

TIMEINES

FRIENDS OF THE COLLIER COUNTY MUSEUM

WINTER 1998

3301 Tamiami Trail East

Naples, Florida 34112

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Volume IV, No.4

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Timelines is published quarterly on recycled paper by the Friends of the Collier County Museum

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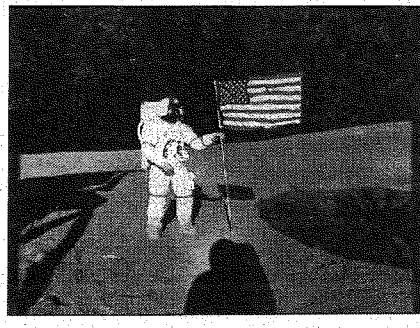
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EXHIBIT TO RECAPTURE THRILLING DAYS OF THE SPACE RACE AND MOON WALK

Space Suits, Moon Rocks, in New Display



Old Florida Days Saw Sunshine, Crowds, "A Great Success"

Visitors to the Collier County Museum November 14 and 15 could bump into a Spanish conquistador complete with pike and coat of mail and ricochet onto a Florida cracker cowman and his bullwhip as the Friends of the Museum and museum staff pushed the "rewind" button on Florida's history.

And visitors to the annual Old Florida Festival there were — 6,500, breaking previous attendance records by an estimated 15-20 per cent: "a great success" Chair Ronald Mangold and the board of directors agreed at their Dec. 10 meeting.

For visitors' entertainment there were 110 costumed reenactors providing glimpses of various periods in the state's past; there were blasts from a score of muskets fired by soldiers of a half dozen wars, there was the crack of the bull whip, the cry of the medicine show barker, folk songs, fiddlers, and a 20s jazz band.

The uniformed units did musket drills, folk singers sang, a trio

See **SUCCESS** on Page 3

The edge-of-chair excitement they felt when man first stepped onto a part of the cosmos that was not earth will be re-lived by visitors to the Collier County Museum starting February 1, when a three-month exhibit, *To The Moon*, will be opened.

Museum goers will have a chance to see actual space suits, rocks taken from the moon, the scoop used to pick them up, and other souvenirs of man's first venture onto non-terrestrial soil. The exhibit combines seven separate traveling displays prepared by NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Titusville, FL and a number of separate, related, features.

It was 30 years ago next July when the world watched three Americans carry out one of the world's most dramatic and dangerous episodes in the history of human exploration.

Less than a decade after astronaut Alan B. Shepard became the first American in space aboard Freedom 7 (23 days behind Russian cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin) men were walking on the moon, fulfilling a challenge President John F. Kennedy had launched in 1961. That international race is the subject of the major commemorative space exhibition.

Exhibit cases highlight Apollo II, the first mission to the moon, when astronauts Neil A. Armstrong and Edwin E. "Buzz" Aldrin explored the lunar surface for a total of two

See **MOON** on Page 3

Meet the Founding Chair: ". . . to move the Museum building and to greatly enlarge its scope . . ."

The past of the Friends of the Museum organization splits roughly into two major phases -- construction and operational.

There was a group who oversaw moving the museum onto its present location and vastly enlarging it, an undertaking that culminated in a 1987 dedication, and there are those who, after an intervening transitional period, help in the operation of the new facility. Those were two quite different undertakings, and to a certain extent they required the participation of people with different interests and abilities.

One of those who lent his talents to both phases is recognized with the continuing title of Founding Chairman of the Board, Charles B. Price, Jr. For the benefit of the more recent members of the Friends organization, he has kindly agreed to prepare the following biographical sketch.

Although I was born in Louisville, Kentucky, my ties have long been to Naples. My mother was a Haldeman and for many years we spent our vacations in Naples in the house built by her grandfather. Those vacations were limited to the two or three weeks allowed my father and I was always reluctant to put on a suit and board the north-bound train.

My grandfather, Bruce Haldeman, was a fine quail hunter who owned some excellent dogs. I hunted with him and will never forget the large rattlesnake that I killed just where the third green of the Naples Beach Hotel golf course now is located.

After eight years in a progressive grade school headed by a close friend of Eleanor Roosevelt, I spent two years in Louisville Male High School, a very large public school in town. Moving from a class of 21 to one in the hundreds was a challenge but I did well there until my father attended his 25th Yale reunion. His Yale friends advised him to send me East to prep school and so I went to Phillips Exeter Academy. It really was a shock but one that made a man of me . . . one determined to succeed against huge scholastic odds.

Success came and I sailed into Yale for four good years. Graduating in June of 1941, I went straight into the US Army. I had gone through Yale ROTC and as a newly-minted second lieutenant I went to the Field Artillery School at Fort Sill and from there to the First Armored Division at Fort Knox.

Some four years later, three of them in Tunisia and Italy, I came home a lieutenant colonel at age 25. Having spent so much time abroad, I had accumulated four months of "terminal leave" which I determined to spend in Naples.

Naples in the spring of 1945 was a paradise for a young bachelor. Despite the heat (there was no air conditioning then) and the mosquitoes (there was no mosquito control) I loved it. I hunted quail, fished and swam. Snook and redfish literally played in the waves lapping the beach. John Pulling and I had a fish-catching contest on the Pier; I think we each caught five fish in five minutes, mostly jack but there were also mackerel runs, and mullet came down by the mile.

After a jaunt to Jamaica and Grand Cayman, I went back to Louisville to sell hardware for a large jobber. My territory was Tupelo, Mississippi, a town I loved. I spent four years there, then back to headquarters to buy sporting goods. I spent 12 years at Belknap Hardware, eight as a director. In 1958 I joined a life-long friend to start a wholesale furniture company, the Booker-Price Company in which I spent 21 years before retiring.

Charlotte and I were married in 1950. We lived in Tupelo for a short time. A daughter, Ann, was born in 1951, followed by our son, Charles, in 1952 and daughter Liz in 1958. We now are proud grandparents of two

MUSEUM FIGURES IN OUTSTANDING TITLE WON BY E-GLADES

The Museum of the Everglades, opened last April as the first satellite of the Collier County Museum, has been awarded \$1,500 which Manager Donna Ridewood says will be used to improve its exhibits.

Everglades City was awarded the money by the State Rural Development Council which has named it the outstanding rural community for 1998, on the basis of a submission by Ridewood and Pauline Reeves, president of the Friends of the Everglades. The city also was given two signs advertising the distinction.

The award was based on a presentation prepared by Ridewood and Reeves which recounted a decade-long effort to raise money and make arrangements for the transformation of the community's dilapidated laundry building into an 8,000 square foot Museum of the Everglades. The city, population 540, beat out five other Florida cities for the honor, including Dunnellon, Williston and Crystal.

The museum's artifacts depict 200 years of South Florida history. The next exhibit will be the works of nature photographer Clyde Butcher.

teenagers, one in college and three sub teens. Ann and John Davis live near us in Louisville and Liz and her husband, Leonardo Diaz, live in Philadelphia.

Upon retirement, I came to spend more time in Naples. Curiosity about the city's past led me to Deed Book I at the Collier County courthouse. There I met Ron Jamro, our museum director. Impressed by his scholarship (Queen's college in Belfast and Trinity college in Dublin) I determined to help raise the funds to move the Museum building and to greatly enlarge its scope. Thanks to an enthusiastic and hard working board, I was successful on both counts and now can see the marvelous result: "the best kept secret in Naples."

Charles B. Price, Jr.

Friends, Museum, At Immokalee School

Representatives of the Museum and the Friends organization played major roles in a "Native Americans Day" staged November 25 at Village Oaks Elementary School in Immokalee.

Participants in the day-long event were Museum Educational Curator Nancy Olson and Collections Curator David Southall and Friends member Jack Thompson.

More than 800 children from grades kindergarten through five were exposed to 15 programs coordinated by Nancy Manuel of the school staff.

Olson showed artifacts and lectured on the Calusa and Seminole presence in Southwest Florida, and Southall, dressed in military uniform, told the children about the Second Seminole war.

Friends member Thompson, a regular volunteer worker at the Craighead Archaeological Laboratory on the Museum grounds, showed films and discussed the first settlers of the area. He is treasurer of both the Florida Anthropological Society and the Southwest Florida Archaeological Society.

It's CHRISTMAS at the MUSEUM GIFT SHOP!

Books: Titles like Florida's Fossils, Florida's First People, Swamp Buggy Fever, the Founding of Naples, Calusa Indians, AND the Books of Long Ago series.

Jewelry: of Sterling silver; gold (18k)-covered shell.

Pottery: new, contemporary.

Note Cards: Birds, animals.

Knick Knacks: Glass dolphins, birds, scrimshaw, Marco cat replicas.

Freeze-dried Ice Cream (honestly!)

Children's Toys!

Collectibles of the early 20th century, and

RETIRED BEANIES!

Rough Riders Entertain Commissioner Carter

Lunch on Cuban specialities with Teddy Roosevelt and his Rough Riders -- who could pass it up? Such a meal was served in the museum lecture hall Saturday noon of the Old Florida Festival weekend to give county government heads the flavor of the annual salute to the county's past, but only one commissioner, James D. Carter Ph.D., could attend; he was accompanied by Mrs. Carter. The other honored guest was county public services administrator Tom Cliff.

The part of Teddy Roosevelt was played by Mark Crenshaw of Spring Hills, and Mrs. Roosevelt was portrayed by Mrs. Crenshaw. Museum staff Ron Jamro, director; David Southall, curator of collections, and Lee Mitchell participated, costumed as soldiers.

After the lunch and cigars, the guests toured the Museum's exhibit "One Correspondent's War", which marked the centennial of the Spanish American war.

MOON from Page One hours and 15 minutes. Some of the 843 pounds of lunar material returned to Earth are included in the exhibit.

Accompanying displays describe the dangers and difficulties of living and working in space and trace the development of space food from John Glenn's puree squeezed from a toothpaste tube to meals eaten off trays. Other exhibits show meteorites that have fallen to earth and include color photographs providing a round-the-world view of earth as seen from space.

The exhibit shows the effect of the continuing space exploration on earth, such as the transformation of the Cape Canaveral area from an assortment of sleepy communities to the launch pad that boosted 12 Americans onto the moon before closure of the Apollo program.

Admission to the exhibit is free, and visits by school groups may be arranged by calling Nancy Olson at 941-774-8724.

"SUCCESS" from Page 1 recalled the tunes of the Irish immigrants, a medicine show doctor made his spiel and there were traditional children's games.

There also were quieter pursuits: The Marco Island Historical Society's costumed members displayed a mini museum and told tales of the storied island; visitors could watch soap being made the traditional way and even buy a bar; blacksmiths turned out ironware to order, and the spinning wheel spun. This being the centennial anniversary of the Spanish-American war, in which Florida figured in a number of ways, there was a special indoor exhibit, a presentation by Alex deQuesada, the Cuban-American author, and, of course, Teddy Roosevelt and his Rough Riders.

Bordering the entrance to the museum's Craighead garden were rows of native plants for sale, parks of the area had colorful booths, and tents sheltered paintings offering views of Florida's natural wonders. Those who ventured that far away from the smell of popcorn and fry bread could watch archaeologists in the Craighead laboratory picking over the remains of meals eaten thousands of years ago.

There was a presentation by historian Tom Prichett on Fort Mose, a settlement of freed slaves and an outpost garrison of St. Augustine between 1690 and 1735; another was a portrayal of the life of Anna Kingsley, a freed slave who became the wife of Zeb Kingsley, plantation owner and sometime speaker of the Florida house of representatives, and reportedly Florida's richest woman on his death.

There was much sunshine, and nights were not too cold for the reenactors sleeping in their tents.

Saturday an audience overflowing the museum's lecture hall enjoyed a Victorian evening's entertainment: recitations, magic, music, an account of the Black Seminoles, and refreshments, topped off by a lantern-lit promenade through the reenactors' multi-racial, multi-epoch tent city.

Holocaust Exhibit Reopens at Museum

After being disassembled and its parts packed away, a major by-children exhibit again is out of storage and on public display.

Entitled *The Children's Holocaust Museum*, the exhibit was created over a four-month period by 19 Golden Gate Middle School Seventh graders and their teacher, Dave Bell, with help from a grant. The "museum" used posters and artifacts to trace the rise of Nazi Germany and persecution of 12 million Jews and other people. The project was financed by a grant from the Collier County Education Foundation and the Jewish Federation.

The exhibit opened in May, 1998, at the Golden Gate Middle School and ran for four months. Then, under conditions of the grant, the donated items were returned and other artifacts packed away. However, two members of the Jewish Federation, Irving Berzon and Abe Price, arranged for its reopening, which took place at the museum December 7; it will close January 23. Hours are Monday through Friday, 12 noon to 4 p.m.; admission is free.

Those responsible are Dave Bell, Michell Krier and their students; photographer Arnold Newman, director Stephen Spielberg, talk show host Larry King, and Homer Heiter.

"Children's Bug Room," New Addition to Huntoon Gallery, to Open February 1

A major addition to the Huntoon Gallery, which features a collection of Southwest Florida fauna, is scheduled to open Monday, February 1. It is called "The Children's Bug Room" and will be devoted to exploration of the microscopic aspect of life.

The equipment and collection were obtained through a grant of \$3,000 awarded the Friends by the Kara Foundation of Bloomingdale, Illinois, which is enthusiastic about a project in which children can learn, using "kid friendly" slides, specimens and microscopes.

The Bug Room will be set up so that children, with their parents, can use the equipment with very little if any help from the museum staff.

Students visit lab . . .

Twenty students from Florida Gulf Coast University and Professor Mike McDonald visited the Craighead laboratory Sept. 30. Staff demonstrated processing of material from archaeological sites and preparation of technical reports.

Staffers visit ship

Friends members Lou Stickels and Charlie Abbott and Museum staff Ron Jamro, David Southall and Debby Gardner, all dressed in colonial costumes, participated in the Naples visit -- promoting recycling -- of the replicate Revolutionary war frigate HMS Rose November 18.



JUST THE FACTS



The COLLIER COUNTY MUSEUM

Address: 3301 Tamiami Trail E,
Naples, FL 34112

Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Friday

Admission: FREE

Phone: (941) 774-8476

FAX: (941) 774-8580

The Museum is wheel chair accessible

The FRIENDS OF THE MUSEUM

Monthly Meetings: Second Thursdays
Time: 6 p.m.

Place: Museum library

All members are welcome

Internet: www.colliermuseum.com

Address: P.O.Box 2181, Naples, FL 34106

Phone: (941) 774-8724

FRIENDS OF THE COLLIER COUNTY MUSEUM
P. O. Box 2181
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