



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.



2011 Number 8

November 2011

FLORIDA DURING THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR

will be the title for the Historical Society's program for Monday, November 14th and will feature **Peter and Janis Colon** who are American Civil War re-enactors. Together, while dressed in Period outfits, they speak about various aspects of that war including Florida's role during that time. Featured will be actual items on display. It will be exciting and informative for everyone. Please plan to attend.



Peter and Janis Colon

WHAT: A Re-enactment by Peter and Janis Colon: "Florida During the American Civil War"

WHEN; Monday, November 14,
6:30 p.m.

WHERE: Boynton Beach City Library
Program Room

**ALL MEETINGS OF THE BOYNTON BEACH
HISTORICAL SOCIETY ARE FREE AND
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!**

BOYNTON BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS—2011-12

OFFICERS [Elected Annually]

President	Voncile Smith
1 st Vice President, Programs	Janet DeVries
2 nd Vice President, Membership	Ginger Pedersen
Recording Secretary	Diana Dennis
Corresponding Secretary	Anne Watts
Treasurer	Frances McKeral

Editor <i>The Historian</i>	Voncile Smith
Archivist and Webmaster	Janet DeVries

DIRECTORS [3 year staggered terms]

2012	Sheila Rousseau Taylor
2012	Delma Swilley
2013	Tim Bednarz
2013	Gloria Partin Turner
2014	Steve Anton
2014	Barbara Ready

TRUSTEES [3 year staggered terms]

2012	Victor Norfus
2012	Christian Oyer Macoviak
2013	Brian Edwards
2013	Virginia Farace
2014	Randall Gill
2014	Wendy Franklin

The Boynton Beach Historical Society's website is www.boyntonbeachhistoricalsociety.org. Our e-mail address is boyntonhistory06@yahoo.com or mail inquiries or information to our mailbox at P.O. Box 12, Boynton Beach, FL 33425-0012. Voncile can be reached at 561-734-5653.

Find us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/historicboyntonbeach

Find us on Twitter:

www.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.

TWO NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Last month we reported that **Dr. Ginger Pedersen** had been appointed by the Board of Directors to fill the office of Second Vice-President replacing **Beverly Cormany** who passed away last May. Ginger is a native of Palm Beach County and has historical roots in the County back to the 1930s. Her family founded, owned and operated the Africa USA tourist attraction in Boca Raton, the first cageless animal attraction in the country. (See her web site at www.africa-usa.com.) Her local history blog (www.palmbeachpast.org) tells the tales of Palm Beach County's past, focusing on small stories that have been lost over time. She is Dean of Curriculum Planning & Research at Palm Beach State College.

Dan Rousseau who had served as a Trustee for two terms has moved out of the area. His

current term expires in April 2012. Since he has resigned because he can no longer attend our meetings, the Board has appointed **Christian Oyer Macoviak** to complete his term. Christian is the youngest daughter of Harvey E. Oyer, Jr. and we are delighted that she has agreed to become a Board member. She has two young sons, Joseph, age 8, and William, age 4, whom proud Grandpa Harvey adored. Christian and her husband Robert Macoviak own and operate the insurance agency Harvey developed, now called Oyer, Macoviak and Associates, in the 500 block on East Ocean Avenue.

NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 28 (Monday after Thanksgiving), at 6:30 p.m. at the Boynton Woman's Club. This will be our last meeting for 2011. The meeting after this one will probably be in late January or early February, 2012.

Any member of the Boynton Beach Historical Society in good standing is welcome to attend the meeting and may participate in the discussion, but only members of the Board may make motions and vote on an issue.

MORE ON OYER COTTAGE

A note from **Lois Oyer Dooley** arrived after the excerpt from a letter from **Sandy McGregor** in the October *Historian* recalled the McGregor family's living in the cottage before Sandra was born. Lois said the McGregors did not live in the cottage but lived in the house just south of the big Oyer house. The house they lived in [shown below] was demolished by the CRA over two years ago.



2012 MEMBERSHIPS

The membership year for the Boynton Beach Historical Society is from January 1st to December 31 of each calendar year. Each year we appeal to you in November and January to send payment to us so that we can reduce the need for individual invoices. Your help with this simplifies our lives since we have no paid staff, only volunteers. It also saves us postage.

If you are a renewing member and have not moved or changed your name, your phone number or your e-mail address, you do not need to complete a membership application form. Your check is your receipt.

This year we began including the status of your membership on each mailing label for *The Historian*. If you have any questions, please call Voncile at 734-5653.

We have added PayPal for those who wish to join via the internet. Log on to the website for more information.

[www.boyntonbeachhistoricalsociety.org]

Below are listed the names of those who have paid their memberships for 2012 as of November 1st.

CORPORATE:

George and Christine Weaver Ternenyi

PATRON:

Bob W. and Jeanne Gaylor
William and Laura Orlove
Voncile Marshall Smith

FAMILY:

Donald C. and Regina Day
Richard and Judith Merkel Howard
Helen Mann and Dorothy Mann McNeice
John I. and Carnella Rogers
Philip B. and Barbara S. Traylor
Stephen and Gay Voss

INDIVIDUAL:

Warren Adams
Steven Anton
Helen Adams Bonomini
Ramona Somerford Davis
Queenie C. M. Foard
Audrey Gerger
Nadine Smith Hartling
Marie J. Horenburger

William G. James
Patricia Mavo
Denise Smith McCulloch
Rosemary Mouring
Lyn Smith Orletsky
Nicholas Orletsky
Camilla Smith Richardson
J. Marshall and Lynn S. Smith
Linda Louise Stabile
Katherine Foy Thompson
Mary Ann Wilson [Bernice Traylor]
Jack Fallon

A special welcome to new members **William and Laura Orlove, Warren Adams, Queenie C. M. Foard, Patricia Mavo, and Mary Ann Wilson.** Thank you for joining us.

And thanks, too, to everyone for renewing.

A GIFT TO THE SOCIETY

We are grateful to **Judy Duxbury** who now lives in Hobe Sound for a cash gift to the Society. We regret that she feels she can no longer be a member, but we thank her for her many years of membership and her thoughtful donation to our gifts account.

PARAPROSDOKIAN SENTENCES

A figure of speech that uses an unexpected ending to a phrase.

{Editor's Note: From to time I receive trivia on the internet which I include to lighten our often rather serious content. The following represent such an inclusion.}

If I agreed with you we'd both be wrong.

A bank is a place that will lend you money . . . if you can prove that you don't need it.

Hospitality: making your guests feel like they're at home, even if you wish they were.

Some people hear voices, some see invisible people.

Others have no imagination whatsoever.

Nostalgia isn't what it used to be.

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. . . wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

The last thing I want to do is hurt you, but it's still on the list.

The early bird might get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.

To be sure of hitting the target . . . shoot first and call whatever you hit the target.

You do not need a parachute to skydive. . . you only need a parachute to skydive twice.

LUCILLE AND OTLEY SCOTT

On August 18, 2011 **Lucille Scott** celebrated her 98th birthday at a private party with her family and a few old friends. A week later the City of Boynton Beach Senior Center and the Boynton Beach Historical Society honored her with a more public party at the Boynton Beach Senior Center.



Barbara Ready helps Lucille open gift at 98th birthday
[Photo courtesy Steven Anton]

The Senior Center is housed in the last location for Lucille and Otley's Restaurant which operated in the area for 63 years.



The Boynton Senior Center at 1021 S. Federal Highway
[Photo courtesy Voncile Smith]

Lucille's and Otley's families both moved to Boynton in 1930 before the town, population 500, added "Beach" to its name. **Otley Webb Scott** was a native of Florida having been born in Orange Park in 1912. **Mary Lucille Tuck** was born in Loganville, Georgia but spent most of her childhood in Cuthbert, Georgia. Her father had had a large dairy farm in Georgia, but lost the farm during the Depression. Later, encouraged by the Woolbrights, Tuck established several dairies in the Boynton area.

Otley's father was, according to Otley, "a truck farmer all over the state of Florida" who later owned a farm near Boynton.

Lucille, who entered her senior year of high school, when she moved to Boynton met Otley who was also in his senior year there. They became high school sweethearts and both graduated in the class of 1931.

They were married in 1934, and a year later in 1935 their first child Jerry was born. Later that year, they opened a bakery in a house in Briny Breezes built by Otley. Among themselves, they called it "the pie shack," which they soon converted into a small 16 seat, four table diner. In this little restaurant Lucille's mother baked, Otley cooked, Lucille served, and Lucille's brother washed dishes. They operated here until 1938.

From 1939 until 1942 they operated a larger 50-seat restaurant, also in Briny Breezes, named the "Snack Shack" in another house. During the World War II years from 1942 until 1945 they closed down. They had had difficulty obtaining certain foods such as sugar and butter because of war time rationing. During this time, Otley worked as a carpenter at the communications school in Jupiter and at the Boca Raton Army Air Field where he used his technical skills to repair aircraft instruments.

[The United States Air Force, which grew out of the Army Air Corps, was not created until the end of World War II. The Boca Raton campus of Florida Atlantic University now occupies a large part of the former Army Air Field and the Boca Raton Executive Airport another part.]

In 1946 the Scotts opened a restaurant again, this time at the Boynton Beach Casino. They lived above the restaurant In 1946 and 1947.

[Unfortunately the City razed the lovely historic Casino to the ground in 1967 and replaced it with the current beach park.]

In 1968 a new structure built by Otley opened at 1021 South Federal Highway. Customers called it 'Lucille and Otley's Restaurant.' Painted lemon yellow with blue Shutters, it eventually seated 400 after two

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additions, the West Room in 1958 and the East Room in 1968.

Lucille ran the dining room and Otley ran the kitchen. They specialized in old-fashioned cooking—fresh vegetables, meats cut daily on the premises, home baked goods including yeast rolls, sticky buns, cakes and pies freshly prepared every day with the same recipes that were used in 1936. One could dine in or take out. Lucille raised roses, first on the restaurant property, then in a garden beside their home which was in the next block southwest of the restaurant. These roses were used daily for fresh centerpieces on each of the restaurant tables.

The restaurant had pastel blue walls; white tablecloths and silver; old photographs of Boynton acquired, framed, and hung throughout; also paintings by James Thurber and by Otley himself.

Lucille and Otley repainted the chairs every year, Otley built some of the machinery and made some of the oversized pots. The waitresses dressed in white blouses and blue and pink skirts and the maitre d' wore a flaming pink blazer.



Wait-staff in red and white holiday attire posing before some paintings by John Thurber.

They served a traditional "high tea" from noon to 3 p.m. on weekdays as well as dinner from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays, and from noon to 8 p.m. on Sundays.

The Scotts also had two daughters, Cecilia born in 1943 and Julie born in 1958. All the children worked and played in the restaurant as they grew up.



Lucille and Otley dining at their restaurant after retirement

Lucille and Otley retired in 1975. Their son Jerry ran the restaurant from 1975 to 1985. In the meantime, Jerry had built a concrete boat which he decided to sail around the world with his wife Pat. Jerry's son, Steven Scott, bought the restaurant in 1985 and operated it until 1998. Declining sales because of the growth of chain restaurants, the changing highway routes after Interstate 95 opened, and a "shut down" during the reconstruction of Federal Highway in 1998, led Steve Scott to close the restaurant and sell the site to the City of Boynton Beach.

Sadly Jerry and Pat were lost somewhere at sea during their trip around the world. Otley died in 2002, and Lucille continues living in the residence at 1101 S.E. 4th Street accompanied by one of her former employees, Carole Volkman. Former patrons recall with longing the chicken shortcake and the mile high lemon pie which were two of their specialties.



Lemon Meringue Pie
at
LUCILLE and OTLEY'S

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.

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) _____
 I will be willing to serve on the following committees (Circle choices):
 Archives/Preservation _____
 Program/Planning _____
 Membership _____
 Public Relations _____
 Telephone _____
 Minority History _____
 Seeking Sponsors _____
 Fundraising _____
 Other (Specify): _____

BOYNTON BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

THE HISTORIAN
 P. O. Box 12

Boynton Beach, FL 33425-0012

OYER PARK DEDICATION

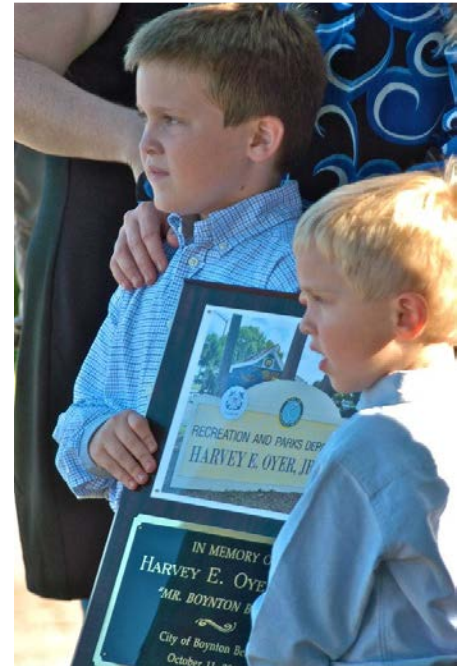
On Tuesday, October 11, 2011 Boat Camp Park became officially Harvey E. Oyer, Jr. Park. In the pictures below, his descendants herald the honor bestowed by city on "Mr. Boynton Beach."



Harvey III acknowledges the City's honoring his father.



Susan Oyer, Harvey's older daughter, displays awards placque.



Harvey's grandsons, Joseph and William Macoviak share the placque.