

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

**S.B.H.S. MEMBERSHIP
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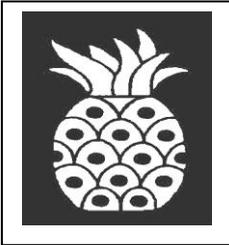
This is a gift membership from:

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.

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South Brevard Historical Society, Inc.

Founded 1966
P.O. Box 1064, Melbourne, Florida, 32902-1064
www.southbrevardhistory.org
Newsletter Editor, Patricia Fabian

September 2015

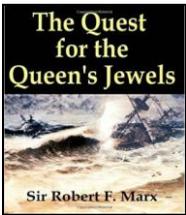
Saturday, September 12, 2015

3:00 PM

Melbourne Public Library
540 E. Fee Avenue, Melbourne

**THE QUEST FOR THE
QUEEN'S JEWELS**

Lecture by Sir Robert Marx



Please join us as Sir Robert Marx, renowned underwater archaeologist and pioneer in deep water shipwreck archaeology, discusses his latest book *The Quest for the Queen's Jewels*.

At sunrise on July 24, 1715, a convoy consisting of twelve ships set sail from Havana Harbor for the long voyage back to Spain. The convoy was composed of the five ships of the New Spain Flota, six ships of the Squadron of Tierra Firme, and a French ship named Grifon. After the convoy left Havana it made its way up the Bahama Channel. During the night of July 30th it was struck by a fierce hurricane that wrecked all the ships upon the coast of Florida, with the exception of the Grifon, which miraculously escaped. Over a thousand persons lost their lives.

The Spaniards commenced salvage operations immediately along the beach of Florida's Treasure Coast. The Spanish salvage effort was quite effective however, much still remains to be found, including the dowry of the Queen Isabella Farnese, wife of King Philip V, sparking the imagination of the treasure hunter in all of us.

DEAR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS,

Although SBHS was on break for two months, several members have been busy assembling the first of several *Traveling History Trunks*. With an “agriculture” theme, this unique educational package will offer students an opportunity to see what it was like to be a pineapple farmer, a blacksmith, a planter, an ox cart driver, or even a child with chores in the late 1800’s to early 1900’s.

Locally, the capital campaign to save *Green Gables* is well underway and I am glad to report that it is accomplishing one of its goals: “raise awareness of the value of preserving significant elements of our early built environment”. This idea is shared by the new owners of the former Christmas Cottage on New Haven Avenue. They are busy converting the building into the *Hell ‘n Blazes Brewing Company*, while working to preserve and display many of the artifacts they have found during the renovation.

“Keeping South Brevard’s History Alive” - the effort to preserve the history among us, is a key part of SBHS’s mission. As we move toward our 50th Anniversary in 2016, we are improving the ways we record and tell the story of South Brevard’s unique past in a continuing effort to make the stories more accessible to you.

Beginning with the Sir Robert Marx program on the 1715 Plate Fleet wrecks, we look forward to presenting a season of fascinating programs that will increase your knowledge and fuel a drive to learn even more about the area we call home. I humbly ask that you consider donating your talent and/or treasure to support one of the local efforts to save and preserve Brevard’s history, as the results from those labors create a legacy that will educate and entertain future generations.

I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Don Jennings
South Brevard Historical Society President, 2015
donaldjennings.fl45@gmail.com

UPCOMING SBHS PROGRAMS

October 10, 2015 3:00 PM

The Van Eeghen Murders

Presented by Ann Flotte

On the morning of December 9, 1955 the residents of tiny Melbourne awoke to the news of a brutal murder the night before. Learn why this story continues to remain a mystery after 60 years and still baffles and fascinates to this day.

November 14, 2015 9:30 AM – 5:30 PM

Guided Bus Tour to Hutchinson Island, Elliot Museum and Gilbert’s Bar House of Refuge

A guided bus tour of scenic Hutchinson Island.

\$59 per person includes transportation, tour guide, admission to listed attractions and gratuities. Lunch at Dolphin House additional or you may bring your own. For further information call Patricia Fabian at 321.480.7570

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

September 5, 2015 2:00 PM

The Architecture of Green Gables – Style & Detail

Melbourne Fee Avenue Library

540 E. Fee Avenue, Melbourne

Presented by Historic Preservationist John Daly

September 30, 2015 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Grant Historical House Re-opens for the season

5795 U.S. 1, Grant – 321.723.8543

October 17, 2015 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Flea Market at the Grant Historical House

5795 U.S. 1, Grant – 321.723.8543

The South Brevard Historical Society Presents

A TOUR OF HUTCHINSON ISLAND, ELLIOT MUSEUM & HOUSE OF REFUGE

Saturday, November 14, 2015

9:30 AM – 6:00 PM

You are invited to join the South Brevard Historical Society for a scenic sightseeing tour to Hutchinson Island. We will travel via deluxe air-conditioned motor coach down the coast through Fort Pierce and Jensen Beach. Our first stop will be lunch at the Dolphin House (the former Francis Langford’s Outrigger) with magnificent views of the Intracoastal Waterway and Hutchinson Island. You may dine here or bring your own lunch.

Following lunch a guided tour of Hutchinson Island will begin the next leg of our journey. We will visit the Elliot Museum with its century-old memorabilia, circus history and baseball exhibits in addition to the popular car museum which houses automobiles ranging from the Model T to vehicles of the 21st Century. While traveling, our guide will share stories of Spanish and Indian history from the Treasure Coast along with other tales of Florida’s past.

Next we will visit Gilbert’s Bar House of Refuge. This house is the only remaining example of nine houses built on the east coast of Florida for the U.S. Life Saving Service in 1875. The keepers of these houses provided shelter, food, clothing and transportation to survivors of shipwrecks and storms at sea.

\$59 per person

Includes transportation, tour guide, admission to listed attractions (lunch not included)

Make your reservations now - seats are limited for this tour !!

For further information contact Patricia Fabian at 321.480.7570

PLEASE NOTE: This tour will be in place of our regular monthly meeting for November

Reservation Form – Hutchinson Island Bus Tour

MAKE YOUR CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$59/PERSON PAYABLE TO SBHS, INC. A CHECK MUST ACCOMPANY YOUR RESERVATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone #: _____ Email: _____

I will dine at Dolphin House for lunch (additional cost) _____ I will bring my own lunch _____

Mail to: SBHS, Inc.

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

Or you may bring to the September 12th SBHS Meeting

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.