

From the Settlement Desk

A Conversation about The Crankin' A's New Building

On Saturday, April 2nd, 2022—during the 17th Annual Spring Frolic—the Crankin' A's officially broke ground on their new display garage & clubhouse at the Barberville Pioneer Settlement. When the new building is complete, it will be the 20th historical structure on the Barberville Pioneer Settlement's campus. The Crankin' A's is an eminent club whose members collect, restore, and exhibit Ford Model A cars. The Crankin' A's & the Barberville Pioneer Settlement have had a long history of co-operating to present the past to the public. The 1st car show and swap meet the A's put on at Barberville was 26 years ago in 1996. Both organizations are exhilarated by this new project and continued partnership.

The Pioneer Press recently got the opportunity to ask The Crankin' A's president, Kim Ziffra a few questions about the new project. Here's how that interview went.

Pioneer Press: Congratulations to your organization on raising the interest and enthusiasm — not to mention the funds & means — for this outstanding and exciting project! Also, great job on the ground breaking ceremony. How many Crankin' A's members attended?

Kim Ziffra: We had 40 members in attendance at the site. There were several who were there in spirit, but stayed home due to the threat of thunderstorms.



PP: On your place holder sign at the site you have a quote that reads "We're not a car club, we are a connection to the past, come experience the adventure." This mirrors both the Settlement's mission statement which identifies the importance of preserving history and showcasing it "through hands on experience, folk life demonstration, preservation, and historical exhibits" and the Settlement's slogan of "Discover Yesterday Today." The visions and aims of both [our] organizations are complimentary. How will this project fulfill our shared goal of preserving and presenting history?

KZ: Our club's primary focus is a specific period in history from 1927-1932. This time period is when Henry Ford was manufacturing the Ford Model A. The members of The Crankin' A's share a fascination and love of these vehicles. We want to educate the public about the simplicity of early motorized vehicles. We would like to take them back in time, when people were transitioning their mode of transportation from horses to 4-wheeled, motorized vehicles. For a brief period of time we want them to envision a slower pace of life, when vehicles averaged a top speed of about 45 mph.

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The Crankin' A's President, Kim Ziffra

A Conversation about The Crankin' A's New Building *(Continued)*

Pioneer Press: Can you tell us a little about this project? What are some of the features the A's are envisioning for this new building?

Kim Ziffra: At first glance the building will resemble an old time garage — where local folks would "hang out" on the porch, catch up on all the local gossip, grab a cold pop out of the cooler, and wait for their car to be repaired. Curiosity will overcome them, enticing them to step inside the display area located behind the porch. There [visitors] will find a collection of historical memorabilia relating to the Ford Model A and other items from that period of time. There will be several interactive displays included. We already have a cut away engine with color coded areas. When the steering wheel is turned the color coded sections can be seen in motion, with ex-

planations of how they work and interact with each other. Additionally, we are currently building a club car (an entire Model A from the chassis up) which will be on display. Visitors can watch the progress each time they visit the Settlement.



PP: The Crankin' A's have been putting on car shows and swap meets at the Settlement since 1996. Will this new project be an extension of those shows or a whole new experience?

KZ: I would say that it will be an extension of the car shows and swap meets. We would not only have the show for displaying our cars, but also providing the educational aspect by having cars displayed outside the building, enhancing their experience upon entering the building.

Pioneer Press: Thank you for taking the time to answer our questions, and thank you so much for partnering with the Settlement for this really cool project!

Both organizations are excited. Construction on the project will commence in the very near future and we anticipate that it will be completed by late summer/early fall. Swing by the Settlement and check out the progress. This is going to be an awesome display site.



BARBERVILLE PIONEER SETTLEMENT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joe Underhill - Vice President

Debbi Dinkins - Treasurer

Joan Carter- Secretary

John Case

Diane Johnson

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John Kern

Dennis Thomas

Richard Schuler

Joseph Stone

STAFF MEMBERS

Associate Director—Gudrun Benson

Public Liaison— Erick Nielsen

Facilities & Field Trip Assistant—

Matt Ford

SEASONAL TEAM MEMBERS

Dennis and Gloria Graves

Nicole Oranges

Katie Doyle

Rachel Fry



Event Schedule

(tentative—as of May 2022)

Open Thurs-Sun 10 am—3 pm

6-foot social distance from others

Masks are recommended in all buildings

Service animals only

May 7th

Playing on the Porches

June 4th

Celebration of Olde Florida

Sept 3th

Labor Day Celebration Free Admission

Oct 22nd

Inaugural International FL Musical

Saw Festival

Nov. 5th & 6th

46th Annual Fall Country Jamboree

Dec 10th

Florida Christmas Remembered

2022 Calendar of On-Going Events

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

FABA Monthly Meeting—1st Saturday
of most months.

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

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

Mary Rinderle

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Richard Schuler

Jean Underhill

Joe & Katie Waller

SUSTAINER

Troy Branning

The Dillard Family

ADVOCATE MEMBERS

Hidden Valley Park

D & C McCall - Window to the Past

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John Kern

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Joseph Stone

Dennis Thomas

Joe & Sandra Underhill

Heinrich Hole

David Keith

***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.

2022's Frolic was a hoot-n-nanny even if Saturday was more than a little wet. Thanks to all the musicians, volunteers, vendors, and guests that came and made it so special!



Special thanks to photographers Debra Ann West & Crysta Metcalf



Graffiti in the Belfry



What kind of student were you? Teacher's Pet? Class Clown? Trouble Maker? If you were one of the later, you were probably a lot like Wilbur Bolin, JP Taylor, and Riley Collins.

These boys attended Barber-ville Central School in the mid-1930s. We know because they and several others "left their mark". The school attic is an area of the Settlement that — for obvious reasons — is not open to the public. However, every other month a staff member clambers up the attic ladder to



change the air filters in the AC units. That staff member is always greeted with a plethora of white chalk scrawls on all the rafters, attic walls, and support beams. Several of the graffiti artists were kind enough to include the date of their vandalism. Some autographs stretch back as far as the late 1920s; one was as recent as 1970 when Roger Miles's signed by the window (this was after the school was an elementary school and before the Pioneer Settlement was established in 1976). Although we would like to think of all children as little angels, the truth is they have a mischievous side about them — some more than others. I guess this is just a case of kids being kids.

A BIG SHOUT OUT TO OUR BUSINESS SPONSORS!!

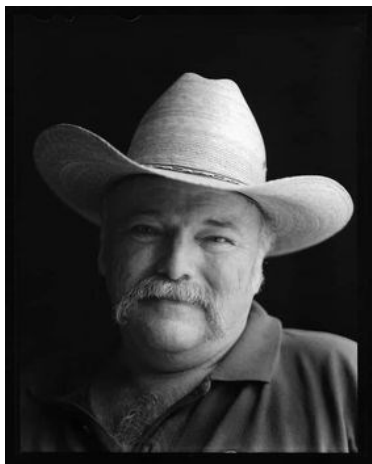


Announcements & Tidbits



- We owe a huge thanks to our seasonal work campers; **Dennis & Gloria Graves, Bob & Carol Barr, Rachel Fry, Nicole Oranges, & Katie Boyle**. When our seasonal helpers leave in April & May, we experience a huge vacuum of volunteer resources. Also, like many other non-profits over the past several years our **volunteer base has diminished drastically**. As a volunteer operated museum, we can always 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.
- We are thrilled to announce that we will be having the floors in the auditorium sanded and refinished in May! **Griffis and Son Custom Hardwood Floors** will be doing the work. Funding was made possible by generous donations, including Griffis & Son's donation of 10 years of annual maintenance service. This is why the auditorium will be closed during **Playing on the Porches on May 7th**.
- 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 also need toilet paper & paper towel cardboard cores**! We use these to teach kids how to germinate navy bean seeds during our Rites of Spring field trip program. Please pass the word and send us your old Christmas cards and cardboard tubes.
- 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.
- Calling all **Saw Players**! Get excited for this fall! Declare your intent to perform and compete at **Barberville's Inaugural International Florida Saw Festival**. Submit your audition at <http://form.jotform.com/folkfiddle/MusicalSawFestival.com> Prizes include a Stradsaw Professional Musical Saw! This instrument is made with expert craftsmanship by **Eric Jon Johnson**; it is a piece of art!
- The spring garden is in the ground at **Ellis's Garden**. We've got okra, corn, beans, sunflowers, carrots, tomatoes, and tons of other plants germinating. If you have a green thumb and want to help grow some veggies, we typically have working-in-the-garden parties Saturday mornings.
- If you haven't seen them yet, check out our **History Matters videos** on YouTube. We made these during the pandemic shut-down. **Joanna & Jonathon Demarest** did a lot of hard work producing these. Check them out; they're cool and informative. Here's a link to the one on the Lewis Cabin <https://youtu.be/rsspRzcGI3E>
- 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.

Rest in peace, Jimmie Rogers



In Memoriam

"To live in the hearts we leave behind is not to die." —Thomas Campbell

It is early on in 2022, and already we have had to say good-bye to dearly departed friends. They will forever live in our memory and in the Promised Land, but gone is the spark of life they brought to the Settlement.

Jimmie Rogers, 1963-2022, was a good man, a father, a husband, a church usher, and a brother to everyone he met. He was the President of our Board of Directors; a long-time supporter of the Settlement; and lover of history and heritage. He and his family processed the Settlement's sugar cane every fall and made the best cane syrup! Jimmie's large and jovial presence will be missed not only at the board meetings, but at the festivals and social functions hosted by the Settlement.

Beatrice E. Paulhamus, 1942-2022, was a mother, wife, and Sunday school teacher at Bay Street Baptist Church. She and her husband owned Eustis Muck Farms and provided the Settlement with corn for our Fall Jamboree's corn boil. Mirth and charity were what Bea was known for. Her husband Frank was a long time board member and Bea often accompanied him to the festivals bringing with her a cornucopia of baked goods that would always sell out at the Settlement's bake sales.



Rest in peace, Bea Paulhamus



BARBERVILLE
PIONEER SETTLEMENT
Discover Yesterday Today

PO Box 6 1776 Lightfoot Lane
Barberville, FL 32105
(386) 749-2959
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