



The Florida Historical Society proudly presents  
***Discover Florida***  
Fall 2025 Lecture Series

Library of Florida History  
**435 Brevard Ave., Cocoa, FL 32922**

Saturday, September 6, 2025 2:00 PM

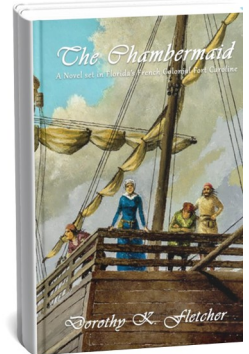
DOROTHY K. FLETCHER

*The Chambermaid*



In 1564, the teenage girl Ellie is given the opportunity to leave her home in France, traveling to the unknown New World of Florida, to serve as the chambermaid of René Laudonnière at the remote outpost Fort Caroline. Ellie must bravely face the mysterious indigenous people of Florida, rebellious French settlers, and violent Spanish soldiers who consider the French Huguenots to be heretics as well as invaders on Spanish property. During her often-harrowing adventures, Ellie finds dedication, purpose, faith, and love.

This work of fiction is largely based upon the real-life journals of Fort Caroline commander René Laudonnière, and mapmaker and artist Jacques Le Moyne de Morgues.



Saturday, October 11, 2025 2:00 PM

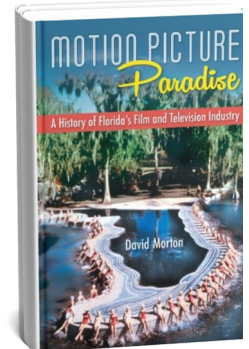
DAVID MORTON

*Motion Picture Paradise*



Often overlooked in its contribution to film history, Florida has played a key role in creating the modern entertainment industry. This presentation discusses how Florida became a “third coast” to the American film and television industries over the past one hundred years. Starting with the first film pioneers in Jacksonville during the 1900s and 1910s to South Florida’s television boom during the 2000s and 2010s, Florida has inspired countless exciting stories captured by the camera.

Using a wealth of source materials, Morton offers a comprehensive history that demonstrates how films and television shows made in Florida have influenced the state’s sense of identity, drawing attention to Florida’s underacknowledged role as the “third coast” in American film history. *Motion Picture Paradise* adds new insights into the state’s dramatic social and economic transformations during the twentieth century.



Saturday, November 8, 2025 2:00 PM

ELIOT KLEINBERG

*Peace River*

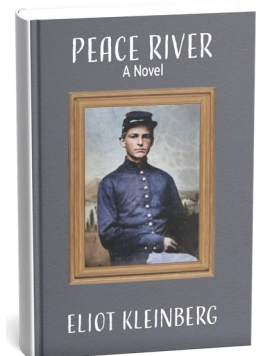


Another man was sent to fight in the Civil War in your place. Do you care? You were forced to go to war for another man. How do you get revenge?

Merritt Moran is on a train. The bottle in his cloak is empty. His clothes stink. He can’t clear his mind of the woman from his past. The woman in the white dress. He knows his father sent another man to fight in his place, and the war turned that person from a scared innocent to an angry killer who brought revenge on Merritt’s family. Merritt must find that man for his own redemption. But where is the man?

Maybe, just maybe, he’s somewhere on Peace River.

Eliot Kleinberg is a retired news and features writer for the *Palm Beach Post*. He is author of the books *Black Cloud: The Deadly Hurricane of 1928*, and the original “weird Florida” books, *Weird Florida* and *Weird Florida II: In a State of Shock*. This historical novel, *Peace River*, is his first work of fiction.



***All lectures are free and open to the public.***

***Light refreshments will be provided!***