

My Dear Readers:

With this issue comes my appreciation for all the faithful readers who have laughed and cried along with us as we shared YOUR STORIES. The things we have all learned about our unique state, the perspective we have gained through others' eyes, the experiences we have been better able to imagine as a result of their vivid telling, are priceless. Sometimes the realities of the past—the things we are ashamed of—are important to acknowledge in the hope that we will learn from our mistakes. Quite often we are amazed to discover that some of our most well-known community leaders have been mighty controversial for their times, or just plain strange! Yesterday In Florida strives to look behind the curtain in Florida's past, to unveil the threads of fabric that its citizens have woven together. In some respects we are all foreign to each other, having different viewpoints and experiences. Surely our communities and relationships will benefit from their sharing! The vivid descriptions we provide in each of our issues of our nearly-lost natural treasures will stir our readers to be more conscientious in preserving and protecting them for our children, and our children's children.



Mary Lou Merritt

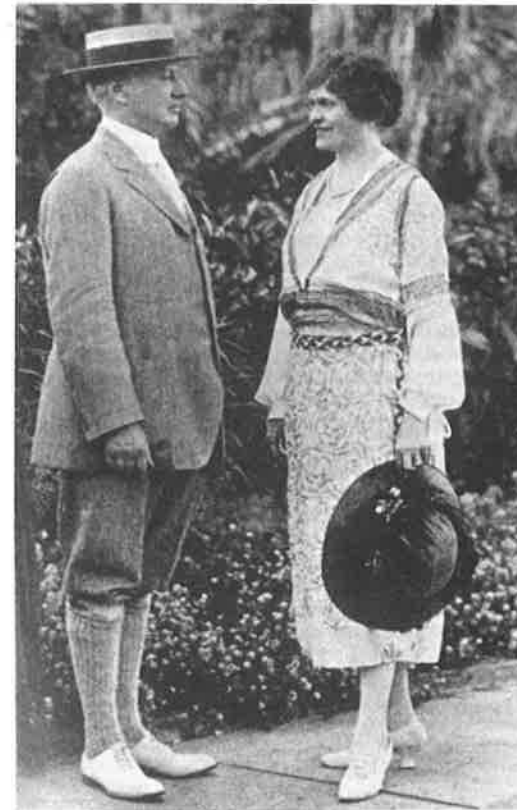
We are committed to making improvements to this publication, and your ideas and opinions are of value. Please take the time to write us or email us! You will notice numerous changes taking place in our style and format with this issue, which we hope will streamline our operations to provide you with a more lasting and professional product.

As always, we rely on our readers to spread the word, to send us photos and histories, articles and clippings for us to share. We don't pretend to be historians and we don't expect you to be. Instead, whether you realize it or not, you are history makers and we are history tellers. Won't you be the one to share something from your personal scrapbook and viewpoint?

In appreciation, I am,

Mary Lou Merritt

Mary Lou Merritt
Publisher



Alfred DuPont entrusted his wife's brother, Ed Ball, with many business deals. That's DuPont (above) with his wife, Jesse Ball DuPont. (Page 5)

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Editor
Grady W. Smith, Jr.

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Chiaki Kinoshita

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Grady W. Smith, Sr.

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My knees are knocking 9

Evangelist Billy Graham told listeners to St. Pete's WSUN that he was so nervous delivering his first radio broadcast that his "knees were knocking." He appealed to them for their prayers.



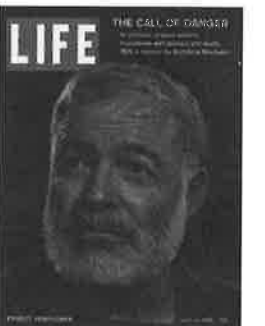
Zora – novelist, folklorist 25

Part of the Harlem Renaissance in the 1920s, Zora Hurston was the most prolific black writer of her time. Newly discovered, Hurston was never able to make a living from her writing and was buried in an unmarked grave.



His spirit still lingers 38

There are those who say the spirit of Ernest Hemingway can still be felt in his Key West studio where he produced some of the most lasting novels of his time. From a penny stuck in poured concrete to six-toed cats and European furnishings, much of the writer remains.



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