



# 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

2008 Number 8, November 2008

## SPORT FISHING IN PALM BEACH COUNTY



**Capt. Kenny Lyman and his two-year old son Walter "Skip" Lyman and snapper in 1949**

[ Photo from Lyman Family published in *Sport Fishing in Palm Beach County* by Janet DeVries in conjunction with the Boynton Beach City Library, Arcadia Publishing, 2008, p. 38.]

Janet DeVries and Cindy Lyman Jamison, both members of the Boynton Beach Historical Society, will present a program discussion and power point presentation on the Sport Fishing Industry in Palm Beach County for the November meeting of the Society. Janet's newly published book on the topic will be available for sale.  
[All programs are open and free to the Public]

**WHAT:** Powerpoint presentation on Sport Fishing in PB County

**WHERE:** Boynton Woman's Club  
1010 S. Federal Hwy.

**WHEN:** Monday, November 17, 2008  
6:30 p.m.

**BOYNTON BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS—2008-09**

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The Boynton Beach Historical Society's website is [boyntonbeachhistoricalsociety.org](http://boyntonbeachhistoricalsociety.org) You can contact us at our e-mail address [boyntonhistory06@yahoo.com](mailto:boyntonhistory06@yahoo.com) or mail inquiries or information to our mailbox at P.O. Box 12, Boynton Beach, FL 33425-0012.

*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.

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**DECEMBER REMINDER**

The Boynton Beach Historical Society does not meet in December, nor do we send out an edition of *The HISTORIAN*. The next issue will be mailed out in January and will contain information about our January 19 meeting. That is Monday, January 19, 2009, and we will have a presentation on early community leaders in Boynton Beach and how most also served actively in leadership roles in the Boynton Masonic Lodge. Our speaker will be David Lund. Please mark your calendars now and plan to attend!

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**IN MEMORIAM**

**BERNARD E. TURNER.** The members of the Society are saddened by the death of Bernard E. "Nardy" Turner just this week at age 83. Nardy and his wife, Gloria Partin Turner, have been long time members and supporters of the Boynton Beach Historical Society.

Nardy was Boca Raton's 22<sup>nd</sup> City Mayor, serving in 1967-68. His family moved to Boca

Raton when he was age 11 in 1936. Boca Raton's population at that time was 250. His family owned and operated a nursery and landscape business on Federal Highway in Boca Raton for many years. After the business was sold and he had retired, he and Gloria moved to Boynton Beach where Gloria had grown up. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Gloria, his daughter Susan and her family, and to his son Bernard, Jr.

**ROSCOE GRUMMONS.** The Boynton Beach Historical Society lost a good friend, long time member and a caring and compassionate man with the passing of Roscoe Grummons after a long illness. Roscoe and his wife and daughter first came to Boynton Beach in 1956 where Roscoe opened Grummons' Printing at 210 N. E. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. He operated the shop until 2002 when illness forced him to close. He loved the creative challenges of printing and was still hand setting type and running his letterpress throughout the years he had the business. He was 91. We send our sympathies to his daughter Dianna Godbey, who was his 24/7 caregiver for almost 6 years, and to Dianna's daughter and her family.

**NORMAN W. BLOOD, JR.** When the Editor of *THE HISTORIAN* was a little girl, Norman and his wife Carolyn, were operating Knollwood Groves off Military Trail. I remember waiting for the schoolbus beside a big white and turquoise sign pointing the way to the groves. Later, in 1949, the Bloods founded Blood's Hammock Groves. He passed away just this week at age 88.

He was a graduate of the University of Florida and a decorated Army veteran of World War II. He retired from the reserves as a Lt. Colonel.

We send our sympathy and good wishes to his family, sons Norman III and James and his family, and his surviving sister and brother and other family members.

**ALL OUR SERVICE MEMBERS WHO HAVE GIVEN THEIR LIVES** in all our wars. Veterans Day is November 11, but we should keep their service and sacrifice to our great country in mind each and every day throughout the year.

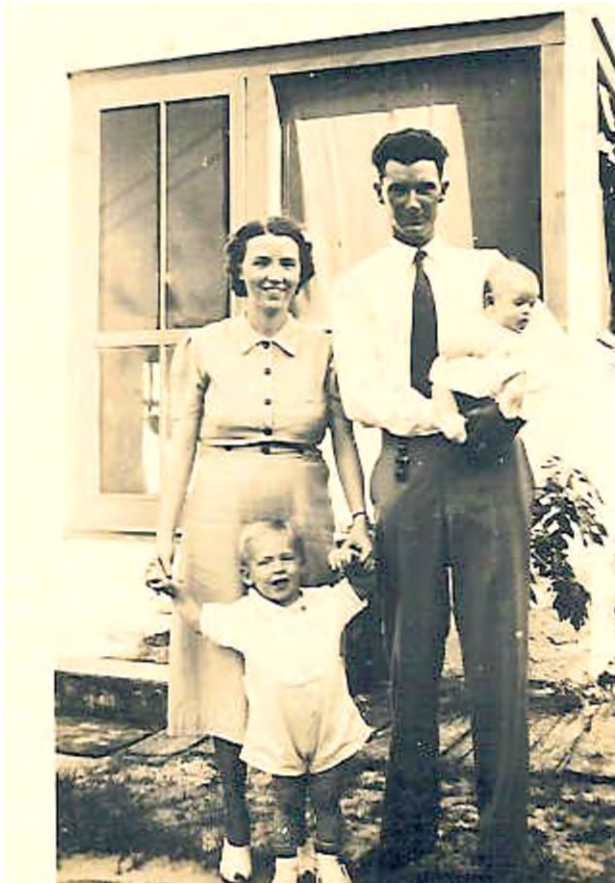




## CLARENCE W. SHELTON ANOTHER GROVES OPERATOR

On the preceding page we note the passing of an important name associated with citrus groves, Norman Blood. But there are other individuals in our area's history who were also involved in citrus cultivation. One such person was Clarence W. Shelton. His son, James Shelton, shares some family pictures with us.

The following pictures show the three places where his father, Clarence W. Shelton, worked in the Boynton Beach area. For a while Clarence was at Boynton Nursery which was located on South Federal Highway just south of Woolbright Road. The picture below was taken at that site in 1939 the year James was born.



Lou Anna Ward Shelton and Clarence Shelton with Wilton (standing) and baby James in his father's arms.

In the next picture, Clarence is shown between 1944 and 1955 at Knollwood Groves, his second workplace. He is standing beside the citrus washing/grading machine with an unknown customer.



The picture above is of Clarence at his third work site, Palm Beach Groves on Lawrence Road which he and Lou Anna developed and managed. He is shown here in 1955 picking oranges from the trees that he planted a few years before. Below he and Lou Anna are seated in front of Palm Beach Groves.



## BEAUTIFUL, BUT COSTLY

A very beautiful plant with gorgeous lavender blossoms floated upon most of the freshwater canals, rivers, and streams in South Florida for years, blocking navigation, impacting water flow, and preventing sunlight from reaching native aquatic plants.



Water Hyacinth

This is the water hyacinth, another non-native freshwater invader brought in by accident or by some misguided citizen who wanted to spread the beauty, but did not recognize the hazard.

A native of South America, the water hyacinth has been called the worst aquatic plant in the world. It flourishes in most of the southern United States and in the subtropical and tropical climates of many other countries.

Water hyacinth is a very aggressive invader and can form thick mats. It has no known direct food value to wildlife and is considered a pest species. The plant floats across the water surface with leaves attached to spongy, bulbous stalks. It has feathery, freely hanging purple-black roots, and an erect stalk produces a single

spike of conspicuously attractive flowers which shade from light to deep lavender.

It reproduces very rapidly, either by runners which eventually form daughter plants or from one of large quantities of seeds which retain their viability for up to 30 years. It can double its population within two weeks.

The water hyacinth was first introduced into North America in 1884, and until well into the 1960s it choked most of Florida's fresh waterways. When not controlled, it will cover lakes and ponds entirely.

Because it starves the water for oxygen, it impacts not only native plants, but also leads to fish and/or turtle kills. And it creates a prime habitat for mosquitos.

At one time, the most visible attempt at control in South Florida's canals was to dredge the plants from the water and drop them on the canal bank. This was minimally effective, but it did open the waterways temporarily.

Control now depends upon a number of methods including harvesting, the use of aquatic herbicides, and biological control agents in the form of specific natural enemies such as certain weevils, moths and fungi. Physical control, using mechanical mowers, dredgers, or manual extraction is generally regarded as expensive and the least effective. Chemical control is probably the least favored because of unknown long-term effects on the environment and the communities with which it may come in contact. Biological control is the most widely favored long-term control method and probably one of the least expensive in terms of staff time, but it takes time to initiate and for the insect population to reach sufficient density to be effective.

Generally, the best way to manage water hyacinth is to prevent its becoming established in the first place. If the occasion arises, do not be blinded by its beauty and contribute to its continued infestation. Some of the plants are still around, and should never be moved or discarded in such a manner that they can secure a new foothold.

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From: Recollections of the Editor; and  
[www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/plants/weeds/hyacinth.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/plants/weeds/hyacinth.html);  
[http://aquaplant.tamu.edu/database/floating\\_plants/water\\_hyacinth.htm](http://aquaplant.tamu.edu/database/floating_plants/water_hyacinth.htm);  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Water\\_hyacinth](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Water_hyacinth)



## TEST YOUR FLORIDA KNOWLEDGE

How much do you know about basic facts of Florida history? Here are a few to test yourself. [Answers follow.]

1. Where was the first Spanish settlement in Florida?
  2. What Florida city is the oldest continuously inhabited European settlement in the United States?
  3. What is Florida's official nickname?
  4. What is Florida's official State song?
  5. What is Florida's state bird?
  6. What is Florida's state flower?
  7. What is Florida's state tree?
  8. In 1763 Spain traded all of Florida to England in exchange for what?
  9. What country sold Florida to the United States?
  10. In what year did Florida become a State?
  11. Where were oranges first grown in Florida?
  12. How many historic shipwrecks lie along the Florida coasts?
  13. When the United States acquired Florida [1821], how long had the Seminoles been in Florida?
  14. Where did the Seminoles live before they migrated to Florida?
  15. How many states were admitted to the United States before Florida?
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1. In 1558 the Spanish established a colony in Pensacola with 1500 residents, but a hurricane nearly destroyed the colony in 1560 and the effort was abandoned.
  2. St. Augustine since 1565.
  3. The "Sunshine State," adopted by the Florida Legislature in 1970.
  4. "Way Down Upon the Swanee River," more popularly known as "Old Folks at Home." Songwriter Stephen Foster apparently never visited Florida, but he did live in South Carolina where he originally named the song for one of that State's rivers, "Way Down Upon the Pee Dee River." The Florida Legislature adopted the song in 1935 as the official song replacing "Florida, My Florida." Foster had changed both the spelling and the pronunciation of the river to fit his song. The actual river is pronounced "Sue-wanee" and spelled "Suwannee." Many consider the lyrics to Foster's song to be offensive. Foster wrote the song in dialect to paint a bucolic picture of plantation life in the days of slavery.
  5. Mockingbird.
  6. Orange blossom.
  7. Sabal palm.
  8. Havana, Cuba, which England had captured.
  9. Spain, in 1821.
  10. 1845.
  11. By the Spanish in St. Augustine in 1579.
  12. At least 2,000.
  13. About 120 years.
  14. Before they migrated to Florida, they were members of the Creek nation living somewhere north of Florida, probably in Georgia or the Carolinas.
  15. 26. Florida became the 27<sup>th</sup> State.

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### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Our membership year is from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year. Membership dues for 2009 will be due January 1<sup>st</sup>, but if you wish to send in your dues at any time now, they will be applied to the 2009 membership year.

If you are currently a member for 2008, all you need do is mail us your check, unless your address or telephone number has changed during the past year. In that event, or if you are a new member, complete the membership application form on the cover of this newsletter and mail it with your check. Your renewal from this notice will save us the postage and labor if we send out a dues reminder. Thank you.

We are proud to serve Boynton Beach, Ocean Ridge, Manalapan, Gulf Stream, Lantana, Hypoluxo, Briny Breezes, and all areas west of Boynton Beach to U.S. Hwy 441, and, on occasion, greater Palm Beach County.

Other (Specify):  
 Minority History Seeking Sponsors  
 Telephone Hospitality Membership Public Relations  
 Archives/Preservation Program/Planning Mailings

I will be willing to serve on the following committees (Circle choices):  
 PATRON (\$50.00) \_\_\_\_\_ CORPORATE (\$100 or more) \_\_\_\_\_

INDIVIDUAL (\$25.00) \_\_\_\_\_ FAMILY \$35.00 \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

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

Street \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

2nd Member's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Members \_\_\_\_\_

**BOYNTON BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

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



Boynton High School Basketball Team 1947. Top Row: Unknown; Tommy Rhoden, Ray Weeks, Max Lanier.  
 Front Row: Jon Gonsman, Rick Witty, Buddy Partin, Gym Weeks, Marion Weems.

[Photo courtesy of Anne Weems, Marion Weems]

Do you know the year? Do you know the name of the unknown player? Tell us and we will reprint.