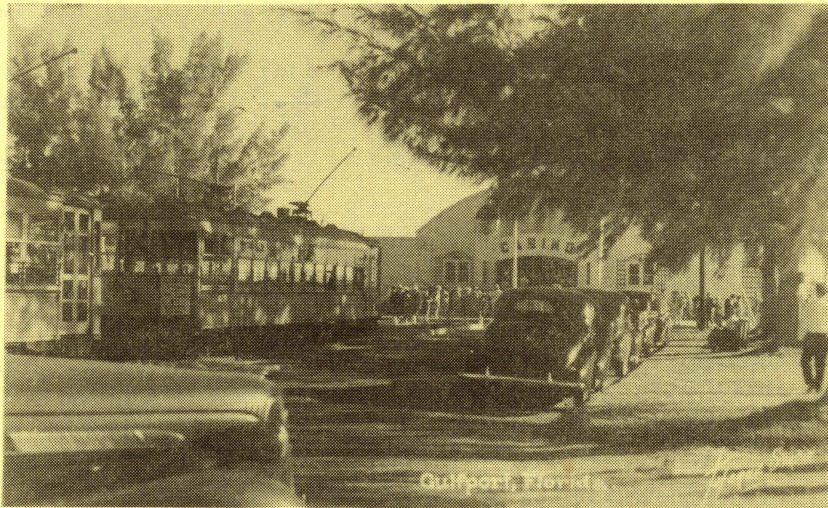


THE GULFPORT HISTORIAN

VOLUME 32 NEWSLETTER OF THE GULFPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY SEPTEMBER 1990



A preview of a photograph from our 1991 GULFPORT CALENDAR.
Be the first on your block to get one. On sale October 11.

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

Miss Frances Purdy
3010 59th Street S. #203
Gulfport, FL 33707



A PREVIEW FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Welcome back to the Fall in Florida, when the weather permits the resumption of activity without the fear of heatstroke. 1990-1991 promises to be an exceptional year for the Gulfport Historical Society. The GHS is well into its 10th year. It is most appropriate for us to honor our founder and 1st president, Catherine A. Hickman (1981-85) and our charter members. According to the Society's minutes, the following individuals attended the first meeting held June 8, 1981:

Mr. & Mrs. Larry Andres

Mary Atkinson

Mr. & Mrs. Keith Hickman

Audrey Perfater *FRANCIS PURDY*

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Perry

Judy Ryerson

~~Mrs.~~ & Mrs. Bill Simonds

Stella Tamm

Ruby Walker, Secretary Protem

At the 2nd meeting held on June 22, 1981, in addition to the above were:

John Adams (reporter from "The Independent"), Val Dutcher, Genevieve Smith and Mrs. Nelson.

These seventeen people who met to organize a local historical group had vision and determination. They turned a dream into a reality. To these, our Charter members, we owe our gratitude.

Our Society is well-known for its publications which include Our Story of Gulfport, Florida (printed in 1985), "The Gulfport Historian" (our bi-monthly newsletter), The Gulfport Calendar (4th edition goes on sale October 11), and our museum notepaper (beautifully designed by member Howard Shearer).

Many releases about the GHS have been prepared for the "Gulfport Gabber" and "St. Petersburg Times". Countless letters of inquiry about historical facts relating to Gulfport have been received from far and wide and, in turn, answered.



We initiated our annual Nostalgia Day (April 24, 1982) and our Old Fashioned Holiday (December 6, 1987) with the support of city council and with the help of the Chamber of Commerce. Plans are developing for a celebration of Gulfport's 80th birthday. It will be held on October 13, 1990 at Chase Park from 10 AM to 5 PM. Mike Bonfield, Director of Parks and Recreation, is coordinating the effort. The GHS will prepare special exhibits at the museum and kick off the public sale of our calendar. The Methodist men will continue their support by selling hot dogs and sodas. The Chamber of Commerce will also be involved in the birthday party. Cooperation with community groups, especially in their service activities, is one of our Society's stated objectives. Our involvement with other organizations has strengthened us in many ways. What is sown in good faith is reaped with good harvest. I look forward to seeing you as our new GHS year begins on October 11th. Together we can plant new seeds to further enrich our special city.

Fran Purdy

9

MEMBERSHIP DATA

It is with regret that I report a decrease in our membership. This summer the files were pulled and a new roster was typed. Reviewing the files, I found a few members did not keep their dues current. I took the time to send a postcard to those individuals but received little response. So as of August 1990, we have 133 members whereas we had 166 members as of our last full report in March 1989. I'd like to see many new people join the Society and always welcome your suggestions for increasing our ranks.

Dick Bullis
Membership Chairperson

OCTOBER 11 * Program: A Trip Into The Past

WHEN: Oct. 12, 1910. The day prior to the election that put "Gulfport" on the map.

WHERE: Mrs. Campbell's parlor.

WHY: Mrs. Katz just arrived in Disston City with her family. Mrs. Campbell has invited this new resident to her home to tell her what she needs to know about her new community. Mrs. Campbell has lived in this Boca Ciega Bay village for 20 years and is considered the official "Welcome Wagon" greeter.

HOW: Dressed in early 1900's garb, Judy Ryerson as Mrs. Campbell and Phyllis Plotnick as Mrs. Katz will conduct this dialogue that will bring you back to those days of yore when Gulfport was about to be born.

Come at 7:30 PM to the Museum for this brief program, followed by an update of summer GHS progress, refreshments and, of course, time together.

We'd like to especially encourage Charter members, past and present Board members, life members and long-time residents to attend this Gulfport-specific historical program. Your input during our discussion time would be so appreciated.

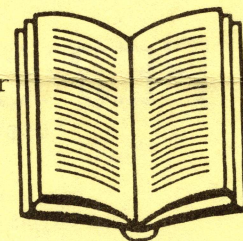
"FUNDIFICATION" FARE

Another prize drawing (last year a beautiful old-fashioned music box was the winner's reward) will be held this year. The new prize and further details are soon to be announced.

An exciting project will be undertaken this fall as a special fundraiser. A unique book will have information about our members and their special old-timey recipes.

Please fill in the form below and bring it to the October 11th meeting or mail it to:

Mrs. Bill Simonds
6218 10th Avenue South
Gulfport, FL 33707



NAME _____
WHEN DID YOU MOVE TO GULFPORT? _____
FROM WHERE DID YOU MOVE? _____
YOUR 1st IMPRESSIONS OF GULFPORT? _____

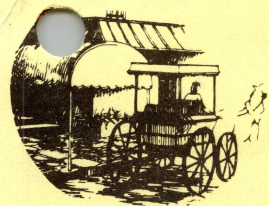
ANY SPECIAL MEMORIES YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE...

OTHER INFORMATION YOU WOULD LIKE INCLUDED ABOUT YOU, YOUR FAMILY, SPECIAL PEOPLE YOU MET IN THE CITY...

FAVORITE OLD-TIMEY RECIPE:

(Please feel free to write on another piece of paper if this form does not provide adequate space.)

Anita Simonds
Fundraising Chairperson



* Note:
change to
Thursday
meetings

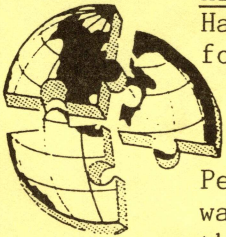




AAA QUIZ

1. The forerunner of the Pennisula Motor Club was called:
 - a. The St. Petersburg Travelers
 - b. The Gulfport - Plant City Automobile Association
 - c. The Tampa Motor Club
2. This club was founded in:
 - a. 1919
 - b. 1938
 - c. 1947
3. At first there were only 97 members. Now there are more than:
 - a. 700,000
 - b. 1,200,000
 - c. 4,500,000

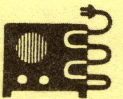
Please see this page for quiz answers. Questions were derived from a new book, Highway to Success ; The Story of The Pennisula Motor Club 1938-1988 by Hampton Dunn, published by Donning Company, Norfolk, Virginia Beach. It sells for \$29.95.



Quotes of Note

Perhaps war is becoming more and more violent and terrible today because it wants to be seen as what it really is, to be seen quite clearly as the terrible thing it really is and not as a mere part of the noise of the radio (or T.V.).

Picard



PEACES



Suppose someone gave a war and nobody came.

From a 1960's poster (author unknown)



===== FLASH FLASH FLASH FLASH FLASH FLASH FLASH FLASH FLASH FLASH =====

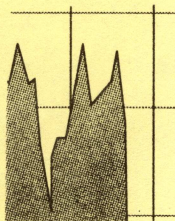
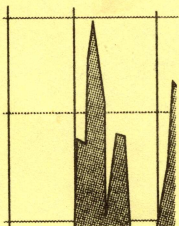
Our story of Gulfport is now on sale at 1/2 price for \$6.00. What a wonderful value, reference, keepsake or birthday/holiday gift.

===== HEADLINE =====

"The 1991 GULFPORT CALENDAR an economic indicator"

\$2

Market analysts are hard pressed to say whether we are heading for a hard-hitting recession or a mild one. The Dow hit its high about a month ago and fell 400 points from that 3,000 mark since. The bears and the bulls are quarreling. The S&L debacle is sickening. Oil prices are going crazy and affecting everything from airfares to plastic products. It's all topsy-turvy. But worry not, our economy has some stability. One thing you can count on... The Gulfport Calendar (for it's 4th straight year) will cost only \$2.00. This is the bargain of the century (or at least the year). Take advantage of this incredible value. On sale at the October 11th meeting.



QUIZ ANSWERS

1. c (The Tampa Motor Club)
2. b (1938)
3. b (1,200,000)