

**EVERGLADES SOCIETY FOR
HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

Dedicated to our Unique History

P O Box 46, Everglades City, FL, 34139

ESHP@hotmail.com

www.evergladeshistorical.org

The **TOWN CRIER** newsletter is issued periodically to keep ESHP members and the public informed of our activities. We welcome news and feedback.

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Everglades Society for Historic Preservation, Inc. is a registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation. The Society is concerned with the **preservation of all historic sites, structures, documents, artifacts, and memories** within the Everglades area.

DIRECTORS

Helen Bryan (Treasurer) Tod Dahlke Mike Danosky (Vice-President)
Patty Huff (Secretary) Lynn McMillin Elaine Middelstaedt
Marya Repko (President) Craig Woodward

ESHP ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

(renewable each January 1)

- Individual (\$25)
- Family (\$40)
- Patron (\$100)
- Benefactor (\$500)
- Business (\$100)
- Extra (\$ _____)

*Please make check payable to "ESHP" and send to
ESHP, P.O. Box 46, Everglades City, FL, 34139
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TOWN CRIER

**EVERGLADES SOCIETY
FOR HISTORIC
PRESERVATION**

Newsletter

OCTOBER 2017
VOLUME 13, NUMBER 6



HURRICANE REPORT

Hurricane Irma struck this area on September 10, 2017. After high winds, the storm surge left low-lying buildings full of mucky, silty mud. The flooding destroyed appliances, furniture, and treasured possessions.

Our public buildings did not escape disaster. The first floor of **City Hall** has been stripped and is being dehumidified before it is refitted. The **Museum of the Everglades** is similarly empty but all the exhibits were removed before the storm. The **Smallwood Store** was high enough to avoid flooding but wind has taken its toll on the roof. The **Everglades Community Church** suffered damage from the water and needs new flooring; including in the **Jenkins Fellowship Hall** where we had our movie nights.

Businesses are trying to re-open before the start of Stone Crab Season on October 15 and are busy scrubbing out their interiors. Unfortunately, the historic **Ivey House Lodge** was badly damaged but the old **Depot** survived because it is higher. The **Rod & Gun Club** has torn screens on the idyllic porch overlooking the Barron River.

The good news is that the owners of several **private homes** are working hard to restore them. However, other domestic buildings might not be so lucky such as this little shotgun house which slipped off its foundations. We are compiling a list. Our little oval "CIRCA 1925" historical signs impressed FEMA inspectors.



ESHP is proposing an **Historic Village** where small buildings can be moved, restored, and then used for light businesses (eg, book shop, coffee house) to create a tourist attraction. We are talking with the City and property owners to find a suitable site.

Funds are being raised for different purposes. To help families, see our neighborhood charity at their website www.ReachOutEverglades.org where the Hurricane Fund will be used to purchase new appliances and furniture.

To help historic restoration, see our own website or send a check to our P.O. Box.

Other organizations and individuals have campaigns on www.GoFundMe.com for hurricane recovery.


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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Nov 17: Welcome-Back Historical Talk

5:30pm, Everglades City Hall

Nov 18: Art-in-the-Glades

10am-2pm, McLeod Park

Dec 9: Art-in-the-Glades

10am-2pm, McLeod Park

ESHP BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Directors meets at 8:30 a.m. on the first Monday of the month in Everglades City Hall. The next meeting will be held on **Monday, November 6**. Members are welcome to attend and contribute ideas.

MEMBERSHIP

We have 73 current members. If you join now, your membership will be extended through 2018. Just fill in the form on the back of this newsletter or use a debit/credit card at our website.

New members since our last newsletter:

 Marlene Sassaman
 Kathy & Tim Brock

Butcher Open House

We are happy to report that renowned photographer Clyde Butcher is recovering from the stroke he suffered in May and plans to be at the Fall Festival at his Big Cypress Gallery in Ochopee on the weekend of **October 28-29**.

For info, call (239) 695-2128 or see the Gallery's website www.clydebutcher.com.

SEMINOLE HAPPENINGS

The 20th Annual American Indian Arts Celebration will take place on **November 3-4** at the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum on the Big Cypress Seminole Reservation north of I-75. The festival includes dance, music, arts and culture plus crafts and food vendors

The Tribe is proud of its rich history and the Museum offers many special events along with its extensive exhibits. For info, phone (863) 902-1113 or see their website www.ahtahthiki.com.

HISTORIC HOMES TOUR

We've been asked over and over when we are having another Historic Homes Tour so we finally set the date – **Saturday, March 17**. It also happens to be St. Patrick's Day so we don't mind if you dress up in green or go to the Naples parade before coming here for the afternoon.



Although not all homes will have fully recovered from Hurricane Irma, we think that visitors will welcome the opportunity to see how we've progressed.



photo thanks to Helen Bryan

Blessing of the Stone Crab Fleet

We had a good turnout for this annual event, the first normal thing to happen since Hurricane Irma. Our thanks to the boat captains for taking part, the pastors who gave the blessing, Mayor Howie Grimm, and Triad Seafood for hosting lunch for the crews, Texas Tony's in Naples for providing the food, and Tod Dahlke for organizing it all, including helping to clear up the mud in Triad.



MOVIE NIGHTS

We will again show historical movies, especially those with a connection to this area, this winter on Friday evenings. The tentative dates in 2018 are January 12, February 2, and March 16.

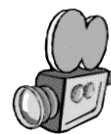
If you have suggestions for films that we should screen, please let us know at ESHP@hotmail.com.

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Our pilot interview was with Helen Bryan, one of our directors and an active participant in local events and causes. She spoke of her experiences living here but also relayed tales about her husband Jim whose father was pastor at Chokoloskee Church of God in the late 1940s when Jim attended local schools.

The edited episodes will include images of historic buildings and will be available for viewing on our website.

If you would like to share your memories, please contact us at (239) 451-0265.



News from the Historical Library

ALL OUR BOOKS & FILES WERE SAFE!

Flooding during Hurricane Irma only reached the first floor of City Hall. The building is being dehumidified which should stop our archives from becoming moldy and musty.

If you still have old books, newspapers, or photos for the Historical Library on the second floor in City Hall, phone Marya at (239) 451-0265.