



South Brevard Historical Society, Inc.
Founded 1966

P.O. Box 1064, Melbourne, Florida, 32902-1064

www.southbrevardhistory.org **October 2011**

PLEASE JOIN US

**Saturday, October 8th
3:00 P M**

**Melbourne Public Library
540 E. Fee Avenue, Melbourne**

The SBHS invites you to a film event:

JOURNEY INTO WILDERNESS
Produced by the Marine Resources Council

“For nearly 500 years, from the first Spanish footfall onto a new continent to the first leap of mankind into outer space, the Indian River Lagoon has been a frontier to new worlds. *Journey Into Wilderness* shows that the frontier today remains at the shifting border between the natural and the man-made world.”

The documentary incorporates first-person accounts from early journals and reports and interviews with contemporary scientists and “locals”. You may recognize some of these “characters” as *Journey into Wilderness* interweaves the people, events and the themes of history. The resulting tapestry will make you feel both proud and sad as you watch the settlement and development of human history along the lagoon banks

Journey into Wilderness premiered in November of 1990 at the Cocoa Village Playhouse. It was three years in the making at a cost of about \$200,000 and was shown on national television. Diane Barile, SBHS Co-president, was the executive producer.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF EVENT DATE CHANGES LISTED INSIDE

**S.B.H.S. MEMBERSHIP
APPLICATION & RENEWAL**

___ New ___ Renewal

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Telephone _____

Email _____
(Please include your email address.)

_____ Please check if you want an
electronic Newsletter

This is a gift membership from :

Membership Levels:

- Individual \$20.00
- Family/Library 25.00
- Senior (age 65) 10.00
- Student 10.00
- Business 50.00
- Lifetime 250.00
- Donation _____

**Please make checks payable to
South Brevard Historical Society and
mail to P.O. Box 1064, Melbourne, FL
32902-1064.**

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.

SOUTH BREVARD HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P. O. Box 1064
Melbourne, FL 32902-1064

DEAR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS....

As I approach the beginning of a new decade of my life, I've stopped to ponder the events and changes that have occurred over that span. I remember a car with a rumble seat, air raid black outs of WW II, folks using busses, trains and their feet for transportation.

TV crept into most homes and we could then see daily the effects of the wars, the movements, the scandals and, of course, be lured by the commercials.

My children haven't yet asked me to tell them about my "good old days" but someday they'll wish they had. And..... like me, they'll search their memories for tidbits of my past I might have dropped into some conversation.

As members of the SBHS most of us value the personal stories and appreciate that those memories can fill in the gaps left by studying documents alone. So I suggest that we get started, as best we can and as frequently as time permits, to record the stories of some of our long time residents.

Some have already suggested interviewees; a few have offered to help. If you would like to be involved, please call me. If you have recording equipment that could be used, experience with interviewing, are new at it or somewhere in between, you are welcome.

**Carol Andren (Co-president SBHS)
725-4115**

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR NEWS?

While we like to support our local post office, the SBHS Board has discussed switching to an electronic Newsletter for those willing, able, and liking to receive it. When you renew your membership for 2012, please be sure to indicate whether you would like to receive your newsletter electronically.

Be sure we have an up to date email address. We will only use your email address for the Newsletter.

SBHS CALENDAR

Saturday, November 12th 3 PM
Melbourne Public Library

Dr. Rachel Wentz,

Director, East Central Florida Public Archaeology Network

Dr. Wentz discusses her new book, "Chasing Bones, An Archaeologist's Pursuit of Skeletons" and shares her adventures as she studied and traveled in pursuit of mysteries of the past.

Saturday, December 10th 3 PM

Melbourne Public Library

"Growing Up in Melbourne" Brevard County Historian Weona Cleveland will be moderating a conversation with Brevard natives Kitty Hay Fletcher and Diane Berg Sheffield.

Books from the Kellersberger Fund of the SBHS will be available for sale at most meetings.

Around Brevard

Melbourne Beach: The Old Town Hall History Center

History of Melbourne Beach from the Ais Indians to the present. 2373 Oak Street (across from Spaceward Holland Golf Course) Call 321-536-3336 for more information.

Open Saturdays and holidays 11-3 Free Admission

Continuing exhibit of the Beaujean Diaries and showing of a video interview with the Meehan family, 4th generation descendants of Capt. Rufus Beaujean.

Sunday, Oct. 9th - Iceman's Ball Fall Festival features a Costume Parade, a real ICEMAN with blocks of ice, tongs and pick, maps showing location of historical sites close to the Festival venue.

Florida Historical Society

435 Brevard Ave., in Cocoa Village
(321)690-1971

DISCOVER FLORIDA SERIES

Saturday, October 15, 2011 2:00 PM

Journalist Martin Dyckman discusses his book,

"REUBEN O'D ASKEW AND THE GOLDEN AGE OF FLORIDA POLITICS".

The Bensen (Grant) Historical House built in 1916 reopens this month. 5795 U.S. Hwy 1, Grant. Phone (321) 723-8543 for hours or to arrange a tour.

OCTOBER'S A BUSY MONTH

Look for our booth at FALL FOR THE ARTS

Fri Oct 7th

5-8:30 PM

Presented by the Brevard Cultural Alliance

Most of Brevard's cultural organizations will be there. You may see performing artists entertain with song and dance, artists create potential masterpieces while you watch and you can visit with other history groups as well. The event is free. Food concessions will be available

We'll be participating at the Sunday, October 23rd Historic Riverview Village Stroll as well. Look for our table and some of our members as historical characters.

CLIPPINGS

From the June 15th, 1986 Orlando Sentinel

Q. Where is the Great Lagoon of the Ais in Brevard?

A. In 1605 a Spanish soldier named Mexia mapped what he called the Great Lagoon of the Ais, named after the Ais Indians who first inhabited Brevard County. Spanish settlers subsequently called it the Ais Lagoon on their maps. Fred Hopwood, a Melbourne historian, believes that a Doctor Phillipi named it the Indian River in 1820, about the time the Spanish ceded Florida to the United States. Today, it is commonly referred to as the Indian River Lagoon, where fresh and salt water meet to form a brackish estuary.

WORTH REPEATING

Historic Rossetter House Museum & Gardens

1320 Highland Avenue in the Eau Gallie Arts District of Melbourne

GHOST TOUR every Friday night in October!

7 PM \$10 per person

Reservation Required

Phone: (321) 254-9855

October 28th is the last Ghost Tour until February 2012

WITCHES GARDEN TEA Saturday, October 29th 2-4 PM

\$20 per person

This novel event includes an afternoon of tea in the garden, tea leaf and palm readings and a "spirited ghost tour". Reservation required: (321) 254-9855.

CHANGE YOUR CALENDAR DATES

FPAN FALL SERIES

The Ghosts of Florida's Forgotten Fort (Ft. Jefferson)

presented by **Gregg Harding**

changed to Thursday, November 17th 7:00 PM

Florida Historical Society Library, 435 Brevard Ave., in Cocoa Village

and a change for the

HISTORIC RIVERVIEW VILLAGE STROLL

CHANGE TO: Sunday, October 23rd 1 - 5 pm

Join the neighbors of Riverview Drive for a stroll through memories of Victorian Melbourne. The neighborhood along Riverview Drive NE is the site of Melbourne's first platted neighborhood and one of Brevard's special places.

The SBHS thanks **AAA Malabar Mini-Storage**, located across the street from the Malabar Town Hall, for their generous donation of air-conditioned secure storage for the Society's collections and archives.