



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 6

September 2011

"The HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM"

is the subject of the September program to be presented by the City of Boynton Beach Historic Preservation Planner, Warren Adams, who is beginning his role in that newly created position. The actual title for the program is "An Introduction to the Boynton Beach Historic Preservation Program." The meeting will be on Monday, September 12, at 6:30 p.m. in the **City Commission Chambers**. This is a combined meeting with the new Historic Preservation Board and is an opportunity for us to help fill them in about preservation history.

Warren Adams has outstanding credentials for his new position. He has held positions as an historic planner in both the United Kingdom and the United States. He holds an M.A., with distinction, in Conservation Studies, Historic Buildings, from the University of York, England. While he was an undergraduate, his experience included serving as a member of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) in the Americas; Executive Director, Broward Trust for Historic Preservation, Fort Lauderdale, FL; Historic Preservation Planner, City of West Palm Beach, FL; Historic Preservation Planner, City of Delray Beach, FL; Project Manager, Weston-super-Mare Townscape Heritage initiative, England; Project Manager, Strathclyde Building Preservation Trust, Scotland; Member Palm Beach County Historic Resources Review Board; among others.

In an earlier edition of *The Historian*, we reported that the City had established an Ad Hoc Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation to make recommendations to the City about how to handle its historic preservation. Both Barbara Ready and Janet DeVries, Board members in the Boynton Beach Historical Society, served on that Ad Hoc Committee. Warren Adams chaired it. The creation of a Planner and a Board is a true step forward toward preserving the heritage of the City of Boynton Beach.



Warren Adams

WHAT: Boynton Beach Historical Society September Program Meeting, "An Introduction to the Boynton Beach Historic Preservation Program" with Warren Adams, City Historic Preservation Planner

WHEN: Monday, September 12, 6:30 p.m.

WHERE: City Commission Chambers, City Hall

ALL MEETINGS OF THE BOYNTON BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY ARE OPEN FREE 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	VACANT
Recording Secretary	Diana Dennis
Corresponding Secretary	Anne Watts
Treasurer	Frances McKeral

NON ELECTED

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	Dan Rousseau
2013	Brian Edwards
2013	Virginia Farace
2014	Randall Gill
2014	Wendy Franklin

The Boynton Beach Historical Society's website is uemail address 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.

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.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The next Board of Directors meeting for the BBHS will be Monday, September 26, 2011, 6:30, at the Boynton Woman's Club. This is the first meeting since last spring, and we have a number of topics to discuss. An agenda will be forthcoming. Any member of the Society in good standing is welcome to attend any Board of Directors meeting and may contribute to the discussion, but only Board members may vote on business matters.

2011 MEMBERSHIPS RECEIVED SINCE MAY 1

CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP:

Bob and Cindy Lyman Jamison
Scobee-Combs-Bowden Funeral Home
Daniel R. Suiter
Erna Yanke Weaver

PATRON MEMBERSHIP:

Earl and Lenore Benson Rayborn Boonstra
Fred W. Love

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP:

Beverly Agee and Donald Cook
Beverley M. and Margaret Shepard Brown
Gambino and Ann Cuevas
Bill and Nancy Earnhart
Bob W. and Jeanne Gayler (2012)
JoAnn, Irma and Delmar Hackle
Harry D. and Edris Hatch
Martha Meeks-Light and Charlie Light
Ernest G. and Norma B. Simon
Bill R. and Elsie Winchester

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP:

Carl Hackle
Mary Haggard
Phyllis Hammett
Sally Hood
Robert W. Ganger
Robert W. Kraft
Wilese Jones Langford
Rita Marlin
Anne "Nancy" Maury Miller
Gerald Murray
Lillian Ostiguy
Harvey E. Oyer, III
Fain Weems

A special welcome to new members Carl Hackle, Irma and Delmar Hackle, Charlie Light, and Donald Cook. Welcome back, Fain Weems, who served for many years as a member of the Board of Directors.

HARVEY E. OYER, Jr. MEMORIAL FUND

Special thanks to Harvey E. Oyer III who has designated that a number of honoraria he has received from speaking engagements be sent to the fund. Voncile received an honorarium for speaking to the Lakeridge Greens Men's Club for telling them about "British Colonial Florida" that was deposited to the account. Lyn Smith Orletsky (Voncile's daughter) recently made a very generous contribution also.

We have added an additional \$480.00 to the account from the sale of historic pictures from the archives to Wells Fargo Bank. Special thanks to Janet DeVries, our archivist and First Vice President for Programs, for arranging to have copies made and for negotiating with the bank.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES SEEKS FLORIDA MAPS

The Boynton Beach City Library Local History & Archives is accepting donations of all Florida maps, including road and transportation for placement in its permanent collection. Contact Janet DeVries, Archivist, at 742-6397 for additional information.

IN MEMORIAM

ERNA YANKE WEAVER - Erna and Stanley Weaver had been members of the Boynton Beach Historical Society since its founding in 1968. Sadly only a few months after we lost Stanley, Erna passed away May 26, 2011.

Erna was born in Detroit, MI, but her family moved to Boynton Beach in 1945 to own and operate the Old Dutch Mill Restaurant on North Federal Hwy. After she and Stanley were married in 1949, she supported him in his many community service commitments. She was a charter member of Ascension Lutheran Church and a longtime member of the Boynton Woman's Club. For over 30 years she worked in all elections for the precinct located at the Boynton Civic Center. A great loss in her life was death in an accident in 2010 of her grandson Kyle Ternenyi who was only 26 year old.

Immediate surviving family members are her daughter and son-in-law Christine and George Ternenyi, her son William, and her granddaughter and grandson-in law, Kelly and Dustin Schwarz.

The Historical Society shares her family's sorrow and wishes them well. We will all miss her very much. Contributions in her honor may be sent to the DeVos-Blum YMCA designated to "Kyle's Kids at the Y" or to the Schoolhouse Children's Museum.



Erna Yanke Weaver

BETTY McFALL THOMAS - On July 22, 2011, the Historical Society lost another longtime member. Betty McFall was born in Chicago and graduated from Knox College. She accepted her first teaching position in Sheridan, WY where she met an accomplished young artist, Bernard P. Thomas, whom she married in 1948. Later they moved to Florida. Betty was an active and well-known member of the Boynton Beach community for

almost 60 years. She taught at South Grade School and Boynton Beach Elementary where she later became Assistant Principal. Later she became principal Galaxy Elementary School for 11 years and then opened and led Calusa Elementary School until her retirement in 1993.

She held many education and community memberships. She belonged to FREA, the American Legion Auxiliary, the Order of Eastern Star, P.E.O., and the Boynton Woman's Club. She served on the Board of the Palm Beach County Safety Patrol Association for 30 years. She was appointed to the Boynton Beach Board of Parks and Recreation in 1981. In honor for her work in helping to establish many parks in the City, there is a neighborhood park named for her. Among her many other honors she received the Martin Luther King Citizenship Award; Teacher of the Year; Florida State Principal of the Year Semi-Finalist; Grand Marshal of the Boynton Holiday Parade; and two namesake school media centers. She served on the Board of the Boynton Beach Historical Society and had donated many hours developing an historical display in the room in the City Library where the artifacts of the Historical Society were housed before the new library addition opened.

The members of the Society offer our sympathy to her family--her two children and their spouses--Sarah and Ron Bollenbacher and Lloyd and Mary Ann Thomas, and we extend our sorrow and best wishes to her grandchildren and her great-grandchildren. We will miss her kindness and helpfulness.



Betty M. Thomas

Donations in her memory may be sent to the Betty M. Thomas Scholarship Fund at the Boynton Beach 1st United Methodist Church or to the Alzheimer's Association.

The Rain

The rain is coming soon,
But don't be sad and weary
For it will stop at noon
Though it may be long and dreary.
—Hazel Lacey.

FOURTH GRADE

What We Made

This week Mrs. Burr was sick and we had a girl from the high school for our teacher. We started to make Easter posters for Mrs. Burr for her room. I haven't finished yet. Everyone in our room is making one for her.

Mary Blanche and Zetha Crook made theirs together. They put a grass on it in poster.
—Lena Near.

In Spare Time

The first and second grades have made some animals out of soap. They carved them and mounted them on a black paper that they cut like an egg. In our room we are making Easter borders on the blackboard. There is first a basket, then an egg. That is the way the border is made. At the end of the border is a rabbit. It looks so pretty. I think. We children made up the design ourselves.
—Aileen Lewerens.

Fourth Grade Geography

The fourth grade has been studying the New England states, the Middle Atlantic States and the Central states. We made a map of each of

them first. Then we made a list of the states. Then we made a list of products of each state. Then we wrote about the important cities and why they were important. Now we are on the Southern states. We have just made a map of them.
—Cliff Cloer.

The Operetta

The fourth, fifth and sixth grades are going to give an operetta the last of school. There are so many pretty songs in it that I don't know which I would like to sing. There is one song about a robin that everybody likes best. Mrs. Caldwell said we liked it best because the word "robin" is in it.
—Merothy James.

THIRD GRADE

Our Sand Table

We thought of making our sand table after we got the playground things on our school grounds. It went to the fair and brought us back a prize of one dollar. Charles, Frank and Wendell helped. The girls dressed the dolls.
—Bonnie.

Weather Report March 12

I have not seen the sun today. The clouds are gray and white now. The wind is blowing cold today. It looks like it is going to rain. It is very dusty outside. The flowers are pretty. And the trees are green. The grass is growing very beautifully. But everything needs the rain.
—Adell Lunsford.

BOYNTON SCHOOL BREEZES

VOL. I

BOYNTON, FLORIDA, APRIL, 1928

NO. 3

SIXTH GRADE

Morning Exercises

The sixth grade is divided into four rows. Each row has charge of the morning exercises for one week. The teacher said that Samuel's row has had the best exercise yet.
—Bernal Austin.

Our Play

The fourth, fifth and sixth grades are going to have a play. It will be given at the last of school. The name of it is "The Jolly Picnic Party."
—Herman Huber.

My Trip

In geography class in the sixth grade we are taking an imaginary trip around the United States. I am going to Detroit, Michigan. On my way I am going to stop at Indianapolis, Ind., to see my friend, Oscar Webster. Then I shall go on to Detroit and go to Canada. I don't I shall finish my tour.
—Clarence Benson.

Our Flowers

In our room we have a kinds of flowers. We have some marigolds, petunias and other interesting plants. We have a violet that will soon be blooming.
—Martha Myers.

FIFTH GRADE

My Trip to the Newspaper Office

Wednesday the fourth and fifth grades went to Palm Beach to the Daily News printing office. When we got there we got in groups to go in. First the fourth grade went in to see it, then the group that I was in.

The first thing I saw was a machine that looked like a sewing machine. With this machine they sewed the magazines together with wire.

Then we went upstairs into a room that was called "the hot room." In this room they had a big pot that had melted lead in it. Then we went into another room. In that room were four typesetting machines. These

Spelling Honors

On our blackboard we have the names of the children who got 100 all week. They get their names on the spelling honor roll and get a star for each week's perfect record. The ones with the stars are Grace, Hazel, Betty, Lena, Martile, Helen and Katherine.
—Betty Lou Garrett.

Easter Joy

Once there was a little bunny rabbit. He was going through a meadow the night before Easter to the house of a little poor girl. He had a basket of colored eggs on his arm. When the little bunny rabbit got to the little girl's house he made nests of straw and put the eggs in them. When morning came there was a happy little girl who went running around hunting for the eggs with a little basket on her arm.
—Katherine Rousseau.

My Trip to Bartow

Last summer I went to Bartow. I surely had a nice time. We stayed with my aunt for a month.

I went to the movies most every night, all but Sunday night. I went to church. The last night I was in Bartow a parade came there. I thought it was the prettiest thing. A woman was sitting in a bed of hearts. It was a valentine and some woman and children had on dresses of hearts with "Be my valentine" and "I love you" on them.
—Betty Garrett.

The Honor Roll

The fourth and fifth grades have a blackboard that is at the back of the room. Mrs. Burr, our teacher, puts the names of pupils there who get 100 all the week in spelling and gives them a star for each week's perfect record.

Those who have one star are: Lena Near, Martile Jordan, Helen Bourn and Katherine Rousseau.

Those who have two stars are: Hazel Lacy and Betty Garrett.
Grace Woodruff has three stars.
—Grace Woodruff.

What We Did

Today we had a test about the New England states. Some of us did not know the products and some did. We drew a map of the New England states, then we wrote the products, then the names of the important cities and why they were important.
—Earl Laughter.

A Visit to the Fair

When I went to the fair Tuesday, March 6, 1928, the first thing I did was to go into the building that had the posters in it. When I got in there I saw my own poster. You can imagine how surprised I was.

Then I rode on the merry-go-round, and then on some little airplanes. That was all.

I saw a lady half man and half woman. I also saw a man with a rubber skin.

Then I caught sight of a spinning wheel. I spent forty cents trying to win a rabbit.
—Margaret Meredith.

Boynton School Breezes

Published by the Fourth and Fifth Grades of the Boynton, Florida, Public Schools.

Hazel Lacey Editor
Margaret Meredith Assistant
William Somerville Assistant
Josephine G. Burr Teacher

Vol. I April, 1928 No. 3

machines had keys like a typewriter. The man would hit the keys and a piece of brass would come out into a little tray. These pieces of brass had molds of letters cut in them. The line of type was cast from these molds.

Then there was an arm of steel that came down and got the pieces of brass and took them back to the top of the machine, and the brass pieces fell into the holes where they belonged. These pieces of brass are used over and over.

The man who owns this place is Mr. Oscar G. Davies.

Then we went downstairs and we saw machines to print and fold the sheets of paper.

Then every girl and boy in the fourth and fifth grade was given a piece of lead called a line of type with their name on it and a scratch pad and a Palm Beach Life magazine.
—Grace Woodruff.

Spring

The birds are singing gaily,
As gaily as can be.
Children are playing lightly
Under the apple tree.
—Hazel Lacey.

The School Bus

Out west of town the road is closed and the children have to go around by the Lantana road on a school bus. The road is about six miles around. About twenty children ride on it. The bus is full.
—Betty Lou Garrett.

Our Picnic Party

The fourth, fifth and sixth grades are going to give a play, or operetta, at the end of this school year. The name of it is "Our Picnic Party." Nearly everyone in it has a song to sing all by themselves. In it the characters will be Grandma, Dot, Hazel, Sam, Annie, Flora and lots of others, besides the school children and the brownies.
—Pauline Laughter.

Prize Story Illustrations

The first and second prizes for fifth grade story illustrations at the county fair were won by girls in our room. The first prize by Zerephy Tabit and the second by Margaret Meredith.

Zerephy's story was "Little Red Riding Hood." There were six pictures of Red Riding Hood taking the basket, meeting the wolf, picking flowers, going to the bed, running from the wolf and thanking the hunter for killing the wolf.

Margaret's story was "Pinocchio," the story of a marionette. There were six pictures. The first picture was Pinocchio being carved, another showed him running away, the third picture showed him in the house of the Talking Cricket, the fourth going to school, and the others were Pinocchio being hung and caught in the door.
—Jimmie Newkir.

STEPHEN VOSS HONORED WITH FRENCH LEGION OF HONOR MEDAL

At a program sponsored by the Boynton Veterans' Council on August 19, 2011, Stephen Voss and 14 other veterans who survived the invasion at Normandy during World War II were honored by the Republic of France bestowing on each The Legion of Honor Medal. The French Consul, Gael de Maisonneuve, made the presentation.

The Government of France is conducting similar ceremonies throughout the United States as it tries to locate and thank the many Americans who participated in the liberation of France from the German Third Reich. The Consul reminded the audience how grateful the French people are and remarked how America and France have been on the same side in all wars since the American Revolution.



L to R: The French Consul; Gay Voss; Stephen Voss, and Stephen, Jr. pose after the ceremony.

Stephen is the grandson of Lillie Elder Pierce Voss and Captain Frederick Voss, pioneer settlers in the Boynton-Hypoluxo area. He is a first cousin to Harvey E. Oyer, Jr. He served in the Navy during World War II during the invasion.



Steve Voss with Harvey Oyer in 2006 at Harvey's 80th Birthday Party.



The fifteen honorees, wearing their medals on their left lapels, are pictured after the ceremony.. Names not in order, but they are Gerald Bergman, Leo Crepeau, Jerome Efros, Larry Gold, Theodore Knee, Jack Lobel, Robert Miller, Edwin Moser, Percy Paget, Irving Swirsky, Robert Thompson, Lee Travelstead, Emmanuel Vadala, Stephen Voss, and Leo Wurtzel.

HARVEY E.OYER, JR. PARK

Boat Club Park has been renamed in honor of "Mr. Boynton Beach," Harvey E. Oyer, Jr., who passed away in December, 2010. The formal dedication and public renaming will take place on October 11, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. The Public is invited.

Over the years, Harvey had participated in many events at the park's location. Harvey was a long serving member of the Kiwanis Club of Boynton Beach. He worked at their Annual Fishing Tournament and also at many barbecues Kiwanis held at the park. At one time the Boynton Beach Historical Society held its May picnic there, and Harvey usually made the arrangements. In 1995, in a centennial reenactment of the founding of Boynton, Harvey played his great-grandfather Hannibal Pierce bringing Major Boynton by boat to that site where a number of the centennial celebratory events occurred. He had a special fondness for this park.



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 Mailings
 Telephone Hospitality Membership Public Relations
 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

HISTORIC OYER COTTAGE IS RENOVATED



Cottage in 500 block on North Seacrest

Harvey E. Oyer, Sr. built this cottage from lumber he had salvaged from the beach in the early 1920s. The family lived in the house briefly and Lillie Pierce Voss lived there for a time after she was widowed. An enclosed porch, which created another room was on the north end (left), but a careless driver this past spring careened off Seacrest, hit and destroyed it.

Harvey III, Christian, and Susan Oyer decided to renovate it, redo the interior, and landscape around it. It sits just north of the 2-story stucco frame house Harvey, Sr. built in 1926.

BBHS PROGRAMS FOR 2011 – 2012

Program Chair, Janet DeVries, announces the following schedule for the coming year. Please mark your calendars.

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|----------|---|
| 9/12/11 | Warren Adams, "An Introduction to the Boynton Beach Historic Preservation Program" |
| 10/17/11 | Marjorie Watts Nelson, "Paul Dunbar's Life, Ye Olde Tower, Lantana in 1925" |
| 11/14/11 | Peter & Janis Colon, Civil War re-enactors and enthusiasts, "Florida During the American Civil War" |
| 1/9/12 | Pending, TBA |
| 2/13/12 | Pending, TBA |
| 3/12/12 | Chris Davenport, "Middens of Palm Beach County" |
| 4/9/12 | Steve Anton, "Boynton Beach Shipwrecks" |
| 5/??/12 | Pending, TBA |