



## Project update

- Martin Digital History (MDH) now offers almost 7,000 items on the website [martindigitalhistory.org](http://martindigitalhistory.org). Chiefly photographs, but also memorial service programs, meeting minutes, written histories, historic building reports, programs, maps, yearbooks, fishing guides, and other documents. Most of the photographic materials are very high resolution scans, and all digital files have been backed up in three places - two external hard drives and an online storage site - to ensure adequate preservation.
- In order to increase visibility of our materials and project, MDH is participating in the [Digital Public Library of America \(DPLA\)](https://www.digitalpubliclibraryofamerica.org/). This collaborative project features items from some of the nation's most prominent cultural heritage institutions. Not all of our collections are uploaded yet, but we're working with DPLA and the Sunshine State Digital Network (Florida's "hub" for DPLA) to harvest all of our content.
- Last month, we added 467 items to the website. We are growing by leaps and bounds! We had 553 users of the website in September, with over 7.8K records viewed.
- Participants in the last quarter include the Stuart Heritage Museum, Sandra Thurlow, the Black Heritage Initiative, Charlene Thompson, the Women's Club of Stuart, and Natalie Evans. Thanks to all who contributed, and remember, we're always open to more participation!

*Stuart Training School  
"Home of the Mighty Fighting Lions"*



*The Graduating Class of 1964  
celebrates  
60th Diamond Anniversary Class Reunion  
May 31, 2024 - June 2, 2024*

Recent uploads to [martindigitalhistory.org](http://martindigitalhistory.org):

## Stuart Training School Reunion Booklet

The Stuart Training School Class of 1964 celebrated its 60th Class Reunion on 31 May 2024 -2 June 2024, and dedicated volunteer Cora Coleman Portee produced this booklet in preparation. It is dedicated to Portee's mother, Catherine Lucretia Christopher Coleman (1926-1993) and favorite STS teacher, Emma Adams Loman (b. 1933). The booklet contains photographs and biographical information on several class members. Private information has been obscured, including contact information and birth year.

- [View this item](#)

Recent uploads to [martindigitalhistory.org](http://martindigitalhistory.org):

## Aerial Photographs

Sandra Thurlow has contributed many aerial photographs, chiefly from the 1950s and 1960s. Photographers include Roger Conant, Earl Ricou, and Arthur Ruhnke. The photographs included images of Stuart, Jensen, Rio, Hutchinson Island, Port Sewall, and Indiantown. A few of the images (as the one on the right) show the construction of what was to be the southbound lane of Roosevelt Bridge in 1964. The old bridge (completed in 1934) became the northbound lane. When the New Roosevelt Bridge was built in 1996, the northbound lane, built in 1934, was torn down.

- [View the aerial photograph collection](#)



## Stuart Heritage Museum Digital Content

Thank you to the Stuart Heritage Museum for sharing their collection of DVDs with digital images. Among them are at least 5,000 historic images. Each digital image will be assessed for quality, researched, and renumbered over the next few weeks and many will be added to Martin Digital History. So far, we have added collections of the Acacia Masonic Lodge Masters from 1910 through 2006, the Rue Family Collection, a scrapbook created by Mary McDonald Hartman, and some excellent photos of local businesses.

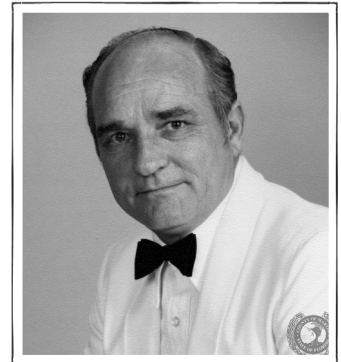
### Acacia Masonic Lodge Masters

Portraits of the Worshipful Masters of Acacia Lodge No. 163 (Stuart, Fla.) of the Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Florida, from 1910 through 2006.

Many of these men were leaders in our communities.

- [Visit the collection](#)

*Coy Isaacs (1936-1979) was the Acacia masonic lodge master in 1979. Isaac worked for the Martin County Sheriff's Department as desk sergeant and later the public information officer.*



### Rue Family Collection

Henry Clay Rue (1861-1937), wife Harriet McVey Rue (1861-1957), and their adult sons Frederick E. Rue (1899-1967) and Charles Henry Rue (1897-1968) relocated from Michigan to Stuart in 1924. They purchased the Butter Kist Shoppe on Flagler Avenue (next door to the Feroe Building) and renamed it Rue's Sweet Shop. It continued operating until 1944; the building was demolished in the 1980s and in 2024 it is a gated courtyard garden.

- [Visit the collection](#)



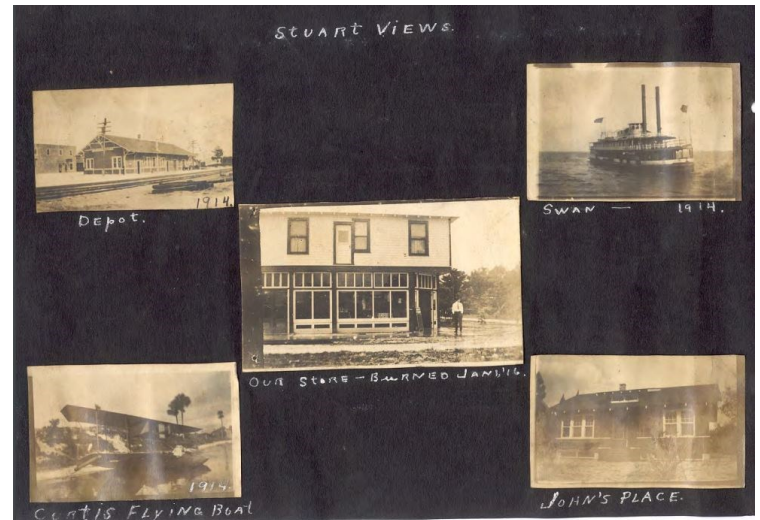
*Rue's Sweet Shop, two doors down from the Lyric Theatre on Flagler Avenue, decorated with bunting for the parade celebrating the establishment of Martin County, which took place in January 1926.*



*Interior of Rue's Sweet Shop, 1932, which sold candy, cigarettes, cigars, homemade root beer, magazines, ice cream, and soft drinks.*

## Mary McDonald Scrapbook

Mary McDonald Hartman (1902-1969) was the daughter of Jackson B. and Elizabeth McDonald. She graduated from Stuart High School in 1919 and from Florida State College for Women in 1921 in the business program. In 1922, she married Ralph W Hartman Sr. (1898-1961), who later became the Stuart postmaster. The photoalbum in this collection was created by Mary Elizabeth McDonald and features photos from between 1914 and 1918 when Mary was a student at Stuart High School.



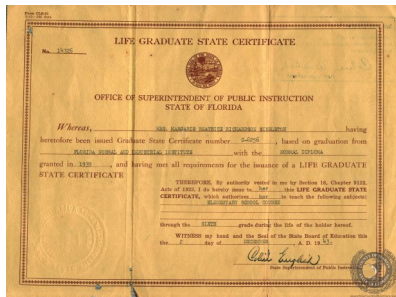
## Local Businesses & Buildings



Recent uploads to [martindigitalhistory.org](http://martindigitalhistory.org):

## Singleton Family of Mars Hill/Tick Ridge Collection

Family photos and documents of the Singleton family, including Margarie Richardson Singleton (1916-2005), who was a fourth grade teacher in Martin County School System for 43 years.



Interested in Martin County history? Visit and subscribe to the [Sandy History Lady Blog](http://SandyHistoryLadyBlog), written by our very own Sandra Thurlow.

Martin County Library spotlight:

### Idea {memory} Lab

Did you know that we can help you digitize your own family photographs?

More information at: <https://www.martin.fl.us/idea-memory-lab>

Martin County Library spotlight:

### LinkedIn Learning

Did you know that you can access courses and earn professional certifications online?

Visit: <https://www.linkedin.com/learning-login/go/mcls>

## What is the Martin Digital History Project?

The mission of Martin Digital History (MDH) is to encourage the appreciation of Martin County's unique history by collaborating with community members and local organizations to collect, present, and interpret relevant digital content. This project, orchestrated by the Martin County Library System, is the result of the planning teamwork of several far-sighted community members and organizations, including Sandra Thurlow, Black Heritage Initiative, Stuart Heritage, The Library Foundation of Martin County, and many others. It is open for public participation.

- This newsletter will attempt to keep all informed about the project, including new participants and accessions, plans, events, etc. [Click here to subscribe to this newsletter.](#)
- More information: [martindigitalhistory.org](http://martindigitalhistory.org)
- Feedback, comments, questions? Contact the archivist: Georgen Charnes, [gcharnes@martin.fl.us](mailto:gcharnes@martin.fl.us)

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