



PO Box 175, Clearwater FL 33757



**Clearwater Historical Museum Society
General Membership Meeting Wednesday Nov. 20 6:00 p.m.
in Museum Event Center**

2024 - 2025 Slate of Board Of Directors

President Allison Dolan
Vice President Jennie Wilson
Secretary Jeanne Holmquist Treasurer Suz Priest
Jerry Collman 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



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

MUSEUM OPEN

Wed - Sat

10 a.m. -2 p.m.

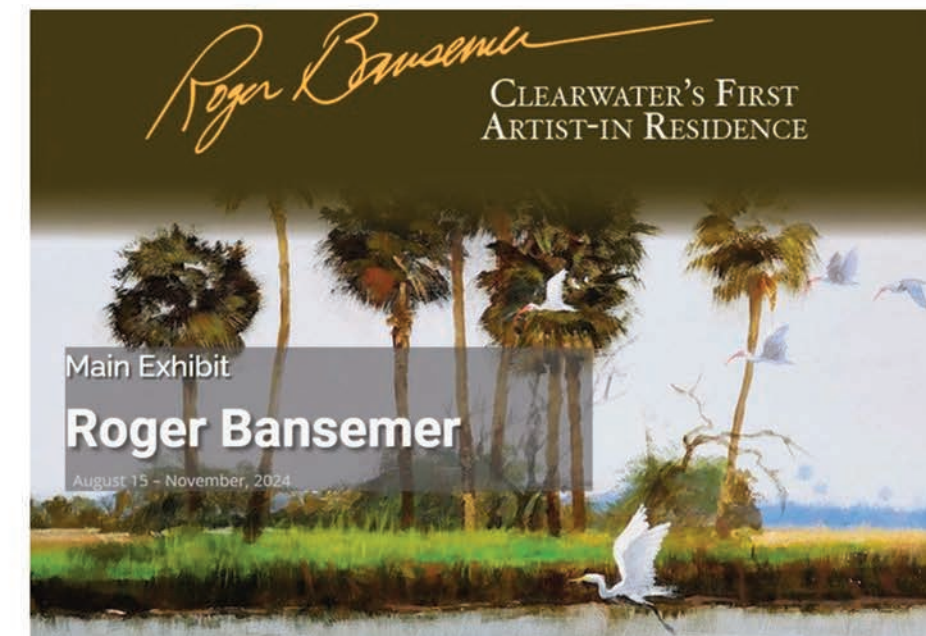
610 S. FORT HARRISON AVE.
CLEARWATER, FL 33756



Fall 2024 Newsletter



**Current Exhibit: Celebrating the
Induction of Roger Bansemer into
the Florida Artist's Hall of Fame.**



Most locals would know Roger for his murals around the city of Clearwater, especially the Hot Air Balloon on the Spy Glass Motel, also the murals on the walls of downtown buildings for the Clearwater Jazz Holiday in the 1980s of local trumpet player Frank Royal and of clarinetist Woody Herman. Roger & Sarah also produced and starred in "Painting & Travel with Roger & Sarah on PBS for 10 years. Roger has also written and illustrated books five books. which are just part pf the exhibit celebrating Clearwater's First Artist in Residence and newly inducted Florida Artist Hall of Fame Inductee.

Roger has generously donated two paintings to be raffled. \$5 per ticket. The proceeds of the raffle help support the Clearwater Historical Society Museum and the Clearwater Arts Alliance. Drawing November 16th.

Dinner & a Movie



Saturday, November 16, 6p.m. In Partnership with the **Friends of the Tampa Bay Aquatic Preserves**. We will have a Greek Dinner and the movie will be **Beneath the 12-Mile Reef** filmed in Tarpon Springs and released in 1953 with a very young Robert Wagner playing the son of a sponge diver off the west coast of Florida. The movie was nominated for the best cinematography at the 1954 Oscars and nominated for the Grand Prize at the Cannes Film Festival the same year. Bring a Chair or Blanket for the movie. **A Donation of \$20 includes Dinner & a Movie in the Lawn**

Museum Fun:

Opening Night of Clyde Butcher Living Waters Exhibit 2024



The summer of 2024 brought two collaborative exhibits to the museum., celebrating our natural beauty and resources through both photography and paintings

Opening Night of Roger Bansemer Exhibit 2024



Making a Difference:

News from the Librarian

The library continues to add material to our collections. We recently received a donation of books, postcards and other items from the estate of Mike Sanders, once given the title of "Clearwater's honorary historian".

We added 59 of his books to our library collection, two old city directories, many journals, some Clearwater municipal items and a few copies of his book, *Clearwater, A Pictorial History*.

It is an honor to add these items to our Museum Library.

You may make an appointment to come in and explore the library or if you have something particular to look for you can email or call the museum.

Trudy Kelly, Librarian



Volunteers Making a Difference

Our volunteers of all ages spend more hours than the museum is open there each week to make it the best it can be. If you would like to learn more about volunteering at the museum stop in we will be happy to share the fun. Call for more info 727-754-8019 a volunteer application is available on our website.

<https://www.clearwaterhistoricalsociety.org/>



Museum Partners:



**Florida Department of Environmental Protection:
Tampa Bay Aquatics Preserves**

Next year will be the 50th anniversary of Florida's Aquatic Preserve Act. Celebratory events will be popping up all around the state and we want you to join!
<https://floridadep.gov/rcp/aquatic-preserve>



Clearwater Arts Alliance

This December, the Clearwater Arts Alliance is celebrating their 25th Anniversary. **Tuesday, December 3rd** from 6-8pm at the Clearwater Beach Recreation Center, for an artistic evening with cocktails, heavy hors d'oeuvres, live music and art, silent auction, and more!
Contact: betsy@clearwaterartsalliance.org or 727.351.2018

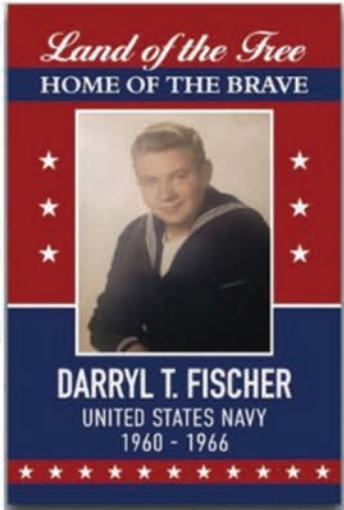
Members:

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is the lifeblood of most organizations, this is especially so for the Clearwater Historical Society. Members receive advance notice of all Museum events and before the public opportunities to buy tickets. They receive our newsletter keeping them up-to-date on Museum happenings and enjoy discounts on event space rentals. But most importantly their membership fees help pay to develop exhibits, fund programs and keep the lights on. Please consider renewing your membership at a higher level this year to help with these efforts. Join on our web site, the QR Code or come into the museum.



Museum Celebrates the Men & Woman and their Military Service



In 2025 the Clearwater Historical Society Museum is going to have an exhibit honoring the men & women of the area who have served in all branches of the military. Between now and then we would like to have members of the community sponsor a flag for a military service member. It can be a member of your family or someone you know. We will display the flags for Memorial Day and again during the exhibit. These will be outdoor garden size flags with metal posts. For a donation of \$100 we will order the flags and have them displayed at the museum. Applications (on our web site or come into the museum) must be in by March 15. At the conclusion of the events the flags will go back to the families.

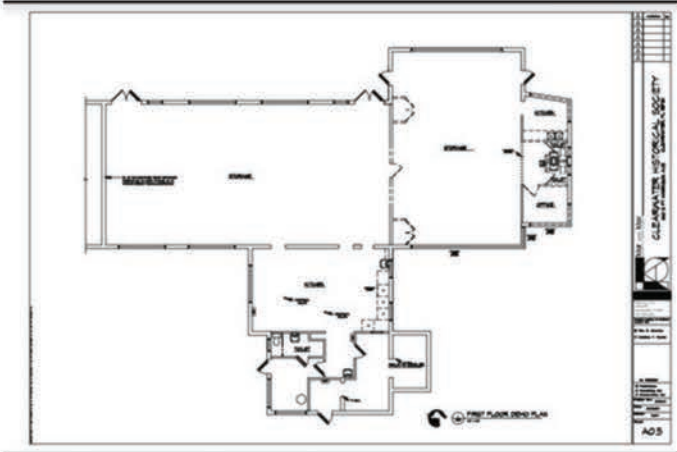
Clearwater Neighborhoods turn 100!

Harbor Oaks neighborhood was the first developed neighborhood in Clearwater, starting in 1912. Then as the population grew so did other neighborhoods including Country Club, Glenwood and many more. Neighborhoods are the backbone of our City. Our newest program for \$100 donation will let homeowners request assistance with how to research their home and find out about early homeowners and receive a flag to be displayed at their home signifying the homes milestone. The program is broken down to two categories, Historic Homes, a minimum of 50 years old and Century Homes that are 100 years old. Email: clearwaterhistoricalsociety@gmail.com to get started today.



Become a Settler VIP Member

Interested in preserving Clearwater's history? 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. We only need 4 more to get our matching donation for this year. Becoming a Settler has benefits! o go to clearwaterhistoricalsociety.org/membership



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

In early December 2023 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 Bellevue 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 first phase of the project is the new event center being able to hold multiple events at the same time. The event center will have a catering kitchen and be able to hold over 270 people. This will include the former cafeteria and the kindergarten buildings.

This portion of the project is projected to cost approximately \$2 million. The project will be managed by Vertex General Contracting.

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.

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



The Clearwater Historical Society is very excited to partner with Klar & Klar Architects and Vertex General Contractors for our new Event Center Project. This will be a great space for weddings and reunions of all types. The former Kindergarten and Cafeteria buildings will be transformed into beautiful spaces. That can have two separate events or doors can be opened to expand into one large space big enough to hold 270 people and a catering kitchen.

Teen Advisory Board:



2024 Inaugural Teen Advisory Board

The Clearwater High History Club and Rho Kappa History Honor Society students are joining forces with the museum. The students are going to create an exhibit before the end of the 2024-25 school year about teachers at Clearwater High that attended Clearwater High. The exhibit will include pictures and interviews. The students came up with the idea and will create the exhibit. They will be learning about all the aspects of design and the reality of funding a project. If you are interested in helping them with their endeavor, the students are looking for artifacts from Clearwater High and sponsorship for the exhibit. Please contact the museum for more information.

Graduation is not Goodbye!

Clearwater Historical Society gave Clearwater High School students a special opportunity this year. The students get to curate, design and build an exhibit of their choice!

Clearwater High Rho Kappa will take on this exhibit with the guidance of Mrs. Maryanne Hipple and Mrs. Allison Dolan. The theme of the exhibit, decided on by the students is "Graduation is not Goodbye". A special tribute to Alumni of Clearwater High School that have come back to work at the school.

Clearwater High School can trace its lineage back to 1906. Many students walked the halls of the school filling it with memories and lifelong friendships. Many former students even return to the school and join the faculty. What makes Clearwater High so special is the number of Alumni that return. Currently we have 14 former students working at Clearwater High. Reinforcing that the Clearwater High motto of Tradition, Honor and Pride runs deep in the students and faculty. The exhibit will be a wonderful opportunity to show how special the school is to the community. The exhibit "Graduation is not Goodbye" will be showcased in May of 2025 at the Clearwater Historical Society Museum.

Christina Alves
CHS Class of 2025

Reunion Time:



Class of 1984
40TH REUNION
NOVEMBER 22-24

- Campus Tour
- Visit the Museum
- Dinner Cruise

All Clearwater Schools!

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.

Upcoming Events:



Plumb House with its fresh coat of paint and exterior repairs.

Plumb House Historic Window Repair Workshop

Coming this February we will have a 5 day Historic Window Workshop at the Plumb House as well as a one day Professional Demonstrations and open house at the Plumb House. The students will get hands on experience at the art of repairing the original 1896 wooden windows.

For information on the workshop: Wood Window Makeover,
<https://www.woodwindowmakeover.com/classes-and-apprenticeships/>

Hurricane News

Debby, Helene & Milton will most certainly go down in history as some of the worst storms Clearwater has experienced.

The 1906 South Ward building experienced a roof leak during Milton in the upstairs galleries. We had volunteers here that night that tried to keep the water mopped up, but we do have a section of the ceiling, insulation and hardwood floors that will need to be replaced. One of the contractors from Vertex came out and looked over the damage and is going to get estimates on repairs. We are fortunate for great volunteers and partners like Vertex to be able to help us maintain our beautiful building.

CALENDAR



- Friday Nov. 1, Kiwanis Chili Cook-off 6:00 p.m.
- Friday Nov. 8, Basket Weaving Class 11:00 a.m.
- Wednesday Nov. 13, Speaker Series -Florida Dreams Amid the Storms, Dr. Gary Mormino 6:00 p.m.
- Saturday Nov 16, Dinner & Movie night 6:00 p.m.
- Wednesday Nov. 20 Macrame Workshop 11:00 a.m.
- Wednesday Nov. 20 General Membership Meeting 6p.m.



- Wednesday Dec. 11 Speaker Series 6:00 p.m.
- Friday Dec. 13 Basket Weaving Class 11:00 a.m.
- Wednesday Dec. 18 Macrame Workshop 5:00 p.m.
- Saturday Dec. 21 Santa visits museum
- Wednesday Dec. 25 Museum Closed for Holiday

Happy New Year 2025

- Wednesday Jan. 1, Museum Closed for Holiday
- Wednesday Jan. 8, Sister Cities Exhibit Opens
- Friday Jan. 10, Basket Weaving Class 11:00 a.m.
- Wednesday Jan. 15, Macrame Workshop 11:00 a.m..



- Saturday Feb. 8, Historic Home Professional Demonstration and Open House at Plumb House
- Feb10-14 Wooden Windows Workshop
- Wednesday Feb. 12, Speaker Series 6:00 p.m.
- Friday Feb. 14, Basket Weaving Class 11:00 a.m.
- Wednesday Feb. 19 Macrame Workshop 11:00 a.m.
- Friday Feb. 28 Night at the Museum 5:00 p.m.



- Wednesday Mar 5, Opening of Trailblazing Women
- Friday Mar 7, Scribbling FL Women 6:00 p.m.
- Wednesday Mar. 12, Speaker Series 6:00 p.m.
- Friday Mar. 14 Basket Weaving Class 11:00 a.m.
- Wednesday Mar 19, Macrame Workshop 5:00 p.m.