

EVERGLADES SOCIETY FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Dedicated to our Unique History

P O Box 46, Everglades City, FL, 34139

ESHP@hotmail.com

www.evergladeshistorical.org

The **TOWN CRIER** newsletter is issued periodically to keep ESHP members and the public informed of our activities. We welcome news and feedback.

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Everglades Society for Historic Preservation, Inc. is a registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation. The Society is concerned with the **preservation of all historic sites, structures, documents, artifacts, and memories** within the Everglades area.

DIRECTORS

Kathy Brock (President), Helen Bryan, Tod Dahlke, Hydie Friend
Patty Huff (Vice-President), Elaine Middelstaedt (Treasurer)
Marya Repko (Secretary), John M. Wilson, Craig Woodward

ESHP MEMBERSHIP

(renewable each January 1 except for Lifetime categories)

- Individual (\$25) Family (\$40)
- Patron (\$100) Benefactor (\$500)
- Life Individual (\$1,000) Life Family (\$1,500)
- Business (\$100) Extra (\$ _____)

NAME _____

STREET / POBox _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

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CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

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MONTHS AT ALTERNATE ADDRESS:

JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN

JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC

DATE _____ signature _____

TOWN CRIER

EVERGLADES SOCIETY FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2019
VOLUME 15, NUMBER 1



REVIEW OF THE YEAR

The year 2018 continued the area’s recovery after Hurricane Irma the previous September. Local public buildings, such as City Hall and Everglades Community Church, were finally ready for occupation after extensive refurbishment.

The speaker at our **Annual Meeting** on February 23rd was Jack Shealy who talked about his life in the Gladesman culture. Jack grew up in Ochopee where his family carries on the traditions they share with the Indians – never take more from nature than you need.

The new Everglades City Planning & Zoning Board established regular meetings on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in City Hall. Bob Bergin volunteered to be the chairman.

At our March meeting, the Board elected Kathy Brock as President and in October we invited John M. Wilson to join us as a Director.

The ESHP Board introduced **Lifetime memberships** so you never have to worry about renewals again and can show support for our goal to preserve the unique heritage of this area.

The big event of the spring was the 90th Anniversary of the opening of the Tamiami Trail. The Friends of the Museum organized the celebration which included a parade and the reading of Barron Collier’s speech by his grandson.

Unfortunately, the old Ivey House Lodge and adjacent little houses were beyond repair and were demolished in September. A new Lodge is being built in much the same style as the old one but high enough to be above flood plain.

The old **Everglades Bank Building** featured as one of “Florida’s 11 to Save” on the front page of *The Florida Preservationist*, the official publication of the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation. Our **Welcome-Back Historical Talk** on November 16th focused on the history and future of the Bank Building.

ESHP sponsored a **Veterans’ Memorial** which was unveiled on November 11th on the City Hall Lawn. We have also funded the new **picture rail** in City Hall which will allow some of our historic photos to be hung again.

Finally, we were sorry to hear of the **passing** of Dorothy (“Mama Dot”) Weeks and Beatrice (“Aunt Bea”) Rogers, both long-standing residents of Chokoloskee. Marco Island lost its architect, Herb Savage who shaped its modern history from the 1960s onward.



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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Feb 8-10: Everglades Seafood Festival

Feb 14: Deadline for Bricks (see right column)

Feb 19-23: MSD Festival, Museum of the Everglades

Feb 22: Annual Meeting & Historical Talk

5:30pm, Island Café

Feb 23: Art-in-the-Glades

10am-1pm, McLeod Park

Mar 23: Art-in-the-Glades

10am-1pm, McLeod Park

Mar 23: Calusa Days

Everglades National Park

April 27: Museum Birthday

Museum of the Everglades

DOWNLOAD a handy calendar from www.evergladeshistorical.org.

ESHP BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Directors meets at 8:30 a.m. on the first Monday of the month. The next meeting will be held on **Monday, March 4**, in our office at City Hall. Members are welcome to attend and contribute ideas. For info, phone Marya at 695-2905.

MEMBERSHIP

We have 65 current members. Thanks to those who renewed promptly for 2019 after being reminded by email and post.

To join us or renew, just fill in the form on the back of this newsletter or use a debit/credit card at our website www.evergladeshistorical.org.

EVERGLADES SEAFOOD FESTIVAL

ESHP will have a booth opposite the Museum to tell the thousands of visitors how we strive to save our historic heritage. For info and schedule of events, see evergladesseafoodfestival.org.



ART-IN-THE-GLADES

You can buy local history books, as well as arts & crafts and home-made baked goods, at Art-in-the-Glades on **Saturday, February 23**, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at McLeod Park. Vendors are welcome to set up. There is no charge. For info, phone Marya at (239) 695-2905.

MSD Festival

The 15th Annual MSD History & Heritage Festival takes place on February 19-23 at the Museum and has a packed program of tours, walks, and talks.



The opening luncheon in the Lighthouse Club at Everglades Isle features Cesar Becerra recalling his memories of Marjory..

Reservations for the tours and luncheon are required. Phone the Museum at (239) 252-5026 to save your places. For the full schedule, see website www.evergladesmuseum.org and click on "MSD Festival".

ANNUAL MEETING & TALK

Our area was one of the major settlements on Florida's Last Frontier. It was a symbol of rugged survival in the wilderness before and even after Collier achieved the engineering feat of building a road across the swamp.

We should be proud of our leadership in the County and of our individual character.

ESHP will host a round-table discussion about "Planning for the Future, Honoring the Past" at our Annual Meeting on **Friday, February 22**, at 5:30 p.m. in the Island Café.

The agenda includes a brief financial report and summary of activities before we invite attendees to contribute their thoughts on where we should be going. Can we expand and grow while still keeping our historic character? Why is our heritage important?

Everyone who has an interest in the community is invited. There is no charge but *reservations are required* because space is limited. RSVP by email to ESHP@hotmail.com or phone (239) 695-2905. You can stay for dinner at your own expense.

WHY HISTORIC PRESERVATION?

- Old buildings have intrinsic value – built of higher quality materials and rare materials
- When you tear down an old building a piece of history is destroyed, it is lost forever
- Even eyesores can be valuable for a community's future
- Old buildings attract people – older buildings are just more interesting.
- Old buildings are reminders of a city's culture and complexity – a city needs old buildings to maintain a sense of permanency and heritage.

LAST CHANCE!

The deadline for ordering an engraved paver in front of City Hall is **Thursday, February 14**.

Application forms are available in City Hall at the water billing office or can be downloaded from our website. We will also have them on our booth at Everglades Seafood Festival.



News from the Historical Library

If you still have old books, newspapers, or photos for the Historical Library on the second floor in City Hall where they have been safe from flooding, phone Marya at (239) 696-2905.