



FRIENDS • OF • THE • COLLIER • COUNTY • MUSEUM

3301 Tamiami Trail East • Naples, Florida 33962 • (941) 774-8476

JOURNAL

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THE WILD
EAST!



DIG THE
PAST

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 Editor: Gail Flatto



HAVE YOU
SEEN THE CAT??

Over 400 people each day are overwhelmed by the artifacts from the 1895 Pepper-Hearst expedition highlighted by the tiny wooden Calusa panther deity. Come see for yourself!

Only 50 years ago there were frontier western round-ups, cowboys, cattle-rustlers and chuck wagons all in an area of Immokalee known as the Roberts ranch. It was the homestead of one of Florida's largest cattle ranches. During the 1940's Roberts grazed up to 500 head of cattle - largely beef - that was shipped to Cuba from Punta Rassa.

Recently, Phillip Sherrod, grandson of the cattle Baron Robert Roberts, Jr., donated the 4.1 acre site including the two-story family ranch house, a bunk house, barns and other buildings to the Collier County Museum. "We are giving you the house," announced Mr. Sherrod, as the homestead was officially turned over to Collier County. "But the memories are still ours."

The site will be transformed into a living history museum enabling visitors to get a feeling for what it was like to be on the vast open land, to brand cattle, to touch original saddles, to sit on a porch admiring the pastures and palmettos and to share the life of the family (the Roberts and their seven children). Ron Jamro indicated he will apply for state and private grants to help obtain the estimated \$1 million necessary to restore the homestead to its original condition.

Cattle ranching is an important part of SW Florida's colorful past. "Florida Cracker" is derived from the Florida cowboys' technique: they "cracked" their whips to herd their cattle!

The Collier County Museum and The Southwest Florida Archeology society will host a series of programs designed to introduce attendees to archeology and the pre-history of Florida and Collier County. All the programs have no admission charge except the Estero Bay, Mound Key tour. That tour will be held Sunday, March 3. The speaker is John Berault. For further information, kindly call Jack Thompson, 597-2269.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
 February 17 & 18,
 a celebration of tradition:
The 3rd Annual Black Cultural Arts Festival,
 finest art, music, dance and food from west Africa, west Indies and Caribbean
 (Dates subject to change kindly call Museum)

March 5 - 26,
 On the Land:
Three centuries of American farm life,
 documenting, with photographs and interviews, the lives of five of the oldest American farm families.

March 14:
 Annual meeting - 6 P.M.
 10th anniversary of the Friends.
 All members welcome!

Saturday, March 9. The conference will be held in the Collier Museum Lecture Hall from 10 to 5:30 P.M. (Please see Calusa Conference on reverse). Chemical Bank of Naples, Florida is the sponsor. Seating is limited to 100 people so kindly call the Museum (774-8476) for reservations.

On Sunday, March 10 the Third Annual Archeology Fair will be held from 1 to 4 P.M. at the Museum.

*Would you like to volunteer as Docent, Office helper, etc?
 Call Andrea at 774-8496*



MESSAGE
FROM THE PRESIDENT

Our accomplishments this past year have been many: facilities are in order, our structure is in place, our goals established, and we are honored to house a major Smithsonian exhibit. We hope to expand and grow on this kind of event, as we also expand the opportunities for our volunteers and the capabilities of the Friends. See you all March 14th!

John E. Reble



**CALUSA
CONFERENCE**

Chemical Bank of Naples is sponsoring the conference on Saturday, March 9 from 10 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. Dr. William Marquardt will introduce the day by answering the question "Who were The Calusas?". Dr. Marquardt is curator in archeology and director of the SW Florida Project at the University of Florida in Gainesville.

At 11, Dr. Jerald Milanich, professor of anthropology at the University of Florida will describe early days as he discusses Spanish Contact and The Calusa. Lunch will be from noon to 1:00 P.M. A break will also be at 3-3:15. Dr. Barbara Purdy, professor emerita of anthropology at the University of Florida in Gainesville will speak on The Art and Archeology of Florida's Wetlands, following lunch.

From 2 P.M. to 3 P.M., Marien Gilliland, an anthropologist from Gainesville, will describe Frank Cushing and Wells Sawyer as she depicts archeology in 1896. Dr. Randolph Widmer, associate professor of anthropology at the University of Houston will turn your attention to the 1995 Field Season Key Marco Revisited from 3:20 - 4:20 P.M.

For the remaining hour, the entire panel will address Unanswered questions / Discoveries to be made.

*Reminder: reservations are necessary!
Please call 774-8476. Limited to 100*



**HOME GROWN
HISTORY
HIGHLIGHTS**

February 11, 1968: Everglades Parkway, better known as "Alligator Alley," opens to traffic.

February 15, 1978: The Collier County Museum opens at the County Government Center in East Naples.

February 25, 1953: Naples' first dial-tone telephones go into service

February 26, 1896: Anthropologist Frank Hamilton Cushing begins his excavation of the Calusa Indian site on Marco Island. Florida is admitted to the Union as he

March 3, 1845: 27th state.

March 13, 1939: Barron Gift Collier, the founder of Collier County, dies in New York City, just 10 days before his 66th birthday.

March 15, 1944: Lee Tidewater Cypress Company ships its first trainload of cypress logs north from the logging town at Copeland.

March 23, 1873: Barron Gift Collier is born in Memphis, Tennessee.
Ron Janna, Director



**WELCOME NEW
AND RENEWING
MEMBERS!**

John N. Briggs	Marie A. Mayer
Alma V. Calandra	Georgine H. Mendillo
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Katherine Hirschmann	Elizabeth White Thomas
Dorothy Magen	Peter A. Thomas



**WE GLADLY
PICK UP**

Books and magazines on Florida and American history to add to the Museum's research library. Also, periodicals such as Look or Life from 1930-70, for general reference and exhibit development.

After seven highly productive years, Diane Smith will be leaving her position at the Museum. Diane began as a volunteer and became one of the most dedicated, conscientious, capable, reliable and pleasant staff members. The Museum will find it very difficult to fill her shoes - unless they find 3 new staffers!

FRIENDS OF THE COLLIER COUNTY MUSEUM Help us tell it like it was!

By becoming a member of the Collier County Museum you help to preserve the rich and varied heritage of this unique area. From the Calusas to the beginnings of modern-day life, all those who have lived here have a story to tell — stories that come to life at the Museum. Your contribution can make a critical difference. Won't you join us in telling it like it was? **Membership Benefits:** As a member, you'll receive *Timelines*; discounts on purchases at the Museum gift shop; and priority invitations to programs and events. Best of all, membership gives you the personal satisfaction of knowing you are a vital partner in preserving the heritage of Southwest Florida for generations to come.

Yes! Enclosed is my contribution of \$_____ to the Friends of the Collier County Museum for membership as a:
 Sundear \$5 Individual \$25 Family \$40 Senior Citizen \$15 Friend \$100 Sponsor \$500 Patron \$1,000
 The Friends of the Collier County Museum is a registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Donations are tax deductible.

Name _____ Address _____
 Telephone _____ New _____ Renewal _____

Seasonal Address _____
 Date from _____ to _____ How were you introduced to the Museum? _____

Perhaps you would like to give the Collier County Museum as a gift.
 Yes, I want my friend or client to share my experience.

Name _____ Address _____
 Telephone _____ Amount _____

Category _____
 Thank you! Friends of the Collier County Museum 3301 Tamiami Trail East Naples, FL 33962 (913) 774-8476
 Museum hours: 9 - 5 Mon. - Fri. Admission: Free To Volunteer: Call Andrea