching appointment at Indian River Community College. The judges making the selection were Professors Donald Curl, Florida Atlantic University, George E. Buker, Jacksonville University, and E. A. Hammond, University of Florida. The award honors the late Professor Thompson, formerly a member of the history department, University of Florida, and it was made possible by an endowment established by his family.

Rembert W. Patrick Memorial Book Award

Dr. Charlton Tebeau, professor emeritus, University of Miami, is the 1971-1972 recipient of the Patrick Award for his

History of Florida, published by the University of Miami Press. Dr. Tebeau has written a number of books on Florida. He has served as president of the Florida Historical Society and is a member of the editorial board of the *Florida Historical Quarterly*. He is also editor of *Tequesta*, published by the Historical Association of Southern Florida, and *Carrel*, published by the Friends of the University of Miami Library. The award memorializes Professor Patrick, who served as editor of the *Florida Historical Quarterly*. Judges were Professors William Warren Rogers, Florida State University, and Michael Gannon and John Mahon, University of Florida. When Professor Tebeau was presented the award of \$100 by Miss Margaret Chapman, Queens College, Charlotte, North Carolina, he announced that he was returning his check as part of a larger gift to the Society to make possible a new annual book award. It will recognize the best Florida book for young people published each year. The first presentation of this award will be made at the annual meeting in May 1973.

Award of Merit

Elizabeth F. Smith of Crawfordville received the 1971-1972 Award of Merit for Excellence in Presenting Florida History Through News Media for her publication, *The Magnolia Monthly*. Mrs. Smith was also recognized for her *Wakulla County Pioneers, A Tale of Three Tombstones*, and her newspaper articles on Florida history. The award was made by Milton D. Jones of Clearwater, the donor of this award, at the annual meeting in Jacksonville, May 13.

Mary MacRae History Award

Under the auspices of Tom Knotts of Yankeetown, an award has been established at the Central Florida Community College honoring Mrs. Mary MacRae, the outstanding citizen-historian of Citrus County. Mrs. MacRae, a former member of the board of directors of the Florida Historical Society, was recognized by the American Association for State and Local History in 1970 for her many years of dedicated service to the preservation and interpretation of local history. Each year a plaque and a government bond will be presented at the Central Florida Community

College's Honors Day to the student writing the outstanding paper on some phase of the history of the tri-county area of Marion, Citrus, and Levy. The first winner of the history award was Ann Hay for her paper, "Crystal River: River of Hope, Adventure, and Life." Professor Ernest H. Jernigan, chairman of the Social Sciences Department of the College, was chairman of the judges committee.

Announcements and Activities

The *Florida Historical Quarterly* will publish in its History News section (space permitting) information about the officers, programs, special activities, and speakers of Florida's local and regional historical societies and commissions. Newsletters, copies of minutes, and/or newspaper clippings should be sent to the Editor of the *Quarterly*, Box 14045, University Station, Gainesville.

The Florida Anthropological Society held its twenty-fourth annual meeting at the Langford Hotel, Winter Park, March 18, 1972. Reading papers were Ripley P. Bullen and Tom Hemmings, Florida State Museum; D. L. VonBurger, Museum of Apopkans; Lee Feder, Suncoast Archaeological Society; Bert Mowers, Kipp White, and Wilma Williams, Broward County Archeological Society; G. E. Huggins, Edison Junior College; James W. Covington, University of Tampa; and George W. Percy, James Whittington, Terry Bias, J. Anthony Paredes, and Kaye Lenihan, Florida State University. John W. Griffin, director, Historic St. Augustine Preservation Board, spoke at the banquet on "Archeology in Everglades National Park." Carl A. Benson, president, presided at the business meeting. William M. Goza of Clearwater and former president of the Florida Historical Society was installed as president for 1972. Other officers are George Magruder and John W. Griffin, vice-presidents; Cliff Mattox, secretary; Leon S. Reyniers, treasurer; and Ripley P. Bullen, editor-resident manager. The executive committee includes Yulee Lazarus, Wilma B. Williams, Thomas H. Gouchour, Charles Hoffman, and Ben I. Waller.

The United States Department of the Interior has designated the Cathedral of St. Augustine as a national historical monu-

ment. Bishop John J. Fitzpatrick, bishop of Brownsville, Texas, and former auxiliary bishop of the archdiocese of Miami, traced the history of the Cathedral during the Mass celebrating the history of the Cathedral in his sermon, March 15, 1972, and Bishop Paul F. Tannor of the Diocese of St. Augustine accepted the placque.

The Florida Heritage Foundation and the Tallahassee Junior League have opened the Bellevue Murat House as Tallahassee's first historical museum.

The Regional Archives Branch, Federal Records Center, East Point, Georgia, announces the appointment of Gayle P. Peters as chief archivist. Mr. Peters is an historian and formerly was archivist at the Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library. The regional archives includes records dating from the eighteenth century for federal agencies and courts which operated in the southern area. Professor Herbert J. Doherty, Jr., former president of the Florida Historical Society, is the Florida representative on the Regional Archives Advisory Council.

The Florida State Museum, University of Florida, is publishing a *Newsletter* which includes articles on the activities of their departments of natural sciences, social science, and interpretation. The first issue of the *Newsletter* (March 1972) notes the discovery of an Indian ceremonial site and village south of Gainesville near Micanopy and describes the underwater survey of the Withlacoochee River in west-central Florida.

The Southern Labor Archives at Georgia State University has published a list of its holdings which is available on request from the Archives, 104 Decatur Street, S.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30303. Several of the collections relate directly to the history of the labor movement in Florida. The Papers of David Herman (1954-1967) include material on union activities in Miami and the Cuban Federation of Labor. The records (1949-1970) of the director of the AFL-CIO Region VI concerns organizing activities in Alabama, Georgia, and Florida during the 1960s. David B. Gracy II is the archivist in charge of this research library.

The Papers of Benjamin Henry Latrobe is conducting a search for Latrobe documents, drawings, and plans outside

the Maryland Historical Society to be microfilmed and for a letterpress edition of his works. Latrobe executed commissions throughout the United States including the New Orleans area. In addition, he carried on an extensive professional and personal correspondence with individuals in every part of the nation. Persons or institutions owning or knowing the whereabouts of Latrobe works may write to Edward C. Carter II, Maryland Historical Society, 201 West Monument Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201.

A new and comprehensive edition of the papers of Andrew Jackson is in preparation under the sponsorship of The Ladies' Hermitage Association, The University of Tennessee at Nashville, the Tennessee Historical Commission, and the National Historical Publications Commission. All extant Jackson letters and documents, those written by him and those written to him, are needed. Anyone possessing such materials is asked to write to Dr. Sam B. Smith, editor, The Papers of Andrew Jackson, Route No. 4, Rachel's Lane, Hermitage, Tennessee 37076.

Local Societies and Commissions

Alachua County Historical Society: Dr. Samuel Proctor, editor of the *Quarterly*, spoke at the April meeting on plans for Florida's observance of the American Bicentennial. He suggested projects for the Society including publication of a history of Gainesville and Alachua County. On May 7, the members toured several of the historic buildings and residences of Gainesville and were entertained afterwards at a reception at the Chris Matheson home, the community's second oldest residence. Norman LaCoe, a Gainesville attorney, identified and discussed "Old Forts of Alachua County" at the meeting, May 30. Mrs. Helen Ellerbe was recognized for her service to the Society and was made a life member. Officers elected were John Opdyke, president; Merlin Cox, vice-president; and M. H. Latour, secretary-treasurer. Norman LaCoe and William Weaver were added to the board of directors, and Mrs. Ellerbe was named historian.

Apopka Historical Society: Mrs. Elizabeth Grossenback is president of the newly organized Society whose purpose is to collect

documents, pictures, and artifacts associated with the history of the community. It will also catalogue and seek to protect historic buildings and sites.

Bradford County Historical Society: Restoration of the county courthouse building in Starke is the major project of the Society. Preservation efforts have been spearheaded by Jim Bloodworth, president of the Society, Gene Matthews, publisher of the *Bradford County Telegraph*, and Mrs. Jewell Roberts of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. The building will be utilized as a historical museum and as a meeting place for the historical society and other community organizations.

Dunedin Historical Society: George R. Ferguson of New Port Richey was the program speaker, April 10, 1972, at a meeting at the Dunedin Country Club. He talked on "Indians of Pinellas County from 20,000 B.C. to the Present," the subject of his forthcoming book. A committee is cataloguing local buildings to determine those worthy of preservation. Andrews Memorial Chapel is being placed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Society is also seeking to obtain the railroad station on Main Street for use as an historical museum.

Fort Myers Heritage Society: Recently organized, the Society will attempt to preserve historic homes and sites in the community and to establish a historical museum. A committee representing the Fort Myers Collectors' Club, the Woman's Community Club, and the Southwest Florida Historical Society has been appointed.

Historical Association of Southern Florida: "Growing up with Coral Gables" was the subject of the talk by Dr. Melanie Rosborough at the program meeting March 7 at the Museum of Science auditorium. Elected at the annual meeting, April 19, were John C. Harrison, president; Edward H. Thompson and Mrs. Edward C. Grafton, vice-presidents; Mrs. Robert L. Parks, recording secretary; Dr. Thelma Peters, corresponding secretary; and Jack G. Admire, treasurer. Mrs. Finley L. Matheson and Mrs. Stanley E. Ross were co-chairmen of the annual benefit party, April 30, at which time visits were made to the old school house at Plymouth Church and the pagoda at Ransom School.

Historical Society of Okaloosa and Walton Counties: Walker Spence described early days in and around Boggy Bayou at the February 27 meeting at the museum in Valparaiso. At a meeting in March, Dan Merrill moderated a discussion by pioneer residents of Laurel Hill, and Richard Hagan, of the Historic Pensacola Preservation Board, spoke at the April 27 meeting which met at the Okaloosa-Walton Community College. The Society publishes a monthly newsletter, and it is accessioning its collection of books, manuscripts, photographs, newspapers, and artifacts.

Jacksonville Historical Society: Professor Arthur O. White, University of Florida, spoke on "William Sheats: Florida's Little Giant of Education," at a meeting, May 24. The Society was host for the annual meeting of the Florida Historical Society, May 11-13, in Jacksonville. John B. Turner, Jr., and Frank Taylor were in charge of arrangements, and Dena Snodgrass was chairman of the program committee. An historic marker at Millers Creek on the south side of Atlantic Boulevard has been dedicated to note the settlement of David Solomon Hill Miller, the surveyor of Jacksonville's streets when it was founded in 1822. Brigadier General Stoyte O. Ross (ret.) is president of the Society. Other officers are John Tillman and William M. Bliss, vice-presidents; Frances C. Nixon, treasurer; Mrs. W. E. Perkins and Mrs. Carl P. Sasnett, secretaries; Audrey Broward, archivist; and Dena Snodgrass, historian. Board members include Hal W. Moore, Dr. C. P. Cleveland, Dean Boggs, Richard Brooke, Jr., Malachi Haughton, Jr., C. Harvey Peacock, John J. Powell, Robert L. Rhodes, and Frank Taylor, Jr.

Orange County Historical Society: At an organizational meeting, January 20, 1972, at the Museum, 27 East Central Street, Donald A. Cheney, chairman of the Orange County Historical Commission, was elected president. Roland Dean and Dorothy Pratt were named vice presidents. The board includes William Beardall, Jenkins Dolive, Clara Evans, Joseph S. Guernsey, Joseph W. Magee, Sr., Mrs. Dewey Vic Mathews, Robert T. Overstreet, James K. Rush, Ley H. Smith, Juanita Tucker, and Clara Wendel. The Society's major project is to erect a building in Loch Haven Park to house the papers, books, documents, pictures,

and artifacts and memorabilia associated with the history of Orlando and Orange County.

Key West Art and Historical Society: The annual spring art festival exhibiting the work of artist members opened at historic East Martello Tower on March 21. Another exhibit of water colors, oils, and pastels began April 18.

Palm Beach County Historical Society: Mary Linehan discussed "Early Days in Lantana" at the February meeting at Whitehall, the Henry Morrison Flagler Museum in Palm Beach. Eugene Lyon of the Indian River Community College talked on "Early Indian Life from Juniper Inlet to Cape Canaveral," at the March Meeting. Thomas S. Kenan III, great-nephew of Mrs. Henry M. Flagler, described "Anecdotes on the Flagler Family" at the meeting April 20. Miss Dina Merrill on behalf of her mother, Mrs. Merriweather Post, presented the Society a model of Sea Cloud, Mrs. Post's yacht. Serving as officers are Arthur Barrow, president; Dr. Samuel Lindsey and Judge James Knott, vice-presidents; James Watt, secretary; David A. Forshay and Kenneth Van de Hulse, treasurer and assistant treasurer; and Maxine W. Banash, librarian. An open house was held at Whitehall in February with more than 5,000 people attending.

Peace River Velley Historical Society: Randy F. Nimnicht, Florida Division of Archives, History and Records Management, described the state's preservation program at the March 28 meeting in Pioneer Park, Zolfo Springs. David A. Forshay of the Palm Beach Junior College and board member of the Florida Historical Society spoke at the meeting on April 28. The Society held a picnic-barbeque at Liverpool on May 20.

Pensacola Historical Society: Wright Reese described the history of Pensacola banking at the March 20 meeting. Jesse Barfield, former registrar of the Pensacola Junior College, detailed the history of the college at the April 17 meeting, and on May 15, the members heard Miss Lucia Tryon speak on the history of the Pensacola Library. Officers installed at the April meeting include Mrs. E. P. Nickinson and Lucia Tryon, vice-presidents; Katherine Walker, recording secretary; and Mrs. Jerome F. Bear,

corresponding secretary. New board members are Mrs. Leslie Bogan, Mrs. R. M. Pyle, A. C. Blount, Henry Cary, and Vern Moss. Mrs. Charles Blanchard is president. The museum entertained more than 2,000 visitors in March, and 1,000 Pensacola and Escambia County students viewed the displays in April.

Pinellas County Historical Commission: Fifty-year certificates have been presented to Paul F. Randolph, Inc., and the Bilgore Groves recognizing their half century of operations in the area. Walter P. Fuller described his book, *St. Petersburg and Its People*, at the meeting March 15, and Steven Carter of Clearwater was the speaker at the April meeting.

Safety Harbor Area Historical Society: Roger P. Stewart, director of the Hillsborough County Pollution Control Commission, described the activities of his agency at the March 22 meeting. Dr. Ernest Brunner talked on "International Treasure Hunting" at the April 26 meeting, and Judge O. L. Dayton, Jr., Stetson University Law School, discussed "Florida Political Figures of the Past" on May 24.

St. Augustine Historical Society: Luis R. Arana, historian of the Castillo de San Marcos National Monument, detailed the history of the Castillo and the development of the national park system at the April 11 meeting in the Art Association Gallery. The January 1972 number of *El Escribano*, published by the Society, carried an article on the Castillo de San Marcos tricentennial (1672-1972). The journal also included articles by Professor Claude C. Sturgill, University of Florida, on "Troop Utilization in the Garrison at St. Augustine, 1763-1769," and "Don Manuel de Cendoya and Castillo de San Marcos, 1671-1673," by Luis R. and Eugenia B. Arana, editors. On May 20, the Society entertained the participants of the Florida Bicentennial Symposium at a reception at the Oldest House. The symposium, sponsored by the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission of Florida, was held at the University of Florida, May 18-20. The staff of the Historic St. Augustine Preservation Board and the Castillo National Monument took the visitors on a tour of the Castillo and the historic area prior to the reception. Officers of the Society are N. Putnam Calhoun, president; Hubert Carcaba,

vice-president; W. J. Winter, secretary; Roy O. Barns, treasurer; and Luis R. Arana, librarian. Directors are Carleton I. Calkin, Andrew J. McGhin, Frank D. Upchurch, Sr., Mrs. Charles E. Walker, W. L. Pellicer, W. W. Wilson, Milton E. Bacon, Norton Baskin, W. I. Drysdale, and Michael V. Gannon. J. Carver Harris is general manager of the Society.

St. Lucie Historical Society: Charles Gibbons, Jr., discussed the history of his family and their activities as pioneer pineapple and citrus growers at the March 21 meeting. Randy F. Nimmicht, Division of Archives, History, and Records Management, spoke on Florida's historical and architectural preservation program at the April 18 meeting. Eugene Lyon, Indian River Community College, was the speaker at the May 16 meeting.

Southwest Florida Historical Society: Russell Kay, Grover Hackney, Clyde Taylor, and Milton Thompson, at the April 13 meeting, described how they and twenty-two other men made a historic trip in 1923 through the Everglades from Naples to Miami. A description of this journey is published in the April 1972 number of the "Caloosa Quarterly" and in the January 1971 issue of the *Florida Historical Quarterly*. Randy F. Nimmicht of the Division of Archives, History and Records Management discussed Florida plans for preserving landmarks, historic sites, and buildings at the June 8 meeting. The Society is considering the republication of Karl Grismer's *Story of Fort Myers*, but no final decision has been made. On May 13, the twenty-second annual Pioneer Club held a picnic honoring half-century residents of Lee, Hendry, and Collier counties, and Southwest Florida Historical Society members helped with arrangements and registration.

Tarpon Springs Area Historical Society: Michel G. Emmanuel of Tampa and a member of the board of directors of the Florida Historical Society was the speaker at the May 18 meeting. Back issues of the *Tarpon Springs Leader* have been microfilmed by the P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History, University of Florida, and the Society has secured copies of the microfilm and a microfilm reader. Officers are H. W. Craig, president; Mrs. W. L. Cobb, vice-president; Grace Rolfe, treasurer; and Eleanor Burnham and Gertrude Stoughton, secretaries. Board members are Thomas Craig, Donald F. Quimby, H. M. Salley, and Marie Tipping. Ad-

visors are Easton Albaugh, Dr. T. D. Diamandis, E. C. Hoffman, and William J. Mack. An honorary life membership in the Society has been given to Robert F. Pent, author of the first history of Tarpon Springs.

Volusia County Historical Society: The ancestral home of Frank Bushnell has been donated by the Mackle Corporation to the Society. The building which dates to 1842 will be reconstructed in DeLand.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS.

1972

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| Sept. 19-22 | American Association for
State and Local History | Providence, R.I. |
| Oct. 26-29 | National Trust for Historic
Preservation | Washington, DC. |
| Nov. 10-11 | National Oral History
Colloquium | Austin, Texas |
| Nov. 15-18 | Southern Historical
Association | Hollywood, Fla. |

1973

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| Dec. | Gulf Coast History and
Humanities Conference | Pensacola |
| May 10-12 | FLORIDA HISTORICAL
SOCIETY- 71st
ANNUAL MEETING | Port St. Lucie Hilton
Fort Pierce |