



## Leesburg Heritage Society, Inc.

111 South 6<sup>th</sup> St., Leesburg, FL 34748

[www.leesburgheritagesociety.org](http://www.leesburgheritagesociety.org)

31 March 2020

Dear Members,

All of you are aware of the trials our country is going through at this time. We in the Leesburg Heritage Society have made the decision to end our season of meetings and start up again with a bang in October. The Library has cancelled the use of the meeting rooms that we enjoy every month. So we will not have our meetings in April and May. Everything will be put on hold - even the election and installation of new officers. Officers will be President: Jim Miller, First Vice: Skellie Morris, Second Vice (Immediate Past President): Sanna Henderson, Secretary: Sue Turner, Treasurer: Frances Russek, Board members: Joe & Margaret Branham, Mary Jane Caldwell-Smith, Gail Emerson, Jack Jones, Joan Nyarady, Vi Pfahler, Rick Reed, Frank Stivender, Woody Wagner.

Expect another newsletter in late September to bring all of you up to date.

My mother was 18 in 1918, the year of the last epidemic in the United States. She had just started as a freshman at the University of West Virginia, but of course the school was closed down and she went home. She never went back, but later went to Stetson Business School after her family started coming to Florida. Just like today, lives were changed.

We have a full slate of officers ready to go. If there is business we need to take care of, we will do this by e-mail with the Board. If you know of anything we need to accomplish, let us know.

It has been an honor and pleasure to be your President these two years. You are a great group of people who love Leesburg like I do. So, please have a good spring and summer. Stay in and stay well.

Sanna Henderson

*Sanna*

President

Leesburg Heritage Society  
Minutes - Regular Meeting - March 3, 2020

President Sanna Henderson called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM in the meeting room of the Leesburg Public Library. Those assembled had enjoyed refreshments furnished by Beyers Funeral Home. Thank you so much!

There were 34 present, including several guests. Mary Jane Caldwell-Smith gave the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Sanna reminded members that several still have dues owing. Check with Frances Russek if you need to find out your status.

Deb Bussinger gave her Library report and had the latest newsletters available. Sanna thanked Deb for her efforts to publicize the Heritage Society meetings. Janet Davis presented the library with her latest book "Don't Mail the Frog". She has copies for sale and all profits go to charities.

Vi Pfahler told a joke about a trucker who was losing part of his load. He can thank Heather for telling him.

Sanna asked members to visit the museum when downtown, even if just to drop in and sign the guest book.

Election of officers and board members will be next month. Frank Stivender and Skellie Morris have consented to join the Board to fill vacancies. There is still time to submit your name if you would like to run. We will vote next month with installation at the May meeting.

Woody Wagner introduced Ted, Ed, and John Wolf for their program about growing up in Leesburg and the history of Wolfy's Restaurant.

Ted told us about his childhood memories, selling the Commercial when he was 9 years old, and about his Dad's career as a Navy boxer. He chose a career as an educator in the Lake County communities.

Ed has been the mayor of Wildwood for 20 years, taking it from a sleepy little farm town to the current budget of \$56,000,000! He told about his memories of family life and of his mother making pies for Wolfy's.

John told of the wonderful home life his mother and father provided and the lessons they instilled. Work hard, then play! He went to work for Lum's Restaurants 52 years ago, and advanced in management. In 1982, when Lum's was facing bankruptcy, he asked to buy the restaurants in Leesburg and Ocala. He used a \$45,000 mortgage on his parents house. With little experience (he said his family didn't even eat in restaurants!) he grew the business. He thanked his loyal customers and loyal employees for his success.

We enjoyed the Wolf's tales, and we thank them for their time and support of our local community. Next month we will help Beyers celebrate their 100-year history.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sue Turner, Secretary

Treasurer's Report  
March 25, 2020

\*\*\*Memorial Fund - \$2,375.00

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Russek, Treasurer

Membership dues are: Individual - \$20.00 per year; Couples - \$30.00 per year  
Student - \$5.00 per year  
Professional, Business & Organization - \$100.00 per year  
Life Membership - \$200.00 per person

\*Our year is October thru May, with meetings the first Tuesday of the month.

LEESBURG HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC. BYLAWS

Article IV - Membership.

Section 2. Term of membership shall be on an annual basis, from October 1 through September 30.

April 2020 Events at the Leesburg Public Library  
Dusty Hill Matthews, Adult Services Supervisor

The 24-Hour Library

Even when the building is closed, you can read, watch, listen, and learn. We offer several digital products you can access from any computer or device. You'll need a Lake County Library System card to sign in to the resources, and additional content is available to you if your library card was issued here at the Leesburg Public Library (the barcode number will begin with 23099).

Start at [www.leesburgflorida.gov/library](http://www.leesburgflorida.gov/library) and click on the "Downloadables" image. You can link directly to each product, or watch a brief video tutorial before trying it out.

Hoopla: Download eBooks, eAudiobooks, albums, comics, TV shows, and movies to your tablet, smart phone, or computer. Keep eBooks, eAudiobooks, and comics for 3 weeks, albums for 1 week, and movies and TV shows for 3 days.

Kanopy: Stream documentaries, foreign and classic films, and independent movies, plus engaging content from PBS and "The Great Courses". Enjoy 72-hour access to 10 plays per month.

Flipster: Read Consumer Reports, Real Simple, and more. Download digital magazines to your tablet, smart phone, or computer. You can read offline, and print out articles.

OverDrive|Libby: Download eBooks and eAudiobooks to your tablet, smart phone, or computer. Enjoy 10 checkouts at a time for two or three weeks.

If you have questions about any of our digital products, please email us: [librarian@leesburgflorida.gov](mailto:librarian@leesburgflorida.gov). We're happy to help!

**FROM GLORIANNE'S DESK**

This month I am researching the White Star Café, founded in 1921 at 119 West Main Street by Eugene Eldrige Littleton. E. E. was the son of William Arthur Littleton and Lula Dixon. Another son of W. A. and Lula was Timothy Belton Littleton who married Janie Frances Stalnaker, and were the parents of one of our founders, David.

Eldred Eugene Littleton operated the White Star Café at 119 W Main Street from at least 1921 until he sold the business to Emmett & Jertrude Collins in July 1964, and they continued until about 1976. The business was in the west part of the Courtoy Building.

E. E. was born 19 Apr 1898 in Quitman, Brooks, Georgia and died 8 Feb 1967 in Leesburg. The 1920 Federal census finds him in Madison, Florida with an uncle. He married first, Lotttie Gwaltney, and second, Minnie Louise Collins, daughter of George Washington Collins & Sarah Elizabeth McCullough.

Any memorabilia of the White Star would be welcomed by the Museum.