



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.

Recipient of the 2021 Judge James R Knott Historical Contribution Award

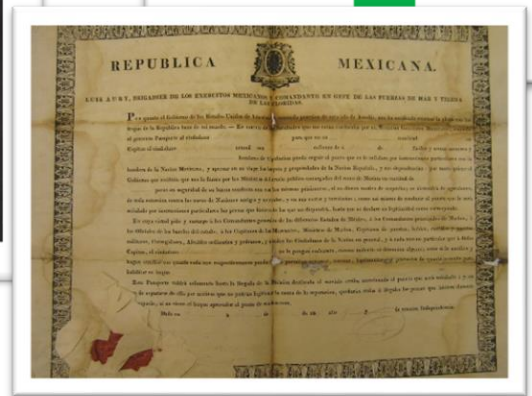
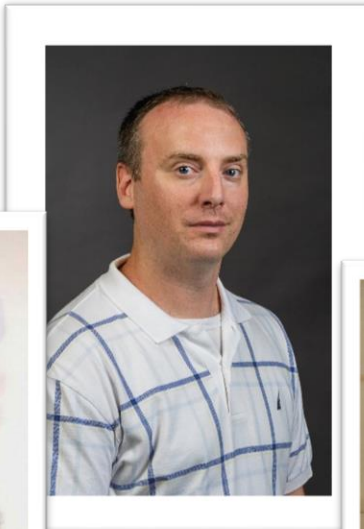
October 2022

Pirates, Privateers, and the Fall of Spain's Empire: How Spanish American Independence Brought Florida to the United States Monday, October 24, 2022 @ 7-8pm EDT via Zoom

For emails on file, check your inbox for an invitation from BBHSPrograms@gmail.com. Remember to set up reminders in your calendar. If your email isn't already on file with us, simply send a request to join to BBHSPrograms@gmail.com and we'll send you an invitation.

In the summer of 1817, a group of pirates and privateers invaded Amelia Island, Florida, then still a Spanish colony, in hopes of striking a blow for the Spanish American Revolution. They ended up accelerating Florida becoming part of the United States. The presentation will tell the story of these revolutionary rogues and their leaders, how they planned to free Florida from Spanish rule, and how the United States intervened to stop them.

David Head is associate lecturer of history at the University of Central Florida. He is the author of two books: *Privateers of the Americas: Spanish American Privateering from the United States in the Early Republic* and *A Crisis of Peace: George Washington, the Newburgh Conspiracy, and the Fate of the American Revolution*, which was a finalist for the prestigious George Washington Prize.



(L to R): MacGregor, MacGregor, David Head, Aury FL Commission, Green Cross of FL. All Photos Courtesy David Head
All Programs of the Boynton Beach Historical Society are FREE and OPEN to the Public
Boynton Beach Historical Society The Historian October 2022



Boynton Beach Historical Society

Since 1968

2022-2023 Board of Directors

OFFICERS Elected Annually

President – Anne Rimler

1st Vice President, Programs - Barbara Ready

2nd Vice President, Membership - Sheila Rousseau Taylor

Secretary – John Shelly

Treasurer – Robert Taylor

TRUSTEES 3-Year Term

2023 – Steve Anton

2023 – Heidi Bell

2024 - Donna Artes

2024 – Chadda Shelly

2025 - Virginia Farace

2025 - Ben Lowe

Non-Elected

Editor, *The Historian* - Anne Rimler

Archivist/Facebook/Webmaster – Janet Naughton

Facebook Admin/Webmaster – Ginger Pedersen

Promotions/Publicity – Nora Gallagher Michuda

Boynton Beach Historical Society

PO Box 12, Boynton Beach, FL 33435

We are on the web www.boyntonhistory.org, and on Facebook

[@HistoricBoyntonBeach](https://www.facebook.com/HistoricBoyntonBeach) and on Twitter [@BoyntonHistory](https://twitter.com/BoyntonHistory).

Questions or comments: **Programs** bbhsprograms@gmail.com

Membership bbhsmembership@gmail.com.

The Historian

The Historian, the newsletter of the Boynton Beach Historical Society, is sent approximately six times a year, between October and April, to dues-paid members (one per paid membership).

Previous issues are posted to our website. Issues were not published April 2020 to October 2021 due to COVID-19.

The first line on your mailing label has your **membership expiration date**. If you receive the *Historian* via email, we'll send you a renewal notice before your dues expire.

Dues paid at/after the last meeting of the season will be credited toward the following season. Memberships run Jan 1 to Dec 31.

Become a Member or Renew your Dues

Go to boyntonhistory.org. On the **Membership** tab, pay securely via **PayPal** or download the form and mail in with your check. Thank you!

Historical Society Bylaws

Society Bylaws: www.boyntonhistory.org/membership/

2022-2023 Season – via Zoom except for on-site Art Show

Oct 24: D Head/Pirates, Privateers, & the Fall of Spain's Empire

Nov 28: C Barnett/Sound of the Sea: Seashells & Ocean's Fate

Jan 21: Florida Highwaymen Art Show at Arts & Cultural Center



Zoom Program Meetings are Recorded

Find us on YouTube at "BBHS Programs"

Like and Subscribe!

The following represents our Membership Roll to date & Dues received from 4/05/2022 to 10/11/2022

Thank You to our Life Members

Vickie & Anthony **Barbar**

EasyPay Tire, Doug & Ruth **Besecker**

Candy & Doug **Brueggemann**

Linda & Mike **Callaway**

Robert and Jeanne **Gayler**

M Randall **Gill**

Robert & Carrie **Parker Hill**

Robert & Christian **Oyer Macoviak**

Melear Bros., Cliff & Rick **Melear**

Wayne & Eva Brooks Knuth **Netzler**

Susan **Oyer**

Scott & Camilla **Smith Richardson**

Sandy A **Simon Jr**

Voncile Marshall **Smith**

George & Christine Weaver **Ternenyi**

William & Gaye **Weaver**

Marion Weaver **Wester**

Bill & Elsie **Winchester**

Thank You to our Corporate Level Members

Boynton Memorial Chapel, Stormet C **Norem**

Dan & Regina **Day, Delray Awning**

Scobee-Combs-Bowden Funeral Home & Crematory

Daniel & Lisa Ames **Suiter**

Thank You to our Patrons

Tim **Bednarz**

Charles & Mary Theresa **Bilthuis**

Ron & Sarah Thomas **Bollenbacher**

Richard B **Castagnoli**

Michelle **Donahue**

Robert W **Ganger**

Gayle **Kranz** & George **Greider**

William G **James**

Charles & Betty **LaBella**

Sandra & Eugene **Palchanis**

Ward & Martha **Parker**

Mary **Scheitler**

Billie Jo **Swilley**

Sheila **Rousseau** & Robert **Taylor**

Mary **Burns** & Tom **Warnke**

Anne **Watts**

Suzu **Winchester**

New and Renewed Memberships

Thank You!

L.H. Hansford **Calloway Jr**

Heidi **Hayn**

Sandra **McGregor**

Nora **Gallagher Michuda**

Society Recommendations

Orchids on the Square – Orchid Show & Sale

Sat Oct 22nd & Sun Oct 23rd. Old School Square Fieldhouse.

Delray Beach. Info: 561-573-2360. \$5

Woodlawn Cemetery - Historical Moonlight Tour

Tue Nov 8th Registration info: City of West Palm Beach, Parks

and Recreation, Volunteer Services Office: 561-804-4938. \$5

HSPBC Was It Murder? - Mock Trial

Thu Nov 17th West Palm Beach. Registration info: Historical

Society of Palm Beach County: 561-832-4164. \$35

50 years of Collecting – Temporary Exhibition

Now thru Dec 21st, 2022. Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum.

Info: 561-395-6766 x104. \$12



The Historian

Historical Society Receives 2021 Judge James Knott Historical Contribution Award

The Judge James R. Knott Historical Contribution Award was presented to the **Boynton Beach Historical Society** at the **Historical Society of Palm Beach County's** Annual Membership Meeting on Tuesday, April 26, 2022. The prestigious award is in recognition of efforts, spanning over 30 years, to rescue two buildings, the **1913 Boynton Elementary School** and **1927 Boynton High School**. Both now have new life as cultural centers that add sparkle as the jewels for Boynton Beach's Town Square. With the continual support and actions of the Boynton Beach Historical Society, both historic buildings have been restored and are open to the public as **The Schoolhouse Museum and Learning Center** and **Boynton Beach Arts and Cultural Center**.

The award recognizes the achievements that have contributed to the preservation, promotion, or enrichment of Palm Beach County history. The goal of the **Judge James R. Knott Historical Contribution Award** is to recognize individuals or organizations for their contributions to the history of Palm Beach County, those who have worked to preserve, promote, or enrich our history for future generations. The award honors and is named for the late **Honorable Judge James R. Knott**, who served as President of the HSPBC from 1957 to 1969. Judge Knott is fondly remembered as a dedicated historian and author of the "Brown Wrapper" newspaper series as well as three books on our area's history.

Excerpts from the nomination application, submitted by **Janet Naughton**, follow.

"The two-story 1913 concrete block masonry vernacular Boynton Elementary School complete with belfry was designed by well-known Baltimore architect **William Maughlin** of the firm Ruggles and Weller. The Historical Society's efforts began in 1987 with the Boynton Elementary school bell restoration. The elementary school building restoration completed in 2000 and cost nearly \$1.5 million. The 1913 schoolhouse has operated as the Schoolhouse Children's Museum and Learning Center since November 2001. Operated by the non-profit Boynton Cultural Center with some operating costs paid by the City of Boynton Beach, the museum has exhibits for child's hand-on play and learning amid historic vignettes like Doc Weems' Office, a pioneer house, schoolroom, post office, general store, train station, and agricultural exhibits including a pepper farm with packing house and a dairy barn and milking cow. Children ages 2-8 and their families explore, play, and learn about Palm Beach County's history in the beautifully restored 1913 school.

"**William Manly King** designed the 1927 Boynton High School in Mediterranean Revival and Art Deco styles. Once topping Florida Trust's List of Most Endangered Places for 11 years running, the school seemed destined for the wrecking ball (the City of Boynton Beach had allocated \$275,000 for demolition). REG Architects assisted with the rehabilitation designs and Straticon Construction did the work at a cost of about \$12 million. The high school building has risen from the ashes into a grand showpiece next to the children's museum and across from the new City Hall and Library. The stately original school building was preserved and restored to maintain its original character, including keeping the second floor gymnasium as a performing arts auditorium. What was once considered an eyesore, is now the Boynton Beach Arts and Cultural Center, the jewel of Boynton Beach. The architectural firm kept the 28,000 square foot building's exterior iconic symbols—a torch depicting enlightenment and learning, and a shield representing literature, music, performing and visual arts."

In June 2022, **Georgen Charnes**, Library Archivist, **Boynton Beach City Library**, created a display depicting the efforts to save the schools. The display featured the Judge Knott Award and items from the archives. We hope you had the opportunity to visit the library and see the wonderful display.

The Boynton Beach Historical Society is honored and proud to serve to the Community. THANK YOU for your support.

Photographs, turn to page 5



The Historian

Boynton Beach Historical Society New Officers and Bylaws Amendment

We held our **Annual Election of Officers and Trustees** at the Members meeting on April 25, 2022, and elected Officers and Trustees. Please join us in congratulating **Anne Rimler**, President/Editor The Historian; **Barbara Ready**, 1st VP/Program Chair; **Sheila Rousseau Taylor**, 2nd VP/Membership Chair; **John Shelly**, Secretary; **Robert Taylor**, Treasurer; Trustees **Virginia Farace** and **Ben Lowe**. Non-voting Appointees include Archivist/Facebook/Webmaster, **Janet Naughton**; Facebook Admin/Webmaster, **Ginger Pedersen**; and Promotions/Publicity, **Nora Gallagher Michuda**. And please extend a special welcome to our new Board members: John, Robert and Nora.

At the May 16, 2022 Board of Directors meeting, as per **Bylaws Article IX paragraph 3**, the Board voted unanimously to amend the Society Bylaws Article II Section 4 to modify the timing when new board members' terms take effect from "the end of last board meeting of the Spring" to "the close of the Annual meeting." This was needed to ensure that the May Board meeting and the business of the Society could proceed without interruption with our newly elected members in place. The article now needs to be ratified by Members of the Society at the next regular meeting which will be held October 24, 2022 at 7pm via Zoom. Following its approval, the section will be updated to read:

"Terms for all officers except the Trustees will be one year or until their successors are elected, and their term of office shall begin at the close of the Annual Meeting. Terms for Trustees shall be for three years or until their successors are elected, with two Trustees elected each year to assume office at the close of the annual meeting. Candidates chosen to complete unfinished terms shall serve the duration of that term."

The bylaws can be viewed online at <https://www.boyntonhistory.org/membership/>.

Boynton Beach Historical Society Notes with Sadness

The Society notes with great sadness the recent passing of several members: Sue Murphy Beaman, Everee Jimerson Clark, Susan Merkel Shaffer, and Richard William Zobel. Condolences to the families. You are missed. Thank you for your contributions.

Boynton Woman's Club

Luncheon Thursday, October 27th, at 11:30am

The Boynton Woman's Club is extending an invitation to Society members to their October meeting. Local author **Barbara Erlichman** will be the guest speaker at the Boynton Woman's Club luncheon on Thu Oct 27 at 11:30am, at the Olive Garden at 1001 N. Congress Ave in Boynton Beach. Barbara has published four novels and the title of her talk is **An Author's Life**. Please review their menu in advance to speed the ordering process. For further information, please contact Barbara by Mon Oct 24th by emailing her at barbara.erlichman@gmail.com.

Boynton Beach Garden Club

Fashion Show Luncheon Wednesday November 9th, at Noon

The Boynton Beach Garden Club is extending an invitation to Society members to "**Fall into Fashion**," a luncheon fashion show that takes place on Wed Nov 9th at Noon at the Westchester Country Club in Boynton Beach. The event features fashions from four boutiques and five vendors showing their wares: purses, jewelry, note pads, greeting cards, and a chocolatier. The fun afternoon includes a tasty luncheon, fashions by **Patchington**, **Wildberries**, **Morgan Blaine Boutique**, and **Voyage Boutique**, and a dazzling array of vendor wares. There will be 18 outstanding raffle baskets and a 50/50. To join, contact Kathy Menninger (516-849-3415) to select your tasty salad and yummy dessert (choose from 3 salads: Par Three, Oriental Salmon, or Fuji Apple Chicken, and chose from 2 desserts: brownies with ice cream or raspberry sorbet). Tickets are \$45. All profits are donated to local charities. Reserve by Tues Oct 25.



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Left: Incoming Society President Anne Rimler, Outgoing Society President Randall Gill with Judge James R Knott Award; Center: Janet Naughton, Anne Rimler, Ann Gill, Randall Gill, Ginger Pedersen. Photos courtesy Capehart Photography & Lisa Steinhauer & HSPBC; Right: 2021 Judge James R Knott Historical Contribution Award presented to Boynton Beach Historical Society



Left: Save Historic Boynton High Rally, July 2016; Right: Boynton Beach City Library Display, June 2022. Photos courtesy Boynton Beach City Library Archives



Left: Children's Schoolhouse Museum and Learning Center, courtesy Photographer South Florida via Flickr. Right: Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, courtesy City of Boynton Beach



The Historian

Archivist's Corner by **Georgen Charnes, Library Archivist, Boynton Beach City Library**
<https://www.boynton-beach.org/city-library> (561) 742-6390 100 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach, FL 33435 charnesg@bbfl.us

Your Local History Archives

The mission of the **Boynton Beach City Library Local History Archives** is to collect, preserve, and make accessible, the heritage of the people of our region. Our collections include material collected by previous staff, items cleaned out of houses in preparation for sale, items purchased by collectors or staff, and materials inherited by family members. It includes photographs, postcards, digital images, maps, papers, meeting minutes, scrapbooks, and publications.

If you donate to the Archives, you will receive a Deed of Gift to be signed and returned. This document gives us title to the item and allows us to use it for many purposes. Without the paperwork, there can be some issues. For instance, if a publication features a donated photograph, we do not want to have a donor come back and say that they didn't give permission for it to be published! As a partner with the **Boynton Beach Historical Society**, we hold any archival items donated to the Historical Society; if you donate to the Historical Society, they'll turn those donations over to us and I'll be sending each donor Boynton Beach City Library Local History Archives paperwork. Anyone donating to the Historical Society can be assured that their donations are cared for and available to everyone.

An increasing amount of our collections are available to be viewed on our website (<https://www.boynton-beach.org/library/archives>). Photographs, oral histories, newspapers, directories, and maps are available for examination online. There is also research information, including a timeline of Boynton Beach history, a list of mayors, City budgets, and incorporation information. There are links to important sources of research available online, like FDOT aerial views and the U.S. Geological Survey Maps. Be prepared to spend a lot of time browsing once you start!

We are fortunate to live in a community with so much interest in its history, and to have so many ways that research can be conducted so easily. The Boynton Beach City Library Local History Archives is proud to be a part of these efforts.



Photos courtesy: Boynton Beach City Library Archives

BOYNTON BEACH CITY LIBRARY LOCAL HISTORY ARCHIVES



The mission of the Boynton Beach City Library Local History Archives is to collect, preserve, and make accessible the heritage of the people of our region.

