



**HOLLY HILL HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION  
SOCIETY, INC.**  
Museum & Education Center  
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Summer Hours: Wed-Sat 1-4  
Closed Sun-Tues

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**WE'RE ON THE WEB!**  
[www.hollyhillhistoricsociety.com](http://www.hollyhillhistoricsociety.com)



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***Holly Hill Historic Society***

## **Museum Wish List**

New library computer  
Gift shop items

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# Holly Hill Historic Preservation Society, Inc.

# HHH Newsletter

## Museum & Education Center

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July-September 2016

## Holly Hill Celebrates 1901 Birthday

In June 1875, the administrators of the Chaires estate sold the Fitch grant to William Samuel and Mary Fleming, residents of New Castle County, Delaware. After the Flemings completed the transaction for \$10,000, they constructed a simple wood frame dwelling on their newly acquired property in the Fitch grant, which would later become Holly Hill.

Aware of the potential for more land sales and a need to divide their holdings into smaller, more manageable lots, the Flemings subdivided the Fitch grant in November 1875. They then set out to convince more settlers to relocate to Florida.

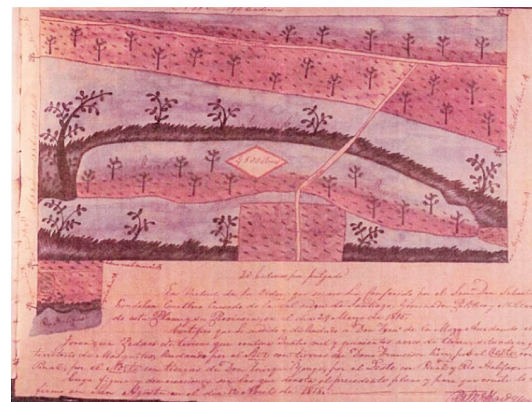
In the summer of 1876 Fleming went to Philadelphia, which was celebrating America's centennial, with the express purpose of influencing settlers to come to his settlement in Florida. He gained the promise of fifteen families. Among them were the Wetherells and the Simcoes. Two other families that Fleming influenced were the Monroes and the Woods. It is notable the Monroes were quite possibly related to James Monroe, the 5th U.S. President.

Holly Hill had no name at this time. In discussion among the settlers, Mrs. Monroe would like to have had it named New Port News after her old home. This was a popular way of naming towns at this time. The settlers however decided that since Mr. Fleming owned nearly all the land and was the colony founder he should have the naming privilege.

Mr. Fleming chose the name Holly Hill in memory of his ancestral home in Holywood, Ireland. He was born there in Holywood (pronounced Hollywood), on the coast of Northern Ireland near Belfast. The new colony reminded him of his Irish home because there was an abundance of holly in the area and a rise in the terrain near the water.

William Samuel Fleming died December 22, 1877, before construction was completed on his home in the city that he named. On July 1, 1901 the settlement was officially incorporated as the City of Holly Hill.

Right: An early colorful survey done in 1818 of the Fitch grant.



## American Legion and 40&8 Celebrate Flag Day

The 40&8 Society celebrated Flag Day with a rededication ceremony of the historic Florida Merc Boxcar. Many dignitaries attended. The Holly Hill American Legion Post 120 at 461 Walker Street hosted a delicious lunch reception afterward. The Museum distributed copies of our Merc Boxcar booklet.

Right: Pat Jones, the first woman and first African-American past National President, visits the Museum to view the model boxcar display. The model was first created as a fundraiser for her campaign for president of the National 40&8 organization.



## Upcoming Events

### **Historic Society's Tour of Homes & Founders Day Festival**

**November 19, 2016  
Saturday, 10am to 4pm**

**We need volunteers for our annual  
Tour of Homes &  
Founders Day Festival.  
Volunteers get free admission,  
a T-shirt and lots of appreciation!**

**Do you have an ability or hobby that  
would make an interesting  
program?  
Contact the Museum .**

**Holly Hill Historic  
Society Depends on You**  
Please make sure your annual dues are paid. Thank you to all who renewed this year. We invite you to attend our programs and visit the Museum often. It's FREE. Members & Volunteers are always needed.

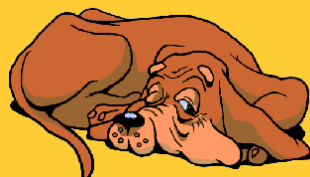


## **NEW SUMMER HOURS!!**

The Museum has set special summer hours this year. The new times are:

**Wednesday thru Saturday 1-4 pm**  
Closed Sun-Tues

However if you would like to arrange an appointment for you or your visiting out of town families & friends please call Dean 386-843-1616 or Rentha at 407-221-6216 for an appointment.



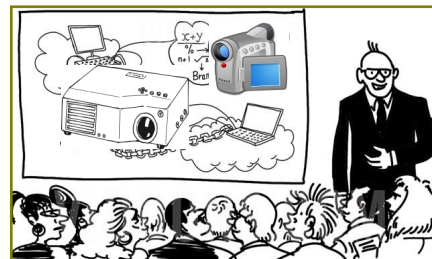
This Corporation shall establish, maintain and conduct programs to preserve and protect the historical, cultural and natural resources of the Holly Hill area and shall promote the development and use of these resources through a program of public education for the betterment and improvement of the community.

## **Society Board Agrees to New Museum Purchases**

Thanks to new lifetime members, the Society has agreed to use the funds to purchase a projector and video camera. The projector will be used to

present future programs and PowerPoint presentations.

The camera will be used to record speakers and personal history interviews with locals.



After a lengthy search the Museum was able to purchase a poster display rack. (left) The rack will create new valuable display space. The Museum can now display items that have been in storage such as historic maps, newspaper articles, posters and rare aerial photography of the east coast area dating from 1962.



## **New Museum Artifacts on Display**

Thank you to Emory Lunsford who donated his early firefighting uniform (right) now on display with other firefighting memorabilia and artifacts. Mr. Lunsford was a firefighter from 1974-1988. Early equipment used by the police department to transmit and receive communications with the deaf is also now on display. Used from the 1950's to the 90's shows how far technology has come. Be sure to visit the Museum to see the changing exhibits and please help us share your photos, artifacts and memories with others.



## **Stay Cool This Summer with T-shirt**

The popular retro "I Climbed Holly Hill" T-shirt from the late 1970's is back.

100% cotton. Sizes small to 2XL  
Get yours at the Museum.



Sizes small  
to XL  
\$8  
each

2XL  
\$10 each

**Your time & talents  
are needed to make  
the Founders Day &  
Home Tour  
a rousing  
success this year!**

**Call the Museum !**

**386-252-2339**

**Advertisement opportunities available**