



Leesburg Heritage Society, Inc.
111 South 6th St., Leesburg, FL 34748
www.leesburgheritagesociety.org
31 December 2019

Dear Members,

Here we are at a brand new year. Happy New Year to you and your family!! Hope you had a lovely Christmas and that you had time to reflect on the true meaning of the day. We are looking forward to good things happening with the Heritage Society.

Our meeting will be on January 7. We will meet again at the Library at 3:30 with refreshments provided by Beyer's. Our meeting will begin at 4 with a program presented by Leesburg City Manager, Al Minner. The City Commission recently gave him great evaluations for doing a good job. He will tell us all the things that are happening in the City. And there are a LOT of things going on!

Our condolences go to the family of Georgianna Morris, last of the elder generation who lived in the Mote-Morris House. She came from the midwest at her marriage to Robert Morris, Sr.

If you haven't visited the Museum lately, please make it a stop as you do errands around the city. It looks so good and you might see new things.

We need to work on getting new members of our Society. Please invite your friends to join you at a meeting. Also, invite anyone interested in learning more about their town. Make coming to our meetings one of your New Year resolutions.

Beacon College is going on 30 years in Leesburg - hardly seems possible. They have been such a good asset! They have over 400 students. We are really a college town. They have recently finished the façade on their library building and the park in what used to be Palmetto St.

Enough for now! Hopefully I'll see all of you at the meeting on January 7, 2020

Sanna Henderson

Sanna

President

2019-2020 SEASON DUES ARE PAYABLE NOW.

Leesburg Heritage Society
Minutes - Regular Meeting - December 3, 2019

There were 23 members and guests present as President Sanna Henderson called the regular meeting of the Leesburg Heritage Society to order at 4:00 PM on December 3, 2019 at the Leesburg Public Library. She welcomed all gathered and thanked the Beyers team for once again providing the nice refreshments.

The sign-up sheet for name-tags was passed around again. Sanna expects they will be available for the January meeting.

Mary Jane Caldwell-Smith gave the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The prior minutes and the Treasurer's report were reviewed and there were no questions or comments.

Deb Bussinger gave her Library report, which included a request for volunteers at the bookstore. She also highlighted an upcoming Smithsonian exhibit with WWI posters. Get a library newsletter for all the details.

Vi Pfahler told us a joke about a couple married for 50 years. Several members could relate!

Woody Wagner introduced Joe Shipes, who is the Director of the Leesburg Partnership. Joe gave us a short introduction to his own history in the area, and told us he joined the Partnership in 1995. The goals of the Partnership are historic preservation, economic re-structuring, and developing a sense of community. He discussed the yearly calendar of events including Bikefest, Christmas events, and the Artfest. A recent major project has been the gathering of information for a Masterplan, and results should be made available in the coming weeks. Joe took many questions and comments from the group.

Woody thanked Joe for his time, and told us that next month's speaker will be from Tucker's manufacturing.

Sanna adjourned the meeting at 4:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Turner, Secretary

Treasurer's Report
December 20, 2019

***Memorial Fund - \$2,375.00

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Russek, Treasurer

Membership dues are: Individual - \$20.00 per year; Couples - \$30.00 per year
Student - \$5.00 per year
Professional, Business & Organization - \$100.00 per year
Life Membership - \$200.00 per person

*Our year is October thru May, with meetings the first Tuesday of the month.

LEESBURG HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC. BYLAWS

Article IV - Membership.

Section 2. Term of membership shall be on an annual basis, from October 1 through September 30.

January 2020 Events at the Leesburg Public Library Dusty Hill Matthews, Adult Services Supervisor

Start your new year with music and more at the Library! Learn about our events at www.leesburgflorida.gov/library.

Paul DeRitter Trio | January 4 1-2pm This group can go from playing "Sweet Georgia Brown" to "Crocodile Rock" without batting an eye. At gigs, Paul DeRitter puts out a list of tunes during shows and lets audience members pick their favorites. Come in for a fun and musically magnificent hour!

Kora Performance by Sean Gaskell | January 11 1-2pm Enjoy traditional songs on the Kora, a 21 string harp from Gambia, West Africa. Gaskell has studied extensively under the instruction of Malamini Jobarteh and Moriba Kuyateh, both of Brikama, Gambia. He has been featured at a number of music festivals in the US, Gambia, and Senegal.

Living by the Stream Musical Performance | January 17 1-2pm Living By The Stream is a professional string-based duo, melding the sounds of violin, vocals and guitar. The ensemble incorporates a wide variety of styles in their performances, including jazz, classical, bluegrass, and Irish.

The Jay Rubin Band | January 25 2-3pm Have fun with The Jay Rubin Band, a five piece band specializing in Rock 'n Roll and Rhythm and Blues from the 60's - 80's.

Poetry Workshop: Lunar New Year, Asian Poetry and Writing Exercises Using Chinese Fortune Cookies | Celebrate the Lunar New Year with a study of Asian poetry forms and readings of works by Asian Authors. Take part in a poetry activity using fortune cookies. Led by Lake County Poet Laureate Laura Sobbot Ross. Registration is required.

FROM GLORIANNE'S DESK

Memory Lane - Dedicated February 23, 1964.

Information for this marker was found in the Orlando Sentinel, March 4, 1964. "The Leesburg Community and Tourist Club, under the guidance of its president, Mrs. Wendell Walton, has opened Memory Lane at Venetian Gardens. Memory Lane, a small section across from the Leesburg Community Building, was dedicated in memory of Mr. Louis Zillhart, Mr. George Brinson, Mr. William Chambers, Mr. Delano Rose, Mrs. Merle Newby, Mr. Ernest Penrod, Mr. Merrett Heath, Mrs. Walter Ossendorf, Mrs. Hugh Speedy, M. Clarence Harrison and Mrs. Ursula Sharp. The club plans to carry on a beautification program in Memory Lane."

Many of the people mentioned in the article lived in the City Trailer Park on Palmetto Street, where the shuffleboard courts now are.

There are plans for a new walking path behind the new Venetian Center to connect to the existing one located along Venetian Park Drive, and the marker will be placed along the new path.