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From the Editors

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FROM THE EDITORS

Not too long ago much of central and southwest Florida was a frontier. Pioneers came into the region and braved heat, hurricanes, mosquitoes, and disease to forge a new life in the land of sunshine. Some sought to improve their health, nourished by the balmy climate; others hoped to find relief from the economic ills that plagued them elsewhere. They farmed, hunted, fished, and managed to eke out a living and a better life for themselves and their children. This issue contains accounts of frontier life in Manatee and Glades Counties. They describe the adventures of two different families who came to the area nearly a century apart but who experienced similar triumphs and travails. The Fogartys in Terra Ceia and the Wadlows in Palmdale turned their wildernesses into heavenly lands. A third article describes the conquering of a different kind of frontier. Not until the late 1950s did blacks obtain an equal opportunity to enjoy public, recreational facilities in St. Petersburg and throughout Florida. Like the other trailblazers along the Suncoast, they broke new ground for their descendants to follow. Finally, this edition looks at two landmarks of Tampa's early history that have made the Cigar City well-known nationally and internationally. A photo essay portrays Tampa during the Spanish-Cuban-American War of 1898 when Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders flocked into town. One of the places housing the soldiers was the Tampa Bay Hotel, and its distinctive Moorish style and construction is described by one of the architects who worked on the building. Today this edifice serves as the home of the University of Tampa.

Besides marking the end of our fourth year of publication, this issue closes another era. Travis Northcutt is retiring as Dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. His encouragement and generosity helped make *Tampa Bay History* possible. It is comforting to know that Travis will still be close by as Dean Emeritus, Director of USF's Human Resources Institute, and a member of our advisory board. We extend a welcome to his successor, Dean Wallace Russell, and wish him all the best. We also welcome Gloria Simmons as our new editorial assistant. A native of Tampa and a graduate of USF, she is currently pursuing a Masters Degree in History.

We wish to announce that the essay contest will be held again next year. The deadline for entering is September 1, 1983. This year's winners will be announced shortly, and their names will appear in the next issue. We thank all those who took the opportunity to participate.

COMMUNICATIONS

Editors:

Your recent article on the development of Fort Myers mentions a Jim Newton. If that is the same Jim Newton mentioned so frequently in the diaries of Charles A. Lindbergh in *WARTIME JOURNAL*, you have quite a story available to you. The one mentioned took charge of arrangements for Lindbergh's privacy on visits to Florida, and also seemed to be a confidante or advisor regarding Lindbergh's political stand just before World War II, or at least before our entry into it.

Mrs. John H. MacNeill

Editor's Note: Yes, this is the same Newton.

Editors:

After graduating from USF in 1969 I took some graduate work in geography at University of Wisconsin, then in 1970 landed a job in the Cartographic Branch of the National Archives here in Washington, where I remain today.

There are tons of Federal records relating to Florida events stored away in this institution, as you might be aware of. Your colleagues or students would find much original source material on such topics as the Army at Fort Brooke, the Seminole Wars, surveys of the coast by the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, soldiers stationed in Tampa on their way to fight the Spanish American War, etc. I am sure much of this is already familiar to you.

In my particular branch of the Archives we specialize in old government maps and in aerial photography flown during the 1930's and 1940's.

If you have any particular research questions, I will be happy to forward a letter to the appropriate branch or archivist here, if that would be of use to you.

Looking forward to future issues of Tampa Bay History.

Sincerely,
William J. Heynen

Editors:

I have thoroughly enjoyed the articles in the *Tampa Bay History* these past two years. Our family, and, in a special way, my father, has always had a passionate interest in history. My father, having been born and raised in West Tampa, would describe the various events and landmarks of the area with a great sense of familiarity and affection.

Since I have been behind in my reading of journals, I have just recently begun on the 1981 Fall/Winter issue. There are a couple of items that I would like to call your attention to, even though so much time has passed. It might still be helpful. First of all, in your list of Florida funeral homes, you left out probably the most important ones in Tampa, at least, as far as the Latin communities of West Tampa and Ybor City are concerned. Lord and Fernandez, although now defunct, and A.P. Boza have played a most important role in the history of Tampa's Latin community. A.P. Boza Senior, the founder, Jerry Boza, both now deceased, were active members of their communities, and highly loved and respected by all. A.P. Boza Junior now carries on the company. I really believe this funeral home could be of tremendous help in your future work. This was certainly a grave oversight. Secondly, if you will check further, you will find that the location of the Passover banquet, shown on the cover of this same issue, is the top floor ballroom of the former Hillsborough Hotel in downtown Tampa.

Thanks for your great work, and keep the issues coming.

Yours truly,
James D. Leone