



The Apalachee Redux

The Newsletter of The TALLAHASSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

September 2018

Volume 1 Number 2

Fall Means Many Things . . . Football, Raking Leaves, but Most of All . . . History

by Bob Holladay, *President*

Your hardworking board of directors is burning the midnight oil pestering people to come speak to us during this, the 85th season of the TALLAHASSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY. We are still bribing and threatening people to come, but we do have a good line-up so far, with a few holes to fill.

Our season will kick-off (*sorry FSU fans*) on Thursday night, October 11 at 7 pm, at the Governor Martin House at 1001 DeSoto Park, off of Lafayette Street in Myers Park. We will be hearing from Willett Boyer, archaeologist with the Aucilla River Institute, which has been doing archaeological work at Wakulla Springs and in the Big Bend area. Why should you come? Well, here's a reason. If you took American History anytime up to about 10 years ago, you were told that the earliest human beings came to the Western Hemisphere was about 14,000 years ago. Turns out that's wrong – by a lot, and one of the reasons we know that is the archaeological work being done along the rivers in our area. So how long ago were folks here? You'll have to come and find out.

Then, on November 8 (*same place, same time*), we are going to hear from Terri Messler, CIG Park Services Specialist at the Alfred Maclay Gardens State Park. You may think that you know everything there is to know about the Maclay family and the wonderful natural area they created on the north side of Tallahassee, but you don't. Alfred Maclay was typical of the northern businessmen who came to the Red Hills area between Thomasville and Tallahassee. He bought up what was left of the antebellum plantation properties, and saved it, first as hunting preserves, and in the case of Maclay Gardens, something very special indeed.

Our December meeting will take place on the 13th at the Old Willis Dairy on Centerville Road, and I haven't a clue yet as to whether we will have a speaker, listen to music,



Bob Holladay,
President

or some other form of entertainment. One thing I do know is that there will be food, and lots of it, because you, the members, are going to bring it. I can't wait.

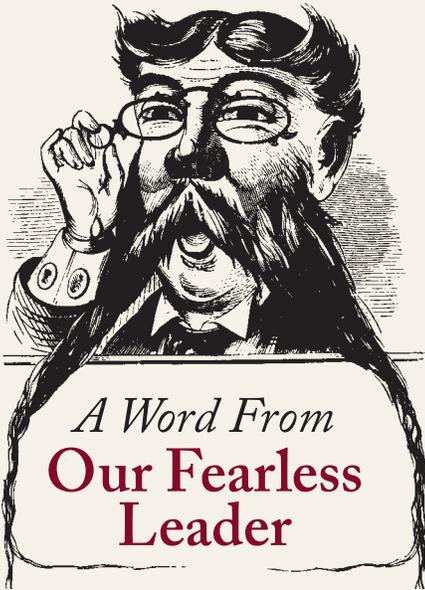
Our January 10 meeting is also going to be something special, I think. I don't know about you, but I love manmade structures. I could wander around old buildings, cemeteries, etc. for hours. I particularly love feats of real structural engineering, and that includes bridges. Florida has some of the coolest bridges of anyplace I know. Our speaker in January is going to be Thomas Waits, engineer with Parson, which builds bridges. Think how hard it was to build the bridge to Key West, or to Miami for that matter. Think about all the swamps and rivers in North Florida.

February is Black History Month. Our meeting will be on the 14th, which is also Valentines Day, so bring all your candy. Our speaker will be Torrio Osborne, a member of the board for The Riley House and archivist at TCC. Several years ago, he helped me with one of my classes, and I understand he has just recovered from the trauma.

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We tried to think of a suitable caption for this picture of Wakulla Springs, something about pre-historic man and native American sites, but we couldn't



Thank You and Renew Your Membership

First of all, those of you who liked the first issue of *The Apalachee (Redux)* and let us know, your money is in a small, wooden box, hidden under the waterfall at Cascades Park. Good luck finding it. Those of you who didn't like it, well, we know where you live. By the way, we're not wedded to the name. One of our friends came up with it one night over his third cocktail and we were too tired to protest. Send us your suggestions. We'd be glad to change it.

We hope it will be fun and informative. It is, at least for now, going to focus on events and personalities and items of local interest. It is not designed to be a scholarly journal that runs footnoted articles of interminable length. To accept those would require real work on my part and the part of the board: editing, fact checking, etc. I'm too lazy. I guess I could foist it off on Claude, but he already does everything else.

So send photos and illustrations, short thumbnail sketches, notices of events to president@tallahasseehistoricalsociety.org. Send the longer, scholarly stuff to the Florida Historical Quarterly. They don't have enough to do.

—Bob

A Few Words from Lonnie Mann, of the Panhandle Archaeological Society of Tallahassee (PAST)

History and archaeology are inextricably bound up as both disciplines increasingly inform each other.

Tallahassee and Leon County, of course, have an important and fascinating history as every THS member knows. Likewise, our unique archaeological resources range from some of North America's earliest Paleoindian sites, to the capital of the Apalachee Indians, to the 1539 De Soto winter encampment, to a chain of Spanish missions and to the Territorial capital.

These non-renewable resources are increasingly threatened by the rapid development of our community.

Panhandle Archaeological Society at Tallahassee (PAST) is devoted to education of the public with a view to understanding and preservation of these resources.

A review of our local archaeological ordinances and practices

is something that has not been undertaken in recent memory and one that PAST believes would help us retain our heritage and sense of place. For this reason PAST has convened a small study group of archaeologists, historians and preservationists with the following objectives:

1. Understand the current processes and regulations/plans governing archaeological resources in Tallahassee and Leon County.
2. Review best practices in municipal archaeology focusing particularly on Florida local governmental units.
3. Develop a set of recommendations for consideration by the public and our governmental officials.

The study group will be actively engaged in this work through the fall. THS members are encouraged to participate in public meetings related to historical and archaeological preservation.

Finally! Adult Supervision!

The Board of Directors of the TALLAHASSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY is pleased to welcome Nina Gonzalbez, who will be our new secretary. We tried to blackmail her into joining us, but we had to bribe her instead. Nina has an abiding interest in slave

cemeteries of which there are many – known and unknown – in Leon County. She is studying for an M.A. in Art History at FSU and we have Dave Lang and Andy Wright to thank for making sure the bribe was large enough.

TO THE PUBLIC.

The object of this placard is to inform the Public that Gen. Leigh Read has declined giving to me an apology for the insult offered me at St. Marks, on the 5th inst. That he has also refused to me that satisfaction, which as an honorable man, (refusing to apologise,) he was bound to give. I therefore pronounce him a Coward and a Scoundrel.

WILLIAM TRADEWELL.

Tallahassee, Oct. 26, 1839.



~Upcoming Events~

Yes. Your TALLAHASSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY will have a table at some of the following events. Feel free to come by and join us:

First Friday lectures are coming back in September!

The first of the 2018-2019 series will feature a talk given by Dr. Allan Raymond and is titled *Goodwood Seen Through Its Furniture*. Dr. Raymond has an advanced degree in Colonial & Revolutionary history and has spent much of his life teaching, and buying, selling and researching antiques.

First Friday Lecture Series

Friday, September 7th

Jubilee Cottage, Goodwood Plantation

12 pm

Tickets: Free

October 27: Forts, Flags and Artifacts

Fort San Marcos De Apalache Historic State Park and The Southeast Archaeological Center are partnering for the 6th annual International Archaeology Day.

The day's events will run from 10 am to 4 pm and include living history programs, hands-on archaeology projects and experiments, atlatl throwing, and the hourly firing of the cannon over the bastion! In past years, the Fort attendance has been over 700. With this ever growing fun-filled day and with your participation our goal is to top that number.

This event is in conjunction with Saint Marks Stone Crab Festival, commencing with a parade at 11:30 am where many of our living history folks walk in the parade. A tram will be provided to run you over to Saint Marks and then back to the Fort.

November 3: Tallahassee Hidden History

It would be our pleasure to have you as our guest at the historical marker dedication for three generations of Proctor men. The dedication will be followed by exhibits and special presentations at the Rutgers House (Tallahassee Garden Club) and a Trolley Tour that will highlight Tallahassee landmarks and the ways in which the Proctors and Rutgers contributed to the city's rich history during the 1800s.

PROGRAM

12 pm
Historical Marker Dedication
 Old City Cemetery
 400 W Park Ave.
 Tallahassee, FL 32301

1:00 pm
Reception and Exhibits
 Rutgers House
 Tallahassee Garden Club
 507 N Calhoun St.
 Tallahassee, FL 32301

1:00 – 3:00 pm
Trolley Tour
 Downtown Tallahassee
 (Leaving every 30 minutes)

December 15-16: Winter Solstice, Mission San Luis Southeastern Native American Festival

Join us for two days of Southeastern Native American dancing, music, craft vendors, cultural demonstrations, and storytelling. This year we have nationally known acts coming to town! Also enjoy living history reenactments, celestial viewing with scopes, drum circles, archery, crafts for kids, and more! Fun for all ages!

Fall Means Many Things . . .

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Our March 14 meeting will feature Jordan Pickett, who has been at FSU, but as of August is Associate Professor at the University of Georgia in Athens. Jordan has been leading the survey and clean-up efforts at the Old City Cemetery, and if you participated over the Summer, even once, you know how much work it entailed. He will speak to us about his efforts.

Our April meeting is not finalized, but we are in discussions with Ed Moore, about his speaking on the history of Saint Teresa and all those wonderful old homes. Saint Teresa was heavily featured *Saints of Old Florida* by Melissa Farrell, Christina McDermott, and Emily Raffield.

Our May meeting is our end-of-season picnic. We will have more details when they become available. We consider this an exciting season for the historical society and hope that you will attend our meetings.



IN CASE YOU GET LOST. The TALLAHASSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY meets in this house behind Chuy's on Lafayette Street. Some guy named DeSoto also camped here in 1539.

Claude's Corner

by Claude Kenneson, *at-Large Board Member*

TALLAHASSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY 101 or How We Got Here

The THS began on Wednesday, January 11, 1933, when four individuals met in the State Library for the purpose of organizing a historical society. They were E.B. Eppes, Dr. R.S. Cotterill, William Wyatt, and W.T. Cash. *(More on these persons to come in the next Corner).*



Claude Kenneson,

At that initial meeting began a tradition, which has come down to us today but is sometimes modified. It was determined that at each meeting someone would read a paper on a local historical topic. *(More another time on titles of papers and their presenters.)* Today, besides reading papers, we sometimes have lectures and power point presentations.

At the second meeting (*January 28, 1933*), interestingly, the name selected for the organization was the Capital Historical Society. On March 8 definite steps were taken towards organization. Two committees were formed, one to write a Preamble and By-Laws and one a Topics Committee. A draft of the By-laws was accepted on March 22. On May 11, the first annual meeting was held. The By-Laws were again read and the members were asked to sign them. The question of the name of the Society was raised and voted on by ballot. When the votes were counted it was found that the name TALLAHASSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY was selected.

In order to continue receiving this Newsletter and other notices, and announcements, from other local organizations, please renew your membership. Those who are Past Due will be taken off our mailing list in November.



We Forgot!



Don't You Forget To Join the TALLAHASSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Individual: \$20

Family: \$30

College Student: \$10

High School Student: \$5

Mail Checks To:

Membership Coordinator

TALLAHASSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

P.O. Box 3713

Tallahassee, Florida 32315

Membership extends one year from payment date

Meetings are held the second Thursday of every month from October through May, at 7:00 pm at the Governor Martin House on DeSoto Park Trail in Myers Park.

And by the way . . . if you're already a member, pay your dues!



. . . or else!



~ SILVER ALERT ~

(or Bronze, as the case may be)

Have You Seen This Man? Missing Since July 19



The Rutgers House on Calhoun Street, which houses the Tallahassee Garden Club will be site of the November 3 Tallahassee Hidden History focusing on the year 1848, the year the house was built.



Florida's First Capitol, 1824

Tallahassee Historical Society

Founded 1933

P.O. Box 3713
Tallahassee, Florida 32315

Officers and Board Members

Bob Holladay, *President*
Marjorie Holladay, *Vice President*
Nina Gonzalbez, *Secretary*

Andy Wright, *Treasurer*
Doug Smith, *Past President*

Dave Lang, *At-Large*
Claude Kenneson, *At-Large*

How To Contact Us *Not that you would want to, or anything, but there are ways:*

One is to post to the THS Facebook page
www.facebook.com/tallahasseehistoricalsociety

Another is to email our officers:

Bob Holladay:
president@tallahasseehistoricalsociety.org

Marjorie Holladay:
vicepresident@tallahasseehistoricalsociety.org

(hint: if you want to reach Bob, reach Marjorie. Enough said.)

Andy Wright:
treasurer@tallahasseehistoricalsociety.org

Nina Gonzalbez:
secretary@tallahasseehistoricalsociety.org

Claude Kenneson:
communications@tallahasseehistoricalsociety.org

The rest of the board is hiding out, at least for now, but they can be found.

You can also simply snail mail us. We check our box every month or so: P.O. Box 3713, Tallahassee, 32315



TALLAHASSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY – 501 (c)(3)

Membership Application

Annual Membership Dues: Individual – \$20; Family – \$30; College – \$10; High School, \$5 membership – extends one year from payment date.

Make Checks Payable to: TALLAHASSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC. and include this form with your payment.

Hand Deliver at Event or Mail to: Membership Coordinator, TALLAHASSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC., P. O. Box 3713, Tallahassee, Florida 32315

Membership Type (Check One): Individual Family College High School

Amount Paid: _____ Date: _____ / _____ / _____

Name: _____ Family Member(s) if applicable:

1) _____ 2) _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Email: _____

Thank You For Your Support!



First permanent Capitol. Begun January 1826. Demolished, ca. 1839. Lithograph copied from Vues et souvenirs de l'Amerique du Nord