



MIHS

Marco Island Historical Society

Rediscovering Yesterday

Celebrating Today

Preserving It For Tomorrow

Fall 2016

Marco Island Historical Society Celebrates the Herbert R. Savage Bridge Naming

By Pat Rutledge

As a prelude to the monthly Marco Island Historical Society meeting and program, a special celebration was held to mark the renaming of the Smokehouse Bay Bridge to the Herbert R. Savage Bridge. Members and guests of the Society joined Herb and Emily in singing "God Bless America" and cutting a cake that pictured the two of them on the bridge at the dedication ceremony held May 30, 2016 - Memorial Day.

Stepping up to the microphone with words of gratitude and praise for Herb's decades-long contributions to Marco Island were County Commissioner and MIHS Board Member Donna Fiala, longtime friend, Past President of the MIHS and island historian Craig Woodward along with another Past President of the Society, Alan Sandlin.

Pat Rutledge, President and Executive Director of the MIHS told Herb, Emily and the group how proud the Historical Society was to partner with Craig Woodward and submit the proposal to the city to recognize Herb in this important manner. "Herb Savage is an icon of Marco Island and a living member of the rich history that the Society represents" said Rutledge. "We are enormously grateful for all of his accomplishments."



President's Letter – Fall 2016 MIHS Newsletter
 Pat Rutledge
 President and Executive Director



Though the calendar tells us that Fall is right around the corner, it is still very summerlike in Paradise. The temperatures on Marco Island remain in the 90s and our warm weather pattern of afternoon rains continues. This is a great combination to bring visitors to the Historical Museum for a trip back in time through our 6,000 year history.

To begin my letter, I have excellent news to share. The last available window in our Windows and Doors to History has been sold! The MIHS is very grateful to Jim and Allyson Richards for their purchase of the final Pioneer Era window by artist JJ Stinchcomb. I remain truly humbled by the support of the Windows and Doors sponsors and all of the donors that contributed to the CATapult Campaign and the State of Florida Cultural Endowment Challenge. We are very grateful for their love of Marco Island's rich history.

And as if that weren't enough, the excellent news continues. Our Curator, Austin Bell, received notice from the University of Pennsylvania that our loan application for several of the treasured Calusa artifacts has been approved! Yes, we are half way to our goal of receiving approval from both the Smithsonian Institution and U Penn to return these important artifacts to Marco Island. We expect to hear from the Smithsonian shortly. Just think, when the loaned artifacts are displayed in the Marco Island Historical Museum during 2017-2018, it will be the first time that these amazing pieces have been together since 1896. Imagine that...

As you read in the Summer edition of the MIHS Newsletter, the Pioneer Room permanent exhibit is well underway. In just a few short months, you will be able to time travel again with us to an era when mosquitos ruled and meet people like Tommie Barfield, the Olds Family, the Colliers, the Burnhams, the Doxsees and all of the other intrepid pioneers who made Marco Island their home following the Civil War.

Now, you may be wondering what we will do to celebrate all of these marvelous successes. Well, for starters we will be opening the original artwork of the seven fabulous artists who are creating the Windows and Doors to History. Yes, even before the outdoor gallery is installed you will be able to see the images displayed in the Museum's Sandlin Gallery beginning November 10, 2016. Then, on January 17, 2017 we will hold the grand opening of the Pioneer Room so please be certain to mark your calendars for the completion of our third and final permanent exhibit hall.

As if that weren't enough, on February 18th, 2017 we will celebrate the installation of the spectacular Windows and Doors to History. The project will deliver a unique and visually stunning presentation of the 6,000 plus years of Marco Island's history.

So, get ready to celebrate our successes and enjoy our accomplishments this Fall. It is because of you, our members, our supporters and our friends that the Marco Island Historical Society continues to deliver on its mission to preserve and to share the history and heritage of Marco Island and the surrounding community.



WINDOWS & DOORS TO HISTORY LORI WAGOR



We are receiving some of the completed canvases from our W&D's artists and wanted to share a "sneak peek:" behold "Tommie Barfield" and the amazing talent of Malenda Trick. Indeed, we have a group of renowned artists that are producing an array of world class artwork that will bring history alive in a one of a kind outside gallery.

And speaking of history, we will be the feature article in the commemorative edition of the Marco Magazine with 5,000 copies produced. We will also be featured in eBella and numerous other local magazines thanks to Paula Robertson, our PR person and Pat Rutledge.

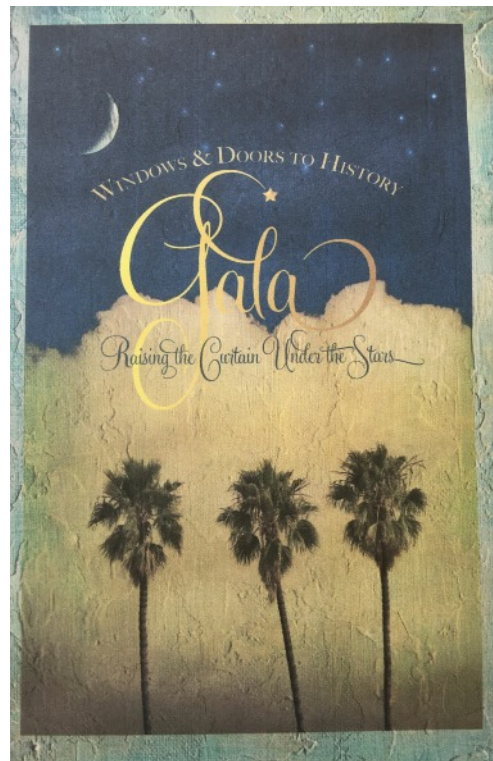
W&D's GALLERY OPENING

Please mark your calendars for November 10th, when the MIHS will host a reception to debut all the original artwork of the W&D's in the Sandlin Gallery. All of these canvases will ultimately be transformed into amazing lifelike panel images that will surround the Museum in 24 windows and doors.

GALA CELEBRATION FEBRUARY 12, 2017

The word "Gala" means a night of celebration and we have much to celebrate. Indeed, we are putting out the red carpet for an evening of fine dining, great entertainment, dancing, andthe unveiling of Windows and Doors to History! It will be a special night in celebration of our accomplishments and all the dedicated individuals that have made the MIHS what it is today.

Please join us in this "Gala Celebration" as we salute our successes and mission to keep our history alive!



B. Elaine Michaelis
MIHS Publicity Coordinator

Pokemon Takes Over Museum

Close to 170 people came to the Pokemon Lure Party held recently at the Marco Island Historical Museum; most of them were there to catch the virtual creatures or “pocket monsters” inhabiting the Museum’s building and grounds. The popular application is the latest development in the Pokemon craze, which began in the ‘90s as a Nintendo game and trading cards, and has been downloaded by millions, both young and old, on smart phones and tablets all over the world. “Not only is Pokemon a fun and easy-to-learn game,” says Lisa Marciano, Museum Manager at the Naples Depot Museum and organizer of the event, “but also it gives family members, no matter how old they are, an excellent opportunity to bond over a shared activity.”



Aidan and friend try to teach dad, Jim Karl, how to play Pokemon.



The elusive Pokemon



Jennifer Perry, Museum Manager, with her children Hannah and William



Tanglo hides amidst ancient artifacts



Francesco Angeles, Jr. captures a Pokemon



Pokemon is not just for kids



The Plummer family ready for an afternoon of fun!



Roy and Kory collect prizes after the scavenger hunt

Museum News
Jennifer Perry, Manager

Big things are happening at the Marco Island Historical Museum!

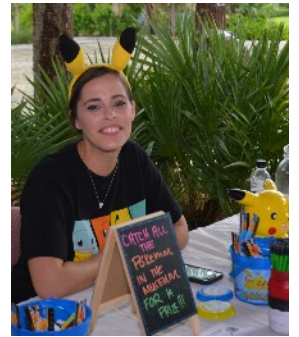
News of Events & Exhibits

City of Marco Island: Camp Mackle

The Marco Island Historical Museum played host to not one but TWO Summer Camp Mackle visits. We had an amazing attendance (136 total guests) and we thrilled the campers and the city staff by offering fun points of history, activities, crafts and a tour of the museum given by our wonderful docent crew: Louise Russell, Mary Bryan, Karen Brieger and Cindy Crane. A BIG thank you goes out to the Marco Island Historical Society Staff, the Collier County Museum Staff and all the volunteers that helped on the front lines and behind the scenes!

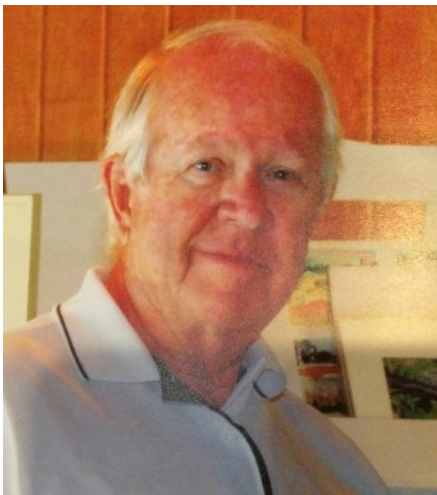
Pokemon Lure Party

Another successful event held this summer at the Museum was our "Pokemon Go" Event. If you aren't familiar, it is the latest downloadable app craze for young and old alike. It is a free-to-play, location based reality game. On Saturday, August 6th, we hosted a special day where our visitors could find and catch Pokemon figures, enter to win their very own Pokemon creature and participate in a Pokemon inspired museum scavenger hunt. Special thanks goes out to Lisa Marciano who helped dream up this fantastic event.



Art Exhibit

New to our traveling exhibit space this month is work by artist William Ward Moseley. The exhibit is titled '**Here and There**' and will run from August 2nd through October 29th, 2016. Mr. Moseley is recognized throughout the United States for his bold and brilliant paintings. He has received more than one hundred awards for his realistic, impressionist style artwork. And as the title implies, it will be a collection of work showcasing Mr. Moseley's extensive travels.



News on the MUSEUM CAMPUS

Last but not least . . . the Museum Campus has seen many improvements in the last several months. We unfortunately had to remove the large strangler fig tree near the water feature, due to its invasive nature, however the pond is thriving. Brand new landscape lights were added to enhance the beauty of the grounds. You can expect more "improvements" in the near future and the museum staff will continue to work towards exceeding expectation!

Once again thank you for your continued support of the Marco Island Historical Museum! We are close to achieving a 5 star rating on TripAdvisor which is a testament that this is and always will be a world class Museum!



Upcoming Events BJ Henning

September 6 Cynthia Barnett **The Blue Water Revolution**, "An Water ethic for America and Florida" With shared water ethic, Americans and Floridians can live well with water today, in ways that do not jeopardize fresh clean water for our children, ecosystems, and businesses tomorrow.

October 4th Rachael Kangas **"Who made the Everglades?"**

November 1 Roger Smith **"American Revolution, the best kept secret and why Florida mattered"**

December 13 Holiday luncheon and Business Meeting

We have an exciting new year coming up with major, popular speakers

Katie Manley
Curatorial Assistant

One of the challenges museums face is how to store various types and sizes of objects in a safe and efficient way. Personalized storage systems can be costly, so often times it's left to the museum staff to think of and create unique systems that will accommodate their storage and object needs. One of the initial concerns with our collections storage was how to properly store framed objects and how to better utilize the storage racks in the vault. Thankfully, we came up with a system that addressed both!

In museum collections, it is typically better for framed objects to either be hanging or standing upright. Laying and stacking framed objects flat on a shelf not only puts pressure on the frame, but also takes up a lot of prime storage space. Using our pre-existing shelving unit in the vault, I created a system that could be inserted onto the shelves and could house upwards of 40 framed objects per shelf, depending on the size.

The system was created out of (what museums call) blueboard. This acid-free, corrugated board (a lot like cardboard) comes in large flat sheets and is used in museum collections to make boxes and other storage containers. I first cut pieces of blueboard to lay on the bottom of each shelf to create a flat surface and from there I cut several dividers. The dividers were hot-glued onto the flat base and are held upright by zip-ties. Voila! A budget-friendly storage system that safely houses our framed objects while efficiently using the vault storage space!

Storage space will always be a concern for museums, and certainly for the MIHS as our collections continue to grow. Part of my job addresses these space and storage concerns and often requires me to think outside of the box. Objects in our collection go through several steps to ensure they're properly documented and tracked, however, it's just as important for museums to assess housing and storage conditions and systems to ensure that the objects will *physically* be safe and preserved for generations to come.



Before



After



After

Conserving Marco's Clamming History

Austin Bell, Curator of Collections

As work continues on the new "Pioneer Era" exhibit (scheduled to debut in January 2017), I am pleased to announce the completion of a related conservation initiative that has been in the works for nearly two years. On February 9, 2016, the Collier County Museum (CCM) formally transferred a dredge fragment and large steam retort, two important items from Marco Island's clamming industry, to the Marco Island Historical Society (MIHS). The transfer was the result of conversations between the CCM and the MIHS dating back to November 2014. Both organizations agreed that the items would be best utilized on permanent display in the Marco Island Historical Museum's pioneer exhibit. The steam retort was originally donated to the CCM in Naples by the Doxsee family of Marco Island. It sat outside for decades both prior to and after its donation, causing significant decay. The retort was one of several at the Doxsee Clam Factory in Marco, Florida, which operated from 1911 to 1947. The pressurized steam-heated retort was invented by A.K. Shriver in 1874 as a way to preserve perishable food. Commercial factories used retorts to sterilize hundreds of cans simultaneously by superheating their contents. A 1928 newspaper article describes the retorts at the Doxsee clam factory as "the best obtainable."

The clam dredge fragment was originally donated to the CCM in Naples in memory of Philip C. Morse. The clam dredge, invented by W.D. Collier in 1908, revolutionized the clamming industry on Marco Island. The dredge was centered in a large wooden barge and extended below the surface to a depth of up to 12 feet, where it dislodged clams from the mud and sent them up a conveyor belt to workers waiting inside the barge. According to its donor, this piece was used during the process of sorting and loading clams into the barge.

Years of exposure to the elements caused significant rust and decay to both objects. Professional conservation was required in order to make them suitable for display. The MIHS, with the support of a grant from the Island Country Club Charitable Foundation, funded their stabilization and conservation. Conservation work was performed by Lighthouse Lamp Shop, Inc. in Port St. Lucie, Florida and completed on May 23, 2016. The items were then delivered to Creative Arts Unlimited (our exhibit designers and fabricators) in Pinellas Park, where they will remain until the exhibit is ready to install. When that happens, the objects will complete their long roundabout journey back to Marco Island, where they originated decades ago.

The items have been incorporated into the new exhibit's design and will be on permanent display in a special "cage" in the "Clamming Industry" section. Needless to say, it has been a long but fortuitous road for these important objects, which will benefit from finally being under cover in a climate-controlled environment. By conserving, preserving, and exhibiting these items at the Marco Island Historical Museum, the successful collaboration between the CCM and the MIHS will allow new generations of Marco Islanders to appreciate and learn about Marco Island's fascinating pioneer history.



Marco Island native, Cheyene Naftal standing next to the steam retort before it was donated to the CCM in the 1990's (MIHS Archives)



The steam retort on the grounds of the CCM in Naples, sunken into the ground up to eight inches after sitting in the same spot for two decades.



Blasting the steam retort with fine sand to remove soil and surface contaminants.



The fully conserved steam retort after being coated with rust converter and clear sealant.



Rendering of the steam retort and dredge fragment in the new exhibit.

Susan Pernini MIHS Administration Coordinator

In the 21st century, museums have become aware of the problem of hidden collections and membership tracking and must seek computer technology to make these collections available to our community as well as internally tracking our membership. The Marco Island Historical Society is stepping into the 21st century by utilizing the membership and collections resources that the PastPerfect database provides.

PastPerfect Museum Software is a software application for collections archiving. It is designed for museums, but may be used by various institutions including libraries, archives, and natural history collections. PastPerfect allows for the database storage of artifacts, documents, photographs, and library books as well as membership information.

The MIHS is diligently working on converting and recording all of our data to PastPerfect. Once completed, we will have digitized every aspect of our collection and membership records. We will be able to utilize the numerous list management tools including, a place to store names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses, and it enables us to record campaign pledges, donations, membership dues, volunteer hours, and biographical information, as well as tracking object donations & object catalog records.

As I reflect on my first year at the Marco Island Historical Society – and the work ahead of us in the years to come – I'm excited about the Historical Society's future. The MIHS is demonstrating that preservation is not about the status quo, but embraces both continuity and change that is required for a sustainable future.

We have much to do. I hope you will continue to support the Marco Island Historical Society – with your time, your talents, and yes, your donations. We only succeeded because we've had people like you working to build upon our efforts over the past years. Going forward, I have every reason to believe that together we can continue to grow and become even bigger and better in the 21st century.



View from the CATapult Campaign – FALL 2016

Dear MIHS Friends,

We have had another great quarter, with lots of exciting news to report.

AND THEN THERE WERE NONE!

Through the efforts of our President/CEO Pat Rutledge and our President Elect Bruce Graev, the last Pioneer Window has been sold!! THAT is very exciting to hear to be sure. So far we have raised \$1,074,000.00.

So where do we stand with the CATapult Campaign, you ask? Well there is more wonderful news! The MIHS is down to the last \$126,000 left to raise to meet our goal. The final phase of the CATapult Campaign is now upon us! The Campaign Council has been working hard on plans for the Public Phase of the Campaign which will be rolled out sometime late in the fourth quarter of the year. We will be offering the public a limited number of giclées and other quality MIHS branded pieces in return for a donation to the Campaign. Stay tuned for more news on the final phase of the CATapult Campaign!

CAMPAIGN COUNCIL'S WORK IS ALMOST COMPLETED!

So, what happens next you ask?

Sometime in the next two months, the Council will be putting plans in place to create a permanent Fundraising Committee. The focus will most likely shift from funding the return of important artifacts back to our Annual Campaign, Corporate Partner program, and most importantly our Endowment Fund.

The successful Endowment Challenge that we shared with you last Newsletter is a prime example of the type of fundraising the Committee will be focused on moving forward. We have already begun the process of exploring ways to build the Fund to the point where it can be the foundation (no pun intended) of our financial future!

THANK YOU!

Although the Campaign Council's work is not *quite* finished, this may very well be the last edition of the Council's report for the Newsletter. So Paul and I would like to take this opportunity to convey a very heartfelt THANK YOU to the members of the CATapult Campaign Council. They have all worked tirelessly to reach our \$1,200,000.00 goal and he and I very much appreciate the wonderful contributions each of them has made to our success!

Alan and Linda Sandlin, Bruce Graev, Cherry Smith, Darcie Guerin,
Kathryn Hunt, Pat Rutledge, Sam Miloro, Tish Champaign, Eugene Donofrio

To our members and readers, a BIG Thank You for your continued friendship & support!

Tom Wagor & Paul Tateo ~ CATapult Campaign Chairmen

Eugene Donofrio
Treasurer

An independent accounting firm has recently completed an **Accounting Audit** of the MIHS for the year ended December 31, 2015. We are pleased to report that the MIHS received an “unqualified or clean opinion” which is what all organizations strive for. These results are a testimony to the staff of the MIHS for a job well done with oversight from the Finance Committee.

An Audit is a systematic and independent examination of books, accounts, documents and vouchers of an organization to ascertain if the financial statements present a true and fair view. It also attempts to ensure that the books of accounts are properly maintained as required by law. As an example, the Florida Dept. of Consumer Services requires organizations or sponsors that receive in excess of \$1,000,000 in annual contributions to have an Audit by an independent certified accountant. Therefore, Audits provide 3rd parties assurance that the information is free from misstatement. As a result of an Audit, the organization will effectively evaluate and improve the effectiveness of risk management, control and the governance process over the information.

It is that time of year when the leadership of the MIHS finalizes plans for the upcoming year via the creation of the **2017 Operating Budget**. Though much of this work was conducted during the strategic planning process, the purpose of budgeting at this point in time is to (1) forecast income and expenses (2) establish a tool for decision making and (3) allow for a means to monitor business performance. Budgeting is a critically important part of the business planning process. We need to be able to predict whether we will operate at a profit or loss. The budget will provide a model of how the Museum might perform if certain strategies, events and plans are carried out. The budget will provide a framework for the decision making process. When managing a business responsibly, expenses must be tightly controlled. Finally, the budget will enable the actual business performance to be measured against the forecasted business performance.



The members of the Marco Island Historical Society and the Marco Island community, as well as visitors to our island, thank you all for your most generous support which makes the museum, and all of the activities on the museum campus, possible.

Corporate Partners, Cushing Society and Tommie Barfield Circle Members

MIHS Corporate Partners

A P Builders, Alex Parker

Bill Smith Inc.

The Boat House Motel

The Marco Review

Centennial Bank

CJ's on the Bay

Coastal Breeze

Era Flagship Real Estate, Marv Needles

First Florida Integrity Bank

Gear Promotions

Graev, Bruce Financial Associates

Horizons Companies

Kathryn Hunt Realtor

KJIMS Homes

Little Bar Restaurant

Marco Rock

Moore Roofing

Mutual of Omaha Bank

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

Rogers Wood Hill Starman & Gustason/Scot A. Shepard

Rose Marina

Sherri Morrison Creative Design

The Naples Trust Company

Naples Daily News

Cushing Society (The MIHS Endowment Fund)

Gail Fischer, Jon & Sonja Laidig
 Glen & Lavonne Johnson, Alan & Linda Sandlin
 Bill & Karen Young, Joyce Martindale
 Rene & Tish Champagne, George & Carol Engstrom
 David & Ellie Everitt, Jere & Anne Fluno
 Traute Gentry, Kathryn Hunt
 Paul Tateo, Craig & Bonnie Woodward
 Scot & Pat Kaufman, Oliver Travers

Tommie Barfield Circle Members

Beverly Boltz, Mary Lou Condee
 Ledlie Cruchfeild, Douglas & Barbara Johnston
 John & Patricia Marzula, Bill & Betsy Perdichizzi
 Mary Allyson & Jim Richards, Terry & Arlene Riegel
 Ralph Rodriguez, Alan & Linda Sandlin
 Ray & Mary Ann Tittle, Lionel & Shirley Trebilcock
 William & Pricilla Tyson, Ed & Nellie Adams
 Ken & Valinda Bilbrey, Suzanne Block
 John & Ginger Finlayson, Robert & Judith Higgins
 Kathryn Hunt, Raymond & Louise Jean
 Jean King, Linda Kropp
 Ron & Pat Rutledge, Mary Ann Sarazan
 Cherry Smith, Sally Woliver