



SARASOTA TIMES II

The Sarasota History Newsletter

www.HSoSC.com

Historical Note:

The Historical Society of Sarasota County made history of its own this month when it finally obtained the Certificate of Occupancy for both the Crocker Church and the Bidwell-Wood House. Next step, developing the Sarasota Museum of History. Stay tuned for history-making, history-preserving, and history-enhancing events in 2009!

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History in the Park

Join the Society on Sunday Feb. 8, 2009 from 10am to 4pm at Phillippi Estate Park for a day full of activities, displays, historic figures, shopping, music, games, food, and fun. The park is directly on the Trail adjacent to historic Phillipi at 5500 S. Tamiami Trail. Meet famed local artist **Richard Capes**, **Rita Glosser** of ReMinkie Bears, the handcrafted Teddy Bears as well as local authors, crafters, historic reenactors and more!

Activities include

On the Creek:

Arts/Crafts/Weavers/Quilters and more
Children's Cane Pole Fishing Contest
Art in the Park * Scavenger Hunt
Antique Autos * Historic Characters * Flea Market
Food and Music all day long – *bring your lawn chairs!*

Inside the Historic Mansion:

Antiques * Art * Crafts * Jewelry
Book signings in the Library and lots more!
Antique Radios and other free exhibits

Admission is \$5 per carload. For more information, contact Jane Kirschner-Tuccillo at 366-1323 or jane@jaskdesigns.com

That evening, you are invited to

Dinner at the Mansion

6:00 PM **Historic Cocktails on the Terrace** and tours of the Mansion

7:00 PM. **Buffet Dinner in the Mansion**

The Edson Keith Mansion at Phillippi Estate Park

Historically-Inspired Attire from the era of the Mansion (1915-1950) greeted with delight.

\$60 per person, RSVP Brenda Lee at 921-9392 by Feb. 1, 2009

Thanks to our Sponsors: Sarasota County Parks and Recreation, Mattison's, Scene magazine, C.B. Outfitters and Cliff Roles of *Talk of the Suncoast*

January Meeting

Tues. Jan. 13, at 7pm

Hope Black, a local resident, was recently awarded her Master's Degree based on her thesis, *Mounted on a Pedestal: Bertha Honore Palmer*. She will discuss the fascinating "First Lady of Chicago" who became the "First Lady of Sarasota" when she arrived in a small fishing village of 600 souls in 1910.

This free public event will be our first general meeting in the Crocker Church in Pioneer Park, just off Tamiami Trail at 1260 12th Street. Meeting starts at 7PM, and a sales and activities table will be available prior to the meeting. Refreshments will be served after the meeting in true Sarasota hospitality fashion.

Conserving our heritage is the Historical Society's primary concern. Beginning in 1927 with a citizens' group collection of historical materials and the forming of the Office of County Historian in the early 1950's, a Sarasota County Historical Society evolved in 1959. The Society reorganized in 1977 as a not-for-profit corporation under the laws of the State of Florida. Currently the membership roster averages over 300 individuals and families.

The Historical Society of Sarasota County strives to create public awareness of the rich historical heritage of Sarasota and the State of Florida. The Society encourages inquiry, research, memorabilia preservation, and protection of historic sites. The Society's programs and events reflect educational goals; furthering the public's familiarity with Sarasota's history by sponsoring tours and special events. Topics related to Sarasota history are features of all meetings.

The Historical Society of Sarasota County is a 501(c)3, not-for-profit organization. Donations are tax deductible.

Out and About:

Right: Arnie Berns, President of the Historical Society, holds with pride the Certificates of Occupancy for the Bidwell-Wood House and the Crocker Church seen in the background. This major step forward towards a Sarasota Museum of History will be discussed in an upcoming issue of Sarasota Times II.



Theatre Odyssey will be holding their renowned play readings and performances in our Crocker Church beginning this month. *An Evening with Sylvia Reed* will be their first presentation See <http://theatreodyssey.org/> for details.

2009 dues are due now. HSoSC dues are based on the calendar year. If you joined the HSoSC after August 1 2008, you are paid in full until January 2009. Please note that we now have a new category of Family Membership at the special request of members. Many thanks!

Keep an eye out for... Furnishings large and small that might fit in with the Bidwell-Wood House and the Crocker Church. We'll have more information coming soon, so don't pass up any deals at garage sales!

Docent Training. Always wanted to share the story of our two buildings with visitors? Willing to attend classes to polish skills and knowledge, and to devote a shift a week in season, less often in summer, to educating and entertaining the public? Let Kate at sarasotakate@yahoo.com know you're considering it, and we'll get back to you as soon as possible. Please use **HSoSC docent** in your email's subject line to assure delivery. No email? Call 921-5830.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jan. 17 10am til 12 noon

Historic Downtown Sarasota Trolley Tour

Join Sarasota Native, **Sue Blue** on her narrated Trolley Tours filled with stories of history and rumor about Sarasota through the years. A delightful way to entertain Snow Bird guests or learn more about your town. Depart from/return to Pioneer Park on 12th St. just off Tamiami Trail. Free parking.

Also available on Feb. 21, Mar. 14 and April 4

\$25.00 per person.

Call Brenda Lee for reservations 921-9392.

Tuesday Feb. 10, 7pm

Monthly Meeting

Two Sarasota natives, siblings Cy Bispham and Evy Bispham Huntington, take us to **Sarasota Long Ago** with their family history stretching back over 100 years in Sarasota. Their family home still stands and you've probably seen it at 4613 S. Tamiami Trail, where it's now the cheerfully colorful Painted Lady Art and Gift Gallery. *Free public event at the Crocker Church just off Tamiami Trail at 1260 12th Street.*

Thursday Feb. 19

Historic Thursday Outing

Get an insider's look at **Cortez Village**, where the entire village is an historic landmark! We'll meet at 10 am at the **School House Museum** on 119th St. W., just south off Cortez Road in Bradenton. Then we'll visit the **Boat Building Shop** and have a fresh seafood lunch at **Star Fish Co.**, right on the docks. Lunch is included in the tour price. Afterwards, explore the village, where time seems to have stood still at your leisure. Cost: \$28 members; \$38 non-members and guests. Reservations: Jane at 366-1323 or jane@jaskdesigns.com

Feb. 21 10am til 12 noon

Historic Downtown Sarasota Trolley Tour

See January 17 for full information.

Tuesday Mar. 10, 7pm

Monthly Meeting *The Tin Can Tourists*

presented by Forest and Jeri Bone. Ever wonder why the Airstreams come to Sarasota every February in the second largest Rally in the Airstream RV Association? It's because of the historic Tin Can Tourists, first organized in 1919. *Free public event at the Crocker Church.*

Lounge while you learn... Sue Blue is proud to announce that the trolleys we will be using this year have PADDED SEATS! "Now there's no excuse to not board the trolley," says Sue. See Calendar of Events for details.

Saturday March 14

Gala Grand Opening

of the Bidwell-Wood House and the Crocker Church. Details to follow, but save the date!

Mar. 14 10am til 12 noon

Historic Downtown Sarasota Trolley Tour

See January 17 for full information.

Saturday, Mar. 21, 2009 9am-4pm

Historic Thursday Outing: it's on a Saturday this month!

Our "Historic Thursday" this month is on a Saturday so everyone can join us in this special bus Tour to **Ybor City** for the **Cigar City Mafia**, a walking tour of historic sites. The tour will be led by author **Scott Deitch**, whose book **Cigar City Mafia** reveals the secrets of Tampa's organized crime history. Tour includes bus transportation from Pioneer Park, walking tour, and **lunch at the historic original Columbia Restaurant** (the building itself is worth the trip!) Cost: \$56 members; \$66 non-members and guests. Reservations jane@jaskdesigns.com

More events in our next newsletter!

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SARASOTA COUNTY
PO BOX 1632
SARASOTA, FLORIDA 34230

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921-9392 by Feb. 1, 2009

Historical Society of Sarasota County Membership Form

(Memberships are based on calendar year - New memberships begun after Aug. 1 are good for following year)

Name _____

Address _____

City / State / Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____@_____

Are you renewing or joining for the first time ?

I am joining as

Individual \$25

Family \$40

Corporate \$100

Life Membership \$250

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

P.O. Box 1632 Sarasota, Florida 34230 . Thank you.

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