



From the Heritage Education Department of the  
Boca Raton Historical Society  
71 N. Federal Highway, Boca Raton, FL 33432  
561.395.6766 x107  
www.bocahistory.org

## **Frank's Tweets: Who's Who**

**Aleck (Alex Hughes):** Frank Chesebro's longtime employee who arrived ca. 1912. Alex was also the first property owner in Pearl City, the town's African American neighborhood, and Hughes Park is named for him.

**Anderson** - John or A.J. Anderson, one of Frank's African American employees

**Ashley (John Ashley)** - leader of the notorious Ashley Gang

**Audra** - (Audrey Purdom) a daughter of a pioneer family who came to Boca Raton ca. 1905

**Baker** - Sheriff George B. Baker, first Palm Beach county sheriff

**Bell, Joe** - Esther Chesebro's husband; Frank's son in law.

**Birch, Hugh Taylor** - Early Fort Lauderdale property owner. Today his properties comprise Birch State Park and Bonnet House in Fort Lauderdale.

**Braley (Bradley)** - Bradley's Beach Club was a famous casino in Palm Beach.

**Branning, Mrs.** - Catherine Branning, an African American Deerfield resident working for Chesebro.

**Brenk Family** - arrived in Boca Raton 1917.

**Brooks, John** - unknown Chesebro employee

**Brown, John** - City's first elected mayor. His accomplishments were the establishment of a water system, the building of Town Hall, and the purchase of a fire truck.

**Bryan, F.A.** - Franklin Americus Bryan (Frank Bryan) was a Fort Lauderdale pioneer who served as a Dade County Commissioner (before Broward was created). The extensive Bryan family was always interested in real estate investments in region.

**Butler** - James Butler of Deerfield

**Butlers** - J.D. and Alice Butler came to Deerfield in 1910

**C.** - Clare, Frank's brother who lived in Michigan

**Catts** - Florida Governor Sidney Johnston Catts **Cason,**

**Clare & Hattie** - Frank Chesebro's brother and sister-in-law.

**Dr.** - Dr. John Cason, pioneer Delray doctor

**Chaplin, Charlie** - silent movie star famous for his character called "The Little Tramp".

**Chesebro, J.H.** - probably Jack Chesebro, Frank's brother

**Chesebro, John** - Jack Chesebro, Frank's brother? **Combs** - Burch Combs, Boca Raton farmer

**Combs, Birch & Pinta:** Farmers who worked their own land

**Commers** - possibly Henry Kamiya Sakai's brother



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**Demery** - William (Will Demery), one of Chesebro's African American employees. Mr. Demery and his wife Belle moved to Boca Raton with their family in 1912, becoming two of Boca's earliest African American pioneers.

**Denis** - possibly Isaac Dennis, an African American farm laborer from Deerfield.

**Dillinghams** - mentioned several times in the 1920s, but not recorded in the census or city directories.

**DuBois family** - Jupiter pioneers who had a big honey business

**E.** - Timothy Edgecomb *or* Emory Brooks one of Chesebro's African American employees

**Emory** - Emory Brooks, one of Chesebro's African American employees

**Eula and Charlie** - Eula Purdom (Raulerson) and Charlie Raulerson married July 15, 1913

**Flood, Joe** - Floods were local family who Chesebro did business with

**Gortons** - Vermonters who lived on the Intracoastal where Silver Palm Park is today

**Gould, Laurence** - Young schoolteacher from Michigan who taught at Boca Raton School 1914-1917. Later became famous polar explorer and college president.

**H.** - Harry Chesebro, Frank's son

**Hall, Henry** - a "mulatto" according to the census, or person of mixed race, from Deerfield

**Hassell** - possibly John Hassall of Delray

**Hattie** - Hatty Long, George Long's daughter

**Hector** - a family owned farm supply business founded in Miami in 1912 and remained in the family for 70 years. The company grew to five branches in southeast Florida consisting of a fertilizer and dairy feed mixing plant (Hector Supply Co.) and a turf and garden supply business (Hector Turf and Garden).

**Henry** - one of Chesebro's African American employees

**Hicks, Allen** - neighboring farmer

**Horne, Jack** - Deerfield resident

**Horner, Blanche** - Deerfield pioneer

**Jack** - Jack Chesebro, Frank's brother

**Jim** - James Huntley, one of Chesebro's African American employees

**Johnson** - possibly Miss Maude Johnson of Deerfield

**Johnson, Dan** - a Broward County commissioner (shot by a former Broward County commissioner)

**Lena (Len)** - a worker who became Mrs. Chesbro's aid and a member of the family



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**Lewis** - Boca Raton pioneer T.M. Rickards' absentee partner who owned land in Boca Raton

**Lib & Elmon** - Libby Chesebro Evarts, Frank's sister, and her husband Elmon Evarts

**Lockett, Jeff** - Hugh Taylor Birch's grounds keeper and a Fort Lauderdale African American pioneer

**Longs** - George Long family, Boca Raton pioneer family

**Luff, Theodore and Harriet** - pioneers who came to Boca Raton from East Orange, New Jersey

**Lyons** - H.L. Bud" Lyons, Pompano farmer and land owner for whom Lyons Road in southern Palm Beach

**Maguires** - E.J. Maguire family, owned property on Intracoastal

**Metcalf, Guy** - Owner of the Biscayne Bay Stage Line. Built stage line road from Lantana to Lemon City (Miami). Hired Frank Stranahan (cousin) to oversee stage line's over night camp at New River (Ft.Lauderdale).

**Mit** - one of Frank's relatives, possibly another brother

**Mrs. Day** - friend of Chesebro family

**Mose Brown** - unknown Chesebro employee

**N.** - Nettie, Frank's wife (N. also used as abbreviation for "North")

**Old Mr. Raulerson** - William T. Raulerson who came with his family in 1911

**Ollie** - Ollie Brown, one of Chesebro's African American employees

**Oriris-** (Ona) A man, a mechanic, and a farm worker. Ona's name appeared 63 times in the 1923-1926 diary.

**Pete** - Pete Williams, one of Chesebro's African American employees

**Purdoms** - pioneer family who came to Boca Raton ca. 1905

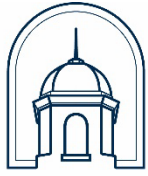
**R.** - Probably William J. Reed, one of Chesebro's African American employees

**Raulerson** - Probably Charlie Raulerson, Burt Raulerson's nephew who arrived in 1911

**Raulerson, Will** - probably referring to Charlie Raulerson's brother, William H.

**Richard** - one of Chesebro's African American employees

**Rickards, Captain Thomas** - "Captain" Rickards was the first known permanent white settler in Boca Raton; he surveyed the future town for the Florida East Coast Railway in 1896 and helped established the town. He moved to North Carolina in 1906 but continued to own land in Boca Raton.



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**Ross** - Mr. Ross is a "distant relative" of Frank Chesebro

**Sakai, Jo** - leader of the Yamato Colony

**Seminole Sun Dance**- A big festival in a WPB that aimed to rival Mardi Gras back in the 20s.

**Schunks** - Boca Raton pioneer family

**Sistrunk family** - early pioneer family in Boca Raton

**Smith** - unknown resident of Yamato colony. Some black and white pioneers resided with the Japanese there

**Snyder, S. P.** - Fort Lauderdale pioneer roadbuilder

**Sundy, John Shaw** - a Delray (Beach) pioneer. Sundy worked as a construction supervisor for Florida East Coast Railway. He often used mules to get the FEC work done.

**Sutters** - family friends from Michigan with property in Boca Raton

**T, Mrs.** - probably Mrs. Townsend

**TenBrook, D.G.** - Fort Lauderdale pioneer realtor

**Townsend, William**: early Boca Raton resident who would serve as first bridge tender on the Palmetto Park

**Wilson** - president Woodrow Wilson, served 1913-1921. He was first elected in the November 1912 election.

**Wm Demery** - William (Will Demery), one of Chesebro's African American employees.

**Yager** - farmer who arrived in Boca Raton ca. 1910