

**EVERGLADES SOCIETY FOR
HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

Dedicated to our Unique History

P.O. Box 46, Everglades City, FL, 34139
ESHP@hotmail.com • www.ESHP.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, Hydie Friend (Vice-President),
Patty Huff (President), Hannah Ineson, Donald Kim,
Elaine Middelstaedt (Treasurer), Marya Repko (Secretary)

ESHP MEMBERSHIP

(renewable each January 1st except for Lifetime categories)

- Individual (\$25) Family (\$40)
- Patron (\$100) Benefactor (\$500)
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MONTHS AT ALTERNATE ADDRESS:

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JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC

If this is a Gift, we will send a card and goodie bag. Please tell who it is from:

TOWN CRIER

**EVERGLADES SOCIETY
FOR HISTORIC
PRESERVATION**

Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2023
VOLUME 18, NUMBER 8



MusicFest a Fall Fixture

After we had to postpone our 2022 event because of Hurricane Idalia, we were pleased with the turnout this fall to hear popular local musicians performing in glorious weather on November 4 at the Rod & Gun Club.

Our thanks to the musicians who donated their time & talents, to Mayor Howie Grimm (*seen above*) for welcoming the attendees, to the Club for hosting us, and to all the contributors of raffle and auction items.



Join us on **Saturday, December 2**, at the Nat Reed Visitor Center to hear environmentalist Franklin Adams and Museum Manager Thomas Lockyear speak at the Swamp Heritage Festival. There will also be booths (including ESHP) giving out information and demonstrating old Gladesmen skills plus live music.

The event is free and takes place at 33000 Tamiami Trail East in Ochopee, only a few miles down US-41 from the intersection with SR-29 at Carnestown.

For info, see [Swamp Heritage Festival - Big Cypress National Preserve \(U.S. National Park Service\) \(nps.gov\)](http://Swamp Heritage Festival - Big Cypress National Preserve (U.S. National Park Service) (nps.gov)) or phone the Preserve at (239) 695-4758.



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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Saturday, December 2: Swamp Heritage Festival

Big Cypress National Preserve, 10am-3pm
see article on front page

Saturday, December 9: Art-in-the-Glades

McLeod Park, 10am-1pm
for info, phone Marya at (239) 451-0265

=== 2024 ===

Friday, January 12: Diamonds' Tea

Everglades Community Church, 2pm

Saturday, January 13: Art-in-the-Glades

McLeod Park, 10am-1pm

Sat/Sun, February 3/4: Everglades Seafood Festival

Everglades Circle, 10am-6pm

Friday, February 23: Annual Meeting & Historical Talk

Everglades Isle, 2pm

BOARD MEETINGS

Our Board of Directors usually meets on the first Monday each month at 9:00 a.m. in the Visitor Center. The next meeting is on **Monday, December 4**. Members are welcome to attend and share ideas with us. For info, phone Patty at (239) 719-0020.

ESHP MEMBERSHIP

We have 94 active members. **Help us reach the magic number of 100 by giving a membership as a gift.** We will send a goodie bag and card to the recipient. *See the form on the back page.*

Memberships received now will extend through the end of 2024. You can avoid annoying annual renewal notices by becoming a Lifetime member.

Welcome to new members since our last newsletter:

Michael Kraus, Naples
Dave & Katie Burgoon, Naples
Bill & Betsy Roth, Boca Raton & Everglades City
Pat Coutinho, Chokoloskee



For all the latest news and photos, see our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/ESHP.org>.

Visitor Center



Our Everglades Area Visitor Center & Trail Town Headquarters is in the coral-colored building at **207 West Broadway**.

Stop in for information about area businesses and to see the work of amazing local artists on sale there.

If you are interested in volunteering, drop by or phone Patty at (239) 719-0020.



photos courtesy Helen Bryan

Visions of the Bank Building

On November 17 we welcomed over 40 people to see and hear what architect Rick Gonzalez has planned for the old Bank of Everglades.

Rick opened his talk by saying what a “unique, very special place” Everglades City is and mentioned its “wonderful city plan with a circle in the middle” thanks to the foresight of Barron Collier’s team.

Besides the Visitor Center, our building will have mostly open space to provide multi-purpose use as a gathering place for events and art shows on the ground floor. He praised the “really cool vault” that will screen films for small groups. Upstairs will have rooms for our office with historical archives and for meetings or classes.

The presentation included an illustration of plantings envisioned by local landscape architect Dayna Fendrick of Urban Green Studios in Naples.

But, it will be at least a year before that finishing touch can be completed. We first have to shore up the foundations and replace the windows with replicas of the originals.

Our thanks to Rick and Dayna for speaking to us and to Sherry Geiger and Debbie Dowacter for delicious food and to Everglades Isle for hosting this event.

If you could not attend or want to review the plans, see www.Save-BOE.org where you can scroll through the presentation or download it as a PDF.

NEW WEBSITE LIVE!

Our website www.ESHP.org has finally been upgraded and improved, thanks to Don Kim and Hannah Ineson who oversaw the project.

Among the new features, there are photos and brief biographies of our Board of Directors.