

# TIMELINES

FRIENDS OF THE COLLIER COUNTY MUSEUM

FALL 1999

3301 Tamiami Trail East

Naples, Florida 34112

(941) 774-8476

Volume V, No. 4

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*Timelines is published quarterly by the Friends of the Collier County Museum*

*Editor: Arthur R. Lee*

## The '99 Old Florida Days Festival: "OUTSTANDING"

### TOP RE-ENACTORS, FEATURES, MUSIC, BOOKED

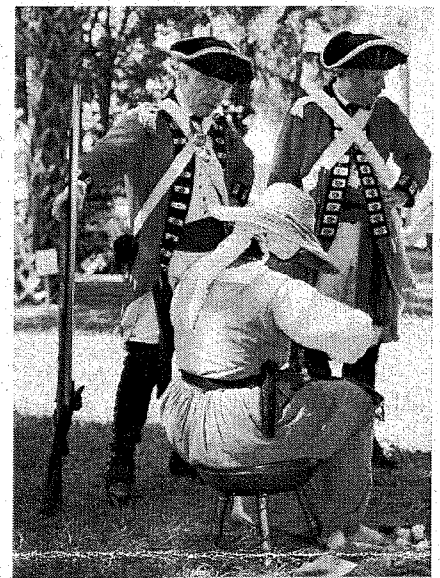
This year's Old Florida Festival, which will take over the Museum grounds Saturday November 6 and Sunday November 7, promises to be outstanding, according to Curator Dave Southall who has done much of the talent recruiting.

Both days the grounds will be filled with the smell of Indian fry-bread a-frying, old-fashioned kettle corn bubbling, wood smoke from camp fires, and gun powder burned by cannons and muskets reliving old battles.

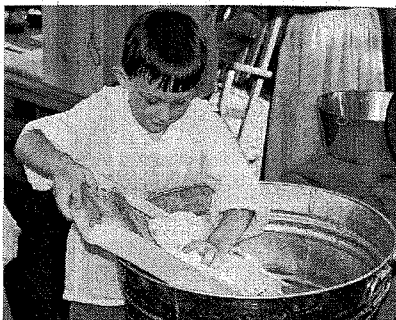
Sounds will range from foot-stomping fiddle music to the ululation of Indian warriors and the crack of bull whips; in quieter tones re-enactors will tell their audiences of life as it was in the olden days.

Eyes of visitors will be dazzled by bright-colored uniforms, the glint of a Spanish warrior's helmet, the blue of camp smoke, white of tents, hues of a half-dozen flags, pastels of hoop skirts and sun bonnets.

There will be story telling, stage acts, musicians, military drills, gatling gun firing; poems of the last century will be recited. Visitors will



*Off-duty soldiers kibitz as a Spanish scullery wench gets vegetables ready for an open-kettle, open-fire stew.*



*One of the younger festival-goers last year learns what washing clothes was like before the days of electricity and spin-drying.*

see authentic Native American camps, Spanish conquistadors, Cracker cowboys, pirates, Seminole war soldiers. There will be much to eat, much to laugh at, much to learn, much to enjoy. Florida has a long and varied history; the Festival lets its present day residents savor its highlights.

Continuous demonstrations will be offered by the blacksmith, candlemaker and other craft workers, along with authentic military drills

**See FESTIVAL on Page 2**

**Reminder: October board of directors meeting is Thursday the 21st.**

## Getting Acquainted — MEET DIRECTOR RAY CARROLL

I'm a fourth generation native of this part of Florida. My great grandparents moved to Henderson Creek in 1896 from the little community of Limestone Creek, north of Arcadia. They were trying to get to Royal Palm Hammock, there to homestead what was said to be fertile land. Lacking a boat, they could not complete the trip.

My grandparents (on both sides) lived and worked in Naples. Ray and Billie Williams owned and operated the Driftwood apartments at the northwest corner of Third Street and Third Avenue South. Ray was a general contractor, general businessman and tree farmer. He was born in Groveland, Florida.

Billie was born in Springfield, Illinois. Ernie and Stella Carroll lived in the oldest house in East Naples (it still stands at 2595 Winifred Avenue).

Ernie Carroll was a guide, a carpenter, a commercial fisherman, and for twenty years, the yacht captain for Glenn Sample who developed Port Royal. Stella came to Naples in 1926 with her father who was investigating the investment potential of this area for the Union of Railway Conductors.

When her dad went back to Ohio, Stella stayed. She roomed for a time at Palm Cottage and she worked at the Naples Mercantile Co. building on Third Street South. My mom, Margie, was born in Ft. Myers. Dad, too, was born in Ft. Myers, because there was no doctor in Naples.

It was a good thing to grow up in this small, Florida town, and particularly good to have grandparents who were best friends. I was taken fishing, boating, hunting and farming as a very young boy and grew to love and appreciate the out of doors. Having more or less lived in the woods much of their lives, my grandfathers were comfortable there and knew how to appreciate living. Neither side of my family was ever part of the local high society. We were very excellent servants and staff to that group.

I grew up here (am growing up here), went to the original Lake Park elementary school, went to Gulfview middle school and graduated from Naples High, class of 1972. Then on to Florida Atlantic University, then in its infancy, and back home as soon as possible. Dad worked for Outboard Marine Corporation at the local test station until taking a job as the executive vice president of the Naples Board of Realtors while I was in middle school. The timing was good for me, and by the time I graduated from high school real estate looked like the career to follow. Dad became an appraiser in 1974 and I joined him in 1975 after graduation from FAU.

I've done some things, but none more fortuitous or fulfilling than marrying Patricia Murray September 3, 1977. We have two children, Carlin Elizabeth "Betsy" Carroll and Robert Ernest "Robbie" Carroll. Both are wonderful beyond our deserving. Betsy was the 1998 Swamp Buggy queen and the 1997 drum major of the Lely high school marching band. She's at Rollins college now, and I miss her. Robbie, a sophomore this year, is an avid golfer, an excellent fisherman and a good shot. Patricia, their mother, serves on the Big Cypress Basin board and the Southwest Florida Land Preservation Trust.

Dad and I are believers in participation, so I've recently completed service to my profession as a director of the Appraisal Institute where I also served as a chapter president and regional chair. In addition to the Friends board, I serve as a director of the Community Blood Center, and as treasurer of the Collier County Junior Deputies League and as a trustee of First United Methodist Church. Once upon a time I was a member of the original ad hoc committee of the Homeless and I served four years as member, and then chair, of the Naples Airport Authority, something of which I'm proud.

I still get into the woods from time to time. Grandad gave my brother,

*This is part of a series of biographical sketches intended to get members of the Friends organization better acquainted with one another. The editor encouraged Carroll not to abbreviate his remarks, because of their rich content of Naples lore.*

Mark, and me Pogo, the little swamp buggy he built in 1953. We do some boating and I usually watch while Robbie fishes. We hunt ducks most years, but not much else. I'm a private pilot and member of the Naples Flying Club which dates back to about 1957.

Growing up here as I did, and knowing my grandparents so well must have instilled in me the sense of heritage that I still feel. Sometimes I'm not too patient with the newcomers who, having found their paradise, want to keep it only for themselves. On the other hand, I understand the feeling of loss that comes from living in one place all your life, watching it grow and change and knowing that you can't go back. I have several anchors I make fast when the tide rises. One of those is the Friends of the Collier County Museum.

### FESTIVAL from Page One

by soldiers of a half-dozen wars.

Clara Barton will be there with a Civil war era field hospital; there will be an 1800's era medicine show and phrenologist, and music by VGO and Terri Banjos Unlimited.

Inside the museum there will be an exhibition on the development of the telephone and the early history of Sprint, the presenting sponsor of this year's festival. It contains vintage photos and phone equipment with an interactive computer kiosk for a glimpse of communication in the future.

The grounds will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. both Saturday, Nov. 6, and Sunday Nov. 7. Admission will be \$5 for adults, \$2 for students, and children under the age of eight get in free. Receipts will benefit the Museum Express fund, which helps to finance field trips to the Museum by second and fourth grade students.

## Photo Preservation, Artifact Identification, to be Digitalized

Photographs are among the most precious artifacts museums must store for posterity. And among the most fragile: they fade, they discolor, they turn brittle, they crumble. So in addition to keeping them in acid-free boxes in a controlled climate, they are routinely copied with state of the art methods. This the Collier County Museum has been doing, as finances have permitted, for copying is expensive; also, the quality of work is variable. That is all due to change.

The Museum budget for the new fiscal year has funds to record photographs — and pictures of all curated objects — digitally on compact disks, through a system which will provide accurate reproduction and permanent preservation.

Heart of the computer-driven system are a digital camera capable of fine definition and a thermal printer, which records the images on compact disks, each capable of storing the equivalent of 240,000 letter-size sheets of paper.

Once in place, there will be work a-waiting: the Museum has about 20,000 photos to be copied (versus some 3,000 copied to date).

The Museum is seeking suppliers.

### Good Start to Funding For Old Florida Festival

The 1999 Old Florida Festival is off to a good financial start.

Fund raisers report that a number of organizations, merchants and financial institutions have promised to contribute approximately \$12,000, nearly enough to cover the expenses involved in the annual event.

Donors include: Art Artifact Antiquity Collections, Cellular One of Southwest Florida, Devoe Automotive Group, First National Bank of Naples, Gulf Bay Group of Companies, McDonald's Restaurant, Merrill Lynch, Naples Women's Club, Naples Daily News, Publix Super Markets, Seminole Tribe, Southwest Gunslingers, Sprint, Subway, Winn Dixie Stores Inc.

### Also Budgeted

October marks a new fiscal year for the Museum, and it brings favorable changes, including the digital imaging system, thanks to a budget approved earlier by the board of county commissioners. Among the budget items authorized were:

Placing the volunteer coordinator position on a full-time basis. An experiment in filling the position with a part-time employee proved to be unrealistic.

Similarly, the groundskeeper position was graduated from a part-to full-time basis. Incumbent Lee Mitchell will have charge of all aspects of grounds maintenance.

The new budget will fund a part-time position at the Everglades museum.

From the county tourist development fund some \$200,000 was designated for the Roberts Ranch property in Immokalee.

## Museum is Post Office for Washington Commemoration

The Museum was an official United States post office Sept. 17 and 18, topping off an exhibit commemorating the 299th anniversary of President George Washington's death.

The observation included a reception offered by the Friends organization the 17th, and on that day and the following were the sale and hand-cancelling of a Washington bicentennial envelope; the sale of a commemorative envelope with a 1976 13-cent stamp portraying Washington during the terrible winter at Valley Forge, and a 20-cent stamp issued in 1962 in observance of the 250th anniversary of Washington's birth. Those attending the open house received a Mount Vernon bookmark.

Several hundred visitors attended the exhibit which included a copy of the Jan. 4, 1800 Ulster County News featuring tributes to the first presi-

## Exhibit Room's All A-Glitter

The traveling exhibit room of the Museum is all a-glitter.

On display is a collection of more than 100 specimens of rock from much of the United States and most of the rest of the world, Antarctica excepted.

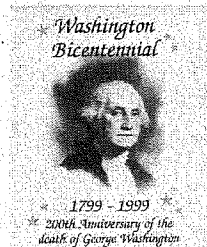
The minerals are on loan from the William Weinman Mineral Museum of White, Georgia, a unit of the Etowah Foundation of Cartersville, GA. To their collection the Museum staff has added examples of local rock types.

The exhibit opened in early October, and will remain in place until year's end.

The specimens represent a wide range of types — quartzes, rhodochrosites, apatites, argonites, calcites, and a score more. Among the more exotic sources are Afghanistan, Australia, Kenya, Pakistan, and Zaire; South America is represented by Argentina, Brazil, and Peru. Russia, known for its diamonds, contributes a smoky quartz.

dent and an account of his funeral; historic flags, Revolutionary War era firearms, Washington's sword, a collection of Washington stamps, and prize-winning scrapbooks commemorating the 1932 bicentennial of Washington's birth. Exhibit materials were made available through Naples collectors Vincent DeSantis, Charles Morgan Abbott, Carl Hedin, Fred Marvin and the museum's Colonial Guard members.

A special section was devoted to works of Collier County high school art students who have recently been working in 18th century media and portraying 18th century life and architecture.



## PIONEERS TO PAINTERS - EVERGLADES MUSEUM HAS THEM ON A BUSY SCHEDULE

If you want to see pictures of the birthplace of Collier county, contemporary art by Florida artists, or learn about Everglades pioneers through first-hand accounts, the Museum of the Everglades is the place to be.

On display until November 27 is *Everglade to Everglades City: A Photographic History, 1889-1999*, an exhibit of historic and modern black and white photographs that tell the architectural history of the city from a fishing and farming settlement to the seat of Collier county government. You'll be able to see the changes buildings have undergone over time, and even get to know the family that lived and worked in the laundry that has become the Museum.

Next on the schedule are the works of Bonita Springs artist H.N. Pollard; *Glimpses of the Sea*. You will be able to meet the artist and enjoy refreshments offered by the Friends of the Museum of the Everglades Sunday, Dec. 5, from 2 to 4 p.m. His seascapes of the Mallorcan coast in oils and pastels continue a successful Artist of the Month series inaugurated last year. It will continue in the year 2000 with artists Sam Platt, Niki Butcher and Muffy Clark Gill.

In April the Museum will open a small exhibit of the art of Rob Storter (1894-1987) *Rob Storter, Everglades Pioneer*, depicting frontier life.

## So, Whaddyu Hear About The Polypodiums? I'm Betting on the Angiosperms

*Plant Reproductive Strategies.*

Sound like a pretty deep subject for a class of 10 year olds?

It was the theme of a horticultural tour led by Museum curator of collections Dave Southall Sept. 23 for a score of Third grade pupils from Lake Park elementary school, and from the thank-you cards and letters he has received, it is apparent that the subject was not over their heads: "horticulturist," "strategy of reproduction," "reproduce asexually,"

"spores." "polipodium," "genes." "gymnosperm," "angiosperm" are now part of their vocabularies.

Much of the children's' backgrounds was revealed in the form their thank-you notes took; about a third were done on a computer, including two that used special software programs, a couple were on postcards, and the remainder on colored paper, including some with cut-outs or pasted inserts; most had drawings of plants or plant parts.

### AT YOUR SERVICE

#### COLLIER COUNTY MUSEUM

Address: 3301 Tamiami Trail E,  
Naples, FL 34112

Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.- Friday;  
Saturday, Sunday 12 noon-4 p.m.

Admission: FREE

Phone: (941) 774-8476 FAX: (941) 774-8580

*The Museum is wheel chair  
accessible*

#### FRIENDS OF THE MUSEUM

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

Place: Museum library

All members are welcome

Internet: [www.colliermuseum.com](http://www.colliermuseum.com)

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

Phone: (941) 774-8724

#### MUSEUM OF THE EVERGLADES

Address: 105 West Broadway, Everglades City, FL 34139, P.O. Box: 8

Phone: (941)695-0008 FAX (941)695-0036

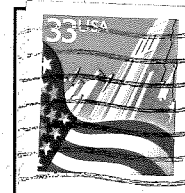
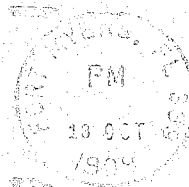
Hours: 11 a.m.- 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday

Admission: FREE

#### FRIENDS OF THE COLLIER COUNTY MUSEUM

P. O. Box 2181

Naples, Florida 34106



Marie A. Mayer  
426 Forest Hills Blvd  
Naples, FL 34113

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