



# The Volunteer Dispatch

A monthly volunteer newsletter from Manatee Village Historical Park

Issue Twenty-Six, October 2022

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## A Note from Manatee Village Historical Park:



Courtesy of Manatee Village Historical Park Collection

I hope this newsletter finds you and your families well following Hurricane Ian.

See inside for important updates, information on Hurricane Ian’s impact to Manatee Village, and more.

Best wishes,

*Allyson O’Leary*

Education & Volunteer Coordinator

# Important Updates

## **PUBLIC CLOSURE**

Manatee Village Historical Park will be **closed** on **Wednesday, October 5th** for a Clerk In Service day.

No need to come in for any volunteer shifts that day.



*Courtesy of Clipart Library*



## **Pictured, left:**

Halloween party, 1916

This photograph was taken during a Halloween party in Palmetto.

*Courtesy of Manatee County Public Library  
Historical Digital Collections*

## **GIFT SHOP CLOSED**

The gift shop is closed until further notice.

The re-open date is still in the process of being determined by the Manatee County Historical Commission (MCHC). The gift shop is **not** permanently closed. As a reminder, under the current management agreement, the gift shop is operated by members of MCHC and cannot be operated by staff or volunteers.

# Hurricane Ian

Manatee Village Historical Park staff continuously monitors for severe weather, especially during hurricane season. Last week, staff closed the museum to the public and prepared the site for the storm.

Staff preparations included (but was not limited to) boarding up the Wiggins Store and bringing in any outdoor items that could become projectiles in strong wind.

Manatee County probation workers were also onsite to board up the Church.



Pictured: Supervisor Krystin Miner, September 2022



Pictured: debris from Hurricane Ian, September 2022

Manatee Village Historical Park sustained minimal damage from the storm. Debris cleanup was started last Friday by staff and completed on Saturday by probation workers. There are still some things staff is working on getting fixed (fence damage, the church steeple cross, and a courthouse shutter).

Last Friday staff also assessed the Manatee Burying Ground. There was downed debris throughout the grounds, but overall there was minimal damage to the gravesites. For a cleanup of this nature, staff will contact the City of Bradenton to notify them about the debris and single headstone that sustained damage.

Manatee Village Historical Park re-opened to the public on Monday, October 3rd. We hope you and your families are doing well after the storm!

# Volunteer Opportunities



Courtesy of Clipart Library

## **An Old Florida Christmas**

*An Old Florida Christmas* will take place this year on Saturday, December 10th. We will need volunteers for the admission tables, craft stations, and more.

If you are interested in helping out at this event, please click [HERE](#).

## **If you have any questions, reach out to:**

Allyson O'Leary

Education & Volunteer Coordinator

941-749-7165

[allyson.oleary@manateeclerk.com](mailto:allyson.oleary@manateeclerk.com)

## **Holiday Decorating**

Volunteers will be needed for holiday decorating in November! Stay tuned for more details.

If you have any questions about holiday decorating or would like to notify us of your interest in helping with this project please don't hesitate to reach out.

Allyson O'Leary

Education & Volunteer Coordinator

941-749-7165

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*Images: Volunteers decorating for the holiday season at Manatee Village Historical Park  
Courtesy of Manatee Village Historical Park Collection*

# Volunteer Spotlight

**A big THANK YOU to the volunteers who came out to the first cemetery cleanup of the season!**

On September 24th volunteers came out to help clean the 1850 Manatee Burying Ground. They did an excellent job!

Thank you for helping us preserve history for others to learn from!



*Images: Volunteers in the Manatee Burying Ground, September 2022*

# Call For Volunteer News

Have you recently learned a fun history fact? Have you started a new hobby? Got a recipe you'd like to share? A new addition to your family? Have you celebrated a milestone?

We'd love to feature your news in the newsletter!

Send in any fun facts, hobbies, recipes, pictures, and any other information you'd like to share with your fellow volunteers and staff.

**You can email your news to [allyson.oleary@manateclerk.com](mailto:allyson.oleary@manateclerk.com) or call 941-749-7165.**

