



# The Pioneer Press

Barberville  
Pioneer Settlement's  
Newsletter  
Winter/Spring 2020

From the Director's Desk

## THE RED HAND-DIPPED CANDLES

*Flashback to 1987*

Max was so tired but still so excited about the school field trip that he had taken that day, he could hardly get to sleep. He couldn't stop thinking about it. How in the world did kids back then ever survive? The lady at the log cabin had said that twelve children lived in that one room house. And that one of the kids' jobs was dumping the bed pan every morning. Who ever heard of a bed pan? Gross!!

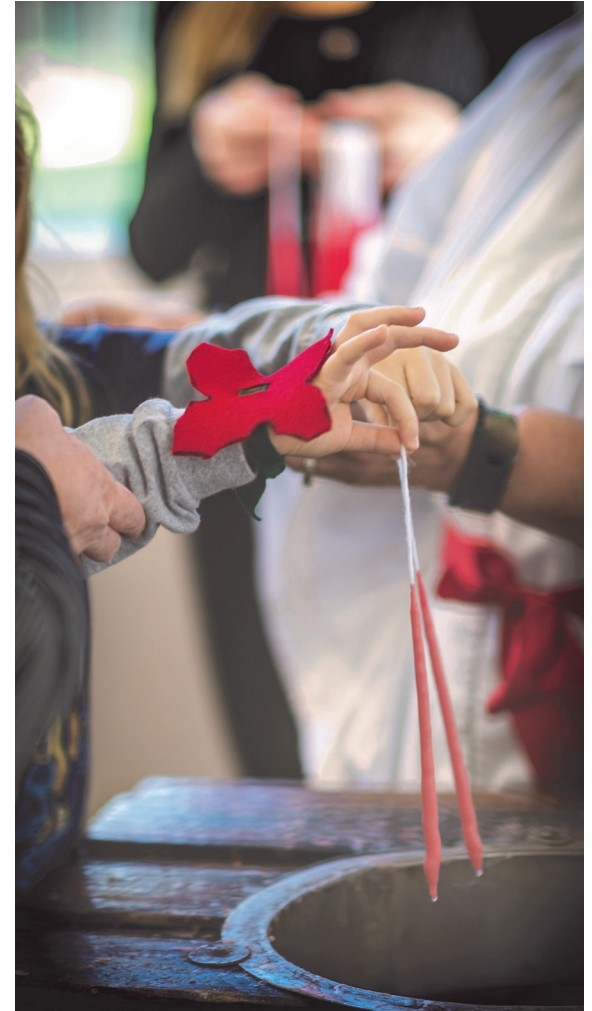
He climbed out of his bed and turned on the light imagining what it would be like to have no electricity to even charge a cell phone or watch TV. He reached under his bed and found the wooden box that his great-grandfather had made, carved from real wood. He remembered the guy in the woodshop showing the class how to use those old tools. He'd even had the chance to use the drill and the draw knife.

He opened the box of treasures and among his favorite matchbox cars, GI Joe figurine, and the \$3.97 he had saved up for a new Atari game, was his purchase from that days visit to the Pioneer Settlement. He just knew his mom was going to love the pair of red hand-dipped candles that he planned to give to her for Christmas. He and his classmates had helped to dip a similar pair but those had to stay behind on the drying rack until they were dipped enough times to fit into a candle holder. When he asked the teacher how many times a candle needed to be dipped to become big enough to buy she said it took about thirty children just like him for each candle.

He picked up the handmade nail that he also bought in the little Country Store. He felt the rough edges and the point with his fingertips. It was one that a real Blacksmith had made and he dreamed of becoming a super hero who could bend iron into cool tools by heating them in a fire and pounding them with a hammer.

When the door creaked open he quickly closed the box and slid it back into its hiding place. Whew he thought, that was close as his mother crossed the room to say goodnight to her little man. Momma always called him little man but he was glad it was only in private and never around his friends. Even though Max felt like he was getting a little too old to be tucked in he still secretly enjoyed the scent of her perfume and the sweetness in her voice before falling asleep.

Yes he could hardly wait for Christmas morning to give her that pair of red hand-dipped candles.



*Continued on next page*

# Ambassador Club Members

## LIFETIME MEMBERS

Sarah D Abrahamson  
Dale Barnhart  
Marilyn & Rich Breeze  
Harriet B. Bolin  
Lee & Kay Doughty  
Howard & Snooky Grisham  
Richard & Lou Ellen Hagstrom  
Natalie Hazard & Family  
Lester Hollenback  
Rachel Jackson  
Don & Diana Johnson  
Margie LaRoe & Joel Kelley  
Bertha Lucas  
Mary Rinderle  
Richard & Jean Schuler  
Frank & Jean Underhill  
Joe & Katie Waller

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The Dillard Family

## ADVOCATE MEMBERS

Hagstrom & Son, Inc  
Richard Hagstrom Ferneries  
Hidden Valley Park  
D & C McCall - Window to the Past

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Heinrich Hole  
Dell & Helen Hoyt  
John & Carol Izzo  
John Kern  
Emily Mieras  
Rick & Pam Rintz  
Jim, Lori & Ernest Rogers  
Rick & Bonnie Stam  
Jim Schrader & Louise Stedman  
Dennis Thomas  
Joe & Sandra Underhill  
Eric Wendorf

## FRIENDS

Florida Artist Blacksmith Association

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

*Fast forward to 2020*

Max was surprised that morning at his anticipation about chaperoning his daughter Natalie's school field trip. He could barely eat breakfast as he wondered if things had changed much there over the last 30 years. Max had taken the day off and was really looking forward to seeing the place he remembered as a child and sharing it with his eight year old daughter.

Upon arrival Max noticed that things did look much the way he remembered, the old schoolhouse was looking pretty good for its 100 years. As Max and Natalie's class moved from station to station to the ringing of the school bell Max's appreciation for this preservation of history and for the people dedicated to passing on the pioneer arts and trades grew. The fascination and wonder he saw shining in his daughter Natalie's eyes as she experienced the butter making, weaving and spinning was reminiscent to his own excitement of thirty years ago.

As they entered the candle room the scent of the melted wax flooded his mind with memories. Little did he realize how significant that gift to his mom way back when would become. See up until three years ago every Christmas his Mom would unpack the pair of red hand-dipped candles and place them in small cut glass holders and put them on the mantle. She never did light them saying that they weren't meant to burn that they were a gift that was meant for keeps. He wondered what had become of those red hand-dipped candles.

The sound of the school bell ringing brought Max back to the present. The class made their way to lunch and then a quick visit to the Country Store. Max was hopeful that he and Natalie would find a pair of hand-dipped candles to carry home. Natalie looked on with anticipation as Max shared with the store clerk that he had made the same purchase at this store many years before and he wanted to pass down the tradition. The clerk could see the disappointment on their faces when she explained that they had just sold the very last pair of candles. "But just wait right here a moment," the clerk exclaimed as she ran off. In a few minutes she returned with a pair of candles that had just finished drying on the rack in the candle room. She handed the candles to Natalie telling her that these candles were extra special since they were ones that she had actually helped dip. Max and Natalie boarded the busses for their return trip with smiling faces and grateful hearts. The tradition was complete thanks to the quick thinking and thoughtfulness of the store clerk. *Continued on next page*

*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.*

Later that afternoon at home Max decided to put the candles in safe keeping for the next Christmas season. As he searched through the garage he discovered a few boxes that had belonged to his mother. He had put off going through them since her passing three years ago, and was inclined to do the same now until something familiar caught his eye.

It was the wooden box from his great grandfather where he once stored up his childhood treasures. Max's mom had carefully placed several items in the box and among them were the cut glass candle holders, the red hand-dipped candles and a handwritten note in his mother's script that read:

*They were not meant to burn  
The gift was meant to keep  
Like treasures stored in wooden boxes  
As you sow you shall also reap*

*Now the red hand-dipped candles  
Are yours to pass along  
Like memoirs and traditions  
Keepsakes are meant life-long*

*No gift is ever greater  
Than one from a young child's heart  
A mother's love is forever  
On earth or worlds apart*

*Now it's you who must pass on  
Traditions from hand to hand  
Like the red hand-dipped candles  
Given with love from my little man*

Max put everything along with the Natalie's pair of red hand-dipped candles back inside the hand carved wooden box and with tears in his eyes and a smile on his face he gave it to Natalie to put under her bed.

## THE END

The inspiration for creating this story came from hearing numerous times visitors say, "Oh, I came here on a field trip when I was a kid."

I hope this conveys the value of the role that the Barberville Pioneer Settlement plays in not only historical preservation but in the passing on of traditions. Our forty-four year-old mission of preserving history and passing down traditions has in and of itself caused us to become that which we portray. Your help is needed to continue the traditions.

Please give generously.



## BARBERVILLE PIONEER SETTLEMENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dennis Thomas - President  
Jim Rogers - Vice President  
Diana Johnson - Secretary  
Joe Underhill - Treasurer  
Joan Carter  
John Case  
Dell Hoyt  
John Kern  
Emily Mieras  
Frank Paulhamus  
Richard Schuler  
Eric Wendorf

## STAFF MEMBERS

Executive Director —Debra West  
Associate Director—Gudrun Benson  
Customer Service and Reservation  
Specialist — Jenna Blackwell  
Resident Blacksmith & Facilities  
Manager—Heinrich Hole  
Facilities & Field Trip Assistants—  
Stan Arel  
Su Edgar  
Sam Edgar  
Matt Ford  
Erick Nielsen  
Jack Whitman

## SEASONAL TEAM MEMBERS

Lyle Behnke  
Joanna and Jonathan Demarest  
Richard and Rhonda McCutcheon  
Dennis & Andrea Lawson  
Laverne Shoopman  
Jay Voelkner  
Eric Wendorf

## Running a top-notch historical village museum is not cheap...

A local visitor stopped by recently and shared with a staff member his thought that with all the money that the Settlement has we should be able to afford to update our restrooms to something more proper and fitting.

It is perplexing. And not the first time we have heard this misconception that some folks believe the Settlement has abundant funding. The reality is that we struggle with a funding



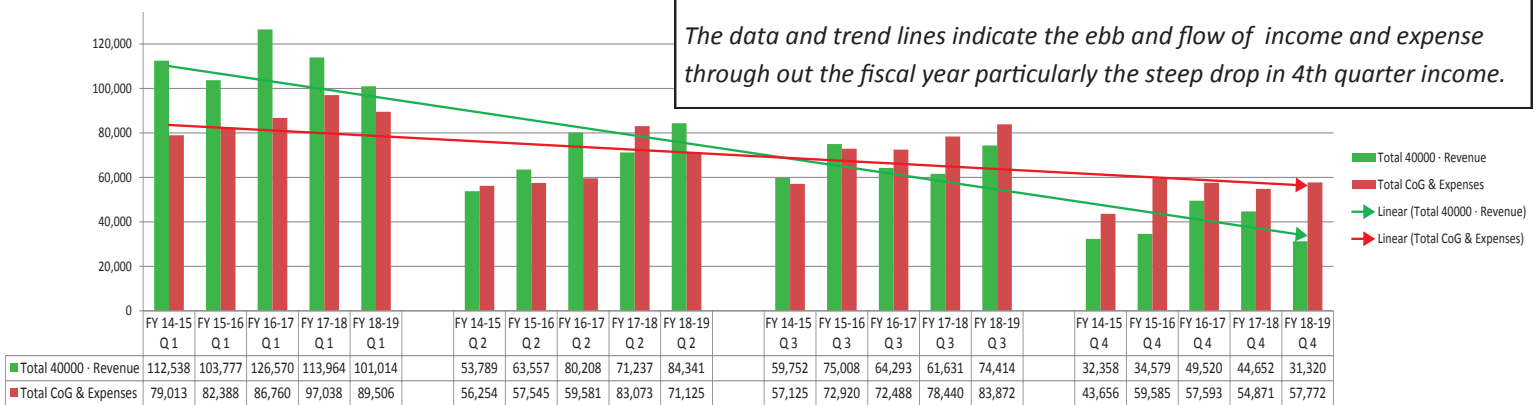
gap every summer. Ever since the recession in 2008 - 2009 when Volusia County Schools discontinued funding second grade field trips and two full-time staff members. The real truth is that initiatives to increase wages, provide health insurance for staff members and improve our facilities are but pipe dreams if we do not become fully funded.

## What does it take to keep Barberville Pioneer Settlement operating?

Based on our last fiscal year 2018 – 2019 excluding restoration, rehabilitation projects and hurricane clean-up our operational costs total \$708.27 per day / \$ 4,957.89 per week / \$21, 543.13 per month or \$258,517.55 per year. At the end of summer to make ends meet and to prepare for our largest event The Fall Country Jamboree — we have to borrow money. *It's time to end this trend!*

### 5-year Comparison Chart, arranged by Fiscal Year Quarters

The data and trend lines indicate the ebb and flow of income and expense through out the fiscal year particularly the steep drop in 4th quarter income.



A very special and generous group of friends have agreed to help us out and are **matching your donations** made through the end of March up to \$16,500.00. This means that your donation made before March 31st, 2020 will be doubled! \$10 becomes \$20 and \$1,000 becomes \$2,000!

Our goal is to raise \$35,000.00 to fund the Gap for 2020. Show us your SUPPORT! Your gift will help us make 2020 the year when our final quarter will be a **climb out of the red.**

# WHAT DOES YOUR GIFT SUPPORT?

## FUND the GAP 2020

**Children** - Brings history to life for over 12,000 elementary school children each year that visit with their class on a field trip.

**Families** - Passing on traditions. Many parents tell us that they have fond memories of a visit here when they were children and are happy to be able to share the Pioneer Settlement with their own kids.

**Seniors** - We provide a top notch historical village museum where our seniors can stroll through time reminiscing of the days of old before everything became so automatic.



**\$11** Feeds and cares for our farm animals for one day

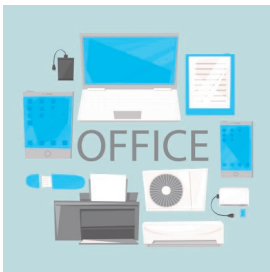


**\$25** Buys ten gallons of fuel for lawn care equipment



**\$50** Covers the Average cost of electricity usage for one day

**\$100** Covers half of our printing/equipment costs for one month



**\$300** Underwrites our cost for one field trip



**\$425** Funds one average day's payroll



**\$500** Covers one month of building and grounds maintenance



**\$1,000** Stock our ice cream freezer for one year



**\$1,500** Rents port-a-lets or golf carts for a two day event

**\$2,000** Deputy Sheriff's fees for the Fall Country Jamboree



**\$3,500** Pays for annual pest control fees or tree work



**\$10,000** Underwrites one year of Workers' Comp and Liability Insurances

## INSURANCE



**\$5,000** Covers food & supplies for a Jamboree or Spring Frolic

**\$15,000** Covers most expenses for a two-day event

## FUND the GAP 2020

Give by March 31st to double your impact up to \$16,500!

Use the enclosed envelope to support Barberville Pioneer Settlement or visit [pioneersettlement.org/fundthegap2020](http://pioneersettlement.org/fundthegap2020) or call 386-749-2959.

# Music, Dance & Living History Festival

## Arts & Crafts Show too!

### Spring Frolic

16th Annual



April 4th & 5th, 2020

Saturday 9am—9pm

Sunday 9am—4pm

\$10.00 Adults

\$5.00 Children 6-12

Members and Parking are  
**FREE**

- Seven Stages of Acoustic Music—Folk, Bluegrass, Old-Time, Celtic and Gospel
  - 200+ Musical Performers - Music Workshops - Jam Tents
- Old Fashioned Barn & Contra Dancing - Living History Demonstrations
- Hand Made Arts & Crafts Vendors - Business and Direct Sales Vendors
  - Visit the Farm - Find the Hidden Fiddles - Silent Auction
    - Antique Car Show (Saturday Only)
- Tour Volusia County's Oldest Brick Residence the Joseph Underhill House
  - Enjoy the Settlement's famous BBQ Pork and other food items

[www.PioneerSettlement.org](http://www.PioneerSettlement.org) (386) 749-2959

Vendor Applications & Sponsor Opportunities Available

Join these fine sponsors from 2019 and become one of our  
Annual Event Sponsors for 2020!

The West Volusia  
**Beacon**

Kathryn's  
**BEADS**  
& BAUBLES

HISTORIC DELAND ♥ FLORIDA

A. G. Pifer Construction Company Inc., All Volusia & Flagler Heating & Air,  
Barberville Yard Art Emporium, Boulevard Tire Center,  
Blackwater Inn and William's Landing, Painter Printing Company,  
Friends of Florida Folk, Gram's Kitchen, Hidden Valley Park, Kaiser Buick GMC Truck,  
The Magnolia Company, Mainstreet Community Bank,  
Milzarch Architect—Jerry Mills, Page Insurance Agency, WCA

Contact Debra West for more information about becoming a sponsor and supporting our events year round. 386-749-2959

# News & Announcements

On Thursday December 19th along with the DeLand Area Chamber



of Commerce and the Astor Area Chamber of Commerce we held a ribbon cutting ceremony to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Barberville Central High School!

**Have you met Ollie and Sancho yet?** What Sancho lacks in ears Ollie makes up for!

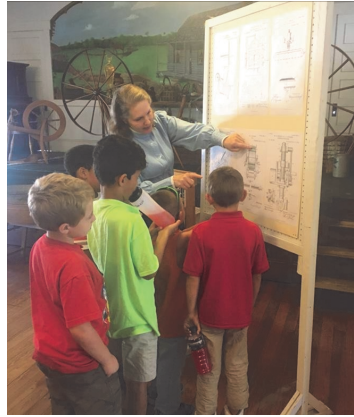


Make sure you stop by and see our new display celebrating the art of rug hooking. Many thanks to Bettina Moraldo



**HOOKED  
ON  
RUGS!**

and all of our 'hookers' for sharing this beautiful collection of fiber art. You will find the rugs on display throughout the school until March 28th.



**March's Second Saturday salutes Women in History!** Featuring presentations about women inventors, women in literature and musical performances saluting women songwriters.

Activities will also include a **Grand Opening** of our newest preservation project the "**Relay Cabin**". This is the second time that this century old cypress "shack" was dismantled and moved. The cabin was first saved from destruction in 1978. Clauda and Jack Green moved it piece by piece just a few miles from its original Ormond Beach homestead on Buckskin Road to the Green's property just off of Cone Road.



It is believed to have been used as a relay station to water the horses and dates back to the mid to late 1800's!

Thanks to Joyce Benedict of the Ormond Beach Historical Society for managing and financing the move and to Chris & Karen Calabrese for donating the cabin. Also to Greg Rabiottolo Construction for the dismantle and delivery and to Craftsman Builders for the rebuild. **The Ribbon Cutting will be at 11am on Saturday March 14th.**

**YOGA CLASSES** — Join us on **Tuesdays at 5:15pm** in the High School Auditorium for Easy Yoga. All levels are welcome from novice to experienced. Wear comfortable clothing, bring hydration beverage and a yoga mat. \$7.00 per person per class.

**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](mailto:directors@pioneersettlement.org). Board meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month at the Settlement at 7pm. Directors are expected to attend meetings, hold a minimum annual level of a Patron membership and contribute to the annual fees for Directors & Officers Insurance.

**Help us keep the old traditions alive for our children and grandchildren.** Field trips are Monday – Friday 9am - 1pm. Once a week or once a month can be a big help! We can assist with period correct attire. Must be able to pass a background check.

**Help is also needed for the Spring Frolic!** Contact Su Edgar at (386) 749-2959 Volunteer forms can be found on our website.

[www.pioneersettlement.org/volunteers](http://www.pioneersettlement.org/volunteers)





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\*A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION # CH15101 AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800) 435-7352 WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE

## Lura Bell Award Gudrun Benson



### Congratulations Gudrun!

Thanks for over twenty years of service above and beyond. The Lura Bell Award is an honor given to individuals that have exemplified dedicated service to the success of the Barberville Pioneer Settlement. Debra surprised Gudrun with the award at the Annual Membership Meeting on January, 25th 2020.

### 2020 Calendar of Special Events

- April 4th & 5th **15th Annual Spring Frolic**
- June 13th **5th Celebration of Olde Florida**
- Sept. 12th **Fire & Ice Annual Open House - Chili Cook Off and Ice Cream Churn Off**
- Nov. 7th & 8th **43rd Annual Fall Country Jamboree**
- Dec. 12th **Florida Christmas Remembered**

### 2020 Calendar of On-Going Events

**First Saturdays Free Music Workshops & Jam**—the first Saturday of every month—our renowned volunteer teachers offer Free Music Lessons with paid admission or membership.

**Second Saturdays at the Settlement**—Every Second Saturday features different living history demonstrations, workshops and exhibits

**Fiber Arts Guild** meets on the third Saturday

**Rug Hookers** meet on the fourth Saturday

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

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**