

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:

Helen Bryan Tod Dahlke Mike Danosky (Vice-President)

Pat Fingeroff Patty Huff (Secretary) Lynn McMillin

Elaine Middelstaedt (Treasurer) Marya Repko (President) Craig Woodward

ESHP ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

(renewable each January 1)

Individual (\$25) Family (\$40)
 Patron (\$100) Benefactor (\$500)
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Please make check payable to "ESHP" and send to
ESHP, P.O. Box 46, Everglades City, FL, 34139
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TOWN CRIER

EVERGLADES SOCIETY FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Newsletter



JANUARY 2015
VOLUME 11, NUMBER 1

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Jan 9: Movie Night, "Everglades Odyssey"
5:30 p.m., Everglades Community Church
see article inside

Jan 31: Smallwood Music Festival
11:00 a.m. – dark, Rod & Gun Club, Everglades City
see article inside

Feb 6/7/8: Everglades Seafood Festival
we will have a booth opposite the Museum

Feb 13: Movie Night, "Wind Across the Everglades"
5:30 p.m., Everglades Community Church

Feb 24-28: Marjory Stoneman Douglas Festival
Museum of the Everglades
see www.evergladesmuseum.org

Feb 27: Annual Meeting & Historical Talk
5:30 p.m., Everglades Community Church

Feb 28: MSD Art-in-the-Glades Day
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Museum of the Everglades

March 13: Movie Night
5:30 p.m., Everglades Community Church

You can download a draft calendar from our website.

ESHP BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Directors meets on the first Monday of the month at 8:30 a.m. in our Historical Library in Everglades City Hall. The next meeting will be held on **Monday, January 5.**

ESHP ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Members' Meeting & Historical Talk will be held on **Friday, February 27**, when results of the election for directors will be announced. Nomination forms are included with this newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP

We have 68 paid members. Annual renewal notices were sent by post for the beginning of January. You can renew or join with a credit/debit card at www.evergladeshistorical.org.

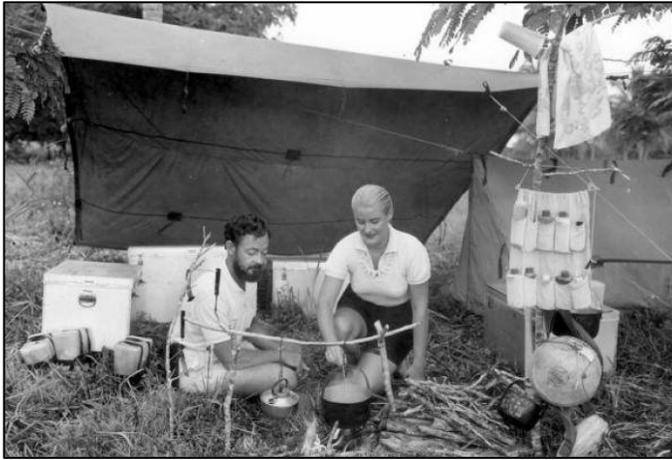
Marco Island Historical Society

Congratulations to Pat Rutledge on being elected president of the MIHS. She is known by the media for sending out their interesting press releases.

The MIHS has a full program of talks and other events. The Museum is currently showing a special exhibit "Paintings of Southwest Florida". For more info, see their website www.theMIHS.org.



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MOVIE NIGHTS



We will again show historical movies, especially those with a connection to this area, each month at 5:30 p.m. in the Jinkins Fellowship Hall behind Everglades Community Church.

The first one is “Everglades Odyssey” on **Friday, January 9**, which tells the story of a young couple Barbara Stewart and Orin Fogle (*in photo above*) who kayak through the Ten Thousand Islands. It was filmed from 1957 to 1960 and shows some lovely scenery in the days before Hurricane Donna.

Our second movie is the ever-popular “Wind Across the Everglades” on **Friday, February 13**. The third movie is a month later on **Friday, March 13**, but we have not yet decided what to show. If you have ideas, please let us know!

The movies are open to the public and free of charge but *reservation are requested*. To book your places, email us on ESHP@hotmail.com or phone Marya at (239) 695-2905.



ESHP and the Friends of the Museum shared a table at the Swamp Heritage Festival to tell visitors about our history.

News from the Historical Library



A complete library catalog is available on our website.

If you would like to give old books, newspapers, or photos to the Historical Library in City Hall, where they are safe from storms, phone Marya at (239) 695-2905.



SMALLWOOD MUSIC FESTIVAL

Join us for a star-studded lineup of Florida musicians on **Saturday, January 31**, at the Rod & Gun Club to benefit the historic Smallwood Store & Museum which is struggling to keep Mamie Street open.

The talent-laden group, who have generously donated their time, includes The WholeTones, Raiford Starke, Nate the Gladesman, Valerie Wisecracker, Cindy Hackney, J. Robert, and Snooker Joe Stem plus host Pete Gallagher.

There will also be Arts & Crafts booths, raffles, an auction, and refreshments. See our website for details or phone Marya at (239) 695-2905.

Monroe Station Memories



Lauren Tibbs (with her “I’m Historical” Tshirt) and her brother Roy Williams spoke around the camp fire at the Big Cypress Swamp Heritage Festival on December 6 about growing up in Monroe Station in the late 1940s. They were teenagers in Coral Gables when their parents took over the lease of the wayside facility in 1945. After attending high school from Monday through Friday in Miami, they would drive over the Trail for a weekend in the wilderness.

There was no electricity so they had to pump the gas by hand. A generator charged 12-volt batteries to provide lighting. The station served breakfast and lunch plus drinks. However, there was a telephone line that ran through the hole in a huge tree along the road.

The neighboring Miccosukees became friends and the children followed them around when they went for walks on the Loop Road to observe the wildlife. They swam in the canal next to the Trail and the little Indian youngsters would sit on the bank and yell out when they spotted a gator. The Williams' mother helped the natives produce aprons and pillow cases in traditional patchwork.

During the 1947 hurricane, they boarded up the building and moved to the Standard Oil station in Ochopee (the concrete building next to Joanie's) where everyone gathered to be safe from the winds. The lease for Monroe Station was taken over in 1950 but the brother and sister have fond memories of their time spent there.

We understand that Big Cypress National Preserve, which owns the building, wants to renovate it. ESHP has offered to help with fundraising and will have more news as plans firm up.