



Friends of the Museum of the Everglades

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2018

Volume XVIII Number 1

FME, P O Box 677, Everglades City, FL, 34139

www.evergladesmuseum.org

EVENTS

FME BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, February 6, 4 pm
Museum of the Everglades

“Wind Across the Everglades”

Saturday, January 27
Museum, 6 pm

Seafood Festival

February 9-11

MSD Festival

February 20-24

MUSEUM 20th BIRTHDAY

TAMIAMI TRAIL 90th

Saturday, April 28

EXHIBITS

Pauline Reeves Gallery

Jan 13 - Feb 17:

Plume Hunting

“Wind Across the Everglades”

Feb 17 - March 24:

Everglades: River of Grass

(art of Robert Fink)

March 14 - April 28:

The Trailblazers

Tamiami Trail 90th Anniversary

This is a tentative schedule. Details might change as we continue to refit the Museum after Hurricane Irma.

Annual Members’ Luncheon



During the FME Annual Meeting & Luncheon on December 11 at Everglades Isle, Museum Manager Thomas Lockyear spoke about “Moving Forward with a Mission” when he outlined his hopes for the present and the future. We also heard from Museum Director Amanda Townsend and were honored to have Steve Carnell, head of the County Public Services Division, among the attendees.

FILM ANNIVERSARY

Filmed right here in Everglades City and nearby Chokoloskee with lots of local participation and an all-star cast, the party to celebrate the completion of the movie “Wind Across the Everglades” was held on January 27, 1958. Join us for a screening on **Saturday, January 27**, under the stars at Museum – 60 years later to the very day!

The event will begin promptly at 6:00 pm with an introduction by special guest KC Schulberg, nephew of the film’s Director Budd Schulberg and son of Producer Stuart Schulberg.

Called the first “eco film”, the photography of flocks of birds and natural scenes is beautiful and reinforces the message about plume hunting which was finally banned in the early 1900s.

Refreshments will be hosted by FME. Free admission with your own chair or reserve a VIP seat with a \$10 donation (free for FME members). For more information, call 239-695-0008.



The Museum is located at 105 West Broadway, Everglades City. Telephone number (239) 695-0008.
Open to the public Monday through Saturday, 9AM to 4 PM – Everyone Welcome!

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MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGER

by Thomas Lockyear

The past three months have been extremely challenging for all of us in the Collier County Museum, but particularly difficult here at Museum of the Everglades. The Museum officially re-opened on December 18th with a small exhibit of photographs entitled “Images of Irma” illustrating the aftermath of the storm and the level of devastation faced by Everglades City residents. Captured by local photographer JohnBob Carlos, the images provide a stark contrast to the current state of the community – streets clean and free of debris for the first time in months. Many of our visitors are shocked to discover that these photos were from the recent storm and not historic images.

It has been a slow process getting back to business here at the Museum. Phones were finally restored two weeks ago and we have only had computer connectivity as of last Friday. About 90% of the artifacts removed to the vault at the Collier Museum in Naples for safekeeping have been returned and placed on display. We have used this opportunity to have many of our artifacts that were in need of attention cleaned, conserved, and in some cases repaired. Our ¼ scale model of a dugout canoe is currently undergoing restoration by Seminole artist and historian Brian Zepeda – who carved it for us almost two decades ago. Likewise, our model of the Bay City Walking Dredge used to build the Tamiami Trail is being fine-tuned and re-strung by its creator, Jerry Enders.

The Museum’s office furniture, all of which was destroyed by Hurricane Irma, has been replaced by matching pieces with a rustic finish nicely suited to our historic structure. Another recent addition is a huge alligator-shaped bicycle rack (able to accommodate up to 14 bikes, -perfect for tour groups that arrive by bicycle) that was originally intended as part of our parking lot improvement plan. Custom-crafted by a company in Minnesota, delivery of this wonderfully whimsical piece of functional public art was repeatedly delayed. It finally showed up in November and has been bringing smiles to the faces of everyone who sees it.

Our new exhibit that combines a brief history of Plume Hunting in the Everglades with the 60th Anniversary (see page 1) of the 1958 Hollywood film about plume poaching – “Wind Across the Everglades” opened on Saturday, January 13th. Running just five weeks, this exhibit will feature some spectacular artifacts on loan from individuals and institutions who have generously agreed to help us tell this story in even greater detail. Be sure to stop in to see everything before we bring in a new exhibit for the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Festival in late February.

We appreciate your support as we move slowly forward in 2018. We have lost several volunteers due to repercussions of the storm, so if you are here in Everglades City and have time to spare – even a few hours a week – we would love to have you join us. As always, your tax-deductible donations to the Friends of Museum of the Everglades help us to continue our mission: to preserve the region’s history and to share it with visitors and residents alike. We thank you for joining us on this journey. Happy New Year!





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President's Message

by Patty Huff

As we celebrate a new year, we also celebrate the re-opening of our Museum of the Everglades which has undergone a major restoration after suffering damage from Hurricane Irma. The Friends of the Museum are thankful to our county staff (especially our Manager Thomas Lockyear) for completing the task so quickly. Everglades City is working hard to get back to normal; we're working to make things better!

During the upcoming year our Friends group will be hosting many programs and receptions. The Board looks forward to serving our members and hope many of you will participate in volunteering and attending these functions.

Please visit our website www.evergladesmuseum.org for more information.

Congratulations to our 2018 Board Members: Vicky Wells, Jaye Brunner, Helen Bryan and Louise Morris. And, our thanks to retiring Board members Georgia Garrett, Marlene Sassaman, Linda Walfield, and Greg Dupignac for their efforts on behalf of FME. We are sorry to see them go and will miss them.



MEET Jaye Brunner

Jaye has volunteered to take over as FME treasurer. She is seen here (left) with retiring treasurer Georgia Garrett who has left the area after Hurricane Irma destroyed her home. Jaye was interviewed for the newsletter by email.

Why did you come to ECity?

After vacationing here for 10+ years, we finally decided to move here as full time residents. We love it here.

Why did you volunteer at Museum?

I have volunteered and worked for non-profits all of my adult life. I felt the museum would be a great way to learn about the area, its history and meet interesting people from all over. I like to be a contributor to my community and this has been a way to give back to my new home, my new friends and my new community.

What is your background?

My background is in banking and social work.

What are your hobbies?

My hobbies are to create things. I create paper mache fish, I paint, I write short stories, I draw, I make things out of palm fronds. I make jewelry.

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MEMBERSHIP

The advantages of being a member of FME, besides supporting our Museum, include a 20% discount in our gift shop, free guided walking tours, and invitations to special events.

FME Board Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 4:00 p.m. at the Museum of the Everglades. Members are welcome to attend.

FME OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

President - Patty Huff Treasurer - Jaye Brunner
 Vice President - Vicky Wells Membership Chair – Helen Bryan
 Secretary – Louise Morris

Comment from a Visitor

A Canadian visitor posted this on TripAdvisor on December 7:

The little museum with a whole lot of history!
 We stopped in at this museum to learn about the area and we were not disappointed. Though they were closed and recovering from the hurricane devastation, the friendly staff let us in to hear the video and read the information around the room. A great time capsule! Make it one of your stops, too.

Learn About FME

The **Friends of the Museum of the Everglades, Inc.** is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation dedicated to keeping history alive at our local Museum by providing financial and volunteer support. FME was founded in 1992 under the leadership of the late Pauline Reeves who spearheaded the move to save the old Laundry building which then became part of the Collier County Museum system when it opened on April 26, 1998.

The **NEWSLETTER** is published at least six times per year. It is sent to members by email and is freely available to the public on our website www.evergladesmuseum.org.

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FME MEMBERSHIP (renewable every January) date _____

Please make check payable to "FME" and send to: FME Membership, P.O.Box 677, Everglades City, FL, 34139

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