



IN SUPPORT OF THE MUSEUM OF SEMINOLE COUNTY HISTORY, A 501-C-3 TAX EXEMPT ORGANIZATION LOCATED AT 300 ESLINGER WAY, SANFORD FLORIDA 32773

SEMINOLE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FALL 2019 NEWSLETTER

CARRIAGES ARE HALFWAY HOME

On July 24, the Nygren Carriage Collection, consisting of 32 buggies, chaises, buckboards and other horse-drawn vehicles from 1790 to 1910 were relocated from Bill Nygren's barn in Geneva to a county-owned warehouse for preservation and inventory processing. The interim home of the buggies was arranged by Commissioner Jay Zembower, who also organized the transport of the carriages by twelve tow truck operators in the area who donated their time and vehicles to move the fragile buggies. A Seminole County Sheriff's Department escort followed the convoy to its new home, complete with helicopter hovering overhead. The relocation will allow the carriages to be fumigated and further preserved while waiting for the renovations to be finished in Building 302, its ultimate home next to the Museum. The event was featured on the front page of the Orlando Sentinel on July 24.

In the meantime, fundraising has been progressing at a steady pace. Two major grants were filed with the State of Florida's Department of Cultural Affairs on June 3 totaling \$75,000. Pledges of \$40,000 from various individuals and organizations are on record, corporate and individual gifts account for @\$8,500 (this number changes often). Our goal of \$150,000 seems within reach, but we're not there yet, so your tax-deductible contribution, however small, is always welcome. Corporate donors are especially encouraged through our \$500 Adopt-A-Buggy program! See enclosed flier for details.

Board of Directors: President, Don Epps; VP, Carmen Bierman; Secretary, Beverly Mason, Treasurer, Bob Mier

2019 Directors: Deborah L. Bauer, Harry Beckham, Rosalie Cook, Lois Dickison, Linda Moscato, Kim Nelson, Cecil Tucker, Jim Turney



Buggy Music Festival Offers Food trucks, Beer, Wine, Local Bands

Mark your calendar for Saturday, November 23 for the *Jammin' at the Museum Music Festival* which will raise funds for the Nygren Carriage Collection. A combined effort on the part of the Seminole County Historical Commission and Ladies 327 Supper Club promises to be a rockin' event! Featuring six local bands from each of Seminole County's cities, the festival will run from 2-8 pm on the Museum grounds. Food trucks, beer and wine will be available for purchase and all proceeds support the Carriage Fund.

Tickets are \$35 in advance, \$45 at the door and can be purchased through ladies327.org. A portion of your ticket may be tax-deductible. Join us for a fun, music and buggy-filled evening!

Rick Kilby, Deborah Bauer Speak at Society Annual Meetings

Writer Rick Kilby gave an extremely informative talk on “Finding the Fountain of Youth”, a look at Florida’s freshwater springs and what has drawn people to them for many hundreds of years on August 20. Over 60 people attended the slideshow that traced the myth of the Fountain of Youth to visitors to numerous springs over the last two centuries. His recently-published book on the subject was available for purchase.

Board member and doctoral candidate Deborah Bauer will talk on “Chasing Her ‘Husband’ through the Center of Florida” at 7 pm on Tuesday, November 19 at 250 West County Home Rd. Sanford in the Extension Services auditorium. She will speak about women’s challenges in pioneer Florida in emotional relationships that were as juicy and salacious as some of today’s scandals. A short business meeting will precede the talk and refreshments will be served. As always, these programs are free and guests are welcome.



Bill Nygren says goodbye to one of his prized carriages as it is about to be transported to its new home

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER: If you haven’t renewed your membership, don’t let it lapse! We need your help to continue preserving Seminole County History! Visit our website or Facebook page for more information – Seminolecountyhistoricalsociety.com

###

UPCOMING MUSEUM EVENTS

Sept.12-Nov. 16: Seminole County Sports exhibit featuring visits from Jackie Robinson, Muhammad Ali and Donald Ross among others. Free.

September 21- Ask an Archaeologist! Bring an artifact or gather career info about archaeology. Free.

December 14- Annual St. Lucia Festival of Swedish Heritage, 1-4 pm. Free.

For more info call 407-665-2489

SEARCHABLE SANFORD HERALD DEBUTS

Prior to the August Society meeting, the UCF RICHES Program held a work session on how to use the database of the expanded, OCR-searchable Sanford Herald newspaper. The originals (1908-present) are housed at the Museum and are also stored on rapidly-deteriorating microfilm. In 2014 EZ Photo, a local data storage firm, scanned over 17,000 pages of the Herald to ultimately digitize the films. UCF’s RICHES Project under the leadership of Dr. Connie Lester continued the process over the past few years after six Museum volunteers checked each frame for accuracy. The project is now mostly word-searchable and date-searchable, with a few glitches still to be worked out. Some pages are compromised due to the age of the original microfilm. To access the database, go to richesmi.cah.ucf.edu/sanfordherald

