



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.

2019 VOLUME 2

FEBRUARY 2019

FEBRUARY PROGRAM MEETING!

Monday, February 18, 2019

THE LIFE and ART OF JOHN JAMES AUDUBON

**Presented by Maxine
Schreiber**

Doors Open 6:30p

Program 7-8p

First Presbyterian Church

Pratt Hall - 235 SW 6th Av

Boynton Beach FL 33435

Two blocks west of Seacrest Blvd Free
Parking

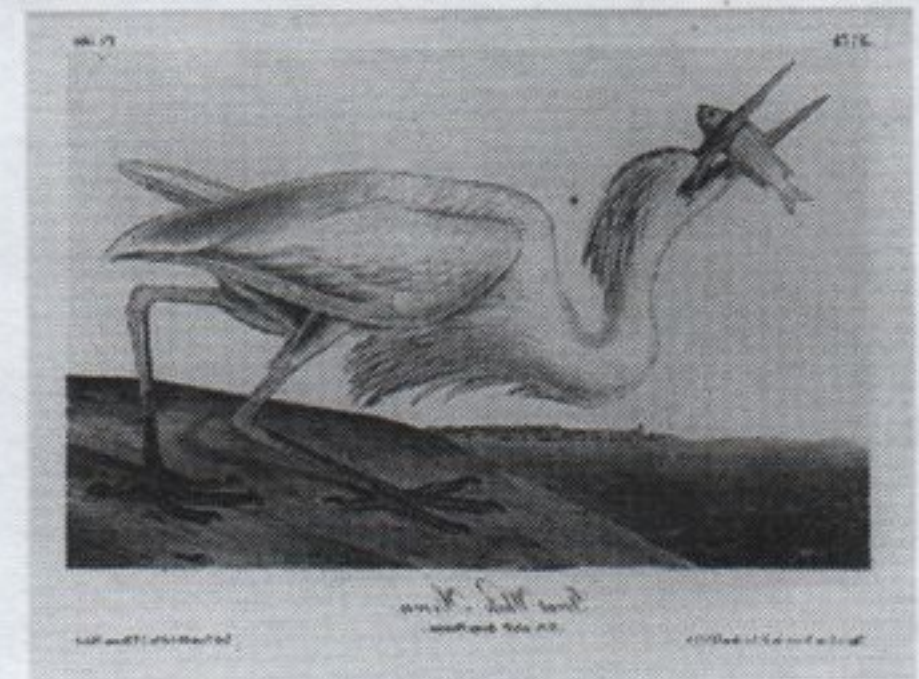
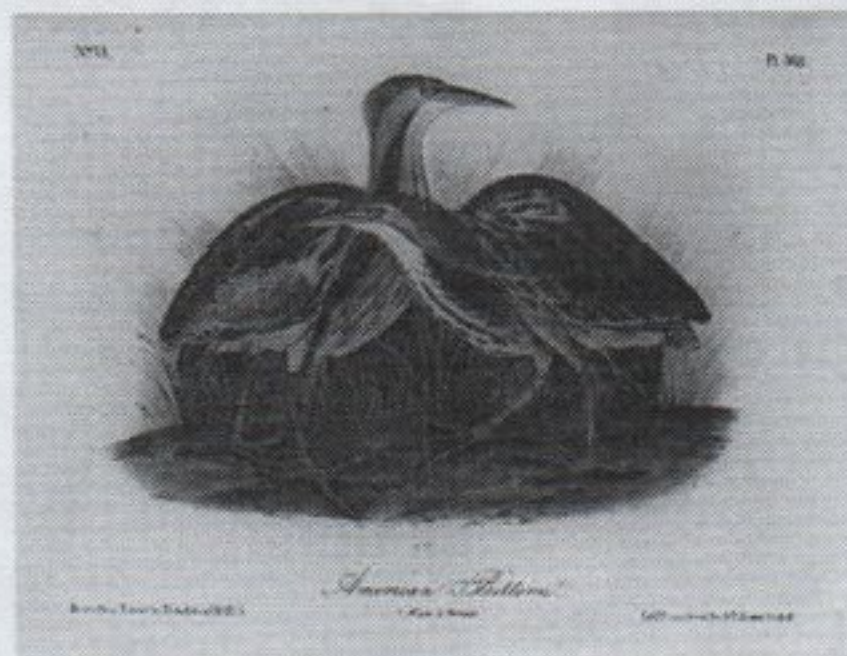
SAVE THE DATES FOR FUTURE
MONDAY NIGHT PROGRAMS

March 18, April 15

Covered Dish Sunday May 19 @5p

THE AUDUBON SOCIETY:

The Audubon Society of the Everglades (ASE) has a mission to conserve wildlife, especially birds, and the environment that supports them. Maxine Schreiber will share the history of the Audubon Society as well as a brief history about John James Audubon, the man who inspired the name for the organization. Audubon's monumental work **Birds of America**, still considered one of the greatest examples of book art, consists of 435 hand-colored, life-size prints of 497 bird species made from engraved copper plates. In addition to sharing Audubon's life, Maxine will present a slideshow of fifty of his magnificent prints as she provides the history of the Society, which was founded in the late 1800s. For more than a century, the Audubon Society has built a legacy of conservation success by mobilizing the strength of its network of members, chapters, Audubon centers, state offices, and dedicated professional staff to connect people with nature and the power to protect it. The local chapter, the Audubon Society of the Everglades, has played an important role.



ABOUT OUR SPEAKER:

MAXINE SCHREIBER, after having received her B.A. in Fine Arts from Kean University, and a Master's in Expressive Therapies from Lesley University, put teaching and exhibiting her paintings aside to practice as a psychotherapist. In 2001, she picked up her brushes again and has been painting ever since. As a juried artist member of Women In The Visual Arts, Artists of Palm Beach County and the National Association of Women Artists, Maxine's oil paintings, watercolors, collages, and photographs have been in numerous juried exhibitions in local museums, galleries, and Art in Public Places. In 2014 she wrote, illustrated, and published "The Story of Daphne the Duck," a children's picture book. An active member of the Audubon Society of the Everglades, she has presented lectures on "John James Audubon, the Man, the Artist, and the Society that Honors Him" for the Art on Park Gallery in Lake Park and the Mandel Public Library in West Palm Beach.

All programs are FREE and OPEN to the Public

www.boyntonhistory.org



HistoricBoyntonBeach



@BoyntonHistory

BOYNTON BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS--2018-19

OFFICERS [Elected Annually]

President	Randall Gill •
1st Vice President, Programs	Anne Rimler •
2nd Vice President, Membership	Sheila Rousseau Taylor •
Recording Secretary	Jeffrey Fine •
Corresponding Secretary	Anne Watts •
Treasurer	Frances Tuite McKeral •

[Non-Elected]

Editor, <i>The Historian</i>	Voncile Marshall Smith
Archivist/Facebook/Webmaster	Janet DeVries
Facebook Administrator/Webmaster	Ginger Pedersen

DIRECTORS [3-Year Staggered Terms]

2019	Tim Bednarz → Resigned
2019	Judith Merkel Howard •
2020	Steven Anton
2020	Barbara Ready
2021	Heidi Bell
2021	Donna Artes

TRUSTEES [3-Year Staggered Terms]

2019	Susan Merkel Shaffer •
2019	Virginia Farace •
2020	Diana Dennis
2020	Sarah Thomas Bollenbacher
2021	Susan Oyer
2021	Voncile Marshall Smith

Our website is www.boyntonhistory.org. The e-mail address is boyntonhistory@gmail.com

Pleasemail inquiries or information to our local address

P.O. Box 12, Boynton Beach, FL 33425.

You can also find us on Facebook and Twitter:

www.facebook.com/historicboyntonbeach

www.twitter.com/@boyntonhistory

The Historian is usually 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
Candice Tomei Brueggemann, P.A. Real Estate
Easy Pay Tire Stores, Inc. Dougs Besecker, Ruth Besecker
Randall Gill
Robert and Christian Oyer Macoviak
Melear Bros., Inc. - Cliff and Rick Melear
Wayne and Eva Brooks Knuth Netzler
Scott and Camilla Smith Richardson
Alexander "Sandy" Simon
Ernest G. Simon
Voncile Marshall Smith
George and Christine Weaver Ternenyi
Dorian Beck Trauger
Charlotte Tatum Weaver
Curtis and Nain Weems Weaver

DUES FOR 2019

The membership year for the Boynton Beach Historical Society is from January 1 to December 31. Since January is such a busy month, many members forget to renew. If you have not submitted you dues yet, we are including a reminder with this newsletter with a preaddressed envelope included. We hope you will continue

participating with us in preserving the history of the City and other parts of Florida.

The following have joined since we mailed the January Historian. If you had previously sent in your dues, your name should have been listed in the January newsletter. The date your dues expire in our records should be above your name on the mailing label on your copy of *The Historian*. If we have erred please let us know so we can correct our records.

Corporate Membership:

Don and Regina Day, Delray Awning, Inc.
Daniel and Lisa Ames Suiter

Patron Membership:

B.J. Swilley

Family Membership:

Richard and Judith Merkel Howard
John A. and Rannnie Melear
Michael and Janet DeVries Naughton
William and Laura Orlove
Vito and Helen Rinaldo
John and Chadda Shelly

Individual Membership:

Steven Anton
Virginia Farace
Barbara Louise Gellner
Evelyn Howell
Rosalie Morrissey
Anthony Rawson
Barbara Ready
Sue Revie
Irma Hackle Stonecipher
Jean Ann Thurber

REMEMBERING BOYNTON'S G.A.L.A

For a number of years from 1982 until the early 2000s the City of Boynton sponsored a street fair with an acronym which stood for Great American Love Affair. Booths were erected primarily along Ocean Avenue between the Intracoastal Canal and Federal Highway representing promotion for various organizations, musicians and artists, and the sale of assorted craft products.

The event was sponsored by the City of Boynton Beach and the Greater Boynton Beach Chamber of Commerce.

Originally the G.A.L.A. had been held on the grounds of the City Civic Center, but with the construction of new municipal buildings, the sponsors decided in 1988 to move it to the new site. The idea was to keep it downtown to help promote downtown businesses.

But not all the shopkeepers were pleased and some complained they had not been consulted before the new location was selected. Because they felt the congestion and crowds would be disruptive during the Fridays and Saturdays on which the event was scheduled, they decided to close their shops for those days. But the event continued for over a dozen more years and at first with ever-increasing attendance. [Continued page 4, G.A.L.A.]

The INTERNATIONAL KINETIC ART EXHIBIT and SYMPOSIUM

A UNIQUE BOYNTON BEACH EVENT

On February 2 and 3 of this year the City of Boynton Beach Art in Public Places program presented this biennial event in conjunction with the Kinetic Art Organization (KAO), Ocean One, LLC, Boynton Beach CRA, International Sculpture Center, CODAworx, and media partners Art Hive Magazine, Culture Owl and The Coastal Star.

This exhibit which Boynton has hosted every two years since 2013 is specific to Boynton Beach. A dozen kinetic art sculptures on display throughout the City since October are part of the City's program, Art in Public Places.

Debby Coles-Dobay, who is the Public Arts Manager for the City has defined kinetic art as that which may be powered by solar, water, wind, gravity and human interaction. She notes that each installation has an augmented reality component to deepen a viewer's experience and, in some situations, allow visitors to enter and shape the artwork. She describes this as art in four dimensions.

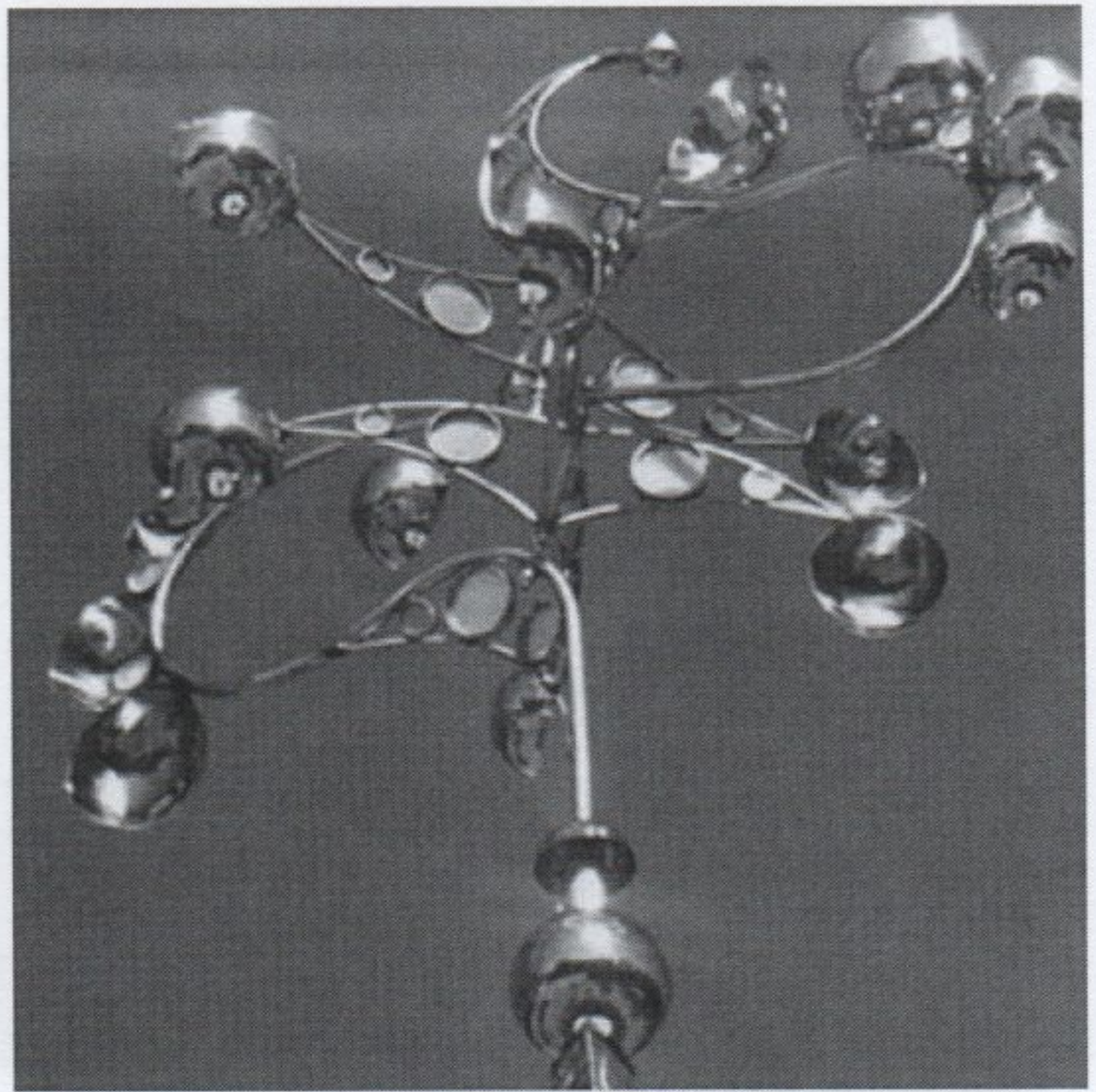


[from Twitter @BoyntonArts#KineticArts]

"Dude a l'eau Dudall" by Beju LeJobart is one of the outdoor exhibits.

The exhibit featured both indoor and outdoor works and provided attendees with the opportunity to interact with kinetic artists from all over the world.

One of the artists, Tom Brewitz, works from a studio in Boynton Beach where he creates his one-of-a-kind kinetic pieces. A three part sculpture, which he has named "Phoenix Rising," has been on display at the gazebo at Pete's Pond. In mythology the phoenix rises from the ashes and has inspired Brewitz's stainless steel, aqua tinted flying birds which he avows will withstand harsh weather conditions and still move with ease.



[from Twitter@BoyntonArts#KineticArts]

"Phoenix Rising" by Tom Brewitz

Tom Brewitz had also a number of works in the Indoor Kinetic Art display which was housed in a tent at the northeast corner of Ocean Avenue and Federal Highway.

All the events including the symposia art experiences were open free to the public.



Voncile Smith with artist Lloyd Goradesky in front of his kinetic sculpture "Let Love Guide Your Way" on display at Dewey Park on Ocean Avenue. Oyer buildings are on right.

THE RUBBLE OF THE PAST, FEBRUARY, 2019 – WHERE CITY BUILDINGS ONCE STOOD



Construction sites are surrounded by fences with blue screen blocking the view.



Former location of Boynton Beach Police Department.



A poster on the fence surrounding the area where the Library stood which shows renderings of the proposed City Hall/Library 4-story combination. Southeast corner of Seacrest and Ocean Avenue.



The playground behind the 1913 Schoolhouse Children's Museum is no more. Mike Fitzpatrick who had helped build the original playground has tried to have some of the equipment moved elsewhere with very limited success.

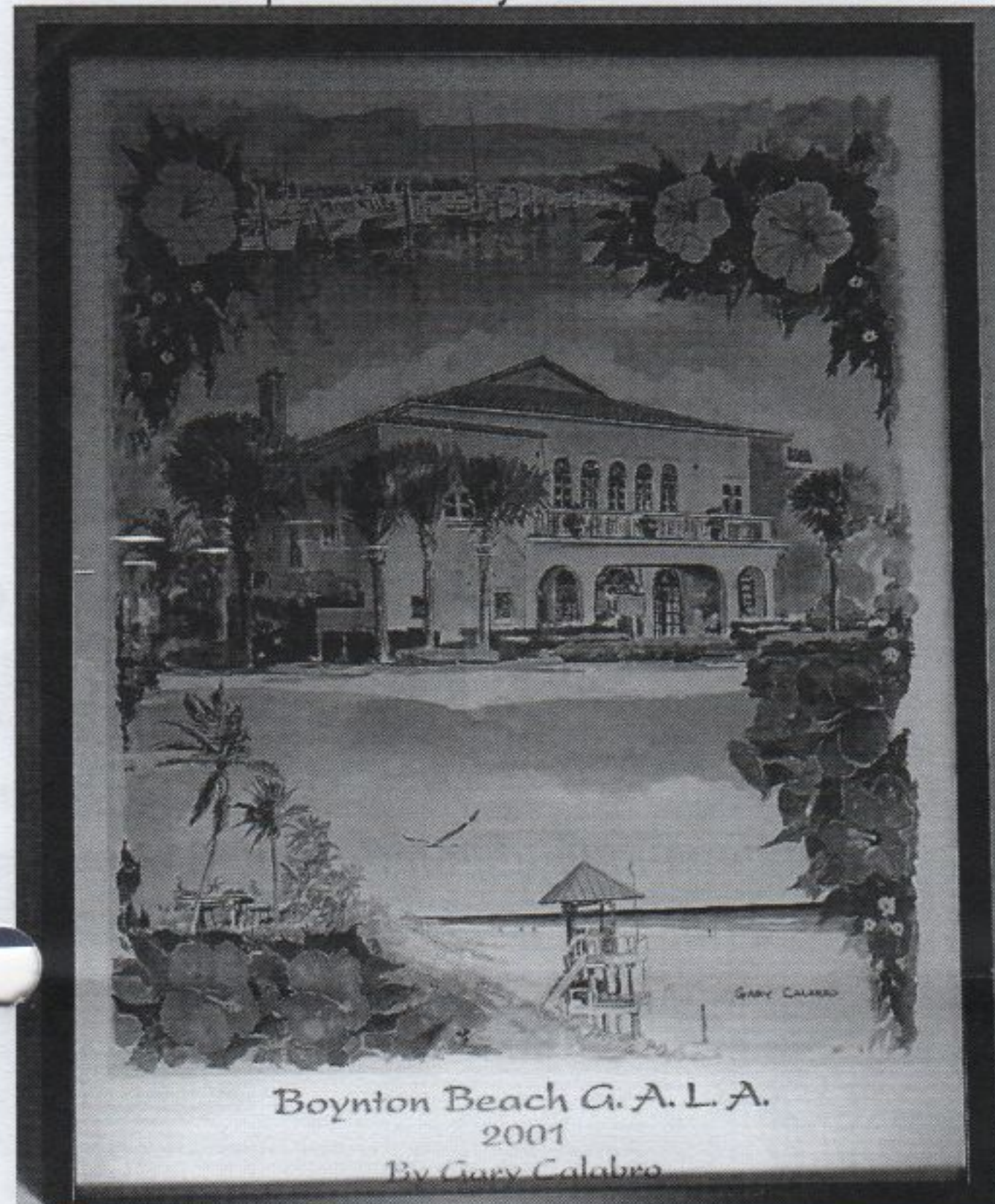


This building did not become rubble! The Historic 1927 High School building is still under renovation. This photo taken from the front porch of the Schoolhouse Children's Museum shows that the upper corner damaged years ago by lightening still needs repair. Windows, roof, and floors have been replaced. The windows are unlike the weighted sash wooden windows with single glass panes in upper and lower sections that were originally installed. Other interior replacements are yet ongoing.



Where City Hall once stood. Seacrest and BB Blvd looking east.

Gradually, however, the costs of sponsoring the event increased, the City charged more for booth space, and fewer local groups and artists participated. Civic groups such as Kiwanis, Lions and Rotary were once given free space, and despite their ongoing service to the community, were in later years charged fees to participate. Other cities, such as Delray Beach and Boca Raton held similar events during the year which led to reduced attendance at the G.A.L.A. And during those years many of the downtown businesses closed or moved westward as Congress Avenue developed. Ultimately the G.A.L.A. was discontinued.



Each year the City sponsored the creation of a G.A.L.A. poster to sell in honor of the occasion to offset some of the expense. One of the loveliest (shown above), created by Gary Calabro, was printed in 2001 and depicted the Woman's Club, the beach and fishing boats with scatterings of hibiscus flowers along the borders.

BOYNTON NAMES and a MARYLAND E-MAIL

Editor's Note: Sometimes one of our members shares a letter or an email that we feel compelled to share with our readers. We copy the following because it mentions so many people who were prominent in an earlier Boynton.

Recently the Treasurer of the Boynton Beach Historical Society, Frances Tuite McKeral, had an exchange with another of our members, Bob Gayler who lives in Maryland, relative to the fact that he paid 2019 dues twice. She emailed to ask what she should do with the money and also mentioned that she sometimes sits near a stained glass window in the Methodist Church that bears the Gayler name and at other times near the window dedicated to her grandmother Kate Rousseau. Here is Bob Gayler's reply:

Hi Frances,

Thank you for your email. Please use the money for 2020.

"Your middle name suggests a relationship with Mrs. Tuite, who was one of my elementary school teachers, highly thought of in Boynton.

"My oldest brother Winfred Wade 'Bo' Gayler graduated om Boynton High class of 1943. In those days able bodied men went promptly into

the Army. He trained at Ft. Benning, GA and less than 18 months later was killed in action near Metz, France, Nov 16 1944 in the fighting just prior to the "Battle of the Bulge." I was 7 years old at the time. When the new sanctuary building was built my parents wanted to have the window as a memorial to him.

"Mrs. Rousseau was one of the strong women of the church. My mother never learned to drive—she did a fair amount of horseback riding growing up on a farm in Georgia—so I or one of my brothers drove her to church every Sunday. Mom always spoke of people by their last names as a matter of courtesy. I did not know a lot of first names. Other teachers at the school included Mrs. Mercer, Mrs. Weaver, Mrs. Tatum. The Methodist pastor during the War was Rev. Davies, with an e. He was from England or Wales. He was part of the coast watch team for German submarines. My wife and I go each August to the Delaware coast. There is a watchtower on the beach south of Rehobeth as a reminder of the role of the coastline watchers.

"I hope you have a good day and thanks for all you do to keep memories of the old days alive.

Bob Gayler"

EARLY 1950s "DRIVE-UNDER" MENU

BLINK LIGHTS FOR SERVICE

Root Beer	5c & 10c
Root Beer Float	20c
Red Hots	20c
Cheese Dogs	25c
Grilled Cheese	25c
Hamburgers	30c
Hamburger DeLuxe	35c
Cheeseburger	35c
Tuna Fish	35c
Ham	45c
French Fries	20c
Malted Milk	30c
Sundae	30c
Milk 12c	Choc. Milk 15c
Coffee	10c
Ice Tea	10c

PLEASE PAY WHEN SERVED

THANK YOU! CALL AGAIN!

From Sloan's Drive Under located on North Federal Highway in Boynton Beach. The menu had a number on the back and was placed number up to help the server identify the customer.

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(c)(3) organization so dues are tax deductible.

Type of Membership:	INDIVIDUAL	(\$25.00)	_____
(Check one)	FAMILY	(\$35.00)	_____
	PATRON	(\$50.00)	_____
	CORPORATE	(\$100.00)	_____
	STUDENT	(\$10.00)	_____
	LIFE	(\$500.00)	One time
			Payment only

Membership year is January 1 to December 31. Dues are not pro-rated. Membership Expiration Date on Mailing Label.

Complete this form and mail with payment to
Boynton Beach Historical Society
P.O. Box 12
Boynton Beach, FL 33425-0012

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Boynton Beach, FL 33425-0012



TWO CITY BUILDINGS—ONE RENOVATED, the SECOND PROJECTED



In this picture the 1927 Historic High School appears to be in near finished state, but over 20 years of neglect by the City created some real difficulties with the roof, the flooring, the electrical system and other parts that could have been better maintained. Slowly all the deficiencies are being corrected and the newly renovated building should be dedicated sometime later in the spring.



From the poster on the fence near where the old Library stood, The rendering showing the City Hall at the top, an interior staircase on the left and the Library entrance on the right.