

Friends of the Museum of the Everglades

APRIL 2017



Mark Your Calendar

Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 4, 2017
3:30 pm at City Hall

Pauline Reeves Gallery April/May 2017

Elizabeth Smith

EVERGLADES FOUND

Reception: April 8, 2017 1-3 pm

Birthday/Anniversary Celebration of Museum of the Everglades and the Tamiami Trail Saturday April 29, 2017

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Volunteer Spotlight Helen Bryan Photographer for Friends of Museum Newsletter

Pauline Reeves Gallery

"Everglades Found", a Photographic Exhibit by Elizabeth Smith



The Friends of the Museum are proud to welcome Elizabeth Smith to the Pauline Reeves Gallery. Examples of her quick plein-air sketches and her more intensive watercolor paintings will be on display during the months of April and May. According to her Bio Elizabeth spent her early years in the woods and waters of Iowa. Elizabeth's personal style is self-taught and shaped by ten years in the graphic arts, then by private studies and workshops. Recently she went back to school to complete her art degree and to take post graduate classes.

Looking at her acrylic pictured on the right, entitled Two Friends in the Fakahatchee, one is mesmerized by the serene portrayal of Marjorie Stoneman Douglas's River of Grass. Elizabeth is also accomplished with watercolor, and sketching. To connect her two passions: art and nature, Elizabeth keeps an art sketchbook. She draws or paints nearly every day in the natural environment.

You can visit Elizabeth's website to learn more about her education programs, read her blog and visit her gallery: natureartjournal.blogspot.com



A reception for Elizabeth will be hosted by the Friends of the Museum on April 8 from 1 – 3 pm at the Museum of the Everglades. Refreshments will be served.

Celebrate Two Great Events

For the past 19 years the Friends of the Museum have embraced the heritage that is unique to Everglades City. From the Calusa Indians to the present day graduating class of Florida's only K-12 public school the Museum of the Everglades is a one stop shop for everything you always wanted to know about the Everglades. We hope you will join us on Saturday April 29 from 1 – 3 pm as we celebrate the many accomplishments and continued efforts to preserve the traditions of family and community life in this unique cherished corner of the world.

Also, on April 29 we will be celebrating the Anniversary of the Opening of the Tamiami Trail. Can you even imagine life in Everglades City had Collier's ambitious dream not come to fruition? While it is a coincidence that the Founding of the Friends of the Museum and the Opening of the Tamiami Trail happened 69 years apart these accomplishments have been instrumental to our town's quality of life, infrastructure and notoriety throughout the world.

See page 4 for more information about the Birthday/Anniversary Celebration


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Message From the Manager, Thomas Lockyear



The goal of the Museum of the Everglades is to educate and inspire. Our greatest success is when we accomplish both goals in an atmosphere of fun. Take for example a moment shared by a recent visitor, Nancy Bruns, an artist from Ohio. Nancy's interest focused on the historic building that originally housed the railroad depot. Her learning was enhanced as we shared details about that trains that stopped at the depot and their impact on the local economy. We shared photographs of the era and introduced her to local historian Marya Repko.

Nancy painted 'en plein air' while sitting outside the depot building. She referenced a historic image from the 1930s from which she painted. This included details from the photo in her piece which is pictured on the right. Nancy's friend David, a classic car buff noticed that the car shown in the bottom right corner of the picture was the same make and model as that driven by Deaconess Harriet Bedell. What a coincidence it would be if it was the car belonging to the "angel of the Swamp" that was captured in the original photo and is now immortalized in Nancy's painting.

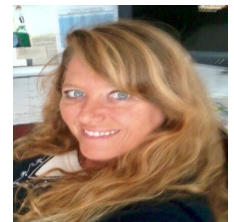


Photo by Thomas Lockyear

This is only one example of the many ways our museum shares its memories with visitors and community members from near and far. If you have an interesting story or experience to share please feel free to call me at 239 695-0008.

Museum Report by Martha Hutcheson

April is upon us and once again we find ourselves saying good bye to our winter volunteers. We want to thank those who have taken time out of their busy lives to volunteer here in the Museum. We are grateful for all your help and your dedication to our wonderful little Museum, you will be missed. Safe travels. We look forward to seeing you next season.



For those of you who stay here year-round we offer a safe-haven from those pesky mosquito bites. Inside the museum at the volunteer desk, in an air-conditioned environment you can you can meet and greet visitors from all over the world who visit our Museum even in the sweat of the Everglades' summer.

For more information about our volunteer opportunities please call the Museum at (239) 695-0008.

Happy 19th Birthday Friends of the Museum
Happy, Happy 89th Anniversary of Tamiami Trail

The Museum is located at 105 West Broadway, Everglades City, telephone (239) 695-0008
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**VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT
HELEN BRYAN, PHOTOGRAPHER**



Helen Bryan who grew up in Ft. Lauderdale, the more citified side of south Florida, has been happily married for sixty-five years. When she married Jim, a preacher's son whose roots were in the southwest swampland, she reckoned that she would need to 'get a life' once she settled into their newly built home in Chokoloksee. In preparation for her move to such a remote location, which would land her 40 miles from Naples where there were no malls, Helen

enrolled in Paul Tribble's Art Class at the Everglades City School. Still living in Ft. Lauderdale Helen drove 100 miles each way to learn the art of painting. Eventually she traded in her paints for a camera. "It was easier," Helen quipped, "to take pictures rather than paint them." Her affinity for photography has resulted in more than 3000 pictures posted on Facebook. Her photojournalism is frequently featured in the Mullet Rapper, the bimonthly newsletter in Everglades City.



Always looking out for a photo op in and around town Helen recently snapped the picture shown on the left. It is the newly constructed block sign at the entrance to the Everglades National Park on Highway #29.

While researching photos to share in this month's FME Volunteer Spotlight Helen resurrected these pictures, shown on the right. They were published in the April 2010 Newsletter of the Collier County Friends of the Museum. The pictures were taken by Helen during a Miami trip a group of the friends took to the Ancient Spanish Monastery.

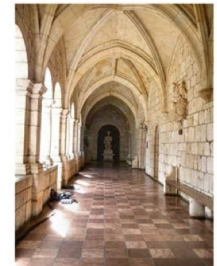
The Friends of the Museum cherish Helen's contributions to our newsletter. It is important to note that Helen can be seen at almost every event in town with her pocket size Canon aimed at people, events, and wildlife.

We are fortunate that Helen's penchant for capturing events as they happen continues to enhance the preservation of the culture and heritage of Chokoloskee and Everglades City; the place where Helen has said, "she got to love." According to local resident Georgia Garrett, "Helen arrives at all events with her wonderful smile and sly wit. She is an inspiration to all who have had the pleasure of her company. She probably doesn't realize how much she has influenced me over the years. She is tireless and dedicated to those causes she loves."

We are grateful to be one of the recipients of Helen's community involvement at the museum, the community center and the activities where ever and whenever her pleasant demeanor appear.



Thanks to FME Board member Helen Bryan for submitting these photos of the Miami Trip to the Ancient Spanish Monastery



Thank you Helen!

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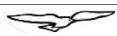


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MUSEUM OF THE EVERGLADES

105 West Broadway Avenue, Everglades City



Celebrating the 19th Birthday

Of the Museum of the Everglades

and the

89th Anniversary of the Opening of the

Tamiami Trail

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