



# *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.

2015 Number 3

March 2015

In HONOR of WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH in March, the STORY OF AN AMAZING WOMAN from the EARLY HISTORY of BOYNTON—

## **CORA STICKNEY HARPER— A LIFE OF SERVICE**

Cora Stickney Harper arrived in Boynton in 1901 as a new bride and Wellesley graduate. A true twentieth century woman, her life was a combination of deep tragedy that was overcome by the triumph of the three organizations, one of which is the Boynton Woman's Club, she founded more than a century ago that are still in existence in the twenty-first century. On Monday, March 16 come hear her recently uncovered story from her early days in New Hampshire to the unbelievable story of her tragic death.

In the photograph on the left, Cora is seated on the right beside her sister-in-law, Ella Harper.



### Editor's Note:

Because we are unable to present the program on *The Photography of Stan Sheets* we had originally scheduled for Monday, March 16, Janet DeVries and Ginger Pedersen have agreed to share their research on Cora Harper. They have presented the same program to the Boynton Woman's Club and the DAR this month prior to scheduling it for the Boynton Beach Historical Society.

**WHAT:** Cora Stickney Harper—A Life of Service  
Presented by Janet DeVries and Ginger Pedersen

**WHEN:** Monday, March 16, 2015, 6:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Boynton Beach City Library  
208 South Seacrest Boulevard  
Program Room

**ALL PROGRAMS OF  
THE BOYNTON BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
ARE OPEN FREE TO THE PUBLIC**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS--2014-15

### OFFICERS [Elected Annually]

President	Janet DeVries
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President, Programs	Ginger Pedersen
2nd Vice President, Membership	Voncile Marshall Smith
Recording Secretary	Diana Dennis
Corresponding Secretary	Anne Watts
Treasurer	Frances Tuite McKeral
Editor, <i>The Historian</i>	Voncile Marshall Smith
Archivist/Facebook/Webmaster	Janet DeVries
Facebook Administrator/Webmaster	Ginger Pedersen

### DIRECTORS [3-Year Staggered Terms]

2015	Sheila Rousseau Taylor
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2016	Tim Bednarz
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### TRUSTEES [3-Year Staggered Terms]

2015	Christian Oyer Macoviak
2015	Audrey Gerger
2016	Virginia Farace
2016	Susan Merkel Shaffer
2017	Randall Gill
2017	Wendy Franklin

Our website is [www.boyntonhistory.org](http://www.boyntonhistory.org). The e-mail address is [boyntonhistory@gmail.com](mailto:boyntonhistory@gmail.com)

Please mail inquiries or information to our local address P.O. Box 12, Boynton Beach, FL 33425. Voncile can be reached at 561-734-5653. Boynton Beach Historical Society number is 561-327-4690.

You can also find us on Facebook and Twitter:

[www.facebook.com/historicboyntonbeach](http://www.facebook.com/historicboyntonbeach)

[www.twitter.com/@boyntonhistory](https://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. Copies from past years are posted on the website.

### LIFE MEMBERS

Lenore Benson Raborn Boonstra  
Randall Gill  
Alexander "Sandy" Simon  
Dorian Beck Trauger  
Charlotte Tatum Weaver  
Curtis and Nain Weaver

### CORPORATE MEMBERS – 2015

Boynton Woman's Club  
Donald Day/Delray Awning, Inc  
Scobee-Combs-Bowden Funeral Home and Crematory  
George and Christine Weaver Ternenyi

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Special thanks to all of you who sent in your dues to date. Your membership is reported in *The Historian*, usually in November, January and February, depending upon when we received your dues. We do not repeat the entire membership list each time. Your address label on the copies you receive in the mail should indicate your status as a paid member. The following list is of people who have given us their dues since

February 1<sup>st</sup>, whether mailed in, paid through PayPal or paid in person

### LIFE:

Lenore Benson Raborn Boonstra

### PATRON:

David H. Bludworth  
Richard B. and Kathleen Castagnoli  
Robert L. and Virginia W. Foot  
Dan and Lisa Suiter

### FAMILY:

Fred and Sandy Barch  
Ron and Sarah Thomas Bollenbacher  
Mike Fitzpatrick and Lisa Hanley  
Ruth J. Jones and Emilie Jones Little  
Gayle Kranz and George Greider  
Ward C. and Martha Parker  
James B. and Georgie P. Raulerson  
Leland and Donna Fuller Smith  
Stephan H, II and Dr. Gay Voss and Kathleen Voss Woolrich

### INDIVIDUAL:

Sophie Amichai  
Brian D. Combs  
Sally Dye  
Audrey Gerger  
Nancy Horan  
Marcia Voss Norman  
Susan Revie  
Mary Miner Haggard  
Linda Louise Stabile  
Cindy Weeks

We are pleased to have added new members Fred and Sandy Barch, Brian D. Combs, and Marcia Voss Norman. We also are happy to announce that Lenore Benson Raborn Boonstra is now a Life member.



The Boynton High School class of 1949 in Cuba from Sue Beaman's Facebook page. 1<sup>st</sup> row L to R: Monty Clemons, Nain Weaver, Marion LaQuitte (teacher and sponsor), Eleanor Murray, Sue Murphy, Eva Brooks, Ovieda Weeks. Top row L to R: Sue says she doesn't know first guy, but your editor identifies Paul Muster, Gloria Partin, Patsy Woolbright, Margie Johnson, Mary Shook, and Marvin Baker.

## ACTOR CHRIS ROBINSON AND THE BOYNTON FILM

By Ginger Pedersen

[Editor's Note: Ginger Pedersen, ever searching for more information about what has been done in the past that relates to Boynton history, found a copy in the City Library of the Boynton Film that had been made by Actor Chris Robinson. Chris was well-known to Boynton Beach audiences in the 1960s, 70s and 80s as a successful Hollywood and Television actor. Ginger interviewed him by telephone on February 25. This is her report.]

"Chris was born in 1938 in Wilton Manors, Florida. He also spent time in West Palm Beach. I asked him about the Boynton film and why it was made. He said that he had just moved to Boynton Beach and was learning to make feature films. He had made some "shorts" for the Jonathan Winters TB show on NBC. The Chamber of Commerce wanted a film to promote tourism, so they approached Mr. Robinson about make a documentary. It was the first documentary he made. He also made films for the Lions Industries for the Blind in Lake Worth during his time in Boynton.

He lived at 655 Castilla Lane in Boynton Beach. While living here in 1974, he also produced and directed the feature film "Sunshine Run" which was filmed in the Everglades and had a pre-Civil War story line.

He thinks the Boynton film dates from 1968-1970. He used all local talent in the making of the film. He does not have a copy of the film and was surprised that a copy still existed. He thought about the film just last week when he was working on his memoirs for publication so he was quite amazed with my call about the film.

I'm ordering a copy for him and for the Historical Society. Pretty amazing!"



Chris Robinson

To add to what Ginger gained from her interview, your editor includes the following bits of information gleaned from websites-- Besides numerous other film and television roles, Chris Robinson played Dr. Rick Webber #2 on *General Hospital* from 1978 to 1986 and return appearances in 2002 and 2013. Later he played Jack Hamilton in *The Bold and the Beautiful*. He now lives in Cornville, Arizona. He is listed as both an actor and director, and our interest in his Boynton film is tied to his early experiences here while building his skill as a director.

We expect to show his Boynton film at a later date.

## MARCH HISTORY STROLL

**Date:** Saturday, March 14, 2015

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

**Place:** Heritage Hen Farm, Boynton Beach

**Meet at Heritage Hen Farm, 8495 Haverhill Road  
Boynton Beach 33437**

**Program:** History of agriculture and dairy farming.  
Tour of Farm

**Presenter:** Janet DeVries and Ginger Pedersen

**Cost:** Free and Open to the Public

**Participants are encouraged to register in advance  
as space is limited**

**Saturday, March 14, 2015, 10:00 a.m.—Agriculture History  
Stroll**

Join us for a history stroll on a real farm in Boynton Beach. Narrated tour about the history of the pineapple industry and agriculture in Boynton Beach by historians Janet DeVries and Ginger Pedersen. (60 minutes) After the tour you can see the animals, purchase farm fresh eggs, milk, fruits and vegetables. Please wear comfortable shoes, bring water/sunscreen. There are no facilities on site.

**Register for Heritage Hen Farm History Tour:**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/march-14-2015-heritage-hen-farm-visit-and-history-stroll-tickets-15781263183>. Or call 561-327-4690.

## FACEBOOK COMMENTS

Some comments in response to our account [www.facebook.com/historicboyntonbeach](https://www.facebook.com/historicboyntonbeach).

**Julie Summers Mascho**—I am so glad to walk down memory lane. I have nothing but the fondest memories of Boynton and its people. I moved there when I was 6 and literally grew up there. It is so enjoyable to see pictures of it and be able to immediately conjure up a memory associated with it.

**Lisa Huff**—I've lived in Boynton for 12 yrs now. But as much as I love seeing how much it's grown, I really enjoy the old photos of how life used to be. When things look so simple and not so built up.

**Thom George**—For someone new to the city from Ohio, it is a great way to learn and appreciate the history of Boynton Beach and surrounding areas. I look forward to seeing your posts here. Thanks!

**Cindy McClain Nye**—Every photo and article I see takes me back to one of the happiest times of my life when I was growing up in Boynton Beach in the 60s! I sincerely thank everyone, from fellow natives to newcomers (namely Janet DeVries and Ginger Pedersen ) for their valuable time and effort making this happen.

**Joe Ciampa**—We love this page because it secures our treasured past and without that we would be lost! Thank you and a #MONUMENTALSALUTE to a #MONUMENTALORGANIZATION!



## REMEMBERING THE ICE BOX

By Voncile Smith

Most of us are familiar with ice chests which we use mainly for picnics, parties or traveling, but today very few Americans can recall the day when a family expected direct ice delivery by the ice man several times a week for what was then our "refrigeration."

I lived on Military Trail just slightly north of what is now Le Chalet Boulevard actually on the site of where Hidden Oaks School now stands. We had a refrigerator, but, until after World War II, many of our neighbors were dependant on the two to three times a week arrival of the ice man.

Ice was stored in the "ice box," usually a wooden cabinet with two or more doors.



An antique ca 1890 icebox shown on Ebay website

Sometimes the door for inserting the ice was on the top, more often on the front as shown here. The top compartment held the ice and had a pipe or tube allowing for drainage so that the water from the melted ice did not flow into the lower compartment which usually contained shelves for holding the "refrigerated" items.

Three or four door ice boxes held more items for refrigeration and could also accommodate bigger blocks of ice.



Ice boxes were usually lined with metal or stone to help retain the cold. This made them quite heavy to move, not to mention the problem of disrupting the drain line if one sought to change the box's location.

The ice man carried the ice in a large enclosed truck, usually with a tarp covering the ice to reduce meltage. The ice was in large blocks that were scored to permit the ice man to separate blocks more commonly into 25 lb., 50lb, 75lb or 100lb. pieces. Some carriers provided odd or smaller amounts, but this was less

common. The ice man carried the bare ice into the customer's house by means of tongs, commonly slinging heavier orders, such as 100lb. blocks, onto his shoulder to manage the weight.

The customer who wanted delivery placed an "ice card" in a window to indicate a wish for delivery and the amount desired. The size of the ice block was indicated by the "up" number at the top of the card.



Ice Delivery Cards

The name "ice box" was in such common usage that, as electric refrigerators came into use, people continued to use the term "ice box" to refer to them. Regardless of the make of the electric refrigerator, if they were not called ice boxes, they were called "frigidaires," "Frigidaire" for many years was a generic term much like the words "Thermos" and "Kleenex" became.



1930s GE Monitor Top Refrigerator

Although the refrigerator pictured above was made by GE, its owners probably referred to it as their "frididaire." Or maybe as their "electric ice box."

The antique ice box, as a means for food preservation had serious drawbacks. Its cooling power was limited and food spoiled much quicker. In warm weather the ice melted rapidly despite the insulation, and it could disappear before the ice man was scheduled to return.

During World War II, my family and I lived in a rental apartment in Detroit, Michigan which, to my mother's disgust, had only an icebox for refrigeration. Because of war time restrictions, we could not buy an electric replacement. We very, very seldom had iced drinks because my mother would not chip the big block for fear that reduction of its size would further reduce the ice box's cooling ability. Be grateful for modern refrigeration!



## THE OLD DUTCH MILL

The building for The Old Dutch Mill which was owned and operated as a bar and restaurant by Bill and Olga Yanke in the 1940s and 50s still stands on North Federal Highway in Boynton Beach. The hurricane of 1947 blew off the blades of the windmill which were never replaced, but the blade dome retains its shape today. The building has become a fish market.



From a postcard—the building as it looked before the storm of 1947  
Below are some photographs of the bar and restaurant given to the Boynton Beach Historical Society by Christine Weaver Ternenyi, Bill and Olga Yanke's granddaughter.



Bill Yanke behind the bar in August, 1950



Guests at the bar ca. 1950. Can you help us identify any of them?

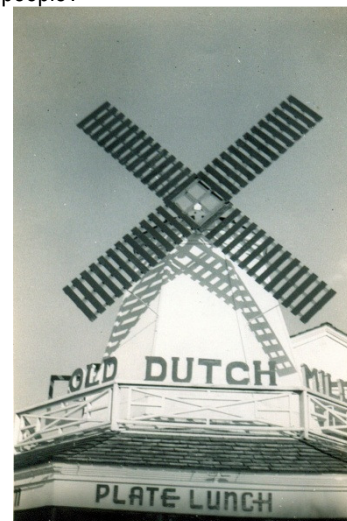
Olga and Bill Yanke had two children, Erna and Walter. Erna married Stanley Weaver and in turn she and Stanley had two children of their own, Christine and William Weaver. Walter Yanke attended Lake Worth High School and married Dolores Smith whom he met there. Olga and Bill, Stanley and Erna, and Walter and Dolores are all deceased.



Guests at tables in restaurant ca. 1950. Can you help us identify any of them?



Bill Yanke is behind the bar in this photograph. Walter Yanke is in the foreground and that is probably Dolores Smith Yanke beside him. Who are the other two people?



A close up view of the exterior



# BOYNTON BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Member's  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

Street \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

THE SOCIETY IS A 501 © 3 Organization so dues are TAX DEDUCTIBLE!

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP: (Check one)	INDIVIDUAL	(\$25.00) _____
	FAMILY	(\$35.00) _____
	PATRON	(\$50.00) _____
	CORPORATE	(\$100.00) _____
	STUDENT	(\$10.00) _____
	LIFE	(\$500.00) One time Payment only.

The membership; year is from January 1 to December 31 of each year.  
Dues are not pro rated.

Complete this form and mail it with a check for the appropriate amount to  
Boynton Beach Historical Society, POB 12, Boynton Beach FL 33424-4012,  
You may pay by PayPal at [www.boyntonhistory.org](http://www.boyntonhistory.org)

*The Historian*

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



School children at the early Boynton elementary school  
before the 1913 schoolhouse was built.

[Photo courtesy Ted Murray Family]



Paul Muster and Patsy Woolbright voted "Shyest Seniors" for  
The class of 1949 at Boynton High School