



MIHS

Marco Island Historical Society

Rediscovering Yesterday

Celebrating Today

Preserving It For Tomorrow

Summer 2015



Design by Amanda Woodward

50th Anniversary Exhibit at the Marriott

Austin Bell, Curator of Collections

As you will read in the President's report, the MIHS was a proud co-sponsor of the 50th Anniversary Gala at the Marriott on May 1, 2015. I had the distinct honor of creating the historical displays for this glittering event, which focused on the past 50 years of Marco Island's history. As far as temporary exhibits go, this one was as temporary as it gets! We started setting up at 1 p.m. on the day of the event, and by 10:30 a.m. the next morning, everything was back at the museum. Of course, had there been no displays, there still would have been plenty of history to go around. The evening unfolded in the ballroom of the former Marco Beach Hotel (now the Marriott), and was the last event to take place in that room before Marriott initiated their massive renovation on May 3rd. Guests rubbed elbows with Marco Island legends like Frank Mackle III, Herb Savage, and Craig Woodward, and danced like it was 1965 to the swinging sounds of The Fabulons. I feel privileged to have played a small part in the festivities, but owe many thanks to those who helped make it possible. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank: Hilton Moving and Storage, for donating their services and moving everything to and from the hotel in such a punctual and professional manner; Marco Island Chamber of Commerce, for their continual support and feedback; the event staff at the Marriott, for their coordination and hospitality; Craig Woodward, for his creative contributions to the displays; Collier County Museums, for loaning us two of their display cases; and Erin Wolfe, who took time out of her own busy schedule to help me install and take down the displays.



Austin Bell and
Erin Wolfe



Rick Medwedeff-GM of the
Marriott and Frank Mackle III
knocking down the symbolic
wall.



Marco Beach Hotel
Expands



Dick Shanahann, Event Co-Chair,
T.J. Boone, Mgr of the Marco Eagle,
Herb Savage, Marco Eagle Pioneer
Award Winner, Pat Rutledge, Event
Co-Chair



#1 Former MIHS President and Campaign Council Chair Tom Wagor

#2 Craig Woodward #3 The Fabulons #4 Board Secretary Kathryn Hunt with outfit she wore on Marco Island in the 1960's.

#5 and #6 Displays of items that make up part of the history of the last 50 years in Marco Island.



President's Letter



As the song lyrics say "Summer time and the living is easy"...things are certainly quieting down on Marco Island after an incredibly busy season but not necessarily at the Historical Society or at the Museum.

On May 1, 2015 the MIHS partnered with the Marco Island Chamber of Commerce to present the 50th Anniversary Gala celebrating fifty years of Marco Island's modern history. It was in 1965 that the Mackle brothers and the Deltona Corporation opened Marco Island to the public. We were very proud to be a co-presenter of this important milestone event.

In conjunction with the Island's "Golden Anniversary", work continues on our Modern Marco Exhibit Hall. This gallery will inform and delight the Museum's visitors when it is completed. You will literally take a trip back in time to the heyday of the Mackles, Deltona and the 1960s.

Our impressive Smithsonian and Florida Humanities Council exhibit and island wide program "The Way We Worked" is winding down and will be replaced by "Giants of the Everglades" an amazing photographic exhibit by Dennis Goodman which will be on display at the Museum from May 22 – August 1, 2015.

The MIHS Campaign Council continues the work of achieving our CATapult Campaign goal to raise \$1.1 million dollars to fund the return of the treasured Calusa artifacts to the Marco Island Historical Museum. Much progress has been made and you will read more about our recent success in this issue of the newsletter. We are well positioned to take the next steps in the artifact loan application process.

To ensure the longevity of your Historical Society, the Cushing Society was established. This society represents the MIHS Endowment Fund which was created to provide long term funding to preserve and to share the history and heritage of Marco Island. We are making great strides in growing this fund so that future generations can experience the long and rich history of our Island.

As your Acting Executive Director, I have been very busy working with the MIHS and Museum staff on a daily basis to further professionalize the operations of both organizations. Much has been accomplished but there is still quite a bit to be done. We are working on everything from improving the management of our membership and donor databases to streamlining our member communications to redesigning our membership application and more.

Finally, I want to take this opportunity to thank all of our MIHS volunteers who gave so generously of their time and talent this season. The Museum was busier than ever and we could not have delivered such an interesting, informative and enjoyable experience to our guests without our volunteers.

Remember, we are always looking for more people to join our MIHS and Museum family so please let us know if you are interested in volunteering.

For those of you who are traveling to other places this summer, enjoy your time away. We will miss you. And for those who are with us year round, please stop by the Museum or attend the MIHS Monthly Speaker programs. There is still a lot to do and see.

Best regards,

Pat Rutledge
MIHS President & Executive Director



What's Happening at the Rose History Auditorium and the Gift Store

By Lori Wagor

1965:

Ladies and gentlemen get ready for the “**Let’s Party Like It’s 1965 Shindig!**”! It’s scheduled for November 14, 2015 and it’s a celebration of Marco Island’s beginnings, the music we all danced and sang to and a party to bring all the nostalgia and voices of that era alive. Of course you remember the Righteous Brothers, the Beatles and the Beach Boys...

A festive affair that you won’t want to miss! More exciting details to come, so save the date!



RHA

World Class Entertainment at the Rose History Auditorium--who would have thought that it would bring in record crowds and encores for more? Well I hear you and we’ll have lots of great entertainment for you to enjoy right here on Marco Island in 2015-16.

A sampling of some of the upcoming shows: Judy Garland/Lisa Minnelli, Elvis (I’m all shook up), Dean Martin and Sammy Davis Jr....and more on tap. Check our calendar of events at www.themihs.com for updates on these and other great historical events and happenings coming your way.

MUSEUM GIFT STORE

We’ve had another great season of sales with happy visitors coming through the Museum and all the support we receive from our members.

We will be showcasing new jewelry items and artifact replicas in sterling silver and gold in the near future, as well as a new line of charm bracelets that are back in vogue. Stay tuned for a store alert!

VOLUNTEERS

Summer is upon us and many of our valuable volunteers head up north for the summer. So, for those of you who are “year rounders “ and have a few hours to spare, we’d love to have you as part of our team of volunteers for both the museum store and docent desk. Please contact us at 389-6447 or come by for visit. It’s a feel good and rewarding experience working with a great team for a great cause!

THIS AND THAT

The Museum Gift Store and the Rose History Auditorium, our two in house revenue producing venues, help enhance the MIHS goal of acquiring artifacts held in the many prestigious museums across the country, as well as support our efforts to bring in qualified individuals to assist us in growing to the next level of excellence in serving our membership and community with a vision and determination to make our Museum the world class venue that it is already on the way to becoming. So it is with sincere thanks to one and all for your support of these venues and participation in all the great events that we offer each year.

Have a wonderful summer!



Where the Wild Ones Are

By Pamela Miner

The wildlife of the Marco Island region is showcased in two special exhibits at the Museum during the 2015 Summer Season.

“Giants of the Everglades,” is on display in the Traveling Exhibit Hall. “Giants” is a photography exhibit featuring the work of regional photographer Dennis Goodman. The exhibit is on view at the Museum from May 22 through August 1, 2015. Dennis is a fine art wildlife and nature photographer, as well as an instructor. Most of his subjects come from the Florida Everglades. He relates, “I enjoy taking the day and exploring the vast swampland hunting for the perfect shot.” Dennis has been credited with capturing some of the greatest images of the natural environment found in the Southwest Florida region. An opening reception will be held at the Museum on Tuesday, June 2 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The reception, sponsored by the Marco Island Historical Society, is free and open to the public.



The Lobby area will feature the award winners of the Eighth Annual City of Marco Island Wildlife Amateur Photo Contest. The photographs are on display from May 22 through August 1. This contest is a project of the City of Marco Island, sponsored by the *Coastal Breeze News*. Over 60 photographs capturing the beautiful island region were submitted. The 15 awarded photographs illustrate four categories: Land and Marine Animals, Insects, Plants and Trees, and Landscapes. The competition was created in 2008 by Former City Council member Vickie Kelber, a travel writer and avid photographer. Ms. Kelber participated as a judge for this year's contest. Also carrying out judging duties were: Lori Wagner, Enterprise Manager for the Marco Island Historical Society; Hyla Crane, Executive Director of the Marco Island Center for the Arts; and Marco Island Policeman and professional photographer Frank Steiger. Samantha Malloy, City of Marco Island's Community Events Coordinator, as well as Val Simon, *Coastal Breeze News* Editor, produced the successful project.



On a hot and humid summer day, come experience the beautiful wilds of Southwest Florida inside-at the Marco Island Historical Museum!

Seminole Heritage Narrated To TBE*

By Gayle Hawley

Within any classroom, there is everyday teaching, and then there are teachable moments which influence a lifetime. One such moment came within MIHS's ***Yesterday/Today Program***, presented by Ray Becerra, a Seminole Community Outreach Specialist from the AH-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum on May 14th at TBE. Mr. Becerra's interactive message on the history of SWFL Indians, in particular the struggle of the Seminole Indian Tribe, visibly captivated the 5th grade students. Inarguably, MIHS's commitment to bring to life the SWFL Indian experience of yesterday will live on in the minds and hearts of our young students tomorrow.

NOTE:** Heartfelt kudos must be extended to the Marco Island Woman's Club for their making possible programs such as this through their gracious donation to MIHS's ***Yesterday/Today Program.

What else is happening at the Rose History Museum!

By BJ Henning

All meetings are held on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in RHA. It is better to get there a little early, because the seats fill up quickly. Members get in free. The charge for non-members is \$5.00

June 2nd- Jeff Klinkenberg, Author of "Alligators in B Flat" His topic: "Confessions of a Swamp boy who still has his fingers & many stories about Florida"

July 7th - Bill Hughes, Vintage movies. The story of "Jane Hittler," first early buyer of Marco Island from the Deltona brothers and the first Chairman of the beautification committee. "Look Through Time," a look back at the first 50 years of Marco Island.

August 4th- Pat Carroll "A School Teachers Diary Relived," a diary that the school teacher maintained while teaching at little Marco

September 1st - Pat McKee, Author of "My Space in Time." Pat spent eleven years in the White House in the 1960's, under 3 Presidents. She is the person who transcribed President Nixon's tapes and found out he lied.

October 6th - Pam Brandon, Co-author of the "Good Catch, recipes and stories celebrating the best of Florida waters" Pam and her team were here last year with their book "From Field to Feast"

Should be a lot of fun and informative



Building and Grounds Report

Alan Sandlin, MIHS Building and Grounds Chairman

Greetings to All in this 50th anniversary year of Modern Marco Island!

The 50th celebration kicked off at the Marriott's party on the first of May - Pat is expounding on those details in this newsletter! In the meantime, MIHS is making great haste to complete the Modern Marco exhibit in the museum and host another great 50th party - be on the lookout for that opening this fall! Austin Bell is doing a great job coordinating with the room's designers. Personally, I want to report the completion of the real "Terrazzo" flooring in the Modern Marco exhibit room. As many "Ole Timers" may remember, all of the original Deltona homes on Marco Island had terrazzo flooring. Terrazzo is a combination of marble chips set in a white Portland mix and polished to expose the marble colors. Each floor was unique and lasted forever! Our "Deltona" room simply would not have been complete or "authentic" without the terrazzo! After much searching for terrazzo, taping walls and closing off the room completely in plastic sheeting, the flooring is now complete and ready for the construction of the exhibit. So, when you come to the new exhibit, make sure you note the wonderful terrazzo with the knowledge that the flooring is also an integral part of our Deltona Corporation heritage and part of our modern Marco Island history. Look forward to seeing you there soon!



View from the CATapult Campaign ~ Summer 2015

By Tom Wagor and Paul Tateo, Campaign Co-Chairmen

"An idea is a feat of association, and the height of it is a good metaphor"

Robert Frost (American poet, 1874-1963)

It is true what they say about heights – the view only gets better the higher you go. Together we have done some true CATapulting these last several months and we have some great news to report!

When we first started this column in our Winter Newsletter we announced the start of our CATapult Campaign. Our goal was to raise just under \$1.2 million to match the bold goals of our recently completed Strategic Plan. We are most pleased to announce that as of May 15, we have raised in gifts and pledges \$829,000. This leaves us just over \$350,000 to fund the Strategic Plan goals – especially the return (on loan!) of the Key Marco Cat and related artifacts.

There are many to thank and elsewhere you will find a list of the donors who wish to be recognized, we thank them one and all. Below you will find a few pictures to capture some of the moments we have shared.

Our friends (thank you Darcie Guerin-Raymond James and Myrt Rose) sponsored a very special reception to introduce the Cushing Society at Myrt Rose's home this past March. Donations of \$10,000 or more to the MIHS Endowment Fund qualify for membership in the Cushing Society. The Fund is governed by the MIHS Finance Committee and is conservatively invested. The corpus of the funds will never be touched, but the dividends paid back to the MIHS will allow us to sustain our mission for generations to come. Gifts to the Endowment Fund can be made through a variety of charitable vehicles. Several qualified MIHS Board and Campaign Council Members can meet or coordinate with you and/or your charitable advisor to discuss what giving option best suits your family and tax plans. All discussions are confidential and are non-binding. If you want more information, please contact either Darcie Guerin (239-389-1041) or Bruce Graev (239-231-2163) Cushing Society Co-Chairmen.

The Windows & Doors to History represent the final phase of completing the Marco Museum – inside and out. As the permanent exhibits are being constructed inside the Museum, the 19 Windows and three doors will also come to life, vividly portraying Marco Island's history from the Ice Age to Modern Marco in an "outdoor exhibit". Working with artists (one artist for each historic period), the Windows on each side of the Museum complex will - just like the exhibits inside the Museum - tell the story of Marco Island's unique history. As of May 15, all but seven windows and two doors have been sponsored. To make history with us and support the CATapult Campaign contact MIHS Enterprise Manager Lori Wagor at thomasandloriw@aol.com.

Thank you once again for helping us CATapult into our future! By the time you hear from us again this fall, we will have started work on our Windows & Doors to History project. We unveiled the "Windows & Doors to History" the crowning project for the Marco Island Historical Museum at an event on April 23 graciously hosted and sponsored by Rene & Tish Champagne (MIHS Board Member).

Pictures left to right: Bonnie and Craig Woodward with Miff and Bill Blair / Gail Fischer, Ed Miracco, Linda Sandlin, Kathy Miracco and Herb Savage / Tish Champagne Greeting Guests with Windows & Doors Artists (left to right) John Agnew, Paul Arsenault and JJ Stinchcomb.



MIHS CATapult Campaign Contributors – through May 15, 2015

By Sally Wolliver

Listed below are our CATapult Campaign Contributors (those who wish to be recognized). If we have accidentally missed your name(s) – please let us know. You can reach us at Thomas M. Wagor tomwagor@ffibank.com or Paul Tateo paul@mymarcoisland.com

MIHS CATapult Campaign Patrons

Rene and Tish Champagne & Bob Sargeant

MIHS Annual Fund 2014-2015 Donors

The MIHS Annual Fund was conducted to provide early support for our CATapult Campaign efforts. We are grateful for all support received and most proud to note that the first gifts into the Campaign came from our Board Members. The entire Board has donated to 100 percent to the CATapult Campaign.

Anonymous

Bilbrey, Valinda & Kenneth

Champagne, Rene & Teresa

D'Onofrio, Gene & Ann

Egizio, Philip

Everitt, David & Ellie

Finlayson, John & Ginger

Henderson, Lee & Dottie

Horizons Companies, Paul Tateo

Johnson, Glen & Lavonne

Letham, Meredith

Linman, Kelly & Jan

Berge, Heidi

Brown, T.J.

In memory of Jack Crutchfield

Donovan, Harry & Fran

In memory of Paul Eklof

Ferrier, Donald Ray & Anne Mae

Gentry, J.A & Traute

Hofving-Goodman, Elizabeth J.

Hunt, Kathryn

Johnston, Barbara & Doug

Little Bar & Restaurant

McGilvray, Bette & Josselyn, Steve

In memory of Mary Helen & Jerry Masters

Anonymous

Anonymous

Roberts, Steve & Carole

Sandlin, Alan & Linda

Wagor, Tom & Lori

McCarthy, Elizabeth

Miracco, Kathy

Passidomo, Kathleen

Rutledge, Ronald & Patricia

Tyson, Bill & Priscilla

Woodward, Craig & Bonnie

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Moore Roofing

Raymond James, Darcie Guerin Vice President, Investments & Marco Island Resident Branch Manager

Windows & Doors to History Leadership Gifts

Anonymous

Rene & Tish Champagne

(continued on next page)

MIHS CATapult Campaign Contributors – through May 15, 2015 continued:

Doug & Margaret DeCamp
 George & Carole Engstrom
 David & Ellie Everitt
 Gail Fischer
 John & Ginger Finlayson
 Scot & Pat Kaufman
 Sonja Laidig
 Ric & Julie Maly
 Myrt Rose
 Mary Jean & Oliver Travers Family

Special Grants/Restricted Gifts

Dick & Mimi Bitzan Family Fund of the Central Minnesota Community Foundation
 Island Country Club Charitable Foundation
 Marco Island Woman's Club

Cushing Society

Gail Fischer
 Jon & Sonja Laidig
 Glen & Lavonne Johnson
 Alan & Linda Sandlin
 Bill & Karen Young



From the Treasurer and Finance Committee of the MIHS:

With this article being the first published by the Finance Committee for the MIHS Newsletter, a logical place to start would be in describing the role of the Committee. Simply stated, the “Finance Committee provides financial oversight for the MIHS.” Typical areas of oversight would be (1) budgeting and financial planning, (2) financial reporting, (3) the monitoring of internal controls and accountability practices and (4) overseeing the investment portfolio.

Budgeting and Financial Planning would involve developing an annual operating budget, monitoring adherence to the budget, setting long term financial goals along with funding strategies to achieve these goals, developing multi-year operating budgets that integrate strategic plan objectives and initiatives and presenting all financial goals and proposals to the Board for review and approval.

Financial Reporting would involve developing useful and readable report formats and a list of desired reports noting the level of detail, frequency, deadlines and recipients of these reports, i.e., mainly the Board. These reports should clearly communicate such areas as the MIHS’s financial and cash position, its adherence to budget, its allocation of resources toward the accomplishment of its mission and its support of donor imposed restrictions on contributions.

Internal Controls and Accountability Policies would involve creating, approving, and updating policies that help ensure that the assets of the MIHS are protected; ensuring policies and procedures for financial transactions are documented in a manual; and ensuring approved financial policies and procedures are being followed. Although the Board carries fiduciary responsibility for the MIHS, the Finance Committee serves a leadership role in this area, making sure appropriate internal control procedures for all financial transactions are documented. The Committee also plays a role in determining and updating bank account signatories as well as overseeing that all legal and governmental filing deadlines are met. The Finance Committee is also charged with ensuring compliance that further serve to protect the MIHS and manage its exposure to risk. These other areas include establishing policies surrounding: personnel, contracts and leases, internet use, software and hardware applications, computer security, capital purchases, insurance requirements and reviews, record retention, gift acceptance, disposition of donated stock and other non-cash gifts, reviewing museum gift shop pricing and RHA rental rates, etc.,.

The **MIHS Investment Portfolio** is reviewed periodically by the Finance Committee and its independent investment advisor for the purpose of evaluating the appropriateness of its asset allocation, objectives, investment results as compared to benchmarks and time horizon given existing market conditions and the short and long term economic needs of the MIHS.

The above is just a general overview of the duties and responsibilities of the Finance Committee. In coming Newsletters, we will be more specific with our current task list and projects being worked on.

As you read through this article, you can see that the MIHS has a fully engaged Finance Committee which is a strong indication that the MIHS is committed to good stewardship and is actively building and preserving the financial resources necessary to support the accomplishment of its short and long term goals and objectives in becoming a world class museum.

Gene D’Onofrio

Treasurer

Members of the Finance Committee: Pat Rutledge, Paul Tateo, Lori Wagor, Tom Wagor, Sam Miloro, Darcie Guerin and Gene D’Onofrio

MIHS Welcomes Summer Intern Alissa Mittl



Hello! My name is Alissa Mittl and I will be interning for the MIHS at the Marco Island Historical Museum this summer. I am a senior at Florida State University double majoring in Art History and Studio Art. I will be helping Austin organize the museum's archives. I also hope to learn about how the museum functions and aid in exhibition set up. I hope to someday work in museum exhibition design so this opportunity is very exciting! Come by and visit me during regular museum hours, I will be here through June. I would love to talk with you!

A Fond Farewell

Austin Bell, Curator of Collection

If you haven't been by the museum lately, you might want to stop in and say your "goodbyes" to an old friend. The Linotype machine, which has been on display in the lobby practically since the museum first opened, will be going back to its place of origin at the Naples Daily News. It will be used to educate and entertain visitors to the newspaper's sparkling headquarters on Immokalee Road, which opened in 2009. I am excited that this important relic will be fully appreciated in a context more relevant and appropriate to its history. It often went unnoticed to our museum visitors, and aside from exuding the "cool factor," did not tie in to our local history or mission. It will also open up space for improving the visitor experience in our lobby area. So, if you haven't already, come by and snap a "selfie" with the Linotype – before it's too late!



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you are in need of the services they provide.
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