


1975

## History News

Florida Historical Society  
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## HISTORY NEWS

### *The Annual Meeting*

The Florida Historical Society will hold its seventy-fourth annual meeting in Miami, May 7-8, 1975. The board of directors will convene its semi-annual meeting on the evening of May 6. The Historical Association of Southern Florida and other Miami and Dade County historical and preservation groups will be hosts. The Sheraton Four Ambassadors, South Bay Shore Drive, Miami, has been selected as the convention hotel. George B. Hardie, Jr., will be in charge of local arrangements. Sister Eileen Rice, O. P., Department of History, Barry College, 11300 N. E. Second Avenue, Miami 33161, and Dr. Peter D. Klingman, Daytona Beach Community College, Daytona Beach 32015, are program chairpersons, and they invite anyone interested in reading a paper to correspond with them immediately.

The Florida Confederation of Historical Societies, Commissions, and Museums will be holding its annual workshop on May 6 in conjunction with the annual meeting. Mrs. Olive Peterson, 3405 Delaware Avenue, Fort Pierce, Florida, is chairperson of the executive committee for the Confederation.

### *Awards*

The Florida Historical Society annually awards three literary prizes for original work done in Florida history. Each presentation includes a check for \$100.00. The Arthur W. Thompson Memorial Prize in Florida history is given annually for the best article appearing in the *Florida Historical Quarterly*. The prize for 1974-1975 went to Richard A. Martin of Jacksonville for his article, "Defeat in Victory: Yankee Experience in Early Civil War Jacksonville," which was published in the *Quarterly*, July 1974. Mr. Martin, who holds a graduate degree in history from the University of Florida, is the author of several books dealing with Jacksonville and Florida history. The judges were Pat Dodson, Pensacola; Dr. A. Fred Blakey, University of

[123]

Florida; and Dr. Julia Floyd Smith, Georgia Southern College. The award honors the late Professor Arthur W. Thompson, a member of the history faculty, University of Florida. It was made possible by an endowment established by Mrs. Arthur W. Thompson of Gainesville.

The Rembert W. Patrick Memorial Book Award was earned by Dr. Jerrell H. Shofner, chairman of the history department, Florida Technological University, and vice president of the Florida Historical Society, for his book, *Nor Is It Over Yet: Florida in the Era of Reconstruction, 1865-1877*, published by the University Presses of Florida. Professor Shofner has written many books and articles about Florida, and has twice (1967 and 1969) received the Arthur W. Thompson Memorial Prize for his articles in the *Florida Historical Quarterly*. The judges were Robert L. Williams, director, Division of Archives, History, and Records Management, Florida Department of State; Dr. Wayne Flynt, Samford University; and Dr. Eugene Lyon, Vero Beach. The award memorializes Professor Patrick of the University of Florida, who served as editor of the *Florida Historical Quarterly*.

The authors of *Circle of Life: The Miccosukee Indian Way*, Nancy Henderson of New York and Jane Dewey of Miami, were selected to receive the Charlton W. Tebeau Junior Book Award. The judges announced that this was the best book published in 1974 on a Florida subject for young adult readers. Published by Julian Messner of New York, the photographs were by David Pickens of Miami. This book, designed for elementary school children, was written in cooperation with the Miccosukee Tribe of Florida. The judges were Marjory Bartlett Sanger, Winter Park; Ruby Leach Carson, Miami; and Linda Ellsworth, Historic Pensacola Preservation Board, Pensacola. The award honors Professor Charlton W. Tebeau, former president of the Florida Historical Society, in recognition of his many contributions to Florida history.

#### *Wentworth Foundation Grant*

The trustees of the Wentworth Foundation, Inc., authorized a grant for \$750 to the Florida Historical Society, to be used

by the *Florida Historical Quarterly* for art work and illustrative material. This is the third successive year that the Foundation has made a gift to the Society. The Foundation was established by Fillmore Wentworth who lived for many years in Clearwater. In accordance with Mr. Wentworth's wishes, the Foundation provides funds for the education of worthy young people and supports philanthropic and educational activities.

#### *Activities and Announcements*

The Halifax Historical Society, one of Florida's fastest growing local historical groups, publishes the *Halifax Historical Herald*. Publication began in July 1973, and all back copies are available at \$1.25 each. They may be ordered from the Society, 224½ South Beach Street, Daytona Beach, or Hazellet Fenty, 432 South Palmetto Avenue, Daytona Beach, Florida 32014. Each number carries articles and illustrations dealing with the history of the Halifax River area. The April 1974 number has articles on "Plantations Along the Halifax" and "The Old Kings' Road."

The issuance of *South Florida Pioneers*, number four, April 1975, marks the end of the first year of publication for this journal, which is proving its value to Florida historians and genealogists. All back issues are available for \$1.50 each, and may be ordered from the editor, Richard M. Livingston, P. O. Box 166, Fort Ogden, Florida 33842.

Each year the Southern Anthropological Society offers the James Mooney Award of \$1,000 for the book-length manuscript that best describes and interprets the people or culture of a distinctive New World population. The subject may be pre-historic, historic, or contemporary. Any interested student of the cultures and societies of the New World is eligible to submit a manuscript in the competition. Manuscripts are to be sent to Professor Charles Hudson, chairman of the awards committee, Department of Anthropology, University of Georgia, Athens 30601. The winning manuscript will be published by the University of Tennessee Press.

The E. Merton Coulter Award is given annually by the Georgia Historical Society for the best article on Georgia history appearing during a given year in the *Georgia Historical Quarterly*. For 1974, two essays were deemed of such excellence that the committee chose to award two prizes: Edward J. Cashin, "The Famous Colonel Wells': Factionalism in Revolutionary Georgia," and Betty Wood, "Thomas Stephens and the Introduction of Black Slavery in Georgia."

Funds to help restore and preserve more than 100 American landmarks were awarded June 3, 1975 by Byrd & Son, Inc., East Walpole, Massachusetts, one of the nations oldest manufacturing firms. The awards were matching grants of up to \$5,000. Among the organizations in forty-five states and the District of Columbia approved by the national review panel were three in Florida: The Florida Railroad Company Depot Building in Fernandina Beach, location of the original railroad station for the Florida Railroad Company, constructed in 1898; the Vizcaya Dade County Art Museum, Miami, former estate of the late James Deering, co-founder of the International Harvester Corporation; and Rafford Hall, Pensacola, a brick and frame structure, built around 1890 by the Pensacola Athletic Club as a combination gymnasium and meeting hall. Byrd & Son is joining in an effort with the National Trust for Historic Preservation to launch a nationwide appeal to business and industry to support state and local preservation organizations.

Professor George E. Pozzetta is the winner of the George C. Osborne Social Science Publication Award, University of Florida, for 1974-1975, for his article, "Foreigners in Florida: A Study of Immigration Promotion, 1865-1910," which appeared in the *Florida Historical Quarterly*, October 1974.

The Southern Labor Archives of Georgia State University collects, preserves, and makes available for research the documentary heritage of organized labor, particularly the trade union movement in the South. Endorsed by the Georgia and Florida AFL-CIO, the archives receives files of various southern labor organizations. Many items which will be useful to persons working in Florida labor history are included. Its two latest catalogues

list manuscript holdings and collections processed during the period April 1974-March 1975. The Jacksonville Carpenter's Union, Southwest Florida A.F.T., Jacksonville Typographical Union, and the Florida AFL-CIO are among the donors of archival material listed.

The sixth annual Gulf Coast History and Humanities Conference will be held in Pensacola, Florida, October 2-3, 1975. The theme of the conference is "The Cultural Legacy of the Gulf Coast, 1870-1940." The Historic Pensacola Preservation Board, Escambia County School Board, Pensacola Junior College, University of West Florida, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation will be hosts for the meeting. Information on this conference and copies of the *Proceedings* of the five previous conferences are available from Dr. Lucius F. Ellsworth, John C. Pace Library, University of West Florida, Pensacola 32504.

"Slave Experience in America: A Bicentennial Perspective," is the title of the conference to be held at the University of Mississippi, October 1-3, 1975. The speakers will include John W. Blassingane, David B. Davis, Carl N. Degler, Stanley Engerman, Eugene Genovese, William K. Scarborough, and Kenneth Stampp. Address inquiries to the Department of History, University of Mississippi, University, Mississippi 38677.

The Southern Historical Association, in connection with the Longwood College (Virginia) history department, announces the establishment of the Francis Butler Simkins Award for a first book by an author or authors in the field of southern history published during the biennial period designated. The award is a certificate and \$200.00. The first prize will be awarded in 1977, and will be chosen from books published in 1975 and 1976. Information may be obtained from the Southern Historical Association, Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana 70118.

*Mayhew Wilson Dodson*

Pat Dodson, longtime member of the Florida Historical Society and its recording secretary, 1968-1969, died of cancer in Pensacola, June 6, 1975. Born in Pensacola, Dodson received a bachelor of arts degree from Vanderbilt University, and a master's degree in English and history from the University of Florida. The University of West Florida presented him with an honorary Doctor of Law degree in 1974.

Businessman, poet, teacher, historian, author, and civic and governmental leader, Pat Dodson leaves behind a long list of achievements. He was particularly interested in preserving the historic landmarks of Pensacola and West Florida. He served as a member of the President's Advisory Council on Historical Preservation and chaired the Pensacola Historical Restoration and Preservation Commission. He wrote the historical development plan for the city of Pensacola and was instrumental in the creation of the Pensacola Historical Commission. He also helped write legislation that created the Historic Pensacola Preservation Board. He led the successful fight for the establishment of Seville Square and North Hill Preservation areas. With his own money, he restored the nineteenth-century Moreno Cottage and Suzannah's Cottage. He organized and served as chairman of the Governor's Conference on Development of Florida's Historical Resources held in Tallahassee, March 1968, and he was a member of the White House Conference on the American Revolution Bicentennial that met in Washington, October 1969. He chaired the steering committee that planned Florida's participation in the Bicentennial, and served as chairman of the Florida Bicentennial Commission from 1970 to 1972.

Dodson's articles and book reviews have appeared in the *Florida Historical Quarterly*, and his poetry was published in a number of journals, including the *Suwanee Review*. His *Journey Through the Old Everglades: The Log of the "Minnehaha"* was published by Trend House. In his final days, Dodson had completed an historical novel about the Creek Indian heritage, "The Truthteller."

He was appointed to the State Board of Regents by Governor Claude Kirk and was later director of the State Department of Transportation. His latest honor was an Award of Merit by the American Association for State and Local History presented at the Florida Historical Society annual meeting in Gainesville, May 9, 1975. Dodson was cited for “a career of devotion to the cause of Florida and Pensacola history, historic preservation and restoration.”



**G**REAT EXPECTATIONS. . . . .

1975

Sept. 16-19 American Association for Mackinac Island,  
State and Local History Mich.

October 1-4 Society of American Archivists Philadelphia, Pa.

October 2-3 Sixth Annual Gulf Coast History and  
Humanities Conference Pensacola

Oct. 23-26 Oral History Association Asheville, N. C.

Nov. 8 American Society for Ethno-History Gainesville

Nov. 12-15 Southern Historical Association Washington, D. C.

Dec. 28-30 American Historical Association Atlanta, Ga.

1976

May 6 Florida Confederation of Historical Societies–  
Workshop Miami

May 7-8 FLORIDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY– 74th  
ANNUAL MEETING Miami

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