



DeSoto County Historical Society News

P.O. Box 1824, Arcadia, FL 34265, www.historicdesoto.org

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October 2009

Sponsors Needed for This Newsletter!

For a donation of \$100, you, your organization, or business will have a listing in this newsletter for 12 months!

Two, three, or four people can join together to make the donation.

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January - **Jack Shore**

February - **Joshua Creek Realty Group**

March - **Arlene and Warren Conley in memory of Leo and Hazel Williams**

May - **Historic Parker House B & B Kay and Leonard Higley, Proprietors**

June - **Max and Lois Fitzpatrick**

July - **Mitzie McGavic**

September - **Donn and Bebe Jackson**

October - **Dale and Diane Melton, in memory of Dale's mother Velma**

Our Sixth Annual Pioneer Day and Barbecued Rib Cook-off is March 20, 2010, at DeSoto Park!

To celebrate the history and heritage of Arcadia and DeSoto County, we need good food, live entertainment, informational booths, and demonstrators of traditional crafts. For information, please contact Bebe Jackson at 494-6607 or online at bebebradbury@aol.com. If you want to help with planning, please attend the next meeting at 5 p.m. on Monday, October 19, at the Historic Parker House.

Annual Tribute Dinner

Do you know of a person who has made outstanding contributions to Arcadia and DeSoto County and who has an interest in our history? Please suggest him or her to Mitzie McGavic as one to honor at our annual tribute dinner to be held in late April or early May.

Nominating Committee

Bruce Neveau, Clel Shore, and Dennis Tyson serve with Mitzie McGavic on the nominating committee. They welcome any nominations from the floor or from the membership. Please contact them:

- Bruce Neveau or Dennis Tyson: 954-494-0235 or online at nbruden@msn.com
- Clel Shore: 494-2701 and 558-3002 or online clelshore@embarqmail.com.

We will vote at the November meeting and install officers at the December meeting.

Proposed Slate of Officers for 2010

President: Mitzie McGavic
Vice-President: Bebe Jackson
Secretary: Forest Reynolds
Treasurer: Arlene Conley
Nominated Board of Directors: Harold McLeod and Kay Higley

Mark Your Calendars for our Holiday Open House!

Please volunteer to wear your historic costume and share our history on Sunday, December 6, at the Historic Parker House Bed and Breakfast. Contact Kay or Leonard Higley at 494-1060 or online at historicparkerhouse@yahoo.com.

Welcome New Members!

The Society welcomes the members who joined our Society in September:
Don Foley, Jeanette Foley,
Billie Joe Gaskins, Tom Gaskins, Jr.,
Sally Jones, Eleanor Keen, Ellen Myers,
and Candy Reid.

We send our condolences to Bob Guard on the loss of his wife Brenda.

Please send all news, corrections, and suggestions to Carol Mahler at 491-0286 or online at carolmahler3@gmail.com.

Fifth Annual Yard Sale

**8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, November 7
at the Historic Parker House Bed and
Breakfast, 427 W. Hickory Street
(Highway 70 West)**

Chairperson of the event, Clel Shore, said, "I hope everyone will go through their cupboards, closets, and carports looking for all those things that they don't use or don't want any more, and donate them to the Historical Society." Please leave your donations under the tarp in the trailer behind the Parker House. For someone to pick up your donations, call Clel Shore at 494-2701 and 558-3002 or Kay and Leonard Higley at 494-1060.



**Please bring your finest cookies, brownies,
cupcakes, pies, breads, and cakes to the
Historic Parker House on Friday, Nov. 6, or
early Saturday morning for the bake sale.**



Rent a Table & Sell Your Stuff

For the first time this year, we're also renting a limited number of tables for \$10 each to those who want to sell their own clutter at the Yard Sale. To reserve a table, call Kay or Leonard Higley at 494-1060.

The Seed of a New Idea

J. Morgan Ingraham built and ran a seed house next to his house on N. Monroe Avenue. A replica of this structure could serve as a welcome center with restrooms for those touring the home as well as a facility to house the Howard and Velma Melton Historical Research Library. We'll consider and vote on this idea at our October meeting.

Web Site Coordinator Needed: No computer experience necessary!

Many people find information about our Society and our county's history through our web site, so we need to keep it updated. We need someone to volunteer to collect information about our events and deliver it to our Web Master Katie Willis. If you can help, please contact Mitzie McGavic.

October Meeting Announcement

The DeSoto County Historical Society's regular monthly meeting will be held at the **Family Service Center Annex** (old West Elementary School cafeteria) on N. Orange Avenue on the second Thursday of the month,
October 8, 2009.

Lunch is \$5, beginning at 11:30 a.m., and the meeting starts at noon.

Come early and bring a friend--or two!

Tom Gaskins, Jr.

is the great-grandson of Tom Gaskins who owned a "Cash Store" in Arcadia, and in 1895 invented a coupling for railroad cars. He will talk about his father, founder of the Tom Gaskins Cypress Knee Museum and inventor of the Tom Gaskins Turkey Call.

Drawing for Gift Basket

At the meeting, please buy a ticket (one for \$1 and 6 for \$5) for the drawing for this gift basket. Proceeds will be a donation to the Cancer Society's Relay for Life.

Public Archaeology Days Pine Level Methodist Church Saturdays, October 3 and 10

Please join Jana Futch and Jeff Moates of the Florida Public Archaeology Network (the speakers at our July meeting) and our Society for two days of archaeology at old Pine Level! Saturday, October 3, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. will be interviews with those who know the places and people of Pine Level. On Saturday, October 10, starting at 9 a.m., you can participate in a surface survey of the site.

Arcadia's Fall Festival

Downtown on Saturday, October 31

The Society will have a booth to sell Acrefoot Johnson t-shirts and tote bags plus copies of *Recollections I* and other items. We'll also be inviting folks to our yard sale. If you can help, please contact Bebe Jackson at 494-6607 or online at bebebradbury@aol.com.