



THE GULFPORT HISTORIAN

Volume 8

NEWSLETTER OF THE GULFPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

March 1985

ATTENTION!! ATTENTION!!

Our next meeting will be held Monday, March 11, 1985 at 7:30 PM at the Museum, 28th Avenue and 53rd Street, South. You will hear excerpts from some of our writers. I know you will enjoy learning of the progress being made on our book.

Social hour and refreshments will follow.

NO OTHER NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WILL BE SENT!

Dear Friends:

I usually try to use this opportunity to address you to tell you of the progress and activities that could give you pride and joy in belonging to this organization.

However, I must now tell you with the increased cost of maintaining a building and paying insurance, membership dues and white elephant sales are insufficient to pay our bills. Our treasury is almost depleted.

On May 4th we will have a "White Elephant Sale" and a "Bake Sale" in conjunction with Nostalgia Day. Any contribution you can make is sorely needed.

Any activity that you can think of to raise money, that you would be willing to head, would be welcome. I will give you every aid in forming a committee to help you.

Council voted to purchase \$3,000 worth of History books. That is a big help. THANK YOU COUNCIL.

Sincerely your,

Catherine A. Hickman, President

LAST CALL

Speaking for the Editorial Committee, let me remind you that if you want to share information with us about your life in Gulfport, tell us at once. Writers are completing their assignments now and we are assembling script and pictures and titling our chapters. Our publication date is October, to help celebrate GALA DAYS of our city's 75th anniversary. Again, we thank everyone who by telling us their memories, by typing tapes and other interviews and by giving us pictures will make this project possible.

Frances Purdy, Chairman

THE GULFPORT HISTORIAN

Official Newsletter of the Gulfport Historical Society. Distributed free to Society Members, Gulfport City Officials and all others interested.

Editor: Edward J. Maloney
3102 57 St., So.
Gulfport, Fla. 33707

GULFPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

An educational, voluntary, non-profit organization whose purposes are to collect, preserve, and to publish the history of Gulfport and the surrounding area.

Dues are: Individual, \$5. per year; Family \$10. per year; Life \$50.

Officers: (Terms expire 6/30/85)
President, Catherine A. Hickman
Vice-President, Genevieve Smith
Secretary, Ruby Walker
Treasurer, Doris Brown
Directors: (Terms expire 6/30/86)
Nathan White
Mary Atkinson
Judith Ryerson

Address of the Society
3102 57th St., South
Gulfport, Florida 33707

From the Editor

The Editor and contributing members of THE GULFPORT HISTORIAN shall strive to preserve the dignity and integrity of the Newsletter through its appearance and published material.

We welcome suggestions and input from Members and Friends. News items and brief articles of historic local interest are needed. The content should in every way reflect the objectives of the Gulfport Historical Society.

Edward J. Maloney

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Back in the March, 1984 issue we asked about the location of the Disston Cemetery. Members, Helen Ross, Carl Norberg, Lum and Mary Atkinson, by studies and "on the site" inspections, have shown that today's Glenn Oak Cemetery is almost certainly that Disston City Cemetery. Our members found the headstones of the first settler, James Barnett and his wife Rebecca Slaughter Barnett, and some others associated with Disston City. Glen Oak Cemetery is located between Lakeview and Tangerine on Auburn Street (about 26th Street, So.) and is now the property of the St. Jude United Holiness Church.

NEW QUESTIONS

I recently acquired a picture postcard showing a thatched roof cabana with a lot of people picnicking and strolling on the beach.

The title on the card reads, "Cabana Shelter on Boca Ceiga Bay, Gulfport Florida"

Q.1 Where was this shelter located?

Q.2 During what years did it exist?

Contact Bill Simonds, 345-8938, if you have any information or memories of this cabana.

Copies of the Sea Breeze (all 17) have been printed and bound, and can be purchased for \$10. Many items of interest have also been included. If you are interested in buying a copy call:

Willard B. Simonds 345-7938 or
Catherine Hickman 321-7095

FLASH!! FLASH!!

We have decided on our printer ----- Precision Litho Services of St. Petersburg. We will start delivering copy to them the week of March 11th.

WRITERS DON'T DELAY GET YOUR MATERIAL IN NOW.

TROLLEY FUNNIES

In 1919 the private company which had built the St. Petersburg trolley system went into bankruptcy and the city had to take over to keep service going. The Superintendent of the power plant at that time wrote (much later)

"As was usual in such a decision the "city fathers" had to make an inspection of the property. - - Part of that inspection included an evening ride in an open car to Gulfport, during which a violent lightening storm caused our rotary converter (only source of power to the trolleys) to flash over. This necessitated a through cleaning of the comutator and brush holders before resuming service. (Probably took a couple of hours) In the meantime that open car stood still somewhere out on Tangerine with the City officials and other free riders fighting the rain and mosquitoes. Well you can imagine what the "Times" comments read like the the following morning."

DEPRESSION DAYS

The great national depression of the early 1930's hit hard in Gulfport. Neither out-of-work homeowners nor bankrupt development companies could pay their taxes or street paving assessments. Some of the actions taken by City Council to try to make ends meet were: (From City Council minutes)

- Aug. 19, 1930 - Employees to take part of their pay, get rest later.
- Nov. 4, 1930 - Disconnect certain street lights.
- Mar. 3, 1931 - All lighting on Shuffleboard Court, Chase Park and Waterfront Park to be cut out.
- May 17, 1933 - Salaries of Police Chief and special school officer abolished. All town officials to forgo their salaries
- June 17, 1933 - All city telephones to be disconnected except City Hall, Fire and Police Departments
- June 29, 1933 - To ask Florida Emergency Relief Administration to pay for repairs to town equipment. Town is without funds to pay
- Jan. 16, 1934 - To issue scrip for (employees) salaries and to accept it for taxes

Starting in 1935 conditions began to improve and by 1940 the town was again in a stable financial condition.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR OWN NAME AND ADDRESS CAREFULLY

If an error is found, or if an apartment or lot number should be added, please notify the EDITOR

MEMBERSHIPS PAID TO JUNE 1985

Anderson, Ernest, 5505 Gulfport Blvd.	33707
Anderson, Nina, 1701 51st Street, So.	33707
Atkinson, G. L. & Mary, 2625 58th Street, South	33707
Belting, Mr. & Mrs. George, 6020 Shore Blvd. #305	33707
Beum, R. T. & Jean, 3589 38th Ave., South	33711
Brajcki, Grace, 2819 52nd Street, South	33707
Brooks, Sydney, 2644 49th Street, South	33711
Brooks, Walter & Margaret 5118 29th Avenue, South	33707
Brown, Charles & Doris, 5044 27th Avenue, South	33707
Bozeman, Richard (Life member) 3049 51st Street, South	33707

MEMBERSHIP LIST CONTINUED

Camp, Colleen	726 60th Street, South	33707
Chambers, Gary,	4450 40th Avenue, North	3371
Conron, Agnes,	1513 60th Street, South	3370
Cook, Jan	5019 27th Avenue, South	33707
Cordasco, Lois	1913 59th Street, South	33707
Davis, Mrs. L. L.	2807 Beach Blvd., South	33707
Drankwalter, Grace	2714 53rd Street, South	33707
Easter, Robert & Chris	5730 15th Avenue, South	33707
Evans, Helen	5940 30th Avenue, South Apt G-109	33707
Hickman, Keith & Catherine,	5929 Gulfport Blvd.,	33707
Hollis, Jacqueline S.	924 55th Street, South #236	33707
Hornsleth, Poul & April (Life Members)	2846 Skimmer Point Dr.	33707
Howard, Mary	6075 Shore Blvd. #229	33707
Hudsom, Rose Ada	5310 21st Avenue, South	33707
Hurst, Bill (Life Member)	5427 Shore Blvd.	33707
Krebser, Mr. & Mrs. Henry,	4806 Coronado Way South	33707
Lewis, Jean	5826 17th Avenue, South	33707
Manger, E.V. Sky Harbor #6D	7200 34th Street, South	33711
Marcoux, Jeanne	3108 56th Street, South	33707
Mathews, Thelma	3102 Dupont Street, South	33707
Michaelson, Mike & Helen	2519 Beach Blvd., South	33707
Morris, Edna Webb	197 Mobile Avenue Altamonte Springs	32714
McMannis, William H.	One Beach Drive South #1207	33701
Nash, Kenneth & Polly	2001 68th Avenue, South	33712
Nelson, Mrs. Myrtle	Spruce Creeek, Pa.	16683
Onweller, Jaunita Mann (Life Member)	2936 27 Avenue, North	33713
Payne, Mr. & Mrs. George	2531 56th Street, South	33707
Perrault, Helen	3101 56th Street, South	3370
Prigun, George	2938 Beach Blvd	33707
Purdy, Frances	3010 59th Street, South Apt 203	33707
Resig, Stephen	2865 51st Street, South Villa Roble #1B	33707
Routman, Arthur & Emily	2813 48th Street, South	33711
Roberts, Rose	4125 Park Street, North	33711
Ross, Helen	6215 11th Avenue, South	33707
Ryerson, Judy	5855 27th Avenue, South	33707
Rossmann, Elsie	840 65th Street, South	33707
Schearer, Howard & Marion	5302 28th Avenue, South	33707
Schnsidt, Johanna	5302 11 Avenue, South	33707
Shiran, Steve & Martha	6721 14th Street, North #234	33702
Simonds, Willard & Anita	6218 10th Avenue, South	33707
Slauter, Mr & Mrs. Cecil & Irving Slauter,	1325 Dempsey Rd. Booksville	33512
Smith, Richard & Genevive	1613 Gray Street, South	33707
Stack, William	Hotel Les Marquis 12 E. 31st Street New York, N.Y.	10016
Stoddard, C. W.	593 Midway Park Glen Ellyn, IL.	60137
Tamm, Stella	5614 12 Avenue, South	33707
Taylor, Marilyn	2813 57th Street, South	33707
Thanos, Gust. J.	3107 57th Street, South	33707
Thomes, Charles & Rose	5601 5 Avenue, North	33710
Walker, Ruby	2614 58th Street, South	33707
Webb, Joseph (Life Member)	189 Mobile Ave. Altamonte Springs	32714
Welch, Virginia Easter (Life Member)	5730 28th Avenue, South	33707
White, Harriet Benn (Life Member)	2915 50 Street, South	33707
Williams, Bert	2609 52nd Street, South	33707
Wood, Fred & Emma	5413 21st Avenue, South	33707