



# The Whistlestop

SOUTHWEST HERITAGE, INC.

1051 FIFTH AVENUE SOUTH  
NAPLES, FLORIDA 33940  
TELEPHONE: 262-1776

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## HIRSHHORN ART EXHIBIT

Southwest Heritage, Inc. is happy to announce an exhibit of works from the private collection of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. Hirshhorn. The public is invited to attend the exhibit on March 20, 21, and 22 from 12 noon until 6 P.M. Mrs. Hirshhorn is a member of the Board of Directors of Southwest Heritage, Inc.

## RAMBLE II DELIGHTS LARGE CROWD

On Sunday, January 28 nearly 4,000 people swarmed onto the grounds and through the rooms of the old Depot - now restored as a cultural-civic center - to enjoy an afternoon of fun and music. The occasion was Ramble II. Introduced a year ago, the affair is destined to be an annual event in the activities of Southwest Heritage. To start festivities, the Big Cypress Chapter of Naples D A R presented Southwest Heritage with an American Flag that had flown over the national Capitol. A flagpole has been ordered and the new flag will be flown from in front of the Depot shortly.

Over 70 artists displayed their work, ranging from woodcarvings to paintings to jewelry to carved Tiki gods. On sale were railroad memorabilia and macrame and shellcraft items. The End-of-the-Line Store, operated by Southwest Heritage, was deluged with visitors.

Of major interest was the rebuilt Depot which henceforth will be a meeting place for events sponsored by clubs and organizations of the City. Sightseers toured its dozen rooms and admired the decor and the motif, which has sought to keep the atmosphere of the old railroad station. The rolling stock, now permanently resting on short spans of track, captured the fancy of all railroad buffs. The caboose, built in 1910, proved the delight of the day. In fact, it was so popular that the line to climb aboard the old wooden structure was at times 25 yards in length.

Situated next to the Depot, on another segment of track, is the observation car. Built in 1947 from the Southern Pacific Railroad, the former tavern car brought back nostalgic memories of the mid-50s, when passenger trains were the primary means of transcontinental travel.

Local groups provided a steady flow of entertainment for the day. The Shrine Club entertained Ramble visitors with their "Flintstones" mini-car maneuvers and performances on their Honda "Camels," with Shriners dressed in colorful Arabian silks. The Alligator Cats, a barbershop quartet, pleased the audience with music sung from the still-to-be-completed Godfrey Patio. To the south of the Depot, the German-American band and chorus played and sang lustily to an appreciative audience. And finally, the Sunshine Shufflers Square Dance Club performed in the sunswept parking lot adjacent to the historic old ficus trees.

Those who attended the Ramble were most complimentary about the decor and the appointments of the restored building. All agreed that another fine and much-needed facility has been added which can serve the clubs and organizations of Greater Naples.

We later received a letter, from our youngest group, which read as follows: "Dear Mr. Letson, Thank you for letting my troop, "82", sell at the Depot Ramble. We sold 132 boxes. We had a nice time. Thank you for letting us sell Girl Scout cookies. I hope our troop can do it next year. Thank you. (signed) Peggy McBride age: ten (10) "

#### THE NAPLES INSTITUTE

November 30, December 1 and 2, 1978, the Naples Institute for Advanced Studies in Medicine and the Humanities held their first symposium in Naples at the Southwest Heritage Depot which has become their headquarters. The symposium was entitled "What Should We Do: The Two Cultures and Medicine" and was suggested by the writings of Lord Snow (C.P.Snow) who was the keynote speaker. Lord Snow said: "(Medicine) is inseparable from the most passionate of human concerns....(and) is in an unique intermediary position." He believes that medicine can perhaps build an "arch of Understanding" between science and the humanities.

Papers discussing a historical view; new ideas in medicine; peer review; science, medicine and morals; ethical questions; the communication gap in biomedical ethical issues, and a concept for computer-aided medical decision making were presented by participants from Harvard, Vancouver University, Rockefeller University, and the University of Virginia among others. The papers and discussions will be published for a wider audience.

The next symposium planned by the Naples Institute will be held at the Depot on May 10, 11, and 12. At that time the subject will be "Medicine and the Media." A public meeting will be planned during the symposium in order that Naples residents will be able to hear one or two of the distinguished participants of the symposium.

#### NAPLES GARDEN CLUB DEDICATES GARDEN CENTER AT THE DEPOT

On February 5th, 1979, TV cameras ground and news photographers' flash bulbs flashed as the Naples Garden Club dedicated its new Garden Center at the Naples Depot. It was the biggest event of the Club's 25th Anniversary year, and the first membership meeting to be held in the newly refurbished building.

The speaker and honored guest was Mrs. Dewey R. Villareal, Jr., of Tampa, President of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs. She is a former speech therapist and has a particular interest in gardening for the young. The organization which she heads is a charter member of the National Council of State Garden Clubs and boasts over 31,000 members.

The Naples Garden Club is Florida's largest Federated Garden Club with 233 members. It has been one of the original and most ardent supporters of the Depot. The Club's latest and largest civic beautification gift to Naples is the \$25,000 landscaping project for the Depot. Mrs. Villareal noted the importance of the Club's being a catalyst and having taken part in a community effort on behalf of the Depot, rather than having developed an isolated Garden Center.

Mr. Charles T. Letson, President of Southwest Heritage, gave a few words of gracious greeting at the beginning of the Dedication program.

#### BEAUX ARTS BALL A HUGE SUCCESS

Over one hundred guests attended the Beaux Arts Ball, held the evening of January 23rd, to celebrate the Silver Anniversary of the Naples Art Association.

This was the first party of its type held in the Depot, and judging from the accolades it received, there should be many more.

The Norris Room made a delightful environment for dining and dancing. The center carpet had been removed, leaving a fine parquet floor for the dancing itself. The tables surrounding the dance floor were attractively decorated with silver centerpieces. In keeping with the Silver Anniversary theme, interesting Calder-like silver mobiles cascaded from the rafters -- large silver metal wrap bows decorated the outside ramp, and sand-filled bags with candlelight surrounded the hall.

Costumes ranged from the gorgeous to the hysterical, and the most "far out" prize awarded was a bathtub from the Old Naples Hotel!

The Neapolitan orchestra played the dance music, and interestingly, used an old piano which is one year older than the Depot itself. This piano, incidentally, is the property of the Depot, and is available for use by other organizations.

So, all in all, everyone had a good time and the Depot never looked lovelier.

## ANNUAL MEETING INVITATION

The Annual Meeting of Southwest Heritage, Inc. will be held in the Windisch Room at the Depot Tuesday, March 27, at 2 P.M. Members are cordially invited. Progress reports will be given by all committees.

## NEW DIRECTOR

We take pleasure in announcing that Virginia B. Corkran has joined our Board of Directors. Mrs. Corkran has been associated with Naples for the past thirty years.

In 1974 she was elected to a four-year term on the Naples City Council. She took a prominent part in the city activities during that time and became well known as an outspoken and independent member of the Council.

"Saving and using the Old Naples Depot has always been one of my community goals," Mrs. Corkran said. "I consider this a fitting tribute for the Bicentennial."

## "END OF THE LINE STORE" OFF TO A FLYING START

The "End of The Line Store" which opened in mid-November, has made a most successful beginning.

The store was created to help support the maintenance costs of the Naples Civic and Cultural Center at the Olde Depot. It is under the direction of Charles and Janet Lee, ably supported by a staff of twelve volunteers who not only help maintain the store hours of 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. six days a week, but also take an active role in locating donations -- articles which are saleable in a good resale store.

These articles may be donated for a tax deduction, or left on consignment. No donation is too small -- none too large. Recently the furniture in an entire apartment was left on consignment, and nearly all of it has already been sold.

So, if you have an article which you think will be saleable in the "End of The Line Store" -- bring it in, by all means. And most importantly, pay the store a visit -- you'll find a great variety of articles, all attractively displayed, and who knows, you may find just what you are looking for.

## CAMPAIGN

Richard Windisch, Treasurer, reported at the February Board meeting that funds are continuing to come in. "We still need about \$10,000," he said, "To cover the added costs that always are needed to complete a project such as ours."

As a result our volunteers are continuing to seek further tax-deductible gifts. Those desiring to have their names on the permanent plaque may still do so.

## MEMBERSHIPS

The Board of Directors have instituted a membership plan for those desiring to more fully share in our Depot's activities. Membership are \$15.00 annually and are tax deductible. You may use the application below.

I wish to become a member of the Old Naples Depot and help maintain and preserve it.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check in the

Address \_\_\_\_\_

amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: Southwest Heritage, Inc.  
1051 Fifth Ave. South, Naples, Florida 33940

## NAPLES DEPOT CALENDAR OF EVENTS - MARCH, 1979

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
				1 7:30 PM-N Orchid Soc	2 9:30 AM-B Garden Cl Bd/Dir	3
4 AM & PM - W 1st United Pentecostal Church	5 1 PM-N Garden Cl WORKSHOP	6 7 PM-W Prof. Grounds MA - W	7 9:30 AM-W Ikebana 7 PM-W Coin Club	8	9 ORCHID SHOW-N	10 ORCHID SHOW-N
11 AM & PM-W 1st United Pentecostal ORCHID SHOW N	12 9:30 AM - W Garden Cl WORKSHOP & 1 PM - W	13 8 PM - N N.Art Assn Evening w Hirshhorns	14	15 8 PM - G Pan-Amer.	16 1 - 5 PM IKEBANA SHOW - N	17 10A-4 PM - N IKEBANA SHOW N.Art Assn -W ARTISTS SUPPER
18 AM & PM - W 1st United Pentecostal Church	19 9:30 AM - W Garden Cl WORKSHOP	20 12-6 PM - G HIRSHHORN EXHIBIT	21 12-6 PM - G HIRSHHORN EXHIBIT HISTORICAL SOC. 8PM-N	22 12-6 PM - G HIRSHHORN EXHIBIT	23	24 COIN SHOW -N
25 AM & PM - W 1st United Pentecostal Church	26	27 Merrill Lynch - W AM & lunch 2 PM - W SW HERITAGE ANNUAL MTG	28 National Repubs - N	29 N in use	30 HUMANE SOCIETY STREET DANCE EVENING	31 STAMP SHOW-N

Soc = Society    Cl = Club    MA = Maintenance Association    Assn = Association  
 Rooms: N = Norris; W = Windisch; B = Benedum and G = Gallery

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