



SARASOTA TIMES II

A SARASOTA HISTORY NEWSLETTER

HISTORICAL NOTE

Owen Burns,
pioneer developer
par excellence,
arrived in the
sleepy fishing
village of
Sarasota.
The year was
1910

APRIL, 2008

The Historical Society is truly privileged to welcome Harriet Burns Stieff as our speaker this month. Mrs. Stieff and her husband, Loren, are lifetime members of the Society with more than “snowbirds” passing interests in Sarasota history. Harriet experienced first hand the amazing transformation of the little village of Sarasota into a bustling town of considerable beauty. Her father, Owen Burns built The Vernona (which became the John Ringling Hotel), the Belle Haven, Burns Court, and many more Sarasota landmarks. Her views on growing up in this environment will make a fascinating program you don’t want to miss. Be sure to attend the April meeting at The Pines, 1501 N. Orange Avenue, Tuesday, April 8 at 7:00 pm

Thank you Tess Konciek, the Associate Director of Collections and Programming at the Ringling Museum, for offering us a colorfully illustrated program on the restoration of the Historic Asolo Theatre at the February meeting. And, thank you Lynn Hobeck Bates, the PR Manager at Ringling, for arranging the visit which we all enjoyed so very much. Thank you, Joanne Lowe, for the refreshments.

BOARD OFFICERS

Arnold Berns, President
Sue Blue, 1st Vice-President
Pete Esthus, Treasurer/Historian
Larry Kelleher, Secretary
Jane Kirschner-Tuccillo, Corr. Sec.

DIRECTORS

John Browning
Beth Boyce
Ginger Daniel
Brenda Lee Hickman
Joe Houle
Hans Johnsson
Ed and Loraine Orr
Bill Watrous

Editor Times II

Sue Blue

Graphics Assistant

Peter S. Blue

Harold Bubil, the Real Estate Editor of the Sarasota Herald-Tribune, had a rapt audience as he spoke on the behind the scenes machinations which led to the Florida ‘20’s “bust”. This March meeting was held in the community room of the Sarasota Herald-Tribune building on Main Street. Thanks Marg Markman for providing St. Patty’s Day refreshments!



HSOSC phone number
924-5224

www.HSOSC.com

Our deepest sympathies are extended to Marg Markman and her family on the passing of Bill Markman. The Historical Society has lost a good friend.



HISTORIC THURSDAYS

Congratulations, and thank you Jane Kirschner-Tuccillo for making your historic idea become a reality. We'll all be looking forward to more Historic Thursdays next season!

These pictures were taken during the Venice Walking Tour in March.



The Historic Thursday tours began with a visit to the Manatee Village Historical Park in January and continued in February with the Historic Ft. Myers Bus Tour. A guided tour of the Ft. Myers Museum of History, which is located in the restored Ft. Myers Train Station, followed a boxed lunch and guided tours of the Ford and Edison Winter Estates and the Edison Lab. Look for more enjoyable Historic Thursdays next fall.

The Historic Downtown Sarasota Trolley Tours will commence again next year. Sue Blue, the "hometown guide" reports all tours as most enjoyable. "Everyone had a good time!"

By the way....Have you paid your dues? Remember, we depend on the dues money to pay postage and printing so that we can continue to keep you informed. Thank you so much all of you who have mailed your dues to HSOSC, PO Box 1632, Sarasota 34230



PIONEER PARK

Children enjoying an unsupervised play time . No unwelcome strangers; no drugs, no addicts, no derelicts. Pioneer Park is now a clean and happy place. HSOSC is very proud to say that we feel we helped to bring about this change.

Others have noticed the change too. Rachel McCall, First Vice Regent of the Sara Desoto Chapter of the DAR, writes, “What lovely images!...What wonderful news from our historic corner of Sarasota. We have had some lovely comments passed along by guests of the DAR house over the past months. We are so proud to be neighbors. Keep up the wonderful work!” City Commissioner Dick Clapp says, “Thanks for all your efforts!”



When you see Ed and Lorraine Orr at the next meeting be sure to thank them for all of their hard work. On their own they have hammered and repaired and scraped and painted. We remain in awe of their expertise and devotion **Bricks** are being readied for the patio. Buy yours now!

We struck water! That’s right! The Bidwell-Wood House now has working water in our bathrooms and kitchen. We also have A/C, electric, a security system, a sign, and new paint . Spring has sprung! We need landscaping and the restoration on the West wall of the Crocker Church and we should be able to get a CO in order to open to the public. We’ll still need money to restore the rear porch on the house and the summer kitchen but at least we can open and begin conducting tours. Docents, anyone? We’ll need you. **Look for our May Meeting to be on the grounds of the Park. Planning a Picnic!**
Sincerely, Arnold Berns, President

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SARASOTA COUNTY

PO BOX 1632

SARASOTA, FLORIDA 34230

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SARASOTA COUNTY MEMBERSHIP FORM

(Memberships renewed annually in January - New memberships begun after Aug. 1 are good for following year)

Name

Address

City / State / Zip

Phone _____

Email _____

Please Circle One: It this a New **ENROLLMENT** or a **RENEWAL?**

Membership:

Individual

\$25

Corporate

\$100

Life Endowment

\$250

Make checks payable to **The Historical Society
of Sarasota County**, send to:

P.O. Box 1632

Sarasota, Florida 34230

The Historical Society of Sarasota County is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) corporation