THE HISTORIAN

The Newsletter of THE BOYNTON BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Serving Boynton Beach, Ocean Ridge, Manalapan, Gulfstream, Lantana, Hypoluxo, the Village of Golf, Briney Breezes and all areas of West Boynton to US Hwy 441

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Voncile Smith, President

Volume 2004, No. 2, February, 2004

Voncile Smith, Editor

FEBRUARY PROGRAM TO BE HELD AT WOMAN'S CLUB

On Monday, February 9, 2004, at 7:00 p.m. at the Boynton Woman's Club building, 1010 South Federal Highway, the distinguished journalist, writer, and documentary filmmaker Stuart McIver will discuss the history and circumstances that lead to the writing of his latest book, Death in the Everglades: The Murder of Guy Bradley, America's First Martyr to Environmentalism. This is a story about the Florida plume hunters and the devastation they caused among Florida's beautiful bird population, and how they were ultimately curbed by the bird protection movement which included Guy Bradley's role in law enforcement. Bradley had early ties to Palm Beach County which are discussed in the article which follows. McIver is an exciting storyteller, well-known for his many books and articles on South Florida.

THE BRADLEYS: EARLY SETTLERS IN LANTANA

[In previous issues of *The Historian* we have included information taken from a series on Palm Beach County history published by *The Palm Beach Post* In the early 1980s. These were known as "Sunday Brown Wrappers." Much of the following is from material gathered by **G. Keith Bailey** for publication April 14 and 25, 1985, as "Adventures of the Bradley's in Early Lantana, Parts I and II. Other information is from interviews with **Harvey E. Oyer, Jr.** whose pioneer ancestors knew the Bradleys. Some material is adapted from *Early Lantana*, *Her Neighbors and More* by Mary Linehan.}

Edwin R. Bradley first brought his family to the lake region of Lantana in the mid-1870s. He homesteaded and farmed in the area. E.R. had retired from a newspaper reporting job in Chicago to become a pioneer in South Florida.

Until 1909 what is now Palm Beach County was part of Dade County. E.R. Bradley served as one of the first postal carriers and became Superintendent of Public Instruction for the Dade County Schools which at that time reached from the St. Lucie River to the end of the Florida mainland. Life was difficult and demanding in those early years. Medical care as we know it was primitive. Two of E.R.'s children, **Guy** and **Flora**, became deathly ill in 1883. Guy recovered, but Flora died.

Guy later became the first game warden in what is now Everglades National Park. At that time fashionable ladies' hats were frequently adorned with egret plumes; and the Everglades offered good hunting for these birds despite laws making it illegal to shoot them. Guy was shot and killed by poachers. One of these was **Walter Smith** whom Guy had known for years. At a trial later in Key West all were subsequently acquitted.

Other Bradleys fared better in their frontier lives. Louis, a brother of Guy, made a business of hunting and later became a guide for sportsmen from the North. The Bradley family developed excellent rapport with the Indians. Louis became a partner with one of his Indian friends, Tommie Listee, whose experience was invaluable in hunting. Before Guy's death the three worked together splitting their profits three ways.

In an interview in the 1930s, Louis reported that in those early years, despite good relationships with the Indians, there were sometimes tense moments. During one hunting expedition, Guy, Louis, and Tommie were completely surrounded by Indians who had hidden behind trees as though they were planning to ambush the three. Apparently "even Tommie was shocked." But the whole event was a practical joke, and the Indians ultimately all broke out in laughter.

But there were times when Tommie displayed real bravery. Once he had an unexpected encounter with a wild panther. According to Louis, "It was in the winter. He [Tommie] had built a little fire on the south side of a hammock. He was sitting down leaning over the fire cooking his supper when the panther leaped upon his back without warning, and buried his teeth in his neck, and tearing his back to the bone with his claws, threw him clear over the fire, nearly killing him. Big Tommie drew his knife and slashed at the panther until he struck his heart, even then it was a few minutes before he turned him loose. The panther died and Big Tommie lost a lot of blood."

Louis continued, "He came to our house for first aid and food. He was so weak he could hardly walk. Father [E.R.] and Mother made him stay with us a week or more until he grew stronger. Then he went away, coming back again soon with some venison to show his appreciation of our services. "This panther would have killed any ordinary man, but Big Tommie was an extraordinary man, a regular young giant, weighing over two hundred pounds, with large neck muscles, and great strength, which saved his life. . .

"The nearest we ever came to having trouble with the Indians was when a young drunken Indian came to our home, walked up the stairs to my sister Rosa's room and stood in her door. She saw him and screamed. I was in the next room, rushed to her aid, grabbed the Indian, we wrestled round, and both of us fell down the stairs with me on top. He was skinned up and hurt, but I was lucky enough to escape without a scratch.

"The next day the chief of the Indians came to my father and apologized, saying, 'Boy drink too much wyome.' Father accepted his apology and there were no hard feelings."

According to Mary Linehan, Rosa was the second English speaking girl to be born between Jupiter and Miami. The first was Lillie Pierce [Voss].

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Jay Rowley

Write these dates on your calendar now!

Monday, March 8, 2004, 7:00 p.m., Boynton

Beach City Library, Judy Gail, professional actress and storyteller will portray Ivy Stranahan. This is the second program of the year scheduled through the Florida Humanities Council and is jointly sponsored with the Friends of the Boynton Beach City Library. Ivy Stranahan has been called The First Lady of Fort Lauderdale and Watchie Esta/Hutrie—Little White Mother to the Seminoles. As president of the Florida Equal Suffrage Association,



Judy Gail

lvy was a leader in the fight for women to vote along with May Mann Jennings, wife of the governor, and made speeches with Mary Elizabeth Bryan and her orator husband, William Jennings Bryan. She founded the Fort Lauderdale Audubon and Historical Societies, the library, parks, schools, hospitals and more. Another name she proudly bore was The Battling Belle of Broward. She was an important figure in South Florida history.

Monday, April 12, 2004, 7:00 p.m. Boynton Beach City Library, Darcie MacMahon, Exhibits Coordinator, Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida, Gainesville, presents a program FORT MOSE: Free Black Town on the Spanish Frontier. a free colony established in Spanish Florida about 1738 and was made up of Africans who had escaped slavery in English America. While we had hoped to present this program during February in honor of Black History Month, Ms. MacMahon was fully booked during that month and agreed to come in April. All reports indicate this is a wonderful program for any month and reveals more about historical and archaeological research efforts to broaden knowledge of Florida's rich heritage. This is the third program from the Florida Humanities Council for this year. It is co-sponsosred with The Friends of the Boynton Beach City Library.

Other programs will be announced as arrangements are completed.

ADDENDUM: 2004 MEMBERS

In our January issue we listed those members who had paid 2004 dues at the time the newsletter was prepared. The following list are those who have paid since then. (Memberships in the Boynton Beach Historical Society are for the calendar year, January 1 to December 31.)

Corporate Membership:

Curtis and Nainie Weems Weaver N. M. and Cecile Weems

Patron Membership:

James E., Jr. and Patricia M. Jones James Miriana Harvey E. Oyer, Jr. Paul D. and Frances R. Price Robert and Sheila Rousseau Taylor Betty M. Thomas C. Stanley and Erna Weaver Fain and Claire Weems

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Marvin T. Benson

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IN MEMORIAM

One of our members, James D. Shelton of West Hartford, CT., has informed us that his father, Clarence Wilton Shelton, age 93, of Erlanger, KY passed away recently. Until he moved to Erlanger, Clarence Shelton had lived in the Gainesville area for about 20 years. He owned Palm Beach Grove, Inc., in Boynton Beach. Two other sons are C. Wilton, Jr. and Samuel T. Shelton.

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WHO VOTED IN BOYNTON IN THE 1920s?

The two pages above are from old voter registration records from 1921 to 1926. The page on the left reveals that the Town Clerk (and Boynton without "Beach" was a "town" then) had removed voters who were deceased or had moved since the last registration. The law required that the list of names of the persons to be purged be posted on the door of the Town Hall. Below this notice is the "Oath Subscribed to on Registration." The page on the right represents the people whose names began with A. The first column contains the date followed by the name, party affiliation, occupation, and color (no reference to race) of the registrant. Another page (not shown here) recorded the age, signature, number of the order in which the registrant had come—listed continuously through the years with the early years having the lower numbers, a memorandum column (moved, deceased, and other information), and the last column indicating the poll tax receipt number. At this time, while white voters tended to be either Democratic or Republican, nearly all black voters registered Republican. Florida had a White Democratic Primary, which, of course, excluded black voters. The poll tax and unevenly enforced literacy tests in effect until the mid-1960s eliminated other potential voters. The White Democratic Primary did not end until 1944 after the U.S. Supreme Court declared it unconstitutional.

For some of you who may want to know the names that do appear on these rosters, here are contents of this and other pages:

1920 Names v	vith "A	*									
Atwater, A.A.	D	Hotel	W	Abell, Eve M.	D	Housewife	[blank]	Andrews, John	R	Laborer	В
Andrews, C.L.	D	Merchant	w	Anderson, John A.	D	Laborer	W	1920 Names v	vith "E	3"	
Andrews, Katie	D	Married	w	1926 Names w	ith "A	ν		Benson, Harry	D	Farmer	w
Andrews, John	R	Carpenter	В	Allen, James	R	Laborer	В	Bowen, J.P.	D	Lumber dealer	W
Austin, Chas. A.	D	Merchant	W	Auston, Will	R	Laborer	В	Brown, F.N.	D	Farmer	W
Atwater, Emily D.	D	Married	w	Adams, Ella	D	Housewife	w	Brown, Mabel L.	D	Married	W
1922 Names v	vith "A			Ashley, John				Benson, Fred G.	D	Farmer	W
Austin, F.W.	D	Married Farmer	w	Washington	R	Farmer	В	Benson, Beatrice	D	Married	W
Audet, H.A.	R		w	Adams, Lee N.	R	Carpenter	w	Baud, E	D	Farmer	W
Adams, Lillie B.	D	Teacher	w	Adams, S.P.	D	Contractor	w	1921 Names v	vith "E	3"	
Ashton, B.S.	D	Contractor	R [sic]	Atkins, F.E.	D	Carpenter	w	Balwin, Luther	R	Farmer	В
Austin, Mrs. Chas.	D	Housewife	D [sic]	Anderson, Frank L.	D	Mechanic	w	Bovey, J.G.	R	Farmer	W
Abell, W. B.	D	Electrician	w	Anderson, Mary	D	Housewife	w	Brown, John G.	D	Mechanic	W
	100	1199700000000000	(55)	Anderson, Harold	D	Filling Station	W				

					NII .		Eldridge B	Minister	w
1922 Names with		_	1926 Names wit	h C	Drag-line Operator	w	Eldridge, B. D. 1928 Names with		vv
Burden, Geo H.	Married Ag State Plan		Cauley, James Cooper, Richard	D	Com Laborer	В	Easton, Margaret Mrs. D		W
Burden, Agness D		w	Clark, R.C.	D	Janitor	В		P Decorator	W
Bailey, E.F.		W	Collins, Mrs. P.B.	R	Housewife	W	Eades, Lavinia N	P Housewife	W
Bailey, Clara M. F	R Married	w	Carter, Mary	D	Housewife	W	1920 Names with '		
1924 Names with	"B"		Carter, Clyo	D		w	Frisen, F.N.		W
Bolden, Robert F	R Laborer	В	Coleman, S.B.	D	Engineering	W	1921 Names with		
Benson, Laura) Housewife	W	Collbook, James	D	Barber	В	Forrey, W. L.		W
Boldin, Magnalia F		В	Calhoun, Mrs. Esther		Housewife	w	Forrey, Jessie		W
	R Housewife	В	1927 Names with				1922 Names with		***
1925 Names with			Crothers, Carlton S.	R	Architect	W	Futrell, Seth		
Brown, Christopher F. F.			Cameron, Chas. B.	R	Lumber Merchant	W	Futrell, K.L.	Single Mechanic	W
Bell, Grover D.		w	Chambers, M.H.	D	Retired	w	Emmitt, Flora Futrell, Leland G. D	Mechanic	W
	R Laborer	В	Collins, P.B.	R	Farmer	w			w
1926 Names with		w	Coon, Marjorie	D R	School Teacher Housewife	W	Forrester, Mary A. D. Futrell, Maud Ruth		w
Boiline, Trimain	 Carpenter RealEstate 		Collins, Frances Cox, S.C.	ī	Lineman	w	1924 Names with		**
Baker, James A. D. Brisby, James D. D.		B B	Collington, Jessie	В	Housewife	В	Foy, Estella D	The state of the s	w
Brisby, James D Brown, Carrie D			Cawley, James	В	1 lousewile	w	Foy, C.H.		w
Bechtel, AH.			Crumblis, E.		Dairyman	w	1925 Names with		••
Butler, James F		В	Cline, J.W.		Farmer	w	Funk, I.R. Inc	Water Court Co	w
Benhower, Theresa		w	1928 Names wit	h "C			Ford, Joseph F		В
Billings, Nellie M. F		W	Cameron, Mary B.	D		W	Ford, Edward F	Laborer	В
Benhower, R.	Carpenter	w	Cook, Arthur R.	D	Supt. Water Works		1926 Names with	'F"	
Bolden, Robert F	R Nurseryma	n B			Dept.	W	Freeman, Lenley F	Laborer	В
Bind, F.D.		W	Colbrook, James	R	Barber	В	Footman, Charles F	Laborer	В
Barnes, Virginia	Housekeep	er B	Collington, Jesse	D	Laborer	В	Frierson, T.E.	Carpenter	W
Benson, Gust D	Retired	W	Coleman, Mary Jepso	nD	Housewife	W	Fritch, Osea H. I	Housewife	W
Beaty, Holland F	R Bookkeepe	r W	Crouch, Mrs. L.M.	D	Housewife	W	Frierson, Mrs. T.E.	Housewife	W
Brown, Eddie D	Laborer	В	Crouch, L.M.	D	Engineer	W	Fite, Andrew D		W
Brant, Mrs. Agnes	Housewife	w	Cochran, Ruth	D	School Teacher	W	Fletcher, L.O.	Construction Forema	
Brant, F.R.		W	1929 Names with	"C"			Funk, Alice R.	Housewife	W
Bolden, Tom		w	Cram, Ida	R	Housekeeper	W	Funk, Viola I	Housekeeper	W
1927 Names with			1921 Names with		_		Funk, Alta M.(Moore)		W
	Engineer	w	Daugharty, J.	D	Farmer	W	1927 Names with		
Buford, Shelby		w	Daughary, Ida J.	D	Married	W	Famham, Herbert R.		W
Berry, R. F		В	Davies, C.A.	R	Mechanic	W	Farnham, Herbert V.		W
Burt, Chas. V. F		w	1922 Names with			w		Carpenter	W
Buford, Ruth D		w	Davies, Lillie T.	R	Married Drives Car	W	1928 Names with Futell, Seth		w
Burt, Estella D Byrne, Donald F.) Housewife Lawyer	w	Davies, E.J. 1924 Names with	"D"	Dilves Cai	vv	Futell, Seth D		w
Byrne, Emma A	Wife	w	Deicks, R.H.	R	Labor	В	Futrell, Maud Ruth		w
Bass, Mrs. C. O. V		**	1925 Names with		Labor	U	Frye, Lucille		w
Birchfield, W.C.		w	Dunber, Edward C.	R	Retired	W	Famham, Mary		w
Barnes, J.R.		W	Durrance, J.W.	D	Carpenter	w		[illegible]	w
Baldwin, Robert F		В	Durrance, E.E.	D	Laborer	w		G"	
Beard, Helena D		W	Durrance, Lottie	D	Housewife	W		Engineer	w
Blythe, Frank P. Jr.	Salesman	W	Decker, Chas.	D	Restaurant	W	1924 Names with		
Blythe, Louise C.	Wife	W	Decker, Edith	D	Restaurant	W		Barber	W
Brown, J.G.	Sec. Forem	an W	Dyal, A.A.	D	Hotel Keeper	W	Godwin, Cora H.	Housewife	W
1928 Names with	"B"		Deon, Felix	R	Laborer	В	1925 Names with	"G"	
Benhower, Ralph D	Carpenter	W	Durden, H.L.	D	Mechanic	W	Gleason, Mrs. Earl	Housewife	W
	Housekeepe	r(Hotel) W	1926 Names with	h "D	<u>"'</u>		Gaither, John F	Laborer	В
	Domestic	W	Duerson, William	D		W	Godwin, W.J.		W
	Minister	W	Durrance, S.G.	D	Truck Driver	w	1926 Names with		
	Laborer	В	Duncan, Mattie	D		W		RealEstate Broker	
	Housewife	W	Drew, Walter	R	Painter *	W	Galbraith, A F		W
Bowers, Calvin	Merchant	w	Doss, E.O.	D	Crane Operator	w	Green, Charlie		В
Bell, Will		В	Dawkins, John	R	Laborer	С	Garnett, Mrs. Amos		W
Barr, EH.		w	Dessauer, Agnes	R	Housewife	W		Plasterer Mold-make	
Burr, Geo L. Jr. D		W	Duckworth, Walter O.		Bridgeman	W	Gibson, Murray V.		w
Burr, Josephine G. D. 1929 Names with	Teacher	W	1927 Names with Dame, Ray B.			w		Laborer	В
	Carpenter	w	Dame, Jessie G.	D	Photographer Housewife	W	1927 Names with Geils, J.L.		W
1920 Names with		••	Derrickson, Elmer R.	D	Filling Station	w	Guiler, James Jr. F	Civil Engineer Real Estate	W
Carothers, Howard L. I		w	Donaldson, Mrs. Geo.		Housewife	w	Gerrin, John Francis		W
	Farmer	w	Derrickson, Rosalie	D	Housewife	w	Garvey, Lawrence J.		w
	Merchant	w	Donaldson, George	R	Banker	w	Garrett, Seaborn		w
1921 Names with			Dempsster, E.H.	D	Farmer	w	Gregory, John H.		w
	Farmer	В	Dunbaugh, A.R.	ī	Carpenter	w	Girtz, A.L.		w
Crowningshield, W.H. D		w	Ducker, R.H.	R	Laborer	В	Godden, S.V.		W
	Married	w	Donaldson, R.D.	D	Laborer	В	Godden, Alice S. F		w
1922 Names with			1928 Names with				German, Anna Bell		w
Cushing, N.D. D		w	Donaldson, John D.	D	Bookkeeper		Guy, J.T.	Minister	w
	Machinist	w	Davis, E.J.	R	Maintenance Man		Guy, Anna R.	Wife	w
Culven, G.E. D		w			at Hotel		1928 Names with		405000
Cockron, M.H.		w	1922 Names with	h "E	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,			Cleaner and Press	ser W
Cline, Bailum J. D	Carpenter	w	Evans, B.F.	10000	Printer	W	Goodwin, Jesse F.		W
Coon, Abby G. R	Married	w	Ellis, J.V.	D	Watchman	W	Goodwin, Bertie W.	The state of the s	W
Carroll, C. L. D	Garageman	w	1924 Names with	h "E			Gleason, Mrs. Mattie		W
	Housewife	W	Easton, J.W.	D	Laborer	W	Granger, Elizabeth M. [School Teacher	W
1925 Names with *			Easton, R.W.J.	D	Laborer	W			
	Housewife	W	Evans, F.W.		Laborer	W	[To be continued in Ma		
Common, I. Wright D		w	Easton, Jessie		Housewife	W	ficult to read to copy. S		
Cook, Arthur W. R		w	1925 Names with				or political preference.		
Calhoun, Luther R. D		W Dran W	Effenger, Irma B.		Housewife	14/	life and social patterns		
Collins, Percy B. R	Restaurant	Prop. W	Elilin, J.W.	D	Plasterer	W	the names of some of t	ne people who were	nere then.

BRICKS: DEDICATION SCHEDULED

Soon after the East Boynton Little League won the national title, the Board of Directors of the Boynton Beach Historical Society voted to commemorate the players and their coaches with brick pavers to be installed at the 1913 School House Children's Museum. These pavers are now in place in the courtyard on the front east side of the building between the clock and the bell.

You are invited to attend a brief presentation of certificates to the players and coaches and dedication of the brick pavers on Monday, February 2, 2004, at 4:30 p.m. at the Please try to attend, but please Schoolhouse. be on time, since this dedication is part of a larger program honoring both the Little League team and the Florida Marlins. The Boynton Beach Historical Society's portion of the program is scheduled for 4:40. This is also your opportunity to meet the Little League Players and some of the Marlins, see their World Series Trophy, and engage in a Question and Answer Session. The City has ordered also brick pavers in honor of the Marlins.

LEARN MORE ABOUT LOCAL HISTORY

The Palm Beach Post OUR CENTURY is still available for those who request it for a \$15 or more donation to the Society. (If mailed, \$6 S&H charge). Also available: Boynton Beach: The First 100 Years @ \$10 plus \$1.75 S&H; and 9 inch Centennial Commemorative Plate @\$10 plus \$2.00 S&H. Call 734-5653 or send a request to the Boynton Beach Historical Society's P.O. Box 12, 33425-0012.

LOFTHUS SHIPWRECK UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRESERVE

The Friends of Lofthus cordially invite you to the unveiling and dedication of the State of Florida's eighth (and Palm Beach County's first) Underwater Archeological Preserve commemorating the 1898 wreck of the Lofthus off of our community's coast.

This new Preserve is important to celebrating our area's history as well as promoting our current marine and diving industries.

Built in 1868, this ironclad vessel was wrecked off our coast in 1898. The dedication ceremony marks the 106th anniversary of the wreck.

Please make plans to attend.

Saturday February 7 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Boynton Beach Intracoastal Park (located on Federal Highway just south of Gateway Blvd.)

Please RSVP to Lou Frasier 561-274-3211

Thank you for your support

FRIENDS OF LOFTHUS

UPDATE ON LOFTUS SHIPWRECK

The invitation above states it well. As a member or friend of the Boynton Beach Historical Society, you are invited; but call Lou Frasier as the invitation directs so that the Friends of the Loftus will have some idea of the number planning to attend.

DUES FOR 2004 ARE DUE NOW! BECOME A MEMBER OF THE BOYNTON BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

If you have not already mailed in your dues, now is the time to do so. Learn more about the past of Boynton Beach and the area surrounding it, and help preserve the traditions and history of a rapidly changing part of Florida. **JOIN TODAY!**

Member's Name			2 nd Member's Name		
Address					
City/State/Zip			Phone #	E-N	lail
YesI would like	to serve on the follo	wing committee(s)	Archives/Preservation	Program Planning	Mailings
Telephone	Hospitality	Membership	Public Relations	Seeking Sponsors_	Minority History
Fundraising	Other (Specify)				

To become a member please make you check payable to Boynton Beach Historical Society for the calendar year 2004, and mail it to Post Office Box 12, Boynton Beach, Florida 33425-0012. Thank you for your support.

If you have questions, call Voncile Smith, President, at 561-734-5653, or Claire Weems, Membership Chair, at 561-735-3900.

THE HISTORIAN

Boynton Beach, FL 33425-0012

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