



Hello everyone and Happy Holidays,

It has been a busy few months at the Society and there is so much to cover in this issue of Pioneer News, I'm not sure where to begin, but you will notice our newsletter grew.

First, we have a new updated website. It is still a work in progress, as we still have work on the Museum pages, but take a look, most of the same information from our old site is still there, but it's more streamlined and easier to find things.

Then we news on the completion of the museum. We recently took another tour to see the progress of the renovations and to begin discussing what we will use the space for. You can see some photos on Page 4. We are really excited because after waiting almost five years, we are starting to see the end of the tunnel. We have been told by city officials that we could be moving in by March, but I can assure you, we will let you know for sure, as soon as we know! It really can't happen soon enough.

Please read the article on Page 3 of this newsletter to learn about our new membership tiers that we are offering and information on how to renew your membership. Our Board of Directors felt we had to offer options for our members and to also ensure that our dues structure was going to allow us to operate the museum in black ink, not red ink. Once the doors open, there will be new events that you will be invited to attend that we couldn't offer in the past without having our own facility.

Finally, read the cover story about our field trip to the Cape Coral History Museum. It was fun and we learned a lot of great things from the executive director, Janell Trull, who incidentally use to live here in Port St. Lucie and work at the Elliot Museum.

Thank you for supporting your Historical Society and Happy Holidays,

Patricia Christensen, Chairperson



A day at the museum

Last month, PSL Historical Society members, Christine Williams, Marty Zientz and Patricia Christensen traveled across the state to Cape Coral to visit the Cape Coral History Museum.



They were hosted by Museum Executive Director, Janell Trull, who spent the day touring the visitors through the three museum buildings that house Cape Coral's museum, answering questions, and sharing information on how to make our society's history museum become a big success.

Christensen contacted Trull earlier this year, and had been communicating with her about the museum in Cape Coral. "I was Googling small historical museums in Florida and found the Cape Coral

History Museum's website", explained Christensen, "It just seemed so much like what we, (the Society), envisioned our museum to be like, and when Janell offered to assist and advise us, how could we refuse?"

The three visitors came away with a treasure trove of ideas and suggestions on how to get the Port St. Lucie History Museum up and running, and they have been working feverishly ever since their return. With the completion of the historic "Lodge" at Pioneer Park, located at 2546 SE Westmoreland Blvd., next to the Botanical Gardens nearing completion, there it a lot to do, and with the assistance of other board members things are taking shape.

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NOTICE

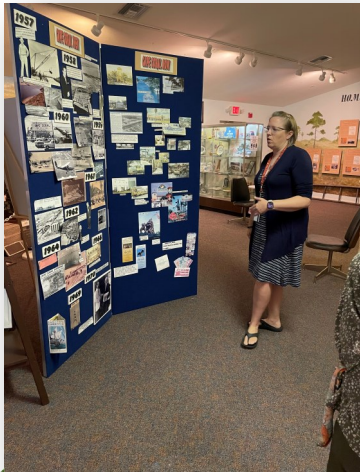
Cancellation of December Board Meeting

Our regularly scheduled PSL Historical Society Board Meeting is canceled for December. Our next Board meeting will be January 30, 2024, at the PSL Botanical Gardens immediately following our Annual PSL Historical Society Board Meeting. The Annual meeting will begin at noon. All members in good standing are welcome to attend.

Renew your membership to ensure you are a part of history during our Museum's Inaugural Year

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Christine Williams found it interesting how displays were created, and exhibits changed out, which with the limited space the Port St. Lucie facility will have in the beginning, quelled her fears. "I was nervous about how we would display our history



since most of it is paper and photos, but after visiting Cape Coral, I see how creative they were, and know we can handle the task before us." said Williams.

The Port St. Lucie History Museum and Education

Center is due to open in the first quarter of 2024. Anyone interested in volunteering to help the Society open its doors can visit the Society's website at www.pslhistory.org and complete a volunteer form.

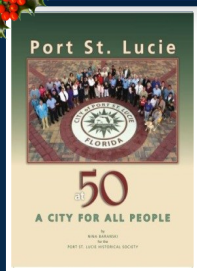


Are you having trouble finding a great gift for **Christmas** for that history buff in your family?

How about a copy of Port St. Lucie at 50, "A City for All People"?

Just \$29.99 and you also receive a free membership for 2024

Stop by the Shell Bazaar at 10100 S. US Highway 1, Port St. Lucie or you can order a copy on our website at www.pslhistory.org



Be a history maker and give a gift that will last forever

As the "Lodge" will soon become the home of the Port St. Lucie History Museum and Education Center, takes shape on Westmoreland Boulevard, the Port St. Lucie Historical Society has taken on a brick paver project to build a plaza between the two historic buildings to enhance the appearance of the grounds and create a small event space.



You can be a part of this historic event by purchasing a brick for yourself or family members, friends or business. It's a way of ensuring they are part of Port St. Lucie's history. Show your pride in and support of your community. You can purchase one or more bricks to help build us continue our mission in preserving our city's history.

Engraved bricks will be installed on the plaza between the buildings. Two sizes are available at \$100 or \$200. Other pricing can be found on our website.

Ordering a brick is easy. Go to the PSL Historic Society website at www.pslhistory.org to complete the form. This would be a great holiday gift or a way for you or your company to show its civic pride. A brick is also a nice idea to remember a special day or to memorialize a family member, friend or pet.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE
PORT ST. LUCIE HISTORICAL SOCIETY YOU CAN GO TO
OUR WEBSITE AT www.pslhistory.org or



Find us on:
facebook

Renew your membership to ensure you are a part of history during our Museum's Inaugural Year

Membership Dues are Due

December is historically the month that we send membership renewals out to our members for the coming year. This year is no different.

But this year, there is a slight change that we hope you will embrace and support us on, all because we want to have a successful opening of our first museum and to be able to provide exhibits, speakers, and special events that our membership can attend and participate in.

The Board Directors in October changed the membership tiers by adding two new tiers. Besides, Individual, Family, Small Business and Corporate tiers, we will now have Student/Educator and Senior and Veteran's added as options to our membership tiers.

With the tier additions, we have increased membership dues on a few tiers. The new fees are as follows:

- Student/Educator—\$20.
- Senior/Military—\$25, included active and retired military
- Individual—\$40
- Family—\$50, includes children and grandchildren
- Small Business—\$100, 1 to 10 employees
- Corporate—\$250

Along with your membership, you receive our quarterly, electronic newsletter, invitations to our quarterly Gatherings and with the opening of the museum you will receive a membership card, which gives you free admission into the museum and a discount at our Gift Shop. Anyone who renews by January 20th will also receive special limited addition inaugural gift at the museum opening. If you joined the Society since October 1, you are already a member for 2024.

Invoices will be sent out soon. Be on the lookout to receive it electronically, unless we don't have an email address, then you will receive an invoice in the mail.

When you receive your invoice, you will see the membership tier you were at for 2023 and then the new tiers and rates will be listed. If you notice that you may actually qualify for one of the new tiers and rates, please feel free to make that adjustment when you renew. We would also appreciate it, if you would renew your membership on our website. It would be very convenient.

Remember we are a 501(c)3 organization and your membership is considered tax deductible. We also have other ways for you to help preserve our history for future generations. First, consider become a Giving Society Member, which is a way to sustain the museum long-term, buy a brick or two and become a history maker or volunteer a few hours a month and help us share our history at the museum. Information on everything mentioned here can be found on our website. Visit our new website at www.pslhistory.org.

Be a history maker. Help us to "Preserve our history today, for generations tomorrow".

Board Meeting Notices

Join us at our Port St. Lucie Historical Society Board meetings. We meet monthly at the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens. Our meetings begin at noon the **LAST Thursday** of every month, **not the fourth**.

All our Society members in good standing are invited to attend our meetings.

We are doing a lot of planning to get ready to move into our new Museum. Consider joining us and be part of this momentous occasion.

We hope to see you soon!

WANTED VOLUNTEERS

The Port St. Lucie Historical Society is looking for members, friends and residents who are looking for a new way to give back to the community.

We are looking for volunteers to help us at the new PSL History Museum and Education Center to make it a big success.

If you have spare time and want to help us out, go to our website and complete the volunteer form. One of our members will contact you to discuss your areas of expertise and time commitment.

We are going to be looking for volunteers on different committees that will assist with event planning, membership growth, exhibit planning, archiving and when the museum opens, greeters and tour guides.

Just go to our website at www.pslhistory.org

THANK YOU EVERYONE!!!

THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS, WHO WORKED TIRELESSLY TO KEEP THIS TRAIN ON THE TRACKS.

THANK YOU TO OUR BOARD MEMBERS, PAST AND PRESENT FOR MAKING THE DREAM OF OUR PORT ST. LUCIE MUSEUM A REALITY.

WE HAVE MADE GREAT PROGRESS THIS YEAR, AND IT WOULD HAVE NOT BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT YOU!!!!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS, MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!!!

The light at the end of the tunnel

After many years of planning and waiting, the Port St. Lucie Historical Society is just months away from opening its doors, to the Port St. Lucie History Museum and Education Center. On December 7th,

Board members toured the "Lodge" which is soon to become their new home.

Armed with cameras and tape measures, members spent time several hours meeting with City Staff and checking out the "Lodge," which is nearing completion after several years of renovation.

They discussed the uses of each room and measured walls and window to ensure there was room for furniture and storage placement.

If all goes according to the most recent time schedule, the Society could be moving in to the historic "Lodge" by early March. Patricia Christensen, Chairperson of the Port St. Lucie Historical Society, would like to see a soft opening and celebratory ribbon

cutting by the end of April, around the city's birthday. "Fingers crossed, we could celebrate this momentous event prior to the official opening of the soon to be completed Pioneer Park", she said, "now the big job is ahead, moving in and organizing years of records and memorabilia, which we have stored in multiple locations."

