

THE PORT ST. LUCIE PIONEER

Vol 6 | Issue 6 | November – December 2024



Celebrating History, Holidays, and New
Beginnings.

Table of Contents

3 **MESSAGE FROM THE** **CHAIRPERSON**

Words From Patricia Christensen.

8 **VOLUNTEERS** **WANTED**

We hope to see you soon!

10 **PEACOCK LODGE PRINT**

Own a Piece of History Today!

13 **FOUNDING MEMBERS**

A List of the Founding Members.

5 **HISTORICAL** **HIGHLIGHTS**

Some Recent Photos of History in the Making.

9 **INAUGURAL CHRISTMAS** **ORNAMENT!**

Bring History Home and Celebrate Port St. Lucie!

11 **HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

Merry & Bright
Upcoming Events

14 **BOARD MEETING UPDATE**

Every First Monday @
3 pm



12 **HOLIDAY GATHERING**

Set Your Calendars Today!

15 **THANK YOU!**

Your Support is Greatly Appreciated!

Port St. Lucie Historical Society
2456 SE Westmoreland Blvd.
Port St. Lucie, FL 34952

Website: pslhistory.org.

Email: info@pslhistory.org.

Phone: [772-877-3020](tel:772-877-3020)

Hours of Operation: Wed., Thurs., Fri., 10 AM to 4 PM
Saturday 11 AM to 3 PM

A MESSAGE

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Hello Port St. Lucie, Historical Society Members

It's been a very busy and exciting time for The Society since the opening of our new museum, the "Port St. Lucie History Museum and Education Center".

I am sure you already know; on September 25 we had our Grand Opening and Ribbon cutting. It was a close call, as the day started off very windy and rainy from the effects of Hurricane Helene and we were not sure if we were going to have the day we all hoped for, weather-wise. However, at 9:50 am, the wind died down and the rain stopped. Our guests and members stepped outside, and the festivities began. By 11 a.m. we were officially opened to our visitors and guests. The day turned out perfect.

I hope you enjoy our photo album from our opening. Photo credits go to our member, Christine Fenerty, who has been very helpful in jumping in when we needed special photos for our organization. Of course, we also must thank the City of Port St Lucie, as we have also added some of their photos to this collection.

Things were chugging along for two weeks until Hurricane Milton decided to head our way, putting us in hurricane lockdown. The City shuttered us up and closed us down for a week, but we are back open and operating.

We want to thank everyone who has come out and visited during our first month since our opening. It's so nice to hear the positive comments and the stories from our visitors. If you haven't visited the museum yet, please come by and visit us. If you are a member of the Society, when you do visit us, you will receive your membership card. We have to thank our Friends at the Botanical Gardens who made our special membership cards.

The holidays are right around the corner, read on for more information on what we have planned.

Finally, I hope you enjoy the new format of this newsletter. Our member, Matthew Blackford, is now working with us on many different projects, including the newsletter. It looks so much better, and we hope to grow it in the future with sponsors and ads from our business members. Thank you for your support and I hope to see you soon,

Patricia
Chairperson
Port St. Lucie Historical Society

HISTORICAL

Highlights



The Port St. Lucie Historical Society Board (L-R) Terissa Aronson, Maria Bordonaro, Dennis Grabhorn, Jack Kelly Councilwoman Stephanie Morgan, Donnita Graben, Christine William Patrica Christensen, Back Row, (L-R) Wade Willnow, Marty Zientz and Jack Doughney.



Members of the Port St. Lucie City Council joined in the Grand Opening. Pictured (L-R), Councilman Anthony Bonna, Mayor Shannon Martin, Councilman David Pickett, Councilwoman Stephanie Morgan, Society Chair Patricia Christensen and Vice Mayor Jolien Caraballo.

HISTORICAL *Highlights*



Visitor to the museum (From r-l) Members Rita Schmal, Lee Hicks and Shelly Joyce stop by to check out the exhibits.



Long time friends of the Society, Tom and Susan Minch visited the museum and while there purchased a brick for the Brick Garden.



Member Joy Young shows off the exhibit by the Port St. Lucie Business Women.

HISTORICAL *Highlights*



Our October Gathering at Santa Lucia River Club, was attended by 40 plus members and guests. Tracy Steele, the second resident to move into Port St. Lucie before it became a city, spoke to the membership, sharing stories of the past.



Photo of the guests at our last Gathering.



Another guest photo from our last Gathering.



VOLUNTEERS WANTED

We recently held a volunteer meeting, where members were invited to hear about the volunteer positions needing to be filled at the Museum. We had a nice turnout, and we now have several new docents and archivists.

There is always a need for more help. If you would still like to volunteer, we would still love to have your help. The more help, the less we all must work.

You can volunteer by stopping by and speaking to us or filling out a volunteer form on our website, and we will contact you. Of course, stopping in would be best.

We hope to see you soon!

Limited-Edition Inaugural Christmas Ornament!



Celebrate the history and charm of the Port St. Lucie History Museum and Education Center with our exclusive Peacock Lodge Inaugural Year 2024 Ornament. This beautifully crafted piece showcases the iconic lodge in stunning detail, highlighted by a shimmering gold-plated border and timeless design.

Perfect for the Holidays:

Add a touch of Port St. Lucie pride to your Christmas tree or gift it to history enthusiasts and loved ones.

With only a limited number produced, these ornaments are true collector's items! Once they're gone, they're gone for good!

Price: \$27.00

Don't miss your chance to own this piece of local history. Stop by the museum gift shop today to purchase yours or secure one as the perfect holiday gift!

Available exclusively at the Port St. Lucie History Museum and Education Center.

Own a Piece of History: Limited-Edition Peacock Lodge Print

Celebrate the beauty and heritage of Port St. Lucie with our Limited Edition Peacock Lodge Print, created by local artist Ann Marie Watkoskey.



This stunning artwork is signed and numbered with only 24 limited edition prints available, a true collectors treasure. Each print is signed and numbered by the artist.

A perfect gift for the historian in your life or for your own home.

Remember, like the ornaments, once they're gone, they're gone: No reproductions will ever be made.

Find them exclusively at the Port St. Lucie History Museum and Education Center gift shop. Act fast—these won't last long!



CHRISTMAS AT THE MUSEUM

December 6th and 7th
&
December 13th and 14th
5:30pm to 9pm

It's Christmas Time at Pioneer Park

What better way to celebrate the holiday season?
Come to Pioneer Park, enjoy the holiday light displays and
visit the new Port St. Lucie History Museum and Education Center
2456 SE Westmoreland Blvd, Port Saint Lucie
as we celebrate Christmas at the Museum

Santa will be here !
Bring your kids and cameras
See the old fashioned "Christmas Snow Village" Display
There will be Hot Cocoa and Cookies for the kids
Leave your wish list with Santa
And enjoy other surprises especially for the kiddos!!

Mom and Dad, if you're ever struggling to find the perfect gift for someone on your list, come check out our gift shop! We have a great selection of unique items.

*Join the Society and receive a copy of "Port St. Lucie at 50", our City's history book!
They make great gifts!*



Port St. Lucie Historical Society Holiday Gathering

**Join us for some
Holiday Cheer on December 18th,
beginning at 5:30 PM**

**Santa Lucia River Club at Ballantrae
3325 Ballantrae Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL**

**We will have entertainment, fun and games
and a few surprises!!!**

Attire is holiday casual or your ugly Christmas Sweater

**\$26.00 donation per person,
Includes dinner and dessert.
There will be a cash bar.**

**Please RSVP online
on our website, www.pslhistory.org
You may also pay online or at the door.**

**Donate a gift card or a bottle
of cheer for our raffle and
receive a raffle
ticket.**



**RSVP by
December 15th**



FOUNDING MEMBERS

Keith Acquino
Dianne Aguiar
Debra Ames
Jeffery Araya *
Terissa Aronson
Michelle Backus
Linda & Blaine Bagley
Mark Barnes
Linda Bartz
Matthew & Megan Billitti
Corinne & Robert
Belanger Matthew
Blackford
Robert Bluestone & JoAnn
Rivera Anthony Sr. Bonna
Maria Bordonaro
John & Nancy Bostic
Ellis Bromberg
David Burch
Ben & Jolien Caraballo
George Carpenter *
Susan Cedenio *
Georgen Charnes *
Patricia & Frans
Christensen Sandra
Corriveau *
Lisa Crawford
Brad Currie
Renee Dalessio
Deanne Davis
Elaine Davis
Robert Deery, DDS
Barry Deets
Doris & Malon Dillon *
Dana Dispersia-Marcelino
Mary & Jack Dodge
Jack Doughney *
Doris Duncan
John Dunton
Angela Ellis
Brian Fenerty *
Nina Fenton
Jenean & Ronald Fodor *
Michelle Franklin
Heather Furnari
Dianne & John Gallagher
Donnita Graben *
Dennis Grabhorn
Richard (Randy) Green
Caroline Hamby
Nanette Heflin *

Rachel Heid & Mark
Holl & Lee Hicks &
Debbie Kliff Diane
Hirling
Eileen Huneycutt
Mary Lou Jaeger
Cecilia Jaimes
Dale & Marcia Johnson
Shelly Joyce
Robert Kambic
Krystal Kaminski *
Jack & Gail Kelly
Joleen King
Milton & Debbie Koster
Marilyn Lawless
Joan Leonard
Garon Lindo *
Bryan Lloyd *
Brenda Marlin
Achara Marshall *
Raquel Margin
Mary Mastro *
Christine, Alan &
Peyyton Mathison
Kevin & Tabitha
Matyjaszek Richard
McAfoos
Lisa & Kirk McCosh *
Diann McDonough
Albert & Elizabeth
Meihofer Michelle Miller
*
Jennifer Mooney
Esparanza & Edgardo
Morales Stephanie &
Dave Morgan Kimberly
& Dwayne Penning
David Pickett
Andrea & John Poli
Butch & Bob Post
Kathy Post & Jeff
Janocska Cynthia
Putnam
Donna Rhoden
Rochella Riordan
Jane Rowley *
Nicholas Scalice
Rita Schmal
Colette Scholpp
Fran Severini
Barbara Ann Smith *
Jan & Richard Solitro
Barbara Spacil
Nate & Karen Spera

Howard Starr
William Stolzer MD
Cynthia & Charles
Suntzenich Patti Tobin
Pete Torrelli
Sawers Tosh *
Sam Trotter
Ashley Tuccio *
George Umansky
Sallie Ventresco *
Crystal Volberding
Tracy Watkins
Jeannette & Dale Weiss *
Christine Williams
Wade Willnow
Joy Young
Marty & Diane Zientz

Honorary Members

Mayor Shannon Martin,
Vice Mayor Jolien
Caraballo Councilman
Anthony Bonna
Councilwoman Stephanie
Morgan Councilman David
Pickett

Businesses

EDC, Inc.
PSL Police Athletic League
First Male Home Watch
Koster Team
Monterrey Realty
Post Insurance
Port St. Lucie Business
Women Ritelife Services
St. Lucie County Chamber
of Commerce
St. Lucie County Property
Appraisers Office
Friends of the Port St.
Lucie Botanical Gardens
Coastal Breeze Realty
Corp.
Law Office of Barry M.
Deets, P.A. Port St. Lucie
Business Club Edward
Jones
Honey Bee Apothecary
The Shell Bazaar

* and Family

Thank you to all who made the Port St. Lucie
History Museum and Education Center a reality.
You are forever part of our history now being
honored with the title of Founding Member.

BOARD MEETING NOTICE

Our Board of Directors meets on
the first Monday of each month
at the Museum.

The meetings are at 3 PM and
any Port St. Lucie Historical
Society member in
good standing is welcome to
attend.



THANK YOU

Thank You for Supporting Local History!

The Port St. Lucie History Museum and Education Center is proud to share the stories of our past and preserve them for generations to come. Your support makes it possible.

PSLHistory.org

[2456 SE Westmoreland Blvd](#)

info@pslhistory.org



Port St. Lucie's history is a tapestry woven with stories of resilience, growth, and community spirit.

From the ancient mounds of Spruce Bluff, where early settlers left their mark, to the modern marvel of the Crosstown Bridge, connecting neighborhoods and hearts, our city's past is rich with lessons and inspiration.

At the Port St. Lucie History Museum and Education Center, we are dedicated to preserving, recording, and teaching these stories for generations to come. Each landmark, each story, and each memory is a vital thread in the fabric of our community.

Together, let's honor our past, celebrate our present, and inspire the future.