



South Brevard Historical Society, Inc.

Founded 1966

E Newsletter

June 2022

***SATURDAY, June 11th**

3:00 pm

MELBOURNE PUBLIC LIBRARY

540 E. Fee Avenue, Melbourne

Mask wearing may be appropriate

JOIN US FOR OUR MONTHLY PROGRAM MEETING:

Murf the Surf and Surfin' Cats - a History of Surfing in South Brevard



Monster Hole, Sebastian Inlet

John Hughes, Executive Director of the Florida Surf Museum and lifelong Brevard surfer will explore the role South Brevard County has played in the development of surfing's explosive growth in Florida. This program will explore through stories and images how local surfing culture developed with an emphasis on the 60s and the 70s.

***IF, FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY REASONS, THIS PRESENTATION MUST BE CANCELLED, YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED VIA AN E-ALERT PLUS IT WILL BE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE: southbrevardhistory.org.**

DEAR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS,

Dear Members and Friends,

We'll be taking a break from our monthly programs for July and August. Work will continue, however, as board members and other volunteers continue to refine the office and collection space we maintain in Palm Bay. Under the direction of Diane Newman, we'll continue to archive then make our "paper" collection of documents, clippings, and photographs more easily accessible for research. Textiles have been evaluated and inventoried by Kathi Harbaugh and are on their own shelf in the collection area. I hope we can begin to evaluate and organize our remaining "artifacts" over the summer. If you would like to help with this project please call me or get in touch using our email address: contact@southbrevardhistory.org.

Have a relaxing, safe and fun summer.

Carol

Carol Andren, President SBHS
(321.725.4115)

UPCOMING PROGRAMS: Although the SBHS take a break for June and July we are working on our program line up beginning in September. If there is a special event or activity over the summer that may be of special interest we will post it on our website and/or send out a special email.

UPDATES:

GREEN GABLES IT'S A GO !!!!!

The Florida Matching Funds Grant for Purchase was approved as part of the state's budget. Congratulations to all of the Green Gables Group who worked so hard to make that possible!!! Next step: paperwork.....

OVER THE SUMMER:

GREEN GABLES <https://greengables.org>

Open House - Saturdays from 10AM until 2PM

Celebrate the 4th of July at Green Gables

Green Gables is the perfect spot to view the city fireworks display. Bring your own chairs and sit by the river's edge. There will be music and food booths. Cost is \$10 per car or \$15 at the gate. Please no alcohol or smoking. Event is from 7pm-10pm

LIBERTY BELL MUSEUM FLAG DAY June 14th 6:30pm

You are cordially invited to our Annual Flag Day Ceremony at the Melbourne Liberty Bell Museum. <http://honoramerica.org/>

"WRITING YOUR LIFE" A Class by Linda Jump

If you missed our March program presentation on writing your memoir, you can sign up for Linda Jump's class, "Writing Your Life", at the "Shepherd's Center" at Riviera United Church of Christ in Palm Bay. The once a week class runs from July 7 – July 28.

Go to: www.shepherdscenterofsb.org.

ON A WAVE by Thad Ziolkowski

We all know how important surfing is in Brevard County. After all we have RonJon's in Cocoa Beach and surfing competitions, the Florida Surfing Museum, and the famous surfing champion Kelly Slater. In 2019 The Florida Historical Society had its annual meeting at Cape Canaveral in honor of the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing. Several of the engineers who worked on the Apollo here in Brevard County commented on how important surfing was to the moon mission. Surfing kept the kids happy so daddy could concentrate on getting someone on the moon.

On A Wave is a short memoir written by Thad Ziolkowski. In the late 1960's at the age of nine, Ziolkowski was ripped from the life he knew when his parents divorce and his mother marries a new husband. His new step father worked for NASA and Thad and his younger brother found themselves in Brevard County, a place very different from Washington, DC where he had been living. He loves Florida, the beach, the lizards and snakes, the sun. But everything is not great in his family life or with the bullies at school.

Surfing becomes the thing helps him through the difficulties that are happening in his life. He sees the surfers and knows immediately this is what he wants to do. He doesn't have a board or the right clothes, but he is determined to become a surfer. For his tenth birthday he is given an old , large foam and wood board. It is big and heavy and must be carried on his head across A1A to get to the beach from his apartment. But he learns to read the various kind of waves, to get up and stay on the board, and the surfer etiquette of catching a wave.

Before I read this book, all I knew about surfing was guys standing on boards riding on the water. But when Ziolkowski is out on the ocean, he is in a totally different world of water and wind, and sea life. His writing brings you into that world, both physically and emotionally. What a gift for those of us who will never experience surfing ourselves.

This book was a delight to read, the writing has a soft tone of someone looking back on memories both cherished and life changing. And as Ziolkowski describes his life in this world, he quietly brings back a time that many of us remember when there was only palmetto and sea oats between A1A and the beach and some beaches were inhabited by very few surfers or beach walkers.

For readers who want to investigate more about surfing in Brevard County, here are some places to start.

Cocoa Beach, Florida: the East Coast capital of surfing

<https://www.surfertoday.com/surfing/cocoa-beach-florida-the-east-coast-capital-of-surfing>

Florida Surf Museum

<https://floridasurfmuseum.org/>

Surfing Santas

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Surfing_Santas

SBHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers: President, Carol Andren; Vice Presidents, Denise Bozeman and Jim Poulos; Secretary, Barbara Arthur; Treasurer, Annita Full. Directors: Martha Beaujean Collins, Rick Dillen, Wiley Elliott, Kathy Harbaugh, Janie Stewart.

The South Brevard Historical Society, Inc., is a non-profit corporation and an IRS 501 (C) 3 organization. All contributions are tax-deductible by limits of law. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Florida Division of Consumer Services by calling 1-800-HELP FLA. P.O. Box 1064, Melbourne, Florida, 32902-1064

Visit us on:

www.southbrevardhistory.org

SPECIAL FEATURE: SUMMER AT THE (INDIALANTIC) BOARD WALK

Hop a bus.....



Drive over the bridge....



Park your car....



Enjoy the BEACH!



Photos of Indialantic by the Sea
from the 1920's