



Leesburg Heritage Society, Inc.  
111 South 6<sup>th</sup> St., Leesburg, FL 34748  
December 26, 2018

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 8 since our usual first Tuesday is New Year's Day. We wouldn't want to compete with that. 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!

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 facade 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 8, 2019.

Sanna Henderson

*Sanna*

President

Leesburg Heritage Society  
Minutes - Regular Meeting - December 4, 2018

The regular meeting of the Leesburg Heritage Society was called to order by President Sanna Henderson on December 4, 2018 at 4:00 PM at the Leesburg Public Library. There were 27 members and guests present.

Sanna asked Margaret Branham to give the invocation. She amused us with "Johnny's History Poem". The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all, and then guests were introduced. Sanna asked for special prayers for Joe Branham, who is in the hospital, and for Bill Davis, who is now in hospice care.

Sanna thanked the Beyers' team for, once again, furnishing such nice refreshments.

Vi Pfahler entertained with a joke about a dinner speaker who forgot his dentures.....but luckily was seated next to an undertaker.

Deb Bussinger announced several programs coming up at the Leesburg Library. Newsletters are always available for those interested.

Glorianne Fahs gave her Museum Manager's Report. She is always ready to welcome volunteers!

Sanna announced that there will be a table at an upcoming Chamber breakfast to promote the Heritage Society.

Woody Wagner came forward to introduce our speaker, Ray Emerson. He walked us down East Main Street before there was a Dixie Avenue Bypass or a North Boulevard. Ray started at Canal Street and took us east through pictures and discussion of the many businesses that used to exist. There was much participation from members as they recalled tractor and car dealers, drug and grocery stores, Coke and Stokes buildings and many more. How many businesses were brought to mind? It was great fun for most to reminisce, and fun for those of us who were just learning about it all! I, for one, was amazed at what this area once looked like. Thanks, Ray. You did a great job!

Next month City Manager Al Minner will bring us up to date on current Leesburg happenings.

Sanna adjourned the meeting at 4:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Turner, Secretary

Treasurer's Report  
December 23, 2018

\*\*\*Memorial Fund - \$2,375.00

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Russek, Treasurer

Membership dues are:    Individual - **\$20.00** per year\*  
   Student - \$5.00 per year\*  
   Professional, Business & Organization - \$50.00 per year\*  
   Life Membership - \$150.00 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 Events at the Leesburg Public Library  
Dusty Hill Matthews, Adult Services Supervisor

The Library is pleased to announce that we will open on Fridays beginning Monday, December 31st, 2018. Our new hours are as follows: Monday to Thursday, 9:00 am-7:00 pm; Friday and Saturday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Consider joining one of our two monthly discussion groups. On Friday, January 4th at 10:00 am, we're launching *Golden Years Conversation Hour* on the topic of "Being Healthy." The *My Life's Work* discussion group returns on Monday, January 28 at 1:00 pm. when our featured speaker will discuss living and working in Saudi Arabia. January 8 brings a return of weekly "Great Courses" film showings with *The Science of Energy*, each Tuesday from 1:00-2:00 pm.

Thursday, January 10, kicks off part 1 of *Canine Conversations*, a four month series on dog behavior with Judi Bernath (Sit and Stay, LLC) at 2:00 pm.

On Friday, January 18, join us for *Couponing 101* at 3:00pm.

Retired library director Gail Formanack shares insights on *Fake News-How to Spot It* on Thursday, January 30 at 11:00 am.

For more information, see Library website

<https://www.leesburgflorida.gov/government/departments/library/index.php>

### FROM GLORIANNE'S DESK

1127 Sunshine Avenue

According to sources, Helen Webster Cashwell maintained a beautiful azalea & camilla garden at her home. In season, people were invited to stroll the gardens to enjoy the beauty. Wish I could have seen it.

George W. & Helen R. Webster were deeded 1127 Sunshine Avenue, 24 Sep 1934 by heirs of F. P. Webster, his uncle. George died November 1937. Helen raised several children. She remarried, Apr 1962, Graham Lacy Cashwell. Helen died in January 1978. Previous to her death, she deeded the property to her three children, Louise E Leach, David Bruce, and James T. George W. Jr. died young.

Does anyone have any photos or know of the whereabouts of photos of the gardens either in bloom or offseason? It would be great for our files. The grounds are stupendous, even in its present condition.