

# **Sarah Lynn Boe Smith**

*Publisher — Clay County Leader*

As sole owner and publisher of the Clay County Leader, Sarah Boe has always seen the need for citizens to be informed as to what is going on in Clay County. With this thought in mind, the weekly broadsheet was first published in 1994 as a independently owned newspaper.

Since then, the Leader has flourished and become a well-respected, quality newspaper which covers all facets of the county. Bringing on staff the talents of Ann Williamson and her mother, Elaine Williamson, The Leader has continued to grow and serve the citizens of Clay County. In addition, Mrs. Boe has added staff who cover the news from Penney Farms, Middleburg, Keystone Heights, Orange Park and Green Cove Springs, as well as a well-read sports section.

Helping new writers achieve their professional goals has been a priority with Mrs. Boe and she is always giving these young journalists an opportunity to try their hand at writing for a newspaper.

A resident of Clay County since 1950, Sarah Lynn Boe has assisted in fund-raising for many organizations and she has worked tirelessly to promote Clay County as well as educating people in the importance of preserving its history. One of the projects of which she is most proud has been the development of the Rediscover Early Florida at the Clay County Fair. Beginning with a single “Cracker House”, this idea has expanded to its own location and has added several homes of old time residents of Clay County and an old school house from Penney Farms.

Mrs. Boe has been a part of many diverse organizations in Clay County including: founding member of the Clay County Pilot Club, past member and chairman of the Clay County Development Authority, past member and chairman of the Clay County Historical Commission, founding and life member of the Clay County Historical Society, founding and life member of the Clay County Fair Association, member of the 4-H Foundation; past chairman of the School District Vocational Committee; Clay County Cattlemen’s Association; Clay County Chamber of Commerce, Magnolia Point Golf and Country Club, and member of committee to Restore Old Courthouse (Clay County Bar Association),

In 1998 Mrs. Boe received the Orange Park Sertoma Club’s Service to Mankind Award. She has also been honored by the Clay County Fair Association.

Mrs. Boe owned and operated Jean Jowers Shop in Orange Park from 1965 to 1969. She is the mother of twin sons, Joseph and Julius. Julius is with the FBI and Joseph, a graphic artist and photographer, works with Mrs. Boe at the Clay County Leader.