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# Getting to Know Them

**W**e learn everything we possibly can so we can teach our visitors about Sanibel's history. Nonetheless, our visitors often teach us a thing or two.

Of course, many are brand new to the island and the Historical Village. Others, though, are founts of "insider information." For example, one woman this past season mentioned that she was descended from the young Spaniard who lived with the Calusas in the 1500s and wrote of their culture. Wow!

Others have surprisingly long histories on the island. In this category was a couple who were among the very first residents of The Dunes, now a long-established development. Initially, their only neighbors had been alligators and more alligators. Still others tell us of time spent on Sanibel before there were any developments at all.

One visitor is convinced that the account of John Smith and Pocahontas was in fact the story of Ulele, a chief's daughter who saved a young Spanish prisoner, Juan Ortiz, and that it all took place near Tampa. A little research confirms that this is a popularly held belief. Far-fetched? Who's to say?

There's one thing we know for sure about history: We're making more of it every day! To that we can add, we're learning more of it every day. We have a responsibility, not only to teach, but to listen. To continue learning. As much as Sanibel is defined by its natural environment, its history is told through its people. If we're lucky enough to meet those with stories of their own, and if we're open to what they have to say, we'll continue to learn. The more we know, the more we can share.



Above photos, clockwise from top left: Guests arriving on Free Admission Day; Boca Grande cruise; Kevin O'Donnell and Annette Hendrick at Luminary; and Gayle Pence with Jim Pickens.

Jan Symroski welcomes visitors.

**A NOTE FROM  
OUR PRESIDENT**



*Dear friends,*

As the Sanibel Historical Museum & Village continues to grow, both in the scope of our programs and exhibits and in the number of visitors we reach, I want to express my gratitude to everyone who has made the past year a success. I'm delighted to be associated with you all!

I'm so proud to see the considerable effort our volunteers and staff put into every detail—whether presenting unique programs, creating special displays, maintaining our buildings, growing vegetables and fruits, guiding tours, serving as docents, tending the store, mounting successful fundraisers, scheduling volunteers, or performing any of the other tasks that keep everything running smoothly and effectively.

The generosity of our members and donors is an inspiration. Everything we're able to do is possible through your contributions. We're also grateful to the city of Sanibel for their generous assistance in recognition of the value of the Village to our community. In July we agreed to a new five-year contract with the City that will provide financial support for us through September 30, 2022.

I offer a sincere "thank you!" to all of you on behalf of the organization, but also from the visitors of all ages and interests who explore every nook and cranny and can't wait to come again.

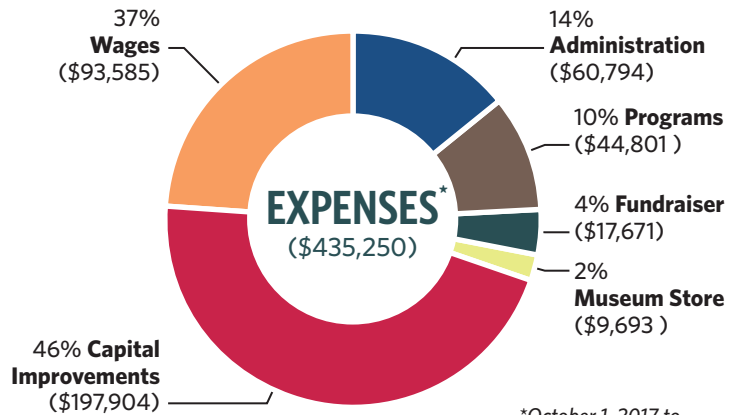
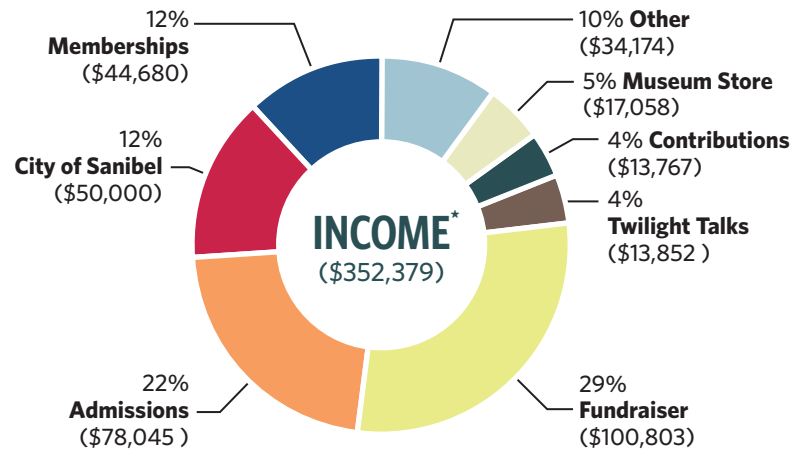
Best regards,

*Bill*

**BILL BACHMAN, President**



**WHERE DOES THE  
MONEY COME FROM?  
WHERE DOES IT GO?**



\*October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018

**A YEAR AT THE VILLAGE:  
BY THE NUMBERS**

- 7,728** adults—paid admission
- 940** children—free admission
- 293** members—free admission
- 99** with library pass—free admission
- 32** complimentary admissions
- 577** with special group tours
- 23** returned with rainchecks

**9,692 VISITORS**

**PLUS:**

- 300** Free Admission Day guests
- 300** Luminary celebration guests

Thanks to Executive Director Emilie Alfino for capturing the year in photos. We hope you enjoy this look back at the people, events, programs, and buildings that make our marvelous Historical Village a unique attraction and fine educational resource.

# CAN YOU HELP?

# Yes!

Are we preaching to the choir? Indeed we are! If you're reading this annual report, chances are you're not only interested in the Historical Village, but are also involved in some way. In this vibrant island community, you have many ways to contribute your time and treasure. We are very grateful that you include our wonderful organization in your life. We encourage you to continue—and maybe even add a new kind of Village experience. Let us count the ways....

## VOLUNTEER

It bears repeating: Volunteers are the heart and soul of the Historical Village. There are countless ways to lend a hand. We'll work around your schedule and provide training by instructors who possess an impressive knowledge of Sanibel's history and the Village itself. In addition to the satisfaction of a job well done, you'll receive invitations to lively volunteer gatherings and a nice discount in the Museum Store. Here are a few ways you can help:

- Become a docent. After comprehensive training, you'll be able to lead group tours through the Village, spend time as a guide in the building of your choice, or traverse the grounds engaging visitors and answering questions.
- Mind the store. It's easy and fun. Our Museum Store has something for all ages and many interests.
- Plan and present special events and programs.
- Organize seasonal and historical displays.
- Decorate for celebrations and special events.
- Till, plant, and weed the kitchen garden at the center of the Village.

## DONATE MONEY AND MORE

- Fund our efforts so we can continue to offer a high-quality visitor experience and maintain the Village and its displays in tip-top shape.
- Designate a legacy gift in your will. These gifts are enduring and deeply personal, and they demonstrate your unique commitment to the future of the Village.
- Respond to calls to loan items for special displays and events.

## BE A MEMBER

- Join. Renew. Give gift memberships. You'll be helping to sustain the Village.
- New—reciprocal membership benefits! See box below.
- Enjoy free admission and a 20 percent discount in the Museum Store.
- Receive timely invitations to events and programs.
- Higher levels offer even more benefits.

## SHOP

- Choose from a wide array of items for yourself, your home, and gift giving. New this past year were beaded pieces and colorful jewelry. Favorites, such as exquisite baskets and reproductions of Calusa sculptures continue to be popular. Look for even more new items this year.
- Find books that help you fathom the intriguing history of Sanibel and Florida.
- Remember, as a member, you receive a 20 percent discount; and every purchase helps the Village.

### NEW! RECIPROCAL BENEFITS

Join or maintain your membership at the new \$150 "Voyager" level or above and, in addition to our regular benefits, receive free admission and/or discounts at more than 1,000 organizations that comprise the North American Reciprocal Museum Association. For a complete list, a map, and additional information, visit [NARMAssociation.org](http://NARMAssociation.org).



Jeri Magg with a photo of Dessa and Andy Rosse



Judy Addison, Bill Rahe and Dorothy Donaldson



Brenda Wentworth at BaileyFest

# Highlights

of the **YEAR JUST PAST**

## GROUPS GALORE

We welcomed groups ranging from fourth graders who rode their bikes from the Sanibel School to Road Scholars bus tours. No matter their ages, how they arrived, or where they came from, the tour-goers' response was utterly enthusiastic.



A fourth grade group at the village.

## SAILING AWAY AT SUNSET

On November 1, 2017, a capacity crowd boarded the *Lady Chadwick* to glide along Tarpon Bay from one storied island, Captiva, to another, Useppa. After our onboard guide provided background, we had plenty of time to stroll around winding byways, visit the fascinating museum, and enjoy food and drink *al fresco*. A perfect evening.

## A LUMINOUS LUMINARY

As evening fell on the first day of December, 2017, the Village came alive with holiday decorations, light, music, and a festive atmosphere that harkened back to an earlier era on the island.

## FREE ADMISSION DAY DRAWS CROWDS

For the fourth year in a row, we offered a day with free admission for all. About 300 people visited on June 16 and gave us rave reviews of the Village and promises to visit again.

## GREAT GALA

A major fundraiser is a major effort. Fortunately, our "Let's Get Historical" Gala in February made all the work worthwhile. Thanks to tireless volunteers, generous sponsors, and the 170 guests who attended and embraced the "Leave Your Footsteps in the Sand" theme, the event was a resounding success. Thank you, all!

## A PIRATE TREASURE

We continued the treasure hunt that proved popular in 2016-2017. Kids diligently matched items to locations on a list and then claimed their reward at Rutland House. Look for an expanded and more exciting hunt this coming season.

## SPRUCING UP THE VILLAGE

At the Packing House, we're improving our curatorial procedures and safeguarding our collection through expanded secure storage and a new sink, entry door, and window. Look for an open house soon. We're also working on a new video, better signage and lighting, and other improvements to the Village.

## CELEBRATING VOLUNTEERS

Historical Village volunteers served *more than 5,420 hours* this past year! Now that's something to celebrate, and celebrate we did.



Frankie Tozzi

Seventy people showed up at a season kick-off party for volunteers on November 8 at Sunset South. On January 15, volunteers gathered at Jan and Ty Symroski's for a delightful outdoor party. At the spring volunteer luncheon at The Dunes, we honored all who helped during the year and celebrated special milestones.

## GRATEFUL FOR GRANTS

The Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club once again awarded the Historical Village \$3,000 to cover children's admissions. We're very grateful for their support over the past several years!

Plein air artists at the village.



# Coming Attractions

## IT'S SHOWTIME

In January, we joined with the Captiva Island Historical Society to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the bridge at Blind Pass with a program at South Seas. Later in January, Francis Bailey was the worthy subject of memories shared by his family, friends, and our own Executive Director, Emilie Alfino, who wrote the book on Francis, literally. Restaurateur Gramma Dot and the Ireland Family were the subject in March. In April, we turned The Community House into a movie house for a double feature of David E. Carter's films about Sanibel history.



Garden Club members

## HOW DOES OUR GARDEN GROW? BETTER NOW, THANK YOU!

Sanibel's bunnies multiply like, well, rabbits; and while they're adorable, they also regularly gobbled up our garden. Not so fast, though. This past year, the new fence within a fence sent them hopping off to greener pastures. As a result, the garden, overseen by volunteer *extraordinaire* Mike DiCorpo, produced more of everything. Once again, our multitude of mangoes went to the F.I.S.H. food pantry.

On the subject of gardens, many thanks to the Shell Islands Garden Club. We're so glad they've adopted the Village as a club project and returned to beautify our landscape using native flowering plants.

The 2018–2019 season is shaping up very nicely, with events, Twilight Talks, and volunteer activities. For details, check out press releases in the local papers, look for Emilie's e-newsletters, visit [sanibelmuseum.org](http://sanibelmuseum.org), or call 239-472-4648.

### NOVEMBER 7

#### Island Hopping to Cayo Costa and Cabbage Key

*SOLD OUT. Thank you! Look for another tour in 2019.*

### DECEMBER 7 (3:30-5:30 p.m.)

#### Luminary Celebration

*Stop by to enjoy the holidays, Historical Village style.*

### JANUARY 30 (5:30-7:30 p.m.)

#### "Be Our Guest: The Lodging History of Sanibel and Captiva" Twilight Talk

*Complimentary refreshments & cash bar. Program at The Community House. \$10. A joint presentation by the Historical Village and Captiva Island Historical Society.*

### FEBRUARY 19 (6-10 p.m.)

#### Gala

*At The Community House.*



### FEBRUARY 26 (10 a.m.)

#### Annual Meeting

*Shore Haven at the Village.*

### MARCH 13 (7-8:30 p.m.)

#### "Jeopardy"-Style Sanibel History Quiz Twilight Talk

*At The Community House. \$10.*

### APRIL 10 (7-8:30 p.m.)

#### "History of Periwinkle Park" Twilight Talk

*At The Community House. \$10.*

### JUNE 15

#### Free Admission Day

## VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

### TRAINING

(1 p.m. at Shore Haven)

### NOVEMBER 5

### NOVEMBER 12

### JANUARY 14

### JANUARY 21

## UPDATES

(noon at Shore Haven)

### DECEMBER 3

#### "The Sanibel Plan" Update

*with Barbara Freeman*

### JANUARY 7

#### "The Calusa" Update

*with Teresa Schober*

### FEBRUARY 4

#### Update

*with Ralph & Jean Woodring*

### MARCH 4

#### "Bike Path" Update

*with Mariel Goss*

## GATHERINGS & LUNCHEON

### NOVEMBER 8 (4 p.m.)

#### Gathering

### JANUARY 28 (4 p.m.)

#### Gathering

### APRIL 1 (noon)

#### Luncheon

## OUR 2017-2018 VOLUNTEERS

*Many thanks for your willingness to share your time, knowledge, and enthusiasm. Our volunteers are the tops!*

Judy Addison  
Catherine Anderson  
Bill Bachman  
Sheila Barboza  
Joyce Barnhart  
Laura Beckenbaugh  
Virginia Bisby  
Mary Bondurant  
Jeanine Bradford  
Barbara Broadhurst  
Connie Bukowick  
Lynne Campean  
Annette Cantalupo  
Rae Ann Carter  
Liz Clark  
Lois Codair  
Robin Coleman  
Betsy Cox  
Patti Daly  
Ginny Darby  
Doris DeWitt  
Carol DiCorpo  
Mike DiCorpo  
Martha Dilger  
Dorothy Donaldson  
Linda Drasnin  
Sally Duffy  
Barbara Eisenberg  
Lois Fox  
Bonnie Frankel  
Barbara Freeman  
Gail Garlinghouse  
Carol Gertsen  
Carolyn Gibson  
Deb Gleason  
Ken Gnazzo  
Clivie Goodwin  
Ron Gould  
Mary Jean Green  
Susan Greenberg  
Steve Greenstein  
Buzz (Charles) Griffin  
Elise Hall  
Sherry Halleran  
Jan (Janet) Halliday

Pete Halliday  
Kate Helman  
Annette Hendrick  
Ann Heymann  
Karen Hickey  
Terry Hickey  
Ted Hoesel  
Jane Holder  
Terry (Teresa) Jacob  
Andrew Jacob  
Jewel Jensen  
Shirley Jewell  
Terry Jewett  
Connie Jump  
Sharon Kaltenmark  
Carol Kaplan  
Irene Kaplan  
Jacquelyn Kelley  
Marie Kenerson  
Sally Kennedy  
Lyn Klos  
Julie Kocourek  
Jim Komsa  
Tisa Ladd  
Nannette Laurion  
Kathleen Lear  
Marcia Leslie  
Alan Lessack  
Edina Lessack  
Pat Macchia  
Jeri Magg  
Pam Magnotto  
Wanda Malone  
Maddy Mayor  
Judy McBroom  
Kay McDonald  
Peg McGann  
Jane McKinzie  
James McNulty  
Patricia (Pat) McNulty  
Patty Moore  
Kitty Moore  
Martha Ann Murray  
Jaye Nagle  
Paula Newton

Susan Nickson  
Donna Oberhill  
Kevin O'Donnell  
Heather O'Keefe  
Ellen O'Neill  
Annette Pacyga  
Peg Palange  
Harriet Pattison  
Gayle Pence  
Gerri Perkins  
Kathy Price  
William Rahe  
Katie Reid  
Barbara Renneke  
Bruce Richardson  
Karen Roberts  
Susan Rosenberg  
Barry Roth  
Carolyn Ruff  
Susan Schmidt  
Karen Seales  
Sally Shelton  
Jeanne Shumway  
Nancy Siegel  
Anita Smith  
Alan Smith  
Helene Smith  
Bart Smith  
Georgianna Sorensen  
Deb Staley  
Rachel Stewart  
Michelle Tenbrook  
Tracey Tenney  
Nancy Terelle  
Frankie Tozzi  
Nancy Travis  
Keith Trowbridge  
Gerry Verblauw  
John Wahlfeld  
Anni Wellauer  
Brenda Wentworth  
Alex Werner  
Margaret White  
Blair Wyatt  
Ann Wymann

## OUR BENEFACTORS

*The Village would not be the marvel it is without our donors, including benefactors who go above and beyond to give additional support.*

Charles & Linda Adams  
Thomas & Judy Addison  
Edward & Catherine Anderson  
William & Gail Bachman  
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John & Norma Walley  
Edward Wheeler & Anne Haslem  
Albert & Margaret White  
Lawrence & Judith Yencole



Terry Jacob and Lois Codair both volunteered on the Volunteer Luncheon Committee.



Fourth graders with volunteer Lynne Campean.

*Thank You!*

*We are most grateful for your gifts of time and resources. While we've made every effort to compile a complete and accurate list, there may be omissions and errors. If you notice any, please accept our apologies and send corrections to [info@sanibelmuseum.org](mailto:info@sanibelmuseum.org) or call 239-472-4648.*

# OUR 2017-2018 SUPPORTERS

*Your generosity and commitment are the keys to our success.  
We are most grateful!*

Sue Ahlcrona	Richard Deming	Andrew & Teresa Jacob	James & Patricia McNulty	Edward & Penny Sessa
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*\*deceased*



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**HISTORICAL VILLAGE  
ANNUAL REPORT**  
A GLANCE AT THE PAST  
YEAR AND A GLIMPSE  
INTO THE FUTURE



Bill Bachman



Board Member Sherry Halleran and the Bailey family



Ann Walter

# *Celebrating Sanibel —Then and Now!*

## OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Bill Bachman**, President  
**Bill Rahe**, Vice President  
**Pete Halliday**, Treasurer  
**Gail Garlinghouse**, Secretary

**Judy Addison**  
**Dorothy Donaldson**  
**Clivie Goodwin**  
**Steve Greenstein**  
**Sherry Halleran**  
**Jane Holder**  
**Alan Lessack**  
**Ellen O'Neill**  
**Gayle Pence**  
**Blair Wyatt**

## OUR STAFF

**Emilie Alfino**, Executive Director  
**Jan Symroski**, Volunteer Coordinator  
**John Friedlund**, Business Manager  
**Sandy Nering**, Front Desk Assistant

**Barbara Freeman**, Editor



Sandy, Emilie, John, and Jan in a rare moment of repose

## VILLAGE HOURS

**Mid-October through April:**  
10 AM–4 PM  
Tuesday through Saturday

**May, June and July:**  
10 AM–1 PM  
Tuesday through Saturday

*Closed Sundays, Mondays,  
and holidays*

## VILLAGE ADMISSION

**Members:** free  
**Ages 18 and over:** \$10  
**Children under 18:** free

239-472-4648  
sanibelmuseum.org