

Tarpon Springs Area Historical Society

160 E. Tarpon Avenue – Tarpon Springs, FL. 727-943-4624
Visit our website at: tarponspringsareahistoricalsociety.org
Email address: tarpon.historical@verizon.net

Newsletter

Summer 2013

Looking forward to a great year!!
2013 ~ 2014

The Tarpon Springs Area Historical Society wishes you a wonderful summer and we're looking forward to an exciting autumn! We closed out our year with a delightful picnic at Howard Park beautifully done by Boogie Palmer, Sharon Sawyer and crew.

Celebrating Community: Tarpon Springs ~ 125years

Don't miss our book launching party with the City on October 19th at 4 PM at the Historic Train Depot. The booklet contains chapters by the different speakers that were featured during 2012 and 2013. The chapters are written by Brent Weisman, Ph. D., Ellen J. Uguccioni, Gary Mormino, Ph.D., Lynn Whitelaw, and Jeff Moates. Light refreshments will be served.

Cemetery Tour
Honoring Early Citizens of our Community
October 26, 2013, 10AM until 1 PM
Cycadia Cemetery
1005 East Tarpon Avenue

Book Signing

Weeki Wachee Mermaids ~ Thirty years of Underwater Photography

By

Bonnie Staley Georgiadis and Lu Vickers

Saturday November 16, 2013 ~ 4PM

Historic Train Depot

Light refreshments will be served

Blue Star Museum

We are once again a Blue Star Museum. "Blue Star Museums" are a collaboration of the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Dept. of Defense and more than 2000 museums across America honoring the military. Since our museum has no admission, we will especially look forward to welcoming those military families with open arms and tours for the whole family from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Collection Corner

Shortly before coming to Florida Governor Safford married Soledad Bonillas who was born in Sonora Mexico and a resident of Tucson Arizona. Her brother Ignacio had been an aid to Governor Safford and later became the first Mexican Ambassador to the U.S. Soledad was instrumental in the founding of the "Women's Town Improvement Society", known today as the Tarpon Springs Woman's Club. She was known for her leadership and her house was the center of many social and civic activities, remaining involved in the community for 40 years.

On June 3, 2013, the great-grandniece of Soledad Safford and the great-granddaughter of Ignacio Bonillas visited Tarpon Springs at the invitation of Elizabeth and Mike Coachman who arranged the visit. Michele Coppula Mahler and her husband Fred came to see the Safford house where her great-aunt once lived and also to visit the Historical Society Train Depot museum to view many photographs and historic items of Soledad's. Michelle mentioned that her family is in the process of going through trunks of historic materials passed down from her great-grandfather Bonillas.

Learn more about Governor Safford, his sister Dr. Mary Jane, Soledad and other intriguing historical figures of our past at the upcoming Historical Society Cemetery tour scheduled on October 26, 2013.



Michelle with her Great-grand aunt Soledad



Mahlers at Governor Safford's desk

Calendar (Tentative List)

- Board Meeting ~ September 12, 6:30 PM
- 125th Book Launch Party ~ October 19, 4PM
- Cemetery Tour ~ October 26th 10AM ~ 1PM
- Book Signing by Bonnie Georgiadis ~ November 16th ~4PM
- Turkey Raffle for Thanksgiving
- Christmas Open House ~ December 6, 6-10PM
- Christmas Parade and coffee at the Depot ~ December 14

**The Historic Train Depot Museum is open Wednesday ~ Saturday
from 12 PM ~ 3PM**

727-943-4624

**Learn more about our Jitney project in the September
Newsletter!!**