

Newsletter – November 2002

President's Corner – I hope you all had a great summer – and welcome back to our snowbird members. We have had a fairly slow summer, as I think most every business has. However, this wasn't all bad – it gave us time to do some sprucing up around the museum in anticipation of a very busy season! The storage shed was broken into twice over the summer months by young teenagers. We are working with the Sheriff's Office. We need your help with this also. If you happen to see anything suspicious when you're driving by the museum, please call the Sheriff's Office at 477-1234 or 477-1810 – do not approach the children – just call the authorities.

We have a new Board Member, Carol Bodart, who joined us in April. Welcome, Carol.

I want to say a special thank you to the following ladies who spent an entire day cleaning inside the museum: **Gay Thompson, Naomi Brewer, Bobbie Mahaffey, Shirley House, and Joan McMahan**. They dusted inside all the cases, cleaned all of the items inside the cases, washed all the glass, and also rearranged some of the exhibits! Wow – what a job. Our little museum is just sparkling, so you will want to be sure and come see. The Garden Club also worked their magic again pruning and cleaning the shrubbery, so the museum and grounds have been totally spruced up to get ready for all of our visitors!

We will be collecting toys and cash donations for the children of Pine Island again this year. Remember, these items need to be turned in no later than the night of the first membership meeting (November 11). We have been requested NOT to donate stuffed animals this year – it seems they already have a large supply.

We have a special item for which we will be selling drawing tickets. **Dot Birmingham**, local artist, has generously donated a beautiful painting for the drawing. Dot has recently opened **Dot's Art Studio and Gallery** at the Center (right behind Subway). Dot has many lovely original paintings and prints for sale. She also does matting and framing. Please stop by and see Dot – at least to say thank you for being so generous to the museum. She has always been a great supporter of MOTI and we want to show her our appreciation. The painting can be seen (and tickets bought) at the museum; they will also be on sale at all of our events. **The drawing will be held on February 8** at the MOTI Rummage Sale at St. James Civic.

I look forward to seeing you at the first General Membership Meeting of the season on November 11th.