The next Zephyrhills Historical Association meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 3rd in the meeting room of the Zephyrhills Public Library, 5347 8th Street. A board meeting is scheduled for 5 p.m., followed by a regular business meeting at 5:30 p.m. and the program at 6 p.m. Refreshments include drinks, which are provided, and food brought in to share by members.

Speakers

Lori Brightwell, ZHA member and Zephyrhills City Library Director, was our speaker in August. She shared with us the many activities her staff is involved in and how successful they’ve been. The summer childrens programs have wrapped up now, but there are many ongoing activities for adults and kids continuing on. She also told us of the newly formed “Friends of the Library” group, and invited those of us who were interested to join. Lori is doing a great job, and it was a true pleasure to have her as a speaker!

Our speaker for the September meeting will be another former student of mine, Julia Richards. My first encounter with the adult Julia came two years ago, when my grandson was playing football for the Zephyrhills Athletic League. I now see her on a regular basis, since she is the owner/operator of The Gentleman’s Quarters, an upscale mens grooming salon on 5th Avenue, where Scotty’s used to be. I’ve mentioned to many of you how impressed I am with this place, and I’ve shared my surprise at how successful she has been. I’ve asked Julia to talk about her upbringing in our community, but I have also asked her to share her vision and confidence in making this establishment a reality. I hope you will join us. I know it will be an enjoyable time.

Tuesday, September 24th, 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.

Jeff Miller
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.
Current Membership

Raymond Alvarez  Duke Chadwell  Beverly Holmes  Andrew Nagy  Mary Ann Sanders
Darlene Bamberger  Vera Chenkin  Louie Holt  Margie Partain  Tim Sanders
Beverly Barnett  Margaret Cherry  Thea Johnson  Hal Perdew  Linda Sante
Elaine Benjamin  Maryhelen Clague  James Kaylor  Shirley Pillow  James Schultz
Art Besinger  Jeffrey Cook  Jean Kaylor  Anna Poe  Margaret Seppanen
John Bolender  Carolyn Dean  Connie Kirkland  Bob & Penny Porter  Steve Spina
Anna Boone  Irene Dobson  Bill Kustes  Jerry Pricher  Al Stone
George Boone  Vicki Elkins  Jackie Lindsey  Carol Rehrig  Patty Thompson
Lori Brightwell  Greg First  Terry Lindsey  Rodney Rehrig  Steve Turner
Cleereen Brunty  Gail Geiger  Anne Mester  Sharon Reisman  Terry Turner
Elsie Burgess  Nathan Geiger  Jeff Miller  Jim Ryals  Dave Walters
Kathy Burnside  Polly Gill  Barb & Rick Moore  Tammy Kay Ryman  Emrie Wise
Rosemary Carrigg  Betty Hall  Dr. Rick Moore  Kim Sanders  Madonna Wise

Executive Board
President .......... Jerry Pricher
Vice President .... Rod Rehrig
Secretary .......... Anna Boone
Treasurer .......... Andrew Nagy

Board Members
Cleereen Brunty
Polly Gill
Beverly Holmes
Patty Thompson

Committees
Hospitality .......... Cleereen Brunty
Refreshments ........ Polly Gill
Newsletter .......... Jerry Pricher
Programs .......... Cleereen Brunty
Scholarship .......... Louie Holt
Archivist .......... Louie Holt
Depot Museum .......... Carolyn Dean
Jeffries House .......... Cleereen Brunty
Fundraisers .......... Patty Thompson

Boardwalk Boosters
Carolyn Dean
Maryhelen Clague
Greg First
Bill Kustes
Jackie & Terry Lindsey
Andrew Nagy
Rod & Carol Rehrig
Margaret Seppanen
James Schultz

Scholarship Boosters
Ray Alvarez
Elsie Burgess
Maryhelen Clague
Carolyn Dean
Greg First
Thea Johnson
Bill Kustes
Dr. Richard Moore
Andrew Nagy
Anna Poe
Jerry Pricher
Linda Sante
Margaret Seppanen
James Schultz

Editor: Jerry Pricher, 5138 20th Street, Zephyrhills, FL 33542
Phone: 813-788-2547  email: jerry@pricher.net
TRILACOOCHEE

Trilacoochee is so named because it is located between Trilby and Lacoochee.

The phrase Trilacoochee Gardens appears in the Dade City Banner beginning in 1926.

On Feb. 25, 1927, the Banner reported that vol. 1, no. 1 of the Trilacoochee Methodist, edited by Rev. H. L. Graybeal, pastor of the Methodist churches in Trilby and Lacoochee, has been published.

On June 29, 1928, the Banner reported, “G. E. Beach has opened a garage and service station located on the main road between Trilby and Lacoochee, to be known as the Trilacoochee Garage and Service Station.”

On April 15, 1932, the Banner carried the headline, “Candidates to Speak at Trilacoochee Tomorrow.” This is first instance we have seen in the Banner of Trilacoochee as a place name.

The earliest spelling of Trilacoochee we have seen in the Banner is in 1938. In the Dade City Banner of Sept. 13, 1940, it is spelled Trilacoochee. (The name is still spelled Trilacoochee on published maps and lists of town names, but it is now usually spelled Trilacoochee locally.)

The Causeys

Photo courtesy of Wanda Causey Brown Russell

This article originally appeared on the EPHS web site. It was written by Theresa Osborn Smith and edited by Wanda Causey Brown Russell.

Charles Aaron and Lucy Addeline "Addie" Rowlett Causey settled in Trilacoochee in late 1926. They were accompanied by their son, Roy and her brother Henry along with a friend by the name of Frank. The group left Tennessee with the plans to join other brothers of Aunt Addie and Uncle Henry in Lakeland. Like many others of that time, they left their home to find work. They encountered many problems on their trip south and made several stops to repair their car. They had stopped in Trilacoochee to repair a flat tire when they heard that Cummer and Sons were hiring at the mill in Lacoochee. And so that is how the Causeys became members of this community. Henry Rowlett settled in Trilby and my grandmother, Theresa "Merce" Rowlett Osborn and her family joined them later.
Theresa "Merce" Rowlett Osborn and her family joined them later.

Charles or Charlie as he was known, started a garage, in a two-story building facing 575. The family lived upstairs above the garage. Because the top floor would not support the chains required for pulling motors out of cars in order to work on them, he had a new garage built at the corner of 575 and US 301. The downstairs was then converted to living space. The two-story building was later torn down with a new home built for Aunt Addie. The garage is currently owned and operated by Dwight Tadlock along with a used car lot.

The Cafe at Trilacoochee

Bowman’s Trilacoochee Restaurant

This article originally appeared on the EPHS web site. It was written by Theresa Osborn Smith and edited by Mary Carmen Andreu Smock.

The cafe at Trilacoochee was a familiar landmark at the crossroads of US 301 and CR 575 in the early 40s, 50s and 60s. It was located halfway between Trilby and Lacochee. I don't remember eating in the cafe but I remember the Andreu family who owned it during the 40s and 50s.

Vasco "Big Boy" Andreu and his wife Mary Anne Acosta, had two daughters, Mary Carmen and Mildred. They purchased the cafe in 1940/41 from Henry Hancock, the father of Martha Jewell Hancock May (C.D. May) and Helen Hancock Walters (Dr. W. H. Walters).

Mr. Andreu worked for Cummer and Sons at their other mill sites and followed them when they started the mill at Lacochee. He was a train engineer and worked with Mr. Philip Mickler.

Mrs. Andreu ran the restaurant, cooking along with her mother-in-law Mary Magdaline "Mamie" or "Ma" as she was commonly called, and Mae Gideons (my maternal grandmother). Other workers in the restaurant included Bessie Robbins, Mildred Polk Hartzog and Etta Stanley.
Mary Carmen remembers that her grandmother, Mrs. Mamie Andreu, would take her and her sister to Mr. Harvey's chicken farm, Feather Hills Farms on Mt. Zion Road west of Dade City, to purchase little yellow chicks. Mrs. Mamie would then raise those biddies to butcher for meals at the restaurant. She was very proud that her chickens never touched the ground and felt that her chickens were the cleanest in the area. Many Dade City residents traveled to the “Crossroads” on Sunday after church to have fried chicken. Mrs. Mamie was also famous for her chicken and dumplings.

Mr. Andreu died in 1962 at the age of 60; Mrs. Andreu died in 1966 at the age of 64. They are both buried in the Dade City cemetery.

The Andreu family lived in the restaurant which was "L" shaped. The restrooms were outside at the end of a boardwalk on the west side of the building with access from the restaurant.

On the property was a building that contained two cabins. These cabins were mainly used by traveling salesmen. They were not advertised as a "motel". When Mr. Andreu's father, Newton Elred "Ba", passed away, the building was converted into a house for his mother. When the property was sold, the front part of the house was moved to Florida Avenue in Dade City which is still standing today.

Mary Carmen's son and her sister Mildred's first two children were born in their grandmother's house.

The Andreus sold the restaurant to Hassell "Red" and Ruth "Trudy" Bowman in the early 50s. The Bowman's had two sons, Hassell, Jr. "Freddie" and Albert. They were from Maryland and we thought they talked funny. And to top it off, they wore SHORTS. No boy in our area would be caught dead wearing shorts, they were for sissies. However, these boys did become part of our neighborhood and very close friends of our family. My brothers and I spent many hours with Freddie and Albert, playing Monopoly when we were young, then riding around in Freddie's green Dodge convertible when we were teenagers. Freddie had to have that top down, even if it was 40 degrees. He just rolled up the windows and turned the heater on full blast. And no one can forget the taste of Red Bowman's hamburgers. Oh, the memories of going to sleep listening to the jukebox playing songs like "Down Yonder", "Cold Cold Heart", and "I Can't Stop Loving You", just to name a few.

I was saddened when they tore down the old cafe/bus station and built a new one further back from the corner as it seemed to take the heart out of Trilacoochee for me. The same people were still there but a special place with many memories was no longer standing.

One memory in particular still remains so vivid to me. Several of us would catch the school bus at the cafe to be bussed to Dade City. One morning a circus truck was parked in front of the bus station where we were waiting for the bus. Imagine our surprise when we saw the men unload an elephant out of the back of that truck. We all looked at each other wondering where do we go from here? The cafe was closed so we couldn't go inside; we must have looked like a bunch of chickens scurrying around, trying to find a place to go. I don't remember all the details after that but I think they used the elephant to push the truck to get it started as I do remember the elephant pushing the truck forward. That was our first encounter with a major wild animal, a far cry from a raccoon or possum.
The August Business Meeting was called to order by President Jerry Pricher at 5:30 P.M. opening with the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes from the June 4 Meeting were read by the Secretary with a motion to approve made by Rod Rehrig, seconded by Al Stone, and agreed to by the meeting.

The Treasurer’s Report for June and July was given by our Treasurer, Andy Nagy. A motion to approve the Report was made by Al Stone, seconded by Terry Lindsey and accepted by the group.

There were no new members or guests tonight.

Old Business: As to Fundraisers, Patty Thompson said the Scholarship dinner at Sergio’s will be on September 24, the fourth Tuesday since Sergio’s will be closed on the third Tuesday.

Jerry brought up the Christmas in July party and reported that a good time was had by all. A tasty meal was catered by Gail Fisher and there was a brief discussion of possibly using her services in December for our annual Christmas party. This will be discussed further at a future meeting.

Other Old Business: There was none.

New Business: Jerry mentioned that our newsletter is printed at Stewart Middle School and by previous agreement, the Association has been giving them $300 or has purchased something of equal value for the school, therefore a $300 check has been signed by the Treasurer, co-signed by the Secretary and will be given to the school.

Al Stone asked if it is necessary to send a hardcopy of the newsletter to those of us getting it via email. Clereen will send an email out to see who needs or wants a hardcopy.

Jerry brought up the proposed changes to the by-laws and passed out copies of same. The sentence will be struck from Article IV. Section 1 regarding the 2-year limit to time officers serve. Also, Article V regarding committees: Addition of “Fundraising” with deletion of budget and finance committee, addition of “Jeffries House” pertaining to docent duties, deletion of “education” from Article V. paragraph e., deletion of “passed by the Board of Directors and subject to approval by the membership” regarding decisions by the Scholarship committee, add “the first senior Scholarship award will be titled the Rosemary Trottman Scholarship,” and deletion of the publicity committee sentence.

Per the by-laws, the changes will not be voted on until next month.

Ray Alvarez remarked that he likes to get a hardcopy of the newsletter to put out at the Betmar clubhouse.

Other New Business: Ron Oakley has asked Rod to sell raffle tickets at $20 each for a music program, Cowboy Troy in Concert with a dinner, which will be on September 19 at Dan Cannon Auditorium. The drawing is to win 2 tickets. and donations are also welcome. Many organizations will benefit including Sunrise of Pasco, Boys & Girls Club of LaCoochee, Thomas Promise as well as others.

Other New Business: None

Since this is a No Fundraiser month, we will go out for dinner. Fresh Garden Café was chosen for August 16 at 4 P.M. Terry stated that since it is a Friday, an “all you can eat fish day” and they are very packed. We may be unable to make reservations. Clereen will check to see if we need to go on Thursday instead.

Al Stone announced that the Daughters of the American Revolution are conducting open house tours for a small fee.

Rod made a motion for adjournment, seconded by Al and agreed to by the meeting.

The Regular Business Meeting ended at 5:58 P.M.

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