

**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

Connie Barker, Kathy Brock (President), Helen Bryan,
Gail Davenport, Hydie Friend, Patty Huff (Vice-President),
Elaine Middelstaedt (Treasurer), Marya Repko (Secretary)

ESHP MEMBERSHIP

(renewable each January 1 except for Lifetime categories)

- Individual (\$25) Family (\$40)
- Patron (\$100) Benefactor (\$500)
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TOWN CRIER

**EVERGLADES SOCIETY
FOR HISTORIC
PRESERVATION**

Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2021

VOLUME 17, NUMBER 8



All Eyes on Bank Building

The pandemic has slowed down human activity but it hasn't stopped historic buildings from decaying. We're trying to remedy that with our SaveBOE campaign!

We had a long discussion with Jeff Mudgett of PMS Architects about what we want in the Bank of Everglades building and how best to accomplish our goals. His practice is working on **schematic layouts and 3-D drawings**. We hope to be able to show the results at the beginning of December and can then get on with serious construction.

One idea is to draw attention to the back (east) side of the building which is what people see from the Circle. In the early 1920s, the focus was from the river where most traffic took place but that has changed in modern times.

We had a successful **Exclusive Tour** of the old Bank on October 30 when guests came from Naples and Ft Myers to enjoy lunch at the Rod & Gun before a walk-through of the old building guided by Patty Huff.



And, we're looking forward to the **Music Festival** on November 6. Our thanks to all the performers and volunteers for contributing their time to raise funds for this worthy project.

To learn more, see www.SaveBOE.com. For info, phone Kathy at (954) 662-7003 or Patty at (239) 719-0020.


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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Saturday, November 6: ECity Music Festival

12noon-late, Rod & Gun Club lawn

Reserved seat \$50, General admission \$20/person

 Book in advance at www.SaveBoE.com.

Friday, November 19: Welcome Back Historical Talk

2:00pm, Lighthouse Club at Everglades Isle

Illustrated presentation: "Why Did They Kill Mr. Watson?"

No charge but places limited; reservations requested

 Phone Marya at (239) 695-2905 or email ESHP@hotmail.com
Saturday, November 20: Art-in-the-Glades

10am-1pm, McLeod Park

Local artisans selling their creations. No charge.

 Phone Marya at (239) 695-2905 or email ESHP@hotmail.com
Saturday, December 11: "Killing Mr. Watson"

11am-4pm, Smallwood Store in Chokoloskee

see right column for background

Performances at 11am and 2pm

Reserved seat \$50, General admission \$20/person

 Book in advance at www.SaveBoE.com.

Saturday, December 11: Art-in-the-Glades

10am-1pm, McLeod Park

Have fun shopping for the holiday season.

 Phone Marya at (239) 695-2905 or email ESHP@hotmail.com

=== 2022 ===

Friday, January 14: Golfing Extravaganza

6pm, Naples Depot, details t/b/a

Saturday, January 22: Art-in-the-Glades

10am-1pm, McLeod Park

Thursday, February 3: Dine & Dance Gala

6pm, Naples Sports Complex, details t/b/a

Sat/Sun, February 12/13: Seafood Festival

10am-late, The Circle, Everglades City

Friday, February 25: Annual Meeting & Historical Talk

5:30pm, details t/b/a, update on Bank of Everglades Building

Saturday, February 26: Art-in-the-Glades

10am-1pm, McLeod Park

Friday, March 11: "Wind Across the Everglades"

5pm, Naples, details t/b/a

Saturday, March 26: Art-in-the-Glades

10am-1pm, McLeod Park

BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Directors meets at 9:00 a.m. on the first Monday of the month. The next meeting will be on **Monday December 6**, in the Visitor Center. Members are welcome to attend and contribute ideas. For info, phone Kathy at (954) 662-7003.



Who was Mr. Watson?

We focus on this larger-than-life local figure with an illustrated talk at our "Welcome-Back" event and then two performances of a re-enactment of his killing at the Smallwood Store in Chokoloskee where he was shot down by a group of locals.

The event, which really took place in 1910, was made notorious in the 1990 book *Killing Mister Watson* by Peter Matthiessen and his subsequent volumes with the same theme

Our history lecture, which digs into Watson's past, is on **Friday, November 19**, at 2:00pm in the Lighthouse Club at Everglades Isle. Admission is free but reservations are requested. Phone Marya at (239) 695-2905 or email us on ESHP@hotmail.com to save your places.

The play, which was written by Larry Block who is coming from Atlanta to produce it for us on **Saturday, December 11**. It is a fundraiser to benefit the Bank of Everglades renovation effort and the Smallwood Store. Tickets for reserved seats should be booked in advance at our special website www.SaveBOE.com so we know how many chairs we need. It will be a fun day and admission to the old Smallwood trading post is included.



MUSEUM UPDATE

In keeping with the venue for our event at the Smallwood Store, the subject of the **Third Thursday Talk on November 18** at 2:00pm. is "Trading Posts of South Florida". There is no charge and reservations are not required but seating is "first-come-first-served" so get there early.

The Museum is open from 9am to 4pm on Tuesday through Saturday and admission is free. For info, call (239) 252-5026.



NEW SIGNS POINT THE WAY

Our Visitor Center is open again, thanks to volunteers who are ready to answer questions about what to do and where to go in our local area.

The new signs in the median of the road lead drivers from the Post Office all the way around the Circle to our office at 207 West Broadway opposite the Rod & Gun. The phone number there is (239) 232-0473 and the website with lots of info is www.VisitEvergladesCity.com.

ESHP MEMBERSHIP

We have 75 members who are paid-up.

JOIN NOW – your membership will extend through the end of 2022.

To show your support, just fill in the form on the back of this newsletter or use a debit/credit card at our website www.eshp.org.