



DeSoto County Historical Society News

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

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September 2009

Sponsors Needed for This Newsletter!

We're looking for individuals, organizations, and businesses to become sponsors of 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**

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

Under the leadership of Chairperson Bebe Jackson, the Pioneer Day Committee is planning a bigger and better festival this year. Adding the Barbecued Rib Cookoff is one new feature that will require the more extensive space of DeSoto Park. As in years past, we'll be celebrating the heritage of Arcadia and DeSoto County with live entertainment, a special area for children, informational booths and demonstrators of old-time crafts. If you know of someone who can show off an old-fashioned skill--such as weaving cloth or braiding a bull whip--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, September 21, at the Historic Parker House.

Nominating Committee

Bruce Neveau, Clel Shore, and Dennis Tyson volunteered at our July meeting to serve with Mitzie McGavic on the nominating committee. They will present their slate of officers and directors at the September and October meetings, and they welcome any nominations from the floor or from the membership. Please contact them as follows:

- 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.

Voting will be at the November meeting and officers will be "installed" 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, Kay Higley, Leonard Higley

Continuing Board Members: Vernon Keen, Clel Shore, James Westberry

Committee Members Needed for the Historical Society Holiday Open House!

Please volunteer to serve on the committee to plan this fun, holiday event on Sunday, December 6, at the Historic Parker House Bed and Breakfast, or volunteer to wear your historic costume and share our history with those who attend. Contact Kay or Leonard Higley at 494-1060 or online at historicparkerhouse@yahoo.com.

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



We Need Your Clutter

**for our 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)**

We need everyone to donate the items that they don't have room for, can't use, or don't want to the Society for the Yard Sale. 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.



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 things at the Yard Sale. To reserve a table, call Kay or Leonard Higley at 494-1060.

J. Morgan Ingraham House

Thanks to Gene Cashwell of Cashwell Surveying for completing detailed surveys of the J. Morgan Ingraham House properties. Thanks to David A. Niklas Irrigation for donating pvc pipes to mark the lot lines. Thanks to Kathleen Kuhns, Leonard Higley, and Harold McLeod for working to solicit bids so that Phase Four Restoration can begin.

Thanks to Mosaic!

Mosaic's Community Relations Manager, Diana Youmans, presented the Society with a \$2500 donation for painting and landscaping the Ingraham House.

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 September meeting.

September 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,
September 10, 2009.

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

Come early and bring a friend--or two!

Chester Johnson and Forest Johnson

are the sons of Guy "Rattlesnake" Johnson and grandsons of James Mitchell "Acrefoot" Johnson. They will share reminiscences about their father and grandfather.

If you own an **Acrefoot Johnson T-shirt** please wear it to this meeting, or if you own an **Acrefoot Johnson Tote Bag**, bring it with you to this meeting! If you would like to purchase a t-shirt or tote bag, they'll be on sale at the September meeting (\$10 for a shirt and \$7 for a bag) along with copies of *DeSoto County Historical Society's Recollections I* for \$7 and *The Walking Tour of Historic Arcadia, Florida* booklet for \$5.

Web Site Coordinator Needed: No computer experience necessary!

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

Welcome New Members!

The Society welcomes the members who joined our Society in August:
Renee Alexander, Paulette (Alex) Alexander, Juanita Gibbs, Diane Jones, Esther Luster, George Lockett, Winnie Lockett, and Michelle Potter.