

Friends of the Museum of the Everglades **MAY-JUNE Newsletter**

Volume VIII Issue 5

FME, P O Box 677, Everglades City, FL, 34139, email: FME_98@hotmail.com

May/June 2008

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FME Board Meeting
Sept 8th 10:00 am
Community Church
Annex
Members Always
Welcome

Independence Day
Celebration
Sunday July 6th

11:00 Arts & Crafts booths
1:00 Opening Ceremony
1:30 PARADE
9:00 Fireworks

Come See Our Float in
the Parade!

ANNUAL
MEMBERS'
LUNCHEON
Monday, December 8

Congratulations to
Sunny & Walter Burke
on their
50th Wedding
Anniversary.

LAUNDRY FAMILY DESCENDANT **WINS RAFFLE**



At 3:00 PM on Sunday April 27th, the drawing for the winner of the Clyde Butcher photograph "Moonrise" was held. Clyde surprised us with a visit, just in time to draw the winning ticket. Clyde gave the raffle jar many robust shakes to insure that the tickets were thoroughly mixed. Clyde then drew the winning ticket. The name was called out "Ron Echols". We were all pleased that Ron, a descendent of one of the

original families who ran the laundry for Barron Collier, had the winning ticket. Ron and his wife Mary have been long time supporters of the Museum. We thank the Echols and Clyde Butcher for their continued support. This framed photograph was a popular raffle. We even had a phone call from Colorado after the drawing from someone who was saving space for "Moonrise", she was just sure she was going to win!!

Sanborn Painting for New Raffle

This lovely painting, donated by artist JoAnn Sanborn, is the prize for our next raffle. The drawing will take place during the Annual Members' Luncheon on December 8 but you can already buy tickets in the Museum (\$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00).

The picture is entitled "Dan House Prairie" and represents JoAnn's impression of the Everglades.



The Museum of the Everglades is at 105 West Broadway, Everglades City, telephone (239) 695-0008
Open to the public Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00a.m. to 4:00p.m.

TAMIAMI-80 CELEBRATION



Saturday, April 26, was a beautiful day for a celebration. We were honored by many visiting dignitaries from around the state and further away. "Barry" Collier III traveled from his home in Ohio to serve as the Grand Marshal of the parade. He also read the speech his grandfather made on that very same date in 1928 for the opening of the Trail.

The parade of about 30 antique cars from the Naples-Marco Island Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America was joined by a Dixieland Band playing 1920's music including the "Tamiami Trail" song. Everglades City School had a float along with Boy Scouts, motorbikes from ABATE, mounted and motorized Sheriff's Department units, and our own Fire Department.



The Opening Ceremonies, on the steps of City Hall, began with the National Anthem sung by some of Betty Oglesby's ECity School music students and an invocation by Bishop Morris Dantin. Mayor Sammy Hamilton welcomed everyone and speeches followed by Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart, County Commissioner Jim Coletta, DOT District One Secretary Stan Cann, and Collier County Museums Director Ron Jamro. After the Collier speech, the new McLeod monument on the circle was unveiled by McLeod's grandchildren James D. Brown and Eileen Eismo.



Throughout the day there were arts & crafts booths, local food vendors, Boy Scout demonstrations, and live music on the stage. The Marco Historical Players performed; Bill Perdichizzi (seen here during the parade) was dressed as Barron Collier, Betsy Perdichizzi portrayed Tommie Barfield ("The Queen of Marco") who was a great friend of Collier and lobbied for his new county; and Marion Nicolay was a realistic Deaconess Bedell.

In the Museum, visitors heard talks about the Bay City Walking Dredge and Monroe Station. We counted over 1000 people through the door (!) so we estimate that many more attended the festivities in the park. The day ended with birthday cake for all.



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-80 CELEBRATION



Sunday, April 27, was another beautiful day and we concentrated on celebrating the Museum's 10th Birthday. The Opening Ceremonies started with the invocation by Rev. Jane Wallace and the National Anthem sung by Terri Rementeria. Mayor Sammy Hamilton welcomed everyone. He was followed by speeches from Bonnie Deaborn of the Division of Historic Resources at the Florida Department of State (who gave the Friends the grant to restore the old Laundry Building in 1998), Collier County Museums Director Ron Jamro, and Jack Geist from St Stephens Episcopal Church in Coconut Grove who have spearheaded the move to have a feast day for Deaconess Bedell.

Joe Stem continued to perform as "MC" on stage as live music continued. The Arts & Crafts and food vendors were active under the Pavilion. In the Museum there was "story-telling". Arita Hoffman Parker, Barbara Hoffman Daniels, and June Jolley Dyches told the audience what they remembered about the Deaconess, prompted by a slide show moderated by Marya Repko. Jack Geist joined in to explain how his church is establishing January 8 as her special day.



After the drawing for the raffle (see front page), everyone enjoyed the wonderfully-decorated chocolate and vanilla cakes.

Everyone agreed that the birthday party was a huge success!



THANKS. *There are so many people who contributed to this huge 2-day event in person or financially that it would take at least a whole page to list them all. We hope they know that their efforts are appreciated and that we could not have produced such a great celebration without them.*

Photos courtesy of Jennifer Guida, Tammy Smallwood, Helen Bryan, Marya Repko, Carol Moseman.

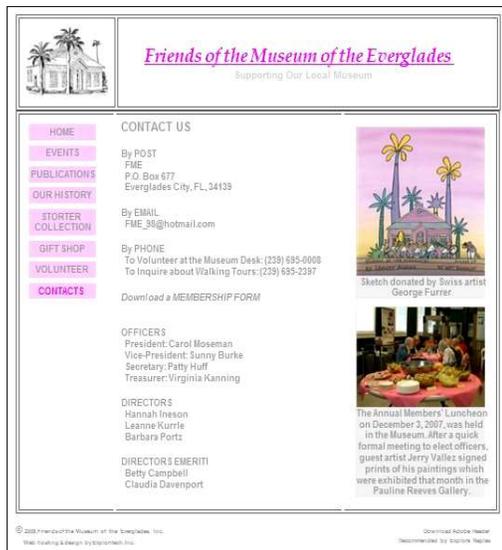
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Please, Renew your Membership ...

Reminder letters were sent out to the few remaining names on the list who had not renewed their annual memberships for the year 2008. We hate to annoy you with these missives (and to waste postage), so please let us know if you have moved away and are no longer interested in what we do here. However, we hope that you will still want to be one of the "Museum Family" and will return your annual membership donation promptly. We really appreciate your support towards our efforts to keep history alive at the Museum.

Thank you, *Carol Moseman*



NEW WEBSITE!

The successful www.tamiami80.com website that we sponsored to advertise the celebrations in April has been converted into a permanent online home for FME.

You can call it up by typing www.evergladesmuseum.org into your browser.

The new site has pages which tell about our past and future. There is a tab for "Our History" with old photos of the restoration of the Museum and one for the "Storter Collection". The site also features our "Publications" such as the Walking Tour book and newsletters.

To keep in touch with what's happening, click on the "Events" button. We will update that page over the summer as we finalize the schedule for artists and learn about other events around the town.

NEW GIFT SHOP ITEMS



Large Postcards by Jürg Brühlmann, 5 x 7 inches, \$1.00. Suitable for framing.



Museum Fridge Magnets and Hanging Decorations, 2 1/4 x 3 inches, \$8.00

BOOK: "The Tamiami Trail" by Maria Stone (stories told by people who worked on the Trail), \$20.00

CD: "My Florida" music by Valerie Wisecracker and Cindy Hackney, \$15.00

And, we still have Tamiami-80 red plastic mugs. They feature a sketch of the Museum on one side and the Trail Arch on the other. This is a limited edition so get yours before they sell out!



Keep Cool this Summer ... Sign up to volunteer!

The Museum has provided us with a small refrigerator under the greeter's desk. Now, you can keep your favorite drink cold, a necessity in the summer.