



The Historian

The Newsletter of the Boynton Beach Historical Society

Serving Boynton Beach, Ocean Ridge, Manalapan, Gulf Stream, Briny Breezes, Lantana, Hypoluxo, the Village of Golf, and all areas of West Boynton, in addition to supporting the preservation of the history of Palm Beach County and the State of Florida as a whole.

Recipient of the 2021 Judge James R Knott Historical Contribution Award

Recipient of the Schoolhouse Children's Museum 2023 Spark Award

January 2024

2024 Florida Highwaymen Art Show & Sale

SATURDAY, January 20, 2024 @ 11am - 3pm

Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E. Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach, FL 33435

FREE Admission * FREE Parking

Presenting the fifth **Florida Highwaymen Art Show & Sale!** The art show is presented by the **Boynton Beach Historical Society** in partnership with the **City of Boynton Beach**.

This group of African American artists painted their way out of a life otherwise destined for the citrus groves and packing houses of 1950's Florida, into the 2004 Florida Artists Hall of Fame and international acclaim. Selling door-to-door or out of the trunks of their cars on the side of the highways, the mostly self-taught artists produced an astonishing number of paintings that depict Florida as it once was, with wind-swept palms, billowing clouds, lazy rivers, and spectacular sunsets. Today their work is widely sought by collectors all over the world.

These popular legacy Highwaymen artists will be on hand to discuss their artwork and will have paintings and other merchandise available for purchase. Visitors will have the opportunity to speak to the artists individually and will enjoy hearing their fascinating history. The artists scheduled to attend are **Doretha Hair Truesdell and Roderick Hair, Kandi Ingram (daughter of Mary Ann Carroll), Robert L Lewis, Al Black, Curtis Arnett, and Gertrude Walker (wife of Charles Walker)**.



Alfred Hair 1941-1970 • Indian River, Circa 1966 • Oil on Upson Board • M. Randall Gill Collection

The Historical Society is honored and proud to serve the Community and we THANK YOU for your support. Members of the Society will be on hand to welcome you when you arrive. We will be offering commemorative Art Show posters, featuring the work of Alfred Hair, for a donation. The proceeds generated by these limited-edition posters, along with posters from previous shows will defray show costs. Quantities are limited and available on a first come, first served basis.

Come and meet these inspirational, entrepreneurial artists, tour the renovated City of Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, learn more about the all-volunteer led Boynton Beach Historical Society, consider becoming a member, and help preserve history!

All Programs of the Boynton Beach Historical Society are FREE and OPEN to the Public
Boynton Beach Historical Society The Historian January 2024



Boynton Beach Historical Society

~ Since 1968 ~

2023-2024 Board of Directors

OFFICERS Elected Annually

President – Anne Rimler

1st Vice President, Programs - Barbara Ready

2nd Vice President, Membership - Sheila Rousseau Taylor

Secretary – John Shelly

Treasurer – Robert Taylor

TRUSTEES 3-Year Term

2024 - Donna Artes

2024 – Chadda Shelly

2025 - Virginia Farace

2025 - Ben Lowe

2026 – Linda Allen

2026 – Nora Gallagher Michuda

Non-Elected

Editor, *The Historian* - Anne Rimler

Archivist/Facebook/Webmaster – Janet Naughton

Facebook Admin/Webmaster – Ginger Pedersen

Promotions/Publicity/YouTube – Nora Gallagher Michuda

Boynton Beach Historical Society

PO Box 12, Boynton Beach, FL 33425

We are on the web www.boyntonhistory.org, and on Facebook

[@HistoricBoyntonBeach](https://www.facebook.com/HistoricBoyntonBeach). Questions or comments:

Programs bbhsprograms@gmail.com

Membership bbhsmembership@gmail.com.

The Historian

The Historian, the newsletter of the Society, is sent six times a year, between October and April, to dues-paid members (one per paid membership). Previous issues are on our website. If you would prefer to receive *The Historian* via email, let us know by emailing bbhsmembership@gmail.com. Benefits include saving postage & printing costs, reaching you when you're away, eco-friendly, arrives faster than print, and links in articles are active.

Become a Member or Renew your Dues

Dues expire annually on Dec 31st (except for Life Memberships). Go to www.boyntonhistory.org; on the **Membership** tab, pay securely via **PayPal** or download the form and mail in with your check. Membership runs Jan. 1 to Dec. 31. Our Program Season runs from Oct to Apr. Thank you for your support!

Historical Society Bylaws

Society Bylaws: www.boyntonhistory.org/membership/

2023-2024 Season Programs via Zoom except Jan 20

Sat Jan 20: Florida Highwaymen Art Show & Sale; Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Ctr, 125 E Ocean Av, Boynton Beach

Mon Feb 26: Good Day Sunshine Beatles '64 – Bob Kealing

Mon Mar 25: M Stoneman Douglas & R Carson: Their Books Changed the World – B Steinshouer

Mon Apr 22: Annual Meeting, Taking the Mystery Out of History: Janet Naughton

Zoom Program Meetings are Recorded

Find us on YouTube at "BBHS Programs"



The following represents our Membership Roll to date & Dues received from 11/07/2023 to 12/27/2023:

Thank You to our Life Members

Vickie & Anthony Barbar	Michael & Gloria Bowden
EasyPay Tire , Doug & Ruth Besecker	
Candy & Doug Brueggemann	Linda & Mike Callaway
Robert and Jeanne Gayler	M Randall Gill
Robert & Carrie Parker Hill	Susan Oyer
Robert & Christian Oyer Macoviak	Anne Rimler
Melear Bros. , Cliff & Rick Melear	Sandy A Simon Jr
Wayne & Eva Brooks Knuth Netzler	Voncile Marshall Smith
Scott & Camilla Smith Richardson	William & Gaye Weaver
Robert & Sheila Rousseau Taylor	Marion Weaver Wester
George & Christine Weaver Ternenyi	Elsie Winchester

Thank You to our Corporate Sponsors

Donald & Regina **Day Delray Awning** Dan & Lisa Ames **Suiter**
 Laura **Hinzman, Scheurer's Chocolates**
Scobee-Combs-Bowden Funeral Home & Crematory

Thank You to our Patrons

Sarah & Ron Bollenbacher	Marcia Crossman
James Pitts	Billie Jo Swilley
Sarah Williams	Suzy Winchester

Membership Renewals Thank You For Your Support!

Linda Allen	Maggie Arndt
Kay Baker	Tim Bednarz
Mary & Charles Bilthuis	Sarah & Ron Bollenbacher
James Bonfiglio	Marjorie Bynum
Lucian Calloway	Emme Cortelyou
Brian Coombs	Jeannie Coombs
Marcia Crossman	Robert Ganger
George Greider	Larry Grosser
Mary Mine Haggard	Jake Harrington
Richard & Judith Merkel Howard	Carol Kuenzel
Benoit Mailloux & Ben Lowe	Diane & Jim McCracken
Sandra McGregor	Jeff Morgan
Michael & Janet DeVries Naughton	Ward Parker
Isabella & Ronald Pause	Norman Price
Tom Ramiccio	Sue Revie
Cliff & Rosemary Rifkin	Barbara & Alan Saxton
Scobee-Combs-Bowden Funeral Home & Crematory	
John & Chadda Shelly	Donna Smith
Dan & Lisa Ames Suiter	Robert & Sheila Rousseau Taylor
Jean Ann Thurber	Arleen VanBrunt
Joyce Waters	Anne Watts
Ann Wilkins	Suzy Winchester
Michael Wilson Land to Sea Photography	

A big SHOUT OUT to our Newest Members Welcome!

Paige & Donald Bolenbacher	Patricia Garland
Jake Harrington	Michele Jones
Ann Lee	Brigitta McTigue
Matt Stremplinger	

Membership Acknowledgements

Sincere thanks to those who have sent in your dues. We thank you. We acknowledge the dues received in the newsletter on page 2 of the newsletter (see above). At the top, you'll see the time frame represented in the current issue. If we omitted you, sorry! Please let us know and we'll make the correction.



The Historian

Where am I, Boynton Beach?

Test your knowledge of **America's Gateway to the Gulfstream** and identify the locations depicted in these photos. Bonus: Can you identify the people in #2 and #4? Let us know how you did!
3 or more correct: You've been Dewey-ing your homework!
2 or less correct: Needs work! May we recommend an afternoon perusing www.boyntonhistory.org ?

1. Photo Courtesy: Boynton Beach Historical Society



2. Photo Courtesy: B Lowe



3. Photo Courtesy: Boynton Beach Historical Society



4. Photo Courtesy: B Lowe



HINTS: <https://www.boyntonhistory.org/tag/major-nathan-s-boynton/>
<https://www.boyntonhistory.org/tag/byrd-spilman-dewey/>
<https://www.boyntonhistory.org/tag/rosenwald-school/>

Answers: 1. 202 E Boynton Beach Blvd, 2. 1815 Federal Hwy, 3. N. Seacrest Boulevard & NW 10th Ave, 4. 100 NE 4th St.



Boynton Beach Historical Society Membership Form

Select One: ___ **New** Membership or ___ **Renewal**.

My Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

E-mail _____

Phone # _____

New Member? Welcome! How did you hear about us?

Select Membership Type:

- ___ **Individual \$25**
- ___ **Family \$35**
- ___ **Patron \$50**
- ___ **Corporate \$150**
- ___ **Student* \$10** (with a valid student ID)
- ___ **Life** (one-time payment) **\$500**

Special Offer: Give a free one-year membership to a friend!
 Buy One. Give One. BOGO! **Mail with payment to:**
 Boynton Beach Historical Society
 PO Box 12
 Boynton Beach FL 33425-0012
 Pay via PayPal at www.boyntonhistory.org/membership/ and
 send an email to BBHSMembership@gmail.com with your
 BOGO recipient's info.

Select Gift type and indicate amount:

___ **Gift** ___ **In Honor** ___ **In Memory** \$ _____

For(name): _____

The Society is a 501(c)(3) Organization; dues are tax deductible. Membership year runs Jan 1 to Dec 31.
THANK YOU!

Did you already renew membership? THANK YOU! In case you forgot to provide your BOGO recipient, email their contact information to BBHSMembership@gmail.com.

Are you a Life member? THANK YOU! You are eligible to give a one-year membership too! Email their contact information to BBHSMembership@gmail.com

I'm taking advantage of the BOGO Special Offer! Please send a free one-year membership to:

BOGO Recipient's Name _____

BOGO Recipient's Street _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

BOGO Recipient's E-mail _____

BOGO Recipient's Phone # _____

THANK YOU!



The Historian

Boynton Beach Historical Society

Saturday, February 17, 2024 @10:30am to 12pm

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND: FEBRUARY HISTORY STROLL!

You are invited to join the Boynton Beach Historical Society and friends for a guided tour of historic Ocean Avenue, Town Square, and vicinity. This will be an educational 75-minute walking tour of downtown Boynton Beach. Historian **Janet DeVries Naughton** will guide the exclusive narrated tour and share information about the history of Boynton Beach, historic buildings, and homes. Points of interest include (as time allows) the post office, churches, 1926 high school (Boynton Beach Culture and Arts Center), 1913 elementary school (Schoolhouse Children's Museum), City Hall/Library, Centennial Park, The Gables, Charlie Pierce/Barefoot Mailman, Magnuson House, Henry Flagler's East Coast Railroad, Murray House, Captain Kenny's House, Andrews House (Boynton's oldest house), Ruth Jones Cottage, and the Oyer block (Hurricane Alley).

Note: This tour takes place outdoors and there is a significant walking requirement. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water. The group will meet at 10:30 am on the west side of the Boynton Cultural Arts & Cultural Center, 125 East Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach 33435.

Free. Open to the Public. Limited to 25 attendees. Free parking is available in the city lot behind the school. Rain or Shine. *Preregistration Required via EventBrite.* Registration opens Jan 20, 2024. Search "EventBrite Boynton Beach Walking History Tour: Downtown Town Square" or click this link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/boynton-beach-walking-history-tour-downtown-town-square-ocean-avenue-tickets-784775684197?aff=oddtcreator>

Florida Humanities & Boynton Beach Historical Society

Florida Talks is one of Florida Humanities' longest-running public programs. The series features exceptional scholars, journalists, authors, and humanities experts and over 70 brand new and returning programs and offers an accessible way to host engaging speakers who present Florida's history, heritage, and culture through historical and contemporary lenses.

The program is sponsored in part by **Florida Humanities** with funds from the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Arts and Culture, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Please take a moment to complete a brief important survey about each of our programs in October and November. Your feedback helps shape future programming for both Florida Humanities and for the Historical Society. To access the survey, search for *Florida Humanities Program Survey* or click this link <https://floridahumanities.org/grantee-resources/forms-and-resources/survey/>

October 23, 2023
Weeki Wachee: City of Mermaids **Lu Vickers**

YouTube:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c2G22O6-4Zc&t=26s>

November 27, 2023
Picturing Paradise **Keri Watson**

YouTube:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gnQY7YynERk&t=4s>



The Historian

Local Artist and Salon Owner Celebrates Boynton History

By Ben Lowe



Left: Eric Perna, owner Salon South Flow, stylist, artist. Center: Byrd 'Birdie' Spilman Dewey stencil. Right: Bruno for browsing, by Byrd Spilman Dewey. Photos Courtesy: B Lowe

Boynton history can be found in some of the most unexpected places. Take for instance, **Salon South Flow**, which opened recently in the historic Sunshine Square Plaza. According to owner, stylist, and renowned artist, **Eric Perna**, finding local history there is no accident. Originally from Brazil, Eric was strongly influenced by his hairdresser mother, a father who sculpted historical subjects in bronze, and the inspiration of his wife, **Carolina**.

Coming from Delray Beach, after meeting local artists and attending art walks in the Art District, he decided Boynton was the perfect place to open a salon and to pursue his vision of making it a public meeting space where art and history can co-mingle. He is especially intrigued by Boynton's past, and you'll find a copy of the town's co-founder, **Byrd 'Birdie' Spilman Dewey's** best-selling account of her pioneer days, *Bruno*, on the front counter for customers to browse. Most exciting and alluring, however, are the life-sized images of early Boynton luminaries stenciled on the walls, including Birdie and **Nathan Boynton** himself. In fact, the unusual décor provides Eric with the perfect opportunity to talk about Boynton and Florida history, as clients often inquire about the painted figures, which include other well-known Florida notables, such as **Tom Petty** and **Faye Dunaway**.

Happy to find a historic building to renovate, in taking over the premises of a previous salon and the longstanding Nutrition Cottage, Eric wanted to preserve some of what came before, and so he retained the previous shop's neon sign, color bar, and floor scrubs to connect with the space's history and the people who once worked there.

The salon has hosted numerous get-togethers for artists and musicians, and as Eric immerses himself more in Boynton's past, he hopes to foster a dynamic where people see that in addition to books, history is also retained through the works of artists who are uniquely positioned to communicate and "preserve the history of the city and state to the public." He looks forward to becoming more involved in the arts community in Boynton Beach and helping it grow as a major draw for the City. In the meantime, he welcomes anyone to stop by and see his work and perhaps take a photo or two. Salon South Flow is located at 1815 Federal Hwy., Boynton Beach, next to Publix (www.salonsouthflow.com).