

# 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

Post Office Box 12 Boynton Beach FL 33425-0012

Voncile Smith, President

Volume 2004, No. 3, March, 2004

Voncile Smith, Editor

## IVY STRANAHAN, "LITTLE WHITE MOTHER TO THE SEMINOLES" FEATURED FOR MARCH 8 PROGRAM

The Historical Society will meet **March 8, 2004, at 6:30 p.m.** at the **Boynton Beach City Library**. The agenda includes election of Officers for 2004-05, two new three-year Directors, and two new three-year Trustees.

The program for the meeting is **Judy Gail**, local actress, activist, and storyteller who will portray **Ivy Stranahan**, 1881-1971, who, as Ivy Julia Cromartie, was the first schoolteacher of Fort Lauderdale. After marrying Frank Stranahan, the proprietor of Stranahan Trading Post, Ivy dedicated her life to the Seminoles, teaching their children to read, communicating for them with the Federal government, persuading them to move to the land designated for them to build homes, start business ventures that enabled them to live independently and with dignity, and to send their children to school.

As president of the Florida Equal Suffrage Association, she was a leader in the fight for women to vote. She founded the Fort Lauderdale Audubon and Historical Societies, the library, parks, schools, hospitals and more. Called the Battling Belle of Broward, she said "People probably want to call me Poison Ivy," but instead, she is remembered as The First Lady of Fort Lauderdale.

**The Public is invited—attendance is free.** For further information call Voncile Smith, 734-5653.

### "SETTLEMENT OF BOYNTON, FLORIDA,' as TOLD by H.B. Murray, First Settler"

[The following items are from a manuscript donated by Mr. and Mrs. Andrew N. Huston from material on file in the Palm Beach City Historical Society in the Flagler Museum. Special thanks to Callie Rousseau Brown for providing it.]

"I came to Boynton in the fall of 1895 at the invitation of Major N.S. Boynton, head of the Order of Maccabees and whom I had met while I was secretary of the local lodge at Port Huron, Mich.

Major Boynton had become interested with Congressman W.S. Linton, of Michigan, in establishing colonies of northern people on the lower east coast and bought with Linton and later from him the land on Boynton Beach on which he built the Boynton Hotel, Linton promoting the Townsite of Linton which afterwards became Delray.

When I arrived there were a few tents and one or two small houses. I took charge of the construction of the hotel and when Fred Dewey opened up and put on sale in 1897 tracts of muck land and lots in the original townsite west of what afterwards became the Dixie Highway, I bought two tracts of 2 1/2 acres each and two lots in the townsite. Frank Cox had the first store and was the first postmaster.

The east coast canal was opened in 1895 providing transportation with Lake Worth and the north. George C. Butler and Franklin Sheen surveyed the farm lands and the Townsite of Boynton. We raised vegetables for home use and for sale in a small way. Fred Dewey was the original developer of the townsite and Major Boynton set the orange and grapefruit groves on the east side of the canal about the time he finished the hotel. Until the railroad and the canal were opened for business in 1895, the only means of transportation was by the beach and

a stage route which required two days from Lantana to Fort Lauderdale."



BOYNTON HOTEL - 1895

### 1920—CITIZENS MEET TO INCORPORATE

As the area grew, "the need for closer and better organized management of the affairs of the community brought about a mass meeting at the Boynton Lumber Company's hall on Feb. 27, 1920 at which 35 qualified voters were present." The original incorporators met April 14, 1920. They totaled 60, and were J.A. Weeks, A.C. Shepard, D.D. Lee, C.L. Andrews, Carl M. Jensen, J.P. Bowen, M.A. Weaver, L.B. Curtis, A.A. Atwater, B.G. Hodges, Wm. Menzel, Chas. W. Pierce, Birt Hartley, Frank Smith, A.A. Rousseau, Thos. Woolbright, A.L. Culver, Chas. A. Austin, T.A. Smith, F.L. Muster, O.S. Hedges, Harry Benson, Fred G. Benson, H.A. Audet, T.A. Ward, J.J. Williams, Geo. E. Coon, W.A. Ferguson, Oscar Magnuson, E.G. Hodges, A.E. Parker, F.N. Funk, C.A. Davies, John Andrews, G.W. Hall, H.B. Murray, Neal Larsen, R.C. Higgins, C.L. Knuth, W. L. Teasdale, E. Baird, Chas. Petrie, D.S. Hudson, C.L. Pierce, M.C. Weaver, G.C. Meredith, E. Flora, N.H. Major, S.B. Cade, Ed Weeks, D. King, E. Roberts, R. Wells, John White, Seth Futrell, F.O. Jeffrey, Jas. McKay, R.H. Rousseau, J.M. Cooper, W.S. Shepard.



## NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Fain Weems, chair of the Nominating Committee, will present the following slate of candidates for election at the March 8 meeting. Nominations may also be presented from the floor.

President, Voncile Smith; Vice-President for Programs, Harvey E. Oyer, Jr.; Vice-President for Membership, Clair Weems; Recording Secretary, Betty Thomas; Corresponding Secretary, Gloria Gregory; Treasurer, Sue Beaman; Directors until 2007, Gloria Turner, Curtis Weaver; Trustees until 2007, Janet DeVries, Marion Weems. All members who have paid dues for 2004 who attend the meeting are eligible to make additional nominations and to vote.

## PROGRAM CALENDAR

**Monday, April 12, 2004, 7:00 p.m. Boynton Beach City Library, Darcie MacMahon, Exhibits Coordinator,** Florida Museum of Natural History will present a discussion and slide presentation on **FORT MOSE: Free Black Town on the Spanish Frontier.** Free Admission. Public welcome.

**Sunday, May 16, 2004, 5:00 p.m. Boynton Woman's Club Building, Annual Meeting and Covered Dish Supper** in conjunction with **The Mizner Foundation.** Installation of New Officers.

**TBA Field Trip to Scottish Rite Temple** to view mural painted by late nationally recognized artist **Bernard Thomas.** Discussion of his work to be led by his widow **Betty Thomas** and his daughter **Sarah Bollenbacher.**

**Sunday, March 28, 2004, Curtain Time 2:00 p.m., Boynton Woman's Club Building Preservation Benefit, "An Afternoon of Song & Dance,"** Music of the 20s-30s-40s featuring the **Phoenix Theatrical Group.** Tickets \$17.50 per person. Call BWC office 369-2300 or Eleanor, 736-4444.

## FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH TO CELEBRATE 100 YEARS IN 2005

The Boynton Beach First United Methodist Church was organized in 1905. The members are preparing a history and need photographs, clippings, anecdotes, and personal recollections pertaining to the history of the church. If any reader has information about the Church's past you would be willing to share (we can scan copies and return originals to you if you like), please contact Voncile at 734-5653 or drop them by the Church office.

## CHURCH HISTORIES SOUGHT

There is a surprising shortage of information about the various churches that have served the Boynton area. The archives of both the Boynton Beach Historical Society and the Historical Society of Palm Beach County contain little information. Churches have played a crucial role in the development of the City, and the Boynton Beach Historical Society would like to preserve more information about them. Please check with your denomination to see what you can do to help fill this void and contact the Historical Society if you have information.

## MEMBERSHIP ADDENDUM: 2004

Thanks to all of you who have sent in memberships for this year. We will publish the names of those who have joined since January in the next issue of *The Historian*. If you would like to join, a membership form is on the outside mailing sheet. Fill it out and mail it with your check in the amount of the membership you designate.

## VISIT THE LITTLE LEAGUE BRICKS AT THE 1913 SCHOOLHOUSE

The brick pavers purchased by the Boynton Beach Historical Society to honor the East Boynton Beach Little League National Champions of 2003 are planted in the courtyard on the front east side of the 1913 Schoolhouse Museum between the clock and the bell. They read as follows:

[12" X 12" Paver (1)]

**BOYNTON BEACH  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
HONORS THE PLAYERS AND  
COACHES OF THE EAST  
BOYNTON BEACH LITTLE  
LEAGUE TEAM AS THE  
2003 NATIONAL  
WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONS**

[4" X 8" Pavers (14)]

**MICHAEL BROAD #15**  
PITCHER  
SHORT STOP

**RICHIE DEJESUS #22**  
THIRD BASE

**CODY EMERSON #16**  
PITCHER  
FIRST BASE

**JORDAN IRENE #14**  
OUTFIELD  
INFIELD

**PATRICK MULLEN #9**  
LEFT FIELD

**R.J. NEAL #5**  
OUTFIELD

**MATT OVERTON #7**  
RIGHT FIELD

**RICKY SABATINO #1**  
INFIELD

**BENNY TOWNEND #13**  
OUTFIELD

**DEVON TRAVIS #2**  
2<sup>ND</sup> Base

**ANDREW WEAVER #18**  
CATCHER

**KENNY EMERSON**  
MANAGER

**JOE IRENE**  
COACH

**TONY TRAVIS**  
COACH



# REGISTERED VOTERS IN BOYNTON IN THE 1920s (Continued)

The February *Historian* contained the names of registered voters whose last names began A through G. Here are H through part of M. The list includes voter's name, party affiliation, occupation, and race. The editor has attempted to make an accurate transcription, but handwritten information is often difficult to read.

<b>1920 Names with "H"</b>			<b>1929 Names with "H"</b>			<b>1922 Names with "L"</b>		
Hudson, D.S.	D Banker	W	Heaton, Orpha G.	R Clerk	W	Leland, D.C.	R Married Farmer	W
Higgins, R.C.	I Merchant	W	Heaton, Eva J.	R Beauty Parlor	W	Leland, Daisy	I Married Housewife	W
Higgins, Katherine	I Married	W	<b>[No names beginning with "I" on list]</b>			Lynch, Paul D.	I Mechanic	W
Hartley, Birt	See page 100 [sic]		<b>1920 Names with "J"</b>			Lockmiller, G.M.	S Farmer	W
<b>1921 Names with "H"</b>			Jensen, Carl M.	D Farmer	W	Lyman, W. H.	D Fisherman	W
Hall, G.W.	D Watchman	W	Jeffrey, F.O.	D Farmer	W	Lewis, Maggie	D Married	W
Hall, C.E.	D Inspector	W	<b>1921 Names with "J"</b>			Lee, L. L.	D Dairyman	W
<b>1922 Names with "H"</b>			Jackson, P.J.	R Farmer	B	Layport, M.	D Carpenter	W
Hawley, Julia A.	D Widow Housewife	W	Johnson, A.P.	R Citrus Inspector	W	Layport, Minnie	D Housewife	W
Howe, Lewis S.	R Farmer	W	<b>1922 Names with "J"</b>			Leverenz [sic], Walter	D Carpenter	W
Hutson, M.J.	D Farmer	W	Jones, Frank	R Farmer	B	Leverenz, Hetty	D Homemaker	W
Hopkins, Bert T.	D Dairyman	W	Jackson, Alex	R Carpenter	B	Lewis, Ada	D Housewife	W
Hodges, B.G.	D Farmer	W	Jackson, Lillie	R Married	B	Lewis, J.S.	D Barber	W
Hodges, O.S.	D Mechanic	W	<b>1924 Names with "J"</b>			Lester, Robt	R Laborer	B
Hartley, Charles	R Laborer	B	Jordan, W.T.	D Dairyman	W	<b>1926 Names with "L"</b>		
<b>1923 Names with "H"</b>			Jackson, E.	W	W	Louis, Charlie	R Contractor	C
Hopkins, Rose R.	D Married	W	Jordan, H.B.	D Dairyman	W	Logsdon, Sol H.	D Sterotypist	W
<b>1924 Names with "H"</b>			Jordan, Katie K.	D Housewife	W	Livingston, William M.	D Laborer	B
Huber, John S.	D Merchant	W	Johnson, Reford	D Laborer	W	Langenfeld, Ed	D Carpenter	W
Huber, Mrs. John S.	D Housewife	W	Johnson, Iva F.	D Housewife	W	Lewis, Lizzie	D Housewife	W
Hartly, Roy	R Laborer	B	Jackson, Alex	R Farmer	B	Lambert, Carrie	R	W
Hollingsworth, V.O.	D Laborer	W	Johnson, R.	D Painter	W	<b>1927 Names with "L"</b>		
<b>1925 Names with "H"</b>			<b>1925 Names with "J"</b>			Lumpkin, H.E.	I Pharmacist	W
Hill, E.S.	D Carpenter	W	Jones, F. B.	D Plumber	W	Lofton, C.E.	D Dredge	W
Hutson, Sarah L.	D Housewife	W	Johnson, Young	R Laborer	B	Lockmiller, G.M.	Soc. Farmer	W
Hill, Ollie B.	D Housewife	W	Johns, L. J.	R E.Engr.	W	Laird, R. W.	Real Estate	W
Hutson, M.J.	D Transfer [sic]	W	<b>1926 Names with "J"</b>			<b>1928 Names with "L"</b>		
Hogue Herbert	D Clerk	W	Jones, J.F.	D Contractor	W	Laughter, J.W.	R Laborer	W
Harvey, Golden	R Asst Plumber	B	Jaworek, F.H.	D Plumber	W	Laughter, Mrs. Sarah	R Housewife	W
Hodges, F.M.	D Com Merchant	W	Jones, E.D.	R Laborer	B	Lawson, Martha	R Housekeeper	B
Hart, Rines	R Com laborer	B	Jernigan, Eugene P.	D Machinist	W	Lombard, Edward	R Operator	W
Henry, John	R Laborer	B	Jones, Mrs. C. O.	D Married	W	Lester, Nancy	R Housewife	B
<b>1926 Names with "H"</b>			<b>[Jones deleted, Doss entered here]</b>			Lunsford, James J.	D Operator	W
Hodges, B.W.	D Restaurant	W	<b>Partin, M.H.</b>			Lunsford, Ida I.	D Housewife	W
Heaton, O.S.	R Contractor	W	<b>[Ed. Note: Why is Partin with "J's"?]</b>			Love, James R.	D Veterinarian	W
Heaton, Wendall	R Contractor	W	<b>1927 Names with "J"</b>			Ladusau, Asa F.	D Telegraph Operator	W
Heaton, Wanda	R Housekeeper	W	Johns, Mrs. L.J.	R Housewife	W	Love, Mrs. Alice B.	D Housewife	W
Holmes, Elijah	R Truck Driver	B	Jones, Jennie B.	D Housewife	W	<b>1920 Names with "M"</b>		
Hooper, W.L.	D Plant Supt.	W	James, G. H.	D	W	Mauli, Mable D.	D Married	W
Herrick, Irving J.	I Farmer	W	Jones, Pearl	R Wife	B	Muster, F. L.	D Hotel	W
Heaton, Nora	R Housewife	W	Jackson, Ora	R Wife	B	Menzel, W.M.	S Merchant	W
Harris, Mattie	D Housekeeper	B	Jackson, Chas	R Laborer	B	Major, N.H.	R Farmer	B
Hudson, Beatrice Marie	D Married	W	<b>1928 Names with "J"</b>			Meeks, Ed.	R Farmer	B
Hodges, E.G.	D Lumberman	W	Jordan, Mrs. V.P.	D Domestic	W	<b>Smith, Frank</b>		
Hill, Damon	D Laborer	C [sic]	Jordan, Thelma	D Housewife	W	<b>[Ed. Note: Out of alphabetical order]</b>		
Honester, Will	I Schaffer [sic]	Colored	Jordan, Clyde C.	D Engineer	W	Miller, Ward B.	No Lumberman	W
Honester, Mrs. Will	I Housewife	Colored	Jones, Mrs. Jonnie B.	D Boarding House	W	Murray, Mary E.	I Married	W
Hodges, J.W.	D Restaurant	White	James, G.H.	D Mechanic	W	Meredith, G.C.	D Farmer	W
Hall, James H.	R Mechanic	White	Jones, Pearl	R Cook	B	Magnuson, Oscar	D Farmer	W
Harder, Frank R.	R Real Estate	White	Johnson, Annette	D School Teacher	W	Murray, H.B.	D Mechanic	W
Harless, Joseph D. Jr.	D Merchant	White	<b>1929 Names with "J"</b>			<b>Roberts, E.</b>		
Harless, Kathleen C.	D Housewife	White	Jones, John F.	D Nurseryman	W	<b>Hartley, Birt</b>		
Howard, H.C.	D Supt Construction	White	<b>1920 Names with "K"</b>			<b>[Ed. Note: Two more out of alphabetical order]</b>		
Holloway, Lillie B.	D Housewife	White	Knuth, C.F.	R Merchant	W	Magnuson, Eunice	D Married	W
Holloway, H.T.	D Contractor [sic]	White	Knuth, Alice H.	I Married	W	<b>1921 Names with "M"</b>		
Hughes, W.W.	D Lineman	White	<b>1921 Names with "K"</b>			Miller, Thomassine	R Married	W
<b>1927 Names with "H"</b>			King, D.R.	R Farmer	B	Maddox, C.W.	D	W
Hartley, Bertha	R Secretary	W	King, William	R Laborer	B	<b>1922 Names with "M"</b>		
Hull, Sarah	R Maid	B	<b>1923 Names with "K"</b>			Miller, Howard J.	D Married Eletx Eng	W
Howard, Jack	R Cook	W	King, P. B.	D Laborer	B	Myers, B.P.	D Married Merchant	W
Hartley, Bertha A.	I Housewife	W	<b>Smith, Alfred</b>			Meridith, J.B.	I Married Electrician	W
Hall, Grace M.	W		<b>[Ed. Note: Out of order, as listed]</b>			Meyers, Ray M.	D Married Housewife	W
Hall, Guy D.	W		<b>1924 Names with "K"</b>			Meeks, Francis	D Married	B
Huston, W.	D Railroad	W	Knuth, O.C.	R Dairyman	W	Miller, Agnes P.	R Married	W
Harper, Elizabeth	D Teacher	W	Knauth, Walter N.	D Lumber Merchant	W	Mane, Beatrice	I Stenographer	W
Heighton, M. Herbert	R Carpenter	W	<b>1926 Names with "K"</b>			Major, Annie W.B.	R Married	B
Heighton, May	R Wife	W	Kraus, W. E.	D Retired	W	Mane, Ben	D Farmer	W
Howell, Evelyn	D Clerk	W	Kraus, Agatha	D Married	W	Major, P.M.	R Farmer	B
Hallingday, H.H.	R Farmer	W	<b>1927 Names with "K"</b>			Martin, Hattie M.	R Married	W
Hartley, Catherine	R Laundry	B	Koyker, Gerritt	R Minister	W	Martin, S. P.	R Farmer	W
Hartley, Best	R Farmer	B	Knuth, Mrs. O.C.	R Housewife	W	Meredith, Anna	R Married	W
Hartley, Martha	R Wife	B	Keatts, H. L.	D Truck Driver	W	Miller, Truth A.	D Nurse	W
Hartley, Julia	R Wife	B	Keatts, Clorice	D Housewife	W	<b>1923 Names with "M"</b>		
Howard, Joe	R Laborer	B	Koyker, Mrs. G.	R Housewife	W	Martin, Chas. D.	R Mecanist [sic]	W
Hester, John	R Laborer	B	Knauff, Walter G.	D Farmer	W	Myer, M.E.	I Minister	W
Herman, Francis A.	R Salesman	W	King, Dillard	R Farmer	B	Menzel, Bertha	D Married	W
<b>1928 Names with "H"</b>			King, Ethel	R Housekeeper	B	<b>1924 Names with "M"</b>		
Heaton, Eva J.	Beauty Parlor	W	King, Hattie	R Housekeeper	B	Miller, Walter	R Laborer	B
Howe, Mrs. Margaret	W		<b>1920 Names with "L"</b>			Meyers, J.H.	D RR Agent	W
Anna	NP Housewife	W	Lee, Annie B.	D Married	W	Meyers, Anna L.	D Housewife	W
Hartley, LeRoy	R Laborer	B	Larson, N.C.	D Carpenter	W	Maddox, Mildred M.	D Housewife	W
Hall, Grace M.	D Housewife	W	Lewis, C.V.	D Carpenter	W	Miller, C.O.	D Farmer	W
Holland, A.P.	R Laborer	W	Larson, Esther	I Married	W	Mayberry, Bessie	D Housewife	W

THE HISTORIAN  
Boynton Beach Historical Society  
P. O. Box 12  
Boynton Beach, FL 33425-0012

Boynton Beach Historical Society memberships are for the calendar year, January 1 to December 31. If you are not now a member and would like to join, complete the form below and return it with your check for the type of membership you desire payable to The Boynton Beach Historical Society, P. O. Box 12, Boynton Beach, Florida 33425-0012.

**BOYNTON BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM, CALENDAR YEAR 2004**  
**WORKING TOGETHER TO PRESERVE BOYNTON BEACH'S HERITAGE**

Member's Name \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> Member's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP	INDIVIDUAL (\$25.00) _____	FAMILY (\$35.00) _____
	PATRON (\$50.00) _____	CORPORATE (\$100.00) _____

Yes\_\_\_\_, I would like to serve on the following committee(s)

Archives/Preservation_____	Program/Planning_____	Mailings_____
Telephone_____	Hospitality_____	Membership_____
Public Relations_____	Seeking Sponsors_____	Minority History_____
Fundraising_____	Other (Specify)_____	