

Remember When, FCOA?



While FCOA was busy with . . .

Getting Established

The Statewide Gerontology Committee met on March 25, 1955 in St. Petersburg. This committee was charged with preparing a proposed charter and planning an organizational meeting in Miami, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Conference on Social Welfare. The organizational meeting took place in Miami on May 13 and "Florida Council on Aging" was selected as its name. By-laws were adopted and trustees were elected for a 1-, 2- or 3-year term. Sidney Entman was elected president, Samuel Gertman, vice president and Irving Webber, secretary-treasurer.



Hosting its First Conference on Aging

FCOA's first conference was held in Tallahassee October 16 - 17, 1955, with Governor LeRoy Collins greeting over 200 delegates who attended. Dr. John Allen of the University of South Florida gave the keynote address. Sessions were held covering different areas of concern in aging. The FCOA Conference stimulated interest and resulted in many delegates returning to their local communities wanting to take action on behalf of Florida's seniors. The Florida Council on Aging also offered leadership and speakers to local councils.



Involvement with Grassroots Efforts

It was during this period that a great deal of interest was generated in developing grass roots interest and a modus operandi for local affiliations. FCOA appointed a legislative committee to review legislation affecting the aged as well as to make recommendations for new legislation. Dr. Carter Osterbind was authorized to prepare a facts book on aging. The first issue of *AgeWise*, FCOA's newsletter, was published in January, 1959.



Keeping Abreast of State and National Aging Concerns

1959 – Citizens Advisory Committee on Aging appointed by Governor Collins
1960 – First Governor's Conference on Aging called by Governor Collins
1961 – First White House Conference on Aging
1963 – Bill passed creating Florida Commission on Aging
1965 – Older Americans Act passed by U.S. Congress



The rest of the country was busy with . . .

State, National, and International Politics

U.S. Presidents: Dwight Eisenhower, 1953-1961; John F. Kennedy, 1961-1963; Lyndon B. Johnson, 1963-1969

Florida Governors: Daniel Thomas McCarty, 1953; Charley Eugene Johns, 1953-55; LeRoy Collins, 1955-61; C. Farris Bryant, 1961-65; Haydon Burns, 1965-67

The Cold War
The Vietnam War
The Civil Rights Movement



Rock and Roll

Some of the greatest singles in music history were released, including:

1955 – "Rock Around the Clock" by Bill Haley & the Comets; "Unchained Melody" by Les Baxter; "Bo Diddley" by Bo Diddley

1960 – "The Twist" by Chubby Checker; "Georgia on my Mind" by Ray Charles; "It's Now or Never" by Elvis Presley; "Itsy Bitsy Teenie Weenie Yellow Polkadot Bikini" by Brian Hyland

1965 – "Turn, Turn, Turn" by the Byrds; "(I Can't Get No) Satisfaction" by the Rolling Stones; "Wooly Bully" by Sam The Sham & The Pharaohs; "My Girl" by the Temptations; "Help!" by the Beatles; "I Got You Babe" by Sonny & Cher



Hollywood

REBEL WITHOUT A CAUSE (1955), ROSE TATTOO (1955), THE BRIDGE ON THE RIVER KWAI (1957), VERTIGO (1958), SOME LIKE IT HOT (1959), NORTH BY NORTHWEST (1959), WEST SIDE STORY (1961), TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD (1962), LAWRENCE OF ARABIA (1962)



Television

The Mickey Mouse Club, 1955; *I Love Lucy*, 1951-61; *The Andy Griffith Show*, 1960-68; *The Dick Van Dyke Show*, 1961-66; *The Twilight Zone*, 1959-65; *The Ed Sullivan Show*, 1948-71; *Bonanza*, 1959-73; *The Flintstones*, 1960-66; *The Honeyymooners*, 1955-56



Do You Remember When, FCOA?

However far back your memory goes, we hope you make a *new* memory with us!
Come to the 2005 Florida Conference on Aging August 22-25 in Orlando!

In celebration of FCOA's 50th Anniversary, this is the first in a series of "history pages" that will be issued to members in the months preceding the 2005 Florida Conference on Aging. The "Remember When, FCOA?" series is designed to celebrate and explore each of the five decades of rich FCOA history.