



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

October 2024

Archives & the Anatomy of a Finding Aid Monday, October 28, 2024 @ 7-8pm Eastern via Zoom

For emails in our files, check your inbox for an invitation from BBHSPrograms@gmail.com. Remember to set reminders in your calendar. If your email isn't already on file with us, simply send a request to join to BBHSPrograms@gmail.com and we'll send you an invitation.

There are countless archives all around us, the majority of which are freely accessible to the public. **Jacob Rabinowitz's** goal with this presentation is to arm you with the knowledge to understand what they can do for you, and how you can better find and use these resources that archives & finding aids have available.

The presentation will be an overview of archival finding aids, the map, key, and legend of archival collections. It will additionally address the topics of archives as an institution & profession, how finding aids fit into the big picture, and demystify some myths & misconceptions about archives & archivists. Beyond addressing the concept and framework of archives, archivists, and archival finding aids, this presentation will guide us on how to use them with the aim of accessing archival materials for research, genealogy, or for just the plain curious!

Jacob Rabinowitz is the Librarian/Archivist at the Boynton Beach City Library Local History Archives. He holds a B.A. in Linguistics and a master's degree in Library Information Science with a focus on archives & preservation. Prior to his current position at Boynton Beach City Library, he worked as an archivist at San Jose State University's Special Collections & Archives. Outside of the archival world, Jacob enjoys playing sad waltzes on the accordion for his dog Luna.

L: Luna and Jacob Rabinowitz. Courtesy J Rabinowitz. R: City Hall and City Library, 100 E Ocean Av, Boynton Beach.





Boynton Beach Historical Society

~ Since 1968 ~

2024-2025 Board of Directors

OFFICERS Elected Annually

President – Anne Rimler

1st Vice President, Programs – Angela F Budano

2nd Vice President, Membership - Sheila Rousseau Taylor

Secretary – John Shelly

Treasurer – Robert Taylor

TRUSTEES 3-Year Term

2025 - Virginia Farace/Barbara Ready

2025 – Adam Rousseau

2026 – Linda Allen

2026 – Nora Gallagher Michuda

2027 - Donna Artes

2027 – Chadda Shelly

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: savings on postage & printing costs, access when you're away, eco-friendly, arrives faster than print, and links in articles are active.

Become a Member or Renew your Dues

Membership runs Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 with dues expiring annually on Dec 31st (except for Life Memberships). To pay securely online via PayPal, go to the **Membership** tab at our website www.boyntonhistory.org. To pay by check, complete the membership form and mail your check to our PO Box. Our Program Season runs from Oct to Apr. Thank you for your support!

Historical Society Bylaws www.boyntonhistory.org/membership/

2024-2025 Season Programs Monday Evenings via Zoom

Oct 28, 2024 – Archives & Finding Aids, Jacob Rabinowitz

Nov 25, 2024 – Florida's Healing Waters, Rick Kirby

Jan 11, 2025 – FL Highwaymen Art Show @Arts & Cultural Ctr

Zoom Program Meetings are Recorded

Find us on YouTube at "BBHS Programs"



The following represents our Membership Roll to date & Dues received from 4/06/2024 to 09/30/2024:

Thank You to our Life Members

Vickie & Anthony **Barbar**

Doug & Ruth **Besecker, EasyPay Tire**

Michael & Gloria **Bowden**

Candy & Doug **Bueggemann**

Linda & Mike **Callaway**

Robert and Jeanne **Gayler**

M Randall **Gill**

Robert & Carrie **Parker Hill**

Robert & Christian **Oyer Macoviak**

Cliff & Rick **Melear, Melear Bros**

Wayne & Eva Brooks **Knuth Netzler**

Susan **Oyer**

Scott & Camilla **Smith Richardson**

Anne **Rimler**

Sandy A **Simon Jr**

Voncile **Marshall Smith**

Robert & Sheila **Rousseau Taylor**

George & Christine **Weaver Ternenyi**

Mary **Burns** & Thomas **Warnke**

William & Gaye **Weaver**

Marion **Weaver Wester**

Elsie **Winchester**

Thank You to our Corporate Sponsors

Donald & Regina **Day, Delray Awning**

Laura **Hinzman, Scheurer's Chocolates**

Scobee-Combs-Bowden Funeral Home & Crematory

Dan & Lisa Ames **Suiter**

Thank You to our Patrons!

Charles & Mary **Bilthuis**

Marcia **Crossman**

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Ward & Martha **Parker**

Billie Jo **Swilley**

Sarah **Williams**

Sarah & Ron **Bollenbacher**

Gayle **Kranz**

Alan **Molle**

James & Edith **Bennet Pitts**

Anne **Watts**

Suzy **Winchester**

Membership Renewals

Cecil **Adderley**

Charlotte **DeLeu**

Thank You for Your Support!

Marcia **Crossman**

Maria **Freed**

A big SHOUT OUT to our Newest Members Welcome!

Angela F **Budano**

Christina **Brower Heunis**

Debby **Coles-Dobay**

Boynton Beach Historical Society Notes with Sadness

Long time member and avid Historical Society supporter, **Bit Shaw**, passed away on June 26, 2024. We'll save a seat in the front row for you, Bit. We'll miss your laughter and ever-present smile.

A member, long time Boynton Beach resident, and cherished grandmother, **Lorraine Michuda**, passed away August 15, 2024.

Our sincere condolences to family and friends.



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A Message From the Historical Society Membership Chair – Sheila Rousseau Taylor

Greetings, Boynton Beach Historical Society Members and Friends!

To recap the annual Members meeting held on April 22, 2024, we said farewell to Trustee **Ben Lowe** and thank him for his years with us. Long time VP **Barbara Ready** stepped down as Program Chair and became Co-Trustee with **Virginia Farace**. Thank you, Barbara, for providing such great speakers and programs for us!

We are happy to announce our two newest Board members: **Angela Budano**, VP Programs and **Adam Rousseau**, Trustee 2025. We will introduce you to these two new members as the season progresses.

The Society's Board of Directors held the first and very productive Board meeting of the 2024-25 season via Zoom on September 16, 2024. We are fired up and ready for a new and exciting year!

Historical Society membership continues to grow with 39 new members joining us during the 2023-2024 season. 18 BOGO recipients joined us last season bringing the total number of new members signed on since we began that offer to 78! Therefore, we have decided to continue the "Buy One. Give One. (BOGO)" option! When you renew your membership, give a free membership to a first-time member.

Thank you for supporting the Boynton Beach Historical Society. We hope that you renew your membership today. For your convenience, the membership form is included. Please check your mailing label for your renewal due date. Email memberships expire December 31, 2024. PayPal is available at www.boyntonhistory.org/membership for secure online payments.

Reminders: we appreciate your opting for an electronic Historian version as this saves the Historical Society the cost of envelopes and postage. Let us know if you'd like this option by sending an email to bbhsmembership@gmail.com. Gifts in honor or in memory are also available. We appreciate being notified of departed members so we may honor them in the Historian.

Thank you and best regards,

Sheila

Boynton Beach Historical Society Program Videos

YouTube.com

We are happy to announce that the video recordings of programs from our previous **4 seasons** are now available on our YouTube channel. Search for our channel "**BBHS Programs**" on YouTube. Each of the seasons has its own playlist or pick and choose which topic you'd like to learn about. We appreciate views, likes, shares, and subscriptions. Thanks to **Nora Gallagher Michuda** for her efforts to keep the library up to date.



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Historical Society Board of Directors News

On Monday, April 22, 2024, the Historical Society's **Annual Meeting** was conducted. At the meeting, Officers and Trustees were elected to serve as follows: President **Anne Rimler**, 1st VP/Program Chair **Angela F Budano**, 2nd VP/Membership Chair **Sheila Rousseau Taylor**, Secretary **John Shelly**, and Treasurer **Bob Taylor**, and Trustees were re-elected: **Donna Artes** and **Chadda Shelly**, and a Trustee joins the Board: **Adam Rousseau**.

The Officers and Trustees met in May and began planning the **2024-2025 Season**. **Barbara Ready** left the VP/Program Chair position and now serves as a Co-Trustee, sharing a Trustee position with **Virginia Farace**. We are working on the upcoming 2025 Florida Highwaymen Art Show & Sale, scheduling field trips to local history museums and sites of historic interest, and organizing walking tours. The Board of Directors will be holding a **Strategic Planning Session** in November – a Society first. We will be realigning, reenergizing, and refocusing the leadership team to better address the future of the Society and making detailed plans on moving forward to meet our mission. Stay tuned for details.

Boynton Beach Garden Club Meeting Tuesday, October 22, 2024, 1pm

www.boyntonbeachgardenclub.org

The Boynton Beach Garden Club extends an invitation to Historical Society members to attend a presentation on Sensational Succulents presented by **Kimberly Helms**, author and horticulturist. The meeting will be held at the historic Woman's Club of Boynton Beach, 1010 Federal Hwy, Boynton Beach 33435.

Looking ahead: November's meeting will be a tour of Mounts Botanical Gardens in West Palm Beach, and the annual fashion show will be March 6, 2025. More details to follow.

Boynton Beach Woman's Club Meeting Thursday, October 17, 2024, 12p noon

www.boyntonwomansclub.com

The Boynton Beach Woman's Club extends an invitation to Historical Society members to attend the club's next meeting. The guest speaker will be **Kathleen R. Crampton** who will be giving a presentation on the Electoral College. The meeting will be held at the historic Woman's Club of Boynton Beach, 1010 Federal Hwy, Boynton Beach 33435. A light lunch is available for \$10. More info & to reserve, email bwc1909@gmail.com.

Looking ahead: Meetings on November 21 & December 5 - and - **100th Birthday Bash** open house will be March 22, 2025.

2024 Schoolhouse Children's Museum Back to School Country Bash

On Friday, September 20, 2024, several members of the Historical Society's Board of Directors attended the Country Bash at Benvenuto thanks to the generous gift of **Robert and Carrie Parker Hill**. The Historical Society is committed to supporting the Schoolhouse Museum's mission to engage children and families in playful discovery in a cultural and historical setting. We encourage you to support the Museum as well. The Museum is located at 129 E Ocean Av, Boynton Beach, 33435. More information: www.schoolhousemuseum.org.



Schoolhouse Museum Bash Attendees, L to R: John Shelly, Linda Allen, Anne Rimler. Not pictured Chadda Shelly



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The Andrews House Is Endangered and Needs YOUR Help



Andrews House, c.2000, Boynton Beach City Library Local Archives

The oldest home still standing in Boynton Beach is the **Edith Andrews House**. It is located at 306 SE First Avenue, Boynton Beach, and is a vital piece of Boynton Beach's architectural and cultural heritage. Sadly, the Andrews House is facing potential demolition by its private owner and is seriously endangered.

The Andrews House is a significant example of early 20th-century frame vernacular architecture. It was built between 1901 and 1907 by **Bert L. Kapp** on land purchased from **Birdie** and **Fred Dewey** and, by 1913, had begun serving as a guest house. In 1924, Kapp sold the property to **Alice Fields**, who in turn sold it in 1925 to **Katie Gager Andrews** continuing operation as a guest house. It passed to her sons, **Charles Lee Andrews** and **George Kermit Andrews**, eventually being inherited by George's widow, **Edith Burns Andrews**. Restoration occurred between 1998 and 2000 when **Robert Katz** acquired the property. In May 1998, the house was relocated 40 feet east to a new concrete foundation and in 2000, opened as a pioneer museum (pictured above). Katz died unexpectedly in 2006, and the building ceased operating as a museum. It changed owners most recently in 2022.

There is growing concern for the safety of this precious piece of our history. Steps have been taken by the **Boynton Beach Historic Resources Preservation Board (HRPB)** to have this historic building added to the City of Boynton Beach's Local Register of Historic Places by Ordinance.

The **Historical Society** joins with the HRPB and urges our members and friends to reach out to Boynton Beach City Leaders and encourage the City to recognize the historical significance of the Andrews House and to work with its current owner to find a solution that will preserve this valuable part of our heritage. Please share this important message with your family and friends and ask everyone to email City Leaders and encourage them to save our history. Attend a City Commission meeting and express your concerns. We were successful in raising the alarm that led to saving the old high school from demolition which now serves as a hub of arts and cultural activities for the City. Let's do it again and **SAVE THE ANDREWS HOUSE!**

For more information, contact **Barbara Ready**, Chair HRPB, FIVEREADY@aol.com. More history info thanks to **Janet DeVries Naughton** here <https://www.boyntonhistory.org/tag/andrews-house/>.

City Leaders: Mayor **Ty Penserga** PENSERGAT@bbfl.us, Commissioner District I **Angela Cruz** CRUZA@bbfl.us, Commissioner District II **Woodrow Hay** HAYW@bbfl.us, Commissioner District III **Thomas Turkin** TURKINT@bbfl.us, Vice Mayor District IV **Aimee Kelley** KELLEYA@bbfl.us, City Manager **Dan Dugger** DUGGERD@bbfl.us, City Board Liaison **Amanda Radigan** RADIGANA@bbfl.us.

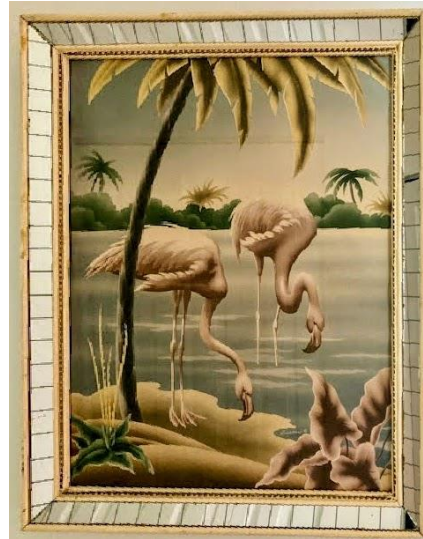


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On the Gulf Stream

By Randall Gill, Past President Boynton Beach Historical Society

Flamingo Artwork Kitsch by Turner



Flamingo Print by Turner Manufacturing Co., c.1950

Growing up in Maryland, my family had a front yard with a sweet fragrant mimosa tree. Underneath the tree was an angel statue and a bird bath surrounded by plastic pink flamingos. The yard looked tropical with drooping branches and blooms like pink powder puffs. Maybe Florida looked something like this. My **Aunt June** would go to Florida each winter during the 1950s and bring me small boxes of seashells. She told me I would like Florida.

Many years later I would end up in Boynton Beach and she was living in Deerfield Beach. Her apartment in Washington D.C. was filled with sentimental Florida souvenirs and other whimsical objects from her trips. These items are now known as Florida kitsch. Kitsch is an early 20th century term from the German language and refers to objects and art that might be considered kooky and tacky like pink plastic flamingos. It might also include my Aunt June's pastel-colored flamingo print by **Turner**. I like the retro, airbrush style of the artwork. It was reasonably-priced art and was sold often in department stores and five-and-dime stores in the 1950's. Turner was not a specific artist, but a company out of Chicago that hired artists. They were mostly known for their tropical flamingos, parrots, and cranes.

A few years ago, at the West Palm Beach Antique Show, I bought a vintage Turner flamingo print from my friend known as The Antique Nomad, **George Higby**. The print had belonged to his late aunt, who had lived in St. Petersburg. For many years she kept it hanging in the hallway of her home. Today that print is displayed in my hallway. The flamingos are pictured wading in water in a mirror frame. It might be Florida kitsch, but it reminds me of my Aunt June and her stories about Florida. Whenever I look at those flamingos with their water-colored soft edges, I feel a sense of calmness and peace. Art is in the eye of the beholder, and this art is good for me.