

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

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

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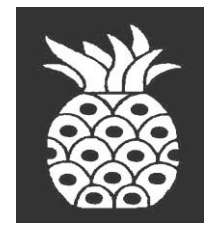
This is a gift membership from:

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, Inc.

Founded 1966

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

www.southbrevardhistory.org

Newsletter Editor, Patty Fabian

November 2013

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2013 - 3:00 PM

Melbourne Public Library
540 E. Fee Avenue, Melbourne

A History of Palm Bay

Presented by Mel Broom



Please join us as Mel Broom, former mayor of Palm Bay, chronicles the expansion and growth of the city in the mid-Twentieth Century. Mel also served as Assistant Vice President and Director of Operations for the Palm Bay Project with General Development Corporation (CDC).

Born in South Carolina, Mr. Broom retired from the United States Navy after a 20-year career. He was hired by the General Development Corporation in 1966, while living in Miami. He relocated to Brevard County in 1978 to direct the development of Palm Bay.

Originally referred to as Tillman, the city now known as Palm Bay began in the 1850's when European settlers built homes along Turkey Creek. In 1959, GDC purchased and platted extensive tracts of land in Palm Bay for its large residential project known as Port Malabar. The city incorporated itself on January 16, 1960. The active development of the city after that point was intertwined with GDC, who laid out and built many of the streets, sold and built many homes and built a water treatment plant. Prior to expanding their borders, the city population was 2,808. Today it is the most populous city in Brevard County, with 103,190 inhabitants (2010 Census).

DEAR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS....

When I prepare this column, I always over write and over think. The topic usually emerges from some experience I've had or something I've read. I wrestled with two themes this month, the City of Palm Bay and the Indian River Lagoon. The lesson from my Palm Bay ponderings emerged first so I allowed my brain to continue to perk away on the critical issues of the Lagoon for next month's column.

During my thirty-five years in Brevard I've thought of Palm Bay as an area. Two of my children and their young families lived there for a time, husband Carl worked at Palm Bay's Harris Corporation, we dined and shopped at various businesses located in parts of Palm Bay.

I, like many of you, have vivid memories of the 1986 William Cruz murders at a Palm Bay Shopping Center. The details weren't known for hours. Our daughter worked in the area of the shut down and we waited for hours with our son-in-law and infant grandson with hundreds of others to find out if our loved ones were safe.

Ongoing memories include canoeing Turkey Creek, visiting and tending to the SBHS exhibit at the Lagoon House and many, many treks along the boardwalk and paths of the Turkey Creek Sanctuary.

I look forward to our Guest Presenter, Mel Broom, sharing his knowledge, memories and viewpoint with us. His professional involvement and participation as a resident of the community will add to our understanding of Palm Bay's history.

And that leads to the lesson that once again emerged for me. Reading articles, studying documents, examining photographs and drawings are part of the research. The whole "story" emerges as we read available journals and when possible the memories shared by the living. The history of our civilization is really about the "Human Experience" and that can be extremely varied and rich. It is about "his" story....and her's as well.

Carol Andren, President, SBHS - 321 25.4115

UPCOMING SBHS PROGRAMS

December 14, 2013 3:00 PM

The History of Cattle Ranching

Presented by Billy Kempfer, Brevard Cattlemen's Association

All programs at the Fee Avenue Melbourne Public Library
540 E. Fee Avenue, Melbourne, Florida

AROUND BREVARD

Nov. 8, 2013 7:00 PM

Florida Songs

An Evening with Pete Gallagher
A multi-media event featuring rare Seminole Tribe photography and Florida folk music.
Thursby Hall, St. Mark's Church
4 Church St., Cocoa, Florida
Reservations: 321.690.1971 Ext. 205
\$75 Individuals/\$125 Couples
Hors d'ouvres, gourmet desserts, beer and wine

Nov. 11, 2013 10:00 AM

Veteran's Day Parade

Parade route begins on Melbourne Avenue; ends at the Liberty Bell Museum. For exact route information contact Honor America, 321.727.1776

Nov. 15, 2013 7:00 PM

Florida's Early Trading Companies and their Relationship with Native Americans

Presented by Ben DiBiase
"In the Dirt" Lecture Series
Florida Historical Society
435 Brevard Ave., Cocoa, Florida
321.690.1976
Hosted by Florida Public Archaeology Network

Saturday, February 15, 2014

~ Home Tour ~

In the Historic District of Eau Gallie
Presented by the South Brevard Historical Society

??? MYSTERY PICTURE ???



**Can you identify the location of this old Melbourne schoolhouse?
Do you recognize any of the students, or perhaps the teacher in this photograph?
When do you think this photo was taken?
If you have any information about this picture please join us for
our next meeting and share what you know with the group!!**

South Brevard Historical Society ~ 1968

"45 years ago the newly formed South Brevard Historical Society was instrumental in rescuing the *Little Red School House* from deterioration and neglect. A restoration fund made us all aware of its value in Melbourne history, and allowed for its eventual move to the present location on the campus of the Florida Institute of Technology."

*Georgiana Kjerulff's "Tales of Old Brevard", pg. 46
Many thanks to Dory Frederickson for finding this glimpse into SBHS happenings 45 years ago.*

*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.
We also wish to thank Y. (Rusty) Rutstein, SBHS member and owner of A Better Copy, located at 102 East New Haven Avenue, for providing discounted printing services for the newsletter.*