



The Pioneer Press

From the Settlement Desk

Coacoochee

Barberville Pioneer
Settlement's Newsletter
Autumn 2023

The unconquered spirit of the Seminoles is all around us here in Florida. We see it in the names of the places we live and work. Ask any non-Seminole resident to name a famous Seminole and nine times out of ten their first (and often only) reply is Osceola. And why not? The county where Mickey Mouse lives is named after him. Beyond being linked to modern history through Disney, Osceola was a mighty warrior of the 2nd Seminole War. He was captured deviously under a flag of truce by Maj. Gen Jessup in autumn of 1837. He died while imprisoned.

Osceola wasn't the only mighty Seminole warrior to fight in the 2nd Seminole War, the costliest US War to date. Another Seminole warrior, a contemporary of Osceola, was Coacoochee. Coacoochee means Wild Cat. Like his name sake, Coacoochee was cunning, dangerous, flamboyant, and prideful. He was also articulate and intelligent.

Coacoochee and his band of guerilla raiders were responsible for decimating the plantation economy here in what is today Volusia and Orange Counties. They destroyed both the Spring Garden Sugar Plantation (DeLeon Springs) and the Dunlawton Sugar Mill Plantation in Port Orange, as well as many others.

Coacoochee and Osceola were captured together under Jessup's false flag of truce. Coacoochee, however, daringly escaped from Fort Marion — what is known today as Castillo de San Marcos — in St Augustine. Coacoochee tells the exciting and adventure-rich narrative of his escape in a way that contemporary writers like Dumas, Dickens, & Hawthorne must have appreciated.

Coacoochee went on to take part in most the major battles of the 2nd Seminole war for the next 5 years. Towards the end of the war, after being captured again, Coacoochee conceded that the US was a greater military giant than the Seminoles could ever hope to be. He convinced many of his Seminole peers to lay down their arms and emigrate to Arkansas on the Trail of Tears.

As well as being fearless, Coacoochee was an eloquent and smart man. He realized that he was partially responsible for prolonging the war and thus prolonging the suffering of the women and children of his people. He is quoted as saying of his capture and escape from Saint Augustine, "When I was taken prisoner, my band would have left the country. But upon my return they said let us die in Florida. This caused great suffering among our women and children. I hoped to be killed in battle, but a bullet never touched me."

Although he fought against the US military, he fought for Florida — his homeland. That is something we all can take pride in and honor the memory of Coacoochee as we do all US veterans. He gave a speech at his exile from Florida that concluded with these lines, "I am looking at the last pine tree on my land; and now leaving Florida forever, I can say that I have never done anything to disgrace it. It was my home. I loved it, and to leave it now is like burying my wife & child. I have thrown away my rifle, have taken the hand of the white man, and now say to him, take care of me."



**"Escape from Fort Marion" By
James Hutchinson at the Lowe
Art Museum: University of Miami**

BARBERVILLE PIONEER SETTLEMENT

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Bill Messer & Marg Chauvin
Bob Pavlechko
Phil Pittenger &
Chris Collins
Suzie & Donald,
Jed & Audrah
Lewis



Event Schedule

(tentative—as of Nov 2023)

Open Mon—Sat 9am—4pm; Sun noon—4pm

6-foot social distance from others

Masks are recommended in all buildings

Service animals only

Dec 9th

Florida Christmas Remembered

Dec 22nd

Member's Christmas Party

Jan 6th

Playing on the Porches

April 6th & 7th

18th Annual Spring Frolic

2022-2023 Calendar of On-Going Events

Square Dancing - almost every Friday
6:30pm—Call ahead to confirm

FABA Monthly Meeting—1st Saturday
of most months.

Fiber Guild Meeting — 3rd Saturday

Playing on the Porches — 1st Saturday
of most months

All dates subject to change—For full listing of
events and the most up to date information
visit our

Facebook page or

www.pioneersettlement.org

**The following events have been put
on hold until further notice.**

- First Saturday Music Workshops
- Second Saturdays at the Settlement

Ambassador Club Members

* LIFETIME MEMBERS

Sarah D Abrahamson
George Agner
Dale Barnhart
Joyce Benedict
Marilyn & Rich Breeze
Harriet B. Bolin
Lee & Kay Doughty
Howard & Snooky Grisham
Richard & Lou Ellen Hagstrom
Natalie Hazard & Family
Rachel Jackson
Don & Diana Johnson
Joel Kelley
Bertha Lucas
Bettina Maraldo
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TNT Window Tinting

**For Membership info visit our
website or give us a call.**

* A Barberville Pioneer Settlement Lifetime Membership is an honorarium granted to supporters that have demonstrated exemplary patronage either through monetary donations, contributions of time and talents or a combination thereof. Candidates for this esteemed honor may be presented to the Board of Directors for approval by any member in good standing or by the administrative team of the Settlement.

In Memoriam

Mandi Leibee, gone too soon. Mandi came to work for the Settlement as the Events Coordinator almost two years ago. We could tell from day one that she fit in here — with our kind of crazy — like a tailor-made straight jacket. She loved the Settlement and all the people that work together to make it the special place that it is. Writing an obituary or eulogy for her is too painful, because she became such a dear friend to everyone that works here. Instead we will let Emily Brontë sing Mandi on her way into the eternal beyond.

“No Coward Soul Is Mine”

By Emily Brontë

No coward soul is mine

No trembler in the world’s storm-troubled sphere

I see Heaven’s glories shine

And Faith shines equal arming me from fear

O God within my breast

Almighty ever-present Deity

Life, that in me hast rest, As I Undying Life, have power in Thee

Vain are the thousand creeds

That move men’s hearts, unutterably vain,

Worthless as withered weeds

Or idlest froth amid the boundless man

To waken doubt in one

Holding so fast by the infinity,

So surely anchored on

The steadfast rock of immortality

With wide-embracing love

Thy spirit animates eternal years

Pervades and broods above,

Changes, sustains, dissolves, creates, and rears.

Though earth and moon were gone

And suns and universes ceased to be

And Thou wert left alone

Every Existence would exist in thee

There is not room for Death

Nor atom that his might could render void

Since thou art Being and Breath

And what thou art may never be destroyed. •



Mandi Leibee



Our Mission

To educate and entrust the public and future generations with knowledge of the pioneer lifestyle of our forefathers, through hands on experience, folk life demonstrations, preservation, and historical exhibits.



Thank you to all the volunteers, demonstrators, performers, storytellers, and musicians that came out and made this fundraising event a smashing hit! Your love for the Settlement is shown in your stewardship for it! We can't thank you enough for all your hard work & dedication!



The 47th Annual Fall Country Jamboree

The Jamboree is a special time. It is a reunion of artisans and friends that are connected through history and folk art. It is a must-attend celebration of Florida culture. It is a chance to experience the past in a peaceful and accepting way.

This year's Jamboree was all that and more. The weather was perfect and the fellowship was lovely. Around 3000 people cast their shadow on the Settlement's grounds this 1st weekend in November. Not since before COVID has there been that many people attending the Jamboree.

We were so busy that the corn boil sold out of corn, the hamburger and hot dog stand ran out of buns, the soup wagon ran out of 2 of the 3 soups they were serving, and the Summer Kitchen almost ran out of BBQ.

Despite the voraciousness of our guests, we were still able to feed everyone who was hungry. And, from what we could tell, no one left hungry nor unhappy.

We would like to thank **The Will McLean Foundation** for their generous grant that allowed us to provide a healthy and delicious lunch to our volunteers and musicians.

If you didn't get a chance to attend this year, don't miss our 18th Annual Spring Frolic on April 6th & 7th. Also we are already planning on how to make next year's Jamboree even better.

If the big crowds aren't your thing, visit us on the 1st Saturday of almost every month for Playing on the Porches. These one day events are similar to the Jamboree & Frolic, only smaller, with more opportunity to intimately experience the music and demonstrations.

Thank you again to all our volunteers. The Barberville Pioneer Settlement is a mostly volunteer run organization. We cannot do it without help, support, and love from the community.



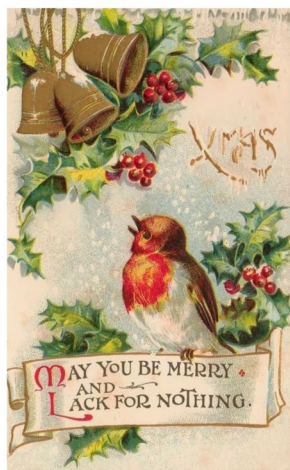
A FLORIDA CHRISTMAS



REMEMBERED

Saturday, Dec 9th
9am—4pm

• Children's Make & Take Crafts—
some are free and some require a small
fee



- Folk artists performing traditional and original Christmas music
- Visit Santa on the porch of our Relay Cabin
 - Mail a letter to Santa from the Historical Huntington Post Office
- Shop with some Arts and Crafts Vendors
- Blacksmithing, Woodworking, Weaving, Spinning, Pottery, and many more Living History Demonstrations

Summer Kitchen will be open serving up our famous Pork BBQ, Burgers, and Hot Dogs

Children 12 and under FREE.

Adult Admission \$10 Seniors & Veterans \$9
Members are FREE!



BARBERVILLE
PIONEER SETTLEMENT
Discover Yesterday Today

(386) 749-2959 • PioneerSettlement.org
Located on SR 40, West of HWY 17, Barberville, FL 32105
No Pets—Service animals only



A Family Friendly Event by the Barberville Pioneer Settlement

- Multiple Stages/ Porches of Acoustic Music
- Living History Demonstrations & Exhibits
 - Visit the Farm
- Enjoy the Settlement's famous BBQ Pork, Hamburgers & Hot Dogs

Saturday, January 6th, 2024

Gates open at 9 am to 4 pm • Music at 11am to 2pm

\$10 General Admission \$9 Seniors (62+), Veterans and Groups of 5 or more

\$4 Youth Ages 6-12 Youth under age 5 FREE Members and Parking are FREE



BARBERVILLE
PIONEER SETTLEMENT
Discover Yesterday Today

Located just West of Rt.17 just
off of HWY 40
Barberville, FL 32105
Service Animals Welcome
—No Pets

A Big Shout out to our Sponsors!

Advent Health

DAYTONA TORTUGAS

HIDDEN VALLEY PARK

VOLUSIA ECHO
Enhancing our Quality of Life

West Volusia
Old Florida. New Vibe.

Florida HUMANITIES

Collins Built POOLS
FAMILY-OWNED • BUILT-FOR-TURN

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heating & air conditioning since 1921

TOTAL COMFORT

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FLORIDA ARTIST BLACKSMITH ASSOCIATION
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Since 1993
We Teach - We Preserve

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Announcements & Tidbits



- We love our volunteers! However, like many other non-profits over the past several years our **volunteer base has diminished drastically**. Especially as the school year ramps up and fundraising events approach, we could really use more volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering at the Settlement, you can find applications at www.pioneersettlement.org/volunteers or call us at 386-749-2959.
- Speaking of volunteers, we are delighted that **Bill Messer & Marg Chauvin** came and helped set up for **Jamboree**. They continue to help out during the week with field trips and maintenance. Also returning to our work camper entourage are **Gloria & Dennis Graves**. They were a big help the last couple of years demonstrating the arts and lifestyles of the pioneers to kids during field trips. Along with Bill, Marg, Gloria, and Dennis, we rely on fellow volunteers: **The Lewis Family (Suzie, Donald, Jed, Audrah, & Kyrah)** and **Phil Pittenger & Chris Collins**. They are all hard workers & excellent docents. Thanks, All y'all!
- If you are a volunteer, demonstrator, or musician we encourage you to join our group on **Facebook**. This is a closed group which means that unless you join and become an approved member you cannot read or see our posts. The group's name is **Barberville Pioneer Settlement Demonstrators, Volunteers and Team Members**. It is a great way for us to share ideas and Settlement related information with a large group at once.
- Have you ever wanted to learn how to be a **blacksmith**? You're in luck. We offer Blacksmith classes! 1st responders, military, and teachers get a \$25 discount on classes. Learn more at www.pioneersettlement.org/blacksmith—coal. We also sell Blacksmith coal.
- **Board Member Opportunities**— Those interested in joining our Board of Directors are encouraged to send a letter of interest along with a resume via email to directors@pioneersettlement.org. Our Board meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month at the Settlement at 7pm. Directors are expected to attend all meetings, hold a minimum annual level of a Patron membership, and contribute to the annual fees for Directors & Officers Insurance.
- We need your **old Christmas Cards**! One of the lessons during our Old Fashioned Traditions field trip program in December is the history of the Christmas Card.
- We are still accepting **Sponsorship of The Settlement's Animals**. Keeping our farm animals hale and healthy is expensive! If you'd like to help us care for them, we would be deeply grateful — AND you can score some cool merch! Learn more at www.pioneersettlement.org/animal-sponsorship.
- Membership has its benefits. FREE general admission including special events, 10% discount in our country store and Bridge House Gallery! Discounts on workshops and seminars! Half-price Guest Passes! And even more benefits for those in the **AMBASADOR'S CLUB**! Learn more at www.pioneersettlement.org/membership-opportunities.
- **The Schoolhouse Fiber Guild** meets every 3rd Saturday from 1pm –2:30pm. Share your love of the fiber arts with other spinners, weavers, crocheters, basket makers, quilters, origami folders, and more.
- In January 2024, we hope to revive our **Saturday Music Lessons & Jam Sessions** on the 4th Saturday of the month. Lessons will be free with admission into the Settlement. Follow us on **Facebook** for information on what will be taught & when. Reach out to us if you are interested in teaching.
- We are a drop off location for **Christine's Blankets**. They need new blankets, towels, and socks to distribute to the homeless. Christine's Blankets provide blankets and other essentials to the homeless for comfort and encouragement in order to remind them that they are loved and not forgotten.
- We accept all kinds of **donations**! Of course artifacts (from the 1870s—1920s) are most welcome (as is cash). We also have all kinds of other needs though. If you have a **propane grill, riding lawn mower, golf cart, or vehicle** that is just taking up space at your house; before you call the scrap man, call us. One man's junk could be the Settlement's treasure. Since we're a 501(c)3, all donations are tax deductible.
- Look for future announcements on how you can contribute to **The Barberville Legacy Endowment**. Let your love for the Settlement exist in perpetuity.

Prickly Pear Drizzle

The holidays are upon us. That means a hurricane of cooking and calories. If you're tired of the same old brown gravy to cover everything — but still want to keep it traditional — try this old Florida recipe for dressing up your holiday feast.

- ☺ 5-6 prickly pears
- ☺ 1/2 cup of honey (we recommend Mystic Farms Mangrove Honey)
- ☺ Red pepper flakes or course ground black pepper (to taste)
- ☺ 2 tbsps. Lemon juice

First: place pears over an open flame (metal stove top grates on high will work) until skin blisters. Remove from heat. Wearing clean, thick gloves, cut the skins off. Careful. The spines can really irritate when they poke you.



Then, using a sieve or cheesecloth, reduce innards to a liquid. No pulp at all.

Heat cactus juice in a sauce pot until almost a boil. Add honey and stir until dissolved. Remove from heat. Add lemon juice to bring out the cactus flavor. Add pepper for a zing and color.

Drizzle over cooked meat or grilled vegetables and serve.

Happy holidays.



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