

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

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

\_\_\_New \_\_\_Renewal

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

(Please include your email address.)

This is a gift membership from:

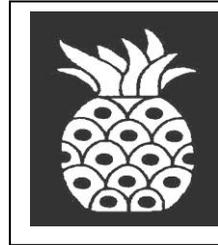
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### *Membership Levels:*

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.

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## South Brevard Historical Society, Inc.

Founded 1966

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

[www.southbrevardhistory.org](http://www.southbrevardhistory.org)

Newsletter Editor, Patricia Fabian

October 2014

**saturday, October 11, 2014**

**3:00 P.M.**

Melbourne Public Library  
540 E. Fee Avenue, Melbourne

## **Cape Canaveral Lighthouse**

**Presented by Ron Ecker**

Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation



Please join us as Ron Ecker presents a look into the fascinating history, the present endeavors and the future of a true local treasure, the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse.

Constructed in 1868 of iron plates with an interior lining of brick, Cape Canaveral is the only fully operational lighthouse owned by the United States Air Force. Today the area around the lighthouse is mostly vacant land. Originally, keeper's cottages were situated next to the lighthouse. Unfortunately, the cottages, along with maintenance buildings, burned down in the 1960's, leaving only the lighthouse and the oil house standing. The Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation volunteer membership focuses their efforts on restoring the keeper's cottages and utilizing them for educational purposes.

Ron Ecker retired from the Navy as a Master Chief after 24 years of service. His last tour of duty was for the Naval Ordinance Test Unit at Cape Canaveral. After climbing his first lighthouse with wife Chris and their family in 1985, Ron was hooked. He and Chris are dedicated to the lighthouses of Florida, especially the beautiful Cape Canaveral Lighthouse. They have been invaluable spokespersons telling the community about the history of the lighthouse as well as promoting the goal of the Foundation to recreate the community as it once was.

## DEAR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS....

Writing this column over at least six years has led to my viewing almost anything in a historical context. I am currently in San Francisco and can't resist interpreting what I experience as fodder for the column. Husband Carl is happy about that since it doesn't lend itself to my buying souvenirs or special California style handbags.

Transportation....wheeled, tracked and footed, everywhere in the City, just seems to share the roads and get sorted out at stop signs and traffic lights. For the historical minded, the restored F Line streetcars of the 1920's and 30's are a fun experience. Most of the cable car system, introduced in 1873, was destroyed by the 1906 earthquake. A few routes have been restored and to quote the Bay City Guide/ (book) "they are the only vehicles of their kind still in operation and are designated National Landmarks" and they are very crowded.

At the wharves there were boats for everything from small runabouts to obscenely large cruise ships. You could usually smell which were fishing boats. The highlight of water transportation was to be found at the western end of Fisherman's Wharf....The San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park. It includes the Hyde Street Pier which berths historic sailing and steam vessels, exhibits and demonstrations.

The park's Visitors Center, housed in an old cannery, offers an overview of San Francisco's history. Not unlike our own if you begin with the Miwok Indians who lived in the area prior to the arrival of Europeans in either 1769 or 1775 depending on which history you read. By 1776, Spain established a settlement, the native people became slaves and eventually the land was disputed between Spain and Mexico. In 1848 the region was ceded from Mexico to the United States just in time for the gold rush....great timing!

**Carol Andren, SBHS President**  
321.725.4115

## UPCOMING SBHS PROGRAMS

**November 8, 2014** **3:00 PM**  
*French Florida*

Presented by Ben DiBiase, Florida Historical Society  
Director of Educational Resources & COO  
An account of the French colonization in Florida during the late 16<sup>th</sup> century.

### SAVE THE DATE!!!

**November 22, 2014**

*Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Field Trip*  
Participants will meet at a parking site in Port Canaveral.  
Tour conducted by volunteers of the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation. More information to follow in the November newsletter.

**December 13, 2014** **3:00 PM**  
*Annual Historic Show and Tell Program*  
SBHS Members & Friends share historic artifacts and mementos.

*Programs are free and held the second Saturday of each month (except during July and August summer break) at the Fee Avenue Melbourne Public Library 540 E. Fee Avenue, Melbourne, Florida*

## AROUND BREVARD

**October 17, 2014** **7:00 PM**  
*A History of Central Florida - Podcast*  
Florida Historical Society

Two podcasts, "Early European Maps" and "Mosquito Beaters" will be shown.  
435 Brevard Ave., Historic Cocoa Village  
321.690.1976

**October 25, 2014** **1:00-5:00 PM**

*Green Gables Open House*  
1501 South Harbor Boulevard, Melbourne  
For more information call 321.725.4115 or go to [www.greengables.org](http://www.greengables.org)

**Ongoing**  
*University Archives Exhibition Room*  
Evans Library, Florida Institute of Technology  
Enjoy varied displays of documents & artifacts, including items from the SBHS collection, marking FIT's 56 year history.

## WHAT'S NEW WITH THE SBHS HISTORICAL COLLECTION

By Donald Jennings, SBHS Board of Directors

The South Brevard Historical Society possesses a collection that celebrates Brevard County's rich and diverse history of the region and its residents. These documents and artifacts are either on exhibit at South Brevard Libraries or at the SBHS storage facility. Each year, members of our Society have put together exhibits from the items in the collection to display at our local libraries for the community's enjoyment. This year we plan to bring the history of Brevard County to our classrooms! Over the next few months, we will assemble several traveling resource trunks specifically created for teachers looking for a unique and educational way to share the heritage of Brevard with their classrooms. Each trunk focuses on a specific topic in Brevard history and contains many high-quality reproduction documents and photographs as well as a few historical artifacts to enable students to have a personal experience with the past. Including a teacher's manual will make the experience a great way for students to learn about the history of the area, practice thinking about the past from the time period of the artifact, and by understanding their community's past history they will help better it going forward.

We continue to work with other groups and individuals to follow our mission statement to "draw strength and perspective from the past, realize a sense of regional identity, and find direction for the future". Earlier this year, we loaned several items to Florida Institute of Technology for consideration to be part of their University Archives Exhibition Room and their online Historical Timeline (<http://hub.am/1ixFa0k>). The room is on the first floor of the Evans Library on their Melbourne campus. In it, you will find items and photos telling the story of their short 55-year heritage that is full of highly successful professors, students and graduates that have made positive and significant impacts to their communities and professions. If you have a few minutes and are interested in the university and its affect on the community and the world, it is certainly an interesting exhibit to visit.

## GREEN GABLES OPEN HOUSE - OCTOBER 25, 2014

1:00 - 5:00 PM

The public is invited to tour the first floor of the historic Green Gables home, built in 1896 by William T. and Nora Stanford Wells. The tour will be hosted by volunteers of *Green Gables at Historic Riverview Village, Inc.* a historic preservation, not-for-profit organization.

The tour is free, but donations will be most welcome.

For more information and to keep up with news of the Green Gables preservation project go to [www.greengables.org](http://www.greengables.org) or [info@greengables.org](mailto:info@greengables.org)

*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/Applied Graphics, located at 102 East New Haven Avenue, for providing discounted printing services for the newsletter.*