



Wednesdays are for History!



Three things you didn't learn in school:

- ✓ History is interesting
- ✓ Learning about our history is fun
- ✓ Knowing it makes you a better citizen

The State of Florida is marking the 500th anniversary of Ponce de Leon's arrival by promoting Viva Florida 500, a celebration of the Sunshine State's history and heritage throughout the year of 2013.

The Bonita Springs Historical Society, in partnership with the City of Bonita Springs, is sponsoring a 14 week series of Florida history programs at the Bonita Springs Community Center on Old 41 across from Riverside Park. The sequential series of 90 minute presentations will feature little known stories of Florida's role in the European colonization of North America and the eventual development of modern Florida and of the United States of America. Each Wednesday at both 2pm and again at 7pm, Program presenter, David Southall will introduce a different historical era along with the interesting characters and events that influenced those times with a Florida perspective.



Programs begin on Wednesday, January 9th, 2013 and will continue with a different program each week, ending on Wednesday, April 24. Admission for an Adult is \$10, BSHS members \$5, with proceeds going towards the restoration of the historic McSwain House. Series tickets and BSHS memberships can be obtained at the Liles Hotel or at the door. Online information: www.bonitaspringshistorical society.org or call (239) 992-6997.

When: Every Wednesday

At: 2pm and 7pm- to fit your schedule

Where: The Bonita Springs Community Center -on Old 41 across from Riverside Park
Free parking located nearby.

Programs scheduled for January 2013:

January 9: *Florida Before 1492, Native American Technology, Social Organization & Cultures*

January 16: *The Calusa, a Pre-Columbian Mound Building Culture*

January 23: *Ponce de Leon, The Man and The Myth*

January 30: *The Arrival of European Explorers, Gunpowder & Steel vs. Bow & Arrow*

Bonita Springs Historical Society History series presenter:

David Southall



Long-time Bonita Springs resident David Southall originally came from suburban Buffalo, in Western New York, where he developed an early interest in that region's history. Collecting Native American projectile points from his family's farm and camping at historic sites as a Boy Scout stimulated his curiosity and ignited a lifelong passion for American History. Through historical re-enacting and living history, he shared his knowledge of historic crafts, skills, traditions, and customs of the past. Retiring from

business in 1998, David took the job of museum educator at the Collier County Museum in Naples. David's programs were extremely popular with both the school children visiting the museum and the adults attending his weekly presentations. David retired again in 2010 to pursue his many interests. Entreaties from the Bonita Springs Historical Society and his many fans convinced him to develop and present this series of programs for the Viva Florida 500 celebration. Believing that learning about our history should be interesting and fun, David avoids lists of facts and dates to concentrate on cause and effect as well as the humorous or ironic historical events. Preferring to avoid the term "lecturer" David claims to be a "pretty good story teller" who is happy to share his knowledge of the past in an informative and interesting way.