

The Palm Coast Historian

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<http://community-2.webtv.net/pchistorical/TheCityofPalmCoast/>

Nomination of Mayor James Canfield as Cities of Excellence Mayor of the Year

The following letter was written to the Florida League of Cities by Art Dycke, our city's Co-Historian and a member of the Board of Directors of the Palm Coast Historical Society. He is also the author of *Images of America: Palm Coast*. This letter was written to nominate Mayor James Canfield as Cities of Excellence Mayor of the Year.

"There would not presently be a City of Palm Coast Historical Society if Mayor James Canfield had not initiated and supported the organization. I first met Jim Canfield at a meeting of the Palm Coast Home Rule Coalition. He was Chairman of the group working on a plan to incorporate Palm Coast as a city. As an adjunct professor in history, economics and government at the Palm Coast branch of Daytona Beach Community College, I joined the group as a non-partisan advisor involved in the writing of a city charter.

I watched Chairman Jim Canfield methodically and efficiently bring diverse and often squabbling group members together on innumerable issues at countless meetings that ultimately led to a successful community vote to incorporate the city of Palm Coast. I watched him campaign tirelessly in a field of 28 candidates running for City Council and Mayor and easily win the title, Mayor James Canfield. I know that his years of work for the benefit of his fellow citizens was done out of affection for them because the remuneration he was to receive as mayor was a "whopping \$1,500 per year.

Palm Coast was fortunate in also electing diverse and dedicated City Councilmen who together chose a talented City Manager who shared their affection and knowledge of the Palm Coast Community. In my opinion, this administrative team continues to be a resounding success in its leadership of the City of Palm Coast founded December 31, 1999.

Our first City Hall consisted of two small rooms with a large closet in the existing Community Center building. In the closet were two large boxes of papers, letters, projected budgets, official incorporation commission reports, etc, that were indeed the existing archives for the new city. Mayor Canfield asked me to move the boxes from the closet and store them, which I did in my garage. In April of 2000, Mayor Canfield asked me to become the volunteer City Historian which I accepted along with long time resident Margaret Davie. We were appointed Co-Historians by the City Council.

Mayor Canfield provided us with space in a small conference room in our first real City Hall. It was there that we began conducting audio taped interviews with residents telling about the early days of Palm Coast. Mayor Canfield's wife, Mary Ann, suggested the names of people to interview, participated in the process, and has been an active officer of the City of Palm Coast Historical Society from its inception.

Mayor Canfield and City Manager Kelton asked us to form an official Historical Society, which we did. The ITT Corporation had left us a considerable number of papers, pictures and files, all of which were stored, completely unorganized, in City Hall. One of the Historical Society's fundraising events was a large garage sale at our Community Center. Mayor Canfield personally constructed the stanchion and wood framework that supported the sign advertising the sale.

Mayor Canfield initiated a Cultural Arts funding for non-profit organizations under which our Historical Society received a grant and which, fortunately, we continue to receive from the city. I will repeat my opening statement: 'There would not presently be a City of Palm Coast Historical Society if Mayor James Canfield had not initiated and supported the organization.'

As a result of my contact with the historical materials that Mayor Canfield asked me to preserve, I have published a book in Arcadia Publishers historical series entitled *Images of America: Palm Coast*. The book is dedicated in part to 'talented civic volunteers and government leaders who selflessly contribute enormous amounts of time and energy for the enrichment and benefit of the community in which they serve.' (Page 4) This quotation describes Mayor James Canfield perfectly.

Others will describe things that the mayor has done for our fast growing city but I am hoping to provide some historical perspective. - I am sending you a copy of my book which I believe reflects a community with a vibrant spirit in an environmentally beautiful setting being led by a dedicated and visionary city administration headed by Mayor James Canfield."

Pioneers of Palm Coast Adventures

by Connie Horvath

Back in the late 1970's, the lot we had selected while working for ITT Levitt & Sons Palm Coast Project, for construction of our dream house had only started. The area was devoid of any habitation except for three houses on the other side of the waterway.

One Sunday we went to inspect progress on our home which was under construction and we were not prepared, nor did we appreciate, the following incident. While walking around our site, a police cruiser stopped by and began to interrogate us as to why we were here and what was our purpose for being on private property. We had to give our names, rank, etc, including proof by producing our driver's licenses before we all had a good laugh. We learned later that one of the three neighbors across the waterway was responsible for notifying the police. You can believe that today he is a trusted/alert friend!

Atkins, John & Anne
 Bossard, Helen Young
 Bradley, Jim & Roseann
 Cafaro, Patricia A
 Canfield, Mary Ann & Jim
 Cannon, Jim
 Carter, Ralph
 Coale, Starr
 Corbin, Evelyn
 Crocetta, Bob & Kathleen
 Crowell, Dale & Susan
 Culpepper, Jane
 Davie, Margaret
 Delaney, Jim & Anna
 DeMeglio, Donna
 DeVito, Donald & Lora
 Donnelly, Captain William
 Dycke, Art & Louise
 Eustace, John & Lucille
 Finch, USN, Ret. Captain
 Donald Flanagan, Mrs.
 Marjorie
 Friedman, Sandra Rose
 Flagler Pennysaver
 Full, Jerry & Robin
 Geyer, Debby
 Godkin, Barbara Sue
 Grech, George & Ellie
 Hanzel, Joseph (Skip)
 Heatherly, Katherine
 Henderson, Kevin & Belinda
 Hennenlotter, William & Judy
 Herrera, Ed and Fanny
 Heywood, Debra
 Holland, Jim
 Holt, Jack
 Horvath, Connie
 Howell, Norman & Anne
 Hudson, Wm. & Ursula Kerins
 Jones, Al
 Kanbar, Blair and Brenda
 Kennedy, Kevin
 Kent, Judith
 Kervel, Arlene
 Kelton, Richard
 Lemieux, Donald & Carol
 Levine, Arnold & Maxine
 Lyons, Veronica (Ronnie)
 MacLean, Mary
 McGovern, Patricia
 McLean, Martyna (Marty)

Meyer, William
 Milberg, Arthur & Eleanor
 Millar, Meryl L.
 Miskelly, Jim
 Mulligan, Richard & Phyllis
 Mylis, Ed & Anita
 Naster, Bob
 Neveras, Theresa
 Netts, Jon & Priscilla
 Norris, Mary & David
 Nunziata, Orlando & Concetta
 Oddi, Vincent and Joanne
 O'Neill, John
 Perry, Dexter & Kim
 Pitman, Jack & Anne-Marie
 Pokigo, Ronald
 Pugliese, Celia
 Rende, Stephen
 Reisman, Dave
 Rhatigan, Betty
 Rivers, Joseph and Lorraine
 Rochette, Cliff & Ruthann
 Ryan, Mike & Rita
 Schwab, Hildegard
 Schwartz, John & Therese
 Scripp, John & Mary
 Sedlak, Richard & Jean
 Schaller, Harry & Iuger
 Sgroi, Robert & Barbara
 Shamas, Tom and Louise
 Shane, Randall & Melissa
 Sheekey, James and Claire
 Shipman, Frank & Gloria
 Simmons, Elizabeth B.
 Skinger, Richard & Virginia
 Sloan, Jeanne
 Smith, Frances
 Smolen, Alan
 Spitz, Joan
 Stafford, Kay
 Stan, Leonard
 Steighner, John and Sheila
 Sturtz, Pat
 Trayer, Tom and Oradel
 Turner, Tony & Kendall
 Vazquez, Gladys
 Walter, Beatrice (Bea)
 Walters, Marie
 Weiss, Trudi
 Werner, Ellen
 Wolf, Edward

Welcome to our New Members

Helen Young Bossard

Meryl L. Millar

Jim Miskelly, 100th Charter Member

Meeting and Event Schedule

August 11, 2004 – Member Meeting, 1:30 pm, Flagler County Library Meeting Room

September, 2004 – Date and Location to be determined. We will have special speakers.

October, 2004 – Date and Location to be determined. Slide Show.

December, 2004 – Holiday Luncheon

Current Palm Coast Firsts

➤ Palm Coast Recreation and Parks Department has earned the Start Smart 5-Star designation from the National Alliance for Youth Sports. Start Smart gives children the opportunity to learn the basics of a sport, such as basketball, baseball, golf and soccer, without the pressure of competition. Frank Barbagallo, Recreation Coordinator, initiated the program. **Palm Coast is the first in the state to earn the designation.** Way to go Frank!!

➤ **FPC Students design 'Project Disk' to help save missing children.** By Scott Wyland, Reprinted from News-Journal

"PALM COAST – One child missing is one too many.

That mantra, adopted by 10 students in Flagler Palm Coast High's gifted class and supported by the School Board, Sheriff Jim Manfre and state Rep. Doug Wiles, D-St. Augustine, led to a program that's earning praise from a software developer and child advocacy group.

Called 'Project Disk,' short for Digital Identification System for Kids, it aims to document kindergarteners' portraits and personal data. A child's photo and basic personal data – age, height, color of eyes – are loaded onto a disk and given to the parents.

If the child turns up missing, the parents can distribute the information quickly.

While programs like it have been set up at retail outlets and other businesses, officials with the software developer, New Jersey-based Family Trusted Products, said **it's the first time it's been done at the schools.**

Frank Florio, the company's president, praised the students for **accomplishing what politicians in several Northern states have failed to do.**

Each of Flagler's four elementary schools this year will receive a \$605 kit containing software, a digital camera, and 200 computer disks. Children will be photographed while they register for kindergarten. David Poliner, a 15-year-old student involved with Project Disk, said he hopes the effort spreads."

IMPORTANT

We will be ordering the plaque and name plates for the **FIRST 100 MEMBERS** who are **CHARTER MEMBERS.**

VERY, VERY IMPORTANT YOU CHECK THE SPELLING AND LISTING OF YOUR NAME

INFORMATION

Your name will be

PRINTED EXACTLY AS SHOWN IN THE ABOVE

TABLE unless you call me and correct the spelling.

Two names, husband and wife, will be printed **ONLY** if you paid for a **FAMILY** membership – dues for family membership are \$15.00.

CALL DEBBY BEFORE JUNE 1 TO CORRECT THE SPELLING OF YOUR NAME.

Getting To Know Our Members

Kay Stafford, Charter Member and COPCHS Recording Secretary, 2000-2005

Like so many others who discovered Palm Coast, Kay Stafford moved here with her late husband, Carl, in 1986. Newly retired, they immersed themselves in building their dream house. Once it was completed, Kay couldn't stand not having dozens of things to do, so she became active in her church, Palm Coast United Methodist, over the years holding offices in UMW, trustees, many committees, and since 1994 has edited their monthly publication. She also sings in their chancel choir. She has been volunteer editor of RSVP's *Goldtimer* since 1990. Kay has also been active in Republican organizations and is a member of Little Theater and the Flagler County Historical Society.

An Ohio native, Kay was raised in Lakewood. She married soon after high school and brought home a "souvenir" of Seattle whom she named Judi. She worked for Cadillac for seven years before resigning to become a stay-at-home mom. Unable to have other children, she became a foster mom to newborns in the Cleveland area.

Kay and Carl moved to Sylvania, OH in 1961 where she worked for 24 years for Prestolite, a manufacturer of automotive electrical parts, which, through acquisitions and mergers, ultimately became part of Allied, the Honeywell.

Jean and Skip Sedlak, Charter Members. "How we 'found' Palm Coast"

O Joy – moving from cold New Jersey to sunny Ft. Lauderdale for boating, golfing, swimming and other fun things! However, our joy of 15 years turned to sorrow when, over a period of time, our friends living around us were being burglarized! I finally said the tragic words to Skip, "we have to think about moving."

So we started looking – water property, on the mainland (no barrier island for me) and north of Palm Beach County. Every few weeks I called a realtor within a specific area further north and made arrangements to visit for a few days, then return to Ft. Lauderdale to digest what we had seen.

Finally, on a return trip from New Jersey, I said to Skip we should make a decision regarding a house we saw in south Volusia County. So we stopped at a motel in the area and, when in the office, I casually picked up a Realtor's Listing Booklet. We read about waterfront property in Palm Coast but we did not know where Palm Coast was located.

The next morning I made an appointment with the realtor and toured the area east of I95 where we saw water property on canals and we were both amazed and delighted that this last bit of "paradise" was there waiting for us. At the end of the tour I said "I don't know where we're going to live yet, but we will settle in Palm Coast!!" That was 13 years ago and Skip agrees that this was the best decision we ever made.

Richard (Skip) is a retired Navy Lieutenant who served 26 years, WWII, Korea and Viet Nam, mainly in submarines in the Pacific area. He also did a tour of duty in the Pentagon and is in the process of writing his autobiography covering his military service.

Jean is an award-winning watercolor artist. Her paintings have been accepted in many juried shows and she is represented in public and private collections throughout the USA, Canada, England, Mexico and South America.

Images of America: Palm Coast by local author, Art Dycke.

The book is a compilation of 238 captioned photographs from the ITT (ICDC) files that are now held by the Palm Coast Historical Society. Contributions of local residents, reporters and newspapers are also included in the book. *Images* is a concise introduction to our area's history, organizations, people and their activities. Arcadia, the publisher, describes the book as follows:

"What is paradise? Before 1969, land that would eventually become the City of Palm Coast was considered by some as nothing more than a 'big pine-covered swamp.' But when the corporate eyes of ITT/Levitt and Sons looked upon the virtually uninhabited land, they saw 22,000 acres of golf courses, marinas, oceanfront motels, scenic drives, and house lots awaiting the arrival of sun-seeking 'pioneers.' Marketing strategies targeting urban residents in the North and Midwest offered slices of land cut out of miles of forest, and soon a 500-mile infrastructure of roads, utilities, and sewer lines bound Palm Coast to a future that included becoming the largest planned unit development in Florida history."

You may order *Images of America: Palm Coast* for mail delivery within Flagler County.

Cost: \$19.99 plus \$3.00 for S&H = **Grand Total of \$22.99 each**

Mail delivery elsewhere in the United States is \$4.00 for S&H = **Grand Total of \$23.99 each**

Mail the order form and check to: Palm Coast Historical Society, P.O. Box 352613, Palm Coast, FL 32135

Make check payable to Palm Coast Historical Society

Please cut along this line.

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Please PRINT Full Name and Address
Street
City, State, & Zip Code
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ORDER!
Number of Books: _____

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Debby Geyer, President (446-9031): Mary Ann Canfield,
Vice President: Bob Crocetta, Treasurer: Kay Stafford,
Recording Secretary: Debbie Heywood, Corresponding
Secretary

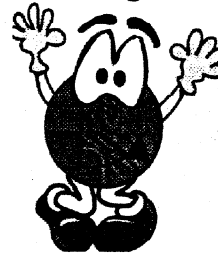
Directors - January 2004 - December 2006

Ralph Carter, Don DeVito Webmaster, Art Dycke and
Margaret Davie Co-Historians, Jack Holt, Connie Horvath
Publicity Chairman

Visit our website for additional book and
Palm Coast Historical Society information.

<http://community.webtv.net/pchistorical/TheCityofPalmCoast/>

**“Every Penny You Spend With Us
Brings You Dollars In Return!”**

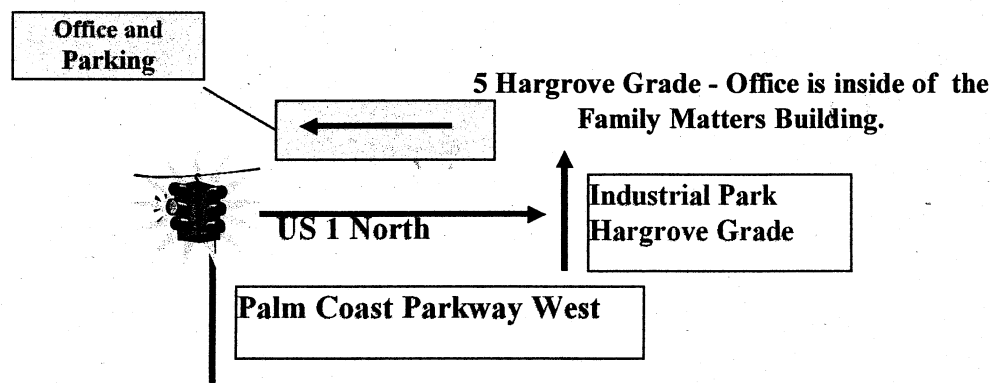


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The City of Palm Coast Historical Society

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Palm Coast, FL 32135

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Member of the Flagler County Chamber of Commerce