

**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 issued periodically to keep ESHP members and the public informed of our activities. We welcome news and feedback.

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ESHP, Inc. is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation. The Society is concerned with **preserving all historic sites, structures, documents, artifacts, and memories** within the Everglades area.

# TOWN CRIER

**Newsletter  
of the  
EVERGLADES  
SOCIETY FOR  
HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION**

**NOVEMBER 2007**  
VOLUME 3, NUMBER 6



*sketch courtesy of Jurg Furrer*

## **ESHP ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP**

- Individual (\$25)       Family (\$40)
- Patron (\$100)       Benefactor (\$500)
- Business (\$100)       Extra (\$ \_\_\_\_\_)

*Please make check payable to "ESHP" and send to  
ESHP, P.O.Box 46, Everglades City, FL, 34139*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET/P.O.BOX \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

### ALTERNATE ADDRESS

STREET / P.O.BOX: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

### MONTHS AT ALTERNATE ADDRESS:

JAN     FEB     MAR     APR     MAY     JUN

JUL     AUG     SEP     OCT     NOV     DEC

### I would like to help with

- fund raising       Historical Library
- special events       merchandise sales
- publicity/website       historical research
- legal/financial       engineering/architecture
- other \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ signature \_\_\_\_\_

## **BUSY MONTH !!!**

*December is starting off with a packed calendar of events of historical interest. Here's a brief summary:*

### **Monday, December 3, 1:30 p.m.**

Reception for artist Jerry Vallez at the Museum of the Everglades who have his ESHP paintings of old buildings on loan for the month.

### **Tuesday, December 4, 10:00 a.m.**

ESHP Board Meeting in our office at City Hall. Agenda to include an update on Copeland Bula Mission Church (see article inside) and program of speakers & events for the season. Members welcome.

### **Thursday, December 6, 5:00 p.m.**

Re-Dedication of Everglades National Park in City Hall celebrating the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its opening here by President Truman in 1947 (see article inside). Program includes reminiscences by old-timers who were here on the day.

### **Saturday, December 8, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

Art-in-the-Glades in McLeod Park where ESHP will have a table to sell merchandise & bricks and to recruit new members. Phone Marya 695-2905 if you can help.

### **Wednesday, December 12, 5:30 p.m.**

ESHP Members' event at Seafood Depot Restaurant. Author will talk about new book *WORDS ON THE WILDERNESS* which gives the history of place names in local national parks. Book signing.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

We have 69 paid-up members, 50 of whom receive their newsletters by email, saving over \$20 per issue. We keep all email addresses confidential. If we do not have yours, please send it to [ESHP@hotmail.com](mailto:ESHP@hotmail.com).

We also send the newsletter by email to about 40 other historical societies, politicians, and public figures to keep them up-to-date with our efforts to preserve local history.

Welcome to new member:  
Helen Bryan, Chokoloskee



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**Everglades National Park  
60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

ENP was opened in 1947 by President Truman at a ceremony in Everglades City. Congress had authorized the park in 1934 after Ernest Coe and others lobbied to save the Glades but World War II intervened. Land was accumulated in the interim, much from the Collier interests. Miles Collier, son of Barron, was instrumental in having the official opening here.



A re-dedication is being held by the Park Service on Thursday, December 6, in City Hall. The program during the evening is:

- 5:00 - Refreshments
- 6:00 - Welcome and Reading of Truman's speech
- 6:30 - "I Was There When ..." stories about 1947 from local people (everyone welcome to join in!)
- 7:30 - Films "Everglades!" from a 1960s TV series

For more info or to RSVP, phone Marya at 695-2905.

**BUY A BRICK**

An easy gift that will be appreciated for more than a life-time is an engraved brick in front of City Hall.

ESHP have holiday gift cards that you can send to the recipients.

Order forms are available at City Hall or from ESHP.



**COPELAND CHURCH THREATENED**

The old Bula Mission Church in Copeland, at the 5-way junction, has been condemned by the County. ESHP has been working with the executor to stop immediate demolition and to have the building listed with the County as historic. It is thought that the grounds contain the graves of babies.

The Church was given to Ms Frances Hodge as the oldest living member of the congregation after it was dissolved. She wanted the building to be used for the community and offered it as a Post Office when the old Janes' store were torn down. Ms Frances died in August this year just before her 101<sup>st</sup> birthday.



ESHP is evaluating what can be done with the structure. A survey will be made by a contractor to determine if it can be salvaged. If you know anything about the history of the building, please contact Patty at 695-2397.

**HISTORIC DESIGNATIONS EXPLAINED**

This is a summary of an article in *The Mullet Rapper* (10/26/07) by Patty Huff which explained what Historic Designations are all about. Within the City, a building can be declared "historic" in a proclamation passed by the City Council. Outside the City, the County Historical & Archeological Preservation Board (HAPB) can give a structure or place an historical designation. At federal level, it can be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The current owner must agree first.

The advantage to being listed is that a building does not have to be brought up to "code" (raised up on stilts) and there may also be tax breaks for restoring an historic building. However, any major changes have to first be approved by the County HAPB, as well as Planning & Zoning, and the building can not be demolished. For more info, phone Patty at 695-2397.

**HISTORICAL LIBRARY**



One of the collections that we are accumulating is a file of pictures of "Lost Buildings". Many people remember the Inn with the hardware store and Mama Dot's which burnt down in 1987 but we have also lost the "movie theater" (Club Everglades), community center (Seminole Lodge on Riverside), the old jail (where Susie's Station is now), and many other establishments along West Broadway (near the tennis courts). This picture scanned from an old yearbook is the School before it was replaced in the 1960s.



If you would like to visit the Historical Library in the ESHP office at City Hall or want to donate items, phone 695-2905 or 695-2397.