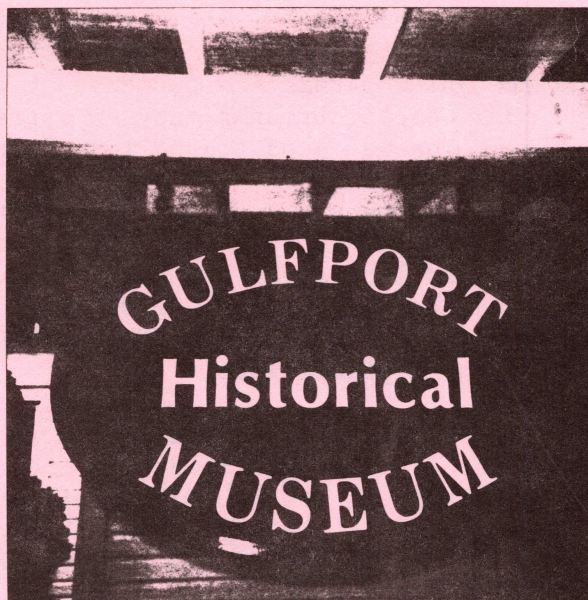


THE GULFPORT HISTORIAN

VOLUME 30

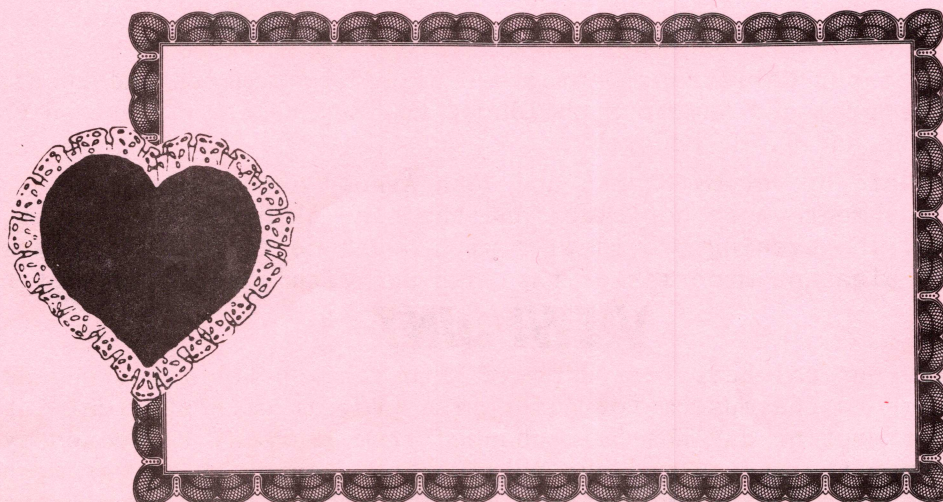
NEWSLETTER OF THE GULFPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

January 1990



A TOUCH OF CLASS...new paint, porch floor, and sign.

THE GULFPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 5152
Gulfport, FL 33737



Presidential Plums

Could it possibly be Thanksgiving in January? Seems so as there are so very many reasons to take pause and be grateful. Our Gulfport Historical Society has been richly blessed by the City furnishing our museum's new porch roof and sun-filming the lower half of the building's windows (to protect our oldies but goodies) and repairing the lattice siding on the east end of the porch. Thanks to Mayor Williams for authorizing this work. Wonderful and useful display boards have been transferred to the Museum from the Library. We appreciate the Library's gift and the City for suggesting us as the recipient of these soon-to-be filled boards. The "Friends of the Library" sold us their 100 cup coffee urn at a most reasonable price. We thank them for their generosity and inaugurated this new purchase at our Old Fashioned Holiday celebration. The cold weather brought many an appreciative coffee drinker to our perking brew which was good to the last drop.

Thank yous are in order to all those who coordinated efforts to see our dream of a handsome professional sign become a reality. Cudos go to Lois Cordasco for recommending and collaborating with craftsman Danny Kurant and to everyone who supported the Historical Society with dues, calendars, books and notecard purchases. Without a healthy treasury, we could not have this attractive addition to our special place.

I also thank Colleen Camp and Helen Evans for happily agreeing to serve on this year's nominating committee. The third member of the committee will be elected by the members-at-large at the Feb. 7th meeting.

We are grateful for the popularity of all of our publications. Our Story of Gulfport continues to be a best seller. The newly printed boxed notecards, featuring our museum as depicted by artist and GHS member Howard Shearer, have been received with much enthusiasm. Only 50 (of 1000) 1990 Gulfport Calendars remain. You can still find them for sale at the Museum, the Library and at Hickman Realty. If you need home delivery of this great value (\$2.00), just call 343-3683. Because of the support for these GHS publications, Anita Simonds is one smiling "Fundification" chairperson.

As you can see the Society has been fortunate to have started the new year optimistically due to the dedication and generosity of many people. With all the turmoil and tragedy that surrounds us, we are lucky to be able to witness the possibilities and hope of a true community.

Fran Purdy

Program Chair Pronouncements

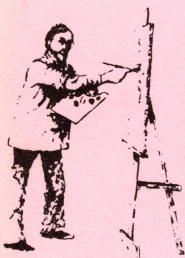
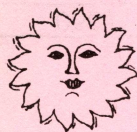
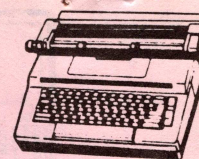
Every seat at our Christmas meeting was filled by members and guests who heard the program and humorous, childhood holiday tales of Colleen Camp, Anatole Glenn and T. M. McCarthy.

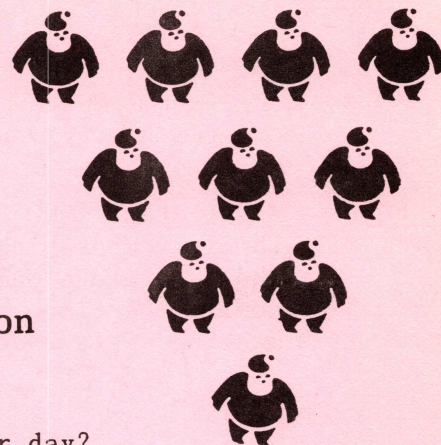
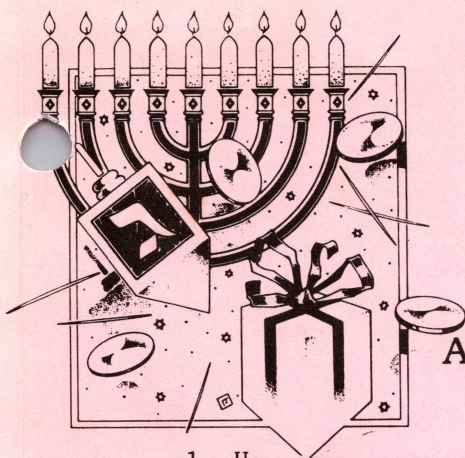
Christmas music by Jeremy Hummer and John Arnold accompanied our movement to the refreshments where hot cider and the glow of Hanukkah candles warmed our insides. The evening provided us with a chance to ring in this special season with pleasant memories of the past and with good friends of the present.

VIEWPOINT

Please mark your calendar for our next gathering on Feb 7th (Wednesday) at 7:30 PM. Come to the museum for a surprise program of historical interest. Remember our meeting day has been changed from Thursday to Wednesday. Come browse through the museum and our publications, enjoy the program, partake in refreshments and dialogue that will follow the evening's presentation.

Allean Davis
Program Chairperson





Annual Old Fashioned Holiday Celebration

Old Fashioned Holiday Quiz

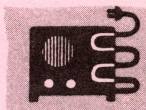
1. How many cups of coffee were poured on that cold December day?
2. How many hot dogs were sold by Head Cowboy Tom Morrison, Chief Chef Les McEwan and other men from the Methodist Church?
3. How many people signed the museum's guest book on Dec. 10th?
(answers on last page)

As cold as it was, we had a fine turn out from beginning to end. The success of the day was due in large measure to: the Boca Ciega Brownies and Junior Troup 1012 who raised the colors at noon, to Mayor Williams, Councilman Mike Yates, Police Chief Jim Sewell for cutting the traditional cake, to the donors of the quilts that beautifully decorated our museum, to Santa Dave Fleischer Claus, to our Treasurer Bob Easter for emceeing the day (and properly initiating our new P.A. system), to Kay Higgins our greeter, to Frances Osgood our publication salesperson, to all the artists who filled our sidewalks with their lovely work, to the Methodist church men for their refreshments, to the entertainers who graced our Scout Hall with their talents, to Elsie Miskovic our inimitable pianist, and to the Boy Scouts for closing the day with a bonfire and roasted marshmallows.

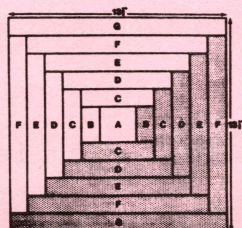
To the Sponsors - the Gulfport Chamber of Commerce, the City of Gulfport and the Gulfport Historical Society a special thank you to those members who contributed so much of their time and energy to make the day a most memorable one. Of those from the GHS, Lois Cordasco and Fran Purdy (both coordinated much of the effort) deserve a special salute.

Museum *Musings*

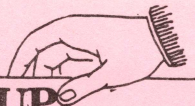
Editor



From all comments, our Quilt Exhibit was a big hit. We featured fourteen quilts that brought splendid color and design to the museum. We were not without variety: Dick Bullis loaned his Sunburst and Logcabin quilts, Esther Shafer her 8-pointed star, Dresden Plate, 9-Patch and Drunken Path quilts and Donna Cordasco for her Grandmother's fan quilt. Lois Cordasco and Phyllis Plotnick also loaned quilts whose design names are unknown. The Sunbonnet Sue quilt cover was given to the museum by Marion Shearer. The display board filled with information and pictures was collated by Lois. Hours of research went into this exhibit from which, thanks to Lois, we all benefited.



Jan Cook
Curator



SIGN UP

MEMBERSHIP MOTIONS

As we start 1990, our roll is comprised of 130 individual, 6 organization and 34 family memberships. Let the numbers rise with historically-minded individuals who care about Gulfport. Many of you have not been current with your dues and now is the time. Why not send your check today or bring it to the February meeting? Better yet, why not become a life member?

Dick Bullis
Membership Chairperson

BOOK NOTES

The Black Experience: A Guide to Afro-American Resources in the Florida State Archives documents the lives and culture of black Floridians from the antebellum period to the present. Included in the manuscript collections of the Archives are slave books, bills of sale for slaves, church membership rosters, marriage records and documents from The Black Teachers Association. The photographic collection includes pictures of Afro-Americans who served in state and local government and in various agricultural industries. Files relating to the civil rights movement, segregation, desegregation, the Black Conservation Corps Camps of the 1930's, lynchings, busing, Florida A & M University, affirmative action riots and the Black Caucus are available. The Black Experience was published by the Florida Department of State, Division of Library and Information Services, Bureau of Archives and Records Management, Tallahassee.

HISTORY NEWS



The Florida Historical Society has in the past year relocated its offices to the fifth floor of the USF Library in Tampa. Open Monday through Friday, from 8AM to 5PM, the Society has a toll-free number available within the state of Florida: 1-800-221-5106.

"Book Notes" and "History News" excerpted from the Florida Historical Quarterly, January 1989.



Quiz Answers



1. 100

2. 500

3. 189 (only a fraction of those touring the museum that day)

QUOTES OF NOTE

World peace through non-violent means is neither absurd nor unattainable...All other methods have failed thus we must begin anew.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

We can never go back again, that much is certain.

Daphne DuMaurier

