

**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

Kathy Brock (President), Helen Bryan, Tod Dahlke, Hydie Friend
Patty Huff (Vice-President), Elaine Middelstaedt (Treasurer)
Marya Repko (Secretary), John M. Wilson, Craig Woodward

ESHP MEMBERSHIP

(renewable each January 1 except for Lifetime categories)

- Individual (\$25) Family (\$40)
- Patron (\$100) Benefactor (\$500)
- Life Individual (\$1,000) Life Family (\$1,500)
- Business (\$100) Extra (\$ _____)

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TOWN CRIER

**EVERGLADES SOCIETY
FOR HISTORIC
PRESERVATION**

Newsletter



APRIL 2019
VOLUME 15, NUMBER 2

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April 27: Museum Birthday

Museum of the Everglades
see schedule below

April 27: Art-in-the-Glades

10am-1pm, McLeod Park

June 29: Independence Day Celebration

10am-1pm, McLeod Park

Sept 28: Blessing of the Stone Crab Fleet

10am-1pm, Rod & Gun

ESHP BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Directors meets at 8:30 a.m. on the first Monday of the month. The next meeting will be held on **Monday, May 6**, in our office at City Hall. Members are welcome to attend and contribute ideas. For info, phone Marya at 695-2905.

MEMBERSHIP

We have 57 current members plus 6 who have not renewed from 2018. To join us or renew, just fill in the form on the back of this newsletter or use a debit/credit card at our website www.evergladeshistorical.org.

Happy 21st Birthday!

Museum of the Everglades

Events on Saturday, April 27, 2019, in Everglades City

- 10:00am** Walking Tour of Historic Buildings – Museum
- 10:00** Arts & Crafts Booths Open – McLeod Park
- 10:30** Antique Cars Arrive – in front of Museum
- 11:00** OPENING CEREMONY, City Hall porch
Welcome and Introduction of Dignitaries
“Trail Town” Presentation to Mayor Grimm
by Eric Draper, Director Florida Parks Service
Barron Collier’s Tamiami Trail Opening Speech
- 11:30** Laundry Cart Races – around the Circle
- 12:00pm** Lunch by the Lions Club (\$10) – McLeod Park
Dixie Land Jazz Band Concert – McLeod Park
- 1:30** Birthday Cake cutting – Museum
- 2:00** Old-Timers Story Telling – Museum

see articles inside for background ...



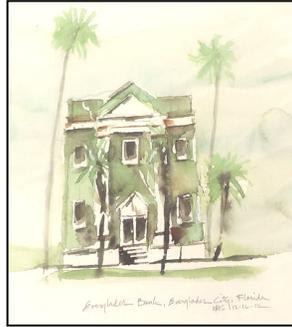
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Sunshine Collection

ESHP has acquired a collection of paintings of historic buildings by Donald Sunshine, a retired professor of architecture at Virginia Tech who winters in Florida and often takes part in Art-in-the-Glades.



The original watercolors, in several sizes, portray the Bank, Depot, Ivey Lodge, Glade Cross Mission, Community Church, and First Baptist Church. Member Hydie Friend has already bought the Bank picture and generously offered to donate it to ESHP to be hung with others after they have been reframed.

Sunshine and his wife Joanna, also a talented artist but in fabrics, are selling their Florida home but hope to visit next season so we can officially unveil his exhibit at a gala event.

What Is a "Trail Town"?

The Office of Greenways & Trails, part of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, has designated Everglades City as the first "Trail Town" south of Lake Okeechobee because it is a suitable place for trail users to stop for goods and services. The program is part of the effort to encourage healthy living in the outdoors.



A formal ceremony will take place on April 27th when Mayor Howie Grimm is presented with official recognition by Eric Draper, Director of the Florida Park Service.



ANNUAL MEETING & TALK

Our Annual Meeting on February 22 had a small attendance but generated some good ideas during the Round-Table Discussion. Director Hydie Friend noted them down on a flip-chart and summarized them for us:

- low-density single family housing, some of it affordable
- green (LEED) buildings, green spaces
- expanded historic districts and designations
- existing zoning laws enforced, rules for demolition permits
- establishment of architectural review board; design guidelines
- increase in overnight and hotel capacity

Our thanks to Island Café who hosted us.

News from the Historical Library



If you still have old books, newspapers, or photos for the Historical Library on the second floor in City Hall where they have been safe from flooding, phone Marya at (239) 696-2905.



MUSEUM HISTORY

Can it really be 21 years since the Museum of the Everglades opened? Some ESHP members and locals remember the hard work refurbishing the old Laundry to be suitable for hand-over to the County as the first satellite Museum to the one in Naples.

The project was led by the late Pauline Reeves whose husband owned Right Choice Supermarket. Pauline was also the guiding spirit behind the establishment and construction of Holy Family Catholic Church.

The Laundry building was completed in 1927 to clean linens from the Rod & Gun and the Inn plus the uniforms worn by Collier Corporation employees. It was operated by the Ayers and Echols family (*in photo above*) until World War II. Then it became offices for Collier-Long Insurance and Collier Development until businesses moved to Naples in 1962 when the County Seat was relocated.

The Women's Club first rented the building and then bought it in 1972 but eventually decided they could not maintain the historic structure and wanted it to be used as a local Museum.

The Friends of the Museum of the Everglades (FME) was established as a non-profit in 1994 and got a huge grant from the State for renovation as well as raising money from individuals. Donated artifacts were displayed in a "Preview Museum" upstairs in City Hall.

The formal Opening of the Museum coincided with the 70th Anniversary of the Tamiami Trail on April 26, 1998. The community is invited to celebrate the Birthday on the last Saturday in April every year with a big cake and fun events.

Why 2 Historical Groups?

When Everglades City Hall was drastically in need of funding to repair the foundations in 2004, the Friends of the Museum discovered their bylaws restricted them to donating money only to the Museum – they could not support the effort to *Save City Hall*. So, many of the same people who are devoted to our history established another 501(c)(3) non-for-profit, ESHP, whose bylaws are more flexible.

You can download the ESHP bylaws from the Home page on our website or phone (239) 695-2905 for a copy by post.