


1981

History News

Florida Historical Society
membership@myfloridahistory.org

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HISTORY NEWS

Announcements and Activities

The Museum of Florida History in Tallahassee is expanding its presentation of the Florida story with the opening of a permanent exhibit detailing the history of the state's citrus industry. The focal point of the exhibit, entitled "Fruit of the Boom," is a recreated, fully operational citrus packing house from the 1920s. The exhibit also features photographs and other graphics tracing the evolution of the industry from the early Spaniards bringing seeds into Florida to modern mechanization. The museum is operated by the Florida Department of State's Division of Archives, History and Records Management, and is located in the R. A. Gray Building, Bronough at Pensacola streets. The hours are 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. on Sunday.

James Hutchinson, the Stuart, Florida, artist who has gained a national reputation as a painter of the Florida Seminoles and Miccosukees, was commissioned in 1973 by the Arthur Vining Davis Foundation and other private agencies to create fifty canvases of the Florida Indians. The collection illustrates the early lifestyles of the Indians, colonization of Florida by white settlers, conflicts leading up to the Seminole Wars, and pivotal scenes from the Second Seminole War. There are also portraits of Seminole and Miccosukee leaders. The University of Miami's Lowe Art Museum is making the canvases available to the Museum of Florida History in Tallahassee for public exhibit beginning in November.

"Learned It In Back Days and Kept It: A Portrait of Lucreaty" is a thirty-minute video portrait of Lucreaty Clark, the well-known basketmaker, produced by the Florida Folklife Program and WJCT-TV. The film not only documents the basketmaking process, but it also explores Lucreaty Clark's views on family, foodways, and religion. It also gives historical perspectives to North Florida's black rural life through the eyes of her granddaughter. It will be aired on WJCT and other Florida PBS sta-

tions this fall. For information on rental or purchase write Florida Folklife Program, Box 265, White Springs, Florida 32096.

The Tampa Historical Society is continuing its program of placing historical markers at appropriate sites in the Tampa Bay area. In cooperation with the Ybor City Rotary Club, the Society dedicated a historical plaque on June 13 at the corners of Platt and Tampa streets in honor of Captain John Frye, first native son of Tampa. A marker dedication was held at the University of Tampa in June commemorating Babe Ruth's hitting the longest home run in history at Plant Park. A third dedication at the Ybor City State Museum will commemorate the Ferlita family and their bakery. This plaque is being donated by Cesar Gonzmart. The bakery building has been converted to a museum devoted to the ethnic communities and the cigar industry of Tampa.

A federal grant of \$75,000 has been awarded for the continuing restoration of Building One of the Old Miami City Hospital. First constructed in 1918, this property is on the National Register of Historic Places. It is often referred to as "The Alamo" because of its resemblance to the Texas fortress. The hospital building was the predecessor of Jackson Memorial Hospital. When restoration work is completed, it will serve as an information and welcoming center for the Jackson Memorial Hospital complex.

James N. Eaton, curator of the Florida Black Archives, Research Center and Museum, Florida A & M University, is collecting black school records. He is interested in papers, records, yearbooks, and programs. Persons who have such records are asked to contact Dr. Eaton or the Black Archives, Box 809, FAMU, Tallahassee, Florida 32307.

The latest issue (January/April 1981) of *South Florida Pioneers* includes genealogical data for De Soto, Manatee, Hardee, Hillsborough, Okeechobee, and Polk counties. For information on annual subscriptions and single issues write Richard M. Livingston, Box 166, Fort Ogden, Florida 33842.

The Oral History Association will hold its seventeenth nat-

ional colloquium in San Antonio, Texas, October 8-10, 1982. The program committee invites proposals for papers, thematic sessions, and media presentations. Interested individuals should submit an abstract of their paper and/or a proposal for a session, along with a brief vita, to John J. Fox, chairman, OHA program committee, Department of History, Salem State College, Salem, Massachusetts 01970.

The National Society of **Colonial** Dames of America, in the state of Florida, has awarded its Region III scholarship for the academic year 1981-1982, to Patricia R. Wickman, editorial assistant to the *Florida Historical Quarterly*. The annual award was given for work in the field of Florida history at the graduate level. Ms. Wickman is currently a master's student specializing in public history at the University of Florida, Gainesville.