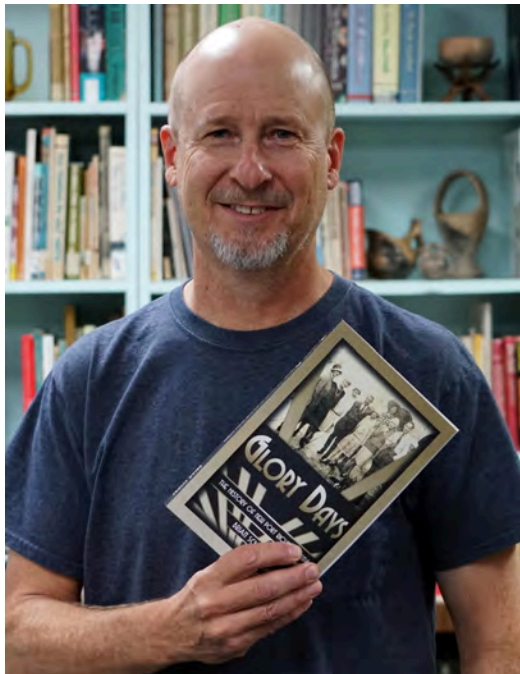


West Pasco Historical Society / Dec 2017



New book tells the history of New Port Richey



We are happy to announce the publication recently of a new book on the history of New Port Richey by one of our board members, Brian Schmit.

Mr. Schmit spoke about his new book at the museum on Nov. 25.

The book is titled *Glory Days*, referring to the late 1920s period. The book concentrates on that period, but does cover the history of New Port Richey from its founding to today.

Mr. Schmit is a recently-retired history teacher, who has taught at Gulf and Dunedin high schools and Seven Springs and Chasco middle schools. He has been a resident of New Port Richey for 13 years.

The book is soft-cover, 164 pages, and sells for \$14.95. The book is available for sale in the gift shop at the museum, and at other locations in town.

In conjunction with the publication of the book, Mr. Schmit is providing 60- to 90-minute tours through downtown on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 10 a.m. The price is \$10 for adults and \$5

for children. See newportrichey tours.com for more info.

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We visited the Tarpon Springs museum



This picture was taken at the Tarpon Springs museum on Aug. 18, 2017. They provided a special tour for the board members of the West Pasco Historical Society. Some of the people in the photo are with the Tarpon Springs Area Historical Society. They have a wonderful museum, located in downtown Tarpon Springs in the former railroad depot of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, built in 1909.

New WPHS members

Bruce Benidt
8451 Damen Lane
Port Richey, FL 34668

Peter & Lisa Day
8200 Tarsier Ave.
New Port Richey, FL 34653-6559

Jeffrey DeSantis
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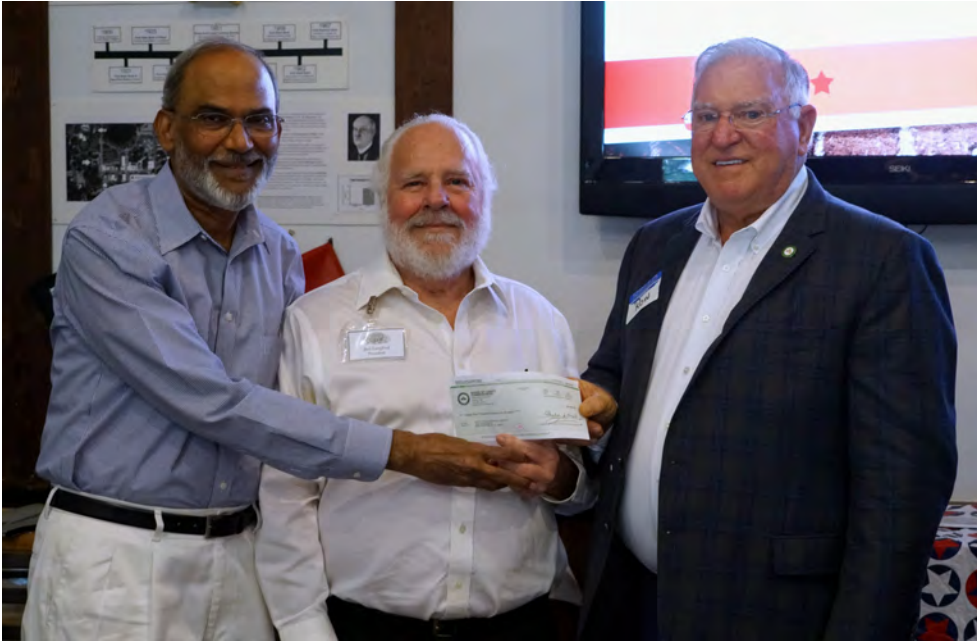
Ilana Patrice
7260 Broadmoor Drive #2
New Port Richey, FL 34653

Jennifer Sorenson
6148 River Road
New Port Richey, FL 34652

Lory Wortman
5828 Delaware Ave.
New Port Richey, FL 34652

Jennifer Sorenson, a teacher at Gulf High School, has volunteered to take over our library book collection, and we're expecting some big improvements!

Thank you, Pasco County Commission!



The Pasco County Commission recently voted to allocate \$25,000 each to the Pioneer Florida Museum in Dade City and the Rao Musunuru, M. D., Museum and Library in New Port Richey. We will be using the money to improve our museum displays for the public. In the picture, taken on Nov. 25, 2017, Commissioner Ron Oakley presents a check for \$25,000 to Bob Langford, President of the WPHS, and Dr. Musunuru, a benefactor to the WPHS and honorary board member. Mr. Oakley was the commissioner

who proposed the funding for the two museums.

Bill Maytum, museum guest speaker

Bill Maytum was the guest speaker at the museum on Sept. 16, 2017. He talked about the early days in New Port Richey as he remembers them, beginning in the 1940s.

Mr. Maytum is a lifelong resident of this area, a city council member for 12 years, an Air Force veteran, and he was King Pithla in 1974. He operated a private contracting business.

William Critchley "Bill" Maytum (b. May 21, 1935) is the son of Joseph August Maytum (1887-1952) and Bertha E. Critchley Maytum (1895-1945). Joseph was twice elected to the New Port Richey city council.

Bertha was a daughter of William Critchley (1857-1931), who served on the original New Port Richey city council in 1924, and Caroline Steger Critchley (1856-1944). Bill believes that his grandmother was responsible for naming St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.



Message from the WPHS President



Happy holidays to all and wish you all a bright holiday season. If you haven't already, I hope that you'll be coming by the Historical Society Museum and Library to see all the holiday decorations put out for your enjoyment. It certainly looks beautifully festive, and by the way, we have the largest decorated tree in Sims Park this year. Come by with the little ones and have your picture taken and look around at your history. You'll just be amazed.

We want to thank a few folks for helping us out this holiday season. First the County Commission for presenting us with a \$25,000 grant. At our Saturday meeting, on December 2, Commissioner Ron Oakley made the presentation to Dr. Musunuru and myself on behalf of the Historical Society. We also received \$50 from the New Port Richey Library for a presentation by David Prace and Annie Rusaw James.

A big thank you goes out to all the volunteers for 2017, making it one of our best years in a long time, and, as we move into 2018 we're looking for more volunteers.

Please consider joining us as a greeter, docent or general opportunities to volunteer at the Historical Society, Museum and Library.

Just a reminder, January is dues time. If you haven't paid yours in the past three months or recently joined, then it's time to renew your memberships. The dues will be going up this year but if you pay or join before March 31, 2017, you will only have to pay the current rate. After March the dues will increase. The present prices for dues are \$15 single member, \$25 family and \$50 for business.

Join us for the Holiday street parade on December 9 and we will be on the Bandstand in front of the Museum with many surprises. Also, don't forget to come inside and see our tree.

Coming in January, Terry Kline will be making a presentation on the Native American people that occupied the area before the white man took over (Spanish, French and English). This will be a program not to miss. The Native Americans occupied our area of Florida for thousands of years before the folks from Eastern Europe took over.

See you December 9th for the Holiday Street Parade and its festivities. Happy holidays and a history making and blessed 2018.

WEST PASCO HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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