

GULFPORT HISTORIAN

April 1, 1997

Newsletter of the Gulfport Historical Society

GHS OFFICERS

President

Judy Ryerson

Vice President

Cora Kent

Secretary

Roni Masse

Treasurer

Margaret Brooks

Board Members

Tim McCarthy

Louise Love

Priscilla Hoon

Mary Atkinson

Lynne Brown

Museum Curator

Claudette Renney Dean

Acting Curator: Lynne Brown

ARE YOUR DUES DUE?

We wish to thank all those who have updated their dues and welcome our new members. Look closely at your mailing label at the date listed after your name. The date is the year/month that you **LAST** paid your dues. Dues are payable annually. Please feel free to invite a relative or friend, who would be interested, to join and support the Gulfport Historical Society. Membership dues are a major contributing factor in the annual operating budget of the Museum and the Society.

COMING EVENT! MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The Annual Meeting of the Gulfport Historical Society will be held in the Fire Station at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, April 8th. This will be a "Potluck Dinner" so plan now what covered dish speciality you want to bring.

The evening will include: Lynne Brown, speaking on the City of Gulfport's Historic Preservation Board and its function; and the election of the following officers for two year terms, President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Remember to check your membership status. If your dues are not current you can not vote!

TWO SUCCESSFUL VENTURES!

Our first successful event was the 2nd Annual Lantern Tour held on February 13th as almost 60 people joined the tour. The tour featured STETSON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW formerly the ROLYAT HOTEL plus several unique homes. Everyone taking the tour expressed their delight and enjoyment of the buildings and homes they got to tour. A special thank you to Cora Kent for her hard work in

setting up the tour once again, and for having the original inspiration for the tours.

Our second successful event was the 13th Annual Nostalgia Day held on Saturday, March 22nd. It was a beautiful, sunny, warm spring day, that brought out over 500 people to join in the 13th Annual Nostalgia Day celebration at the Gulfport Historical Museum co-sponsored by the City of Gulfport. The day started out with a stirring rendition of our National Anthem by Janelle Graveley as the American Legion, Post #125, raised the American Flag. Mayor Michael Yakes, Vice Mayor Ted Phillips and Councilmember Colleen Camp along with State Representative Lars Hafner helped dedicate the City of Gulfport's first Historical Building Marker on the Museum. As a cannon boomed from the Civil War encampment, the volunteer workers fanned out to help one and all enjoy the day. John Milford began his duties, as morning tour guide, on the Trolley while people began going through the Museum. Inside Margaret Brooks and crew told them of the many exhibits. Frances Purdy and her assistants were busy on the porch signing in guest and selling Trolley tickets as others were manning the tables containing the Flea Market and Memory Tree. Meanwhile Bobby and Louie Worthington were setting up to serve hot dogs and sloppy joes to the hungry visitors (after having been up half the night in the pre-preparations). Charli Taylor and the Girl Scouts provided entertainment for the children with games, face painting and bubbles, while Firefighters explained the mysteries of a fire truck to children of all ages. When Lloyd Johns' 17 piece band began to play, everyone thrilled to the big band sound and rushed into Scout Hall to hear this wonderful group.

A special **THANK YOU** to each and every volunteer that worked so very hard to help make this day the great success that it was and to Mary Atkinson for her many hours and days in the preparation and coordinating of people and events for Nostalgia Day 1997.

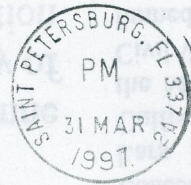
Judy Ryerson, President

THE MEMORY TREE

Order your "Memory Tree" leaves (\$50) and oranges (\$100) today to ensure that the names of your loved ones will be passed on to future generations.

The "Memory Tree" will be a **life size**, 3 dimensional Florida orange tree with engraved metal leaves and oranges on display within the new addition to the Museum.

Gulfport Historical Society
P. O. Box 5152
Gulfport, Florida 33737



Frances Purdy
Life member
3010 59 St. So.
Apt. #203
Gulfport, Fl 33707