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The President's Report

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The President’s Report

1996 has been a very good year for the Tampa Historical Society and it has been an honor to serve as president.

In March we held our first annual Spring Festival at the historic Knight House where members and visitors enjoyed a number of special exhibits.

In April the Oaklawn Cemetery Ramble was one of the best attended ever. We dedicated three special monuments, two of which were funded by the Society. We also placed ten markers at previously unmarked graves. In addition, with the assistance of the local government access channel, we produced a video tour of Oaklawn Cemetery.

Our historical marker program continues to be one of our most important projects. The Society funded two markers, one at the site of the former home of pioneer John T. Lesley and one commemorating Central Avenue, the pioneer African American business district. We also dedicated a marker on Bayshore Boulevard in June.

In August, the Tampa Historical Society helped to sponsor the dedication of the Tampa Historic Trail — the Eagle Scout project of Kip Zwolenski. The granite marker placed at the start of the trail at Ybor Square was funded by our organization.

We also held two historical programs for our membership in the fall of 1996.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow officers and directors for their dedicated service throughout the year.

Finally, I am pleased to present the 1996 edition of the Sunland Tribune, our largest issue since 1981.

Respectfully,

Kyle S. VanLandingham