

Keys DAR meets

KEY WEST — The Florida Keys Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution held its January meeting at the Holiday Isle Beach Resort and Marina.

Jerry Wilkerson, president of the Historical Society of the Upper Keys, dressed as Florida historical figure Dr. Henry Perrine to greet members and guests at the door.

As guest speaker, Wilkerson related the history of Dr. Perrine, physician to the settlers on Indian Key.

Dr. Perrine was also a tropical plant horticulturist, who introduced seeds and exotic plants to settlers in hopes of developing a new industry.

During the second Seminole War, Indians attacked the doctor's home on Aug. 7, 1840. Dr. Perrine persuaded his family to flee to the turtle kraals, located under the end of the long dock in front of their house. From the kraals they were able to row out to the Navy ships at Tea Table Key, and thus they were saved.

Dr. Perrine remained behind to fight for his land and home. He was massacred by the Indians.

A section of south Dade was named "Perrine" by the early settlers, in memory of the doctor.



Contributed

Jerry Wilkerson, dressed as Dr. Henry Perrine, lectured at the Florida Keys Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution's January luncheon.

Our guest speaker



Margaret Minnett
Jane Fulsom
Mary Harwood