



Lady Lake Historical Society Newsletter

April 2017

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 1

Dr. Norma Delaney to Retire

Dr. Delaney has decided to retire as Curator of the Lady Lake Historical Society. Her last day will be on May 2, 2017, exactly ten years to the day she started. Norma has worked for over 50 years and is looking forward to spending more time at home with her husband. Her devotion to our museum and immeasurable experience will be greatly missed at the Lady Lake Historical Society. We will be planning a special retirement event for Norma in the near future and will be sending out an email in the next few weeks with the details of this event.

Presidents Update

We have had a very successful 2016-2017 season. Everything is on the up side. There have been four of the most successful speaker events thanks to our partnership with the Florida Humanities Council (FHC) and the Lake County Living Legends Program. The last scheduled FHC speaker event (see calendar of events) could set a new all-time high for attendees exceeding 350 and tripling past year's high attendance. Special thanks to the North Lake Presbyterian Church of Lady Lake for allowing us to hold FHC events in Freedom Hall which accommodates more attendees. Our membership numbers are up. We also have had three very successful and profitable fund raisers, two Yard Sales and an Antique Appraisals Afternoon.

Raymond Russomano, President LLHS

LLHS Administrator Contract

At the most recent LLHS Board of Directors meeting, it was unanimously approved to hire an independent contractor to fulfill the position of Administrator to the Lady Lake Historical Society. Primary responsibilities include handling phone messages, customer service, data entry, assisting members with programs, and general office duties. The Administrator will develop programs, projects and events. Administrator will make progress reports on major activities through periodic meetings, email messages, newsletters, and monthly reports. This contract pays on an hourly performance basis at the rate of \$10.00 per hour. The professional fees paid for work performed by the Administrator is limited to \$800.00 per month.

We are announcing this decision and contract to our membership first. If you, or someone you know, may be interested in this position, please contact the museum at (352) 259-4359 or email ladylakemuseum@gmail.com.

Volunteer Appreciation Lunch

We will be holding a volunteer appreciation lunch on May 25, 2017; 1:00 – 2:30 at the museum. This is an opportunity to show our wonderful volunteers how much we appreciate all their valiant efforts to donate their time to helping to keep our museum staffed and at all our other events throughout the year. Please RSVP by calling the museum (352) 259-4359. We look forward to seeing all our volunteers at this event.

Lady Lake History

One of our priorities as a Historical Society is to find ways to dig deeper into the history of Lady Lake and to become recognized as a valuable resource for people in the community interested in learning more about the history of people, places and things that lived in this area long ago. Recently, a man contacted us wanting to know the exact location of the old Conant Hotel. Our resident historian and LLHS Vice-President, Tom O'Brien, searched maps and archives to discover the precise location of the hotel. It took Tom about a week, but in the end he was able to provide evidence of the location to the man who made the inquiry. He was very grateful to get the information.

Membership Appeal

The Lady Lake Historical Society's mission is critical to the preservation of the history of Lady Lake and the surrounding area. Much of what we do is free for members such as visits to the museum, monthly events, quarterly newsletters and speaker programs.

We are expanding our plans to have a significantly greater community impact. Our goal is to expand educational opportunities for members and students.

Some of these initiatives will include:

- Partner with local schools to create opportunities for students to become History Explorers by pairing students with members to explore and document the history of this area
- Encourage members and students to attend "Nothing But History" lunches, where attendees can present historical topics that are important to them
- Expand our library to include databases that can be accessed online
- Create an online catalogue of all library items on display and in storage
- Improve and expand museum exhibits
- Install new technology that will make the museum more interactive and accessible to all visitors

A significant portion of our budget comes from donations and we need your help more than ever. Please encourage your family, friends and local businesses to join our Society. If every member could introduce just one new member, it would go a long way to helping us achieve the goals outlined above.

Thank you for your support.

Calendar of Events

April 20, 2017; 2:00 – 3:30; Doctor Anna: Swamp Doctor – Carrie Sue Ayvar; North Lake Presbyterian Church, 975 Rolling Acres Road, Lady Lake

May 25, 2017; 1:00 – 2:30; LLHS Volunteer Appreciation Lunch; Museum, Log Cabin Park, Lady Lake

September 28, 2017; 2:00 – 3:30; Annual meeting & Elections; Lady Lake Library, second floor

The Lady Lake Historical Society, Inc. Presents



Doctor Anna: Swamp Doctor of Florida

Carrie-Sue Ayvar, Chautauqua Scholar

Hear the story of Anna Darrow, the second licensed female physician in Florida who braved alligators, snakes, outlaws and prejudice to deliver babies and nurse the sick, be they human or animal, in the early 20th Century.

Admission: Free **Date:** April 20, 2017 **Time:** 2:00 p.m.

Location: North Lake Presbyterian Church, 975 Rolling Acres Road

Reservations suggested



Email: ladylakemuseum@gmail.com

Website: www.ladylakemuseum.org

Call: 352-259-4359



This program is sponsored by the Florida Humanities Council
with funds from the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs.