

Tequesta

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CONTENTS

Editor's Foreword	3
<i>Paul S. George, Ph.D.</i>	
The Cuban Insurgent Colony of Key West: 1868–1895	5
<i>Consuelo E. Stebbins, Ph.D.</i>	
Interracial Activism and the Civil Rights Movement in Postwar Miami	28
<i>Raymond A. Mohl, Ph.D.</i>	
Dr. James Alpheus Butler: An African American Pioneer of Miami Medicine	49
<i>Canter Brown, Jr., J.D. and Ph.D.</i>	
Historical Museum of Southern Florida Members	82
Comptie Constituency	97

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Editor's Foreword

Judging by the recent spate of books, articles, exhibitions, and events treating the rich history of southeast Florida, interest in our region's past appears to be greater than ever. *Tequesta* was one of the first publications devoted to this topic, and it remains an important source of information on our history. This issue of *Tequesta* again offers a variety of articles that we know will appeal to our readers.

Consuelo E. Stebbins, in "The Cuban Insurgent Colony of Key West: 1866–1895," provides, through the correspondence of the Spanish Consul in Key West to the Spanish Ministry of Ultramar, a detailed account of the insurgent activities of the Cuban émigré colonies in Key West during the nineteenth century. Dr. Stebbins is an Associate Professor in the Department of Modern Languages and Literature, as well as Assistant Dean in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Central Florida. She holds a Ph.D. in multilingual multicultural studies from Florida State University and is the author of *Tragedy in Havana: November 27, 1871*.

Raymond Mohl, an eminent historian who is Distinguished Professor of History, University of Alabama, Birmingham, has contributed many articles to *Tequesta*. In recent years, he has begun to examine post–World War II Miami. Mohl's most recent book, *South of the South: Jewish Activists and the Civil Rights Movement in Miami, 1945–1960*, is indicative of this focus. In "Interracial Activism and the Civil Rights Movement in Postwar Miami," Mohl argues that "the massive migration of politically progressive Northerners to postwar Miami lay behind the scope and form of the movement for racial change and reform." Miami's civil rights movement, interracial in its makeup, was critical to the "eventual termination of de jure segregation" in the county.

Canter Brown, Jr., a prolific, prize-winning historian, holds the J.D. and Ph.D. (History) degrees from Florida State University. He is presently Special Assistant and Counsel to the President of Fort Valley State University in Georgia, as well as a Professor of History. Brown's latest book, which he wrote in collaboration with Walter W. Manley II, is entitled *The Supreme Court of Florida, 1917–1972*. Brown has treated the topic of Black Miami in an earlier edition of *Tequesta*. "Dr. James Alpheus Butler: An African American Pioneer of Miami Medicine," his

contribution to this number of the journal, provides an interesting narrative on a little-known physician in the early years of Miami's Colored Town. Much of the information Brown used for this insightful article was gleaned from Black newspapers, census data, and private correspondence. Our knowledge of the formative years of this dynamic Black enclave continues to grow, and Brown's article represents an important contribution to this understanding.

The Historical Museum of Southern Florida offers a wide array of publications, exhibitions, programs, and other opportunities to immerse oneself in the rich history of South Florida and the Caribbean. We encourage you to partake in this rich feast of regional history.

Paul S. George, Ph.D.
Editor, *Tequesta*