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### And the winner is?

For the past couple of years, the PSL Historical Society has held a raffle for a Christmas Tree full of gift cards. This years tree had cards totaling \$300.

This year our lucky winners are The Suzan Family. Emily Suzan, her husband and daughter came by the museum the day after our Holiday Gathering, where their winning number was drawn, to pick up their prize. Congratulations to our winners.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Historical Society by purchasing tickets. We sold over 1000 tickets this year. The proceeds will go to the operation of the museum.



Thank you to those who contributed to this issue of The Port St. Lucie Pioneer. Watch for our next issue in April 2025.

## A Message from the Chair

Hello Society Members and Friends,

We have been busy at the museum the past few months, finishing up our opening year and planning our new year.

Our first event at the museum was "Christmas at the Museum". Over the first two weekends in December, we opened the museum to families, friends and even a few furbabies. Visitors who stopped by experienced an "Old Fashioned Christmas" and got to visit Santa, Mrs, Clause and Santa's elves. After the kiddos visited Santa they enjoyed a cup of hot chocolate and cookies with Mrs. Clause. It was heartwarming to see the smiles on all the young faces, although there were a few tears from some little ones who were a bit skeptical.

Mom and Dad got to take photos or our museum helpers would take photos of the whole family. It was a great time for all. Our cover photo, is my favorite. Our six week old visitor meeting Santa for the first time. It brought back lots of memories.

A big THANK YOU goes to Akel Homes for sponsoring our first Christmas at the Museum!!! (*Photos on page 4 and 5*).

We also held our Annual Holiday Gathering at Santa Lucia River Club. We had a wonderful buffet dinner, entertainment and a lot of raffle items. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. Our next Gathering is on February 19th. Plan to join us. Richard Del Toro, our new St. Lucie County Sheriff, will be our guest speaker.

It's busy at the museum. . We have had many visitors over the first three-plus months since we have been open, however, we would love more volunteers. We could use help with our Membership Committee, where we need someone who can manage our membership lists. It would be helpful to know Microsoft Excel. We also need some help with our events and greeters at the museum during operating hours. Just three hours a month, that's all. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Christine at <a href="mailto:Christine@pslhistory.org">Christine@pslhistory.org</a> or go to our website to fill out a volunteer form. Our next training meeting will be in February.

Finally, we held our Annual Meeting on January 5. Elections for Officers were held. Congratulations to Donnita Graben for being elected our new Vice Chair, Stephanie Morgan who was re-elected as our Secretary and Christine Williams, who was reelected Treasurer. I guess you have already figured out who was reelected Chair. A big thank you to Terissa Aronson who completed her term as a Board Member. Finally welcome aboard to our two new Board Members, Nate Spera and Matthew Billitti.

That's about all for now. Thank you for supporting the Port St. Lucie Historical Society. Without you generosity, we wouldn't have the museum but don't forget we need your continued support to keep the doors open!!!

Best regards,

Patricia Christensen

Chair

### **Christmas at the Museum**

On December 4th, 5th, 11th and 12th, the Port St. Lucie Historical Society hosted "Christmas at the Museum". The museum was decked out in Christmas Cheer and smelled like a bakery. Santa Clause, Mrs. Clause and a few cute Elves visited the South and spread some Christmas cheer to our visitors.

Our guests visited with Santa, had their photos taken and enjoyed a cup of hot chocolate and some Christmas cookies. Over 1000 visitors passed through the doors during the event, for what we hope will be annual event.

Thanks to our volunteers and Board members who participated and helped make the event a great success. Our Santa's really did a great job!!! Enjoy a few photos from the event.



















#### **SPECIAL THANKS**

A special thank you goes out to our friends from the Saint Lucie River Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

To start the holiday season off, in late November, several members of the DAR including our Society members, Rochella Riordan and Barbara Ann Smith came to the museum and decked the halls. By the time they were done we were brought back in time to the 1950's and 60's with vintage holiday decor. The museum looked beautiful.





Their assistance continued through the season, when they volunteered to help at the "Christmas at the Museum" event nights. They brought another member from the DAR, Carol Ann Persiri who volunteered to sell raffle tickets for Christmas Tree. Carol Ann sold more tickets in one night then we sold in the other three nights of the event, combined.

But it didn't stop there. On January 7th, they returned to the museum and packed Christmas away until next year. We can't express our appreciation enough for these ladies' dedication and support to the Society and the museum. Thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you.!!!

Limited Edition Commemorative Port St. Lucie History Museum Christmas Ornaments

There are still a few limited edition Christmas Ornaments left in our Gift Shop.

### Only \$25.00

Once they are gone, there are no more!!!!

Buy yours today. Support the Museum.



PSL Historical Society Members receive a 10% Discount





# It's time for the Port St. Lucie Historical Society's February Gathering! Everyone is welcome

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Wednesday, February 19, 2025 Social begins at 5:30 PM Dinner starts at 6:15 PM

Located at Santa Lucia River Club at Ballentrae 3325 Ballantrae Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL We will also have a raffle and 50/50, (CASH ONLY)



Our guest speaker is
Our new
St. Lucie County Sheriff
Richard Del Toro

\$26.00 per person, includes a buffet dinner

For your convenience please reserve and/or

pay online at pslhistory.org

Payment at the door is acceptable with cash, check or credit.

Bring a friend to help expand our membership and become a little part of history at the same time.

# December's Holiday Gathering Photo memories

















# Thank you to **Akel Homes** for sponsoring "Christmas at the Museum"

We appreciate your generocity in helping to make our event a great success!!



## VISIT THE PORT ST LUCIE HISTORICAL MUSEUM AND EDUCATION CENTER

We are located at 2456 SE Westmoreland Blvd. Port St. Lucie, FL 34952

Phone: 772-877-3020 or Email: info@pslhistory.org

### **Hours of Operation:**

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 10 AM to 4 PM Saturday 11 AM to 3 PM

For more information on the **Port St. Lucie Historical Society or the Museum** 

go to: Website: pslhistory.org or find us on Facebook