

# Miami Pioneers / Natives of Dade

celebrating and preserving the local history of Miami-Dade County, Florida

monthly meetings with historical programs • www.MPNOD.org • February, 2019

## Next Meeting Sunday, February 3rd at 2pm

Coral Gables Museum  
285 Aragon Ave, Coral Gables 33134

Street Parking is available, as well as parking in the city garage at 250 Aragon, across from Books & Books. Garage parking is \$1.50 per hour.

## Correspondence

Send to MP/NOD at:  
14900 SW 71 Ave, Miami, FL 33158

email: [info@MPNOD.org](mailto:info@MPNOD.org)  
web: [www.MPNOD.org](http://www.MPNOD.org)  
facebook: [facebook.com/MPNOD/](https://www.facebook.com/MPNOD/)

## Dues

Please pay your \$20 dues in September at the meeting, or mail your check made to MP/NOD to our Treasurer: Marlene B. Carlin, 14900 SW 71 Ave, Miami, FL 33158. The cost of receiving the newsletter in the mail is an additional \$10 a year.

## Donations

Our club appreciates donations to help pay for our expenses. We ask members to donate one dollar when attending the meetings to help cover the cost of expenses.

## Volunteer

Every member is encouraged to contribute to the historical society by serving on the board of directors, helping with refreshments, the telephone and mail committees, programs and more. Let us know how you can help.

## 2018-20 Officers

vice president, Robert Burr  
corresponding secretary, Mary Pyle  
recording secretary, Barbara Koesy  
treasurer, Marlene B. Carlin  
historian, Darlene Crum  
sergeant at arms, Janet English  
parliamentarian, Linda Hertz  
newsletter & webmaster, Robert Burr  
past president, James Hartnett

## Sunday, February 3rd Monthly Meeting

The next meeting of the Miami Pioneers and Natives of Dade will take place at the Coral Gables Museum at 2pm.

## Our Guest Speaker is Eliot Kleinberg

### Florida's Amazing History and Why You Should Care

Enjoy a lively interactive discussion and presentation by author, journalist and lecturer Eliot Kleinberg on Florida's Amazing History and Why You Should Care, starting at 2pm at the Coral Gables Museum.



Eliot presents a whirlwind tour of 500 years of Florida history, capped with a strong argument that Florida's biggest challenge is encouraging its transplants to become Floridians.

Eliot Kleinberg is that rarest of Floridians: a native.

Born in South Florida, has spent nearly four decades as a reporter, including more than 30 years at The Palm Beach Post in West Palm Beach. In addition to covering local news, he also writes extensively about Florida and Florida history.

"Post Time" is his weekly local history column that has run in the Post for two decades. And in early 2019, he launched "Florida Time," a Florida history column which appears in Gatehouse newspapers statewide.

He has written 10 books, all focusing on Florida. They include "Black Cloud," on the great 1928 Okeechobee Hurricane, and two "Weird Florida" books. His latest, Peace River, is a historical novel based at the end of the Civil War.

The son of longtime prominent South Florida journalist Howard Kleinberg, he graduated from Miami-area public schools and the University of Florida. He is a member of the Florida, South Florida and Palm Beach County historical societies. He and his wife are the parents of two adult sons and live in suburban Boca Raton.

## February Birthdays

- 1 Nancy Bahn
- 3 Richard Fandrey
- 5 George Grunwell
- 8 Bernice Lawton
- 9 Daniel Berger
- 9 Dr. William Culbertson IV
- 10 Ava Gunderson
- 11 William Fisher III
- 12 Leonard Hoffman
- 12 Alberta Pallot
- 12 Juan Riera
- 13 Robert Hilliard
- 20 Audrey Ross
- 21 John Reed
- 23 Henry Langston
- 24 Ann Slosser
- 26 Jean Boccad
- 27 Larry Wiggins



After our meetings, our group traditionally enjoys refreshments and social time. Please bring some small snacks, cookies, brownies, chips and dip, or a similar item that you'd like to share with your friends.

Save The Date

Our next monthly meeting will be held at the Coral Gables Museum on Sunday, March 3rd at 2pm.

# Miami Pioneers

CHARTER MEMBERS

## John W. G. Seybold – Charter Member of the Miami Pioneers

by Darlene Crum, MP/NOD Historian

John W. G. Seybold was one of the fourteen original founding members of our Miami Pioneers historical society back in 1936.

He was born in September, 1872 in Stuttgart, Germany. He died in Miami Dade County in 1940.

John Seybold immigrated to the US in 1889. Prior to settling in the Miami area, Seybold traveled to Jacksonville, Palatka, and eventually, Palm beach, where he owned and operated a bakery.

John and family relocated to Miami to expand their fortune.

It wasn't until 1913 that the downtown building on East Flagler was named after the original owner, John Seybold.

Originally this building was only three stories. The main floor housed The Seybold Baking Company -- with John as Vice President -- a popular bakery and ice cream parlor frequented by Miami residents and visitors.

Years later, Seybold added additional stories to the building and it became known as the Seybold Arcade. With ten floors, it was one of Miami's most prestigious business addresses. Having these additional floors attracted many local business owners to this landmark edifice and the Seybold building quickly became a premier shopping destination.

The first jeweler moved in the building in 1960 -- Buchwald Jewelers from Atlantic city. A number of New York jewelers followed suit. At the same time, more than a few Cuban jewelers fled their island during the exodus of the 1960s and set up shop in the Seybold building. By the 1970s, the building become almost exclusively a location for the jewelry trade.

Seybold had additional interests in the city. He was involved in real estate and

became a successful developer.

In 1919 Seybold developed the now historic sub-division named Spring Garden on the Miami River -- now the oldest, intact, single family neighborhood still remaining along the Miami River.

He purposely insisted that the leafy foliage be preserved to allow for cool shade for the homes in this unique enclave. Today, giant banyan and oak trees provide copious shade for the grand old single-family homes built in Florida vernacular and Victorian styles.

Spring Garden is significant architecturally for its wealth of early Frame and Masonry Vernacular, Mission, Bungalow, and Moderne style houses that reflect the diversity and evolution of architectural design in South Florida during the early twentieth century.

The Wagner Creek on the north fork of the Miami River was widened and renamed Seybold Canal. A silent motion picture "The Jungle Trail" was filmed in this neighborhood in 1919.

Seybold was so impressed with the construction of The Hindu Temple prop used in the movie production, that he had a duplicate home built to reflect this ornate style. The home still stands today.

Seybold was also one of the founders of the Masonic Scottish Rite Temple as well.

John Seybold had three wives. His first wife is buried in Jacksonville. Later, his daughter, Olive Gertrude Seybold Moore Sault chose to be buried next to her mother. John's second and third wives are buried in Miami, along with his two sons -- both named John.

John Seybold leaves a legacy of commercial success and community service during the developing years of Miami. His contributions to the growth of Miami during the formative pioneer and boom time years are notable.



## Bring a Friend

Please remember to tell your friends about our Miami Pioneers and Natives of Dade historical society.

As always, bring a friend as your guest to share the delightful programs, the camaraderie and the social time with refreshments.



## Telephone Committee

Corresponding Secretary Mary Pyle leads the telephone committee, along with Pat Ware and Janet English. Please share your thoughts and feedback with them when they call. If you have any questions about the telephone committee, contact Mary at 305-264-2033 or email: [mary.pyle@att.net](mailto:mary.pyle@att.net)



## Volunteer

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## SUGGESTIONS

Members should feel free to offer suggestions on upcoming historical topics, guest speakers and field trips for our group. Contact us via email: [suggestions@mpnod.org](mailto:suggestions@mpnod.org)