

Pompano Beach Historical Society

Winter 2019-2020

Mission Statement

The Pompano Beach Historical Society's mission is to collect, preserve and publicize the history of the greater Pompano Beach area.

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

Pete Williams
President

Rob Whitsett
Vice President

Jim Post
Treasurer

Lita Chambers
Secretary

Tobi Aycock
Shanna Benson
Jerry Bowman
Denyse Cunningham
Tom Curran
Claudia DuBois
Carol Ann Mott
Katy Mullon
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Mona Silverstein
David Wheeler
Margaret White

Honorary

Rob Brantley
Don Downie
Lamar P. Fisher
Charles Lewis
Tom R. McMahon

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thank you to all our members who came out for the annual Holiday Party that was held on December 11th. It was an opportunity for all to reconnect with old friends and become acquainted with some new ones. And while the rain that occurred later in the evening dampened our surroundings it did not dampen our spirits ... a festive occasion for all!

I also want to thank those that participated in our annual fall Casino Night fundraiser, 'An Evening in Macau'. Your generous support and donations are key to providing the funds we depend on to support our programs, historical events, and archival activities. And, on behalf of all members, I want to especially thank our many sponsors, the local businesses in our community, that do so much to further ensure our continued success.

Finally, I would like to highlight changes we are making in our archival process. In the coming year the Historical Society expects to accelerate activities to catalog the many assets in our museum's collection—maps, photographs, audio and video assets, and other items. Our goal is to provide greater visibility, and eventually, online access to the Society's collections in support of our mission to preserve, publish and promote Pompano's heritage, and the stories of the many pioneers that built the city we are all so proud of today! Denyse Cunningham is leading this effort and would welcome volunteers willing to contribute towards the archival effort. Contact Pat if you'd like to volunteer some of your time.

Pete Williams

FEBRUARY PROGRAM

KITTY OLIVER PhD

RACE & CHANGE: LOCAL HISTORY

Please join us as we celebrate Black History month with guest speaker, journalist, author, oral historian, media producer and professional singer Kitty Oliver, PhD! Her topic will be Race and Change - Local History, an interesting collection of stories and insights on the history of our local race evolution. Ms. Oliver's Race and Change Initiative promotes a 21st Century discussion of race and differences in cross-cultural public forums using archival oral history interviews, video and web radio programs, and creative performance presentations.

February 19 @ 6:30 pm
Hood Center
217 NE 4th Avenue



RSVP at:

www.pompanohistory.com/kitty_oliver

This program is sponsored by Florida Humanities Council: Florida Talks.

PROGRESSIVE DINNER

The 4th Annual Progressive Dinner was a resounding success! Thank you to everyone who came out and joined us! We hope you had as much fun as we did! It was a special night where three local historic organizations worked together: The Ali Center, the Sample-McDougald House and the Kester Cottages. And a big thank you to John Knox Village and Carrabba's for their support!



SAVES THE DATES!

It's going to be a five day extravaganza!

The Highwaymen will be in Pompano from March 18 through March 22!

Day one, Wednesday, Doretha Hair Truesdell and her son, Roderick will be speaking at the Historical Society's Hood Center for our Wednesday Program. Ms. Truesdell was part of the Highwaymen Movement from the very start. She learned to paint from her husband, Alfred Hair, who was the original Highwayman!

Day two on Thursday evening is "Paint with the Artists". Doretha and Roderick will teach you how to paint your very own Highwaymen painting. This outstanding opportunity will have limited seating and is available at \$75.00 per person, including all supplies; wine, beer, and soft drinks; and lite bites.

Day three, Friday, is the Opening Reception and Art Show at the Woman's Club, across the street from the Historical Society offering a first look at the artist's latest artwork as well as a meet and greet with all of the attending artists. We're still working out the details on this one, but you will be the first to know!

Days four and five, Saturday and Sunday, are the public Art Show and Sale also at the Woman's Club. Enjoy the art, talk to the artists, and join us across the street to tour the Kester Cottages and have lunch available for purchase from Spanx the Hog!

BUY USING AMAZONSMILE!

That's right! Don't forget that the Pompano Beach Historical Society is one of amazon.com's charity recipients through AmazonSmile. Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the organization of your choice.

Please choose us when you shop at Amazon by signing on through [smile.amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/smile) and selecting Pompano Beach Historical Society from their list of eligible charities.



ANNUAL MEETING

The next Annual Meeting of the Pompano Beach Historical Society will be conducted immediately prior to our regularly scheduled program meeting on May 20, 2020. During the Annual Meeting, members will be presented with a new slate of directors that have been proposed for the upcoming year. All members are encouraged to attend!

Board candidates may be submitted to the Nominating Committee prior to April 30th. Please contact Jerry Bowman, committee chair, to submit a nomination or for further information. Jerry can be reached at: 954-298-0854.

SAVE THAT POINSETTIA!

Alas, we've left another joyous and memorable holiday season behind us! The ornaments and lighting are safely packed away for next year ... but what to do with that beautiful poinsettia plant that remains?

Truth be told, poinsettia plants purchased in northern climates are not always particularly hardy. But not the case in sunny south Florida! Most of the poinsettias sold at our local markets, nurseries and even big-box stores were probably grown locally. And as a result are ideal candidates to transplant in the backyard or garden. And while they can remain as houseplants indoors, they really thrive once planted outdoors.



How easy is this you ask? Well, quite simply it can involve nothing more than placing the plant, pot and all out in a suitable spot in the garden. Or, if you'd like the plant to truly prosper, remove the plant and entire root ball from the pot and replant in a well-drained area of the garden. Poinsettias do best in areas with partial sun which becomes increasingly desirable during the hot summer months. Try to minimize any disruption to the root ball and insert into a spot dug of equal width and depth. And, no fertilizer required!

Try it! Save your poinsettia today and enjoy this colorful bouquet as a reminder to the joys of the holiday season for months to come!

DID YOU KNOW....

Esther Rolle is a Pompano Pioneer?

Esther Rolle was born in Pompano on November 8, 1920 and lived on NW Third Avenue (Church Ave.). In 1981 they renamed it Esther Rolle Avenue.



Ms. Rolle's parents immigrated from Nassau, Bahamas. She was the tenth child out of eighteen. Like most children in Pompano she and her brothers and sisters worked the fields picking

beans and other vegetables when they were not in school.

She attended the Pompano Colored School, which was later named Blanche Ely. She also attended Booker T. Washington High School in Miami. She and a sister would stay in Miami for the school week and return home to Pompano for the week-ends. She studied at Spelman College in Atlanta, then moved to New York where she attended Hunter College. She then transferred to The New School and on to Yale University.

Everyone knows Ms. Rolle as Florida Evans of 'Good Times' but she did so much more. She fought for the character of the husband, James Evans on the show. She thought it was 'terribly unfair and detrimental to young black children' to always portray black women with no husband. She was nominated in 1975 for the Best Actress in a Musical/Comedy Golden Globe Award for her role as Florida in Good Times. In 1979 she won an Emmy for her role in 'Summer of My German Soldier' and was nominated for Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Motion picture for her role as Aunt Sarah in Rosewood. Ms. Rolle was quoted in the Fort Lauderdale News on March 17, 1977 that she would like to do a "meaningful" movie. "There are so many black heroines in this country that people don't know about. When I get the right script, I'll know it'. She went on to film twenty-five TV shows and movies. Many of them 'meaningful'.

Ms. Rolle died November 7, 1998 from complications from diabetes. She is buried in Pompano Beach at the Westview Cemetery.

IN MEMORIAM

Phyllis Neuberger (1925—2019)

Phyllis J. Neuberger, known to many as the long-time feature writer for the local Pelican (and later New Pelican) passed away peacefully, surrounded by family, on November 27th. The stories Ms. Neuberger authored were diverse and varied, and generally managed to highlight something good happening within our community, and in doing so, bringing a bit of cheer to our day.



Ms. Neuberger was a long-time member of the Pompano Historical Society, along with several other community-spirited organizations in and around Pompano Beach. Through her determination and creative wisdom Phyllis was able to spread news of our organizations' collective missions broadly throughout our communities. Phyllis will be deeply missed by all.

Sylvia Grove (1939—2019)



Sylvia Thomas Grove, 'Maw' to her family, passed away after a short illness on September 30th. Mrs. Grove was born in Meridian, MS. Her father was in the military, and they lived in many places including in Alabama and Georgia. She moved to Hollywood, FL in 1960 with her husband James F. Aycock. She and her family moved to Pompano Beach in 1973. Mrs. Grove has five sons: Jim Grove, Tom Grove, David Aycock, James H. Aycock and Sean Grove. She also has eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild due this April! Sylvia was an active member of the Divine Savior Church in Delray (formally of Pompano Beach). She worked for the Broward County School Board in Early Childhood Development for 40 years before retiring, leaving behind many friends and memories. Mrs. Grove was also a long time member of Toast Masters, and volunteered along side of her second husband, Richard Grove, in the Coast Guard Auxiliary stationed in Pompano Beach for many years. All will miss her dearly.

**Pompano Beach
Historical Society
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Email: info.pompanohistory@gmail.com
Web: www.pompanohistory.com

Programs are on the third Wednesday
of the month at 6:30 pm unless
otherwise noted.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Winter / Spring 2020

February 19 Kitty Oliver
March 18 Highwaymen Presentation
April 15 Pompano Fire Museum
May 20 Annual Meeting
June 17 TBD

The Green Market is Back!

**SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL
COMMUNITY!**

The Green Market is open every Saturday until April 28 from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm. With an average of 40 vendors now participating each Saturday there's much to enjoy! From artisan delights to fresh produce there's bound to be something for all. In addition, visit the Yoga classes offered from 10 to 11, and enjoy the live DJ spinning favorites from 11 to 1:30. For market information email: pompanobeachgreenmarket@gmail.com

And, be sure to stop by the Historical Society's tent to say hello to our many volunteers! We look forward to seeing you all at the Market!



Historical Tour Dates

**TOOT, TOOT GOES THE TROLLEY!
BEEP, BEEP GOES THE BUS!**

Upcoming Tour Dates in 2020

**March 14 · May 9 · July 11
September 12 · November 14**

Don't miss this interesting tour of approximately 30 historic sites located in Pompano Beach. The two-hour narrated tour includes familiar landmarks such as the Historic downtown, the Ali Building, Old Mt. Calvary Church, Sample-McDougald House, and the Hillsboro Lighthouse Museum to name just a few. The tour begins at Founders Park, 217 NE 4th Ave, Pompano Beach. You will have time from 9:00 - 10:00 to tour the Kester Cottage Museums before the bus departs at 10:00 am sharp. Tickets for the tour can be purchased for \$15 per person at our website.

To purchase tickets, visit:
www.pompanohistory.com/event_calendar or call Pat at 954-782-3015. Seating on the bus is limited to 26 people. Get your tickets early!