



## Happy New Year! Rolling Up Our Sleeves For 2024!

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- Tonya Gordon, Vice President
- Theresa Owen, Secretary
- Susan Baird, Treasurer

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- Susan Baird
- Robert Creal
- James Fiske
- Ashley Gonzalez
- Tonya Gordon

- Claudia Malo
- Theresa Owen
- Ed Siarkowicz
- Preston Zepp

Executive Administration:

- Fran Anderson

Special Collections Curator:

- Tonya Gordon

Museum Curator:

- Ed Siarkowicz

Preservation Specialist:

- Preston Zepp

Governance Committee:

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- Gloria Deen
- Prunie Wadsworth-Rogers
- Bill Ryan

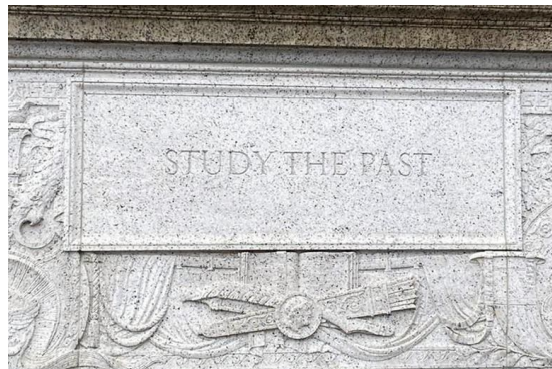


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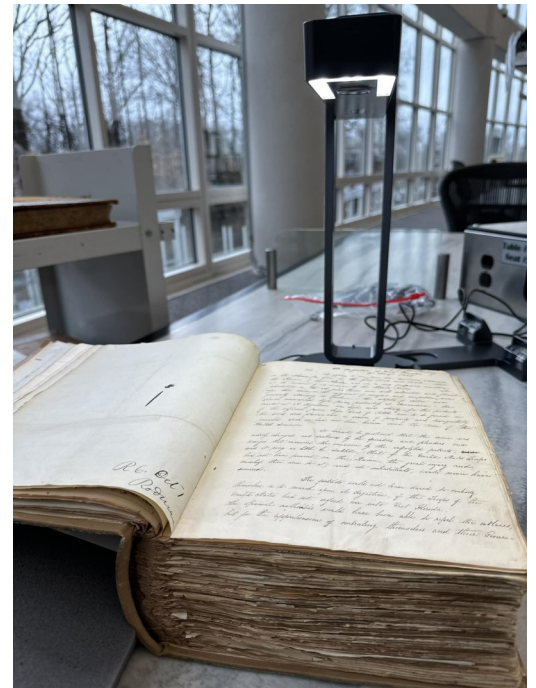
*We wish you a year of health and happiness!*

There was much fanfare throughout 2023 as we celebrated our 40th anniversary of preserving and teaching history. As we look towards the next 40 years of preservation and education, we're digging deep into archival storehouses to extract Flagler County history and information that's been hidden for hundreds of years. During the week between Christmas and New Years, the FCHS helped fund a research trip to the National Archives in



*At the National Archives in Washington, D.C..*

Washington, D.C. for the dynamic-duo of history recovery, Ashley Gonzalez and Tonya Gordon. These two Board members have a legendary track record for finding facts quickly—often when no one else



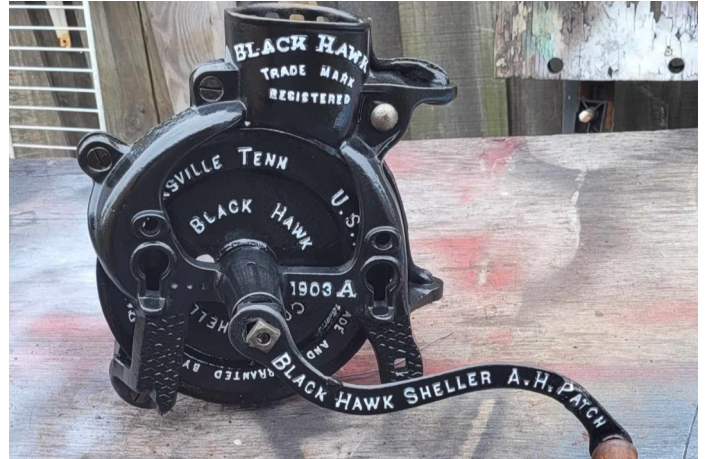
*The sightseeing done by Tonya and Ashley.*

can. We've already gotten a glimpse into some of their research and it's amazing! We'll be sharing it here as the pieces come together. February's issue will take a look at 2023 in review and our plans for what's coming in 2024. Stay tuned as we continue to be stewards of Flagler County history. Thank you for your support!

# Zeppstoration Corner: Preston Zepp Is No Ordinary Little Elf...



*Oh rusty little thing lying in a box, how will I ever feed my ox...*



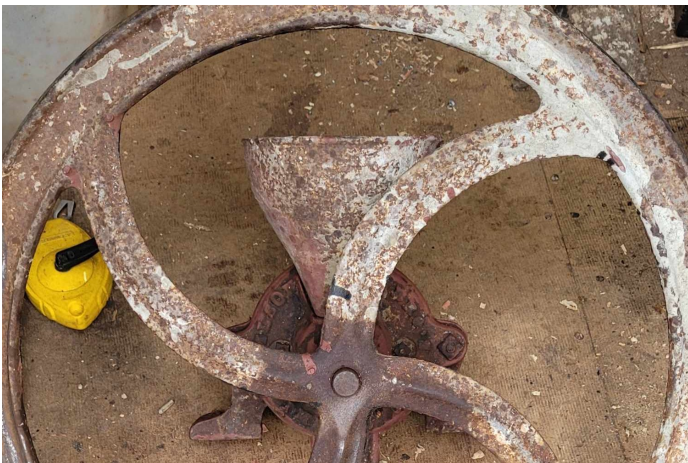
*Never fear, Zeppstoration is near! You'll feed your ox in your box!*



*Broken, rusty, scattered away...*



*Show Preston Zepp, he'll save the day!*



*Rejected, forgotten, headed for scrap...*



*Zepp'll make 'er look fancy, you'll drop open your trap!*

# Amazing Piece of Marineland History Rolls Into S.D.R.L.



*With the Marineland crew after loading it onto the trailer.*



*"Where's the fire?" Preston Zepp on a roll.*

The Historical Society was very excited to have received a call from Terran McGinnis at Marineland about the loan of this original 1930s piece of firefighting history. In December we finally made the arrangements to pick it up and bring it to Bunnell for display in the Sisco Deen Research Library. Original to Marineland Film



*A vintage patch from Station 16.*

Studios, this device is a bona-fide fire engine, the engine part fueled by a chemical reaction that took place when a fire was imminent. We've already spoken with former FCHS Board Member Janice Hoskins about the device. Her husband and son trained on it back in the 1970s when they were members of Station 16.



*After cleaning and oiling the wooden spokes.*

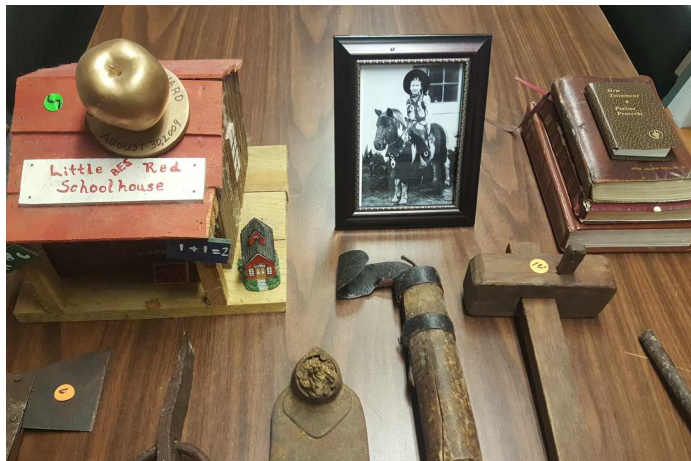


*Preston and History Intern Simon Krassner following placement.*

# Pieces of Diane Marquis' Legacy Rescued From Estate Sale



*Hand-painted snow people will now celebrate Diane yearly!*



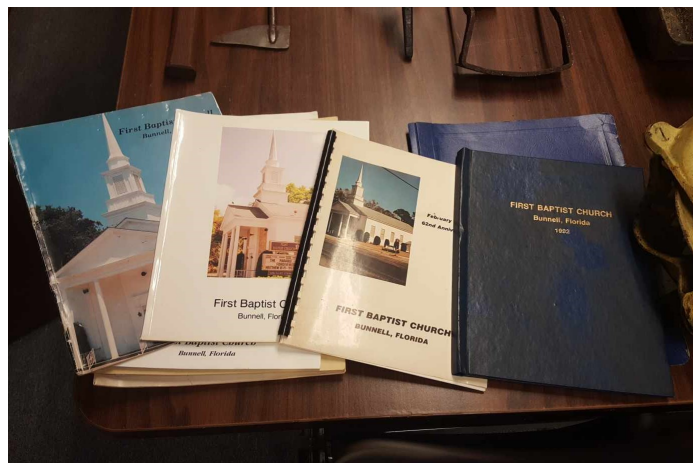
*A LRSH Museum model, childhood photo, and family bibles.*

FCHS President Ed Siarkowicz and Preservation Specialist Preston Zepp attended the long-awaited estate sale of Diane Marquis last month. Diane Marquis was a Past President of the Flagler County Historical Society and the creator of the Little Red Schoolhouse Museum (LRSH). She spent her life preserving history and educating students about history during her decades long teaching career at Bunnell Elementary School. She was also a champion of history preservation, working diligently on efforts

to preserve the Flagler County branch of the Dixie Highway, a.k.a. the Brick Road. On two successive trips, the team of Zepp and Siarkowicz were also able to purchase and obtain Flagler County schoolbooks dating to the late 1800s and early 1900s, and Flagler County Historical Society financial records and Board of Directors minutes from meetings that took place in the early 2000s. We're so very excited that we are now the good stewards of Diane's legacy and that we'll be able to preserve the memory of her work.



*A tobacco hatchet and local logging and turpentine tools.*



*Historic information and records on Bunnell First Baptist Church.*



# Historical Society Bus Tours Starting



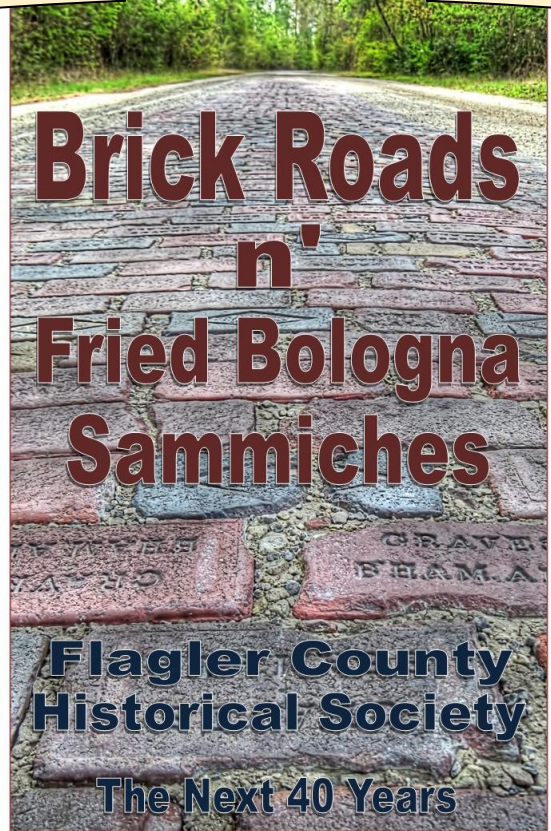
*The History Shuttle has been making regular runs!*

In preparation for history tours starting in January, FCHS President Ed Siarkowicz has been making weekly tour runs with our new-to-us history shuttle mini-van. The van, donated to us by the Flagler County Board of County Commissioners, is ADA compliant with a wheelchair ramp. On a recent tour, FCHS History Intern Simon Krassner, had the opportunity to experience three and a half hours and 106 miles of Flagler County history. Included in the tour was a trip back to the 1700s with a tour of Hewitt's Revolutionary War Sawmill and Dam.



*Simon Krassner at Hewitt's 1770 Sawmill and Dam.*

**Coming in January!**



# Hey! What Happened To That Cookbook??

Over the last five years our President, Ed Siarkowicz, occasionally bites off more than he can chew. That's exactly the case with our 40th Anniversary cookbook that was due to be released before Christmas. So, the cookbook has been re-branded to celebrate to future of Flagler County history preservation with a sub-title change to "The Next 40 Years". In addition to local history, the book will now feature a section entitled, "Endangered Historic Sites". Thank you so much for your inquiries on the publication date of the book...it's coming!

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*January 2023—The graduating class of History Academy I at the Palm Coast Community Center.*

- From Mammoths and Mastodons, to Tremendous Denizens of the Deep!
- From Timucuan, Guale, and Seminole Native Americans, to Spanish search parties, British Colonial plantations, and Revolutionary War Sawmills.
- From Seminole and Civil Wars, to Nazi Submarines off Flagler Beach.
- From Kings Road and Dixie Highway, to Tin Can Tourists and Land Booms.
- From Henry Flagler’s Railroad, to Paddle-Wheel Boats and BIG Agriculture.
- From long hidden archives, passed down treasured stories, and our Re-enactors and Teachers, to your precious minds. Join Us!

**For Information, Click the QR Code below or write:**

[FlaglerCountyHistoryAcademy@gmail.com](mailto:FlaglerCountyHistoryAcademy@gmail.com)



# Erect Prickly Pear Cactus

## Opuntia Mesacantha, Opuntia Humifusa



*The yellow flower of the prickly pear cactus.*

This thorny evergreen plant can be found throughout Florida. It prefers full sun and dry, sandy locations ranging from the salty coastal strand, sand-hills and scrubby flat-woods. They don't have leaves; they have flattened green pads that store moisture. In late spring and summer, the prickly pear cactus gets beautiful yellow flowers that attract a variety of native bees and other insect pollinators. The pear-shaped fruit ripens to a dark purplish-pink in fall and winter and are covered in fine bristles. These fleshy fruits and seeds are eaten by birds, small

mammals and gopher tortoises. The prickly pear cactus fruits and young pads are edible to humans, but you need to remove the bristles and needles first, one way to do this is to roast them. Seeds have been found in historic sites in Florida (Horr's Island on the west coast). The ripe fruits are called tuna's and can be eaten fresh, dried or canned. They have been made into jams, jellies and juices. There are medicinal benefits as well ranging from reducing hangover symptoms, treating and managing diabetes, toothaches, kidney stones and a variety of other ailments.

By Celena Zimmerman

References: Florida's First People by Robin C. Brown  
<https://www.historicmysteries.com/prickly-pear/>  
<https://www.flawildflowers.org/flower-friday-opuntia-humifusa/>



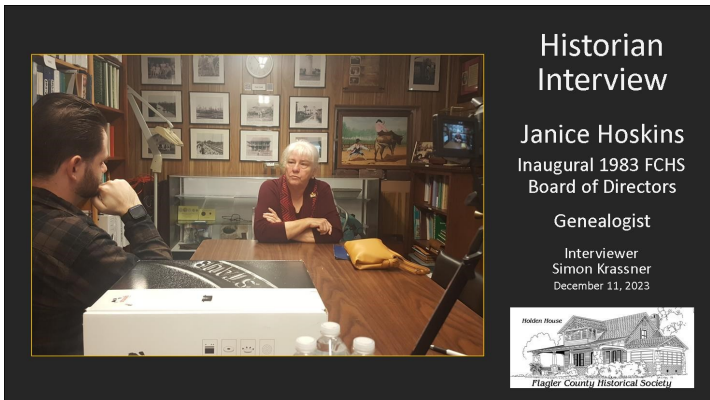
*Dark purple, pear-shaped fruit ripens in fall and winter.*



Celena and Joey Zimmerman are the owners of the local native plant nursery, "Flora of Flagler". Look them up on Facebook and pay them a visit!

# Interviews: People Making History

## History Intern Simon Krassner Behind The Camera



*Interviewing inaugural Board Member Janice Hoskins.*

We have thoroughly enjoyed having UNF History Major Simon Krassner at the Historical Society during his internship. His broad range of talents have helped us in so many ways.

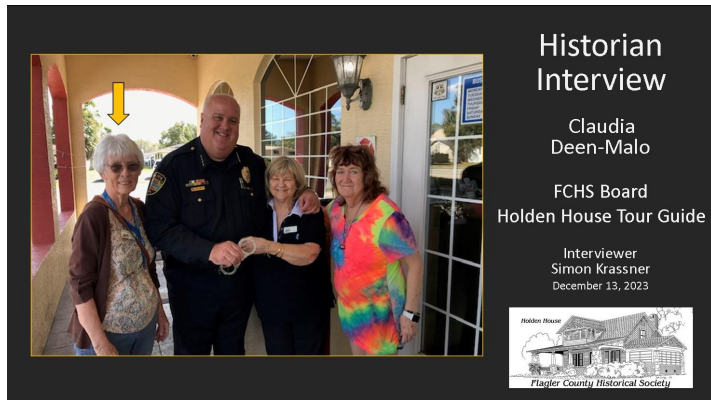
Recently he has been helping us get our Historian Interview series underway. In December, Simon conducted three interviews with people who have made history happen—not only at the Historical Society, but in Flagler County itself.

Interview number one was with Janice Hoskins, a founding member of the Flagler County Historical Society and a long-time resident of The Hammock.

The interview not only covers how the Historical Society came into being, it also covers little-known historical tidbits of information that you would have to live through to know. Who knew that John Dillinger was in Flagler County??

Interview number two was with Prunie Wadsworth-Rodgers. Prunie has not only been a long-time Board Member, she has also been a lifetime resident of Flagler County, having grown up both at Princess Place, in the lodge house, and in Bunnell.

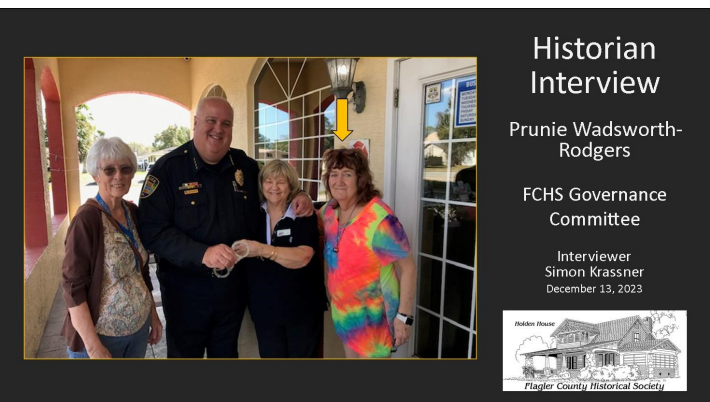
Interview number three was with Claudia Deen-Malo.



*The interview of Claudia Deen-Malo.*

Born and raised in Bunnell, Claudia has fascinating stories about our local area, as well as stories of the youthful antics of her and her brother Sisco Deen.

All three interviews can be found on the Flagler County Historical Society's YouTube Channel along with interviews of other local prominent people. If you have a story to tell, give us a call at the number below. We'd love to set a time to have you come in and tell us what you know, how you survived, and what you used to do in this county we call home. Get your memories down for others to enjoy!

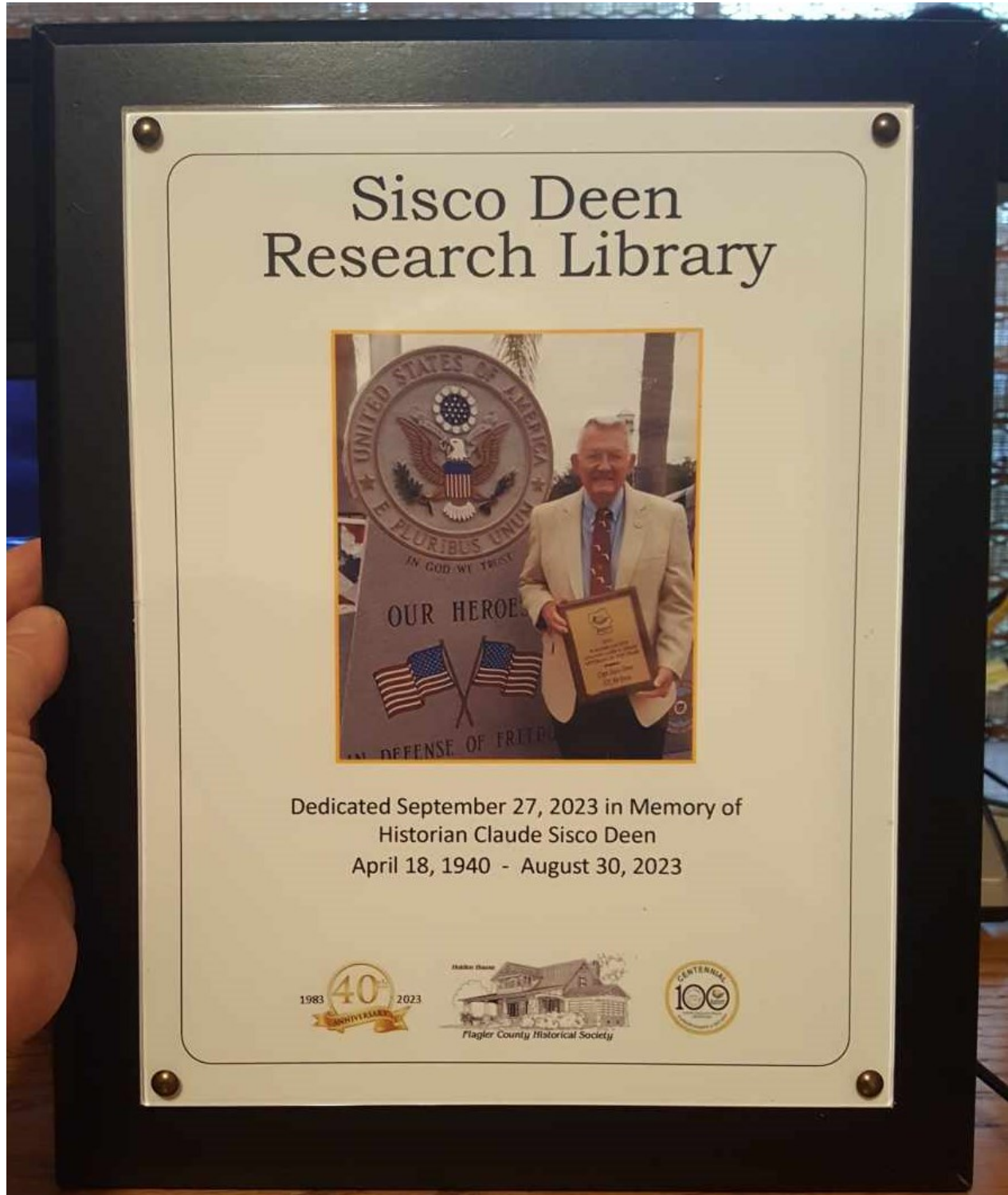


*The interview of Prunie Wadsworth-Rodgers.*



# In Memory of Sisco Deen

It is with renewed strength that we will strive to preserve Flagler County history.





# Thomas A. Verdenius

of the Highly Esteemed  
Bunnell Development Co.

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