

MUSEUM NOTES

A PUBLICATION OF THE
FRIENDS OF THE COLLIER COUNTY MUSEUM

Summer 2008

MUSEUM CALENDAR

July 7 - Sept 4:

EXHIBIT: *"The Bad Old Days: Plume Hunting and Its Effects"*. At the Collier County Museum. Artifacts, photos and art from 1880-1910 showing birds' plumage and tales of founding the Audubon Society and the murder of Warden Guy Bradley which brought national attention to the hunt. For info: 252-8476.

July 9:

LECTURE: *Plume Hunting in SW Fla: 1880-1910*. 2PM at the Collier County Museum.

July 12:

MOVIE MATINEE: *Wind Across the Everglades*. 1PM at the Collier County Museum. 1958 Hollywood film shot in Goodland about plume hunting.

July 16 - Sept 10:

LECTURE: *Wednesday Weekly Summer Lecture Series*. See story this newsletter for topics. 2PM at the Collier County Museum. For info: 252-8476.

July 19 - Aug 30:

MOVIE MATINEE: *Saturday Weekly Summer Florida Film Series*. See titles, casts and plots in story this newsletter. 1PM at the Collier County Museum. For info call 252-8476.

Sept 10-14:

EXHIBIT: *Collier County Employee Art Show*. At Collier County Museum. An annual event displaying the variety of creative works of persons otherwise employed in the local government. For info, 252-8476.

Nov 11:

EVENT: *USO Show at the Naples Depot*. At the Naples Depot Museum. Annual event commemorating Veterans Day with live music of the World War II era and remembrance speeches. Follows the downtown Naples patriotic parade. For info: 262-6525.

January-May 2009:

EXHIBIT: *Jackpot! Seminole Gaming From Then Until Now*. At the Collier County Museum, on loan from the Seminole Tribe of Florida's Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum. Exhibit focuses on the concepts of tribal sovereignty and gaming as an economic force with today's American Indian tribes. For info: 252-8476.

Feb 24-27, 2009:

EVENT: *Marjory Stoneman Douglas Festival*. At the Museum of the Everglades, Everglades City. Annual Festival remembering the colorful champion of the Everglades who authored "The River of Grass". Lectures, tours, food, etc. For info, 239/695-0008

March 7:

EVENT: *Naples-Marco Island Antique Car Show*. At the Naples Depot Museum. The annual showing of the vehicles of this club of antique vehicle aficionados. For info, call Gary Doner, 239/860-2726.

COOL SUMMER FUN!

Volunteer at a Collier County Museum.
Call 252-8287

"PLUME HUNTERS" KICK OFF MOVIES, LECTURES & EXHIBIT

The Collier County Museum launches its 2008 summer exhibit, movie matinees and lectures with a trilogy about plume hunting, the discredited practice of harvesting exotic local birds and their feathers for late 19th century and early 20th century millinery. The movies and lectures continue each week into September on many topics focused on Florida lore, some with a Collier County link.

The first lecture on July 9th complements the Museum's new exhibit, opening two days before, titled: "The Bad Old Days: Plume Hunting and its effects on Florida's wading birds 1880-1910". The exhibit continues until September 4 with displays of artifacts and photos of the time period including of the hunted birds in nuptial plumage and describes the suppression of the practice.

Lecture topics for the rest of the summer range from hurricanes to history to animals, ecology and geology as well as native plants. The theme of the movie series is films that were shot in Florida, including some in Collier County. It opens July 12th with "Wind Across the Everglades", a feature filmed around Goodland on Marco Island with a story based on plume hunting.

The lectures are presented on Wednesdays at 2PM by Curator of Education David Southall. The films roll every Saturday at 1PM. Both are free to the public at the main Museum on the Courthouse campus at US41 and Airport Rd. Free undercover parking is across the street.

Lecture Programs (Wednesdays, 2PM, Free admission):

July 9: Plume Hunting in SW Florida from 1880 to 1910
July 16: Mangrove and Estuarine Environment
July 23: The Pine Flat Woods
July 30: Florida's Epiphytic Plants
August 6: Hurricane History of Southwest Florida
August 13: Introduction to Geologic Time and Life on Earth
August 20: Butterflies of Florida
August 27: The Alligator's Role in Wetland Ecology
September 3: Shore Birds of Southwest Florida
September 10: Native Cacti and Succulent Plants of Florida

Movie Matinees (Saturdays, 1PM, Free admission):

July 12: *Wind Across the Everglades* stars Burl Ives and Peter Falk.
July 19: *Moon Over Miami* (1941) starring Betty Grable, Don Ameche and Robert Cummings.
July 26: *Cross Creek* (1983). Based on the life of Florida author Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings.
August 2: *The Bellboy* (1960) stars Jerry Lewis as Stanley, a bellboy at Miami Beach's Fontainebleau Hotel.
August 9: *Key Largo* (1948) starring Humphrey Bogart, Edward G. Robinson, and Lauren Bacall. Bad things happen in the Keys when a hurricane blows up.
August 16: *Summer Rental* (1985) stars John Candy. A Florida family vacation goes awry.
August 23: *Cocoon* (1985) with Don Ameche and Gwen Verdon. A group of senior citizens discover the secret of a swimming pool which makes its water a fountain of youth.
August 30: *Follow That Dream* (1962). A film starring Elvis Presley about a family homesteading on a beach alongside a new Florida highway to the chagrin of local bureaucrats.



FRIENDS OF THE COLLIER COUNTY MUSEUM

Post Office Box 2181 Naples, FL 34106-2181

239/793-8393 www.colliermuseum.com

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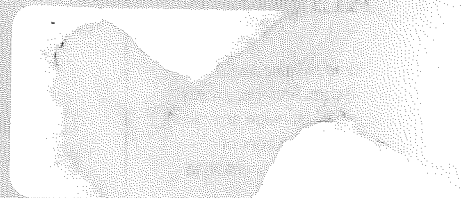
Collier County Museum
at the Collier County Courthouse
3301 Tamiami Trail East, Naples
239/252-8476

Naples Depot Museum
1051 5th Ave South, Naples

Museum of the Everglades
105 West Broadway, Everglades City

Immokalee Pioneer Museum
1215 Roberts Ave, Immokalee

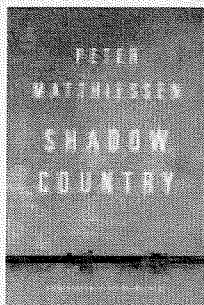
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MR. WATSON REVIVIFIED

Peter Matthiessen's 1990s trilogy of novels about the South, Florida — but especially Collier County — has been revised by the author and republished. "Shadow Country" — like its predecessors a fictionalized account of real people and events — centers on the 1910 posse/mob shooting of E.J. Watson, a notorious planter and alleged murderer who lived in the 10,000 Islands. The killing takes place at Smallwood Store at Chokoloskee and is detailed in the first and more famous volume of the trilogy, "Killing Mr. Watson".

"Lost Man's River" and "Bone by Bone" complete the original set and trace Watson and his family from origins in South Carolina and into other Florida locales through the investigation of the murder by his son.



Matthiessen has reworked the three volumes into one, 900-page tome renamed "Shadow Country". It's a gritty, frequently graphic story, but it communicates a strong sense of early Collier County, the people who populated it, why they came here and how they lived.

"Shadow Country" has received strong reviews around Florida and nationally. It is published by Random House at \$40.

DEPOT RESTORATION PROGRESS

The Naples Depot is closed this summer to facilitate its renovation and restoration program and install its new permanent exhibits. Manager Gary Vincent reports: "We expect to be fully open again by end of the year, possibly sooner."



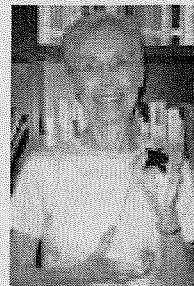
Manager Gary Vincent watches removal of a concrete addition to the Depot building. Some flooring and its foundation from the 1920s is being restored.

The Museum's three other sites — at the Collier County Court- house, Immokalee, and Everglades City -- are all open for visitors with their summer programs.



Photos by Jon Nickerson

EXCEPTIONAL VOLUNTEER RECOGNIZED



Marie Mayer

A volunteer who has helped manage the Collier County Museum's Haldeman Library for thirteen years has been given a special recognition award.

Marie Mayer is described as "an invaluable member of the

museum team" by Jennifer Guida, Curator of Collections. Marie serves as research librarian responsible for assembling and maintaining the library's vertical files as well as its collection of thousands of reference books and documents. She has compiled research products distributed as public handouts in addition to spending countless hours gathering the biographies and genealogies of important figures and families in county history. She also assists with research requests received by the museum's Curatorial Department.

She is one of scores of volunteers who make the four Collier County Museum sites work, according to Mary Margaret Gruszka, Director of Volunteers. All sorts of jobs are available. Call 252-8287 for information.

FRIENDS OF COLLIER COUNTY MUSEUM
P.O. Box 2181, Naples, FL 34106-2181
239/793-8393/E-Mail: museum@naples.net

Officers and Directors, 2008-2009

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Nick Niles, Director

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Liaison:

Ron Jamro, Museum Director