

July-August-September 2021



Palm Harbor Museum

OPERATED BY THE PALM HARBOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWS & EVENTS

JOIN US IN THE PALM HARBOR MUSEUM ZOOM ROOM!



“Thanks” to the COVID19 pandemic, Palm Harbor Museum jumped into the online event business just like many other museums and organizations did during the last year. Turns out, it works really well at allowing our previously-onsite monthly program, **Meet Me at the Museum**, to reach a whole new audience and accommodate lots more participants! The multi-talented musician/educator Joy Katzen-Guthrie produces Meet Me at the Museum for PHM and her multimedia skills make these virtual programs even more interesting.

Meet Me at the Museum on Zoom is free to attend and reservations must be made through Eventbrite; Participants will be emailed the Zoom link prior to the event. Donations are gratefully accepted and can easily be added to your ticket reservation.

July 21, 6:30-7:45pm: The Tocobaga, the Lost Tribe of Tampa Bay

The Palm Harbor Museum is delighted to announce that Dr. Roger Block, an expert in Native American history and a member of the Seminole Historical Society, will describe what archaeology and Spanish chronicles reveal about Tocobagan culture and life-ways. An informative program that you won't want to miss!

(Photo by Tiffany Razzano, TBN)



Sign up at [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com), search online events for “PHM Zoom: The Tocobaga”

Aug 18, 6:30-7:45pm: Boat Building on Florida’s West Coast, a Seven-Millenia History with John Pether



Did you know that Florida boat building reaches back some 7,000 years to Florida’s original native settlers, continuing through the period of Spanish Exploration to the present day? Avid boater, racer, researcher and author of *The History of the Sarasota Sailing Squadron* and the forthcoming title *The History of Boat Building on the Gulf Coast of Florida*, John Pether shares his significant findings of the Florida West Coast's seven-millenia history of boat building, including the Tampa Bay region, and will talk about the plans that will bring to fruition Sarasota’s Gulf Coast Maritime Museum.

(Photo courtesy GulfCoastMaritime.org)

Sign up at [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com), search online events for “PHM Zoom: 7000 Years...”

Sept 22, 6:30-7:45pm: “Where is Palm Harbor and How Did It Grow?” with Tom Rose, PhD (please note week change this month)

Join us for a close-up examination of maps from the 19th century to the present of Florida and Pinellas County as Dr. Rose provides an overview of the historical changes of the region that have brought us to where we are today. Eventbrite registration info TBA.



Map of Hillsborough County, 1890s (Courtesy of the Special Collections Department, University of South Florida).

FROM PHHS PRESIDENT BOB FORTNER

Welcome to The Hartley House, home of the Palm Harbor Museum, owned by Pinellas County and operated by the Palm Harbor Historical Society. Those words (or something similar) were first spoken at our grand opening back in 1998 and in some ways it feels like we are saying them again for the first time in over a year, here in 2021.

To all of our members, past and present, welcome back! We have missed seeing you and getting to visit with you at our special events. We will be having a Wine Around Palm Harbor event again this November and we'll make sure you know of the details as they unfold. Of course we hope to see you a lot sooner than that. The museum is open now Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10am to 2pm, so come by to see our new displays and reconnect with us.

Along with a welcome, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to our volunteers, returning and/or first timers. We will be working on cataloguing our collections, planning fundraisers, special events and membership drives and we need help with all of these. Also we have some exciting plans for our Museum Campus, including new outdoor educational displays, and a return to native and historic landscaping, so green thumbs are treasured here!

To those of you who are not yet members, welcome to a unique and memorable experience of the Palm Harbor area's rich history. Our doors are open to you (see times above). No reservations are needed and you may have a guided tour or just peruse the exhibits on your own. We will leave it up to you whether you wish to be masked or not and there is plenty of space to keep polite social distancing. There is no entrance fee, however, your donations are greatly appreciated, as they are the major source of funding the museum's operations.

In addition to visiting the Museum, we hope you will visit our website and explore our archived Meet Me at the Museum programs as well as our oral history interviews. Many people have devoted their time, treasures and talents to provide these rich historic resources in support of our mission: To collect, preserve, and share the heritage of the Palm Harbor area, including Crystal Beach, Curlew, Eastlake, Ozona, Wall Springs, and Palm Harbor.

~ Bob



Museum's First Jr Historian Adventure Kit a Huge Hit with the "12 & Under" Crowd!



Within a week of announcing that reservations were being taken for PHM's first-ever Junior Historian Adventure Kit program, all the kits were spoken for.

Designed to help children learn about the early history of the area, the kits were packed with fun projects from painting a wooden Hartley House replica to sending a message the old-fashioned way--via postcard. Extra field trips, such as visiting local parks to look for "pink curlews" (the Palm Harbor region's earliest namesake), a recipe for Caladesi Island-inspired cookies, and a museum scavenger hunt with prizes rounded out the activities.

The Kits were made possible through a grant from the Florida State Department's Division of Cultural Resources.

New Feature: Meet Your Board Members!



The Palm Harbor Museum is operated by the all-volunteer Palm Harbor Historical Society Board of Directors, a group of dedicated individuals, all bringing their unique backgrounds and experiences together to help the Museum grow. In this issue, we introduce you to our community go-getter, **Barbara Battaglia**, a local Realtor who's always on the lookout for ways to make the Palm Harbor Museum shine!

Why do you think PHM is an important community resource? Local museums provide a sense of community by offering a great way to get to know the area.

What's the most interesting thing you've learned about Palm Harbor history? When I am at the Museum I can feel Tom and Ida's presence and it takes me back to their life in the orange groves and raising their family.

On serving as PHHS Assistant Treasurer, how will you help the Museum proceed on the track to financial sustainability? I hope to assist the Treasurer in the direction and management of the Museum's treasury activities and overseeing activities that help guarantee financial policies and procedures that fulfill the Museum's goals and requirements.

Your Thoughts as Committee Chair for Wine Around Palm Harbor to be held Nov 6, 2021: This is a great event, much needed, and well attended. It's classy and quaint underneath the stars in the camphor grove with highly rated wine and food pairings in an intimate setting.

Where are you from originally & what brought you to Palm Harbor? I was born and raised in the suburbs of Buffalo, NY. My grandparents were snowbirds. As a child, I visited for 2 weeks during the spring break and brought my family in the winter as well. We enjoyed the Bird Sanctuary and Orange Blossom Groves (citrus/souvenir market) which is now the Dick Norris car dealership. I knew this was where I wanted to spend the second half of my life, having made so many great memories here. I'm often working and very active in the community with real estate, the Museum and the Pinellas Realtor Organization. I have a red standard poodle named Ben that I am addicted to, so you may see us out and about in the community as well!

VOLUNTEER OF THE QUARTER—Molly McCormick

"Where does a name like 'Septer' come from?" Molly's curiosity and love of research comes in handy at the Palm Harbor Museum! Pondering the first name of an early Palm Harbor postmaster (Septer Patrick) led her to discover that it has Dutch origins but was also used in Scotland.

Not only does Molly take the initiative to explore local history leads that interest her—such as digging up information about the pioneer Whitehurst family—she gladly takes on other projects, such as helping compile a history of the Hartley house and property itself, by poring through file folders full of old newspaper clippings in the Archives.

After moving to the area in 2017 from Florida's east coast, Molly visited the Palm Harbor Museum one day to learn more about her new "hometown." As a former volunteer with the Palm Beach County Historical Society, she knows local history museums offer a treasure trove of knowledge to help new residents establish new roots.

An engaging and enjoyable tour with longtime Museum Docent Howard Buck (above, with Molly at a past museum event) inspired Molly to join the Palm Harbor Museum team.

She's an excellent baker too, lending her kitchen expertise by providing delectable treats for Museum events and often brings new recipes for us to try when she comes in for her weekly shifts. Yum!



Thank You, Molly, for all you bring to the Palm Harbor Museum!

CURRENT NEEDS:

Museum Docents: If working with the public is within your comfort zone at this time, consider becoming a docent. Training will be provided. Docents greet visitors, provide brief tours sharing information about our historic buildings and the Palm Harbor region; and perform light housekeeping duties. Requirements include being able to commit to a weekly 2- to 4-hour shift, 10am-2pm. We currently need help Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Event Volunteers: We need volunteers to serve on planning committees, recruit table sponsors, request silent auction donations and food contributions, as well as set-up and clean-up crews for PHM fundraisers and special events. If you have time to help us with this, please get in touch with the Museum.

Please contact the Museum at palmharbormuseum@outlook.com to request more information.

HERE'S A PEEK AT WHAT'S AROUND THE CORNER!

"Hey you! Take it outside!"

As a matter of fact, we WILL! The Palm Harbor Museum's Campus Landscape Committee is planning exciting new OUTDOOR Museum features! We are applying for a special County grant that will enable us to provide interpretive signage around the Museum grounds, including near the footprint of the Hartley Ladder Factory and the location of the original Hartley Log Cabin. Part of the plan includes removing some of the historically and botanically inappropriate plantings (bye-bye fishtail palms!) and replacing them with native and Florida friendly options that encourage pollinator activity and are more welcoming to wildlife. Other new landscape additions will reflect the Hartley's time period, with the addition of fruit trees and other edible crops. A Bird Thicket near the Grove House and a few more heirloom roses near the Hartley House front door will provide even more "moments of nature" to enjoy. Stay tuned for project updates and ways YOU can get involved! The Campus Landscape Committee Chair is Terry Fortner; other members include esteemed Florida native plant expert and author Dr. Craig Huegel, Palm Harbor Historical Society President Bob Fortner, Board Member Nancy Mitchem, Operations Manager Carol Cortright and Volunteer Howard Buck. The Committee also appreciates the generous guidance received from Nancy McKibben, Assistant to the County Administrator Representing Unincorporated North County Communities, and Tom Scofield, Historic Preservation Specialist, Pinellas County Planning Division.



Other new landscape additions will reflect the Hartley's time period, with the addition of fruit trees and other edible crops. A Bird Thicket near the Grove House and a few more heirloom roses near the Hartley House front door will provide even more "moments of nature" to enjoy. Stay tuned for project updates and ways YOU can get involved! The Campus Landscape Committee Chair is Terry Fortner; other members include esteemed Florida native plant expert and author Dr. Craig Huegel, Palm Harbor Historical Society President Bob Fortner, Board Member Nancy Mitchem, Operations Manager Carol Cortright and Volunteer Howard Buck. The Committee also appreciates the generous guidance received from Nancy McKibben, Assistant to the County Administrator Representing Unincorporated North County Communities, and Tom Scofield, Historic Preservation Specialist, Pinellas County Planning Division.



Communities, and Tom Scofield, Historic Preservation Specialist, Pinellas County Planning Division.

ORAL HISTORIES ON YOUTUBE

Palm Harbor Museum's Oral History Program not only preserves the voices of Palm Harbor's past, it supports additional interpretive features in our exhibits. We are grateful for the citizens of Palm Harbor who want to tell their stories. The interviews are available for viewing on YouTube. Search YouTube under Palm Harbor Museum and Palm Harbor Museum Oral Histories. Email the Museum to inquire about recording an Oral History: palmharbormuseum@outlook.com.

New Membership Benefit for You!

PHM joined the Time Travelers reciprocal program that provides free or discounted admission and other benefits to members of participating museums and historical sites nationwide! The Missouri Historical Society created the program in 1998. The program includes 300+ organizations in more than 40 states. PLEASE NOTE: Membership cards must be presented at participating Museums to enjoy Time Traveler benefits. Since early 2020, PHM membership cards are now being sent to new members and upon renewal for existing members, so if you haven't gotten yours yet, it may be time to renew! Remember to call the institutions ahead of your visit to confirm the current discounts.

To see an online list of Time Traveler Museums & discounts, go here:
csv.mohistory.org/static/pdf/institutions.pdf

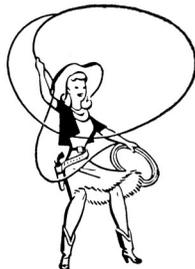


MEMBERSHIP ♦ ROUND-UP

Welcome & Thank You to these New & Renewing Members!

Individual & Family

Kathleen Gillen
Glenda Riviere Gunnells
Eric & Rebecca Houghton
Merily Jackson
Michael Kendig
Leonora Laveau
Fred Muth
Anna Stracey



Platinum Sponsor

Jean Barnes

Patron

Jacqueline Hanlon

Business Sponsor

Caladesi Memories/Terry Fortner

Sponsor

George & Maureen Skalkeas

Business Patron

Care Placement Home
Health Agency

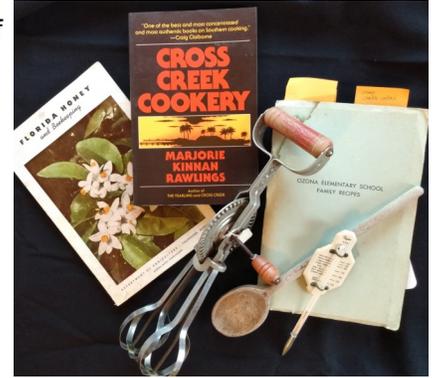
(SOMEHOW, I MANAGE)

CAROL CORTRIGHT, PHM OPERATIONS MANAGER

Phase 2 Exhibit UPDATE: Someone's in the Kitchen with Ida

You may recall that PHM received a second grant from The Faith Mission Christian Committee of the Pinellas Community Foundation to fund the next round of new permanent exhibits. A previous Faith Mission grant made possible the new Hartley family exhibit and displays about the greater Palm Harbor region, Boot Ranch and fishing in Ozona.

In September, we hope to open the first new Phase 2 exhibit area—a makeover of Ida Hartley's kitchen which has been closed in recent years. The new displays will show what it was like to feed the family on an early 20th century homestead, and we'll look at the many culinary influences from indigenous diets to ingredients and methods that came along with pioneers from the north and immigrants from around the world.



Planning the new displays for Ida's Kitchen has been underway for months, from locating and interviewing Hartley descendants and long-time Palm Harbor residents, reviewing local and regional cookbooks, researching the culinary history of Florida and...the tastiest part—testing vintage recipes that will be shared through a special rotating display with take-home recipe cards for visitors who want to recreate the past in their own kitchens.

Museum Volunteer Molly McCormick, who loves both history AND baking, has been experimenting with the recipes to make sure they still come out delicious, using today's ingredients and modern kitchen equipment. So far, we are big fans of the Orange Cookie, which also happens to be the State Cookie of Florida! We also loved the flaky cinnamon-sugar cookie that was made with lard—which is an ingredient today's

younger cooks might not be familiar with, although bakers of yesteryear used the animal fat product in many of their pastries and pie crusts.

Other recipes we aim to try out for inclusion in our recipe display might include: Honey Orange Railway Salad Dressing, Crystal Bay Blue Crab Salad, Orange Broiled Grouper, Mission Stew, and of course, Ms. Ida's Guava Jelly with Cream Cheese and Crackers.

Meanwhile, thank you for your continued support and stay tuned for more good things to come from your local history museum!



~Cheers, Carol

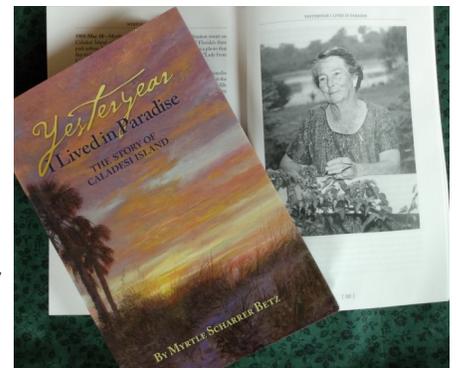
Get Your Local History Fix in the BOOK NOOK!



Sometimes, what's "old" is actually "new"! **Now available:** "New old stock" citrus labels from Palm Harbor's juicy heyday! These are surplus original labels, NOT reproductions, that were used by groves in the Elfers and Palm Harbor Growers Associations. Labels are \$5. each. Proceeds benefit the Palm Harbor Museum.

Many locals and visitors have heard about the little girl who grew up on Caladesi Island and rowed across the sound to get to school...Now you can read her own story! *Yesteryear I Lived in Paradise*, written by Myrtle Betz at the age of 87 and printed on the occasion of her 90th birthday, brings to life the days of wild wonder she spent immersed in nature, from Dunedin to her final home on Sutherland Bay in Palm Harbor. (\$20)

Shopping in our Book Nook Supports PHM! If you would like to purchase any of these items or view other titles in our new Book Nook, visit the Museum on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 10-2. Credit card purchases require an additional \$2. service fee. Books can be mailed for a \$5 shipping fee.





PALM HARBOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK www.facebook.com/Palmharbormuseum



2043 Curlew Road, Palm Harbor, Florida 34683
Phone: 727-724-3054
Website: palmharbormuseum.com
Email: palmharbormuseum@outlook.com

LIKE US ON INSTAGRAM www.instagram.com/Palmharbormuseum



HOURS: Thurs, Fri and Sat, 10 am to 2 pm

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



PHM is a proud recipient of support awarded by Faith Mission Christian Committee/Pinellas Community Foundation

CARES Grants



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES



MEMBERSHIP

Membership Application

Without our annual members, PHHS would not be able to run the Museum. 100% of your annual membership is used to support Museum operations. Membership has its perks! Enjoy free admission and programs during the year, exclusive members-only events and 10% off on Book Nook purchases! Individuals and business owners are encouraged to fill out a membership form and mail it in with your check. The Historical Society is a not-for-profit organization. Annual Memberships expire one year from the date of joining.

Encourage your friends to join too! New Members always welcome!

Name Organization (if applicable)

Address City St

Zip Phone Email

Annual Membership Dues Categories (check one)

\$30 Individual \$45 Family \$100 Sponsor \$250 Patron \$500 Benefactor \$1000 Excelsior \$2500 Platinum

Membership Dues \$ Additional Contribution

Gift Membership \$ From

Total Amount Enclosed \$ Please make check payable to Palm Harbor Historical Society