



# The Historian

## The Newsletter of the Boynton Beach Historical Society

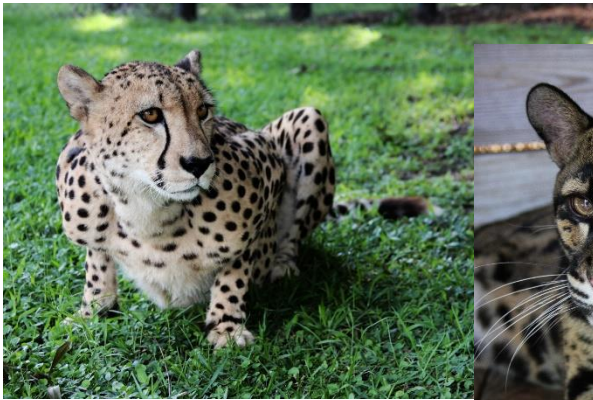
Serving Boynton Beach, Ocean Ridge, Manalapan, Gulf Stream, Briny Breezes, Lantana, Hypoluxo, the Village of Golf and all areas of West Boynton, in addition to supporting the preservation of the history of Palm Beach County and the State of Florida as a whole.

February 2020

## **PANTHER RIDGE CONSERVATION CENTER**

**Monday, February 17, 2020, @ 7pm (Doors open 6:30pm)**

**First Presbyterian Church, 235 SW 6<sup>th</sup> Ave, Boynton Beach 33435**



Join us and learn about the **Panther Ridge Conservation Center**. The Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charity dedicated to providing a lifelong home and superior care for exotic felines that have been abandoned, abused or neglected. Part habitat, part haven, part labor of feline love, the Panther Ridge Conservation Center is above all else, a home for some of the world's most beautiful and endangered big cats. Panther Ridge is dedicated to conservation through education.

The Center is home to over 20 big cats representing nine different species. Panther Ridge strives to engage the public with feline ambassadors so that they may become aware of the plight of big cats in the wild. Once a cat is accepted by Panther Ridge, it will never again need a home, or be at risk of neglect or mishandling. The animals are treated with kindness, respect, and gratitude for their part in conservation.

For further information and information about visiting, see their website: [pantherridge.org](http://pantherridge.org). The Conservation Center is located at 2143 D Road in Loxahatchee, approximately 25 miles north west of downtown Boynton Beach.

## Boynton Beach Historical Society

Since 1968

### 2019-2020 Board of Directors

#### OFFICERS Elected Annually

President - Randall Gill  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President - Barbara Ready  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President - Sheila Rousseau Taylor  
Secretary - Anne Rimler  
Interim Treasurer – Anne Rimler

#### DIRECTORS

2020 - Steven Anton  
2020 - Jeffrey Fine  
2021 - Heidi Bell

#### TRUSTEES 3-Year Term

2020 - Sarah Thomas Bollenbacher  
2020 - open  
2021 - Donna Artes  
2021 - Susan Oyer  
2022 - Virginia Farace  
2022 - Ben Lowe

#### Non-Elected

Editor, *The Historian* - open  
Archivist/Facebook/Webmaster - Janet Naughton  
Facebook Admin/Webmaster – Ginger Pedersen

#### Boynton Beach Historical Society

PO Box 12, Boynton Beach, FL 33425

We are on the web [www.boyntonhistory.org](http://www.boyntonhistory.org), Facebook  
@HistoricBoyntonBeach and Twitter @BoyntonHistory. Questions  
re: **Programs?** [bbhsprograms@gmail.com](mailto:bbhsprograms@gmail.com) or **Membership?**  
[bbhsmembership@gmail.com](mailto:bbhsmembership@gmail.com).

#### The Historian

The Historian, the newsletter of the Society, is usually mailed six times a year, October through April, to all dues-paid members (one issue per paid membership). An issue is not produced in December. Previous issues are posted to our website.

#### 2019-2020 Season **Save the Date!**

Mon, Feb 17, 2020 @7p Panther Ridge Conservation Center  
Mon, Mar 16, 2020 @7p The Path to Women's Suffrage  
Sun, Apr 19, 2020@5p Mango Mania, Annual Meeting & Covered Dish

#### January 2020 FI Highwaymen Art Show **SPECIAL THANKS!**

To the artists – **Curtis Arnett, Al Black, family of Mary Ann Carroll, Wille Reagan, and Doretha Hair Truesdell.**

To **Ricky Johnson** for the beautiful music.

To **Clear Copy Inc** Boynton Beach for their superior printing services.

AND **Congratulations** to **Kathy Deary** – the winner of the Society's Florida Gift Basket!

#### Volunteer Opportunities

Are you a fan of Boynton Beach? Invest in its future by upholding its past and become a volunteer with the Society! The Boynton Beach Historical Society is run entirely by volunteer members. Let us know if you would like to join us and make history happen!

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

#### Thanks to our Life Members\*

Lenore Raborn Boonstra  
Candy & Doug Brueggemann  
EasyPay Tire Stores Inc, Doug Besecker, Ruth Besecker  
Robert and Jeanne Gaylor  
Randall Gill  
Robert & Christian Oyer Macoviak  
Melear Bros., Cliff & Rick Melear  
Wayne & Eva Brooks Knuth Netzler  
Scott & Camilla Smith Richardson  
Alexander "Sandy" Simon  
Ernest G Simon  
Voncile Marshall Smith  
George & Christine Weaver Ternenyi  
Dorian Beck Trauger  
Curtis & Nain Weems Weaver  
Bill & Elsie Winchester

#### Thanks to our 2020 Corporate Members\*

Boynton Memorial Chapel, Stormet Norem  
Delray Awning, Inc., Don and Regina Day  
Sobee-Combs-Bowden Funeral Home & Crematory

#### 2020 Membership Renewals\*

	<u>Thank You!</u>
Amaya Family	James McCracken
Kay Baker	Jeffrey Morgan
James A Bonfiglio	Gerald Murray
Jackie Lynn Brant	Rosalie Morrissey
Marjorie L Bynum	Michael & Janet DeVries Naughton
Bruce & Judith Carlson	Isabella & Ronald Pause
Richard Castagnoli	Anthony Rawson
Emme Cortelyou	The Eleanor Murray Sala Family
Ellen Brown Curtin	Barbara G Scott
Gillian Davis	Joanne Shoemaker
Barbara DuBois	Donna Fuller Smith
Jeffrey & Africa Fine	Linda Stabile
Ann Gill	Dan & Lisa Ames Suiter
Robert Ganger	Billie Jo Swillie
Steven & Jenna Grant	Kandy L Thompson
George Greider/Gayle Kranz	Jean Ann Thurber
Robert & Linda Susan Hayes	Michele Walter
Evelyn C Howell	Gay, Stephen & Kathleen Voss
William Huff Sr	Michael Wilson Land & Sea Photography
Rev John Jackson	John M Yetter
Gladys B Knuth	Herbert Zobel
Charles & Elizabeth Miner LaBella	

#### Gifts\*

	<u>Thank You!</u>
Bit Shaw & Barrie Byron	
Dan & Lisa Suiter in memory of John N & Kathleen T Suiter	
Dorian Beck Trauger	

\*Received between Dec 19, 2019 and Jan 24, 2020

#### Condolences

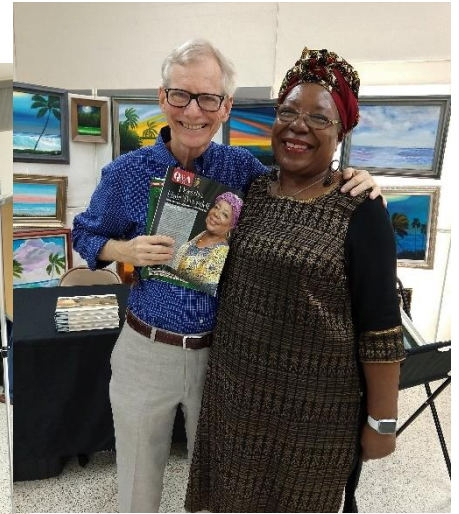
Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of longtime Society members and Boynton Beach residents:

Marie J Horenburger, who passed away on Nov 12, 2019; and

Joan Johnson Pagano (Epson), who passed away on Oct 7, 2019.



## Scenes from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Florida Highwaymen Art Show & Sale January 18, 2020



### **The Heritage of the Florida Highwaymen Artists in Boynton Beach - A New Decade**

In the 1960's the talented, self-taught African American artists known as "The Highwaymen" rolled into Boynton Beach with their car trunks filled with their still-wet oil paintings. These tropical works of art captured a romantic and natural vision of Florida.

Coming down Federal Highway from Fort Pierce, they stopped at Scobee Combs Bowden Funeral Home. Today a painting of a Royal Poinciana tree is still on display in the parlor. The artists stopped at the First Bank of Boynton and propped up paintings against the wall in the lobby. Eager tellers and customers scooped up treasured scenes of the back country and the ocean. Dr. Weems found a sunset painting for his waiting room that comforted the sick. At the insurance agency of Harvey Oyer, he decorated the walls with Highwaymen paintings and today they remain. The paintings bear mute testimony to the Highwaymen and the times they came to Boynton Beach. It is estimated that over 60% of the businesses in Boynton Beach bought Highwaymen paintings. The tropical beauty also reminds people why they came here to Florida to live. The art captured the spirit and heritage of Florida.

It is wonderful that the Boynton Beach Historical Society and the Boynton Woman's Club could help celebrate this legacy and tell the story at the second annual January Art Show. Thank you to everyone who helped to make this show a great success!

## Archivist's Corner by Georgen Charnes, Library Archivist, Boynton Beach City Library

Here are some notable donations made to the **Local History Archive** in 2019. We look forward to building our collections in our new building and continuing to preserve and provide access to historical materials of our region.



John Rousseau (1920-1995), WWII glider pilot  
SC2019-010-021



Herman's house, c. 1925. Came back to Boynton in 1940 and it was all gone except the doorstep. The donor would love to know where this was!  
SC2019-001-021



On back: This picture was taken while Hermans lived in Florida.  
Picture of Bechtel-Cook Co. office in Boynton. Harry (son) and Frank (father). SC2019-001-012

**Accession Number: 2019.010 & 2019.011.** Scans of Boynton Beach picture postcards, Rousseau family photographs, and Boynton Beach printed ephemera. Sheila Rousseau Taylor is the daughter of Dr. John Rousseau (1920-1996), the son of early Boynton settlers Abel Augustus Rousseau (1878-1960) and Katharine Missouri Ford Rousseau (1880-1934). Scans gift of Sheila Rousseau-Taylor. Final disposition: SC2019-010 & SC2019-011.

**Accession Number: 2019.001.** Scans of McJilton and Herman family photos from their time in Boynton Beach. The Herman and McJilton families lived in Boynton Beach in the 1920s and worked at Bechtel & Cook Real Estate. The two families were united in 1925 when Daisy Mae McJilton (1901-1995) and Boyd Herman (1903-1976) were married. Unfortunately, the Bechtel & Cook Co. did not survive bursting of the land boom bubble followed by the 1926 hurricane. They lost everything and moved away. Gift of Wendy Rigglesman & Michelle Herman. Final disposition: SC2019-001. Available for viewing online at <https://boynton-beach.org/gallery/mcjilton-and-herman-families-2019001>

### OUR NEXT PROGRAM: The Path to Women's Suffrage by Janet DeVries Naughton

**Monday, March 16, 2020, 7pm, First Presbyterian Church, 235 SW 6th Av, Boynton Beach**

From the 1848 Seneca Falls Convention to the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment's ratification on August 26, 1920, women have nationally organized and championed for suffrage. The valiant women of the vote had their roots in abolitionism. Florida's pioneer women organized suffragist groups in the late 1890s, with the likes of Ella Chamberlain, Caroline Mays Brevard, Ivy Stranahan, May Mann Jennings, Marion Horwitz, Cora Stickney Harper, Agnes Ballard, Bryd Spilman Dewey, Nellie B. O'Hara, Bertha Williams Chadwell and many others advocating and campaigning for women's rights.

Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to the **Boynton Beach Police Department!** You may notice officers wearing a different badge in celebration of the historic anniversary. The BBPD takes great pride in having served the City of Boynton Beach since 1920 and looks forward to continuing to build relationships with the community! Congratulations!

