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2012/2013 Florida Women's Hall of Fame Inductee



**Lillie Pierce Voss**

**1876 – 1967**

*Lillie Pierce Voss*, formerly of Hypoluxo, was the first non-Native American child born between Jupiter and Miami. As a child she learned to interact with the Seminole Indians and she learned to shoot, hunt, fish, and sail a boat as well as any male. She was known as the Sweetheart of the Barefoot Mailmen, helping her mother cook breakfast for the mailmen and rowing them across the lagoon to the beach strip where they would start their historic treks. Her husband was a boat captain and steam engineer who ran steamboats in South Florida in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Together they piloted yachts between Palm Beach and New England for wealthy seasonal Palm Beach residents. Ms. Voss was a pioneer woman and dynamic individual who helped build South Florida while raising her five children. She witnessed and participated in some of the watershed events in the development of Southeast Florida, raised a successful family, and survived a hard-scrabble existence in the wild, untamed frontier of Southeast Florida at a time when most male settlers could not survive. She was smart, tough, and was an intricate part of South Florida's unique history.

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