

JAILHOUSE MUSE

Spring 2024

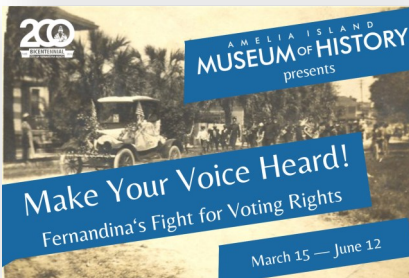
Get Ready for Summer Camp!

This Year's M.A.S.H. 4.0 Summer Camp is Here! Registration is open from now until June 5th. Celebrate, Discover, and Explore 200 Years of History in Nassau County!

M.A.S.H. is a yearly educational summer camp that expands students' skills in Math, Art, Science and History with a variety of projects and exercises. The camp lasts a week and is from 9 AM to 12 PM at the Amelia Island Museum of History. It is \$65 per child. If you have a Family level membership to the Museum or higher, it comes with two free spots in the summer camp. To Register your child, contact us at either info@ameliamuseum.org OR at 904.261.7378 x. 100. From there, we'll get the registration form to you and answer any other questions you have!



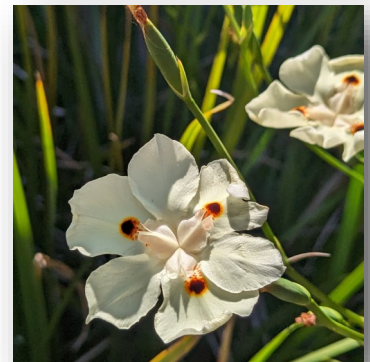
Make Your Voice Heard!



This year's Student Exhibition is *Make Your Voice Heard! Fernandina and its Fight for Voting Rights*. This exhibit takes a look at Fernandina's unique role in the fight for equal voting rights after the Civil War and highlights some of the extraordinary Fernandinans who protested, campaigned, and rallied to make their voices heard. This exhibit was researched and developed by a team of Fernandina Beach High School students. The exhibit opened with a special presentation from Dr. Robert Cassanello from the University of Central Florida, who spoke on his research into Black voting and advocacy in Northeast Florida. If you're interested in watching the program, it can be viewed on our [Youtube channel](#).

Calling All Green Thumbs!

The Garden is in desperate need of helping hands and donations of all kinds with the busy spring season upon us! To ask any questions you have about helping our History Garden, Contact Tea at thea@ameliamuseum.org.



LETTER FROM THE CHAIRS



CO-CHAIR

Bill Tilson

As we bid farewell to 2023, it is with great pleasure that we present our annual report, highlighting a year of remarkable achievements, growth, and strategic planning. One of the standout achievements of 2023 was our strong financial performance. The bottom line for the year reflects a solid strength, with increased revenues witnessed across various streams, including general admissions, grants, and fundraisers.

While celebrating our successes, it's essential to acknowledge the changes in our membership landscape. We experienced a decrease in membership numbers during the year, prompting us to reevaluate our approach to member engagement. The coming year will see a renewed focus on membership retention and growth, with strategic initiatives aimed at enhancing the value we offer to our loyal supporters.

Our commitment to preserving history remains unwavering, as evidenced by the continued growth of our archives. In 2023, we logged 1,700 items to our collection, giving us an inventory of just under 15,000 items, further enriching the historical tapestry of our community. The archives serve as a testament to our dedication to safeguarding the past for future generations.

Looking ahead, we have set ambitious yet attainable strategic goals for 2024. The focal points include donor management, membership retention and growth, and an intensified focus on community outreach.

Our commitment to fostering community connections is reflected in the diverse range of outreach initiatives planned for 2024. Museum staff members will be presenting at events such as Southside Story Night and The Festival of Story and Song, in addition to co-sponsoring programs and events leading up to the celebration of the City and County's 200th anniversary. These initiatives not only celebrate our shared heritage but also provide enriching experiences for all.

None of these achievements would have been possible without the dedication of our hardworking staff and the unwavering support of our dedicated volunteers. Their passion and commitment have been the driving force behind our success, and we extend our heartfelt gratitude to each member of our team.



CO-CHAIR

Susan Bonnett

Your Co-Chairs,

Susan Bonnett and Bill Tilson



State of the Archives

2023 started off with a great opportunity for the Museum to showcase our exhibit talents with the creation of a feature exhibit at the Jacksonville Airport. The theme of this exhibit was Historic Preservation and it provided an opportunity to display many artifacts from our collection. The largest of these was a map of the Historic District from 1987 which was turned into a wall sized image.

The processing of large collection donations from 2022 continued into 2023. Some of these include digitizing the Woman's Club scrapbooks, adding artifacts and pictures from the Seaside Inn, and processing the letters and personal items from the Pickren/Tracy collection. The Pickren/Tracy collection reached a total number of 1372 items!

A private library collection containing mostly Maritime books was donated this year. This included 40 cases of books, 81 of which have been added to the library. We will continue to process these in 2024. Acquisition of new software and hardware allowed for the conversion of older media to current digital standards. Interviews previously recorded on cassette tape or VHS tape were digitized, allowing us to share these items in our online content.

We continued to add oral histories to our collection. In partnering with Cross the Line Foundation, we recorded an additional 16 Veterans History Project interviews which will be included in the collection at the Library of Congress. We also added 8 Heritage Keepers interviews to the archives.

Biographical research continues to be a popular topic online. 201 additional biography files were published to our online content this year bringing our grand total to 385 files available. These records include the last name starting with A-L. More additions are planned for 2024.

Volunteers continued to play a vital role in the archives. Volunteers logged 1551 hours and 411 sessions this year. This was an increase of 201 hours and 75 sessions as compared to last year.

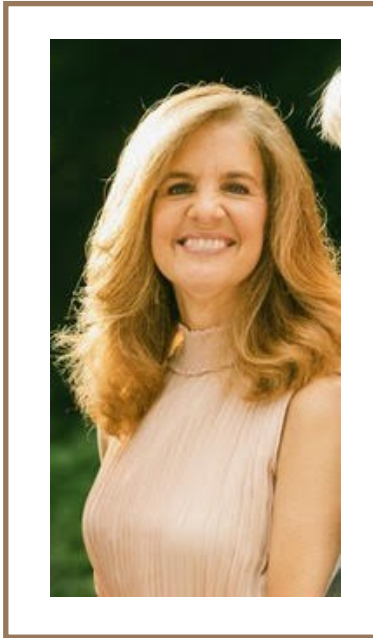
At the close of 2023 the archives contained a total of 1568 objects, 5587 photo collections, 5766 artifacts, and 1705 library books for a total of 14,626 items in the archives, capturing and ensuring the continuation of our rich local history.

-Ronda Outler is the Archivist at the Amelia Island Museum of History.



Volunteer Spotlight

Tina Huet



Tina Huet grew up in southern California and moved to the Northeast where she lived for over 20 years before relocating to Amelia Island with her husband of 36 years. Upon graduating from a small college Tina worked in office administration for various companies. After having her first child she was fortunate enough to be a stay-at-home mom. As her two children grew and became more independent, Tina began working part time in a real estate office and volunteering. One of her favorite volunteer opportunities was working at the Keeler Tavern Museum (built in 1713) in Ridgefield, Connecticut. Shortly after her husband’s retirement and moving to Amelia Island in 2021, Tina began volunteering in the Archives Department of Amelia Island Museum of History.

When Tina and her husband first visited Amelia Island during a retirement scouting trip up and down the east coast it was love at first sight. It had everything she wanted in her forever town, especially history. She and her husband were sitting in the high Adirondack chairs at the Green Turtle enjoying a Rum Punch and listening to music when they decided “this is the place”.

After joining the Newcomers Club of Amelia Island Tina decided the next step is to volunteer at the local history museum. In addition to working in the archives department, Tina’s other museum activities include serving and setting up for Victorian Teas, working the Shrimp Festival, participating in Dickens on Centre , and Courtyard and Cottages Home Tour. She will be the Volunteer Coordinator for this year’s Holiday Home Tour taking place on December 6th and 7th.

STAFF

Executive Director - Phyllis Davis
Media & Ops. Manager - Helen Meyers
Curator - Jarrett Hill
Education Director - Thea Seagraves
Archivist - Ronda Outler
Assistant Curator - Briana Gonzalez
Operations Asst. - Christopher Collins

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Co-Chair - Bill Tilson
Co - Chair - Susan Bonnett
Vice Chair - Sylvia Chandler
Secretary - Peggy Bulger
Treasurer - Joe Anderson
Past Chair - Rob Hull

BOARD MEMBERS

Johanna Cleary Medardo Monan
Paul Condit Neil Frink
Jennifer Harrison Rob Hicks
Susan Martin Al Pertuz

Calendar

May • June • July

Wednesday, May 1st

Brown Bag Lunch with Susan Martin, "The Patriot Flag".
12PM in Baker Hall and streamed online

May 4th - 5th

Museum Closed on the 4th and 5th for Shrimp Fest
Come and get some Spicy Pirate Gumbo!

Friday, May 17th

3rd on 3rd, "Picturing Paradise: From James Audobon to the Florida Highwaymen" Dr. Keri Watson.
6PM in Baker Hall and streamed online

Sunday, May 19th

Victorian Tea and Fashion Show
2PM in Baker Hall
Contact Thea at thea@ameliamuseum.org for Tickets

Wednesday, June 5th

Brown Bag Lunch with Chip Kirkpatrick, "Gregor MacGregor"
12 PM in Baker Hall and streamed online

June 10th - 14th

M.A.S.H. 4.0 Summer Camp, Baker Hall
9 AM - 12 PM in Baker Hall
info@ameliamuseum.org

Friday, June 21st

3rd on 3rd, "Voices of Amelia" Exhibit Opening, with
with Gary McKechnie, "Sunshine State Soundtrack : The
Famous Musicians of Florida"
6PM in Baker Hall and Streamed Online

Wednesday, July 3rd

Brown bag Lunch with Regan Doran "The Pirate Period"
12 PM in Baker Hall and streamed online

Friday, July 19th

3rd on 3rd, with Jeff Suwak, "The Hidden History of Amelia Island"
6PM in Baker Hall and Streamed Online



Special events and programs are subject to scheduling and cost changes, for the most up-to-date information please visit our website www.ameliamuseum.org or contact our Curator, Jarrett Hill, at Jarrett@ameliamuseum.org or call 904-261-7378 x 102. Seating at all programs is on a first come, first served basis. For online streaming services visit www.twitch.tv/ameliaislandmuseumhistory.



LUIS SAYS:

Shrimp Fest is fast approaching! Contact Thea at thea@ameliamuseum.org to help us out!



Find us on the web!

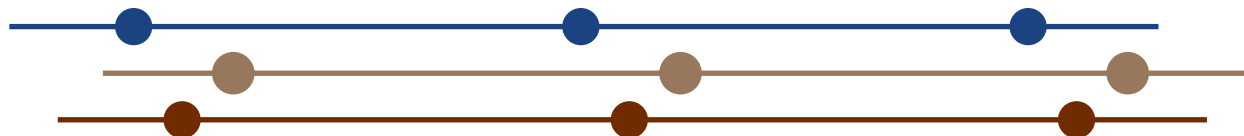
Website: www.ameliamuseum.org

Facebook: @ameliamuseum

Instagram: @ameliahistorymuseum

Twitter: @ameliamuseum

Twitch: AmeliaIslandMuseumHistory



DEVELOPMENT CORNER

Have you considered giving a gift to the Museum? Donors who have remembered the Museum in their wills have benefited the Amelia Island Museum of History in many ways, helping to build and maintain its collection and providing indispensable support for exhibitions, scholarly publications, conservation efforts, and a range of educational activities.

A bequest is one of the simplest ways to provide for AIMH's future and can take many forms. For more information visit our website at ameliamuseum.org/bequests/.

Contact Phyllis:

phyllis@ameliamuseum.org

Hours

Mon - Sat: 10:00am - 4:00pm

Sun : 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Location

233 S. 3rd St.

Fernandina Beach, Florida 32034

Admission

Adults - \$10.00

Children - \$5.00

Seniors & Active Military - \$8.00

5 and Under - Free

Docent led tours at

11 a.m. & 2 p.m.

Included with Admission

Contact

Phone - 904-261-7378

Fax - 904-261-9701

E-mail - info@ameliamuseum.org