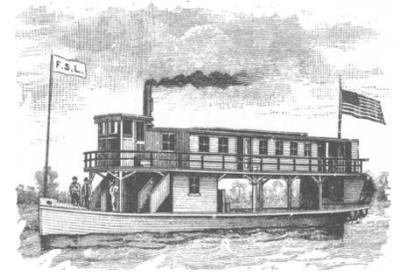


Historic Melrose, Inc.
Box 704
Melrose FL 32666
Historicmelroseflorida.org



March 1 2022

Dear residents and friends of Melrose,

1. On **Sunday, March 20, 2022** at 1 pm in Heritage Park, we are celebrating the **20th anniversary of our lovely park**. This is a new date and we are having have cake, lemonade, snacks, and other drinks. A brief program is planned. We are thanking the Parks and Recreation Department and celebrating the hard work that went into purchasing and developing the loveliest park in America. Thank you, Melrose! We have a time capsule that you can contribute small mementos... great fun for the kids!
2. We enjoyed a wonderful tour of the Micanopy Historical Society Museum on February 19. It is a terrific museum and we are grateful for the experience.
3. Roy Collins postponed his trip from Tampa to Melrose until Sunday, Nov 13, 2pm. He will share memories of his grandfather and former governor of Florida, Leroy Collins. Please join us at the Homemaker's Club (formerly Vogelbach's Drugstore). Free. Light refreshments served.
4. The remains of the Orange Springs-to-Starke road run through the historic Banana grist mill site just south of the Melrose stoplight. The road pre-dates State Route 21. Gone but not forgotten is the Orange Springs Ferry and Fish Camp on the Ocklawaha River...well, almost gone...please keep reading. The Orange Springs ferry began circa 1882 and was later owned by the Elton family from the 1930s to the early 1960s. The Snyders then ran the business until 1968 when the entire fish camp and ferry landing were swallowed by flood waters creating the Rodman Dam. Over 7,500 acres of forested wetlands, 16 miles of river, and at least 20 springs were covered, too. Fortunately, the old camp building was preserved, trucked to Melrose, and restored!

A fascinating article on the Ocklawaha Ferry (1968) is posted on the HMI website. <https://historicmelroseflorida.org/newsletters/>



Orange Springs Ferry and Fish camp on the Ocklawaha River, 1968

5. Volunteers are needed to lead our oral history program and to manage our historic St. John the Fisherman cemetery in Earleton.
6. We are grateful to our board of directors who love Melrose and keep HMI going: Lynn Hughes (President), James Peffley (VP), Peter Landauer (Treasurer), Sara Hebert (Secretary), Kasey Adkins, Jean Giesel, Laura Hess, Kathi Warren, Michael Weeks, Dr. Mark Barrow (Emeritus), Patti Christensen (Emeritus), and Jean Marshall (Emeritus).


Lynn Hughes
President

HMI is a nonprofit organization, 501(c)(3), EIN 59-2743455

2022 Membership Renewal. 2nd Notice

If you have already sent in your donation, please do not pay. Thank you.

We would be truly grateful if you renew your membership to HMI. Please detach this form and mail your donation to: HMI, PO Box 704, Melrose, FL 32666

Make checks payable to: HMI.

Name: _____ Address: _____

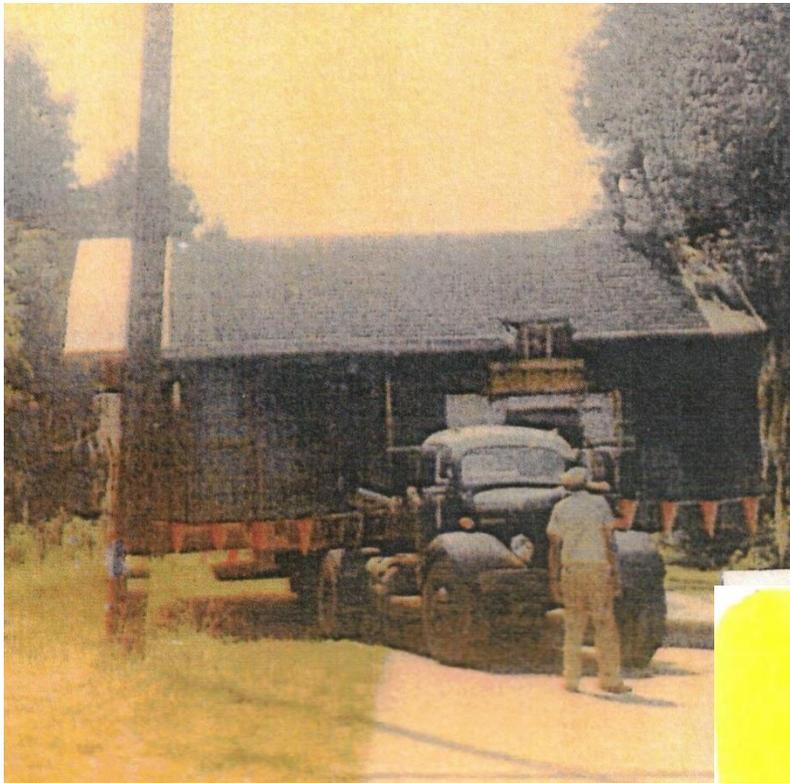
Email: _____

My check includes the following:

- Individual membership \$15
- Family membership \$25

\$ _____ *additional support for the* HMI General Fund Homemaker's Club
 Heritage Park St. John the Fisherman Cemetery (Earleton) Banana Grist Mill site

\$ _____ **total amount** (all contributions are tax deductible)



The Orange Springs Ferry avoided a 32-mile trip through Ft. McCoy, Eureka, and Forest Road 77 (dirt road).

Although the Orange Springs Ferry was swallowed by the Rodman Dam, the Fish Camp building was saved and trucked to Melrose! It is private property and the current owner wishes to remain anonymous.

