



PO Box 175, Clearwater FL 33757



MUSEUM OPEN

Wed - Sat

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

610 S. FORT HARRISON AVE.
CLEARWATER, FL 33756



Spring 2024 Newsletter



A celebration of the 5th Anniversary
honoring local women for national
Women's History Month



Ribbon cutting from left, Margaret Word Burnside, Dr. Sylvia A. Earle, Kellis Jean Milner Glenn, Barbara Sorey-Love, D'Anna Hohe (for Karleen F. DeBlaker) & Jeannie Shapiro

The Clearwater Historical Society opened the 5th annual Women's History Month exhibit March 6, 2024. Family, friends, sponsors, Settler and Pioneer members attended the special reception honoring the 2024 Trailblazers: Karleen F. DeBlaker, Dr. Sylvia A. Earle, Anne McKay Garris, Kellis Jean Milner Glenn, Jeannie Shapiro, Barbara Sorey-Love & Margaret Word Burnside. The exhibit was made possible by Presenting Sponsor The Ruth & J.O Stone Foundation, Deane Rhodes Horne & Dawne Roberts Jacobs, Joy & Jerry Collman, Dr. David & Sally Hemerick, Tampa Bay Magazine, Gold & Diamond Source, Julie Weintraub's Hands Across the Bay, Mary Ann & Brad Morse, Trudy & David Little, Betsy Schweitzer, Pinellas Community Foundation, Hooters Restaurant and the City of Clearwater.

EXHIBIT RUNS MARCH 7 to MAY 31, 2024

Fish Fry Postponed

The annual Joe Turner Fish Fry has been put on hold until the new kitchen is completed. This would have been the 40th year of hosting the event that started at the Plumb House, and moved to our new location at 610 S. Fort Harrison Avenue in 2022. A huge thank you to everyone who volunteered, sold tickets and came to the Fish Fry each year. For more on the Capital Campaign to create an expanded Event Center with new kitchen, 3 event rooms and wired for today's technology see page 3.



ABOUT THE SOCIETY

The Clearwater Historical Society, Inc., founded in 1978, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation with a mission to educate, collect, preserve, exhibit, and promote the people, culture and events of Clearwater, Florida. Its vision is to create a place where the community comes together to explore Clearwater's past, share its present and imagine its future. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION (CH# 58300) AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES ON THEIR WEBSITE (www.800helpfla.com) OR BY CALLING TOLL-FREE 1-800-435-7352 WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE

Clearwater Historical Museum Society

2023 - 2024 Board Of Directors

President Allison Dolan

Vice President

Secretary Jeanne Holmquist Treasurer Suz Priest

Liz Jones Childress Jerry Collman Jennie Wilson Susan Raineri Bill Wallace, Past President

Ways to Explore the Museum and Clearwater History

VISIT: 10 - 2 p.m. Wednesday - Saturday and by appointment Monday - Tuesday.

PODCAST: Clearwater History Speaks on Spotify and Apple Podcast

YOUTUBE: Search Clearwater Historical Society Events

SOCIETY SHOPPE: Books by local authors, Clearwater memorabilia, T-shirts and more

WEBSITE: clearwaterhistoricalsociety.org

EMAIL: clearwaterhistoricalsociety@gmail.com

FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM: @ClearwaterHistoricalSociety

CALL: 727-754-8019

MAIL: P.O. BOX 175, Clearwater FL 33757

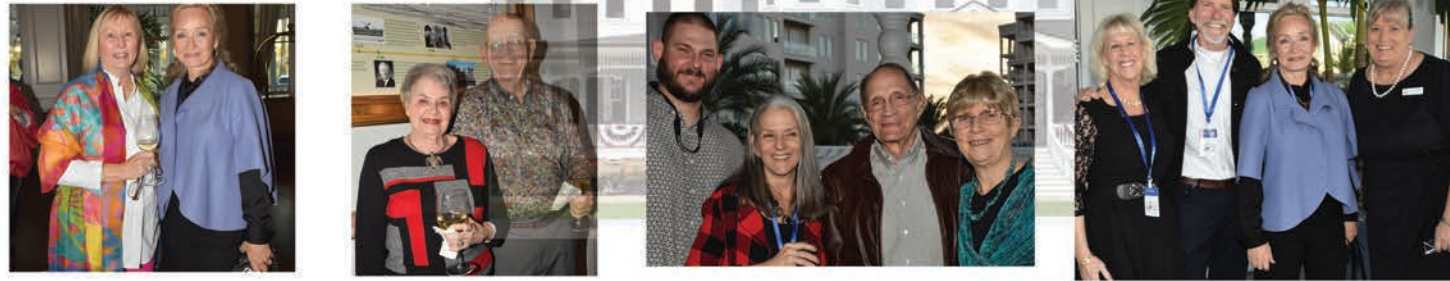


Museum Fun

Thank you to our Sponsors for supporting the Party at the Belleview Inn, February 22, 2024

David & Maryhelen Allbritton, Terry Boatner & Melissa Caulfield, George & Maria Cantonis, Jerry Fletcher & Liza Carter, Michael Cheezum, John & Trudy Cooper, Michele Eaton, Celia Kottmeier, Chair of the Event, Paul & Betty Ley, Paul Lokey, Phil & Shannon Lokey, George & Nancy Mariani, Pattie Meek, Andy & Julie Nichols, Pat & Evelyn Owens and David & Betsy Walker.

Special thanks to Celia Kottmeier for her vision, JMC Communities, Sandpearl Resort and Belleview Inn staff



Making a Difference:

News from the Librarian

Our collections are continuing to grow. Book donations have been very generous and necessitated a second shelf. Members may check these books out.

The Yearbook collections are also growing: schools: Clearwater High School, Countryside High School, Calvary High School, Clearwater Central Catholic High School, Clearwater Christian College, John F. Kennedy Jr. High, and St. Petersburg College. We are missing some so if you have one or know someone wanting to give theirs away, please send them our way.

We also have a collection of scrapbooks, slides, and postcards. We received a collection of articles and photos of the Fun N Sun event that was held every year in Clearwater. Old maps, City Directories, and other interesting items about Clearwater are available to see and use. Contact the Museum a time to visit the library.

Trudy Kelly, Librarian



Volunteers Making a Difference



Jennie Wilson, our newest Board member and Volunteer Coordinator on the right with her mom at a recent event at the museum. Jennie is a great addition to the team and welcomes new volunteers to stop by or call to learn about our volunteer opportunities.

We ♥ our Volunteers



New Partners at the Museum



Florida Department of Environmental Protection: Tampa Bay Aquatics Preserves

The Tampa Bay Aquatic Preserves is the newest museum partner, onsite, recently recognized by Keep Pinellas Beautiful, as their 2023 Outstanding Environmental Partner. Keep Pinellas Beautiful organizes many volunteers to clean up islands and other remote shorelines in the aquatic preserves.

The Friends of Tampa Bay Aquatic Preserves are celebrating **Earth Day** at the museum Monday April 22, 2024, 6:30 pm. Dr. Randy Runnels, Aquatic Preserve Manager will deliver a presentation. Refreshments will be served. For more information contact the friends@tampabayaquaticpreserves.org

Opening Night of Trailblazers 2024

Presented by
**THE RUTH & J-O
STONE
FOUNDATION**



Museum Business:

Thanks to our Sponsors

THE RUTH & J.O
STONE
FOUNDATION

GOLD & DIAMOND®
SOURCE



Tampa Bay
MAGAZINE

Joy & Jerald Collman

Dr. David & Sally Hemerick

Deane Rhodes Horne

& Dawne Jacobs Roberts

Mary Ann & Brad Morse

Trudy & David Little

Betsy Schweitzer

2023 - 2024 Settlers



The Clearwater Historical Society thanks Piper Fire Protection for upgrading the Fire Alarm System using as much of the existing system as possible, saving \$23,000 it was estimated to change the entire system.

The crew completed their work with no disruption to our programs, the set up of the Trailblazing Women exhibit and preparing for the VIP opening. Thanks Piper Fire Protection

Become a Settler VIP Member

Interested in preserving Clearwater's history? Join our Settler Program! The annual membership is \$1,000 and when paid before December 20, 2024 will be matched by an anonymous donor with \$500, making your contribution \$1,500.

Becoming a Settler has benefits!

- Get invited to opening receptions for new exhibits.
- Attend annual Night at the Museum
- Discount on event center rentals
- Publicly recognized for being a Settler at events, in the newsletter on the website and social media.

Donate Clearwater Artifacts

The Museum welcomes Clearwater related items, photographs, yearbooks, documents and local memorabilia.

If you aren't ready to part with your items, they can be photographed or scanned and preserved for future display

Volunteer

Help the museum be all that it can be.

- Building Committee
- Communications Committee
- Events Committee
- Fundraising Committee
- Membership Committee
- Board Members
- Volunteer Coordinator

We are currently seeking a volunteer Speakers Series Coordinator!

See the Volunteer page on our website for more information and applications



Event Room #1 above, Event Room #2 top right, and the proposed elevator linking the museum and high school below



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

In early December CHS introduced a preview of the plans to launch a capital campaign to create a large multi-purpose event center from the former kindergarten, cafeteria and current event center, that houses the Library. Guests at the Belleview Inn Museum Party, February 22, were the first community members to see the architectural drawings, floor plan and video. Excitement over the proposed transformation has led to a Campaign Cabinet to raise the estimated \$6 million, and the recruitment of community leaders to help with the challenge.

The project has been a vision since opening the museum in the former first elementary school in Clearwater in 2019. The campaign is expected to last 3 years and offers donors opportunities to name various areas of the event center, including the event rooms, the kitchen, the banquet room and smaller areas. In addition to the Event Center an exterior elevator is planned to connect the museum and the former High School

The challenge is underway and pledges can be made over 3 years. To learn more, have a tour or make a gift call the museum at 727-754-8019



Reunion Time:

Class of 1984
40TH REUNION



Let's Hear it for the Boys
#1 SONG SUMMER 1984 CYNDI LAUPER

Class of 1994
30TH REUNION



The Lion King #1 MOVIE SUMMER 1994



Ghostbusters
#1 MOVIE ALL SUMMER 1984



I Swear #1 SONG SUMMER 1994
ALL-4-ONE



Aqua Clara uses their new Apple IIe for bookkeeping, indexing, and processing stories. Sonja Davis inputs records of yearbook sales.

CLEARWATER & COUNTRYSIDE HIGH REUNIONS

When planning your reunion keep the museum in mind for a venue to meet up, celebrate and reminisce through our collection of yearbooks. Many classes have spent afternoons at the museum sharing stories. We can assist in gathering memorabilia to display and encourage class members to loan or donate any memorabilia they wish to share.



**CHS CLASS OF 1994
THROWBACK THIRTY REUNION**
August 2-4, 2024
ROCKIN' TO THE 90'S PARTY
Saturday, August 3, 2024

THANKS TO LEGACY EVENTS WE HAVE A SERIOUSLY AMAZING PARTY PLANNED!! CHECK OUT ALL THE DETAILS. RSVP & BUY YOUR TIX BY JULY 4TH AT CHS1994.RSVPIFY.COM

Upcoming Events:



Clyde Butcher: Living Waters at Museum

The Friends of the Tampa Bay Aquatic Preserves present an exhibit on the photographic works of Clyde Butcher. Opening June 5 - July 27. Admission is \$5 and children under 12 are free. Butcher is broadly known for his work in Florida.

The Museum welcomes sponsors to help underwrite this special show. If you are interested in sponsoring call 727-754-8019



During the 2023 Trailblazing Women's Exhibit Astronaut Nicole Stott invited young people to draw a postcard and put their address on the back. Their postcards went to space in the crew capsule and came back to earth, delivered to the child's address.

Here is one of our young visitors that received their postcard postmarked from space . <https://www.clubforfuture.org/postcards>

CALENDAR

- Saturday April 13, Charity Car Show
- Wednesday April 17, Macramé' Worksshop 11:00 am
- Tuesday April 22, EARTH DAY & Friends of Tampa Bay Aquatic Preserves Meeting & Presentation 6:30 pm
- Wednesday May 15, Macramé Workshop 11:00 am
- Saturday May 18, Trailblazing Women exhibit closes
- Wednesday June 5, Opening of Clyde Butcher: Living Waters
- Wednesday June 19, Macramé Workshop 11:00 am
- Wednesday July 17 Macramé Workshop 11:00 am



Clearwater Lawn Bowling Club turns 100

Clearwater Lawn Bowling Club celebrates 100 years of fun in 2024. February 17th Clearwater Mayor Aungst proclaimed it Clearwater Lawn Bowling Day. The club had a birthday celebration March 16th with a tournament and free lawn bowling.

The Lawn Bowling Club is located at 1040 Calumet St. off Fort Harrison, south of Sunset Point Rd. Open Tues, Thurs & Sat. 9:30 a.m.- noon Sun 1pm - 3 pm. For information on night bowling, other social events and tournaments call 727-641-9144 or clearwaterlawnbowlingclub@yahoo.com



BELIEVE IT OR NOT

That's the theme of an exhibit later this year. Help us out with any little known, but interesting, facts or residents about our beloved Clearwater. For example, Did You Know that Clearwater was once home to a cigar factory? Did You Know that the home of our wonderful Clearwater Marine Aquarium was once a municipal sewage treatment plant? Email your ideas to spriest53@yahoo.com.

Sponsorships are available by calling 727-754-8019