

Monthly Publication from the Zephyrhills Historical Association

Volume 19 – Number 2

February 2017

The next Zephyrhills Historical Association meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 7th in the meeting room of the *Zephyrhills Public Library*, 5347 8th Street. The business meeting is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. and the program is at 6 p.m. Refreshments include drinks, which are provided, and food brought in to share by members.

Speakers



Our speakers in February were Nick Carroll and Bryan Thomas. Nick is the head football coach at Zephyrhills High School, and Bryan is the head track coach there. Each man serves as an assistant coach to the other in these sports. They each talked about their formative years here, and of how much sports meant to each of them. They related some of their experiences after high school and of their desire to give back to the youth of today. We truly enjoyed them!

Our speaker at the March meeting will be Rex Guynn, who was born and raised here. Some of you may already know him. Polly Gill tells me he worked at the fire department back when Bob Hartwig was Chief. Rex and his wife, Melinda, now serve as missionaries in Uganda. They have lived in Africa since 2006 and currently reside in the town of Kitgum, Uganda. This region is well known for the 22-year rebel war led by Joseph Kony and his army, The Lord's Resistance Army (LRA). More than 20,000 children were abducted and forced into battle against their own families. The pain, loss and remnants of war are evident everywhere, but the Lord has a plan for the Acholi People. Uganda has suffered under a string of violent regimes such as Idi Amin's. Civil war, rebel conflicts and the AIDS epidemic have hurt the region tremendously. I'm sure Rex has much to share. Come join us.



Tuesday, March 21st, is our next Give-Back Scholarship Fundraiser
at **Sergio's Italian Restaurant** on Hwy. 54 West in **Zephyrhills**. We are meeting at 4 p.m.
Contact Patty Thompson (813-780-8559 - pattycakeclown1@aol.com) for information.

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Pasco County Historian

For a walk down memory lane visit

www.fivay.org

Please consider contributing old photos for the website.

My email address is on the opening page

ZHA Mission Statement

The mission of the Zephyrhills Historical Association is to research, gather, and share local historical information with all generations, through our literature, programs, and scholarships, and to volunteer assistance to the Zephyrhills Depot Museum and WWII Barracks Museum.

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Secretary	Anna Boone
Treasurer	Clereen Brunty
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Bill Kustes	
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Hospitality	Tenci Alexander
Refreshments	Polly Gill
Newsletter	Jerry Pricher
	Clereen Brunty
Programs	Jerry Pricher
	Carolyn Dean
Scholarship	Margie Partain
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	<p>Clereen Morrill Brunty ZHS Alumni Contact</p>		<p>chalet flowers</p>
<p>clereen@tampabay.rr.com</p>		<p>Kim Tim Maryann Sanders owners</p>	
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Editor: Jerry Pricher, 5138 20th Street, Zephyrhills, FL 33542
 Phone: 813-788-2547 email: jerry@pricher.net

From the Desk of the Editor:

Clereen informs me that we have lost another true friend. Jim was very active in ZHA over the last few years, and I will miss him.



Many of you remember Jim McElwee, one of our long time historical society members who joined in 1998, has passed away on January 30, 2017. Jim has donated several items to the association including an American flag for the Depot Museum and City Library as well as a PA system we use sometimes at our meetings.

In March 2016, Jim was honored with a plaque & shirt for his 60 years of Continuous Service to the Zephyrhills American Legion Post #118. This was presented to him at our August ZHA meeting by another longtime member of both organizations, Bill Kustes.

Below is an email and an obituary provided by Jim’s daughter, Pat. We know Jim has fought a long, hard battle and is no longer in pain or suffering. He will be greatly missed by his friends of ZHA. Our deepest sympathy to Jim’s family. ~Clereen

From: Pat May
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 3:17 PM
To: Clereen Brunty
Subject: ZHA Member has Passed Away

I am uncertain if this information has made it to you and your organization. My Dad, James McElwee, has passed away. I found your contact information at his home. Here is the link to funeral home in NY: <http://osheafuneral.com/tribute/details/3201/James-McElwee/service-information.html#tribute-start> I have also attached a paper copy of the obituary. Visit the website to sign the Guest Book.

In Memory of
 James W. McElwee
 10/02/1925 – 01/30/2017
 Obituary

McElwee, James W. of Zephyrhills, FL died on January 30, 2017 in his 91st year. Beloved husband of the late Joan (nee Flanagan). Devoted father of Michael (Jean), Patricia May (John), and the late William. Loving grandfather of Michael, Jr. (Mary Ellen), Maureen Sharp (Morgan), and Brendan, Kevin and Ryan May. Great Grandfather to Madeline, Michael III, and Thomas McElwee and Jillian and Allison Sharp.

Proud WWII US Navy Veteran serving on the USS Custer and longtime employee of NY Telephone.

Family will receive friends Monday, 2-5 & 7-9 pm, at the Charles J. O’Shea Funeral Home, 603 Wantagh Ave., (exit 28N SS Pkwy), Wantagh, NY. Funeral Service in funeral home Tuesday, 11 am, with interment of ashes at LI National Cemetery, Farmingdale, NY.



OFF the Chart media

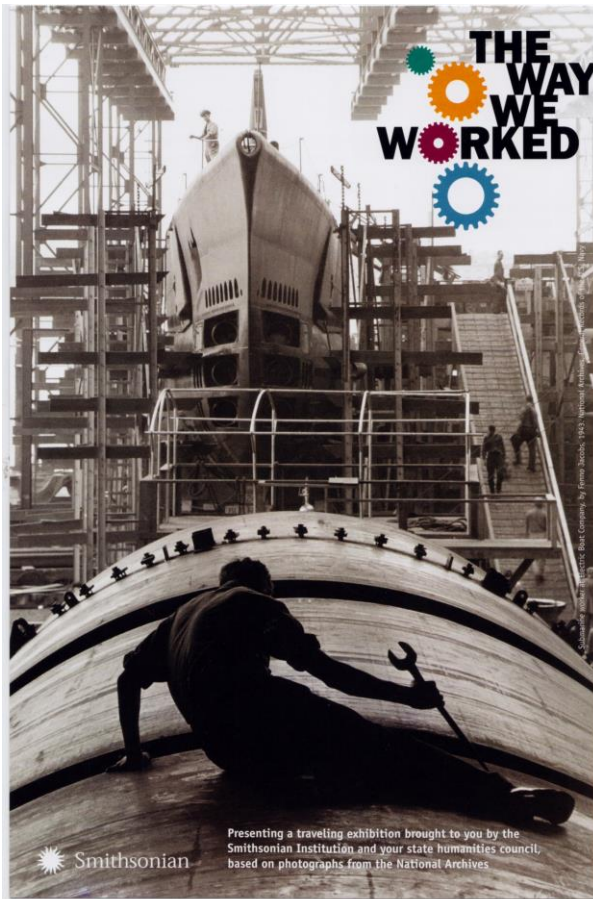
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“The Way We Worked”

Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition

The Pioneer Florida Museum & Village, in cooperation with Florida Humanities Council, will explore the professions and the people that sustain American society when it hosts “The Way We Worked,” a Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibition.

January 28, 2017 through March 18, 2017

Tuesday - Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

at the

Pioneer Florida Museum & Village

15602 Pioneer Museum Rd. Dade City, FL 33523

(352)567-0262 curator@PioneerFloridaMuseum.org

www.facebook.com/PioneerFloridaMuseum

www.PioneerFloridaMuseum.org

“The Way We Worked, Florida” Speaker Series Schedule

More information on our website

Date:	Speaker:	Topic:
Thursday, February 9th, 6:00 p.m.	Margarita Roma	Florida Farmworkers
Saturday, February 11th, 2:00 p.m.	Andrew Huse	Area Historic Restaurants
Thursday, February 16th, 6:00 p.m.	Imani Asukile	“The Odell Mickens Story”
Saturday, February 18th, 2:00 p.m.	Tom & Charlie Touchton	Touchton Drug Store
Thursday, March 2nd, 6:00 p.m.	Madonna Wise	Women and Work
Saturday, March 4th, 2:00 p.m.	Dr. Steven Noll	“The Way We Worked, FL”
Tuesday, March 7th, 2:00 p.m.	Nancy Massey Perkins	Hometown Barber
Thursday, March 9th, 6:00 p.m.	Scott Black	“All the Live Long Day” Railroad

Guided Tours or Field Trips may be scheduled, in advance, for groups of 10 or more. Please call 352-567-0262 or email: curator@PioneerFloridaMuseum.org

**“The Way We Worked, Florida” Speaker Series
at the Pioneer Florida Museum & Village**

The Pioneer Florida Museum & Village, in cooperation with Florida Humanities Council, will explore the professions and the people that sustain American society when it hosts “The Way We Worked,” a Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibition. This speaker series was put together to enhance this exhibition.

“The Way We Worked,” adapted from an original exhibition developed by the National Archives and Records Administration, explores how work has become a central element in American culture. It traces the many changes that have affected the workforce and work environments over the past 150 years, including the growth of manufacturing and increasing use of technology. The exhibition draws from the Archives’ rich collections, including historical photographs, archival accounts of workers, film, audio and inter-actives, to tell the compelling story of how work impacts our individual lives and the historical and cultural fabric of our communities.

This great exhibition will be on view **January 28, 2017 through March 18, 2017** at the Pioneer Florida Museum.

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Thursday, March 2nd, 6:00 p.m. — Madonna Jervis Wise, M.A.

"Women and Work...the Changing Nature of Women's Work Throughout the Twentieth Century and a Look at Women in our own Pasco County Neighborhood."

Historian/Educator Madonna Wise has written nine books, four of which focus on local history. Her arcadia publishing/history press books include: Dade City, Zephyrhills and Wesley Chapel. With nearly 40 years of educational experience in Pasco and Polk Counties, she has worked as a history teacher, school administrator and served on numerous community boards. Madonna will profile some local women leaders as she commemorates Women's History Month.

Saturday, March 4th, 2:00 p.m. — Dr. Steven Noll

From cattle and citrus to turpentine and tobacco, this presentation covers many occupations in Florida over the past 150 years.

Master Lecturer Steven Noll received his Ph.D. in American History from the University of Florida. He joined the University of Florida Department of History in 1992. He has published three books: Feeble-Minded in our Midst (1995); Mental Retardation in America (2004); and, most recently, Ditch of Dreams: The Cross-Florida Barge Canal and the Struggle for Florida's Future (2009). Dr. Noll teaches American History as well as courses on the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, the History of Disability in America, and Florida History.

Tuesday, March 7, 2017, 2:00 p.m. — Nancy Massey Perkins

"The Life and Work of a Home Town Barber"

Nancy Massey Perkins is a multiple generational Pasco County family member. She has been a teacher and media specialist in Pasco County Schools for over 35 years. She was chosen as the Social Studies Teacher of the year for the district in 2000 and is known for her lively displays and hands-on interpretation of history with her students. A particular interest is in Native Americans. Her father, Bud Massey was the 'town' barber in Zephyrhills for many years...

Thursday, March 9, 2017, 6:00 p.m. — Scott Black

"All the Live Long Day, Working on the Railroad in Florida"

Dade City Commissioner Scott Black is a 6th generation Floridian, lifetime resident of the Dade City/Tribly area and the former Mayor. He will review railroads and their significance in local history.

Saturday, March 11, 2017, 12 noon — Stephanie Black & Joy Dew

"Hosting the Pasco County Historical Association"—Public invited!

The Pioneer Florida Museum & Village, in cooperation with the Florida Humanities Council, will explore the professions and the people that sustain American society when it hosts "The Way We Worked," a Smithsonian traveling exhibition. After a noontime covered dish lunch and short business meeting the society members will tour the exhibit.

Stephanie Black is the Director of the Pioneer Florida Museum & Village and Joy Dew is the Administrative Assistant. Both Stephanie and Joy are from Pioneer Pasco County, Florida families!

Thursday, March 16, 2017 — Bob Harrison

"How Newspapers and Libraries Have Been Impacted by Technology"

Bob Harrison serves as the Public Communications Specialist, Pasco County Library System. From 1996 until mid-2016, he worked at the Tampa Bay Times as an advertising account executive and, most recently, as their digital advertising strategist. He saw firsthand the transition from print to digital. Bob Harrison came to work for the Pasco County Library System approximately six months ago and has seen many parallels between how newspapers and libraries have been impacted by the Internet. Both industries have fully embraced the web and, as the technology continues to evolve, so do both newspapers and libraries.

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In Memory of

Ryals Furniture Exchange

And Great Parents

Powell & Maude Ryals

From son James

God Bless America

Crystal Springs

from Jeff Miller's fivay.org site

The following is taken from The History of Zephyrhills 1821-1921 by Rosemary W. Trottman.

Zephyrhills received many colonists who came first to Crystal Springs and found that they like Zephyrhills better, or they came to visit relatives or friends in Crystal Springs and decided to buy in Zephyrhills. Because of its nearness and because they shared a high school, it seems wise to tell of its beginnings also.

The Co-operative Homestead Company with National Headquarters at 232 Nasby Building, Toledo, Ohio, bought ten thousand acres of Zephyrhills Colony land and added to it the Renfroe lands including the well known Jarve Springs, much of which lay in Hillsborough County. The Springs became Crystal Springs and the new colony, the Crystal Springs Colony.

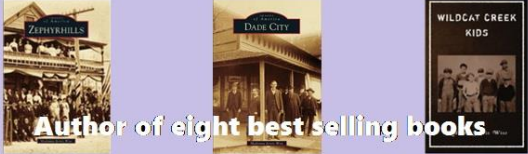
Mr. R. K. Burke seems to be the man who acted as agent in purchasing the Colony Company and Renfroe lands. However it was A. B. Hawke, J. B. Mercer and L. L. Holford, as well as R. K. Burke who signed receipts for money received for the Florida Headquarters of the Co-operative Homestead Company.

A statement of account issued by the Crystal Springs Colony to Mr. William McCreadie, 5 Portland Park, Hamilton, Scotland, on November 16, 1916, and loaned by Mrs. John McCreadie gives a picture of the financial plan for the colony. The charges were listed as \$120 for Tract 11, Section 25, Common Good Fund \$120, Individual Improvements \$120 and interest \$5.30, totaling \$365.30. A long list of payments beginning with a payment of May 4, 1912 of \$24.00 in cash and continuing until May 6, 1916, with a payment of \$8.75, leaving a balance of \$76.40 due the Individual Improvement Fund, after 80 rods of fencing and the labor required in erecting it had been subtracted.



A fragile portion of the constitution of the Common Good Society that was a part of the land contract and a place on its cover on which a member might keep a record of his own payments survives. This tells us that the Society according to Section 23 of the constitution "is especially provided that until one hundred (100) dwellings have been established within the colony, the Co-

operative Homestead Company shall act as Trustee for the society, and shall hold and administer the Commongood Funds and property in such manner as shall be mutually agreed upon between it and a majority of the resident members, and any provision of these By-laws contrary to this section shall be dormant until said one hundred dwellings have been established, whereupon this section shall become null and void. Meantime the resident members shall organize as fully as possible, so as they may intelligently advise with the Co-operative Homestead Company regarding the Commongood administration, and be fully ready to take full charge of Commongood affairs in accordance with the provisions of the foregoing By-laws." It is this Commongood Funding and administration, first by the Company and then by the residents, that caused the Crystal Springs Colony to be referred to in many newspaper and other accounts as being a colony of socialists.

 <p>Author of eight best selling books</p> <p>Madonna Wise Books Author, Research & Consulting Madonna Jervis Wise Zephyrhills, Florida Murphy, North Carolina</p> <p>813-469-8627 MadonnaJWise@gmail.com http://madonnawisebooks.wordpress.com</p>	<p>Joni Gauger owner</p> <p>Cutting Edge Beauty Salon</p> <p>813-782-4001</p> <p>cell 813-469-3437</p> <p>6132 Ft. King Rd. Zephyrhills, FL</p>
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The Commongood Society's constitution provided for the usual officers and a governing council of nine serving without compensation, meeting on the first Saturday of each month to receive and pass on such detailed and written reports of the executive committee and recommend such matters to them as may seem to them important to the society. The governing council was at first divided into three classes of one, two, and three years so that only one third would consist of new members at any one time. In addition there was an executive committee of three members that met weekly to select the heads of all departments, and all persons handling funds or authorized to transact business for the society. The executive committee was charged with making written reports together with a statement of all receipts and disbursements. A financial statement was to be printed and each resident member was mailed a copy quarterly. A meeting of the society was to be held on the second Saturday of each month at 2:30 P.M. Special meetings might be called on petition of 20 per cent of the resident members.

"All money of the society shall be deposited in the name of the society in a bank designated by the society, and all disbursements shall be by signed check 'Crystal Springs Commongood Society, per Treasurer.' All deposits shall be endorsed in the same manner.

"The treasurer shall draw checks only on presentation of a voucher signed by the head of the department or committee for which the voucher is drawn and countersigned by the secretary of the Executive Committee.

"The society shall elect an auditing committee of three (3), who shall carefully audit the accounts of the society semi-annually and make signed written reports.

"The title to all collectively owned real estate of the society shall be vested in such trustee or trustees as the governing council shall select and shall be administered according to the will of the society expressed as herein provided."

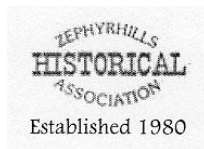
Early in the development of the Crystal Springs colony a community hall was built for the Commongood Society's meetings. It was used for social meetings as well. One resident of Zephyrhills remembers enjoying the frequent dances held there. Probably before Reverend or Pastor Nutting arrived to build his last Little Brown Church, the colonists held church services there.

Other very interesting people who were residents were: Mr. Oldham, storekeeper; L. L. Holford, at one time (1916) Treasurer; A. B. Hawke, Sec.; J. B. Mercer, Manager and Treasurer; and R. K. Burke. All of the men who signed receipts as treasurer or manager were excellent penmen. Mr. Mercer signed his name with a flourish reminiscent of the penmanship of the former century.

Mr. Billings, a man of small stature and scholarly appearance was a violin maker. Violinists from the entire area visited his shop for repairs, tuning, and his conversation. Mr. Parks was a 95-year-old resident with young eyes. He bought and sold scrap iron during the war effort, roving far afield driving his car and visiting with his customers. He read and drove without glasses and was well informed.

Some residents moved themselves to Zephyrhills seeking higher land or influenced visitors to settle in one or the other of the two neighbor colonies. Coming from Crystal Springs to Zephyrhills was Victor Johnson's father, mother, sister and Victor. He had come from England to Crystal Springs and then to Zephyrhills. An older brother of James Lair was a resident of Crystal Springs. When James and Ruby Lair came as bride and groom, they also bought land in Crystal Springs and grew strawberries. When farming did not prove profitable they moved to Zephyrhills and opened a small drygoods store.





ZEPHYRHILLS HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 7TH, 2017

The Regular Business Meeting of the Zephyrhills Historical Association was called to order by President Rod Rehrig at 5:32 PM. He gave the Invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes from the January meeting were read by Secretary Anna V. Boone, with the motion to approve made by Andrew Nagy, seconded by Jerry Pricher and accepted by the group.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Clereen Brunty, Treasurer. The current balance in the Sun Trust CD account is \$6,798.95. The ending balance in Sun Trust checking as of January 31, 2017 is \$3,851.98. There was a motion to approve the report made by Jerry Pricher, seconded by Tenci Alexander and agreed to by all.

Old Business: As to fundraisers, Margie Partain reported that Patty Thompson is sick. Flyers for the Rosemary Trottman Scholarship Fund Raiser event were brought in by Margie and will be held at Beef O'Brady's on February 21. We meet at 4 PM.

Margie called the contact at Zephyrhills High School about scholarships and will get back to us in regard to a scholarship committee.

Regarding Founders' Day, Andrew Nagy, our liaison with Main Street Zephyrhills, spoke with the coordinator and found out that we can have 1 free space in the parade, which will accommodate 3 cars but any additional spaces will cost \$35 each. He also said flyers are at the printers and he will pick them up. Jerry made a motion that the Association pay for 3 spaces in the Parade, which will be \$35 a piece in addition to the free one. The motion was seconded by Ray Alvarez and accepted. Bob Porter has 3 vintage cars, which will take the first spot, and the car club will provide the others. Tenci will coordinate with help from Clereen. The theme this year will be "Classic Board Games" and signs and decorations will be needed.

Other Old Business: None

New Business: Rod Rehrig reported that the Marine Corps League will be having their annual golf tournament on March 25 and Zephyrhills Historical Association can sponsor a hole for \$40.00 as a method of advertising. Ray Alvarez made a motion to approve sponsoring a hole for \$40.00, seconded by Terry Lindsey and accepted by the group.

Other New Business: Ray mentioned that the library has a calendar that should have our meeting times listed and he will see to it.

Margaret Seppanen suggested advertising our organization on paper fans and she held one up that had the Zephyrhills Depot printed on it. Earlier, we discussed the potential publicity from ads in the Zephyrhills News, Zephyrhills Free Press, Pasco Times and Greg First blog.

Margaret reminded us that Canter Brown, Jr. will be giving a lecture about Henry B. Plant: The Real Story of the King of Florida, on February 16 at 7 PM. in the Hollis Room at Florida Southern College. She brought in flyers about the event.

For February birthdays, Rex Hiatt wants to go to the Village Inn and Penny Porter agrees, so the dinner will be at 4:00 PM. on February 17.

A motion to adjourn was made by Tenci, seconded by Judy Gibson and agreed to by all. The meeting concluded at 6:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Anna V. Boone, Secretary, Zephyrhills Historical Association

Our guest speakers will be coaches from Zephyrhills High School, Nick Carroll and Bryan Thomas.