



# 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**

**Recipient of the Schoolhouse Children's Museum 2023 Spark Award**

**November 2023**

## **Picturing Paradise: From John James Audubon to the Florida Highwaymen** **Monday, November 27, 2023 @ 7-8pm EST via Zoom**

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

The Florida landscape has provided aesthetic inspiration to artists for centuries. Titian Ramsay Peale and John James Audubon came in search of native flora and fauna, followed by Harriet Beecher Stowe, Martin Johnson Heade, George Inness, Winslow Homer, and Henry Ossawa Tanner, who were lured by its natural beauty and warm climate. This presentation offers a succinct and engaging history of Florida's landscape painters.

Keri Watson is Assistant Director of the School of Visual Arts and Design and Associate Professor of Art History at the University of Central Florida. She serves as Co-Executive Editor for *Panorama: Journal of the Association of Historians of American Art* and is the author of *A New Deal for Florida: Parks and Post Offices in the Sunshine State* (forthcoming), *Visual and Performing Arts Collaborations In Higher Education: Transdisciplinary Practices* (2023), *This is America: Re-Viewing the Art of the United States* (2023), and the editor of the *Routledge Companion to Art and Disability* (2022). Dr. Watson's research has been recognized and supported by a Fulbright Fellowship and grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, Arts Midwest, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and the Society for the Preservation of American Modernists.



Keri Watson



Florida Highwaymen Art

Funding for this Florida Humanities Florida Talks Speaker's Program is supported in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Arts and Culture, Florida Council on Arts and Culture, and the National Endowment for the Arts.



All Programs of the Boynton Beach Historical Society are FREE and OPEN to the Public  
Boynton Beach Historical Society    The Historian    November 2023



# Boynton Beach Historical Society

~ Since 1968 ~

## 2023-2024 Board of Directors

### OFFICERS Elected Annually

President – Anne Rimler  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Programs - Barbara Ready  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Membership - Sheila Rousseau Taylor  
Secretary – John Shelly  
Treasurer – Robert Taylor

### TRUSTEES 3-Year Term

2024 - Donna Artes  
2024 – Chadda Shelly  
2025 - Virginia Farace  
2025 - Ben Lowe  
2026 – Linda Allen  
2026 – Nora Gallagher Michuda

### Non-Elected

Editor, *The Historian* - Anne Rimler  
Archivist/Facebook/Webmaster – Janet Naughton  
Facebook Admin/Webmaster – Ginger Pedersen  
Promotions/Publicity/YouTube – Nora Gallagher Michuda

### Boynton Beach Historical Society

PO Box 12, Boynton Beach, FL 33425

We are on the web [www.boyntonhistory.org](http://www.boyntonhistory.org), and on Facebook [@HistoricBoyntonBeach](https://www.facebook.com/HistoricBoyntonBeach). Questions or comments:

Programs [bbhsprograms@gmail.com](mailto:bbhsprograms@gmail.com)

Membership [bbhsmembership@gmail.com](mailto:bbhsmembership@gmail.com).

### The Historian

*The Historian*, the newsletter of the Society, is sent six times a year, between October and April, to dues-paid members (one per paid membership). Previous issues are on our website. If you would prefer to receive *The Historian* via email, let us know by emailing [bbhsmembership@gmail.com](mailto:bbhsmembership@gmail.com). Benefits include saving postage & printing costs, reaches you when you're away, eco-friendly, arrives faster than print, and links in articles are active.

### Become a Member or Renew your Dues

Dues expire annually on Dec 31st (except for Life Memberships). Go to [www.boyntonhistory.org](http://www.boyntonhistory.org); on the **Membership** tab, pay securely via **PayPal** or download the form and mail in with your check. Membership runs Jan. 1 to Dec. 31. Our Program Season runs from Oct to Apr. Thank you for your support!

### Historical Society Bylaws

Society Bylaws: [www.boyntonhistory.org/membership/](http://www.boyntonhistory.org/membership/)

### 2023-2024 Season Programs via Zoom except Jan 20

**Mon Nov 27:** Picturing Paradise, **Keri Watson**  
**Sat Jan 20:** Florida Highwaymen Art Show; Arts & Cultural Ctr  
**Mon Feb 26:** stay tuned for further information  
**Mon Mar 25:** stay tuned for further information  
**Apr Annual Meeting & Program:** stay tuned!



**Zoom Program Meetings are Recorded**  
Find us on YouTube at "BBHS Programs"

The following represents our Membership Roll to date & Dues received from 10/06/2023 to 11/06/2023:

### Thank You to our Life Members

Vickie & Anthony **Barbar**  
**EasyPay Tire**, Doug & Ruth **Besecker**  
Michael & Gloria **Bowden**  
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**  
Anne **Rimler**  
Sandy A **Simon Jr**  
Voncile **Marshall Smith**  
George & Christine **Weaver Terenyi**  
William & Gaye **Weaver**  
Marion **Weaver Wester**  
Elsie **Winchester**

### Thank You to our Corporate Sponsors

Donald & Regina **Day, Delray Awning**  
Laura **Hinzman, Scheurer's Chocolates**  
**Scobee-Combs-Bowden Funeral Home & Crematory**

### Thank You to our Patrons

James **Pitts** Billie Jo **Swilley**  
Sarah **Williams**

### Membership Renewals Thank You For Your Support!

Hector **Arvelo** Barbara **Berry**  
Diana **Dennis** Dolores **Erickson**  
Robert **Foot** Robert **Ganger**  
Ann **Gill** Maggie **Arndt** & Kate **McMahon**  
Laura & Willam **Orlove** Sandra **Pike**  
James **Pitts** Anthony **Rawson**  
Joann **Shoemaker** Donna **Smith**  
Billie Jo **Swilley** Sarah **Williams**

### Florida Humanities & Boynton Beach Historical Society

Would you please take a moment to complete a brief survey about today's program? Your feedback will help shape future programming. Search for 'Florida Humanities Program Survey' or click this link: <https://floridahumanities.org/grantee-resources/forms-and-resources/survey/>

### Donation to Boynton Beach Historical Society Collection

Thank you to **Jim Zeak** for the fantastic collection of sport fishing photos at Boynton Inlet Docks, including some by Stan Sheets. The Society's Collection is maintained at the **Boynton Beach City Library Archives**. We eagerly await the arrival of the new Library Archivist and will keep you posted on this and other additions to the Historical Society's Collection. Have something to donate to the collection relevant to Boynton? Let us know [bbhsmembership@gmail.com](mailto:bbhsmembership@gmail.com). Thank you.



# The Historian

## Happy 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to the Boynton Beach Garden Club!

In 1938, a group of Boynton residents got together to form the **Boynton Beach Garden Club** (BBGC). The Club's first president was **Bertha Daugharty Williams Chadwell** and its initial goal was to encourage home and civic beautification. Eighty-five years later, the BBGC is still "expanding our knowledge of gardening and the floral arts; promoting wise practices to maintain and protect our ecosystem; supporting community projects for the beautification and health of our neighborhoods."

The old Boynton high school, now the Boynton Beach Arts and Cultural Center, located at 125 E. Ocean Ave, was the recipient of one of the Club's first projects: two *Ceiba pentandra* (kapok) trees. In 2020, the single surviving 55-foot tall, 65-year-old tree was saved from destruction due to the Boynton Beach's Town Square Redevelopment Project. A two-year project, which required the pruning of roots and limbs, required a crane to move the kapok tree across the street from its original location.

Another project of the Club is the maintenance of the butterfly garden at the **Schoolhouse Children's Museum** located at 129 E. Ocean Ave. The dedication and hard work of the Butterfly Garden Committee ensures the success of this beautiful addition to the Museum.

And another garden that the club created and has been caring for since 2017, is the **Community Garden**, located at NW 6th Avenue and Seacrest Blvd. White mayor, **Stephen Grant**, gave the BBGC a grant to create a Community Garden on a vacant plot of land. They also received a grant from the National Garden Club for the Plant America Project. The garden has been maintained with mostly native plants for the past five years. This year, the membership decided to introduce native trees, shrubs, and plants to support bird life in a neighborhood surrounded by asphalt. The plants will provide birds with resting, hiding and nesting places, as well as to provide food in the form of berries, nectar, insects, and caterpillars.

The BBGC meets monthly between September and May. Meetings are a mix of educational programs, hands-on workshops, and group tours or trips. Members are expected to participate in the maintenance of community gardens and activities such as the Boynton Beach Earth Day celebration and the Blue Star Marker memorial event. For more information, [boyntonbeachgardenclub.org](http://boyntonbeachgardenclub.org).



Left: Butterfly Garden from the porch of the Schoolhouse Museum. Right: Delighted resident (Knight Anole) of the Butterfly Garden. Photos Courtesy: Boynton Beach Historical Society



# Boynton Beach Historical Society Membership Form

Select One: \_\_\_ **New** Membership or \_\_\_ **Renewal**.

My Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

New Member? Welcome! How did you hear about us?

Select Membership Type:

- \_\_\_ **Individual \$25**
- \_\_\_ **Family \$35**
- \_\_\_ **Patron \$50**
- \_\_\_ **Corporate \$150**
- \_\_\_ **Student\* \$10** (with a valid student ID)
- \_\_\_ **Life** (one-time payment) **\$500**

**Special Offer:** Give a free one-year membership to a friend!  
 Buy One. Give One. BOGO! **Mail with payment to:**  
 Boynton Beach Historical Society  
 PO Box 12  
 Boynton Beach FL 33425-0012  
 Pay via PayPal at [www.boyntonhistory.org/membership/](http://www.boyntonhistory.org/membership/) and  
 send an email to [BBHSMembership@gmail.com](mailto:BBHSMembership@gmail.com) with your  
 BOGO recipient's info.

Select Gift type and indicate amount:

\_\_\_ **Gift** \_\_\_ **In Honor** \_\_\_ **In Memory** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

For(name): \_\_\_\_\_

The Society is a 501(c)(3) Organization; dues are tax deductible. Membership year runs Jan 1 to Dec 31.  
THANK YOU!

Did you already renew membership? THANK YOU! In case you forgot to provide your BOGO recipient, email their contact information to [BBHSMembership@gmail.com](mailto:BBHSMembership@gmail.com).

Are you a Life member? THANK YOU! You are eligible to give a one-year membership too! Email their contact information to [BBHSMembership@gmail.com](mailto:BBHSMembership@gmail.com)

I'm taking advantage of the BOGO Special Offer! Please send a free one-year membership to:

BOGO Recipient's Name \_\_\_\_\_

BOGO Recipient's Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

BOGO Recipient's E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

BOGO Recipient's Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

*THANK YOU!*



# The Historian

## Boynton Beach Historical Society Virtual Programs

## YouTube Channel

Really wish your cousin, friend or neighbor had seen our cool program last month about the mermaids? Couldn't attend our previous program? No worries! One of the benefits of virtual programming is that we record the presentations and make them available on our YouTube Channel. Pick and choose which program you'd like to watch or choose a season's playlist to binge all of the programs from any of the last three seasons. Go to youtube.com and search for @bbhsprograms5142. Like and subscribe to be notified when new videos are added.

## The Crystal Ball Chronicles: Lena Clarke's Twisted Tale of Love, Deception, and Crime

by **Ginger L. Pedersen and Janet M. Naughton**

There are snakes in the post office.

Ambitious young reporter Kate Brennan thought she had found a tranquil paradise. Instead, a fateful meeting with Lena Clarke, the spinster postmistress of West Palm Beach, Florida, entangles Kate in Lena's mysterious and delusional life. Clarke's obsession with snakes, foreign spies, and the supernatural led to one of 1921's most bizarre crime sprees.

This true crime story recounts Lena Clarke's downfall following the tragic death of her most trusted confidant. As officials closed in on Clarke's scheme, she fled and hid out in an Orlando, Florida hotel room where she unleashed a night of terror.

For information on the just-released book by past Board Members of the Historical Society, **Ginger L. Pedersen** and **Janet M. Naughton**, go to [www.lenaclarke.com](http://www.lenaclarke.com).

Congratulations Ginger and Janet!

## Boynton Beach Historical Society Notes with Sadness

**Mary Kirsch Molloy** passed away in June 2022. Her daughter, Maggie Arndt relates, "Mom and I always enjoyed your programs." The Historical Society offers our deepest condolences to family and friends.

## Boynton Beach Gold Coast Band

**Concert Sunday, December 3 @3pm**

The **Boynton Beach Gold Coast Band** presents "Holidays Around the World" on Sunday, December 3 at 3 p.m. at the Boynton Beach High School Auditorium, 4975 Park Ridge Blvd, Boynton Beach. Special guests include: Vocalist **Donna Singer** and the **Robert Sharon Chorale**. Admission is \$10; students with ID and children 12 and under are free. For more information [goldcoastband.org](http://goldcoastband.org).

## Boynton Beach Woman's Club

**Meeting Thursday, December 7 @2pm**

The Boynton Beach Woman's Club graciously extends an invitation to Historical Society members to attend the BWC's **Past Presidents' Tea** on Thursday, December 7 at 2 p.m. at the Quail Ridge Country Club. For information about the cost and to make a reservation, please email [BWC1909@gmail.com](mailto:BWC1909@gmail.com)

## Boynton Beach Garden Club

**Meeting Tuesday, December 19 @1pm**

The Boynton Beach Garden Club graciously extends an invitation to Historical Society members to attend the meeting on Tuesday, December 19th, at 1pm. There will be a holiday treat exchange and holiday centerpiece demonstration. Location: First Presbyterian Church of Boynton Beach, 235 SW 6th Ave, Boynton Beach.

For more information, go to <https://boyntonbeachgardenclub.org/>

**Save the date!** The Garden Club's annual **Fashion Show** will take place on Wednesday, March 20, 2024, at the Westchester Country Club. This year's theme for the Fashion Show will be "Blossoms and Butterflies."



# The Historian

**On the Gulf Stream**

**By Randall Gill, Past President Boynton Beach Historical Society**

## **Changes in Latitude, Changes in Attitude - Jimmy Buffett (1946-2023)**



Singer Jimmy Buffett with a Nomad Surfboard, c1990. Boynton Beach City Library Archives

Singer, songwriter, and author, **Jimmy Buffett** was always on the move. He traveled the world in his flip flops singing about the joys of life. One of his stops along A1A was **Nomad Surf Shop**. Jimmy was always enthusiastic about the ocean, fishing, and sailing. He was dedicated to saving the manatees and riding the waves on a long board. He realized that the best part of surfing was paddling out into the ocean and being with his friends. He reminded us that we all need to take time to relax and take time from this stressful world.

**Ryan Heavyside**, the son of Nomad's founder, **Ron Heavyside**, says Jimmy had a few custom surf boards created for him at Nomad over the years. Walking through the door of the Nomad Surf Shop you will find a photograph of Jimmy on the wall to greet you. There is a true surfing vibe in this family-run business that has been around for over 50 years. Jimmy Buffett was the troubadour nomad. He wrote about surfing in his books and spent decades chasing waves around the world.

It's fascinating to know that even with his devotion to his music, Jimmy took time to enroll at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg. In 1969, he graduated with a degree in History. He was a proud supporter of his Alma Mater and honored his mother, Loraine, who was passionate about education, by establishing a scholarship endowment for needy students. College enabled him to meet a diverse group of people and experience different cultures. This would later influence his songwriting.

When I am going down A1A and looking at the ocean on this scenic drive, I am reminded of how much Jimmy Buffett loved A1A. This peaceful drive is something we can all take time to enjoy in this tropical paradise.



The best swells are on the south side of the Boynton Inlet in wintertime.  
Postcard c1963      Courtesy R Gill



Above: Ryan Heavyside in the board room at Nomad. 2023      Courtesy R Gill  
Right: Nomad Postcard      Courtesy R Heavyside

