



SARASOTA TIMES II

March – April, 2010

1260 12th St., Sarasota, FL 941-364-9076

www.hsosc.com

Huge Success for Bertha Palmer Centennial Antiques Show and History Day in The Park

It was a monumental undertaking but the three-day (four if you count the preview party and set-up for the antiques show) public event held at the end of January was a huge success for HSOSC in terms of raising both revenue and public awareness about our mission. Everyone had a grand time from local people who brought some 1,000 treasures to be evaluated by four antiques experts to the antiques dealers who occupied the gracious rooms of the Edson Keith mansion on the grounds of Phillippi Estates Park.

On Sunday there were chefs selling delicious foods and craftspeople demonstrating their skills. There were jewelry makers, weavers, painters, wood turners, musicians, booksellers and more. The event, staffed by an army of HSOSC volunteers, earned approximately \$14,500 for our organization.

We'll be doing the Antiques Show/History Day in The Park again next year in February.

Below: New members Alec and Lynn Harding volunteered on Sunday in the HSOSC gift shop tent.



Phil Stevens helped handle vendor logistics on Sunday morning and parking on set-up day for antiques dealers.



Elizabeth Ribble at her spinning wheel. She and members of her weaving guild gave demonstrations during the day on Sunday. Children are always especially fascinated.

Artist Richard Capes and HSOSC board president Jane Kirschner-Tuccillo on Sunday morning at History Day in the Park. Capes is well known for documenting historical buildings in his acclaimed paintings.



Upcoming Events – Plan to Attend and Bring a Friend Interested in Joining Your HSOSC

March 6: Historic Trolley Tour with historian **Sue Blue**. 10 a.m. departs from Crocker Memorial Church. A two-hour trip through time that is both fun and informative. \$25. Call Sue at 365-5204. This tour is repeated on **March 20**. What a great gift for a newcomer to Sarasota.

March 9: General membership meeting at 7 p.m. **Linda Mansperger**, executive director of Historic Spanish Point, presents a slide show and lecture on Bertha Honore Palmer’s extravagant gardens, and she talks about how those lovely areas in Osprey have been restored. Refreshments.

March 21: Artists of the Neighborhood show and sale, 1-5 p.m., Crocker Memorial Church. Wine and cheese. \$10. Organized by HSOSC member Andrea Rogers.

March 27: Timesifters Archeology Festival. From 9-5 at the Crocker Memorial Church. Public invited. Demonstrations, food, interactive activities for all ages.

April 13: General membership meeting at 7 p.m. **Deborah Walk**, curator of the Ringling Circus Museum, is the guest speaker. Refreshments.



Artists from a local club find sunny skies and plenty of inspiration on the grounds of the Bidwell-Wood House. Almost every day of the week the property is buzzing with activities ranging from lunches on the back porch of the Bidwell-Wood house, docent-led tours, craft classes, meetings in the Crocker Memorial Church and volunteers who show up to weed, paint and help maintain the buildings and grounds. HSOSC is a happening place!



Sue Blue is your guide for the Historic Trolley Tours, an entertaining and relaxing way to learn local history from an authority whose true stories are matched by her sense of humor.

Historical Society of Sarasota County

1260 12th Street, Sarasota

(between Coconut Avenue and Tamiami Trail)

HOURS OF OPERATION

Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Friday 10-3 or by appointment for Bidwell-Wood House and Crocker Memorial Church

Gift Shop: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 10-3

To schedule a docent-led tour, call 364-9076.

To inquire about facilities rentals, call Linda Garcia at 364-9076.

Summer hours begin in June.

Watch for hours and times in this space.

Lots of Activity at the Historical Society We Need Your Involvement

Have you seen all the cars in our parking lot lately? HSOSC is a happening community place. Come check it out! As I arrived one



morning I discovered Plein Air Artists out under the trees making gorgeous paintings of our buildings. Then I heard strains of “Chicago, Chicago” pouring out of the Crocker Memorial Church. The Sarasota Senior Theatre was practicing. An hour later the Monday Morning Group arrived from Bradenton for a box-lunch on the back porch lunch and a tour. Then came an Historic Trolley Tour with Sue Blue.

Our craft classes on the porch began in February and the DAR used our facilities for their School History Fair. The Manasota Weavers Guild meets here. There was a High Tea Party in the Bidwell dining room organized by the British Antique Car Club and the League of Women Voters held a meeting in the church. The US census folks will use the Crocker for testing of would-be census takers. And, of course, our HSOSC membership meetings are on this property.

Talk about adaptive use. Our historic buildings are staying vital by being flexible and inclusive.

This is the best kind of historic preservation – fine old buildings adapting to modern life without losing their historic importance or architectural integrity. Don't you love it!

Jane Kirschner-Tuccillo

Volunteer Opportunities

HSOSC needs to compile an updated and working list of volunteers and their areas of interest/expertise. Please call Linda Garcia at 364-9076 or email hsosc@yahoo.com to get your information into the **volunteer database**. We have many projects coming up that need the participation of our members.

Staffing our unique **Gift Shop** is a big need. The shop is open on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Checks and cash only. You would not have to deal with credit cards and we provide a tax guide. If you enjoy meeting new people and helping them select wonderful artist-made items, this could be your golden opportunity.

The **Crocker Memorial Church** has become a wedding destination and a choice location for meetings day and evening. We now have a policy that sets rates and states requirements for renting the building. Please tell your friends and business associates that we are promoting our adaptable little building for community use. The space rents for \$100 an hour.

Period furniture and accessories from the late 1800s are always welcome as we sensitively furnish the Bidwell-Wood House.

Need to work out some frustration? Come weed, rake, sweep and help spruce up the grounds at HSOSC. This is the year we're concentrating on improving our curb appeal.



Art classes on the back porch of the Bidwell-Wood House have become popular with local groups. This workshop, called Watercolor for Cowards, invites students to explore a new art form in a relaxed, informal setting. Instructor Carolyn Daniele (right) offers advice to Joan Glidden of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, who is afraid no more.



The Sarasota Senior Theatre rehearsing their musical “All About Me” in the Crocker Memorial Church, which was built in 1901. The white-painted pine pews are original and Peter Crocker helped to build them himself. Someday we hope to have cushions for the seats. If anyone wants to donate foam and sewing skill, it would be a wonderful volunteer project for an individual or a group.



Historical Society of Sarasota County Board Members

Jane Kirschner-Tuccillo, President
Linda Garcia, Site/Gift Shop Manager
William Watrous, Vice President
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Historical Society of Sarasota County Membership Application

(Memberships are based on calendar year. New memberships after August 1, 2010 are valid through 2011.)

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Renewal: ____ Volunteer special interests: _____

First time: ____

Individual, \$25 ____ Family, \$40 ____ Corporate, \$100 ____ Life, \$250 ____ Donation, \$ _____

Checks are payable to the Historical Society of Sarasota County. Mail to P.O. Box 1632, Sarasota 34230. The Historical Society of Sarasota County is a not-for-profit 501 (c)(3) corporation.