



The Historian

The Newsletter of the Boynton Beach Historical Society

50th

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.

2018 VOLUMES 6/7

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2018

MURALS of the PALM BEACHES

Mural artist, designer and preservationist Sharon Koskoff will discuss her newest book and sign copies sold during her visit to the Boynton Beach Historical Society on Monday, October 15. Sharon has given talks to the Society twice before and we look forward to this new presentation. The name for this month's program is taken directly from the title of her book which is an historic journey of public art in this community dating from the WPA era (1935-1943) to the present. She connects area art and architecture as it relates to public schools, non-profit organizations and other public institutions.

Sharon is the founding and current president of the Art Deco Society of the Palm Beaches. She enjoys creating large-scale, community oriented pieces. Originally from Brooklyn, New York, she moved to Delray Beach in 1985. Her first book, *Art Deco of the Palm Beaches* (Arcadia Publishing) celebrates the dozens of Art Deco treasures built in the 1920s, 1930s and 1940s from Delray Beach through West Palm Beach.

JOIN US

Monday, October 15, 2018

Doors open 6:30

Program: 7:00

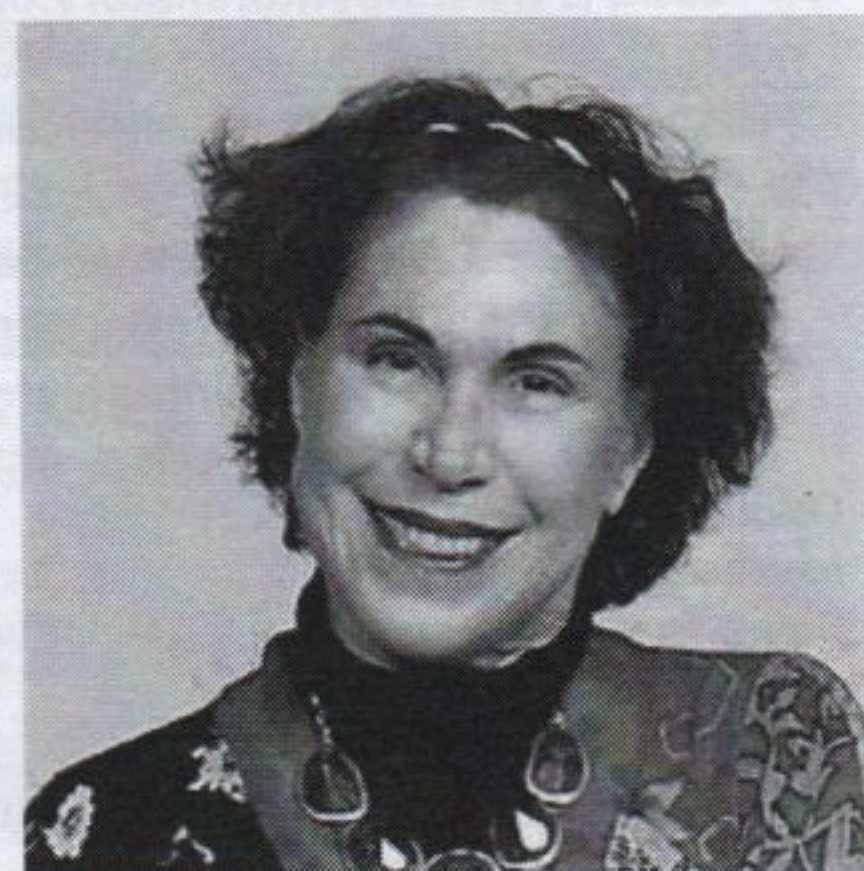
WHAT:

MURALS of the PALM BEACHES
Art Talk and Book Signing
By Sharon Koskoff

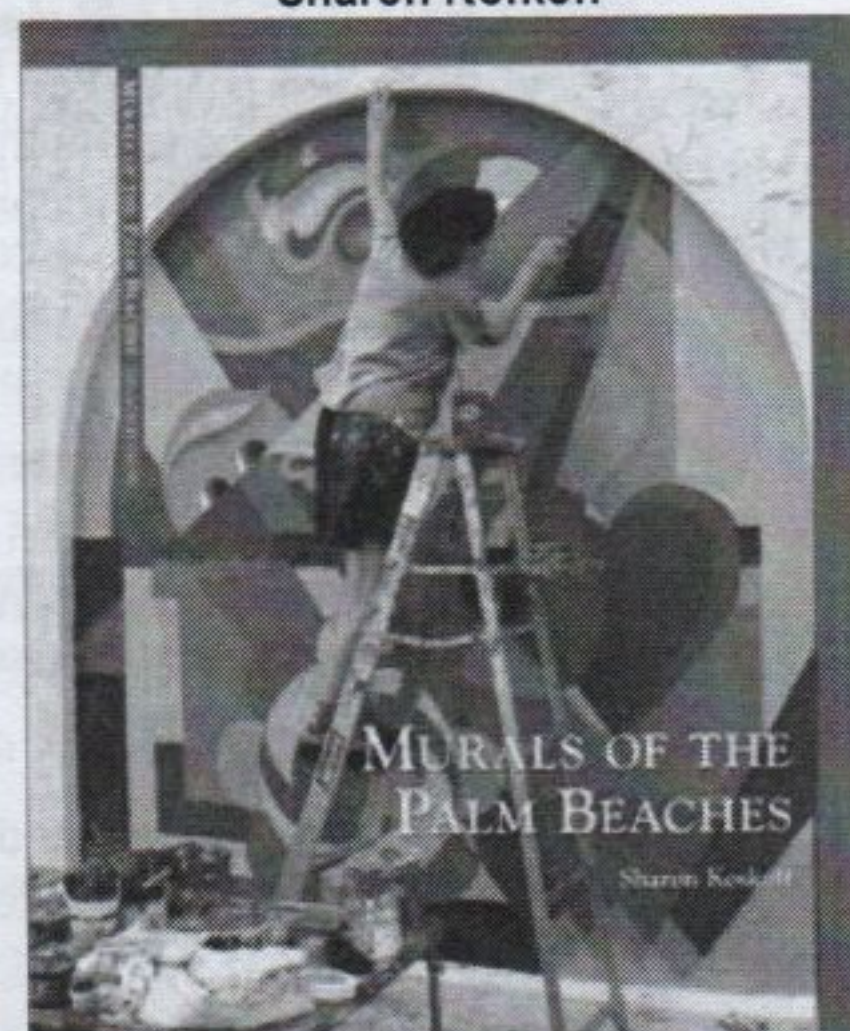
WHERE:

First Presbyterian Church, Pratt Hall
235 S.W. 6th Avenue
Boynton Beach, Florida 33435
Two blocks west of Seacrest Boulevard
FREE PARKING

All Programs are FREE and OPEN to the Public



Sharon Koskoff



Murals of the Palm Beaches,
Front Cover

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

OFFICERS [Elected Annually]

President	Randall Gill
1 st Vice President, Programs	Anne Rimler
2 nd 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
2019	Judith Merkel Howard
2020	Steven Anton
2020	Barbara Ready
2021	Heidi Bell
2021	vacant

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

Please email 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
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

CORPORATE MEMBERS - 2018

BMark Properties, William and Gaye Weaver
Boynton Memorial Chapel, Stormet Norem
Boynton Woman's Club
Easy Pay Tire Stores, Inc., Doug Besecker
Florida Coalition for Preservation
Scobee-Combs-Bowden Funeral Home & Crematory

MEMORIAL or SPECIAL RECOGNITION GIFTS

Donors sometimes elect to send the Boynton Beach Historical Society gifts to honor special events such as birthdays, graduations, promotions or the passing of a loved one. The Society places these contributions in a special account that is used for special projects relating to historic preservation. In the past we have used these funds to help to establish the 1913 Schoolhouse Children's Museum, to help to support the annual Conrad Pickel Festival, to salvage and reissue the 1970s film "The History of Boynton Beach," to establish a marker designating the South Palm Beach (Boynton) Inlet as an historic site, and for other projects of historic significance. The names of the donors to date for 2018:

MEMORIAL GIFTS - 2018

Bob Gayler, to honor Pfc. Winfred Wade Gayler KIA 1944
Daniel R. Suiter, to honor William P. Suiter
Voncile Smith, to honor Harvey E. Oyer, Jr.
George and Christine Weaver Ternenyi to honor Marie Shepard

IN MEMORIAM

The Boynton Beach Historical Society lost five members that we know of during the summer.

BLUDWORTH, Judith Laverne Yow—Judi was born in North Carolina but attended the University of Florida where she met and married her husband of 56 years, former Palm Beach County State Attorney David H. Bludworth.



Judith Yow Bludworth

She was a teacher and although Art was her subject, teaching itself was her passion. She taught Sunday School, Kindergarten, at Palm Beach Atlantic College and at H.L. Johnson Elementary School. She is survived by her husband and her children and grandchildren: daughter Jessica (Tom) Wake and sons Jonathon and Justin Wake; daughter Melanie (Glenn) Abbott; and son Brent (Julie) Bludworth. The Historical Society sends our condolences and best wishes to her family.

LANGFORD, Wilese Jones—Wilese was born on January 25, 1921 in Uvalda, Georgia. She moved to Boynton Beach in 1925 when she was four years old, and grew up attending elementary school in the 1913 schoolhouse and high school in the historic 1927 Boynton High School building.

(In Memoriam continued on page 3)

(In Memoriam, continued from page 2)

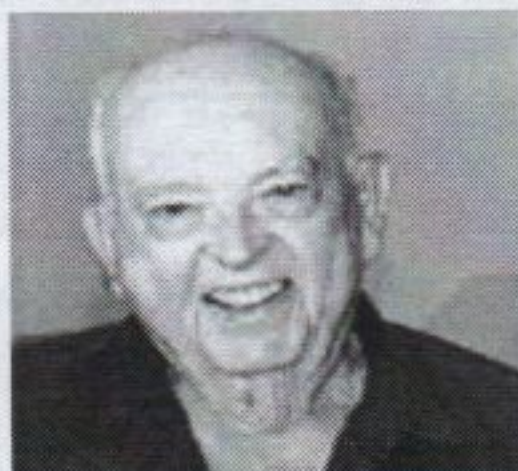


Wilese Jones Langford

She is survived by her daughter, Barbara Bannon of Bridgeport, New York and by numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren, and great-great grandchildren. She also leaves behind cousins and grand-nieces and nephews in the Boynton area who are descendants of the Jones, Partin and Merkel families. Best wishes to all her family members who were able to share so many memories in Wilese's long life.

LOVE, Fred William—Dr. Love was born April 5, 1922 in a home at 36 N. Swinton Avenue in Delray Beach. The attending physician at his birth was his uncle, Dr. J. R. Cason, Jr., Delray's first doctor. Fred's father was Delray's first registered pharmacist and owned the first drug store in Delray Beach. His parents were James Luther Love, Sr. and Jessie Rebecca Cason.

Dr. Love attended Virginia Military Institute and earned his undergraduate degree at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill and then received his M.D. from Vanderbilt Medical School in 1945.



Dr. Fred Love

He completed his medical studies after he joined the military and was commissioned an officer in the U.S. Army. He served 19 months overseas in Greece. While there he met and married Doris Mullen.

He retired from the United States Public Health Service in 1965 after 22 years of service and returned to Delray Beach where he opened his own surgical practice. He joined the staff and the Bethesda Hospital Association in 1966 and served on the hospital's board as well as the Bethesda Health and the Foundation Boards from 1978 to 2016. In 2016 he was honored with a place on the hospital's Wall of Honor. He had retired from practicing medicine in 1988.

Preceded in death by his wife Doris Mullen Love, he is survived by his four children and by numerous grand-children and great-grand-children. The Society is sorry to lose this long-time member and send our best wishes to his family members.

WEAVER, Charlotte Ann Tatum—Charlotte was a Life Member of the Boynton Beach Historical Society. She was born December 15, 1930 in Deland, Florida and was a proud sixth generation Floridian. She was the only child of Charlotte Louise

in Deland and Key West and moved to Boynton Beach at the age of 14. She attended Boynton High School in the historic 1927 building and there met her future husband, Melvin Eugene Weaver. After graduation she enrolled at Florida State University seeking a degree in Elementary Education. After she married Melvin in 1951, Charlotte transferred in the University of Florida where the two graduated together.



Charlotte Tatum Weaver

Preceded in death by her parents and husband Melvin, she is survived by her four children, daughters Melanie Weaver Carr, Stefanie Weaver Jackson (Erwin) and Valerie Weaver Sanders (Mike), and son Matthew Tatum Weaver and many grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. Although she had lived in Tallahassee near her daughters for the past three years, we felt her presence in Boynton Beach and extend her best wishes and condolences to all her family.

WEEKS. Raymond Edward—A native Floridian, Ray was born in Lake Wales on August 22, 1925, the oldest son of Lizzie Lee Weeks and Edward Brewster Weeks. He moved to Boynton in 1934 and remained a resident the remainder of his life. He attended the historic Boynton High School and was drafted into the United States Army shortly after he turned 18.



Raymond Weeks

He served in Europe during World War II, followed by Korea in the early 1950s. After a career in the military, he retired from the Army in 1971. He became actively involved in youth sports, and he served as the president of the Little League program in Boynton Beach from 1982 to 1993.

He devoted many years to researching family history and once told the editor of *The Historian* that one of his ancestors was one of the few, if not the only, Revolutionary War veterans buried in Florida. While his number one priority was his love for family, he also had a deep love for America and third, perhaps for baseball.

He is survived by his son Randy (Kathy) Weeks and numerous grand-children and great-grandchildren, and by siblings James "Gym" Weeks and Ovedia Weeks Stevens who are also members of the Boynton Beach Historical Society. He is predeceased by his wife Margi Weeks, son Raymond Weeks, and three siblings: Gladys Weeks Oliver, Ophelia Weeks, and Stanley Weeks.

TWO MEMBERS WIN BOOK AWARD

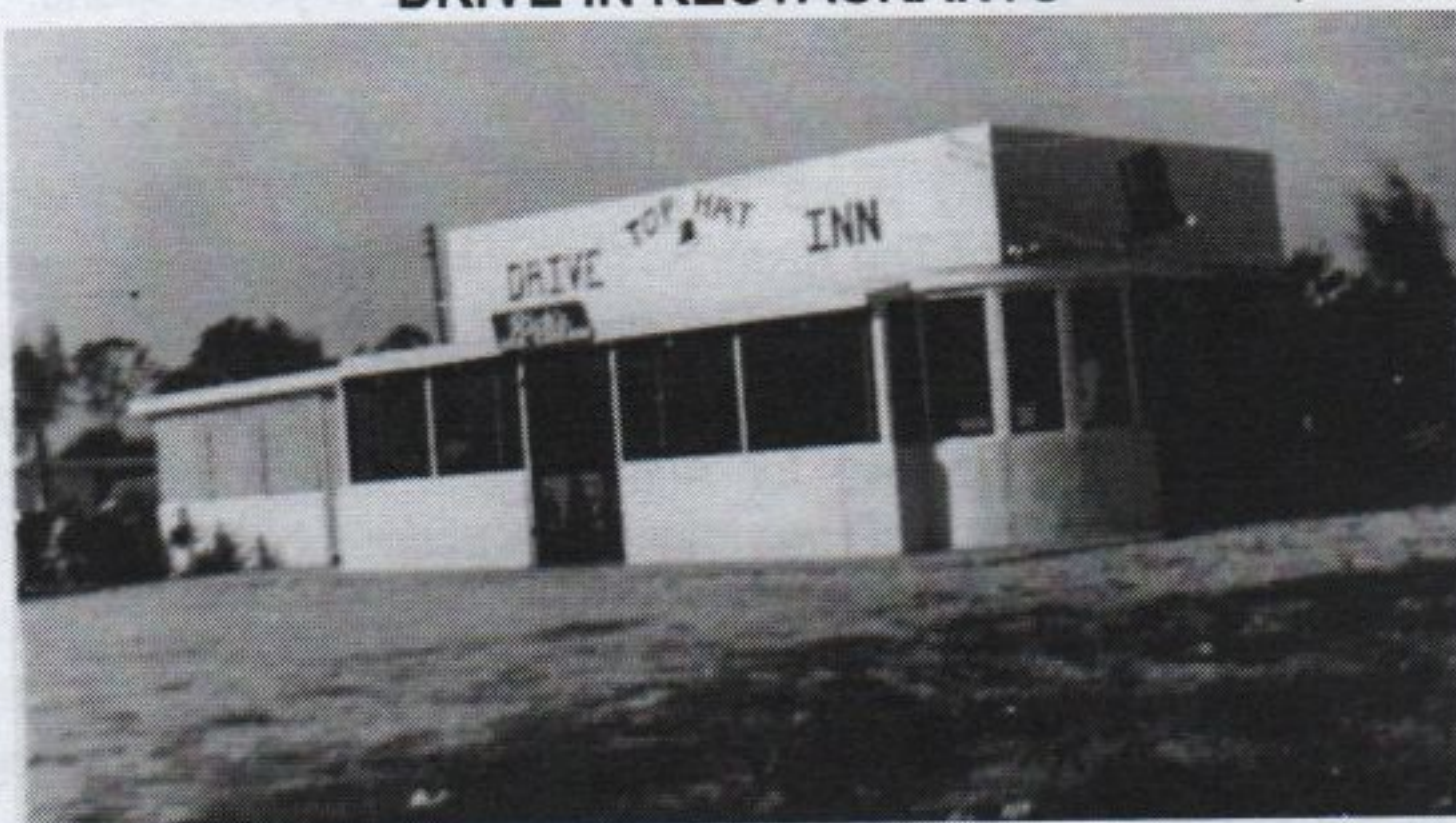
Boynton Beach Historical Society members, Janet DeVries Naughton and Ginger Petersen, have received a silver medal from the Florida Authors and Publishers Association in the Florida Adult Non-Fiction category for their new book *Overdue in Paradise: The Library History of Palm Beach County*. They shared the award with co-authors Graham Brunk, Shellie Labell and Rosa Sophia. FAPA presented the award at its annual President's Book Awards Banquet held in August in Orlando.



L to R: Dawn Frood, Janet DeVries Naughton, Ginger Petersen, Shellie Labell and Rosa Sophia. Not pictured, Graham Brunk.

Overdue in Paradise is a non-fiction, 278-page book which traces the history and development of Palm Beach County's public, academic and specialized libraries that have developed their own distinctive collection since Florida's earliest pioneer days. The Florida Authors and Publishers Association is an organization of authors, publishers, illustrators, editors, printers and other professionals involved in the publishing industry. It focuses on providing the highest quality of information, resources and professional development to members and others interested in the writing and publishing profession.

DRIVE-IN RESTAURANTS



Drive-in restaurants were especially popular with teenagers and young adults in the 1940s and '50s. The Top Hat Drive Inn was a busy one in the area at that time.

SOME 1968 PRICES

This ad doesn't require any comment. The annual salary of the Historian editor in 1968 was about 1/10 of what her retirement income is now. And the ad suggests that most of these prices are probably less than 1/10 of what they are now.

A PIONEER DAUGHTER RECALLS LANTANA TO LEMON CITY IN THE 1880s

By Margaret Garnett Harris

(Editor's Note: Margaret Garnett Harris was born in this area in 1909 nearly decade after the start of the 20th century. Her father, Andrew Garnett, moved to Hypoluxo in 1885, and was truly a pioneer in the area. Margaret did not consider herself a pioneer because many of the difficulties of early life were remedied by the time her recollections began. The following were taken from a paper she wrote for the Boynton Beach Historical Society in 1969.)

"In 1885, when my father came, there were no roads to Miami, no railroad, and no intracoastal waterway. To send a letter to Miami, it had to go by boat to Jacksonville, by railroad to Cedar Key on the west coast north of Tampa, by steamer to Key West, and by schooner to Biscayne Bay, where the water-proof mail packet was thrown overboard and picked up by a smaller vessel waiting for it. The inlets into Lake Worth and the channel into Biscayne Bay had not been dug. One could go by ocean directly to Miami on a small boat, defying treacherous reefs and winds or walk the beach.

"In that same year, 1885, the Star Mail Route was begun from Lake Worth (the Lake) to Miami. E.R. Bradley and his son of Lantana, took the first two year contract. Ed Hamilton, who came from Kentucky with my father and was "batching" with him, as Dad called it, took the second contract in 1887. That same year Ed Hamilton lost his life in the Hillsboro Inlet. Charlie Pierce and my father had signed his performance bond—in other words, they were to take the mail if Hamilton could not . . . It strikes me as

odd that my father, who seems to be known now as a barefoot mailman, was never called that in his lifetime of 76 (A Pioneer Daughter Recalls, continued on page 5)

(A Pioneer Daughter Recalls, continued from page 4)

years, and I never saw him go barefooted, even indoors.

" . . . You have heard the story of the mail route so many times I'll not recount it here, except to say the mailman rowed or sailed to the south end of the Lake where the inlet is now, crossed the Hillsboro Inlet and New River in row boats, and at Baker's Haulover at the northeast part of Biscayne Bay, he used another boat to sail or row, according to the wind, to Lemon City and the settlement at the end of the Miami River. The only people between the Lake and Biscayne Bay he would likely see would be at the two "Houses of Refuge," one at Delray and one at New River, where Ft. Lauderdale is now. Men who wanted to make the trip walked with the mailman in order to use his boats, for which a fee was paid. The mail carrier and the walking, boating passenger, if any, slept at the Houses of Refuge for which a charge was made.

"This route lasted from 1885 to 1893 when a hack line was begun between Lantana and Lemon City (now North Miami) over the unpaved road. The little narrow gauge "Celestial Railroad," as it was called, took people from Jupiter to Juno, then backed up because there was no provision for turning it around. It was largely because Juno had a railroad that the County Seat [for Dade County] was moved there in 1890. From Juno, passengers if any, went by steamer down Lake Worth to Lantana, then by wagon or back from Lantana to Lemon City, spending the night at Stranahan's Camp in present day Ft. Lauderdale.

"The hack line was also short-lived. The Florida East Coast Railroad arrived in West Palm Beach in 1894 and in Miami in 1896. The Intracoastal Waterway was completed to Miami in the middle 1890s."



Margaret Garnett Harris
ca. 1990

AT AN EARLIER BOYNTON BEACH LIBRARY

In 1968 when this picture was made, the Library which preceded the older part of the City Library now being demolished was in a former residence on the same property. This picture represents several changes the years have brought about. Besides, the altering Library situation, is the reduction in the number and size of service clubs that at one time prevailed. Clubs like Rotary, Kiwanis, Civitan and the Lions were primarily philanthropic organizations devoted to community service. Often they had a large number of members and were very visible in their service areas. The Lions Club, shown here donating books, no longer exists.



CLUB DONATES BOOKS—The Lions Club of Boynton Beach has presented to the Boynton Beach Public Library a complete set of large type books, printed in a large, clear eighteen-point type. These are complete and unabridged, designed in the classic quarto (8½" x 11") and some even larger. The titles have been deliberately diversified to appeal to a wide range of reading tastes. The list includes, along with adult titles, books for school students of all levels. There is a dictionary, The Readers Digest, The New Testament in both the King James Version and the RSV Catholic Version, and cook books. Librarian, Mrs. Florence Sullivan, helped choose the titles. She stated that this is a valuable addition to our Library. Lion Vincent Vanacore, Chairman of Sight Conservation of the Boynton Beach Lions Club, stated these large type editions are the perfect answer to the problem of providing partially sighted people with reading material, and for children who show reluctance in starting to read. On hand as the books were presented were (from left) Boynton Beach president Herbert Zoble, District Governor Robert Hueston, Mrs. Florence Sullivan, Dr. Anthony and Vince Vanacore.

A BOYNTON HOME IN 1923



Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Shepperd pose on the porch of their home in Boynton in 1923. Several changes have occurred in lifestyles since this photo was made. Boynton is now Boynton Beach, South Florida homes seldom have wrap around porches, men usually wear brimmed hats only for sun protection, houses are now air-conditioned, yards have sprinkler systems and wives have their own first names.

March 21, 1947 – 8th Grade at Boynton School



If any reader can identify those students marked unknown, please send the information to The Historian. Front row L to R: 1- Bob Williamson, 2- 3- 4-all unknown, 5- Hansford Calloway; Mid row L to R: 1-Marilyn Baskin, 2-Frances Jordan, 3-unknown, 4-Anne Weems, 5-Leona Callander, 6-Jackie Moore, 7-8-unknown, 9-Dorothy Roush, 10-Elizabeth Yarborough, 11-Ardith Pittman; Back row L to R: 1-Carlton White, 2-Pete Weeks, 3-Edward Bigelow, 4-Lois Lunsford, 5-Teacher Burton Lyons, 6-Gladys Weeks, 7-J.C.Swilley, 8-Teddy Goolsby, 9-Donald Ward, 10-Bill Darow (Winchester)

Boynton High School Cheerleaders 1947-48



L to R: JoAnne McCall, Charlotte Tatum, Mary Alice Darow (Winchester), Mary Shook

HELP US WRITE A BOOK OF MEMORIES!

We need your help to preserve Boynton Beach history. Since we are celebrating the 50th birthday of the Boynton Beach Historical Society, a commemorative committee composed of Virginia Farace, Barbara Ready, Heidi Bell, Janet DeVries Naughton, Randall Gill and Anne Rimler is preparing a "Book of Memories" which is to cover Boynton happenings from 1968 to 2018 with what we hope will be some ties to earlier times.

You are a part of some portion of that 50 year time period, and the committee has prepared the following form to help you get started to help us bring to light some of what has happened during those years. You may attach separate sheets of paper if necessary, but use the following form as a guide to include what you can help recover from any of the past 50 years. Please send us what you know. We plan to have the book ready for distribution in late Spring 2019.



BOYNTON BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY 50TH ANNIVERSARY PERSONAL MEMORY/IES OF PAST 50 YEARS (1968 -2018)

Email completed form to: boyntonhistory@gmail.com Or print out and mail to:
Boynton Beach Historical Society, PO Box 12, Boynton Beach, FL 33425-4012

NAME	
ADDRESS	
PHONE	
EMAIL ADDRESS	
YOUR DATES IN BOYNTON BEACH AREA	
YOUR MEMORY TOPIC and YEAR(S)	
PHOTOS included?	
PLEASE RECOMMEND OTHERS WITH STORIES TO TELL	
SIGNATURE (Indicates your approval to use this story and/or pictures with any necessary editing)	
REMEMBRANCE/STORY: Use as much space as needed by adding pages.	

Boynton Beach History Society Membership

The Society is a 501(c)(3) Organization; dues are tax deductible

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

E-mail _____

Phone # (____) _____

Membership Year is Jan 1 to Dec 31.

Dues are not pro-rated.

Membership Expiration Date on mailing label.

Complete above and mail with payment to:

Boynton Beach Historical Society

PO Box 12

Boynton Beach, FL 33425-0012

Or pay online using PayPal at

www.boyntonhistory.org/membership/

Indicate Membership Type:

___ **Individual** **\$25**

___ **Family** **\$35**

___ **Patron** **\$50**

___ **Corporate** **\$100**

___ **Student** **\$10**

___ **Life (one time payment)** **\$500**

Thank you for your support!



Boynton Beach Historical Society

PO Box 12

Boynton Beach, FL 33425-0012

