


1974

## History News

Florida Historical Society  
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## HISTORY NEWS

### *Announcements and Activities*

The 1975 Conference of the Florida College Teachers of History will meet on the campus of Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona Beach, Florida, on March 29-30, 1975. Joseph Taylor of Bethune-Cookman College is program chairman. Inquiries should be addressed to him or to Professor William L. Dunn of Bethune-Cookman who is vice-president of the Florida College Teachers of History.

Gloria L. Jahoda of Tallahassee has been selected by the American Association for State and Local History's publication committee to write the volume *Florida: A Bicentennial History*, in the forthcoming Bicentennial book series, *The States and the Nation*. Ms. Jahoda, a resident of Tallahassee, has written extensively on Florida and has contributed to the *Florida Historical Quarterly*. The Florida legislature in 1973 passed a formal resolution recognizing her writings about the state. *The States and the Nation* series will cover every state and the District of Columbia. Funds for the project are from the National Endowment for the Humanities. W. W. Norton and Company, Inc., will publish the volumes.

Randy F. Nimnicht, formerly Historic Preservationist for the Division of Archives, History and Records Management, Florida Department of State, has been named director of the museum of the Historical Association of Southern Florida. Mr. Nimnicht, a director of the Florida Historical Society, holds a graduate degree from the University of Florida.

A Committee on the Status of Women of the Organization of American Historians announces the creation of a Roster of Historians of Women. It will list scholars and teachers in the field of women's history who are available to write textbooks on women's history, to read manuscripts for publishers, to advise publishers on revising textbooks, to lecture on women's history,

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to develop material on women's history for the media, to advise secondary schools in integrating materials about women in their curricula, to advise libraries about augmenting their holdings on women's history, and to act as consultants on women's history. Any specialists in women's history, men or women, who wish to be included, should send information to the Executive Secretary, 112 North Bryan Street, Bloomington, Indiana 47401. For further information contact Professor Nancy Weiss, Department of History, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey 08540.

Southern Labor Archives at Georgia State University is the repository for the records of the United States Textile Workers of America. Processing has begun on the files of the international office and the regional office for the Upper South. Among the collections recently opened for research are the *Jacksonville AFL-CIO Council* records (1956-1973) which correspondence illuminates the Council's interest in consolidated government, collective bargaining rights for public employees, voter registration, and support for political candidates. Another collection of interest to Floridians is the *Jacksonville Typographical Union No. 162* records (1920-1972) dealing with contract negotiations, efforts to achieve the eight-hour day and the five-day week, apprentice training, and technological threats to job security.

The T. T. Wentworth, Jr., Museum of Pensacola has published *Pensacola Picture Book* Number 25. The booklet, which contains photographs of early Escambia County residents, is the sixth in the series, "They Were Here." It sells for fifty cents and can be ordered from the Museum, Box 806, Pensacola, Florida 32502.

To raise funds for the restoration of the McIntosh Railroad Depot, the citizens of that community are sponsoring a History Festival on October 19, 1974. Five homes built in the period 1885-1910 and four historical churches will be open for inspection.

The fifty-year *Index to the Mississippi Valley Historical Review* (1914-1964) is available. The price is \$25.00 for individuals and \$35.00 for institutions. Purchasers may order from the Ex-

ecutive Secretary, Organization of American Historians, 112 North Bryan Street, Bloomington, Indiana 47401.

Persons interested in genealogical research may secure a copy of General Information Leaflet No. 6, *Genealogical Sources Outside the National Archives*, which contains information about documentary sources for genealogical studies. Write to the National Archives, National Archives and Records Service, General Services Administration, Washington, D. C. 20408.

*Above Ground Archaeology*, a government publication, is designed for amateur historians looking for projects to commemorate the Bicentennial. It suggests searching through attics and other out-of-the way places for historical memorabilia and soliciting interviews with community members in preparing local and county histories. This booklet explains how to catalogue and preserve historical documents and other items expected to be turned up in this search. This booklet sells for sixty cents from the U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 20402.

#### *Local Societies and Commissions*

*Apalachicola Historical Society*: Dr. William Murtagh, Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places, was the speaker at a meeting on July 23. The Society's major project is the restoration of the David P. Raney house on Market Street. Constructed in 1837, the house is on the National Register and is recognized as a major Florida historic site. Willoughby Marshall is working with other members of the Society to secure public and private funds for the restoration of this property.

*Bradford County Historical Board*: Efforts are continuing to secure state and local funds to restore the old Bradford County Courthouse and convert it into a county history museum. It was constructed in 1902 and is the only public building of major historical value surviving in Bradford County. The Florida legislature in 1973 designated the building as an historic site, and it has been nominated for the National Register of Historic Places. E. L. Mathews of Starke is chairman of the Board of Historical Trustees.

*Fort Lauderdale Historical Society:* The spring issue of "New River News" published a short memoir by Mrs. Agnes W. Fromberger of Daytona Beach in which she describes Fort Lauderdale from 1895 to 1906 when she and her husband, Captain John H. Fromberger, Keeper of the House of Refuge, lived there. Recent gifts to the Society include books, maps, photographs, newspapers, a watercolor, and artifacts.

*Hillsborough County Historical Commission:* Carol Neef is preparing a new historical commission brochure with the assistance of Theodore Lesley, Hillsborough County Historian. Anthony P. Pizzo is chairman of the Commission, and other members are Mrs. George B. Jones, Carol Neef, Theodore Lesley, R. Randolph Stevens, and Herbert G. McKay. At the April 15, 1974, meeting, Robert L. Milam, president of the Tampa Antique Bottle Club, displayed historical artifacts recovered from the Fort Brooke site area.

*Historical Association of Southern Florida:* Miami celebrated its seventy-eighth birthday on July 28, 1974, with a reception at the Historical Museum of Southern Florida. A birthday cake and a display of early Miami photographs marked the occasion. Randy F. Nimnicht assumed his duties as Museum Director on August 1. Jerry G. Pardue is editor of *Update*, published bi-monthly. Mrs. Jack Skigen is managing editor, and Dr. Thelma P. Peters and Dr. Charlton Tebeau are editorial consultants. Rear Admiral Irvin J. Stephens is president of the Association. Other officers are George B. Hardie, Jr., first vice-president; Jack B. Admire, second vice-president; Mrs. Robert A. Nicolet, recording secretary; Mrs. Robert L. Parks, corresponding secretary; and Walter C. Hill, treasurer.

*Jefferson County Historical Association:* Mrs. F. W. Connolly was elected president at the annual meeting held at the Wirick-Simmons House on May 13, 1974. Other officers are Mrs. John Kelly, vice-president; Thurman T. Lee, treasurer; and Mrs. William Counts, secretary. As a Bicentennial project the Association is sponsoring the writing and publication of a history of Jefferson County by Dr. Jerrell Shofner of Florida Technological University. It is also working on the preservation of historic records

in the county courthouse. The Wirick-Simmons House serves as headquarters for the Association and as a museum. Restoration was begun in July on the 1840 Asa May Plantation House at Capps, a recent gift to the Association. The Division of Archives, History and Records Management, Florida Department of State, is supervising a survey of the preservation of Jefferson County's historical records as a pilot project. The fall membership meeting in November will have as its speaker Michael Schene who will talk about the Gamble family.

*Okaloosa and Walton Counties Historical Society:* W. J. Wells used biographical sketches of old timers of Santa Rosa County as the subject for his talk at Navarre Beach, June 30, 1974. No program meetings were held over the summer, but two educational activities relating to rural pioneer life were sponsored at the Museum during July. The Young Settlers Club met each Friday for stories, music, games, arts, and crafts. An "Introduction to Country Crafts" was designed for junior high school students, and it included sessions on quilt making, pine needle basket making, fish net tying, and weaving.

*Orange County Historical Commission:* A fund raising campaign with a goal of \$200,000 to construct and furnish a historical museum is underway. The museum will become the home for the Commission's library and collections. It will also serve as a research center for Orange County and central Florida. The Orange County Historical Society is cooperating in the fund raising drive, and all contributors will become members of the Society.

*Pensacola Historical Society:* A reception at the Museum, June 29, 1974, honored the officers and the men of the U. S. S. *Pensacola* who were having a reunion in Pensacola. A special history naval exhibit was arranged by Norman Simons. A moonlight cruise of Escambia Bay was scheduled for the evening of August 3, 1974. Anna Lamar Switzer is president of the Society.

*Pinellas County Historical Commission:* An oral history program, supervised by Timothy H. Baughman, which involves interviewing longtime residents of the county has been approved.

*Polk County Historical Association:* At an organizational meeting on June 23, 1974, Glenn Hooker was elected president; Elizabeth S. Brown, secretary; Mrs. Stevie Lou Powell, treasurer; and Louise Frisbie, editor of the "Polk County Historical Quarterly." The Association is sponsored by the Polk County Historical Commission, but it retains its separate identity. W. H. Purcell is chairman of the Commission, and Mrs. Stevie Powell is librarian and county historian. At the first board meeting, July 31, 1974, the Association listed 136 members, and directors were appointed for the major communities of the county. The Association will support the Historical Commission's newspaper microfilm project, establish an oral history program, accumulate Polk County artifacts, develop long-range plans for a historical library and museum building, locate and mark historical sites, and cooperate with the Polk County Bicentennial program. The first issue of the "Quarterly" includes several early pictures of Bartow, Lakeland, Haines City, Winter Haven, and Fort Meade. There is also a picture of the mulberry tree outside the train station that is supposed to have given the town of Mulberry its name.

*St. Lucie Historical Society:* Mrs. Vivian Davis showed camera slides on Florida historical places at the meeting on June 18. At the July 16 meeting members saw slides of African birds shown by Virginia Hubbard. The final meeting of the summer season was held August 20. New directors elected for a three-year term include William A. Taylor, Ray Saunders, Albert C. McClintock, Robert U. Gladwin, and Cornelia Keen. Isabella McClintock is president of the Society.

*West Volusia Historical Society:* At the meeting June 5, 1974, S. Dick Johnston, president of the Society, talked about early newspapers of the area. Mr. Johnston's firm, E. O. Painter Printing Company of DeLeon Springs, prints the *Florida Historical Quarterly*. Plans were announced for a photographic exhibit at the DeLand Museum in January 1975. It was reported that the organization has forty-five members. In addition to Mr. Johnston, Society officers include Mary Gaede, vice-president; Robert Allen, treasurer; and Daphne Brownell, secretary.

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**REAT EXPECTATIONS. . . . .**

1974

Nov. 6-9	Southern Historical Association	Dallas, Texas
Dec. 5-6	Florida Confederation of Historical Societies	Tampa
Dec. 7	Board of Directors Meeting, Florida Historical Society	University of South Florida, Tampa
Dec. 28-30	American Historical Association	Chicago, Illinois

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Feb. 6-8	Conference on American Loyalism	St. Augustine
March 21-22	Fourth Annual Florida Bicentennial Symposium	Tallahassee
March 29-30	Florida College Teachers of History	Bethune-Cookman College, Daytona Beach
May 9-10	FLORIDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY- 73rd ANNUAL MEETING	Gainesville



## **FLORIDA CONFEDERATION OF HISTORICAL SOCIETIES**

The Florida Historical Society has invited representatives of local, county, and regional historical societies, historical commissions, museums, and historical agencies to meet at the University of South Florida, Tampa, on December 5 and 6, 1974. The Florida Confederation of Historical Societies will adopt Articles of Association for a Confederation to be sponsored by the Florida Historical Society.

A workshop will be held to examine problems pertinent to the needs and goals of Florida historical societies and agencies. Dr. Thelma Peters, Dr. Charlton Tebeau, and Mr. Randy Nimnicht are in charge of the program. President Milton D. Jones of the Florida Historical Society will preside at the organizational meeting.

The meeting and workshop are open to all interested persons. For information write: Jay B. Dobkin, Executive Secretary, Florida Historical Society, University of South Florida Library, Tampa, Florida 33620.

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