



# Sebastian Area Historical Society, Inc.

P. O. Box 781348, Sebastian, FL 32978-1348  
Museum - 1235 Main St. Open Tues Wed. Thurs. 11 am-2 pm  
772-581-1380 sahsi@att.net

FALL 2017

## SAHSI NEWSLETTER

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Fellow SAHSI Members:

Once again during July and August we have been busy making improvements and doing maintenance at the museum. We look forward to re-opening the museum with our regular schedule of Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. If you'd like to volunteer as a docent and help keep the museum open additional days, please get in touch with me. It really is a fun time at the museum.



Our Library Presentation Schedule for the 2017 - 2018 Season is in place and we are very grateful to the wonderful speakers who have volunteered their time. Tim Timinsky, great grandson of Paul Kroegel, will start the season off on October 18<sup>th</sup>. with new family photos and telling us about the Kroegel family and Pam Cooper will follow on November 15<sup>th</sup> sharing stories about the Sebastian Inlet. In January "Caboose" Mikey Starck will return to the library with Part 2 of the FEC Railroad Story, in February we'll learn about Cattle Ranching in the Sebastian Area from Bobby Hardee Chesser and in March Ruth Stanbridge will share the history of the Jungle Trail. **Be sure to note that our presentation time is one hour earlier this year. Presentations at the library will start at 6 p.m.!!!** I'll be traveling to Austin, Texas this September for the Annual Convention of the American Assoc. of State and Local History. Wonderful topics are scheduled. We were delighted a few weeks ago to receive a new membership and very generous donation from Dr. Holly Hamilton of Riverside Family Dental, located at 9402 US One in Sebastian. Thank you Dr. Hamilton. Wilma Bertling has made another donation to the Society to cover the expense of digitizing historic photos in our collection. Thank you, Wilma. I'd also like to thank both Shirley Kilkelly and Frank and Marianne Zammarchi for donating funds for this and the next newsletter.

Hoping to see you at the Library on October 18th.

Kathy McDonald

### MEMBER NEWS

August 17<sup>th</sup> was cleanup day at the museum. Volunteers arrived to refurbish displays, clean, and add a new wall screen to display the Timinsky collection of old Kroegel photos recently received. What a great way to view the history of our interesting area! Thanks, Tim. We are indebted to you. Kathy and Craig McDonald, Mikey Starck, Dot Judah, Bruce Judah, Lynn Walsh, and John and Stacey Booth were all busy with the cleanup. Ellen Stanley has been archiving records. The men gave us much needed help with one of the display cases. It took Ellen, John and Craig to get the new wall photo display up and running. Come look at our refurbished displays and new photos from the Timinsky Collection!



*SAHSI Newsletter is published quarterly by the Sebastian Area Historical Society, Inc. which is a non-profit organization that maintains the Sebastian Area Historical Museum on a volunteer basis. The society is dedicated to preserving local history and promoting public interest in local history.*

*Ellen Stanley, Editor*

### **Sebastian Celebrates 60th Birthday in 1984**

"Nestled snugly on the sleepy banks of the Indian River, the city of Sebastian celebrates its 60th birthday today. Like a fine wine, Indian River County's northernmost city has aged well. From a rural town with a handful of people to a small but growing city of more than 6,000 residents, Sebastian has experienced changes throughout its existence. Although Sebastian wasn't incorporated until 1924, the town's history began long before. The natural beauty of the area and the breezy shores of the Indian River attracted settlers to what is now known as Sebastian in the 1870s."

"Pat Flood Sr. remembers using the railroad to travel to Vero Beach and Jacksonville. "The train depot sat on the south side of Main Street east of the railroad tracks." Flood said. "The train they called 29 went north carrying mail, and the train they called 30 went south. They both carried passengers. "During the war, you were able to get on 29 at noon and get into Jacksonville at about 10 p.m.," Flood said. "The train stopped at all the hog pens along the way." Flood moved to Sebastian in 1931 at the age of 15. "There were about 40 registered voters in the city in 1930 and less than 200 people," Flood said. "Now there're 3000 registered voters." "

(exerpts from an article (by David Benesh, *Press Journal*, December 8, 1984)



### **NEW CORPORATE MEMBER**

We are delighted to welcome Riverside Family Dental/Dr. Holly Hamilton to the Sebastian Area Historical Society. Riverside Family Dental is located at 9402 U.S. Highway 1 in Sebastian and provides comprehensive dental treatment for the whole family.

## **PROGRAMS**

*The Sebastian Area Historical Society, Inc. provides thought-provoking and educational programs given by local speakers pertaining to the dynamic heritage our county enjoys. Admission is free and the public is encouraged to attend. Refreshments are provided and an opportunity to interact with the speakers is provided after each presentation. These events are not sponsored by the North Indian River County Library.*

### **2017 - 2018 Program Schedule**

**Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.**

*Note the time change, Please.*

**October 18, 2017:** *The History of the Paul Kroegel Family of Sebastian*, presented by Great-Grandson, Tim Timinsky

**November 15, 2017:** *Stories from The Sebastian Inlet*, presented by Pam Cooper, former Supervisor of the Archive Center & Genealogy Dept. of the Indian River County Main Library

**January 17, 2018:** *A Timeline Presentation: Flagler's Florida East Coast Railway-Part 2*, by "Caboose" Mikey Starck, Fl. East Coast Railway Society Director



Pam Cooper



Mikey Starck

**February 21, 2018:** *Early Cattle Ranching in the Sebastian Area*, presented by Long-time Local Cattle Rancher Bobby Hardee Chesser

**March 21, 2018:** *The History of the Jungle Trail* presented by Ruth Stanbridge, County Historian



Ruth Stanbridge



## MUSEUM ACQUISITIONS

We especially welcome all of our new members. It is wonderful to have the support of so many new members, and of all of our long-time members, too. Have you visited the museum recently? Stop by and see new additions.

Robert and Regina Chessser donated a 1943 photograph of Robert Hardee Chessser in his U.S. Naval Air uniform and a copy of one of his letters written home at that time.

Pam Cooper brought us a wealth of local photographs from the 1960's through 1980's for which we are having digital copies made.

### Newsletter Sponsor

*This quarter's newsletter was sponsored by a \$100 donation from Frank Zammarchi.*

In June Frank Zammarchi and Shirley Kilkelly both donated \$100 for the newsletter. Frank is our Fall sponsor, and Shirley is our Winter sponsor. Thanks to our wonderful sponsors!

*We really appreciate your continuing support!*

Thanks to Total Print for another fine printing job on our newsletter!

## OUR PROGRAMS AT THE NORTH INDIAN RIVER COUNTY LIBRARY THIS SEASON WILL START AT 6:00 P.M.

We welcome student groups to the museum. What a great opportunity for local children to learn about the history of our area!

## SEBASTIAN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC. PUBLICATIONS

***Tales of Sebastian \$20***

***More Tales of Sebastian \$20***

***Even More Tales of Sebastian \$20***

***A Guide to Historic Sebastian & Roseland \$4.00***

On sale at the Sebastian Area Historical Museum and the Chamber of Commerce.

***Visit the Museum Gift Shop for books, postcards, gifts, and more!***



Sebastian Grammar School  
built c. 1927 - home of the  
Sebastian Area Historical Museum

### Contact Information:

*Mail: P. O. Box 781348,*

*Sebastian, FL 32978-1348*

*Museum location - 1235 Main St.*

*Open Tues Wed. Thurs. 11 am-2 pm*

*772-581-1381 sahsi@att.net*

**2017 Public Notice of Annual Meeting:** A General Election of members to the Board of Directors will take place from 4:30 to 4:50 p.m., at the Board of Directors monthly meeting October 2, 2017, at 1245 Main Street, Sebastian, FL. All SAHSI members are invited to attend. The terms of current board members Kathy McDonald, Scarlett Chessser, Patty Harris, Dot Judah, and Lynn Walsh, are open for re-election and nominations are being accepted for consideration by the Board for new prospective board membership. Contact Kathy McDonald at 772 581-1380 or 772 202-7488 if you are interested in becoming a board member.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Kathy McDonald, *President & Museum Curator***

**Ellen Stanley, *Treasurer***

**Phil Bova, *Recording Secretary***

Bud O'Neill

Patty Harris

Dot Judah

Mikey Starck

Lynn Walsh

Scarlett Chesser

### ***Honorary Members:***

Wilma Bertling

Ron Gabor

Shirley Kilkelly

Anne Michael

Harry Tanner

Rene VanDeVoorde

## MEMBERSHIP

Join or renew membership now! Help support your museum of local history, the Sebastian Area Historical Museum. If you have not already paid, you may pay now for 2018 membership due January 1.

Individual Membership: \$15.00 Family Membership: \$25.00

Or contact SAHS for our complete list of Membership levels.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Check to: Sebastian Area Historical Society, Inc., P. O. Box 781348, Sebastian, FL 32978-1348

Sebastian Area Historical Society, Inc.  
P. O. Box 781348  
Sebastian, FL 32978-1348