

## THE HISTORY OF FLAGLER BEACH

By Stan Drescher

Our past is more than history  
We learn as we uncover  
So when we travel back in time  
We are what we discover

We weren't always FLAGLER BEACH  
We once were Ocean City  
So we spoke to the committee  
And took money from our kitty

So we're named for Henry Flagler  
Who shortened our state  
His railroad ran from north to south  
So folks could relocate

In 1913 with the Homestead Act  
George Moody bought some land  
It was a marsh and swampy  
With mosquitoes and wet sand

He rolled his sleeves up, bit his lip  
Then never said a word  
'Cause access to the ocean  
Was hopeless and absurd

So Moody built a ferry barge  
That could hold a car  
And now that he could get across  
The ocean wasn't far

It soon became a drawbridge  
Including windup crank  
That raised the bridge for taller ships  
So no ship ever sank

The improved road saw traffic  
The drawbridge really drew  
And more than few felt they knew  
They'd see the sea in view

We made him our first mayor  
An honor quite befitting  
Since George was a true pioneer  
Who'd never think of quitting

Time passed and then in '28  
The city built a pier  
It was for Flagler residents  
But a structure all could share

The pier became a focal point  
For friends to meet and greet  
And a seaside monument  
Where you could fish and eat

Word soon spread about the beach  
They heard about our pier  
And knew we were a beach town  
But they couldn't figure where

Even when Lindbergh landed  
He said where the "bleep" am I  
And we said you're in Flagler Beach  
Then toasted what a guy

But just come north on A1A  
You'll see a water tank  
And you'll be in Flagler Beach  
'Cause before the tank was blank

Now when you're on our city bridge  
It's Moody Boulevard  
Named for the man who paved the way  
With never self regard

Names like Flagler and Moody  
Are really etched in stone  
'Cause their moulds cannot be matched  
They truly stand alone