



# Friends of the Museum of the Everglades MARCH Newsletter

Volume VIII Issue 3

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March 2008

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FME Board Meeting  
Monday April 7<sup>th</sup>  
10:00 am  
At the Museum  
*Members Welcome*

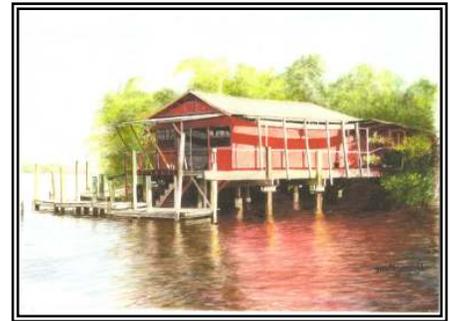
***Congratulations!***  
to the Friends of  
Fakahatchee Strand  
who are celebrating  
their 10th anniversary  
at a gala dinner on  
Sunday, March 30.  
Phone 695-2905 for info.

80<sup>TH</sup> TAMIAMI TRAIL  
10<sup>TH</sup> MUSEUM OF THE  
EVERGLADES  
ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATION

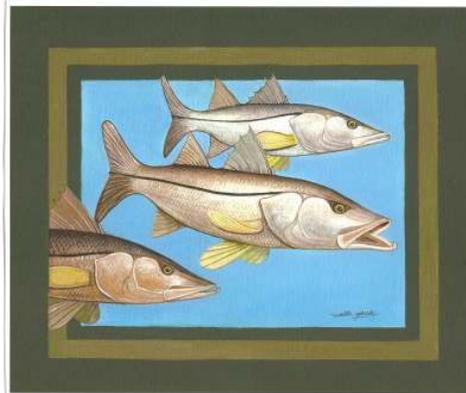
Saturday and Sunday  
April 26 & 27

## *Walter Gorecki* *Visions of Chokoloskee*

We welcome the acrylics and watercolors of Walter Gorecki in the Pauline Reeves Gallery for the month of March. Walter's work shows us glimpses into the Everglades through the wildlife above and below the water along with landmarks and familiar scenes. His meticulous snook is a wonderful detailed study of this local fish.



Walter, like the Tamiami Trail, is 80 years old this year. After growing up in Chicago, he went to the University of Illinois. He left in 1945 to join the Army. After discharge, he went to Mississippi Southern where he graduated with a B.A. in art. He started his career in photo-engraving, first with a Chicago company where he specialized in color separations and eventually founding his own company



He got his introduction to Chokoloskee just before he retired in 1994. His love for the Everglades is painted into each of his works. He feels gratified to be able to combine his love of fishing and painting in this idyllic setting.

Stop by and take a look at Walter's show – you won't be disappointed.

The Museum of the Everglades is at 105 West Broadway, Everglades City, telephone (239) 695-0008  
Open to the public Tuesday through Friday, 9:00a.m. to 5:00p.m. Saturday 9:00a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

## [www.tamiami80.com](http://www.tamiami80.com)

We have inaugurated a website for the 80<sup>th</sup> Tamiami Trail Anniversary. This website will be a source of information about the Anniversary celebration on April 26 & 27. There are short histories of the many of the institutions that are celebrating anniversaries this year, including Collier County and the City of Everglades. We are able to update this website easily, so it will include all the latest information about the events of that weekend. For those of you who would like to participate or contribute to the celebration the website contains printable forms. You can also download a poster. Visit it today and let us know what you think.



photo by Tim England

### **Theater gets seats**

After the first event in the new theater it became apparent that more seating was needed. The Friends have purchased 52 folding chairs. Ample seating completes the area. They arrived just the Monday before the MSD festival. We look forward to seeing the area be used for historical and informational presentation.



**RAFFLE**  
*Clyde Butcher's*  
**MOONRISE**  
*Big Cypress Preserve*  
**TICKETS**  
*\$5 each or 5 for \$20*  
**DRAWING APRIL 27, 2008**

***You don't have to be an expert in history to volunteer at the desk!!!***

**phone Martha or Tim on 695-0008 or stop in at the Museum**



**TAMIAMI TRAIL 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
**Museum of the Everglades 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday**  
**April 26-27, 2008**  
*A Great Celebration for A Momentous Event*

sponsored by Friends of the Museum of the Everglades, Collier County Museums, and the City of Everglades City • website: [www.tamiami80.com](http://www.tamiami80.com)  
 Carol Moseman, FME Tamiami80 Celebration, P.O.Box 677, Everglades City, FL, 34139 • phone: (239) 695-2159 • email: [tamiami80@hotmail.com](mailto:tamiami80@hotmail.com)

Plans are gearing up for the Celebration in April. Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart will be speaking on Saturday. We have found a great bluegrass band called Monroe Station on Saturday. Sunday we will have Val and Cindy with their special blend of music. The Naples Pathways Coalition will be having a Scenic ride throughout the area and, of course, the Naples-Marco Island Chapter of the Antique Automobile Clubs of America will be driving their beautifully restored antique cars.

There are many costs that we are incurring during the planning of this event.

- Travel expenses for Barron Collier High School Band
- Stage & Equipment Rental
- Fireworks
- Birthday Cakes
- Entertainment

If you can help, please let us know.

*FME members have been invited to join Betsy Perdichizzi for  
 Afternoon Tea with Tommie Barfield ("the Queen of Marco Island")  
 the remarkable woman who lobbied the state legislature to have Collier County established in 1923.  
 The event, which is hosted by ESHF, takes place on Thursday, March 20, at 2:00 p.m.  
 For info and reservations, phone Jean at 695-0202 or Pat at 695-4642.*

## Renew Your Membership

Save us printing and postage costs! Send in your 2008 membership renewal today. When you are writing your check, please include a little extra to help fund the 80<sup>th</sup> Tamiami Trail and 10<sup>th</sup> Museum of the Everglades Anniversaries on April 26 & 27.

*Thanks, Carol*

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# February Festivals

## Seafood Festival

The best part of this year's 35<sup>th</sup> annual Seafood Festival was the beautiful weather for both days. The shade of the new tent was enjoyed by volunteers and shoppers alike, as a respite from the sun. A record 1135 people come through the Museum on Saturday. Tom & Tina and the US Express entertained visitors with their wide variety of bluegrass music. Knife maker Ken Largin gave demonstrations of his craft that had the children enthralled. It was great to see so many members and to make so many new friends over the festival.



Photos courtesy of Marya Repko

## Marjory Stoneman Douglas Festival

The MSD Festival was a success once again. The Luncheon on Wednesday at the Depot was a well received. Janina Bartolo, who portrayed Marjory, did a fabulous job of bringing Douglas's persona into the room. Capt. Franklin Adams and Sandy Dayhoff reminisced about MSD whom they both knew well in her later years when she was traveling the state lecturing about the importance of conservation in the Everglades.

On Thursday we were delighted by photographer Rick Cruz's view into the swamp. Sandwiches and dessert were on the menu on this day. Sunny Burke' mini chocolate éclairs and Leanne Kurrle cookies were a hit with the nearly 50 people who attended. After lunch Mike Owen, the biologist at Fakahatchee Strand Preserve talked about the unique ecology of our local state park which has many endangered plants, including the famous Ghost Orchid. It is hard not to learn something when Mike gives a talks about the swamp. The new theater in the Museum now has 52 new chairs and we were thrilled to see them get so much use during the Festival.

On Saturday morning young and old alike enjoyed Otter John's animal show. The panther used the tree to stretch for the crowd. There were over 20 booths selling everything from jewelry to books or giving out information. The Lions Club did a brisk business in hamburgers and hotdogs. Many visitors and vendors enjoyed the beautiful day in the park.

Our thanks to all the leaders of swamp walks, boardwalk tours, canoe trips, and the other outdoor activities that brought people into Marjory's Everglades on Tuesday and Friday and to all the speakers during the rest of the week.



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