



Leesburg Heritage Society, Inc.
111 South 6th St., Leesburg, FL 34748
www.leesburgheritatesociety.org
26 November 2019

Dear Members,

Here we are at the beginning of another holiday season. We will start it off at our meeting on December 3, Tuesday, at 3:30 at the Library. Yes, we're back at our great library - Beyers will supply us with some goodies and we have a good program. Joe Shipes, the leader at the Leesburg Partnership, will catch us up with all that has happened and will happen in our city. Joe has been here a good many years now and does such a good job.

There are so many new things and plans for more. The Venetian Center is open and is a beautiful, functional building. That whole area is so nice and lots of parking. There are plans for a new swimming pool complex at Pine and Canal. There are also sad things. Along Magnolia, Simon Seed is down. The owner got permission to put on a new roof and when work was begun, everything fell apart. Further west, an old house that had been turned into apartments has been demolished and then Mote/Morris at the end of Magnolia where the work is going very slow. The owners of Lee School want to tear it down so we'll have to see what we can do to prevent that. New things are great but we must try to preserve our history.

You will have one more chance to sign up and get a name tag from the Society.

Blessings and best wishes for a wonderful Christmas! After Tuesday, we won't meet again until 2020 which is sure to be an exciting year. We who are getting older appreciate every year we have and it's my resolution to keep trying to do good things in it.

See you at the meeting!

Sanna Henderson
Sanna
President

2019-2020 SEASON DUES ARE PAYABLE NOW.

Leesburg Heritage Society
Minutes - Regular Meeting - November 5, 2019

President Sanna Henderson called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM as 25 members and guests assembled in the Fellowship Hall at the First Presbyterian Church following a wonderful potluck meal. Mary Jane Caldwell-Smith gave the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Ten guests were welcomed and introduced.

Sanna thanked Gail Emerson, who served as our hostess and did a tremendous job in decorating and setting up our potluck. It was a lot of work and beautifully done, Gail! Sanna also thanked the Beyers team for furnishing the drinks once again.

The minutes from October and the Treasurer's report were both reviewed and accepted.

Vi Pfahler entertained with a blond joke about a gal trying to get herself a pair of alligator shoes (the hard way).

Janet Davis was asked to read a poem she had composed for Veterans Day. Glorianne Fahs thought the poem would be very appropriate for the Wreaths Across America program, and encouraged everyone to order the wreaths by Thanksgiving.

Woody Wagner presented his program line-up for the coming Society meetings through May. Next month will feature Joe Shipes with news from the Leesburg Partnership.

Beyers Funeral Home is sponsoring a free Veteran's Picnic on Friday, Nov. 8th. All vets and spouses are invited to attend.

Sanna then began her program on the 150-year history of the First Presbyterian Church, beginning in the 1850's when circuit riders served the first churches in Leesburg: the Presbyterians, Baptists and Methodists. The Presbyterians organized in 1869 and their first building was at Main and Perkins. She discussed some of the early members and their descendants, with many familiar to the assembly.

The church moved to it's present location in 1957 with the sanctuary being the present-day Fellowship Hall. The new sanctuary was built in 1970, and the church reached it's highest membership (884) in the late 70's. Sadly, as the way with most churches today, the current membership is <200.

Thank you, Sanna for bringing your church history to life for us all.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Turner, Secretary

Treasurer's Report
November 26, 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.

December 2019 Events at the Leesburg Public Library
Dusty Hill Matthews, Adult Services Supervisor

Library Hours

Monday thru Thursday 9:00 am - 7:00 pm

Friday and Saturday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

All events and programs are free!

For more information, see Library website
<https://www.leesburgflorida.gov/calendar.php>

FROM GLORIANNE'S DESK



Memory Lane - Dedicated February 23, 1964.

This marker was found in Venetian Gardens while the Partnership was setting up for an event last week. Does anyone remember this marker or an event?

We received this photograph recently.

Note on back of photo:

"Leesburg Fl Volunteer Fire Brigade
c. 1926. Marshall Taylor - dad's sister's
son on right."

However, I have not been able to find
Marshall Taylor anywhere. Does anyone
know him?

A larger engine was purchased, a Type
75 American LaFrance, in 1924 and
remained in service until 1970. This was
the engine given to Bunny Stevens when
he retired. Bunny was a volunteer for his

brother for four years before he became Leesburg's first paid fireman on Nov. 1,
1926. Does anyone recognize the young Bunny in this photo (He would have been about
20 years old)? His brother, Ned, was Fire Chief. Ned joined the Leesburg Volunteer
Fire Department in 1919 and soon became Chief. They both should be in the photo.



Remember - Wreaths Across America, December 14, 12 noon, at Lone Oak Cemetery.
Everyone is welcome.