



The Whistlestop

A news letter from the Old Naples Depot

A Civic/Cultural Community Center

Southwest Heritage, Inc. / 1051 Fifth Avenue South / Naples, Florida 33940 / (813) 262-1776

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NOVEMBER, 1981

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Is the Depot being used? Over the twelve months from April 1980 through March 1981 our records show that the several Depot facilities were used 606 times. The current year, April 1981 through March 1982, including advance reservations, shows a figure of 834, an increase of 38 per cent. This year's figures will grow as we move into "the season" with more organizations reserving space.

It is abundantly clear that the restoration of the Old Depot, in which so many of you have played a part, is meeting a need in our city. It is evident that the decision of the original Directors of Southwest Heritage to "Save The Depot" was a sound one.

How has the Board of Southwest Heritage organized itself to fulfill its responsibilities for the Depot? The organization reflects conventional management and special management emphasis that reflects the character of the Depot program.

There is, of course, an Executive Committee composed of Board officers empowered to act for the Board between Board meetings. There is the all important Building and Grounds Committee. What we have in trust must be maintained at high levels of care, attractiveness and usefulness. A Finance Committee shepherds the funds for annual operations and future needs.

Then there are committees and departments that reflect the special nature of the Depot's program. A Volunteers Committee enlists and organizes the volunteers who play host to Depot visitors, handle phone calls and assist in office chores. A Membership Committee solicits memberships both "Annual" and "Life." So much of the Depot's well-being depends on our members. Membership brings us not only fiscal support but at the same time provides an opportunity for many Naples citizens to play a part in a venture that is deep in Naples history yet strong in service to the community today.

We have received many gifts of memorabilia from the old days of railroads and railroading. While we make no pretensions of being a museum our committee on Acquisitions and Memorabilia takes good care of these welcome items and has them attractively displayed. It's worth a visit to the Depot to see them. Because of our commitment to the arts, we have an Exhibits Committee which uses the Depot Bradley Gallery to present periodic shows of works of art. A most interesting annual show is that of works of art from the private

collections of members of the Depot Board. The Publicity Committee serves through press, radio and television to bring to the community the news of what is going on at this exciting place.

Two departments conclude our administrative structure. One publishes the WHISTLESTOP which you are now reading. At least six times a year this publication brings the Depot's story to you, our members and friends. Then there is the End of The Line Store, with which most of you are familiar. Housed in a restored baggage car, it offers for sale a great variety of items — all of which are donated or placed on consignment by friends. These items include the new, the nearly new and "collectibles." The Depot is strongly supported by "The End of The Line Store."

* * * * *

In this review of the use and operation of the Depot one supremely human factor stands out above all others: the volunteer. All our committees and departments, all of our functions are peopled by volunteers. These are men and women of good heart and good will who give of their time, talents and substance to offer to Naples the services and programs of the Old Depot.

All aboard!

Howard L. Rubendall, President

IN MEMORIAM

On Monday, August 31st, Joseph H. Hirshhorn died of a heart attack in Washington. Mr. Hirshhorn was a financier and art patron of renown. In 1974, the Joseph H. Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden was opened in Washington, D.C. It contained his collection of sculpture and paintings, one of the largest private collections in the world. All were donated to the people of the United States.

And of course his philanthropies were not limited to Washington. For example, Mr. and Mrs. Hirshhorn were instrumental in obtaining the lounge car which is stationed behind the Depot, and often used for meetings and parties. They have been more than generous in their contributions not only to the Depot, but to other charitable organizations here in Naples as well.

Mr. Hirshhorn was a man of adventure, an entrepreneur and a philanthropist. He will be sorely missed.

CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AT THE DEPOT

If you passed the Depot this summer, you may have wondered about all the construction activity. The grand old landmark hasn't fallen apart. Nor does Southwest Heritage face heavy maintenance bills. Rather, the Board is now able to complete the many little jobs omitted necessarily during the major alterations of a few years ago.

Here's the story. The financial campaign to save the Depot was a long struggle. Though the project had many enthusiasts, the goal was high. There were many times when everyone questioned whether the quota could be reached. Therefore in the reconstruction — begun while pledges and cash were still coming in — the Board of Directors postponed many smaller jobs which were not central in the restoration. At no time was the quality of the workmanship compromised.

Then near the end of the three-year drive, the sun broker through the clouds and full renovation into a community center was assured, even to the enlargement housing the Art Association.

Two years have gone by since the drive surpassed its goal. Pledge payments have been almost 100%, an amazing tribute to the loyalty of the people and to the belief in the project. New gifts flowed in. Therefore the Directors now find it possible to complete the work which was curtailed, and to bring the Center into such tiptop shape that little further capital expenditures will be required in the 1980s.

What is entailed in this summer work? Within the station, the acoustics between Norris Hall and Windisch Room has been improved. The small storage area opposite the Benedum Room has been rebuilt for a display room for railroad memorabilia. Lighting changes have improved visibility on the balcony. An accordian door at the stairs affords greater control of the upper area. Panic bars and replacement of locks have added security to the unit. And bathrooms next to the Norris Hall have been tiled.

On the Godfrey Pation, the wrought iron designs have been completed and six new benches grace the alcove. Exterior cracks in the cement are scheduled for repair. The roof over Norris Hall is being repaired and the overhang on both sides of the Depot is being replaced.

A new lighting system has been installed in the gardens. New signs are in place to identify the various units of the Center.

The three railroad cars have come in for their share of the upgrading. The baggage car, which houses the popular End of The Line Store, now sports a new urethane roof and complete insulation with caulking on doors and walls. Sections of the roofing and some window sills have been replaced in the Hirshhorn Club Car. A water line will be run to the Car, making the unit more functional for parties. And the old caboose received its share of attention, for the Board is anxious that this showpiece of a dying age be maintained.

All but one of the rebuilding and renovation projects should be finished early in the fall season. There remains a serious problem of surface water, which was brought into focus with the development of the Grand Central Shopping Plaza to the north. A new water

flow pattern must be developed to eliminate flooding which plagues the land during the rainy season. Once accomplished, the area will then be blacktopped and the dreams of five or more years will be fully realized.

ART ASSOCIATION FILM TO BE SHOWN ON NOVEMBER 10th

A special film entitled "F is for Fake" will be presented by the Art Association on Tuesday, November 10th, at 7:30 p.m. The showing will take place in Norris Hall. The public is invited. Donations are \$2.50 for non-members and \$1.50 for members.

Just for the record, art classes started on October 12th, and will continue until the middle of December. Details may be obtained by phoning the Gallery at 262-6517.

A WORD ABOUT ANNUAL DUES

Very shortly, you will be receiving a letter from Jim Brooks, Chairman of the Membership Committee, asking you to send in your dues for the calendar year of 1982. We hope you will respond favorably to this request, and in fact, there is a coupon in this issue of the WHISTLESTOP which you can clip and send along together with your tax-deductible check.

When we completed the drive, all whose names appear on the plaque in the Lobby were automatically exempt from annual dues contributions. Now, however, to help us defray the ever-increasing expenses of operating the Depot, we are asking everybody to pay annual dues — everybody except those who are Life Members, and consequently contributed at least one thousand dollars to the Endowment Fund.

LAS VEGAS NIGHT AT THE DEPOT

On Saturday, November 14th, the Optimist Club and the Pilot Club are jointly sponsoring "Las Vegas Night at The Depot." The hours are from 8 to 12, and the donation is ten dollars. This includes five thousand dollars of play money. More may be purchased at one dollar per thousand. Those present will have an opportunity to try their luck at a number of different kinds of "gambling." Many prizes have been donated by Naples merchants, and they may be purchased with the play money. A cash bar will be available. The proceeds will be used to support a number of charities in our own community. The public is cordially invited.

"AN EVENING WITH EVE" to be presented on NOVEMBER 4th

The Mental Health Association and The Naples Art Association are sponsoring "An Evening with Eve," with speaker Chris Costner Sizemore, on Wednesday, November 4th from 7:30 to 9 p.m.

More popularly known as Eve, Sizemore is the woman who made medical history in 1957 when her baffling case of multiple personalities became the subject of the widely acclaimed book and movie, "The Three Faces of Eve."

Donations are \$3.00. The public is invited, and refreshments will be served. For inquiries and reservations, call 261-5405.

NEWS FROM THE END OF THE LINE

The END OF THE LINE STORE in the Depot's baggage car is now three years old, and has been aousing success. During the summer months, complete insulation of the car was completed. Kudos are in order for Elsie Carr, Louise Fields, Ruth Blosdale, Leona Hartmann, Ruth Brashear, Lloyd Carr, and Mark Weeden for their planning and diligence in the unpleasant tear-up work of the past weeks.

The Store helps defray the operating costs of the maintenance of the Depot's operations, and specializes in selling THE NEW, NEARLY NEW, ANTIQUES, AND COLLECTIBLES. Re-opening brought a car full of different items for sale such as: beautiful silver plate, some antique china, Art Deco jewelry, paintings, note paper, and a potpourri of other interesting items. The greatest addition is the acquisition of a fine collection of antique picture buttons, all over 100 years old. These are COLLECTOR'S DELIGHTS.

All items for sale are beautifully displayed and the store is manned by volunteers who keep 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. hours daily except Sundays.

The store crew not only directs this unusual re-sale store, but plans community events such as CHRISTMAS EVE AT THE DEPOT, THE RAMBLE (Feb. 14), and THE DOLL APPRAISAL CLINIC (Feb. 2). Currently, there wasa sale of name brand clothes in the Depot's Bradley Gallery on Oct. 21. The Humane Society and the Depot both benefited from this event.

Tax deductible items are always needed and the END OF THE LINE volunteers are always available to help in the disposition of estate materials and general prices of collectibles. Phone information number is 262-1167. Due to extended rent increases the ANNEX was discontinued in April, but large items will be sold from time to time from a storage bin location.

GARDEN CLUB NEWS

The Naples Garden Club started their season with a Board meeting in the Benedum Room on October 26th,

and a regular meeting in Norris Hall on November 2nd.

Several members attended the District IX meeting on October 22nd at Sebring. Mrs. James Freyermuth, a past President of Naples Garden Club, is Director of District IX. Others from the Naples Garden Club holding District offices or chairmanships are: Mrs. Bruce Pollock, Mrs. Karl Ankeney, Mrs. Harvey Hanson, Mrs. William Woolverton and Mrs. Fred Lawson.

A Horticultural Workshop will be held on November 16th at 10 a.m. in the Windisch Room. Since it is the first of the season, it will deal, appropriately enough, with seed propagation.

ROSE PRICE TO BE GUEST SPEAKER AT WOMEN'S AGLOW FELLOWSHIP

Rose Price, a Jewess who spent five years during the Holocaust in Germany will address the Women's Aglow Fellowship on two occasions... first she will speak Wednesday evening, Nov. 11 at 7:30 p.m. and she will also speak at the regular monthly meeting which starts at 9:15 the following morning.

SIMONDS TO ADDRESS ORCHID SOCIETY

Charles Simonds of Jones and Scully, Miami, will be principal speaker at the Orchid Society meeting on Thursday, November 5th. The meeting will start at 7:30 p.m., and Mr. Simond's subject will be the culture of Vandals.

CONSIDER GIFTS WHEN REVIEWING YOUR WILL

Most attorneys and accountants have urged their clients to review their wills in the light of the far-reaching changes made in the tax law this summer.

This would be an appropriate time to consider a bequest to Southwest Heritage, Inc. to help maintain this unique civic/cultural community center for all people for all time.

Or you can add a simple one-paragraph codicil to your present will. If you need assistance call 262-1776 and Grace will help you. It's tax free!

CLIP HERE

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

MEMBERSHIPS

If you have not renewed your membership for 1982, please do so. Regular membership for one year is still \$15. Family Memberships are \$50, Sustaining Memberships are \$100, and Life Memberships \$1,000. To conform to our fiscal year, all memberships will run to January, 1983 and yearly thence.

1/we will be glad to subscribe to Life Memberships at \$1,000 each, to be paid as follows
at \$100, or, Family Membership at \$50, or Regular Membership at \$15. or Sustaining Membership

NAME

ADDRESS

ZIP

All donations are tax deductible.

This form may be used to advise us of change of address for summer, etc.

THANK YOU

NOVEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(As of October 19, 1981)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Unitarian-Universalists	2 GARDEN CLUB REGULAR MEET 2 P.M.	3 PROFESSIONAL GROUNDS MAINT. ASSN. EXEC. COMM. SWH A.M. Int'l DIAMOND EVE	4 NAA & MENTAL HEALTH ASSN. "Eve" evening	5 Powell & Yanson A.M. J.B. Hanauer 7-9 P.M. ORCHID SOC.	6 NAA B/D A.M. HOSPITAL SVC LEAGUE No. 2 aft & eve	7 Technical Institute A.M. FULL GOSPEL BUSINESSMEN
8 Unitarian-Universalists	9 FLORIDA COSMO-TOLOGISTS	10 N. ART ASSN. Movie "F is for Fake" eve SWH B/D 3 p.m.	11 WOMEN'S AGLOW — eve AVON PROD. aft & eve Raymond James & Assoc. 4 P.M.	12 WOMEN'S AGLOW — A.M. Powell & Yanson A.M. HOSPITAL SVC League No. 2 eve	13	14 Technical Institute A.M. "LAS VEGAS NIGHT IN NAPLES" Optimists/Pilot Clubs: evening
15 Unitarian-Universalists BETHESDA CHURCH OF CHRIST eve PARTY aft	16 GARDEN CLUB WORKSHOP A.M. Harbor Lakes Annual — eve	17	18	19 Powell & Yanson A.M.	20 PARTY eve	21 Technical Institute A.M. Aqualane Shores Assn. eve PARTY A.M.
22 Unitarian-Universalists BETHEL A M E CHURCH aft	23 ARTCRAFTERS eve COAST GUARD CAPT. COURSE	24 GULF COAST ORGAN CLUB COAST GUARD CAPT. COURSE	25 COAST GUARD CAPT. COURSE	26 COAST GUARD CAPT. COURSE PARTY eve	27 COAST GUARD CAPT. COURSE D. STUDIO	28
29 Unitarian-Universalists COAST GUARD CAPT. COURSE	30 GARDEN CLUB DIRECTORS A.M. COAST GUARD CAPT. COURSE					

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