

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), Craig Woodward

ESHP ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

(renewable each January 1)

Individual (\$25) Family (\$40)
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*Please make check payable to "ESHP" and send to
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TOWN CRIER

EVERGLADES SOCIETY
FOR HISTORIC
PRESERVATION

Newsletter

MAY 2018

VOLUME 14, NUMBER 3



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

June 30: Independence Day Celebration

10am-1pm, McLeod Park

see article below

Sept 29: Blessing of the Stone Crab Fleet

10am-1pm, Rod & Gun Club

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, June 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 61 current members plus 16 who have not renewed from 2017. Final reminders have been sent to those in arrears.

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. We are a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit so your donation may be tax-deductible.

There were no new members since our last newsletter.

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

Saturday, June 30

10:00am: Opening Ceremony
10:30am: Dedication of the Fire Station
10:45am: PARADE – "Everglades Strong"
11:00am: Booths Open, Coffee & Bake Sale
11:30am: Parade Winners Announced
11:30am: Kiddies' Contests
12:30pm: Raffle Winners Announced
9:00pm: FIREWORKS

We always have our festivities in Everglades City on the Saturday before July 4th so everyone can attend. There are **prizes** for the best parade entries and for the most patriotically dressed kiddies. For the adults, there is a goodie basket that will be raffled off to raise money for the Fireworks Fund.

This year is special because we are **re-dedicating the Fire Station** which was damaged during Hurricane Irma. It will be named after Tommy Mitchell, one of the original fire fighters and an active volunteer in the community.

For information and to donate, call Dottie at City Hall on (239) 695-3781.



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photo courtesy Thomas Lockyear

TAMIAMI 90TH & MUSEUM 20TH

We had a great celebration in Everglades City on April 28th with sunny skies and huge crowds to commemorate the 90th Anniversary of the Opening of the Tamiami Trail.

We welcomed two Collier grandsons, seen here in the Museum during their visit. Barron Collier III ("Barry") read his grandfather's original speech on the steps of City Hall. Terry, son of Sam Collier who was killed young in a car race, sang the National Anthem during the Opening Ceremony and then jammed with Mitch during the formal tea in the Rod & Gun.

We all enjoyed the Grande Parade led by antique cars, including the Marco Island Historical Society Model-T carrying Barry Collier. Other dignitaries rode in the Fakahatchee tram before joining the crowd in McLeod Park to look at exhibits there, listen to music from the Naples Dixieland Jazz Band, and eat BBQ prepared by the Sons of the Confederacy.



The day continued with talks in the Museum and, finally, Birthday cake served with tea in real China cups.

Congratulations to the Friends of the Museum of the Everglades for such a successful event!

ECity TOTE BAGS!

Have you seen our new tote bags?

The whimsical map was donated to ESHP by artist Hannah Ineson who also designed our logo.

You can order one at www.evergladeshistorical.org with a credit/debit card or send ESHP a check for \$20 to P.O. Box 46, Everglades City, FL, 34139.



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.



Thanks to the wonderful volunteers who staffed our booth next to one from the Friends of the Museum during the Tamiami-90th event in McLeod Park. They are seen above with women from Friends of Koreshan State Park, the historic site in Estero.

The TAMIAMI TRAIL sign dates from 1992 when the road was being considered as a scenic highway. The signs were made by the late Maria Stone whose book *The Tamiami Trail; A Collection of Stories* was reprinted just in time for the celebration. This old sign was donated to ESHP by historian Lila Zuck who has been so supportive to us and has recently been honored by the City of Naples for her massive definitive history of that area.

EVERGLADES CITY NEWS

Bob Bergin was appointed new chair of the City's **Planning & Zoning Committee** at the Council meeting on May 1. Bob had experience during his professional life in building construction on the east coast of Florida until he retired here to spend his free time fishing in our Gulf waters. He and his wife Debbie have owned a local condo for years and used to drive over for the weekends.

Bob said at the meeting the he was studying our ancient code and would follow it exactly until it was changed. City Attorney Zach Lombardo thanked Bob for taking on this job and commented that "P&Z is a thankless task."

The P&Z Committee meets on the **third Tuesday** of the month at 7:00pm in City Hall and everyone is welcome to attend. We will invite Bob to address ESHP once he is comfortable in his new position.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Best wishes to "Aunt Bea" Rogers who turns 99 on May 31 this year. She was born in 1919 at Punta Rassa (the port at the mouth of the Caloosahatchee) and moved to Chokoloskee where she married Walter Brown in 1934. For a time, she worked as a secretary in Everglades City School. Of her six children, only three are now living but there are numerous "grands" to help her celebrate this milestone.