

## **EVERGLADES SOCIETY FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

*Dedicated to our Unique History*

P O Box 46, Everglades City, FL, 34139

email: [ESHP@hotmail.com](mailto:ESHP@hotmail.com)

The *Town Crier* newsletter is produced periodically and is printed courtesy of Everglades Island Properties and Snook Publications. We welcome news and feedback. Send a letter or email.

ESHP is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation. Our current project is the **restoration of the City Hall building** which was constructed in 1928 as the original Collier County Court House. The Society is also concerned with preserving all **historic sites, structures, documents, artifacts and memories** within the Everglades area.

### **DIRECTORS:**

Patty Huff (President)

Karen Cabral (Vice President)

Marya Repko (Secretary)

April Breton (Treasurer)

Carol Moseman (Historical & Grants)

Jean Schultz (Fundraising)

Daniel Summers (Architectural Consultant)

Mayor Sammy Hamilton (ex-officio)

### **COMMITTEES:**

Fundraising

Membership

Grant Writing

Public Relations

Historical Research

Architecture & Engineering

If you would like join any of the Committees, please contact Marya by email or phone 695-2905.

### **WISH LIST**

#### **What you can do right now to help:**

- Donate one-hundred 39-cent stamps for newsletter circulation and membership mail-shots.
- Donate photocopy paper for newsletters and brochures.
- Put a bumper sticker on your car.
- Recruit a friend or neighbor to become a new member.
- Give out ESHP Save City Hall brochures everywhere you visit or shop in Naples.

### **HELP NEEDED WITH WEBSITE**

We are designing a website but need **technical help** to translate our ideas into HTML pages. If you have any experience, we would like to hear from you!!!

Please email Marya on [ESHP@hotmail.com](mailto:ESHP@hotmail.com).

# **TOWN CRIER**

## **Newsletter**

**of the**

**EVERGLADES**

**SOCIETY FOR**

**HISTORIC**

**PRESERVATION**

**March 2006**

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 1



*sketch courtesy of Jurg Furrer*

## **NOSTALGIA NIGHT**

Local resident Arita Parker will show some of her collection of **old photographs** and talk about them at the Members' Meeting on **Wednesday, March 15**, in the Community Church Annex beginning at 6:00p.m. Arita and her sister Barbara grew up in the area when their father came here to work for the Collier Corporation in the electricity plant.

**Members and guests are invited to attend** and to share their memories. The goal of ESHP is to preserve our local history so we are pleased to have an opportunity to hear first-hand reports of life in earlier times.

The agenda for the meeting will also include a report on our activities thus far and an open discussion of our plans for the future.

### ***Artwork Donated for Auction***

A group of 15 enthusiastic painters from the Marco Island Outdoor Artists, led by Phyllis Pransky, were treated to a sandwich picnic hosted by ESHP during their painting expedition here on February 15. Several works, kindly donated by the artists, will be auctioned at **Art in the Glades** on **Saturday, March 25**, to benefit ESHP. Local arts & crafts vendors will be in McLeod Park between 10a.m. and 2p.m.

After the sale, the Smallwood Store & Museum will present **Killing Mr Watson**, a play in two acts based on the historical novel by Peter Matthiessen, at their premises in Chokoloskee.

### **THANKS!!!**

➤ to the **Everglades Echo** and new publisher **Tony Lawson of the Sun-Times** for a substantial donation which was collected by them during the Seafood Festival.

➤ to **Magnus Research Consultants** of Pompano Beach for donating postcards of the City Hall picture that featured in their 2006 Courthouses calendar.

➤ to the **Community Church** for letting us use the Annex for our meetings while City Hall is closed.



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*Dedicated to our Unique History*P O Box 46, Everglades City, FL, 34139 • email: [ESHP@hotmail.com](mailto:ESHP@hotmail.com)**MAYOR REPORTS ON CITY HALL**

Unfortunately, the FEMA Project Officer assigned to Everglades City had to take sick leave and the new officer is sorting out the paperwork. The Mayor reports that a temporary roof has been placed on City Hall and that the building has been cleared out and treated for mildew.

Fortunately, the FEMA Historical Specialist has written a very positive recommendation to the State about the suitability of City Hall as a candidate for the register of historic places so that report should help our cause.

**FEBRUARY FESTIVALS**

Although we lost Saturday (February 4) during the **Seafood Festival** to the torrential rains and our allocated spot near City Hall was a mire, we did relatively well from the table we set up on Sunday opposite the Museum. There was good interest in the "Brick by Brick" campaign and we sold a large number of T-shirts, hats, posters and bumper stickers. We also had sympathetic donations by visitors from outside Collier County.

We had a table at the concert on Saturday, February 25, in McLeod Park during the **Marjory Stoneman Douglas Festival** where we sold merchandise and spoke to visitors about our aims.

**EMAIL FROM A VISITOR**

*"I picked up a copy of your Town Crier newsletter and was fascinated by what you, the Mayor, and your group are trying to do to bring back the old City Hall. Don't ever give up this struggle, it is certainly worth it, not only to you, but to generations to come. You folks have come through a devastating period, and are pulling yourselves up by your bootstraps."*

This encouraging email was from visitor Mark McKay from Wilmington, Ohio, who is also sharing with us his experience of establishing a Main Street District in his home town.

**EMAIL FROM A MEMBER**

*"No two ways about it, City Hall is the cornerstone EC is built on! It has to stay and be restored."*

**FUND RAISING**

Carol Moseman and Marya Repko attended a seminar held by the **Community Foundation** in Naples to learn about the "Logic Model" which helps non-profits define their goals and evaluate their achievements. This was a difficult task for historic preservation projects since our benefit to people is hard to quantify (eg, civic pride, increased awareness of local history) but the methodology was interesting and can be applied to other non-profits in the community.

We have replenished our supply of **hats** and smaller-sized **T-shirts**. If you want to buy one, please stop in at Everglades Island Properties, next to the grocery store. Both items feature the sketch created by Swiss artist Jurg "George" Furrer and donated to the Save City Hall campaign. **Greeting cards** and **bumper stickers** are also available with the same motif.

**BRICK BY BRICK**

Our cry for help to save City Hall was heard as far away as Oregon where a member of the **Santini family**, early pioneers in Chokoloskee, sent in an order for a commemorative brick. We are accumulating orders and will take delivery of the bricks when work starts on the beautification of the Circle. You can pick up an order form and see a **sample brick** at City Hall.

**MEMBERSHIP**

Our total membership is 66 plus 3 honorary members. Renewal notices were sent at the beginning of January to 56 members, 33 of whom have responded with generous checks. Reminders to lapsed members are being sent out with this newsletter.

Welcome to **new members** since our last newsletter:

**FAMILY**

- Denise Danosky, Everglades City
- JD & Diane Dungan, Everglades City
- Angie & Tommy Mitchell, Everglades City

City Councilor **David Loving** died suddenly on January 4<sup>th</sup> at the tragically young age of 49. Although he owned a jewelry design business in Naples, he lived in Everglades City and took an active part in local affairs. Our thoughts are with his family and many friends.