

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 (Treasurer) Tod Dahlke Mike Danosky (Vice-President)
Patty Huff (Secretary) Lynn McMillin Elaine Middelstaedt
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



DECEMBER 2017
VOLUME 13, NUMBER 8

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Dec 16: Art-in-the-Glades, NEW DATE!

10am-1pm, McLeod Park
see article below

Jan 12: Movie Night, 5:30pm, venue TBA

Jan 20: Art-in-the-Glades

10am-1pm, McLeod Park

Feb 2: Movie Night, 5:30pm, venue TBA

Feb 20-24: MSD Festival, Museum

Feb 23: Annual Meeting & Historical Talk 5:30pm, Island Café

Mar 16: Movie Night, 5:30pm, venue TBA

Mar 17: Art-in-the-Glades

10am-1pm, McLeod Park

Mar 17: Calusa Days, Everglades National Park

You can download the events calendar from our website.

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, January 8**. Members are welcome to attend and contribute ideas. For info, phone Marya at 695-2905.

MEMBERSHIP

We have 77 current members. Renewal notices will be sent at the beginning of January. If you join now as a new member, your membership will be extended through 2018. Just fill in the form on the back of this newsletter or use a debit/credit card at our website. **New member since our last newsletter:**

George Benson, Marco Island

ART-IN-THE-GLADES

Enjoy your holiday shopping at Art-in-the-Glades on **Saturday, December 16**, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at McLeod Park. Vendors are welcome to set up. There is no charge. For info, phone Marya at (239) 695-2905.

The next informal arts & crafts fair take place on **Saturday, January 20**,

**Best Wishes for a
Joyous Holiday Season!**



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photo courtesy Florida State Archives

Happy Birthday!

Everglades National Park was officially opened 70 years ago by President Harry S Truman on December 6, 1947, in the town of Everglades which was later named the Western Gateway to the Park and the Gulf Coast Visitor Center was built there.

It all started in 1916 when May Mann Jennings (seen in photo above in black dress) and the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs saved a stand of old-growth trees on Paradise Key near Homestead as Royal Palm Hammock State Park. Later, in the 1920s, landscape architect Ernest Coe lobbied for more land to be included in a National Park. Legislation establishing the Park was passed in 1934 but no land was acquired until after World War II.

Unfortunately, our Gulf Coast Visitor Center was damaged during Hurricane Irma this year and will be replaced temporarily by a port-a-cabin but there are hopes for a new permanent building dedicated to Marjory Stoneman Douglas in the future.

Everglades Historical Village

We are making progress with our project, albeit slowly. We are negotiating with the owners of a site and will meet with the new Everglades City Planning & Zoning Board.

This is a huge undertaking and will need major funding. Thus far, we have a little over \$1200 earmarked for the Village. You can donate at our website or send a check payable to "ESHP" with memo line "Historical Village" to us at P.O. Box 46, Everglades City, FL, 34139.

News from the Historical Library

City Hall is still closed for rehabilitation but, although we can not work in the office upstairs, we know that our collections survived Hurricane Irma.

If you still have old books, newspapers, or photos for the Historical Library on the second floor in City Hall, phone Marya at (239) 695-2905.



photo by Helen Bryan

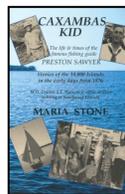
A Land Remembered

We had a full house on November 17 to hear Rick Smith talk about his famous father, author Patrick Smith, and to show some film clips he had taken interviewing the writer before his death. Almost everyone in the audience had read the book and were glad to have an opportunity to buy other titles after the formal presentation.

Thanks to Patty Huff and Helen Bryan for delicious refreshments and to the City for the use of temporary City Hall.

FAREWELL

Doris Reynolds, Naples' Official Historian, passed away at age 92 on November 16. She was well-known for her food columns in the *Naples Daily News* as well as for her love of local history. She had moved to the little town in 1952 and first worked for the Chamber of Commerce before publishing "Naples Now" magazine. Her book *When Peacocks Were Roasted and Mullet Was Fried* includes recipes among the stories about people and places in the past. We will show her DVD "A Walk Down Memory Lane" during the winter at Movie Night.



Caxambas Kid Sells Well

We have sold 16 copies of these books which were donated to ESHP by Lila Zuck, literary curator for author Maria Stone who recorded the life tale "in his own words" of pioneer Preston Sawyer from Marco Island.

The book is available on our website for \$10 plus postage. You can either use a debit/credit card or fill in an order form to send with a check.

If you want to give it as a gift, we will post the book directly to your recipient with a holiday card.

MODERN MARCO ISLAND

There will be a talk entitled "The History of Marco Island Development" by Jack Joyce, who worked with the Mackle Brothers in the late 1960s, on **Wednesday, December 13**, at 6:00 p.m. in the Collier County Museum in Government Center, Naples. The event is free but to make reservations, see website www.colliermuseums.com or phone (239) 252-8476.