



The Historian

The Newsletter of the Boynton Beach Historical Society

Serving Boynton Beach, Ocean Ridge, Manalapan, Gulf Stream, Briny Breezes, Lantana, Hypoluxo, the Village of Golf and all areas of West Boynton, in addition to supporting the preservation of the history of Palm Beach County and the State of Florida as a whole.

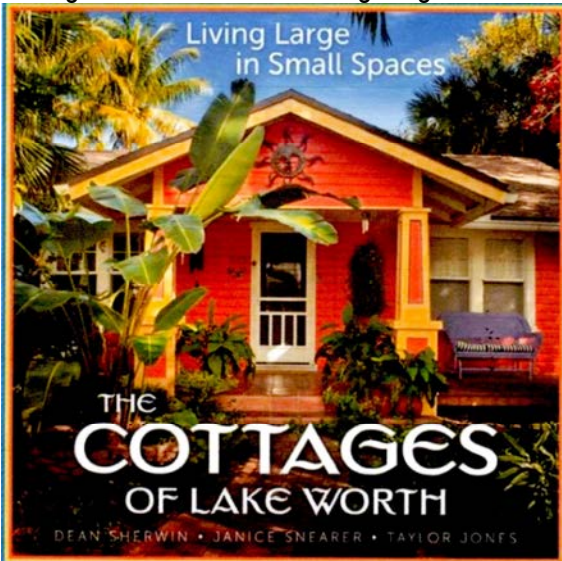


2017 Number 1

January 2017

LIVING LARGE IN SMALL SPACES— The COTTAGES of LAKE WORTH

is the topic for the Monday, January 16, meeting of the Boynton Beach Historical Society. Wes Blackman will take us on a discussion tour of the original, historic cottage structures that remain today and thrive in what has turned out to be an eclectic, artistic and diverse community known as the modern Lake Worth. He will tell us about the history of these “townsites” and how important the train line, a municipal electricity plant and a municipal water service were to the building of the city along with the impact of the land booms and busts, hurricanes and the Great Depression. The new book, “The Cottages of Lake Worth—Living Large in Small Spaces” will also be on sale and available for signing.



Mr. Blackman has more than 30 years' experience in urban planning specializing in economic development and historical preservation projects in both the public and private sectors. His work has included 10 years

spent restoring and converting “Mar-a-Lago” from a private residence to a private club. In 1998 the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation recognized Mr. Blackman for Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Historic Preservation/Rehabilitation for his work at this estate.

WHAT: Discussion of the Cottages of Lake Worth—Living Large in Small Spaces With Les Blackman

WHEN: Monday, January 16, 6:30 pm Meet & Greet--7:00 pm Program Presentation

WHERE: The Boynton Woman's Club
1010 South Federal Highway

ALL PROGRAMS of the BOYNTON BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY ARE FREE and OPEN to the PUBLIC

BOARD OF DIRECTORS--2016-17

OFFICERS [Elected Annually]

President	Randall Gill
1 st Vice President, Programs	Anne Rimler
2 nd Vice President, Membership	Voncile Marshall Smith
Recording Secretary	Ginger Pedersen
Corresponding Secretary	Anne Watts
Treasurer	Frances Tuite McKeral
[Non-Elected]	
Editor, <i>The Historian</i>	Voncile Marshall Smith
Archivist/Facebook/Webmaster	Janet DeVries
Facebook Administrator/Webmaster	Ginger Pedersen

DIRECTORS [3-Year Staggered Terms]

2017	Steven Anton
2017	Barbara Ready
2018	Sheila Rousseau Taylor
2018	Diane Gerino
2019	Tim Bednarz
2019	Judith Merkel Howard

TRUSTEES [3-Year Staggered Terms]

2017	Ginger Pedersen
2017	Sarah Thomas Bollenbacher
2018	Vacant
2018	Vacant
2019	Susan Merkel Shaffer
2019	Virginia Farace

Our website is www.boyntonhistory.org. The e-mail address is boyntonhistory@gmail.com.

Please mail inquiries or information to our local address P.O. Box 12, Boynton Beach, FL 33425. Voncile can be reached at 561-734-5653. Boynton Beach Historical Society number is 561-327-4690. You can also find us on Facebook and Twitter:

www.facebook.com/historicboyntonbeach

[www.twitter.com/@boyntonhistory](https://twitter.com/boyntonhistory)

The Historian is mailed eight times a year—September, October, November, January, February, March, April and May—to all members. No copies are produced in December, June, July and August. Copies from past years are posted on the website.

LIFE MEMBERS

Lenore Benson Raborn Boonstra
Randall and Ann B. Gill
Robert and Christian Oyer Macoviak
Melear Bros., Inc. - Cliff and Rick Melear
Scott and Camilla Smith Richardson
Alexander "Sandy" Simon
Ernest G. Simon
Voncile Marshall Smith
Dorian Beck Trauger
Charlotte Tatum Weaver
Curtis and Nain Weems Weaver

CORPORATE MEMBERS – 2016

Boynton Woman's Club
Delray Awning, Inc., Don and Regina Day
Easy Pay Tire Stores, Inc., Doug Besecker (2017)
Florida Coalition for Preservation
George and Christine Weaver Ternenyi
Marion Weaver Clark Wester
Pearce Doors & Windows Inc., Glen Pearce, President
Scobee-Combs-Bowden Funeral Home & Crematory

CORRECTIONS

In the November issue of *The Historian* we misidentified two individuals. On page 6 are pictures of several members of the Boynton High School class of 1945. The following was designated as Ann Mayberry.



Kathleen Oliver Mayberry [Castagnoli]

After *The Historian* was mailed, we received the following in an e-mail from Society member Richard Castagnoli: "On the current *The Historian* you have a picture of my Mother who was class of 1945, but put Ann Mayberry which is incorrect. Kathleen Oliver Mayberry was in class of 1945 and the photo is her and is in the graduation photo. Center person in second row is her."

We apologize for the error and thank Richard for helping us correct it.

On page 3 of the same issue, under "Memorial Gifts," we mention that gifts funded the rehabilitation and reissue of the 1976 film, "History of Boynton Beach," and say it was narrated by Norman Thomas. Actually the Narrator was Lowell Thomas, a noted news analyst and journalist for much of the 20th Century. Norman Thomas, another prominent figure of that same time period, was a Presbyterian Minister who became a pacifist and Socialist Party member who ran in six elections as the Socialist Party candidate for President of the United States.



Lowell Thomas



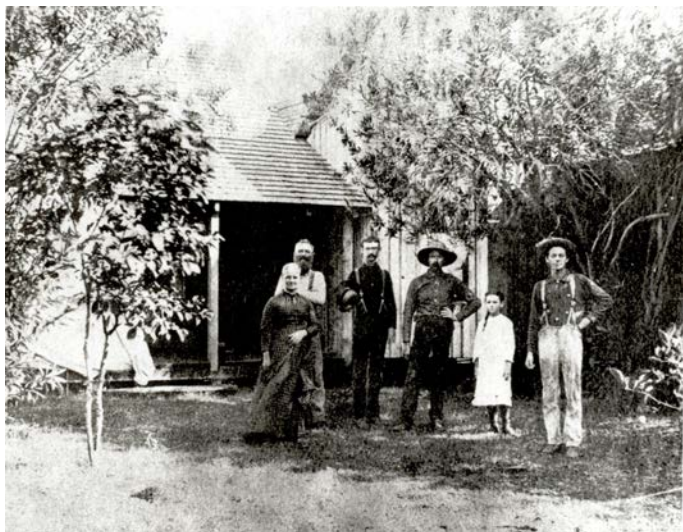
Norman Thomas

VISIT HISTORIC LANTANA PHOTO EXHIBIT

An exhibit of historic photographs is on display in the Lobby of The Hypoluxo Professional Center, 1111 Hypoluxo Road. It is entitled "A History of the Town of Lantana" and is a permanent exhibit of photos taken between the years of 1886 and 1964. Each photo has a name card with a description and a corresponding QR code which visitors can scan with smart phones to watch a brief video featuring a Lantana Historical Society member describing the history of the image.

An article in the January 4 edition of *Boynton Forum* by Jan Engoren, describes how Jerry Lehman of Lehman Real Estate who owns the building housing the exhibit and is an enthusiastic community and history supporter; Jack Carpenter, President of the Lantana Historical Society; and Rosemary Mouring, an active and long-time member of the Lantana Historical Society, collaborated on the exhibit. Suzanne Khalil, a professional photographer and Lehman's daughter, was a consultant.

In the article, the interviewees cite some of their favorite photographs which includes one of Fred Anderson's Ostrich and Alligator Farm on the east side of Dixie Highway where it stood for 27 years after opening in 1923. Jack Carpenter especially likes one we have previously included in *The Historian* which has been widely reproduced. We include a copy below. It was taken in the late 1880s and pictures three of the "Barefoot Mailmen" standing in front of the Hannibal Pierce home on Hypoluxo Island.



L to R: Margretta Pierce; Hannibal Pierce; Andrew Garnett, one of the mailmen; Ed Hamilton, the mailman presumed lost at the Hillsboro Inlet; Lillie Pierce; and Charlie Pierce, who became a mailman.

For information about the exhibit, contact Kristine Gobbo, kristine@spectrum-pr.com or at 561-463-0777.

FUTURE SPRING PROGRAMS

Some of you may have seen the very nice article in *The Palm Beach Post* on January 5 which listed our upcoming programs.

- February 20, Eliot Kleinberg, historian, Palm Beach Post reporter and author, at the Boynton Woman's Club.
- March 20, Steven Grant, Mayor of Boynton Beach, at the Boynton Beach City Library.
- April 17, Dr. Evan Bennett, Florida Atlantic University History professor, at the Boynton Beach City Library.

In her interview, our Vice President for Programs, Anne Rimler, did not mention our May covered-dish dinner for which plans have yet to be finalized. She did describe what a great organization we have, and what wonderful things we continue to learn about our City. She also reminded us that next year the Boynton Beach Historical Society will celebrate its Golden Birthday Anniversary, 50 years since we were organized in 1968.

MORE ON MAYBERRY

Ann Mayberry is the younger sister of Kathleen. From our files we have this picture of them taken together at the beach in the 1940s.



As the writing on the picture indicates. Ann is on the left and Kathleen on the right. The younger girls in front are Donna Roush and Nancy Hood.

Below is a picture taken this past summer of Ann Mayberry with her infant great grandson, Trace Minchew.



MEMBERSHIP 2017

The membership year for the Boynton Beach Historical Society is based on the calendar year from January 1 to December 31 of each year. In the November *Historian* we listed the names of those members, including Life Members [renewed automatically], who had renewed or joined for 2017 effective prior to November 1st. The names of the people below represent dues received between November 1st and January 1st.

PATRON MEMBER:

Michael and Linda Martin Callaway
Evelyn C. Howell
Fred W. Love
John I. Rogers

FAMILY MEMBER:

Barrie Byron and Bit Shaw
Anne Weems Michael, Elizabeth A. Michael and
Michelle Michael DePollo
Ward C. and Martha Parker
John and Chadda C, Shelly
Barbara G. and Wyman H. Scott

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER:

Patricia Atwater
Gillian Davis
Janet DeVries
Larry Grosser
Margaret Guyder
Nadine Smith Hartling
Nancy Hogan
William G. James was a priority.
Carol Kuenzel
Wilese Jones Langford
Denise Smith McCulloch
Sandra McGregor
Ralph E. Myers
Lyn Smith Orletsky
Nicholas Orletsky
Michael Wilson
Sandie L. Pike
Anthony Rawson
Anne C. Rimler
Susan Merkel Shaffer
Kathleen L. Silverio
Donna Fuller Smith
James Marshall Smith
Kandy Thompson
Anne Watts
Randy K. Weeks
Raymond E, Weeks
Dorothy F. Whittaker

Daniel L. Winters
Herbert Zobel

We print the names on the list of renewals only once, so if you have paid and do not see your name here, check the November newsletter

If you are renewing, you do not need to complete a membership form unless you have had a change in your address, email, or telephone. Simply write out your check, amount payable for the category of membership you have chosen, and mail it to The Boynton Beach Historical Society, P. O. Box 12, Boynton Beach, FL 33425.

We want to acknowledge and welcome several new members: Kathleen Silverio and Daniel L. Winters who are listed above and Pam Traylor Anwyll, Donna Artes, Jesse Feldman, Jeffrey and Africa Fine, Janet Hakala, James Pitts, and Doug Besecker [Easy Pay Tire] who were listed in November.

Thank s to all of you who have chosen to join us for 2017!

THE PLEASANT CITY FAMILY NEWSLETTER

For years The Boynton Beach Historical Society has been receiving copies of the Pleasant City Family Newsletter and we have been sending them each issue of *The Historian*. Pleasant City is a subdivision of West Palm Beach rich in Black history. Some 20 years ago, one of its major driving forces, Everee Jimerson Clarke, called, together persons born and reared in that area to organize an effort to bring about positive change to restore some of the values and self-esteem shared by the community in earlier days. Concern for the children was a priority.

The group established the Pleasant City Family Reunion Committee. The mission of the group was to be a concerted effort to preserve the history of Pleasant City and to establish a Heritage Gallery to honor the pioneers.

Many of the lineage of the pioneers of Pleasant City had moved away because they found it too expensive to live where they grew up. Many were afraid to enter the area after dark because of drive-by shootings and drug dealers operating on the corner near the Recreation Center where the meetings were held. The Community had such a stigma of crime and low esteem that no one wanted to identify with it. Community redevelopment efforts and the loss of property through eminent domain had uprooted many of the pioneer families.

The Reunion Committee works to overcome some of the misconceptions that Pleasant City has no important history because what people see is negative or new. The reunion initiative works to inspire business persons and investors who can make a significant difference in the community. For the past two decades the Pleasant City

[continued on page 5 – Pleasant City]

[Pleasant City – continued from page 4]

Family Reunion Committee and the Heritage Gallery have brought families together, enlightened, educated and entertained the general community.

The group housed the Gallery in its own building for 12 years but lost the building to foreclosure in 2013 because they lacked the financial support necessary to maintain it. They know their history cannot benefit anyone when it is locked up in storage. They need a place for their materials to be seen, a place for classes and events.

They are reaching out to friends, neighbors and supporters who might join in keeping alive the great history of the African American men and women in Palm Beach County, especially Pleasant City.

For more information phone 561-396-5855 or email: heritagegallerypleasantcity@gmail.com.

MORE ABOUT EVEREE JIMERSON CLARKE

In past years *The Historian* has contained stories about Everee Clarke. On her 90th birthday last July 6, the City of West Palm Beach proclaimed Everee Jimerson Clarke Day.

Some of the information contained in the City's Proclamation tells us that she was a grandchild of Elisha Blackshear and Samuel Jimerson from Miccoukee, Florida who moved their family to a place called "the Styx" in Palm Beach, Florida in 1894 to help complete the Florida East Coast Railroad and build the Royal Poinciana Hotel and White Hall which is now the Flagler Museum for oil magnate Henry Morrison Flagler.

The grandparents, after 20 years in "the Styx," bought land at 22nd Street and Spruce Avenue in Pleasant City which is now the site of the Pleasant City Recreation Center and Gymnasium. Their son, Reverend William Jimerson, married Cynthia Davis of Merritt Island, Florida, and brought her to the home he built in Pleasant City.

Everee as born from that union and is the only female in a family of 6 boys. She moved to Jacksonville to be reared by her aunt where she was educated in the fine arts. While visiting Pleasant City in the summertime and, later, attending Industrial High School, she began a long lifetime of community service.

She attended college at Lincoln University before moving to New York to attend the Julliard School in the dance department. She married Vospher Clarke and gave birth to two daughters. In 1960 she began the Everee Clarke School of Charm and Dance while also becoming a political activist in the Newark, N.J. area.

Everlee returned to Pleasant City in 1965 to bring her skills and talents to a city she remembered and loved. She became involved in local politics and business development and was recognized in 1975 and 1976 by "Who's Who Among Black Americans."

In 1987, while living temporarily in Broward County, Everee was appointed by Governor Bob Martinez to serve on the Broward County Historic Preservation Board of Trustees. This led her to organize the Pleasant City Family Reunion Committee in 1993. She has worked tirelessly to preserve the history of Pleasant City, the oldest African-American Community in Palm Beach County, and to provide educational and cultural events, programs, and opportunities for the pioneers and descendants of "the Styx."

She has received many awards for her efforts, including the Community Service Award from both the Black Educators Caucus and the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Historic Preservation Award from the City of West Palm Beach and the Fannie James Pioneer Achievement Award from the Historical Society of Palm Beach County.



Everee Jimerson Clarke at the Heritage Gallery



90th Birthday Celebration

**BOYNTON BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Member's Name _____

2nd Member's Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

E-mail _____

THE SOCIETY IS A 501 © 3 Organization so dues are TAX DEDUCTIBLE!

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP: (Check one)	INDIVIDUAL	(\$25.00)	_____
	FAMILY	(\$35.00)	_____
	PATRON	(\$50.00)	_____
	CORPORATE	(\$100.00)	_____
	STUDENT	(\$10.00)	_____
	LIFE	(\$500.00)	One time Payment only.

The membership; year is from January 1 to December 31 of each year.
Dues are not pro rated.

Complete this form and mail it with a check for the appropriate amount to
Boynton Beach Historical Society, POB 12, Boynton Beach FL 33424-4012,
You may pay by PayPal at www.boyntonhistory.org

The Historian
Boynton Beach Historical Society
Post Office Box 12
Boynton Beach FL 33425-0012



Can someone identify any of these swimmers? Is that Margaret Shepard in left front?