



The Volunteer Dispatch

A quarterly volunteer newsletter from Manatee Village Historical Park
Winter 2024.

A Note from Manatee Village Historical Park:

Dear Volunteers,

It is a new season and year at Manatee Village Historical Park! I hope everyone had a wonderful 2023, a happy New Year, and a lovely Valentine's Day.

Please see inside this issue for upcoming events involving YOU, an update on our staff, and more. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Have a wonderful Winter season!

Best wishes,

Reba Bohlender

Event & Volunteer Coordinator

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Important Updates

Upcoming Closures

Presidents' Day

Monday, February 19

February 24

Because we were open Saturday, February 3 for MHD events, we will be closed Saturday, February 24.

Good Friday

Friday, March 29

New Staff

We have two new staff members that joined us this season.

Morgan Lane is our new Education & Engagement Coordinator. She earned her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from USF Sarasota-Manatee. She's been on our team for 6 weeks now, and her favorite part about working at MVHP is the freedom to be creative. Her moto is "Everyday is a school day!" Outside of work, she enjoys yoga, gardening, and conspiracy theories.



Reba Bohlender is our new Event & Volunteer Coordinator. She earned her Bachelor's Degree in Anthropology and Environmental Studies from Eckerd College. She's been on our team for 2 weeks now, and her favorite part about working at MVHP is that her work means something to the community. Outside of work she enjoys baking, soaking up the sunshine, and spending time with her two pet birds.



Events

Guided Cemetery Tours

Saturday, March 9th at 9:30am

Join staff member Morgan on a free 45 minute-long guided tour of the 1850 Manatee Burying Ground. Each tour is a little different but potential topics include burial traditions, iconography, Yellow Fever, family lore and history, and more!

Limited availability. First come first serve. Free to the public.

Volunteer Cemetery Clean-up

Friday, March 22 at 9am—11am

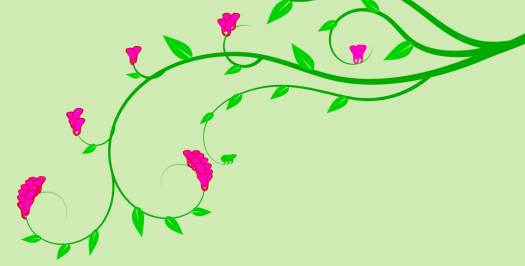
Join us for our first cemetery clean-up of the year! We will teach you everything you need to know, we will be out there early to beat the heat, and we will have a great time!

SIGN UP [HERE](#)

Additional information will be sent out closer to the date of clean-up.



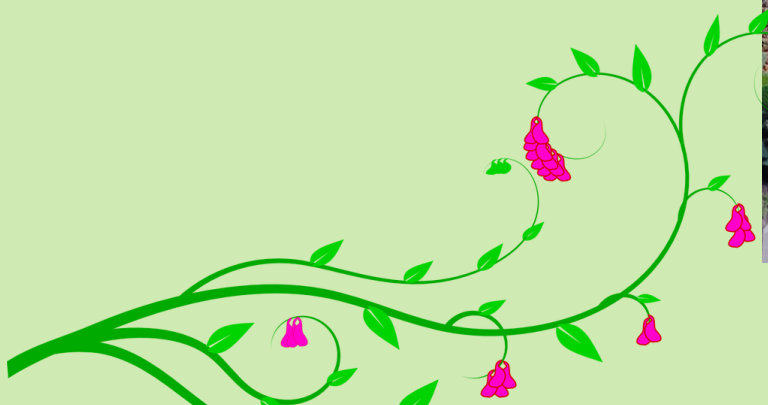
Volunteer Spotlight



A special thank you to our volunteer, Paul T.! He has taken the initiative to bring life back into the Stephen's House Garden. We are so excited to see how this garden will flourish and be another attraction for our visitors.



Our curator, Matt, found a photo of the garden from the 1990's with former employee, Don Brainard. He certainly had a green thumb!



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 Rebecca.Bohlender@ManateeClerk.com or call (941) 741-4075 ext. 3226.

