



TIMELINES

FRIENDS OF THE COLLIER COUNTY MUSEUM

AUTUMN 2001

3301 Tamiami Trail East

Naples, Florida 34112

(941) 774-8476

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Editor: Arthur R. Lee

ACTIVE, VARIED PROGRAMS FILL MUSEUM'S CALENDAR FOR 2002

"EVERY FOURTH GRADE" TO VISIT, ATTEND PROGRAMS

By David Southall,
Education Curator

Programs, tours, outreach, and traveling exhibits are all the responsibility of the Education Department of the Museum. Our goal is that every Fourth grade in Collier County Schools visit the Museum and attend an educational program featuring the history of this area. This past year, the Museum was host to 12,800 school children who participated in various activities. More than 3000 students attended Old Florida Festival.

Following close on the heels of our very successful School Day at Old Florida Festival, the Collier County School Board announced a moratorium on field trips for elementary school students. Field trips can now be authorized only where outside funds are available for transportation. Our challenge for the coming year is to raise sufficient money to replace funds paid out through the Friend's Children's Museum Express grant program. Transportation cost for an average bus trip is \$200. We anticipate as many as 40 groups will be applying for grant assistance this year!

Programs aimed at our elementary school visitors include historical topics such as; The Calusa and Spanish contact, The Seminole and

Wide and Diverse Appeal Sought

Collier County Museum 2002 is going to be quite a different institution from the 2001 version.

Staff emphasis will be on providing more activities of public interest throughout the year, and already it has plans for every month.

There will be a wide variety of events, as well as greater numbers than in years past. While the lynch pin still will be Old Florida Festival in the fall, observance of the opening of Tamiami Trail April 27 will be a major occasion as will be observance of VE Day in May.

Highlights of the year's schedule will include:

Now through May 1, *Early Naples* photographic exhibit at Naples;

Jan. 6, 1 p.m. Meet the Artist (Annette Brown) reception at Museum of the Everglades;

Jan. 11, noon, Volunteer Picnic;

Jan. 19, 1 p.m. observance of Old Laundry Building's placement on National Register of Historic Places, Museum of the Everglades;

Feb. 20 a.m. Meet the Artist (Sam Platt) at Museum of the Everglades;

Feb. 9 Black History Day;

March 9 Archaeology Day;

March 23 10 a.m. -5 p.m. Roberts Ranch Roundup;

April 27 The opening of the Tamiami Trail and Fourth birthday of Museum of the Everglades;

May WWII encampment to observe V-E Day;

Nov. 2,3 Old Florida Festival.

See "Plans" on P. 2

See "2002" on P 2

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Getting Acquainted: DIRECTOR CRAIG: A LIFE OF SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC

The newest member of the Friends of the Museum's board of directors, voted in at the body's September meeting, comes to the post with a lifetime of experience in public service.

He is Don Craig, an electrical contractor by profession and one who has devoted much of his life to youth and social organizations.

Craig grew up in Boston's inner city and spent five years in the U.S. Army, participating in the Korean war. After his army service he returned to the Boston area where he worked as an electrical contractor, a profession he continued following his move to Naples 24 years ago.

A member of the Elks lodge, the Moorings Presbyterian church, the Pelican Bay Rotary club, and the Centennial committee, he also is a Past Master of the Masonic lodge.

He has devoted a lifetime of work with the Boy Scouts of America, holding posts ranging from scoutmaster to membership in the national committee. He is a Little Leaguer, member of the Appalachian Mountain Club and the National Rifle Association in which he is an instructor, and has many other hobbies and interests.

He and his wife of 46 years, Priscilla, have four children and three grandchildren

"2002" FROM PAGE 1

Plans for observance of the opening of the Tamiami Trail include a motorcade of antique cars from Naples to Everglades City, where there will be a program.

Need a Gift?

The Museum Gift Shop is loaded with just the thing for that last-minute present. There's new stock, good variety.

"Plans" from P. 1 Tours, Classes, Are Envisioned

Seminole Wars, Statehood, Rebellion and Reconstruction, The Pioneers, and Barron Collier. Natural history topics include: Astronomy and the Solar System, Insects, Florida Ecosystems, and Native Plant Communities.

Museum tours and special presentations are also scheduled to meet the interests of our adult visitors including college classes, church groups, social clubs, and retirement communities. Both staff-led bus and boat tours of historic places are being considered in the upcoming year if sufficient interest is demonstrated.

Plans are in the works to add Saturday programs during the months of January through April, with alternate Saturdays featuring activities of interest to students and adults. Volunteers will be needed to make this a reality. Jennifer Perry, our Volunteer Coordinator, is planning a Volunteer Training workshop to be conducted in early January.

The Museum will be training guides and presenters for both the Saturday programs and to enliven the school programs during the week. We hope to interpret Museum exhibits such as the Logging Locomotive, Seminole War Fort, Naples Cottage, Huntoon Gallery, Craighead Native Plant Garden, and Seminole Village with trained docents to explain their significance.

We are also in the process of packaging three traveling exhibits: the Solar System models, the Bug Room, and the photographic exhibit on contemporary Seminole life. We expect to have them ready to go by mid-January.

These programs represent a terrific opportunity to get involved in our educational work! If you have any interest in serving as a guide, presenter, or reenactor, contact Jennifer Perry or David Southall at 774-8476.

SEE THE EXHIBIT -- BUY THE BOOK

Want to see what Naples looked like in the 1880s?

An exhibit of the first photographs of the city is on display at the Museum and will be until May 1. There is no charge

It consists of photographs that came into the museum's possession in 1993 through the late Charles Price, Jr., the great grandson of Walter Newman Haldeman, one of the city's founders. The rare photographs capture the charm of the nascent city, the construction of the Naples pier in 1888 and landscapes and structures that no longer exist today.

The photographs are also available at the gift shop in a new edition of *The Founding of Naples*, written by Collier County Museum Director Ron Jamro.

Volunteers+Sponsors = Festival Success

By all accounts the '01 Old Florida Festival was a huge success, marked by a degree of professionalism difficult to achieve in so eclectic and demanding an undertaking. The Museum's coordinator of volunteers, Jennifer Perry, attributes its success in good part to the many contributions of scores of individuals and companies; these range from reenactors and behind-the-scenes workers to contributors of everything from media space to sandwiches.

Major sponsors were Sprint, the Collier County Housing Authority, and AH-TAH-THI-KI Seminole Tribe.

Other important contributions came from the Naples Woman's Club, Collier Fence and Wire, Mel's Diner & Stevie Tomatoes Sportspage, Suncoast Schools FCU, Jerry's Cleaners, Publix, MIX 104.7, Miami Herald, Inn by the Sea, Comfort Inn and Suites, the English Pub, McDonalds, Tuff Publications, The Inn at Pelican Bay, TDC, and 98.9 WGUF.

Ranch Project Gets Restoration Start, Professional Help

The Immokalee Pioneer Museum project enjoyed some notable progress this year. Work on outbuildings began in October. Three buildings located behind the main house, the maid's quarters, bunkhouse and the WPA-designed outhouse, were restored and painted. Milled lumber found on the property was used to replace lost or damaged boards. In November the equipment shed that had collapsed some years ago was raised on new supports and the horse-loading ramp restored.

Carolyn Cole, a Florida native, was hired as the Assistant Museum Manager, coming on board in early December. She is responsible for managing the day-to-day activities at the Ranch and for developing educational programming and tours for the public. She holds a Masters Arts degree in Material Culture Studies from the University of South Florida. Her career as an educator includes researching and writing a paper on the history of cattlemen and cattle ranching in the state of Florida.

On the funding front, the Ranch project received a grant of \$142,392 from the Historical Resources Division of the Florida Department of State to assist in the restoration of the outbuildings. Another grant of \$153,000 for Phase One of the restoration of the main house was recommended for funding; however, the state budget crisis has resulted in a reduction of that recommendation to approximately \$92,000. Recently the county reduced the museum's budget by removing the funding for the proposed new visitors' center.

The Immokalee Pioneer ranch is projected to be completed by 2005. An early opening will occur within the next two months, although the visiting hours will be limited and the site will be in a rather rough state as work continues - so wear your cowboy boots and bring your canteen!

**BORED? CALL JENNIFER
AT 774-8476 TO
BECOME A VOLUNTEER!**

BIG YEAR FOR E.GLADES MUSEUM; BUILDING GETS HISTORIC CACHET

by Donna Ridewood,
Manager Museum of the Everglades, the
Immokalee Pioneer Museum Project

The Museum of the Everglades has had a banner year. We won important state and national awards, hosted a major exhibition, displayed the work of several Florida artists, celebrated a super third birthday party and greeted over 11,000 visitors. Not bad for a 2,800 square foot building in a town of 500 people!

The Museum joined the ranks of a precious few in Collier county on September 22, 2001. The Old Laundry building, which houses the museum, was named to the National Register of Historic Places. This honor was bestowed on the building because it is one of the few wood "Frame Vernacular" structures dating to the Collier period remaining in the state. We plan to celebrate this important distinction January 19 when we unveil the National Register plaque.

Another unveiling will be held December 8, 2002 in a ceremony marking the awarding of two plaques from the State of Florida: David Graham Copeland and Deaconess Harriet Bedell were named as "Great Floridians" for their contributions to the history of the state. The handsome blue markers will be hung at the museum entrance.

If you haven't seen our major exhibition entitled "Crackers in the Glades: The Life, Art and Writings of Rob Storter, Everglade Pioneer" you have denied yourself a wonderful experience. On display since November 2000, the exhibit features the charming art, recollections and philosophy of the nephew of George Washington Storter, founder of the town of Everglades in the late 19th Century. Don't miss the opportunity to learn about life before Collier in Everglades City — you have un-

til February 2002 to get to know the kind and gentle Mr. Storter.

Florida artists on display this year includes photographer Richard Kraus and painters Peter Pettegrew and JoAnn Sanborn. Jeff Ripple showed his fabulous collection of photographs of the Fakahatchee Strand. The reception to meet him was the best attended of all year, thanks to the assistance of the Friends of the Fakahatchee. "Art of the Everglades", a special exhibit produced by the students of Everglades City School featured prints from nature using a unique gelatin technique. Students were instructed in the process by Annette Browne of the United Arts Council of Collier County.

The annual birthday bash hosted by the Friends of the Museum of the Everglades was a giant success. The stories, history and humor our "old-timers" round table was memorable, amusing and enjoyable.

Well, now as I look back on it, a wonderful year for the museum! Certainly we have a lot to be thankful for: a community that supports its museum with volunteers who gave over 1,500 hours of their precious time, an interested and generous public who continue to regale us with favorable comments about our friendly volunteers, beautiful building and interesting exhibits, and a governing body that believes museums dedicated to county history are important to the community's quality of life.

We are doing our best to teach the public about our unique Everglades history. We hope that you will continue to support our museum by visiting it as often as possible.

SAVE YOUR FEET!

Want to avoid shopping mall foot?
SHOP ON LINE!

Punch www.shopformuseums.com. There select the Collier County Museum. Click your favorite retailer. Shop. The retailer sends the merchandise to you, and a donation to the Museum on your behalf.

The Museum gets a gift, you get quality merchandise, and your podiatrist gets zilch.

It Was a Squeaker, But the Sun Shone Through 2001 Festival Showed Broad Audience Appeal, Professionalism

First came news that the Collier school administration had cancelled all field trips to save money; that was on the eve of the Old Florida Festival, which had arranged a separate day, Friday, for the school children. Frantic telephoning by Curator Dave Southall and help from school board member Linda Abbot convinced the authorities that there was no problem, that the Friends Children's Museum Express fund had already taken care of the transportation cost. Problem solved.

Then problem Two: Hurricane Michelle itself bypassed Naples but its bands of torrential rains were plotted to drench the city. However, instead of the forecast downpour, there were mostly clear skies all three days of the event. Later examination of the plot showed that heavy bands of water-laden squalls had actually split, leaving Naples in the clear between two.

The result was an event which gave the children, some 3,000 of them and their chaperones, a chance to see more of the entire museum grounds than ever before.

And public attendance Saturday and Sunday was healthy, with rep-

resentation from the north and east Florida coast and a sprinkling of foreign tourists, thanks in good part to hotel participation in promotion.

Participants noted that visitors appeared to have more intellectual curiosity than usual, and that spreading attractions through a greater part of the grounds made for greater appreciation of the orchid house and the native plant area.

MUSEUM HOSTS CofC BUSINESS AFTER FIVE

On December 13 the Museum for the first time hosted the Naples Chamber of Commerce's periodic event *Business After Five*, with sponsorship by the Seminole Casino and the Seminole Tribe.

The evening event drew an attendance of local business people, Friends officers and volunteers. Purpose is to provide a venue for cooperation and networking.

Arrangements were made by Jennifer Perry, volunteer coordinator.



AT YOUR SERVICE



COLLIER COUNTY MUSEUM

Address: 3301 Tamiami Trail E,
Naples, FL 34112
Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.- Friday
Admission: FREE
e-mail: museum@colliergov.net
Web: www.Colliermuseum.com
Phone: (941) 774-8476 FAX: (941) 774-8580
Volunteer coordinator: (941) 793-8393

FRIENDS OF THE MUSEUM

Monthly Meetings: Second Thursdays
Time: 6 p.m.
Place: Museum library
All members are welcome
e-mail: friends@colliermuseum.com
Address: P.O. Box 2181, Naples, FL 34106
Phone: (941) 774-8724
Gift shop e-mail:
giftshop@colliermuseum.com

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: 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday
Admission: FREE

FRIENDS OF THE COLLIER COUNTY MUSEUM
P. O. Box 2181
Naples, Florida 34106

