



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.

2010 Number 4

April 2010

BOYNTON BEACH POLICE: 90 YEARS ON THE BEAT

Stephanie Slater, Public Information Officer for the Boynton Beach Police Department, will present a comprehensive history of that department at the April meeting of the Boynton Beach Historical Society. She has been working on a 90th Anniversary Yearbook and will present information and pictures from that work.

Stephanie is a 2000 graduate from the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communication at Syracuse University where she majored in print journalism. After graduation, she moved to South Florida and worked as a police reporter for *The Boca Raton News*. In 2002, she was hired by *The Palm Beach Post* to cover police and fire rescue news in three cities. She has won numerous awards for her work and served a three-year term as president of the Florida Press Club. In her current position, which she has held since 2007, she serves as liaison between officers, the media and the public. She writes department press releases, provides media interviews and maintains the department's Web site. She is responsible for the content and updates to the department's various social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and others. She is active in both state and national public information officers associations.



Stephanie Slater

WHAT: 90 YEAR HISTORY OF BOYNTON BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT, A discussion by Stephanie Slater

WHEN: Monday, April 19, 2010
6:30 p.m.

WHERE: Boynton Woman's Club
1010 South Federal Highway

ALL PROGRAM MEETINGS OF THE BOYNTON BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

**BOYNTON BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS—2009-10**

2010 MEMBERSHIPS

[Since March 1st]

OFFICERS

President	Voncile Smith
1 st Vice President, Programs	Janet DeVries
2 nd Vice President, Membership	Bev Cormany
Recording Secretary	Virginia Farace
Corresponding Secretary	Carol Mahoney
Treasurer	Fran Tuite McKeral
Editor <i>The Historian</i>	Voncile Smith
Archivist and Webmaster	Janet DeVries

DIRECTORS

2010	Gloria Partin Turner
2010	Tim Bednarz
2011	Steve Anton
2011	Sally Dye
2012	Sheila Rousseau Taylor
2012	Delma Swilley

TRUSTEES

2010	Wendy Franklin
2010	Marion Weems
2011	Randall Gill
2011	Harvey Oyer, Jr
2012	Victor Norfus
2012	Dan Rousseau

The Boynton Beach Historical Society's website is boyntonbeachhistoricalsociety.org. You can contact us at our e-mail address 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.

APRIL MEETING IS ANNUAL MEETING

Each year the Boynton Beach Historical Society elects new officers, directors and trustees during a short business session at the start of the April meeting. We elect all officers for a one year term, two directors for three year terms, and two trustees for three year terms. The information at the top of the page lists all the officers and the directors and trustees and the dates of their terms.

The Agenda for the April meeting is

1. Call to order.
2. Pledge to the Flag
3. Announcements
4. Report of Nominating Committee
5. Nominations from the floor
6. Election
7. Installation
8. Program

Usually the entire business portion of the meeting takes no more than 20 minutes.

PATRON MEMBERSHIP:

Bob W. and Jeanne Gayler
Robert and Sheila Rousseau Taylor

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP:

Derle and Cecilia Bailey
Beverley and Margaret Shepard Brown
Valjean and Joyce DuBois Haley
Harry D. and Edris Hatch
James B. and Georgie P. Raulerson
Charles J. and Jeanne Simon
Perstein and Sarah Jane Butler Williams
Bill R. and Elsie Winchester

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP:

Callie Rousseau Brown
May Foy Burke
Ramona Somerford Davis
Mathelene H. Deal
Lois DuBois
Sally Dye
Brian Edwards
Robert W. Ganger
Barbara Louise Gellner
Audrey Gerger
Judy G. Keatts
Robert J. Kraft
Wilese Jones Langford
Frank E. Melogrfano
Diane Pacheco
Martha Potter
Evelyn Brant Raulerson
Marie Shepard
Joanne Shoemaker

A special welcome to new member Martha Potter. Thank all of you for joining the Boynton Beach Historical Society for 2010.

Correction: In the March issue of *The Historian* the following members were listed under the wrong membership classifications—Cheryl Muster was listed as Individual; she should be listed as Patron Membership. Delma W and Billie J. Swilley were listed under Family Membership; they should be listed under Patron Membership. Marion and Cecile Weems were also listed under Family Membership; and they should be listed under Patron Membership. The editor apologizes for the error.

SOME EDITING COMMENTS.

In a letter recently sent to the Society, member Bob Gayler writes: re February 2010 edition of *The Historian*, "Photo of Players and Cheerleaders 1950-51, Boynton School, the name of Wilton Shelton was omitted. He is 3rd from the left, 2nd row, between Dick Woody and John White. I think Darlene Gerdts' name is misspelled. She is between Louise Lassiter and Barbara Green."



PLAYERS AND CHEERLEADERS 1950-51 at Boynton School—Teacher, Joseph Lee. 3rd Row: L to R, Jeanne Byrd, Paula Powers, Nancy Knowles, Donna Roush, Louise Lassiter, Darlene Gerdts, Barbara Green, Gladys Baker, Elaine Calloway, Bobby Swilley. 2nd Row: Charles White, Dick Moody, Wilton Shelton, John White, Bob Gayler, Grady Stern. 1st Row: Jimmy Newman, Jimmy Melear, Ronnie Carr, Unknown, Kenny Carr, Martin Boos, Richard Marcinkoski [Gladys Baker photo with additions by Bob Gayler]

Bob Gayler also notes that in the March 2010 issue, the name of James Shelton In Memoriam is misspelled (Sheldon). This error persists throughout the page even in the Memorial Tribute to James Shelton from Harvey Oyer. The Editor knows better and regrets the error. James Shelton was very generous in providing information and pictures to *The Historian* about his family. Bob Gayler notes that Wilton Shelton in the picture above was a good friend of his throughout school. He also comments that "James and Wilton Shelton's father, Clarence, operated Knollwood Groves, a citrus farm north of Boynton Road, east of Military Trail."

Thank you, Bob. The Editor is most grateful when members and others take time to write with new information.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Boynton Beach Historical Society will be Monday, May 3, 2010, at 6:30 p.m. at the Boynton Woman's Club. This is primarily an organizational meeting for the newly elected Board, but any member of the Society is welcome to attend and may participate in all discussion the Board may conduct. Only Board members may vote on any business, however.

IN MEMORIAM

Each of us shares to some degree the sadness of parents who have the misfortune to lose a child. With deep regret we report that two of our member families have had to face such a loss within the past month. These are the families of Joseph Morrissey and Kyle Ternenyi.

JOSEPH MORRISSEY of Plantation, the son of member Rosalie Alvaroe Morrissey, was tragically murdered during a break-in by a home intruder on Monday, April 5, 2010. Joseph attended Lake Worth High School where he excelled in math. He attended the University of South Florida, and later Harvard and Stanford. After completing his PH.D., he worked in research for the Goodwin Institute for Cancer Research in Broward County, and later for Motorola. Last May he joined the faculty of the College of Pharmacy at Nova Southeastern University. We extend our condolences to his wife and sons, and to his mother.

KYLE STEPHEN TERNENYI, the son of members George and Christine Ternenyi and the grandson of members Stanley and Erna Weaver, died suddenly in an ATV accident just a week before his 26th birthday. A native of Boynton Beach and a 3rd generation Floridian, he graduated in 2002 from Atlantic High School and then attended the University of Central Florida where he graduated in 2007. We send our best wishes to all his family members, the parents and grandparents who are members of Boynton Beach Historical Society, as well as his sister Kelly and her husband Dustin Schwarz, his paternal grandparents Evelyn and Stefan Ternenyi, and to his many other loving and grieving family members.

BOOK-A YEAR-ENDOWMENT

In recognition of our ongoing cooperation with the Boynton Beach City Library and the Friends of the Library, the Board of Directors several years ago contributed to an endowment plan under which a book a year is purchased from interest on the endowment funds to honor a designee named by the contributor. We chose to honor the late Wilfred Hawkins, former Assistant City Manager. We have received notice that the book purchased for 2009 in his honor is *What Were They Thinking* by Jeffrey Pfeffer.

IN MEMORIAM

JAMES IRVIN LACEY was a long time member of the Boynton Beach Historical Society. He was 91 years old when he died on March 17th. He was born in Boynton Beach (then the Town of Boynton) in 1918 to the pioneering family of Henry W. and Ada Lacey. The fifth child among seven, he was the last to survive.

He was one of the original Volunteer Fireman for the City of Boynton Beach and his service was celebrated at the funeral home by an Honor Guard from the present Fire Department. He was proud to be a World War II U.S. Army veteran who landed on Utah Beach 10 days after D-Day. He remained in Europe until the end of the War. He returned to Utah Beach for commemorative ceremonies on the 55th anniversary of D-Day.

Irvin retired in 1981 from Florida Power and Light after 30 years of service. He was a Life Member of V.F.W. Post #5335 of Boynton Beach and a 60 year member of the Boynton Masonic Lodge.

We send our condolences to the many surviving members of the Lacey family.

ERMA OBERMAYR JAMES and her husband Bill James have been members of the Boynton Beach Historical Society since soon after their marriage eight years ago.

Erma was born in New Jersey, but grew up in Wisconsin where she attended high school. She eventually moved to Florida where she received her degree in the Arts from Rollins College in Winter Park.

She moved to Pompano Beach in 1965 with her first husband, dentist Russell W. Obermayr. While there, she managed the dental office and participated in a number of social and civic organizations. She had, however, a lifelong passion for art, instilled by her father, stain glass artist Conrad Pickel [see picture of Pickel Building which follows]; and so she completed a commercial art degree from the Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale later in life.

Five years ago she was stricken with cancer, and succumbed to it April 1, 2010.

We offer our sympathies to her husband Bill, her three daughters and their children, to her James stepchildren, and to her brother Paul Pickel.

The Conrad Pickel Building



The Conrad Pickel Building is immediately north of the Boynton Woman's Club on South Federal Highway.

An internationally acclaimed artist in stained glass design, Conrad Pickel built this wedge-shaped structure in the 1970s as an art gallery and showroom for paintings, sculpture, and stained glass. Though originally crowned with modernistic glass sculptures all around the edge of the roof, this feature has been lost to hurricane force winds. Now boarded up, the unique stained glass windows are hidden from view. The exterior is gradually deteriorating, and the poles and discs at the entrance are rusting and broken. Examples of stained glass windows from the Pickel Studios are found throughout the United States.

A MEMORIAL GIFT HONORING THE BASKINS

The Boynton Beach Historical Society has received a gift of cash from members Topy and Georgie Raulerson to honor the memory of Joel and Bonne Baskin.

During their lifetimes Joel and Bonne had a keen interest in the history and progress of Boynton Beach. When able, they participated actively in the Historical Society and other organizational activities.

We are most grateful to the Raulersons for their continuing support and for their commemorative gift to honor both these active lifelong members of the Boynton Beach community.

HAPPY 100th BIRTHDAY, CALLIE BROWN!



Callie Rousseau Brown, a long time member of the Boynton Beach Historical Society, had spent her entire life in South Florida until she moved to Fishers, Indiana to live with her daughter when she was in her late 90s. This Easter on April 4th Callie celebrated her 100th birthday.

Her niece Sheila Rousseau Taylor, another member of the Society, attended that birthday party reception and reports the following: "It was a beautiful day in Fishers, Indiana. Blue skies, warm pleasant high 70s. Callie resides in a lovely home with daughter Elisabeth (Liz) Brown Furr. The house was filled with flowers! Especially roses—nine dozen! That's 108, more than one for each year! "Daughter Ellen Brown Curtain and husband Brian flew in from California. Two granddaughters were also present, Jill and Ellen from Indiana and Illinois, and two grandsons, Alex and Spencer from Colorado and California, three great granddaughters and two great-great grandchildren." Besides Sheila, niece Barbara Lupton from Florida also attended along with many friends and neighbors.

AN 80th ANNIVERSARY PRESENTATION

Most of the women (and maybe some of the men) remember with pleasure times in their youth when they were enthralled by reading the adventures of that teenaged sleuth, Nancy Drew. Now Janet DeVries invites you to participate in a special program commemorating 80 years of Nancy.

WHAT: Nancy Drew 80th Anniversary Presentation

WHEN: Thursday, April 29, 2010
6:30-8:00 p.m.

WHERE: Program Room
Boynton Beach City Library

"Remember the titian-haired teen detective, the plucky Nancy Drew? Beginning in April, the Boynton Beach City Library will celebrate 80 years of the Nancy Drew mystery stories with exhibits showcasing vintage books and memorabilia. The show opens Monday, April 5th and runs through May 25th. Included in the exhibit will be collectibles including a Nancy Drew doll, ornaments, jewelry, purse and various foreign editions."

A special presentation is scheduled for April 29 as mentioned above, and fans of all ages are invited. The program will be presented by Library Archivist and Historical Society Vice-President Janet DeVries. Join Janet for a trivia contest, birthday cake, and a show and tell session. Janet asks you, "Hop in your roadster and join the fun!"

MAY MEETING AND PROGRAM

Our last meeting before September is scheduled for Sunday, May 23, 2010, 5:30 p.m. This is traditionally a covered-dish dinner, and the Historical Society provides the main dishes, the beverages, and the plates, cutlery, and cups. We asked members to bring a salad, vegetable dish, or dessert sufficient to serve eight.

This year we have scheduled one of the wonderful Florida Humanities Council programs that have been so popular in the past. Carrie Sue Ayvar, an award winning story-teller will present Stories of Florida in which she blends traditional, international, and personal stories to connect Florida's people, languages and cultures.

If you do not wish to eat, please come at 6:00 to hear Carrie Sue Ayvar's delightful program.

BOYNTON BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM, CALENDAR YEAR 2010

Member's Name _____
 2nd Member's Name _____
 Street _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Telephone _____ E-mail _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP: INDIVIDUAL (\$25.00) _____
 FAMILY (\$35.00) _____
 PATRON (\$50.00) _____
 CORPORATE (\$100 or more) _____

Yes, I would like to serve on the following committee(s) [Circle choices]
 Archives/Preservation _____
 Program/Planning _____
 Membership _____
 Minority History _____
 Mailing _____
 Seeking Sponsors _____
 Public Relations _____
 Fundraising _____
 Hospitality _____
 Telephone _____
 Website _____
 Other (Specify) _____

Join now for the calendar Year 2010. Complete the form below or copy the information and return it or the copy 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. New memberships will be effective from now until December 31, 2010. Current members may renew now with 2010 dues effective until December 31, 2010.

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



This is a yard sale item! Don't let this happen to your family photos and records. Give them to the Boynton Beach Historical Society, or at least let us scan them to store in our archives. Your history is important to us.