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From the Editors

Tampa Bay History

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FROM THE EDITORS

In the last issue we dared to ask whether the world needed another history journal. We do not know about the inhabitants of the rest of the globe, but Tampa Bay area residents have answered affirmatively.

Permit us to boast about the critical acclaim lavished upon our young publishing venture. Dick Bothwell, the respected columnist of the St. Petersburg *Times*, noted that the journal "meets scholarly standards . . . yet its material is presented in an interesting, entertaining way for lay readers." The Clearwater *Sun* praised "the unstuffy, readable approach taken by authors of all the articles," and called *Tampa Bay History* "a journal anyone can understand and enjoy." Marian Godown, a local historian of Fort Myers, admired *TBH's* "peppy look, highly readable stories, and good pictures illustrating the articles."

Nevertheless, kind words alone are not enough to ensure success. Sustaining the journal requires additional support from two areas. A non-profit enterprise, *Tampa Bay History* still needs subscribers to reach the break-even point financially. Readers who are presently enjoying the magazine can help by conveying their satisfaction to others. When shopping around for gifts, particularly during the holiday season, think of giving your friends, relatives, and neighbors a subscription. It takes community spirit up and down the Suncoast to keep us alive.

We continue looking for readable and informative items to publish. A glance at the table of contents reveals the type of material which we are seeking - original articles, interviews, documents, and photographs. Guidelines for submitting manuscripts can be obtained from the managing editor. We also welcome letters to the editor and announcements concerning upcoming events. Our goal is to encourage contributions from historians both inside and out of academia in order to bridge the gap between the university and the surrounding communities.

The editors maintain their commitment to publishing material surveying as large a portion as possible of the fifteen counties of central and southwest Florida comprising the region served by the University of South Florida. Of obvious local interest, our articles also address issues of national relevance. Subscriptions from Harvard University, the University of Wisconsin, the University of North Carolina, and the New York Public Library demonstrate this wide appeal.

In preparing this edition, we would like to express our thanks to a number of people. Dean Travis Northcutt continues to stand as a champion of history as does Dean Sue Stoudinger. Our new editorial assistant, David Lawrence, a graduate student at USF, has lifted a good deal of the burden from our shoulders by performing countless tasks. Secretarial assistance from Michael Copeland, Lucia Grimaldi, and Robin Kester shaped-up edited copy for the printer against tight deadlines. Janice Chapman assisted in a variety of valuable ways, and Terry Cone taught us how to improve the publication process. Paul Camp, J. B. Dobkin, and Joe Hipp helped locate attractive photographs to accompany the articles and Joyce Bland ably reproduced the historic prints. And as always, Louis A. Perez came through whenever called upon.

COMMUNICATIONS

Any correspondence pertaining to the articles, reviews and other material contained in the journal may be sent to the Managing Editor.

Editors:

Hate to belabor a point, but I still think the journal is misnamed. Even such an authority as Dr. Arnade in his article describes the Tampa Bay region as ranging from "Citrus County through Sarasota County and including Sumter, Polk, Hardee, DeSoto and possibly Highland."

You see, traditionally, these areas have been associated with the Tampa Bay region while Lee County (which before 1923 took in Hendry and Collier Counties) has been considered part of South Florida (when Lee was formed it was part of Monroe County, as you know). How about asking your readers to vote on choices for a title ? ? ? ?

I particularly enjoyed Arnade's piece but disagree with him when he says works by vanity presses do not better history. Often, these publications fill in gaps in local history. Oh, I know what he means - I deplore the myth and malarky put out by some attractions, etc. such as the Edison Winter Home in Fort Myers. A good myth is hard to kill and I've often tried to lay Jose Gaspar to rest!

Marian Godown
Fort Myers, Fl.

Editors:

Have belatedly just completed looking over my copy of *Tampa Bay History*. Very nice, I like (the) format, size, etc. Hope it continues successfully.

However Mannard's article has an error(s), when he states (p.61) that only one study on the Negro was published. There were others:

Dreams and Shadows (1941)
Cavalcade of the American Negro (1940)
Negroes of Nebraska (1940)
Negro in New York (1967)
Lay My Burden Down (1945)

Virginia had also in press:

Survey of Negro Urban Youth

Evanell K. Powell
Tampa, Fl.