

# Tracks of Time

Monthly Publication from the Zephyrhills Historical Association

Volume 11 - Number 10

October 2009



## 55-Cent Washer

Our Acme Washer washes the clothes with less labor than any other washer, and will do a washing in half the time required by the old washboard. No sore fingers, and the operator is at a greater distance from the inhalation of the soap suds. No complications in its manufacture to get out of order. It is noiseless and a child can use it. It occupies but a small space when not in use. A washing can be done in half the time than by any other way. For washing woolens, flannels, blankets, lace curtains, etc., this washer cannot be excelled.

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The next Zephyrhills Historical Association will be held on Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, in the Zephyrhills Depot Museum at 39110 South Avenue. Business meeting scheduled for 6 p.m., program at 7:00 p.m.

The program will be presented by Flora McClain, a retiree from the Pasco County School System.

Craft Day at the Depot (Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>) is always on the second Friday of each month, beginning at 11 a.m. For October, plan to decorate a T-shirt in Halloween or autumn scenes. Please bring a T-shirt and your own ideas to share with other attendees.

All ZHA events are open to the public. Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

### ATTENTION

At our September meeting the annual dues to retain membership in the Zephyrhills Historical Association was increased to \$15.00 per year, beginning January 1, 2010.

Pay ahead of time and save \$3.

Twelve dollar membership applications are included in this month's Tracks of Time.

### ZHA Mission Statement

The mission of the Zephyrhills Historical Association is to research, gather and share local historical information with all generations, through our literature, programs, and scholarships, and to volunteer assistance to the Zephyrhills Depot Museum and the WWII Barracks Museum.

<u>Executive Board for Year 2009</u>	
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**ZEPHYRHILLS COLONIST.**

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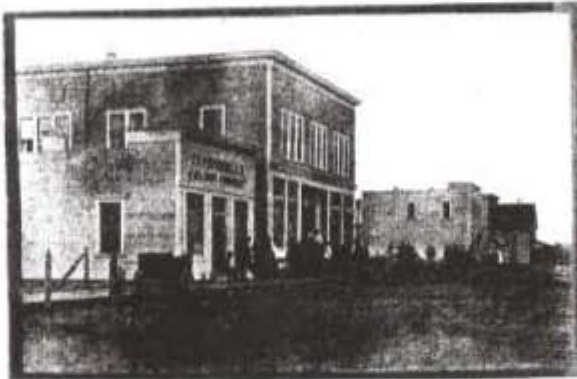
**Zephyrhills, Florida, Jan. 19, 1911**

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**H. BARTHOLOMEW** : Editor

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Subscription Price, One Dollar a year; Fifty Cents for six months; Twenty-five Cents for three months.



The road in front of these buildings is now Highway 301 (Gall Blvd.). On the 1910 plat of Zephyrhills it is shown as Seventh Street West, being on the west side of the SAL railroad tracks.

(Buildings, left to right, looking north) are Zephyrhills Colony Company (now the site of Moody's Hardware), Hennington Building (now site of Hynes Discount Center). Across Fifth Avenue are the Gall Building and Geiger Building.

Below, the same buildings looking south. Far right, Geiger store with living quarters on second floor. Center, Gall restaurant with second floor living quarters. Hennington building on left.

Remember, Fifth Avenue runs east and west between Hennington and Gall buildings.

Very early photos, no electricity yet. Although the logs lying on the ground on left side of this picture are probably going to be used as power poles.



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 Phone: 813-782-4495 or 813-782-8405; e-mail: [EWOODSTUFF@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:EWOODSTUFF@tampabay.rr.com)

#### MORE COSTS IN LIQUIDATION OF CLOSED BANKS

Liquidation of closed banks in Florida cost depositors nearly one and one half million dollars in attorney's fees and court costs to January 1, 1933, according to figures secured today from the office Comptroller J. M. Lee.

Fees and commissions paid attorneys aggregated \$1,184,160.26 and court costs \$269,997.11, running the total in these two expense items to \$1,454,157.37.

Fifty-six attorney and law firms listed by the comptroller's office as "principal attorneys" drew a total of \$738,984.46, and fees and commissions paid other attorneys aggregated \$445,175.80, running up the grand total in attorneys' fees, checked so far, to \$1,184,160.26.

The largest amount paid any one firm during the period of liquidation to January 1, was \$125,417.91 to Kurtz and Reed, of Miami. Seventeen attorneys and law firms in Miami, including Kurtz and Reed, were paid totaling \$231,935.09.

Eight Tampa firms listed as "principal attorneys" were paid \$102,876.94 and three West Palm Beach firms, \$88,488.38.

Among the names of bank attorneys, and amounts paid in fees and court costs, listed are the following:

American State Bank, Zephyrhills, J. D. Geiger, \$2,108.55; court costs, \$1,415.65, total \$3,521.19.

Bank of Dade City; W. M. Larkin, \$2,042.45; court costs, \$1,375.09; total \$3,417.54.

Zephyrhills News, February 17, 1933



Camping in Zephyr Park

#### J. F. Stebbins Manufacturing Company

Stebbins Manufacturing Company (1912-13), located on the west side of Seventh Street West and 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, processed "P. C. S. Brand" cane syrup. The factory was also set up for cotton ginning.



Sugar cane and cotton were two of the many crops that early Zephyrhills colonists tried.

In 1912-13, farmers received \$3 a ton for cane delivered to the factory. Sugar cane was considered one of the easiest and most profitable crops to grow.

Ten acres of good cane, would provide an income of over \$600 a year, with very little work involved. Because of its ability to ratoon annually for at least 3 to 4 years, sugar cane was sometimes called the "lazy mans" crop.

Sugar cane was sometimes planted between rows of young citrus trees. This protected young trees from adverse weather conditions and they also benefited from cane fertilization. When the sugar cane no longer ratooned, the fruit trees were large enough to fend for themselves.



Sugar Cane - the "lazy mans" crop

### Founders Shopped For City Site and Chose Ideal Spot

(Zephyrhills Colonist October 14, 1911)

The managers of the Zephyrhills Colony Company were engaged for some years in searching Florida for a colony site. They knew the lands of Florida well. They chose Zephyrhills from among dozens of suggested location, because they regard this site as the most desirable of all.

Some advantages: No hurricanes, no fear of frosts, no mosquitoes, gentle slopes and good drainage, pure air and clear skies, wonderfully pure water, no timber or turpentine leases as impediments to clear title of land, good soil; gentle breezes but no piercing winds, and of course, no sleet or chilling rains, no blizzards.

#### SOMETHING TO BE ADDED

I wish to add something to the foregoing. When the gentlemen who were promoting the enterprise that has crystallized into Zephyrhills Colony Company engaged me to examine lands and choose the best to be found for a Colony I was merely an employee, engaged because of my knowledge of Florida. When the Company was organized and when it was incorporated I was not in or of the organization. When I was to be paid for my services I asked to be paid in stock in the Company and thus I became a part of it. I know of other Companies whose methods I do not altogether approve and I wanted to be on the inside of this one, that I might help carry out the business of the Colony as it had been agreed to do. There are in Florida now three Colonies on lands that I refused to take for this Company at less than the land they have cost them. There is one other colony in Florida with the beginning and location of which I was connected and I consider it well located. Of Zephyrhills I can only say that I have advised my closest kin to buy here.

H.B. Jeffries  
Abbott, FL

1911

#### JOIN THE BOOSTER BOARDWALK

A \$5 donation will put your name in the "Tracks of Time" publication for six months as a Zephyrhills Historical Association Booster.

Send to: **Booster Boardwalk**  
38625 Charles Ave  
Zephyrhills FL 33542

Madonna Wise -----October 2010

Ernest Wise -----October 2010

Dick Tucker -----January 2010

Greg First -----November 2009

Ed Woodstuff -----July 2010

James McElwee -----April 2010

#### You are invited to join the Zephyrhills Historical Association's Booster Boardwalk

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Reply to Boardwalk Chairman:  
**MARGARET SEPPANEN**  
38625 CHARLES AVE  
ZEPHYRHILLS FL 33542  
Phone: 813-782-8405

A \$5 fee will put your name on the Boardwalk for six months, or donate \$10 for entire year. Or, enroll a friend. All Boosters receive "Tracks of Time," ZHA's monthly publication.



Early construction on Seventh Street East (now northbound 7<sup>th</sup> Street)  
In the beginning, Seventh Street East (on the east side of railroad tracks) was considered the main thoroughfare but soon Fifth Avenue became the main street.

You are invited to join the Zephyrhills Historical Association for a journey down the Tracks of Time

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Reply to Membership Chairman:

MARGARET SEPPANEN  
38625 CHARLES AVE  
ZEPHYRHILLS FL 33542

Phone: 813-782-8405

Annual dues: \$12 per year - Fiscal year: January thru December

Your membership is essential in completing our goals, both in the monetary phase, and the physical phase. ZHA members receive the monthly *Tracks of Time* newsletter describing upcoming events and some "Historical Happenings" from the past.

**Yearly membership dues increased to \$15 per year beginning January 1, 2010**

Support the Zephyrhills Historical Association  
Place your advertisement here for \$12 a year  
Send card and check to:  
Zephyrhills Historical Association  
38625 Charles Avenue  
Zephyrhills FL 33542

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In Memory of

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And Great Parents

**Powell & Maude Ryals**

From son James

**God Bless America**

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