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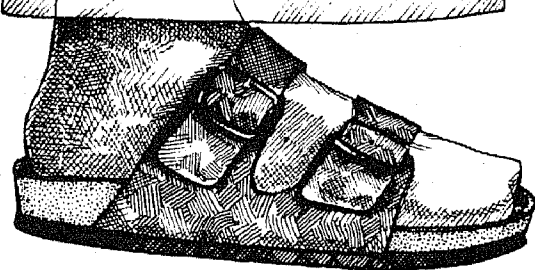
VOL. XIII, NO. 5

KEY WEST, FL

MAY, 1982



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FROM THE EDITOR

WHAT'S HAPPENING? A major development known as Carysfort Yacht Club recently pleaded guilty to illegally clearing 30 acres of hardwood hammock at their building site. What is shocking is that the State Attorney's office waived the restoration provision of the law which states that the violator shall be required to restore the site with native Keys vegetation or other appropriate vegetation as outlined in a restoration plan as approved by the Building Department. The State Attorney's office said that in light of the current revegetated condition of the subject property this part of the law would be waived. This is scarcely a deterrent to pillaging and scarifying on our Keys by uncaring developers. They should be forced to replant as the property was originally wooded.

I KNOW GAIL Matthews, the recently fired meter maid. I believe her when she says that she lost her job because she ticketed the car and truck of a commissioner. The reason given that she was fired because the police department needed to apply her salary toward putting two new men in uniform sounds funny when you read that Gail was ticketing around \$250 a day. It would seem that the city would want to hold on to a revenue-producer like this - the money that she brings the city in fines would more than pay for these new men. Good luck, Gail - I hope that you get your job back at the Civil Service hearing.

WINTER VISITOR ARNOLD Sundgaard dropped by the other day and had some nice things to say about our library. Arnold is a talented writer who recently had the assignment of writing an 85-minute "living newspaper" stage production for the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America. Among the hard-to-find material that our library supplied Arnold were the biography of "Big Bill" Hutcheson, a colorful early president of the union, and a record album of work songs sung by the University of Cincinnati chorus from which he adapted three for his production. We do have a good library.

READ BILL WESTRAY'S editorial about the (maybe) coming development

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horrors in the Upper Keys. Miami Herald columnist Al Burt sounded his alarm at the run-away building going on there; Bill Westray continues to warn us of what is coming unless we get proper planning. The Zoning Department of Monroe County came under deserved fire for permitting so many large developments to proceed unhindered by any concern about what such building would do to us. Removal of "critical state concern" for the county in July seems questionable and no wonder.

MANY PEOPLE HAVE been worried about the Ocean Reef Spur pipeline that F.K.A.A. put in even after knowing that the residents of Ocean Reef, who have their own water supply, would fight against accepting F.K.A.A. service. Now the F.K.A.A. has reached an agreement with Ocean Reef that makes Ocean Reef responsible for paying a pipeline development fee and states they won't have to use this water now. This releases all that water for new development. On top of this it has been discovered that the new pipeline which was designed for a flow of 1.37 million gallons per day can actually carry over double that amount. What a happy coincidence for all those developers waiting with plans for thousands of new units to be built up there.

COMPLAINTS CONTINUE TO come out of the County jail. Fights, guard harassment, roaches, rotten plumbing, lack of soap, etc. This is an odious facility and one of the worst aspects of it is overcrowding. We will keep in touch with this problem and follow-up on it soon.

I HOPE THAT the City Commissioners pay attention to the inspired pleas of the Save Our Shoreline (S.O.S.) group. It is unthinkable to close off our city streets and deed them to private interests. I love going to the Pier House and certainly agree that it is a great tourist and local attraction, but the Pier House doesn't need the end of Simonton Street deeded to it to meet its building requirements. We need our Gulf access, our street, and our beach. Read John Leslie's excellent report on this controversy in our centerfold. *W*

COVER ARTIST THIS month is Roberta Brownell. She will be here this winter with her drawings and paintings.

MORGAN BIRD AND THE OLDEST BAR

BY BUD JACOBSON

MORGAN BIRD AND his glittering entourage of shapely chicks and ruggedly handsome boys opened The Oldest Bar on Greene Street in 1962 and from the start it was a class act--maybe a little Rabelaisian at times, but class, nevertheless.

NOTHING TACKY. SLIGHTLY shocking, however, for those days. The Oldest Bar had an air of glamour and sophistication the likes of which hadn't been seen in Key West. As a result it drew a patronage that was well-mixed, to say the least.

THE HAPPY SUCCESS of the Oldest Bar centered around its owner and his suave personality, the pudgy, gravel-voiced, double-chinned, witty, slightly tipsy most of the time, Morgan Bird. He was the scion of a wealthy family in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., that owned a few random coal mines which produced riches enough to send Morgan to Harvard where he became a shark at the bridge table and a rake in the social whirl of frequent college weekends. It prepared him well for Key West.

TODAY, MANY OF those early patrons of the Oldest Bar are still drifting around, muttering to themselves that their old watering place has changed, turned into a garish, blaring, jukebox/poolroom joint stuffed with gimcracks and tall tales for the tourist. Morgan would have shrugged and rolled his expressive eyes.

After he left Harvard and hung around the coal mining game for some years, Morgan was bored and started looking for some action in a more simpatico atmosphere.

IN LATE 1959 he found himself in Key West and after a look around and a couple drinks he returned enthusiastically to Wilkes-Barre where he declared to Mary Ellen, a dear pal of many years, that he'd discovered their roost-to-be--Key West.

Why, there was even an official sign near the old Coast Guard building that said: Key West Is A Bird Sanctuary. Mysteriously, some months later, the sign disappeared one night only to be found nailed to a wall in Morgan's party-filled house, the old Dewey home, near the shrimp boats, at the corner of Greene and Elizabeth--a propitious neighborhood for that crowd.

MORGAN HAD TASTE and imagination and, at that time, was in Key West at the genesis of the restoration work in the old part of town. Mitchell Wolfson's Audubon House had already been opened; Harbor House and Key West Hand Print were just starting out; carpen-

ters, house painters and the muscle-types were working all over the area making the place look downright fancy.

ENTER DAVID WILLIAMS WOLKOWSKY. David's father had died and left the family with, among other items, most of a block bordered by Duval, Charles, Telegraph and Greene streets. Inside those bounds were such famous



The crew (from left back row): Annette, Mary Ellen, Dodo, Shirlee (partly hidden), Laurie, and 3 unidentified waiters. Front row: Byrd, Danny and friend.

places as Pepe's Cafe, the Duval Club (later The Oldest Bar), a scraggly empty lot on the corner where seedy cab drivers and lovable old winos hung out, and other old frame buildings.

Morgan met David and they hooked up with Dan M. Stirrup, building designer and restoration idea man.

THE DUVAL CLUB was thought, at the time, to have the oldest issued liquor license in town--thus The Oldest Bar. Or so the story went. Actually, according to Peruchio Sanchez, the oldest bar

was the ancient mahogany bar inside Pepe's.

THEY GUTTED THE Duval Club, tearing down walls and opening up dark old recesses. Morgan and Stirrup figured out they'd open up the enormous cistern and turn it into an intimate nook, dimly lighted with a couple of leaning candles. Walls were changed. Old wood and timbers were used. A fireplace, real live and wood-burning, graced one corner. The bar itself was a huge open-well rectangle. Wooden stools surrounded it. Roger Vail, one of the maddest of the local art colony, did a highly colorful mural along one wall, por-

traying a gaggle of drunks, dopers and down-and-outers.

THE PRIZE ROOM, as it developed, was what eventually became known as the "cistern and brethren" room, down a few steps into the concrete coziness of the old cistern. It was the scene for some highly intimate doings, clearly visible to the gasping, heavy-breathing voyeurs at the bar.

On the other side of the bar from the cistern, a garden patio was built

Maureen Leslie 294-5937

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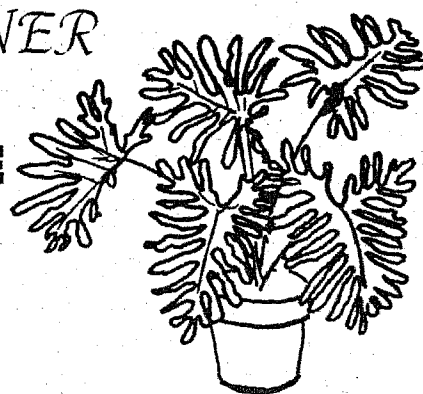
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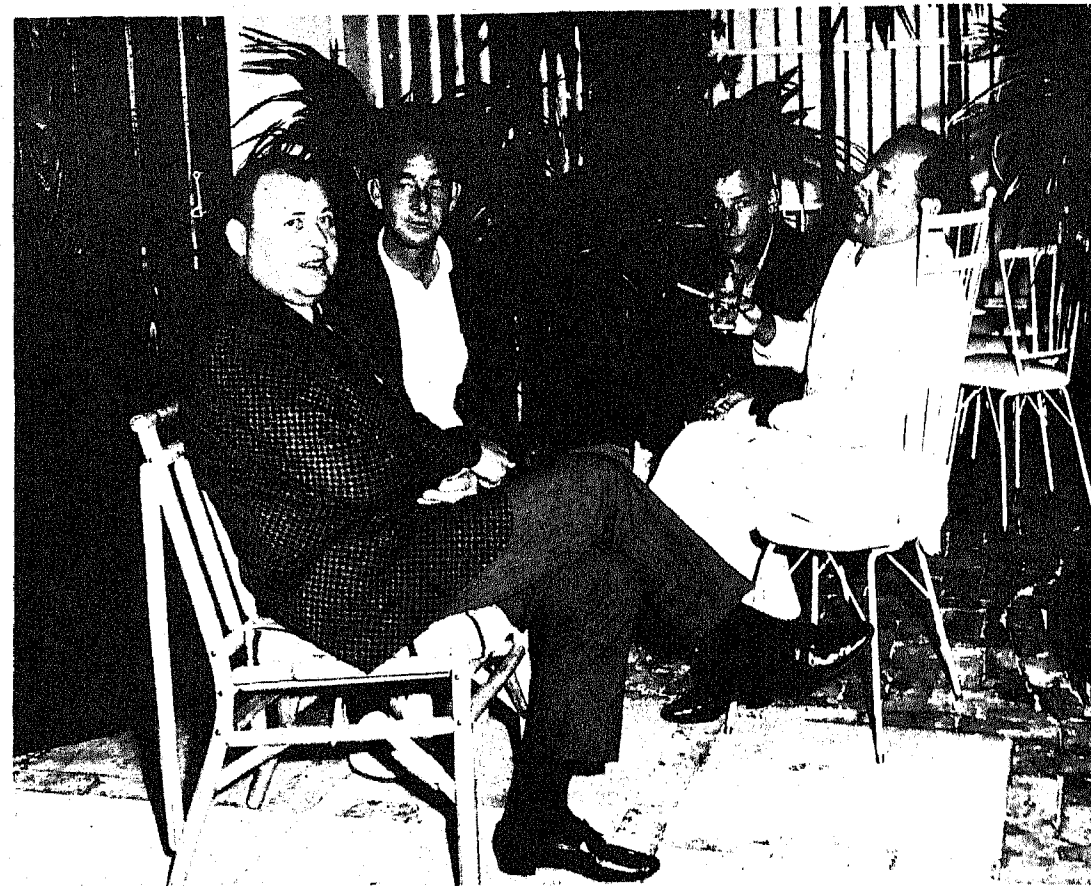
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Byrd (left) with Danny Stihnp, Frank Merlo and Tennessee Williams

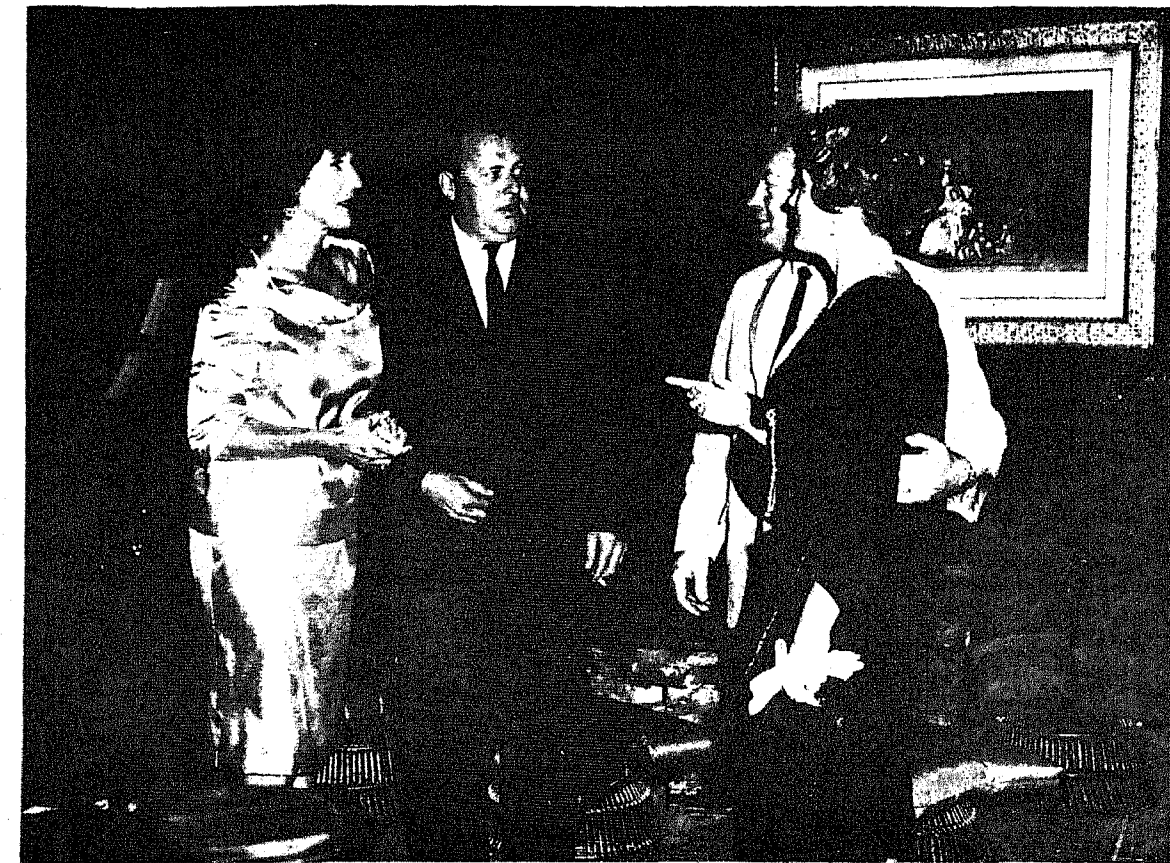
and aptly dubbed the "Conch Out."

AND TO MAKE it perfect, The Oldest Bar was manned by the tastiest and most saucily-clad bartenders ever seen in Key West, up to that time.

Mary Ellen tended bar and sang some fetching ditties; Annabelle, a tall, sultry number, was with her along with one of the daffiest of the gang, DoDo Dangerfield, a lovely, witty, blonde number from Cape Cod, and Laurie, a beauty from Boston.

OPENING NIGHT WAS a celebration that shut down Greene Street. An invitation affair and the invitations were poster-sized. They went out to the Conch 400, all the officials, all "dear and intimate friends," to the campy, the greats, the not-so-greats. And believe it or not, almost everyone was dressed (when they arrived). Artists, writers, poets, lawyers, doctors, playwrights, sculptors—you name it.

IN A VERY short time Morgan's



A glamorous Marion Stevens at opening night with the host and Jim and Bunny Vagnini

Oldest Bar was THE meeting place for cocktails, drinks, for afternoon beer, for the late hours, and Morgan himself was the charming host.

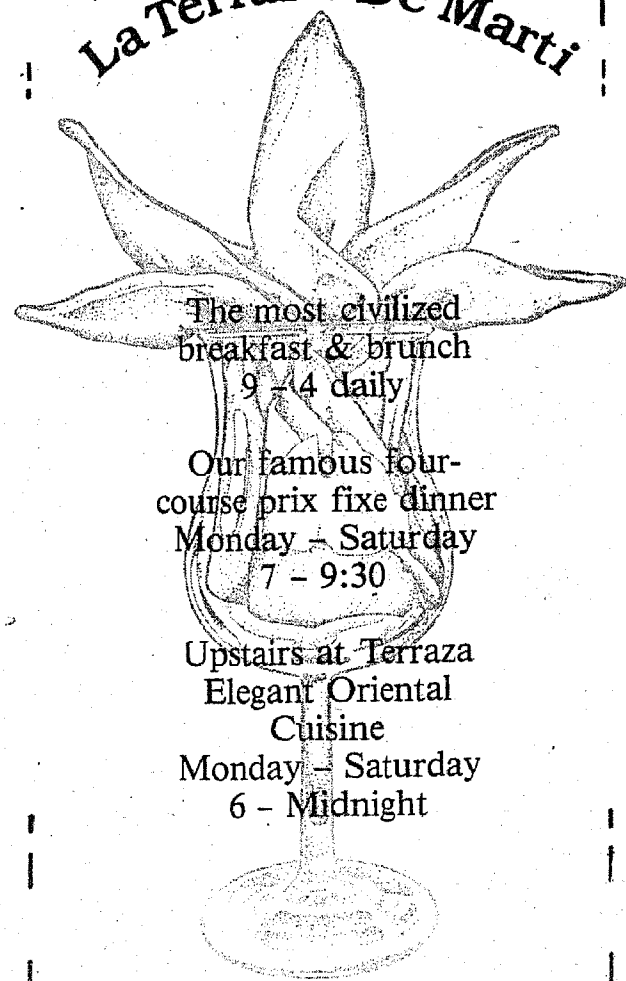
THE FIRST NEW Year's Eve he was in business, Morgan made it a "reservations only" party and closed the doors to the outside.

A couple of his burly, tough-looking pals were posted as bouncers but after several rounds of free booze

they wearied and the doors opened to sailors, soldiers and marines, to the obvious joy of many of the patrons. The delightful French artist, Marie DeMarsan, a well-loved figure here for many years, arrived on horseback and was greeted nonchalantly by Morgan.

"YOU'LL HAVE THE usual, I suppose," he said, "what about your friend?" "Som'f'water, darling, merci," she said in that marvelous throaty accent.

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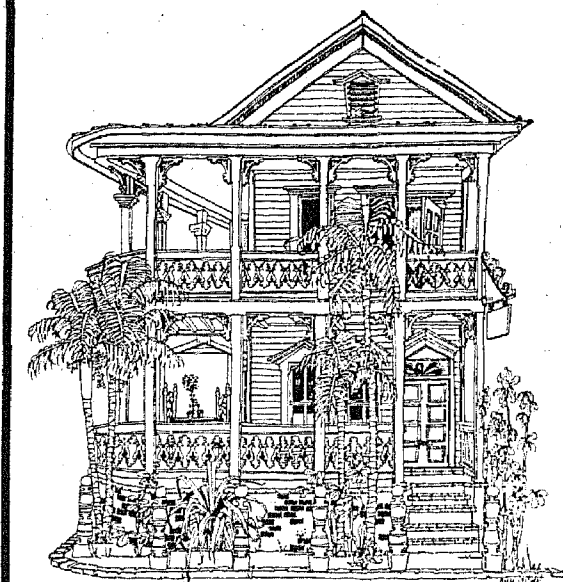
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Two opening night guests admire the Roger Vail murals

IN KEEPING WITH that cool unruffled reputation, Morgan, one summer afternoon while Mary Ellen tended the bar, answered a collect long distance call from the Cape. It went something like this, Mary Ellen recalls:
"Hello. Hm-mmm. Yes. Yes, I see."
Buzz-buzz-buzz on the other end.
"Well, why did they put you in jail? I see. What else? Oh, possession of how much marijuana? Two pounds? What else? Oh, contributing to the delinquency of a minor--do I know him? Anything more? Assaulting a policeman. Well, should I talk to the bondsman? Yes, well, thanks for calling, dear."

THE OLDEST BAR was a magical place for this town for only a few years and then Morgan died suddenly one summer day in Wilkes-Barre.

Mary Ellen called many of her friends here with the sad word. The free, wild, hilarious spirit kind of went out of the place and many of the crazies departed and never were heard from again.



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THE QUAKER'S PEACE Vigil

ON GOOD FRIDAY a group of about 10 Key West citizens demonstrated in a gathered silence with Quakers at Mallory Square for peace. The pamphlet distributed by the Society of Friends stated:

"WE STAND IN Vigil for peace in a world increasingly threatened by an arms race out of control, drifting toward nuclear war. We hear government officials speaking of the possibility of 'limited nuclear war,' as though the unthinkable is not only thinkable, but do-able and win-able.

"LET US BE CLEAR that our lives and our environment, the lives of our children and grandchildren, are in great danger. Let us not be misled by the illusion that national security comes through nuclear weapons. If a

nuclear war comes, 'the living will envy the dead.' No one will be able to distinguish the ashes of one nation from the remains of another."

THE QUAKERS AND their friends, coming and going during the 2-hour vigil, stood peacefully against a backdrop of hot ocean glare. Boats and bicycles and people went by. All who stopped to inquire and sign the petition became part of the vigil. About 150 signed the document to be sent to the president. Every state in the Union (including Hawaii) had such anti-nuclear demonstrations and petitions as well. In Chicago it was reported that 20,000 people demonstrated in a similar manner.

SOME OF THE placards held up, read: "1million per minute for arms," and "Freeze Nu-Clear Arms." One bicyclist rode by nodding approval to the silent ones: "I hear you," he said. Some wore blue armbands and took turns hold-

ing the signs.

IT WAS REPORTED that even the usually loquacious acrobatic performer Will Soto, did his act that sunset in silence.

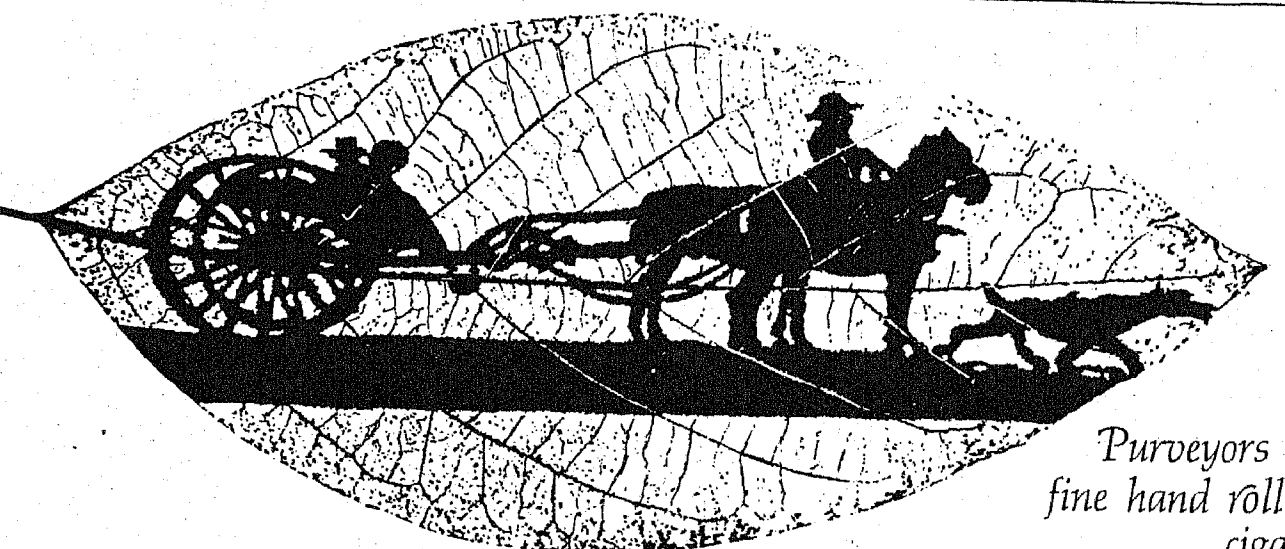
THERE WAS NOTHING to talk about for the peace testimony; but the words need to be voiced. In 1921 the London Yearly Meeting of Friends had then said:

"THE WORLD IS dying for want of peace, and we have been reminded of our duty as a Society and as individuals, to go forth to preach peace.... We desire afresh to record our conviction that complete disarmament is the only road to those relations between nations which we believe to be in accordance with God's will."

THE QUAKERS HOPE to petition further for more names, and invite anyone to join in their worship group on Sundays (10:30 - 11:30) for a gathered silence at 416 Greene Street, upstairs.



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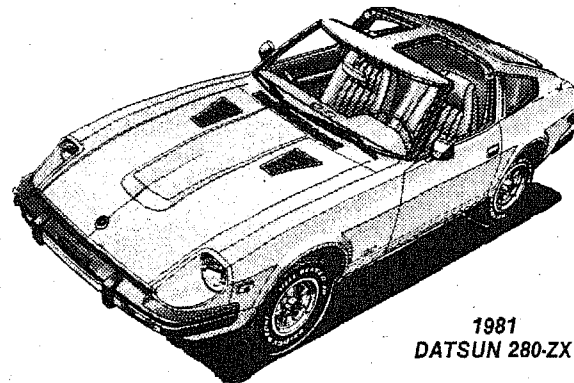


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NOTES AND ANTIC-DOTES

BY DOROTHY RAYMER

(Dorothy is writing about her childhood memories in Florida. This is the fourth part of her series.)

I REALIZE NOW that my grandmother Carrie Raymer née Douthitt was a talented teller of tales. She had a knack for combining true family happenings in story form which was woven into the broader scope of history. I wish now that I had been older when we made the trip from Pennsylvania to Florida in the winter of 1915, so that I could have comprehended more about the background of the stories my grandmother related to me on the long train journey. I was fascinated, even though I was sometimes puzzled about related episodes, and I was blessed with a long attention span plus an almost-total recall.

OF COURSE DURING my early childhood there were only limited sources of entertainment (no TV, only a few movies); a limit to my personal reading ability at that date (I had just had a year of schooling); radio was not a household convenience. So to have an inspired grandmother who loved story telling who was willing, interested, and had leisure time to tell me all sorts of true episodes as well as read to me, was something which I now appreciate fully. Back then I simply delighted in the experience without being aware of how lucky I was at the age of seven to be the beneficiary of traits which once created the troubadours of the Middle Ages.

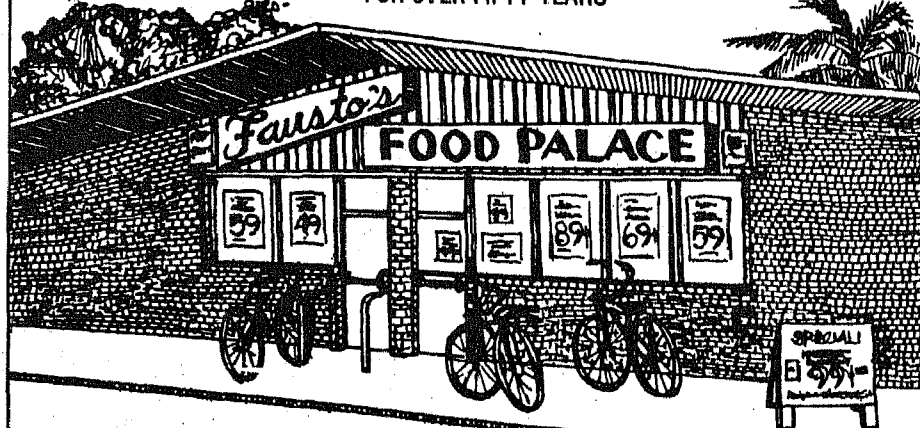
OF COURSE, LITTLE excursions in towns and cities where the southbound train stopped were welcome respite to me as well as to the few other children aboard, and certainly to the adult passengers who got a chance to stretch their limbs (it was still impolite in those prissy times to refer to a person's legs.) Even the appendages of furniture were still often encased in frills and flounces, a hangover from prudish Victorian restrictions. At stations en route, everyone dismounted from the southbound carriages and paced the station platforms, buying roasted peanuts, genuine Virginia ham sandwiches, watery ices and semi-chilled drinks, including cider made from Shenandoah Valley apples. There were some newspapers and magazines on racks, but most passengers bought these from the jaunty newsboys who boarded trains, waving publications, selling them quickly, making change for nickel purchases, or even papers for two cents, before striding on through the cars to leap off while the train was in motion and pulling out of the station.

AT RICHMOND, WE had a slightly longer stay and my grandmother brought out her box-style Eastman Kodak. "I want you to remember this city," she informed me. "It is the capital now of the state of Virginia."

"But why am I to remember it specially?" I asked. "Because Richmond is where Libby Prison was located, in the first years of the Civil War, and it was the source of sorrow and tragedy in the Douthitt family," she added, reminding me that my middle name was Douthitt (pronounced douthitt). "My father's two brothers spent months in Libby Prison. It was once a tobacco warehouse on the fringe of the city. Prisoners starved almost to death and they often died later in their lives, too, because of that terrible imprisonment. I want you to remember this, and never forget it!"

I NEVER DID. I didn't get to hear all of the story right then because my grandma shushed me as I began asking

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questions such as "Why were your uncles in jail? Were they robbers?"

"No, my dear, Robert and James Douthitt, your great-grand uncles, were soldiers. They were captured in battle early in the Civil War, back in 1861, and were locked up in Libby Prison for so long they both got scurvy."

"Well, what's scurvy?" I queried.

"Now you be patient, love, and I will tell you what happened later on, and all about the things that affected the Douthitts, including the three Douthitt boys. But now, we have to go back to our Pullman seats."

INDEED, THE PORTER, the conductor and the brakeman were urging the travelers to return. The long, melodious call, "Alli! Aboard!" sounded, a compelling human clarion, and there was a general rush to climb back on the line of cars before the train rumbled on south.

Once we trundled out of the Richmond area, a publications vendor came through the Pullman selling magazines and my Grandma, an avid moving picture fan, bought one of the slick illustrated "mags" with a picture of a handsome curly-haired man on the cover. He had an impressive face with what was called "sculptured features": broad, high, noble brow; clear, but dreamy, penetrating eyes; a very masculine profile with determined chin. He was attired in an open-throat shirt which revealed a muscular columned throat and a tempting glimpse of muscular torso.

I WAS DISGUSTED when this "moom pitcher" idol engaged all of my grandmother's attention and stymied my hope of hearing the rest of the story about Libby Prison. Just then, in fact, adding to this despair, a young woman across the aisle engaged my grandma in conversation interspersed with worshipful signs and long study with devotion of the visage on the magazine cover.

Murmured the woman in the nearby seat, "Oh, I just ADORE Hobart Bosworth, don't you?" The answer was of course obvious. "Even though I'm in my middle thirties, married and the mother of two little boys down in Jacksonville, Florida."

"I KNOW JUST how you feel," my grandmother confided. "He's my ideal." As for me, I felt somehow betrayed. She and the woman who said her name was Mrs. George Butler, originally from Georgia, exchanged a steady stream of confidences, most of them devoted to comments on movie star Hobart Bosworth. I was deprived of the sequence about the Civil War adventure, at least for the time being.

And time being what it is, the two women chatted on and on. I stared out the window, made frequent trips to the cooler at the end of the carriage and listened half-attentively to the interchange of remarks.

WITHIN A SHORT time my Grandmother, at her request, was being addressed as "Dar Carrie," and Mrs. Butler was being called by her first name, Maybelle.

She did have some gossip to impart which had even me perking up my "little pitcher ears." Little pitchers have big ears, grownups often quoted when children were noticed as listeners.

Mrs. Butler swelled with self-importance as she imparted secret information to my grandmother.

"MY HUSBAND WORKS for a Jacksonville newspaper," she said, "and he has it on good authority that a moving picture company from New York and Long Island is coming down to Florida this week to make some films. The first ones are to be shot in Jacksonville. Let's hope the weather holds ... it's a little cool but it's fair and sunny, and the directors are planning some short features and a longer picture starring Hobart Bosworth. They will be staying at the Seminole Hotel...."

MY GRANDMA GASPED with incredulous wonder. "Oh, how MARVELOUS! That's where my granddaughter and I are to check in when we arrive. We are stopping over for three days before we continue on to St. Augustine and then to Daytona, where we'll put Dorothy in school and spend the winter. Who knows? We might get to see dear Hobart in person at the Seminole or somewhere in Jacksonville!" Carrie and Maybelle exchanged wide-eyed and soulful looks. I made another trip to the cooler, frowning.

There was no partition, no difference in the shared opinions of the North and the South ... the Blue and the Gray blended peacefully in fabric created for the film industry. Emotions, however separated by the War Between the States, were united, blended, shared.

DISGRUNTLED, I STUMPED off toward the water cooler, muttering the only childish "cuss word" I knew, "Gol-Durn that old Hobart Bosworth. I HATE him, I HATE him."

(to be continued)

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Marble Mania

BY PHOEBE REDNER COAN

MAYBE YOU'VE NOTICED the youngsters around town lugging enormous marble bags lately. Let me tell you, marble mania is IN right now--A mostly magnificent obsession of the budding "jet set" of Key West.

Beginnings can be traced back to the old times when clay marbles were used. Now much sought-after by today's collectors, the "antique clays" are cherished relics.

A GREAT POETIC classification has evolved to keep up with the array of subspecies collected. As was told me, there are basically: Bummies (larger marbles), Solids (also known as Woolco Specials), Crystals, Steelies and Pee Wees (cousins to Steelies). New varieties crop up from fanatic traders daily. The hobby, like children themselves, is by no means a static phenomenon.

THOUGH IT IS a simple enough game, one will find in going through a marble sack with an avid player, marbles colorfully dubbed: balunkas, creams, yellow creams, oilies, mind sweepers, black and gold crystals, and from England via John Callahan: London reds, greens, blues, snows and red roseeyes. Also to be prized are scragglies, wine cellars, antique ambers, emeralds, root beers, eyes, German eyes, spaghettiies, bird cages, clouds, swirlies, brain swirlies, half crystals, pin-wheels, ruby contestants, tarbabies, tobacco spit, ovals (they're accidents), checkerds, Halloweens, hornets, bumblebees, blue-violet clears and gold steelies--the latter are rare cousins to steelies. I have also seen one crystal ball, product of Big Coppitt Key where the rage is also strong.

MATTHEW, MY ENTHUSIASTIC six-year-old, who has caught the mania from the older kids, says: "The big bummy swirlies are my best." Crouching and scooting around the rug for long periods, Matt and his sister occupy their time many an evening shooting marbles. The fascination has not dulled and it spices long hot afternoons as well. Kids are always stopping by to show new ones and to confer.

MARBLES ARE A passion with the kids since they seeped into our lives and started taking hold. Even TV is boring in comparison to the shopping and dealing and playing of the game. The trading son Michael claims is the most fun of all. He went out and confidently spent a sizable amount of his birthday loot for a vast supply.

One Harris schoolteacher says she's glad marbles have come back to offset other rougher games. "Maybe there's hope, if the kids are playing marbles again," she chuckles.

The game evokes a lot of reminiscence from onlooking adults. Some things take kindly to the test of time!

SOME OF THE stores are sold out from time to time since the game got popularized. But kids love discovering little out-of-the-way (sometimes secret) stores to buy from. The game can be wild fun (borderline maniacal) once a big shootout for keeps gets going. Sometimes it takes an adult with a kid's heart, and memory of the sport, to officiate. There's Danny on Pinder Lane, who has pointed out many good shots and taken the time to play. "It's still the same game I remember," he says. "We'd win them, and lose them. Nowadays the kids are also more into collecting."

MARBLES CAN GET very competitive. Sometimes the beauties go flying. However, the basic bubbly, bouncy quality of the game usually wins out.

Latania at Harris sells marbles to

kids who don't know where to get good ones and makes a profit, the girls report. Heather reports the girls at Harris have broken into the sport lately. The fun of the game makes it a big thing for them too.

MELISSA ADVISES STRICT concentration when shooting and says she loves ruby reds. Doppler loves swirlies. Mike fancies his London green.

Dops totes a 007-type marble case, "bequeathed by his mom." He refers to a "sand shake" when playing on sand or on a rug and the environment interferes with the roll of the game.

Lots of times the guys will play potsies and draw a circle to put the marbles in. Whoever's closest to the line throws to the circle first. Object of game: to hit the other marbles out of the circle. In so doing, one can gain MORE marbles.

SOMETIMES THE CLOSEST makes rules. These can get laid down very fast, so you have to pay attention if you agree or disagree. For instance, there are acceptable shots like: "highrising," where you shoot from the top of the shoulder down the arm; "Changies" pre-supposes that if you win a player's marbles he can exchange them for those he is less attached to. Then there's "slips" or making a mistake. In "bomb-

ing," you throw the marble down emphatically. "Chickening" is taking a giant step as you shoot. And in "chasies" you shoot at the opposing marbles, until you hit and win. "Snagging" is stealing and occurs when the game gets out of



control. The culprit will usually slip the coveted beauty into his socks.

THE REINSTITUTION OF the game stems from a few kids who decided to take the sport up again and started playing around Horace O'Bryant, Justin recalls. "It just took off from there," and has

caught on like wildfire to the surprised amusement of many adults, who cannot help but be aware of the snowballing enthusiasm aroused.

Some say it's been about a year since the rebirth of marbles became noticed. The stores no longer run out as they did. Now someone's always calling: "Do ya wanna play? I got some new crystals...."

MIKE SAYS HIS most fun is frying marbles and putting them subsequently into icy water to make a "cracked marble" (kiddie diamonds). Kids sometimes coat crystals with nail polish to make oilies.

Some guys have thought of marble clubs. Qualifications are to have a lot of marbles, or have real good marbles, or to be real good at marbles. Some of the girls have even signed contracts to manage each other's marble affairs.

IN THE OLD days, they'd play in the gutters on the way home from school. Today, anywhere will do. You can have a good game solo if you choose ... But, more importantly, marbles make friends!



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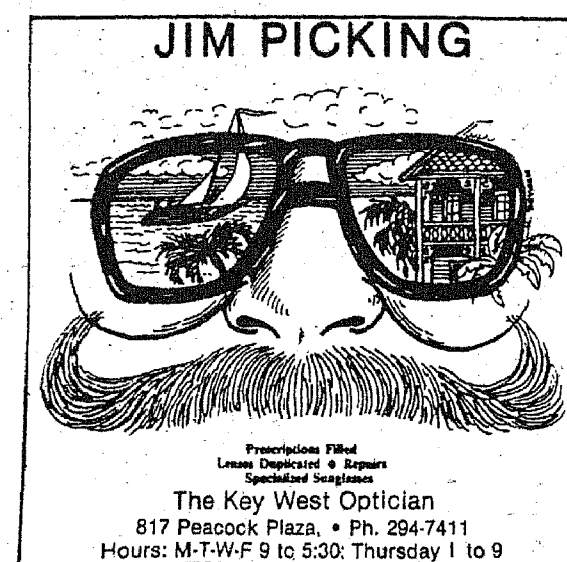


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HERE'S LOOKING AT YOU, MARJORIE HOUCK!

BY FRANCES-ELIZABETH SIGNORELLI

I'VE HAD MY mouth set to write a profile on Somebody High-Minded. Key West is, in part, a retirement community for somewhat immature adults. It's a tank of very odd fish. Dedicatedly sensual or social, everybody seems to be out there relentlessly having Fun, Fun, Fun. I've been hanging in my house like a bat, ticking off a list of candidates who possess scholarship, intelligence, amenity and tolerance, and who are flexible and various in mind. O yes, and she or he must not be a soft liver. And, I chose Marjorie Houck. When I consider the way Marjorie is, I might use this analogy: A room. If it is durably tasteful, it must be good enough to hold its own without plants. Like meat that should be tasty without the gravy. This room won't collapse when you withdraw the inconsequential.

I FIRST LAD eyes on Margie Houck about 20 years ago. Pumping her bike past my house. There she was, a little, insouciant person, trim as a 15-year-old in a drop-dead turquoise-colored pants suit, hat-to-match. I suppose then you could say she no longer had the first blush of youth on her, but, then was now in her seventh decade, there was and is that nuclear vitality. I invited her to tea. She stopped, her filled book bag in the basket, anthracite eyes conjugating on her numerous intellectual pursuits. She is so honest, if she told a little lie you could see it going down her throat. She delivered the line, "I can give you 20 minutes three weeks from yesterday." She and her husband, the Rev. John Houck, lived in a lovely Med-style villa just around the corner from me. Out there on the skirt of the Atlantic, Rev. John took rigorous daily exercises. Arms flew out and in, legs pumped up and down, neck

pivoted left and right.



photo by Jo Ann Savio

HE WAS A famous preacher for 30 years at Pilgrim Congregational Church on the Grand Concourse in the Bronx. The church with the lofty pillars. He was induced to early retirement by Margie who fell in love with Key West when, on a first visit, sunbathing on the roof of La Concha, she heard a clock over under the palm trees strike 12, then 13, then 14.

REV. JOHN LISTENED with a little 3/4 smile while I told on Margie and the invitation. "Yes, Margie is brisk! But, when you have known her for a long time, you will come to appreciate her very much. Wait and see."

I BELIEVE MARGIE'S life follows that great Christian quotation, "Ever run the short way." It's a rule that does away with worry and irresolution and all secondary aims and artifices. Margie's Jack Houck died in '71. But no broken wing act for her. She possesses and she presents to us her oeuvre--

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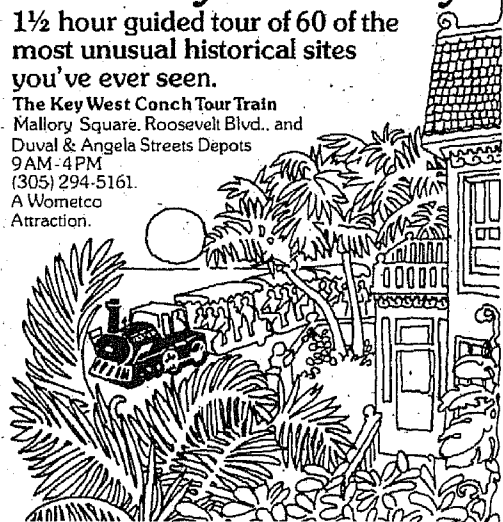
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BIKING PAST ALONG island ways, that straight, little back is nicely saying, "My existence is strictly my own affair." What is her affair? Volunteer, she says to any widow or widower or loner out there. Volunteering will save you.

MARGIE IS A charter star in the nova of Adult Great Books, a venerable organization of the literary-minded which for 23 years has met and exchanged ideas from reading classic writings. Margie was a mover and starter at its inception. The library, for Margie as for most intellectuals, is one wing of her life. She creatively brings into being beautiful exhibits, dolls depicting history or literature, for the library public to enjoy. Margie's stable of book-lovers in the Book Review Club (reviewing Nobel and Pulitzer prize authors) holds forth 10:30 a.m. each Monday. Margie dominates a Shakespearean bunch of aficionados also.

WHEN SHE WAS not Pink Ladying at the hospital, she has been known to be tossing off travel notes for *The New York Times* as one of their free-lancers. And, in her spare time, she teams up with such egghead friends as Emily Goddard and Izzie Bowser in The Bookies. They all put their heads together and enjoy somebody's literary discovery.

MARGIE NEVER was engrossed in the fatal lure of housekeeping. Though with one hand tied behind her, she swings a tight little ship of impeccable engineering. At her prim cottage, it's as if there's a contest between privileged, trivial possessions, and Margie opted in favor of a spare ambience. This home is in an ocean neighborhood, also. "You swim every morning, Margie?" Answer: "Only after my doubles tennis match."

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FRAGMENTS OF EXPERIENCE which might account for her demands upon life -- fineness and scope in the individual and in society: Top Drawer. Daughter of a Connecticut Yankee father (a judge) and a southern Maryland mother, the family, Candee, lawyerly and eminent. Educated (two degrees) at Brown, Barnard and Columbia U., journalism and Elizabethan lit. She saw *The Tempest* in 1925 at the old Shakespearean theatre-in-the-round in Stratford on Avon, which burned in 1926. There she lost her heart to The Bard. She yearly has made countless trips to England to study Shakespeare and to take in the plays. Now, she is writing a book on Shakespeare. She is a tennis champ and an expert skier. During her salad days she was a member of the Wall Street Skiing Club which skied at Stowe, Vt., putting up in cabins costing \$2 nightly, with out-houses.

SHE WAS A writer on many publications--maritime, sporting, sailing periodicals. Her most poignant scoop came during wartime, '42, when at the docks in New York she interviewed a ship's cook who had been torpedoed and stayed afloat 133 days until rescued, staying alive by catching fish with a safety pin and a string, drinking the fresh water to be found in the gills.

SHE TRAVELED EUROPE over, studying art in Florence, Italy. She never missed concerts or other cultural events in New York City, where during one period she talked the Reverend into living with her on a houseboat moored right in Manhattan. She has a son, Dr. John Candee Houck, a biochemist, and five grands, two great-grands.

I CHOSE MARJORIE Houck for my High-Minded notes for her "staying the course" in the tributaries of the mind. For her character of mountain brook clarity. For her own suchness. I believe she would jack us all up considerably in air-headed little old Key West.



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A 'YAR' CRAFT

By Eleanor McKinlay

"AH, BUT SHE was a 'yar' craft," Katherine Hepburn once said in a reminiscent mood, as she spoke softly of a boat she had owned.

SHE WAS ON the stage of the Old Strand Theatre in my home town and I was an awe-struck teen-ager watching her from a third-row seat.

THE WORD 'YAR' was new to me and although it didn't appear in my Webster's Collegiate, I thought I knew what it meant by the way she said it and I've used it ever since when speaking of a favorite boat.

RECENTLY, WE PURCHASED 'The Official Scrabble Player's Dictionary.' On page 655, imagine my surprise upon finding the word 'yar.' It said that it is usually spelled 'yare.' (Her New England accent had thrown me off, all of these years!) Our big Webster's Unabridged gave three meanings of the word. The last meaning was, "responding quickly and truly to the helm: said of a ship, (Archaic)."

I KNEW IT all along!

Since first seeing Miss Hepburn on that stage, I have never missed any of her screen performances. One of my all-time favorites is the "African Queen," and long ago I lost track of the number of times I've seen it.

I KNOW EXACTLY when Humphrey Bogart's stomach is going to rumble and embarrass her brother, the minister. I wait with expectation when Katharine is at the wheel of the ancient vessel as they approach the rapids and see that look of sheer exhilaration which appears

on her face as she negotiates the unbelievably steep descent over the falls. I can't wait until she calls him Charlie, instead of Mr. Alnutt.

AFTER THE COMPLETION of the movie, the African Queen plied rivers in the Northwestern states for many years as a tourist attraction. It is said that Miss Hepburn visited her at one time while she was there. The old boat then came to upper Florida for awhile, before she was purchased by a man in Key Largo.

RECENTLY, THE THIRD annual Stand Up For America Parade was held in Marathon. This year, it wasn't limited to being a mid-Keys affair, for several organizations from Key West participated, as well as the Key West High School Band. The head of the Caribbean Task Force, Admiral McKensie, gave a fine speech on patriotism, also. From the opposite end of our island chain, Key Largo sent a different kind of entry.

AT THE END of the long procession of veterans, bands, floats, military personnel, fire and rescue trucks, Shriners and Scouts, came a battered old boat.

THE OLD BLACK boiler towered over the heads of the marchers as she was slowly pulled by. The original letters of her name are all but obliterated. She is ugly as sin, but I loved seeing her. I could half close my eyes against the brightness of the day and easily imagine Katherine gamely standing at the wheel, while Humphrey was up forward kicking the boiler.

"AH, BUT SHE was a 'yar' craft!"



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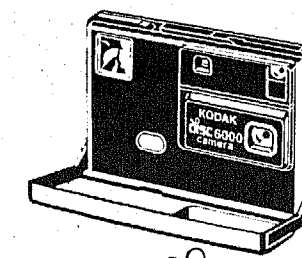


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The Iconoclast

BY JIM KOGAN

IT'S NOT JUST A GAG LINE

THE FRONTIER CHECKPOINT up the road is a display of petty official arrogance but it's more than that. It's potentially serious. Monroe County is now, de facto, foreign territory, outside the US border. Special restrictions apply to people travelling between the USA and Monroe County. They must carry documents--like in Russia or Nazi Germany. And a court decision reportedly said check point operators need not obey Constitutional limits. One minion was quoted, "We don't need warrants,

we have something better." (Guns and crowbars).

IN THE US no law requires anyone to carry documents except to cross its borders inward--e.g. from the Keys or from Cuba (sometimes) and law forbids random search and seizure.

YES, I'VE HEARD the usual lines--over and over for years; this is just one more skirmish in a long-running war. As one of our (their?) Founding Fathers said, the history of human liberty is a continual struggle to keep government in its place.

THERE HAVE LONG been people who think--perhaps sincerely but no matter--that there should be more "control" (by them, usually), that people should not be "allowed" to roam freely over the land, that there should be

internal passports and dossiers and registers and travel permits and that "someone" should know every person's every movement. That is the same mind-set that forbids garden walls and the obvious objection is met with "Decent people have nothing to hide." (Who defines "decent"?) We see repeated efforts to implement the controls.

THE PRESENT CASE offers several cop-outs. One is to fly out and avoid the road block. Or just comply--let them search the car, the luggage, check the documents against a black-list and search pockets. Body cavities, too? Or, us cosmopolites can just write this off as only one county--there are 3,000 more and things like this are not (yet) practiced elsewhere up the shore.

BUT THAT IS no answer. The notion of controls and passports and checkpoints and making travel a deniable privilege is pushed relentlessly by various people in our continent. Let them get away with it and sooner or later we get internal passports and "your papers, please" by any officious cop anywhere and leaving the passports at the hotel and all the rest. Yes, I've seen efforts along this line in various places in the US and, so far, just avoid those areas. This deal is part of a long-running effort to regiment us--like in other dictatorships.

THE RIGHT COURSE for a concerned man is to go up the road as a bus or auto passenger or pedestrian and refuse documents and refuse to be searched--let them make a case of it. I admit to being distressed for I know what I should do and am not yet sure what I shall do when next I go north--I may cop out like most people but at least I know the danger. I did read Jefferson.

I ALSO NOTE, from a more diversified life than most, that the "controller mentality" with its attitudes seems more visible in southeast US than elsewhere (except for a few notorious enclaves). The South still has a lot of stereotype red necks and they support these ideas--even operate them for who else seeks jobs like that?

YES, THERE WAS a tongue-in-cheek scene downtown April 23 but it did not go far enough. They should have taken down the flag on the post-office, closed the income tax office and installed our own border control point on the southbound side of the road--and turned back a few symbolic types like US government employees. (Who does the Sheriff work for?) Maybe I should seek appointment as Ambassador to the USA? Maybe we could sell postage stamps? And the US flag should stay down throughout the Keys as long as we are outside the border--that is not secession; it is recognizing expulsion and it's not worth a war to get back in.

THE POINT IS that a dangerous step toward totalitarianism has been taken--and made jest of. That it is neither new or novel only makes Jefferson's point stronger. Am I the only one who still thinks the way the Founders said they thought?

(The opinions of Jim Kogan do not necessarily reflect those of Solares Hill)



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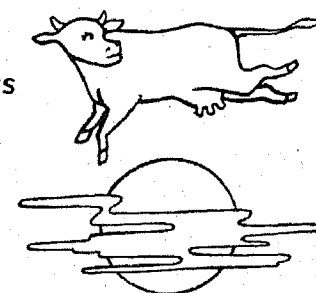
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SIMONTON STREET YARD SWAP

BY JOHN LESLIE

SINCE LAST OCTOBER when a lame duck city commission voted 4-1 to a proposal that would have given the Pier House city-owned land at the foot of Simonton Street behind Key West Handprints, the people of Key West in a massive demonstration of outrage before representatives of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), said no to the terms. Resoundingly no. The city was not getting a good deal, it was not in the public interest to give up this vital property with the city's only Gulf access, and the commission was not representing the wishes of the people.

THE DNR WENT back to Tallahassee and recommended, after several months' deliberation, that rather than invoking a reverter clause which would have stopped the sale cold, the State should follow the desires of the newly elected city commission.

SAVE OUR SHORELINE (S.O.S.) organizers and Key West citizens celebrated a seemingly rare victory.

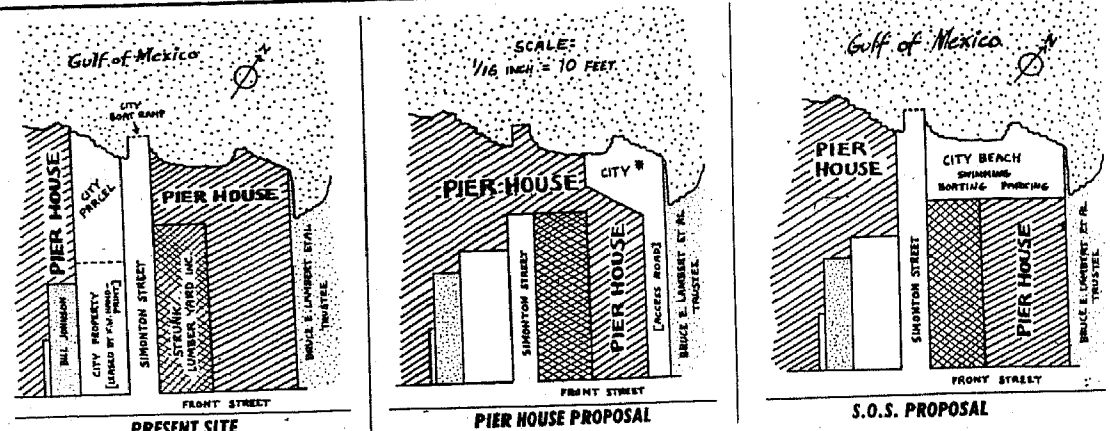
THE NEW CITY commission to a man had campaigned on the promise that they would NEVER give up our Gulf access. One of their first pieces of business as a commission was to ensure that in the future, land sales would not be railroaded through the commission without a public hearing. A referendum would be held before city land could be sold.

SUDDENLY, IN A special session of the city commission on Tuesday, April 6, victory turned sour. The commissioners endorsed a surprise proposal by Mayor Dennis Wardlow, a pro-

positional that would close off the foot of Simonton Street, including the boat ramp and thereby Gulf access. The Pier House would get the land it wanted directly behind Key West Handprints as well as a portion of Simonton Street and the beach front. The city would then get an equal amount of land now owned by the Pier House northward of the Strunk Apartments and ending at the Treasure Salvors' fence. Access to the city property would then be via Front Street along the fence to the

commission (even the two incumbent commissioners seemed to have come round) when suddenly the same commission reverses itself and bends over backwards to help a multimillion dollar out-of-town corporation at the expense of local interests.

THERE WERE CERTAIN conditions in the original tripartite agreement between the Pier House, the city and Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG), an agreement that was designed to inject money into the sagging local economy by providing low-interest federal funds to the Pier House to be repaid to the city. One was that the city would help the Pier House to expand by 125



(These drawings were prepared by the S.O.S. committee using available figures)

water which contains no boat ramp and no adequate beach or swimming area.

IN ADDITION THERE was talk of voting the referendum requirement.

TO MODIFY A phrase, something's weird in the state of local politics. First we have a city commission bending over backwards, it would seem, to rectify the injustices of a previous

additional units. But nowhere within the agreement did it state that the city was required to give up land for that purpose. (In an aside recently to this reporter, City Manager Robert Bensko noted that the land the Pier House would be getting, behind Key West Handprints, would be insufficient for building the 125 units as required by contract. He added that he did not feel that UDAG

would hold the loan recipients to that particular contractual requirement, a rather surprising comment given the stipulation to the agreement mentioned above.)

THE ORIGINAL FUNDS from UDAG were released in December 1980 to the tune of \$1.1 million. The money should stimulate the local economy by providing tax revenue to the city plus creating 70 permanent, low to moderate income jobs through the expansion of the Pier House.

ANOTHER STIPULATION of the loan earmarked \$200,000 for the city for badly needed repairs to streets in the downtown area. To date, not a pothole has been filled on the worst sections of Front and Simonton. Repayment of the loan to the city at \$76,000 a year for twenty-five years would provide additional revenue to be used solely for the purpose of making capital improvements to the downtown area. However, repayment, other than a 7% p.a. interest, would not begin until the Pier House expansion was complete. Contractual deadline for completion is August 1, 1983.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH the deal, then? Why is it objectionable in its present proposed form to local residents?

THE S.O.S. CITIZENS Committee states its objections quite clearly:

1. The property that the Pier House would gain is far more valuable because of its location and condition than the remotely situated, debris-filled site the city would receive for the public's use.
2. To sell a city street to private enterprise is a very dangerous precedent...we could end up living in a walled city.
3. The waters off the proposed site that the public would have to use are dangerous to boaters and hazardous to swimmers. The cost of cleaning and grading the Pier House site--just to equal the present condition of the city parcel--would cost thousands of dollars. If the city must also pay for replacing the boat ramp, dock, and street, the cost becomes prohibitive.
4. To block off one of our last views of the Gulf would be like putting a billboard in front of the Grand Canyon. Scenery is public domain.

WITH REGARD TO point 3 above, William J. Schwicker, Jr., a state certified general contractor and a construction estimator for forty years, twenty-one years as chief estimator for Charley Toppino & Sons, now retired, recently made a visit to the disputed Simonton Street property and did some figuring. The results of his calculations showed, "From a strictly business point of view, the city is actually losing 20% of the usable area and absorbing a \$280,000 bill to put the Pier House land on an equal footing with the city parcel. All this ostensibly to help private enterprise receive a loan with favorable interest rates...Frankly, I am amazed that you (city commission) even contemplate this swap."

IN THE PAST the land in question was appraised at \$169,000 by an appraiser hired by the Pier House. This figure was hotly disputed by S.O.S. as being too low. It should be pointed out that appraising is an art and not a science, that two different appraisers looking at the same piece of ground will, in all probability, come up with two different values according to what purpose the land is being appraised. That would seem to be a strong argu-

ment in favor of more than one appraisal being done for the negotiators over a piece of property to determine if there are major discrepancies; rather than one appraisal by the purchaser which could reflect his interest only.

BASED UPON THE 1981 tax assessment for the property, city property is valued at \$258,295. Pier House property is valued at \$104,613 total, a loss to the city of \$153,682 on land value alone if the land-swap proposal were to go through.

LIKE BILL SCHWICKER, the S.O.S. committee is not anti-development. It seems to be a reflex symptom of our local politicians to charge all who are not in favor of every single issue proposed with the "anti" epithet, the sort of philosophy that says, "if you're not for us, then

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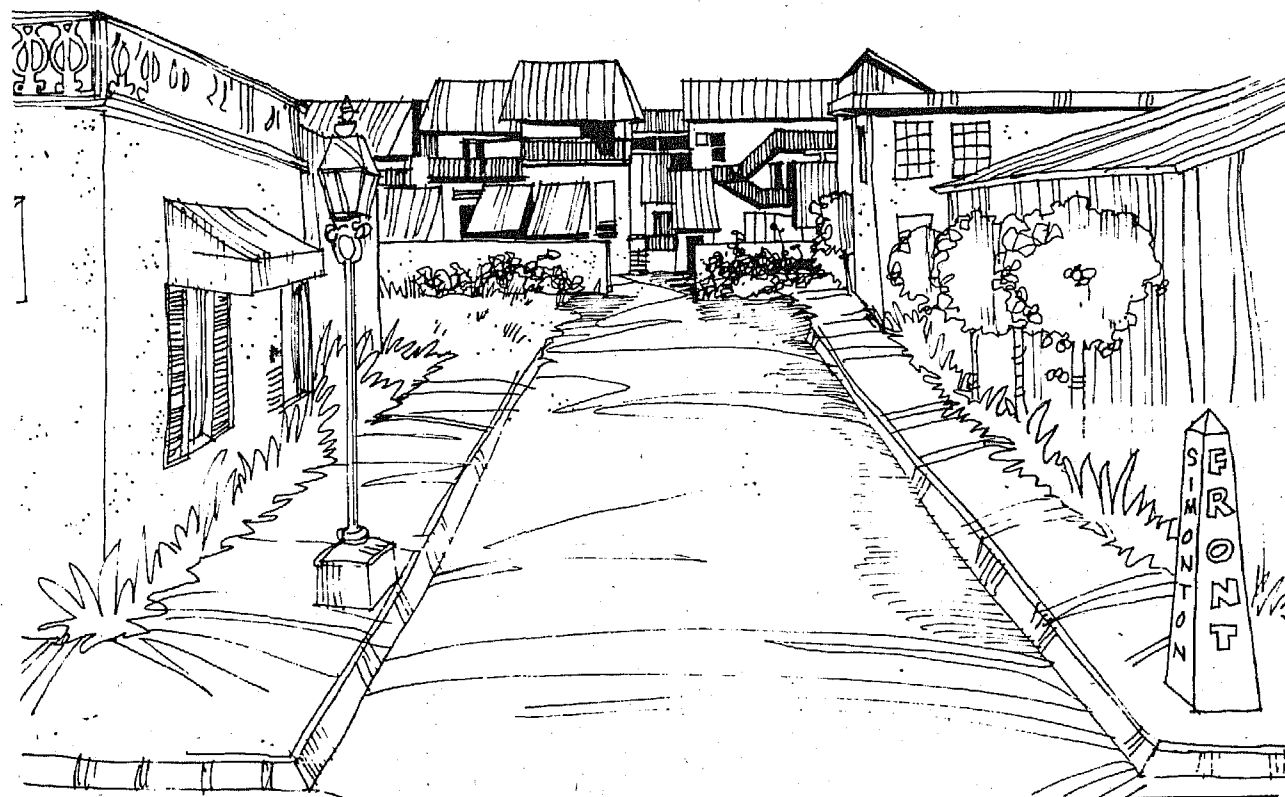
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Artist's rendition of what the end of Simonton St. could look like

you've got to be against us." Nothing could be further from the truth. Bill Schwicker is a developer himself; that was his profession before retirement. S.O.S. members are a cross-section of the professional community, homeowner, taxpayers and Conchs - not "undesirables."

city commission a counter proposal that would allow the Pier House land it needs for development and still provide the city - and public with a usable and attractive beach front area with its Gulf access. The S.O.S. proposal:

1. Simonton Street would remain a city street belonging to the public.

IN FACT, S.O.S. has offered the

2. The existing boat ramp and dock would continue to give years of service. (Schwicker estimates that to replace that boat ramp today would cost \$33,000.)

3. The S.O.S. proposal would provide more land and shoreline for the recreation of the public. The area could be turned into a clean and usable recreational area at a fraction of what the Pier House proposal would cost.

4. Any loss to the Pier House in a square footage on the S.O.S. proposal would be more than compensated for by the immense value of gaining the adjacent city property (behind Key West Handprints) for their expansion.

IF THE PIER HOUSE gets what they want, they would:

1. Gain more than 110 feet of Simonton Street closing off the Gulf access for private development.
2. Give the city a 50-foot access road via Front Street along the Treasure Salvors' fence to virtually unusable beach, as it is now, with no boat ramp. (Schwicker estimates that



The less-than-appealing proposed city beach

it would cost \$65,000 just to remove the debris from the shoreline and construct a comparable beach to the one the city already possesses.)

WHEN ASKED ABOUT the S.O.S. proposal, Pier House General Manager, Peter Henry, said that he "had not seen a proposal, only criticisms," despite the fact that a half page ad outlining the proposal had appeared in the Key West Citizen on Sunday, April 14.

ROBERT ANDERSON, SPOKESMAN for the S.O.S. committee, said that he would be happy to make available for the Pier House a copy of the folder showing the S.O.S. proposals which were distributed to members of the city commission on April 19. Anderson added that he had no vendetta against the Pier House, that he likes their facility and sends them business all the time. "I'm just a guy who wants to save a beach for the people of Key West," he said.

THIS IS A simple, straight-forward sentiment shared by many in Key West over what has been, and still is, a complex issue. There would be ramifications to the issue that are still only whispers and do not concern us at the time.

photo by Joan Langley

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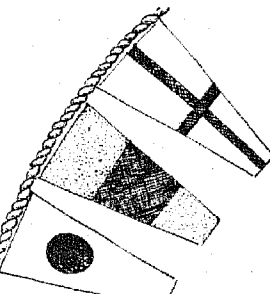
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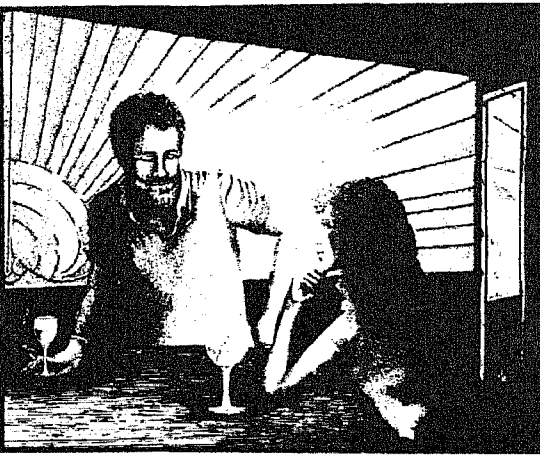
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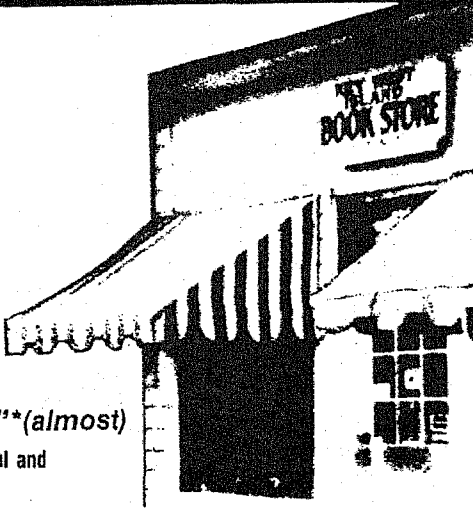
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ULTIMATELY, HOWEVER, THE fate of the Simonton Street Yacht Club, as the property is affectionately dubbed, will depend on the heavy-handed brokerage of a few powerful men in city politics; or on the desires of the people of Key West who have owned and used the property for generations. Keeping in mind that the public is getting tired of being fleeced in the market place as regards public land, be it Truman Annex with its alleged exploitation of funds by hired caretakers of that property or city-owned beach fronts, the wise politician might do well to take heed of the proclamation by a group of local tax dissenters a few months ago:

"ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!"



DAMN

The sun arose,
And stretching out its golden palm,
Gently closed
The eyes of night.

by Jeanne M. Ormerod

Key West Dance Theatre

Allison Tradup

WHEN YOU THINK about dance, do you find yourself thinking far away? Miami? New York maybe? Well, how about Key West? Key West Dance Theatre has some of the finer talent in the country and is proud to announce they're in full bloom and here to stay! Key West Dance Theatre is the only Professional Dance Company from Key West to Miami, and is a non-profit organization.

K.W.D.T.'s growing repertoire consists of ballet, modern and jazz with traditional and original choreography from former directors as well as choreography by the dancers themselves. K.W.D.T. will be performing for the "Animals Welfare" benefit May 21, at the Waterfront Playhouse, where they will present some of their finest pieces.

PERFORMING WILL BE Penny Mollot, a now-local dancer and choreographer for the Company as well as being active in other local shows. Originally from New York, she has now invested her talents in Key West. Allison Tradup is a local, aspiring young dancer who left her career in New York and California. Upon her return to Key West she has devoted her talents to K.W.D.T. in an attempt to keep the dance alive in her home town.

CHARLES KARP, an off-Broadway jazz dancer from New York, has already made a place for himself in Key West with his professional style, and has made a great contribution of dance to the Company along with local community shows.

ALSO DANCING FOR the Company are two dancers from the Kansas City Ballet Company. Bill Woehle, a local dancer and an inspiration to the Company along with Tie Sue Matzukie, who is debuting with Key West Dance Theatre.

SO FOR AN enjoyable, exciting evening of dance, join us. K.W.D.T. May 21 at the Waterfront. See you there!



Miscellany

IT'S SPRING CLEANING time...whether you're heading back up North for the summer, or a year round resident, it's that time of the year again when closets are bulging and you have to move more than the cat to sit in your favorite chair...before you get too reckless in casting off those castoffs, remember the RED BARN THEATER is gathering goodies for their First Annual Fund Raising Yard Sale, to be held at the Red Barn (319 Duval), behind the Woman's Club), Saturday, May 8.

MS. JOY HAWKINS, Managing Director for the Red Barn, is the person to contact if you have something (or somethings) you would like to contribute to this very good cause. (Remember, the Red Barn, which encourages the talents of our local actors, receives no outside funding to offset the enormous costs of running a theater and producing five or six shows per year for the entertainment of us all.)

THE YARD SALE will begin promptly at nine A.M., May Eighth, and coffee, juices and gourmet pastries will be part of the goodies offered to shoppers that day.

SO BEFORE YOU dispose of that designer whatchit that never fit right anyway, or that elegant thingamajig left to you by your Great Aunt Sara, drop it off at the Red Barn in time for their Yard Sale.

ARTICLES MAY BE dropped off any day, or you can arrange for pick-up by one of the Red Barn members, by calling the box office after noon at 296-9911. If you are one of those super-organized people who never have to do a Spring Cleaning, but would like to support the Red Barn, tax-deductible donations are also much appreciated. The mailing address for the Red Barn Theater is P. O. Box 707, Key West. It really is up to us to support the arts in Key West, and this certainly is a good opportunity to contribute to a good cause.

HELP LINE, A Zonta-sponsored 24-hour seven-days-a-week telephone service, is scheduled to begin operation in early June in Key West. This will give our area a new source of reaching out to help people. Help Line will provide immediate crisis intervention by telephone, information and referral, after-hours help for people, and an efficient method of recognizing developing needs in our community.

THE TELEPHONE LINES will be manned by local volunteers, who will receive professional training in crisis intervention. The staff believes that the volunteers will not only be helping others, but also will be gaining a sense of satisfaction and personal achievement. The Help Line is looking for people over 18 years old who enjoy working with others. Ninety volunteers are needed to cover the telephone lines.

THE TELEPHONE NUMBER, 296-HELP, has been reserved; a director has been hired; and volunteer training is scheduled to begin in mid-May. Help Line needs the support of the community. To volunteer to help, call 294-8188.



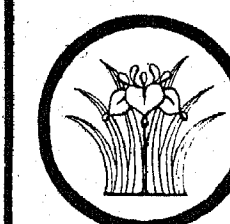
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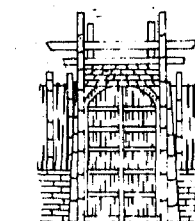
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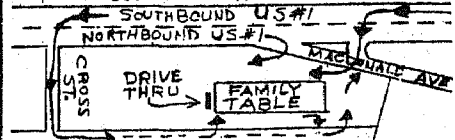
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M & M—Commedia dell'ARTE

BY JOHN LESTLIE

IF TRADITIONAL THEATRE is beginning to pale, with its solid seats all in a row, its dramatic pauses, curtains and all-too-often unreal ideas surrounded by real-life scenes, then you could do far far worse than to find yourself in a room with M&M Productions. Any room: barroom, classroom, dining room, you name it and they'll perform there. Without a theatre of their own (considered a bonus by the group since it allows them artistic freedom and low overheads) they have performed all over town, from the Red Barn to Bagatelle and from the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center to Horace O'Bryant and other Key West public schools.

PRIMARILY A CHILDREN'S theatre group, until recently at least, they have written, produced and performed more than a dozen plays in Key West in the past three years. "But don't be fooled by the children's label. One of the first productions, 'The Case of the Missing Numbers,' opened at the Red Barn with an enthusiastic adult audience. Whether kids or adults, the techniques used to keep the audience alert and interested are the same. "Kids will not tolerate being bored for an instant and there is something happening on stage every second," says Tim McShane, one of the three members of M&M as well as the Drama and Language Arts teacher at HOB. In "The Game Game" which they did at Fitzgerald's and Tux, four performers played forty-five different characters in forty-eight minutes.

TIM, ROBERT MOWRY and Carol Shaughnessy are the principles of M&M. Mowry and McShane, both from Illinois, had considerable experience around the Chicago theatre groups before coming to Key West. Two of their plays are running now in Chicago.

CABARET IS THEIR style using the cartoon format in which the set is designed like frames from a comic

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strip; it is a theatre of ideas where nothing is meant to be real except the ideas.

IN MANY RESPECTS, they might be described as minimalists. Lighting, for example, is used for the purpose of illumination only. Often, as at Bagatelle this past season, they perform from a small platform with little more than a continuous soundtrack, the 'unreal' but suggestive sets designed and built by Robert Mowry, and their rapid-fire costume changes allowing each actor to play as many as ten different characters in any one production.

THEY ARE ADAPTABLE. They can take their plays from the confining platform at Bagatelle to the stage at TWAC without losing themselves in the process. At sometime in the future, they would like to play at Tux again with nothing but a coatrack on stage with them from which they would make all their changes.

THEIR ENERGY and vitality on stage (they sweat a lot, they say) is complimented by an off-stage, Key West laid-back quality without the usual theatrical affectations that taint many members of their profession. They like to think of themselves as a kind of Commedia dell'Arte troupe, a 16th-18th century Italian comedy in which masked entertainers improvised around stock characters and situations. "We suggest situations and the audience has to get involved in order to fill in the corners and backgrounds," McShane says. "We don't spell everything out."

ON MAY 1, at 10:00 a.m., they will be performing their Florida Theatre Conference award-winning play, "Marjorie Cordially and the Rhyming Machine" at the library. They also have a tentative engagement with the Three Decks on Eisenhower and Truman Avenue to do their as-yet-unproduced play, "Play Money," sometime this summer.

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MON.-FRI. 9-5

SAT. 9-12

'PRESIDENT LEAR', ALSO as of now unproduced, is a satiric look at a week in the life of a bad-hopping First Lady, a self-effacing Vice-President, a Secretary of State, a Senator, the



Derring-do in "The Case of the Missing Numbers"

President's Press Secretary, and the Three Stooges. (Yes, really the Three Stooges, Moe, Larry and Curly, playing a kind of Greek Chorus.) The President himself is locked in his bedroom - with a gun. It is a fast-paced spoof with funny, original lines, played by oversized cartoon characters, a sort of theatrical 'Doonesbury'. It's lively and it's hot.

Someone should grab this group fast; they're another Mack & Jamie success story in the making.

"MEETING AGAIN" (the Southern Ocean)

The beach at Sundown
was deserted.
The clouds shown pink around the edges
In the fading light.
The air, soft, warm, and barely moving
Brought the sound of crickets
From the sea grass.

I stood there in the cool, wet sand
just looking at her...
the Sea.
Slightly swelling - then receding -
almost silently
mirror smooth - translucent - glowing -
Blue green, eternal prism
Holding me...Captive
with her clarity

I tried to leave
But could not
take my eyes from her.
A step or two, but then
I'd have to turn
to look again.

Night was falling
Fast
But still,
She did not fade
Without the sun
But glowed within.

Where have you been
my prisoner of the land?
She seemed to ask of me
And demand
an answer.

I am here
And ever true ... said she
Evermore the same
I never change.
Have you?

Yes,
You know I have
I always do
So she withdrew
As if she knew my ways
And could understand
That same old worn out answer
That I always gave

Then swiftly
She came in
Behind my back
to wash
My shallow footprints
from the sand.

by Alyce P. Burgess

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divorce,
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EDITORIAL

BY BILL WESTRAY

DEVELOPMENT IN THE UPPER KEYS

IN THE PAST several months our editorials have focused on residential developments in the Middle and Upper Keys, particularly in North Key Largo. We have been primarily concerned with the area north of the junction of U.S. 1 and County Road 905, along Route 905 across from the crocodile refuge.

WE FIRMLY BELIEVE that the planned and programmed development in this area is so large and extensive that it would have a disastrous effect on the economic well-being and quality of life of all of the rest of the Keys.

WE FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT THE PLANNED AND PROGRAMMED DEVELOPMENT IN THAT AREA IS SO LARGE AND EXTENSIVE THAT IT WOULD HAVE A DISASTROUS EFFECT ON THE ECONOMIC WELL-BEING AND QUALITY OF LIFE OF ALL OF THE REST OF THE KEYS.

THE RECENT CENSUS has highlighted the growing developments north of Key West that have already shifted the population balance northward reducing Key West to two County Commission seats, with three allocated to the rest of the Keys. Our previous editorials have addressed what this population shift has done to traffic flow along U.S. 1 as a result of the congestion in the new residential and commercial centers.

WE HAVE TRIED to identify a number of the problems that the population increases have caused. We have tried to highlight what has been done and what still needs to be done to solve the problems. We have raised a number of questions about the wisdom of permitting

some of these developments, particularly in North Key Largo, to proceed.

OUR EARLY PROJECTIONS of the planned development on North Key Largo amounted to about 5,000 living units, with about 13,000 people. Almost before that estimate was published we realized that the identifiable projects being processed exceeded 10,000 units and 25,000 people. We have recently seen projections by the Monroe County Planning and Zoning Director that there is a total building potential, including planned developments and other platted and/or zoned subdivisions and tracts, that would amount to nearly 20,000 units and over 46,000 people. Furthermore, if the Crocodile Lake Wildlife Refuge should be abolished or abandoned (and there is strong evidence that such abolition is being pushed by influential interests), and the upland portion of

the 7,100-acre tract were to be developed, we would be looking at 40,000 housing units with 90,000 or more people in North Key Largo alone. Of course the marketability of such a build-out is questionable, but the gruesome potential still threatens.

WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY reported that efforts by a small group of people to secure approval for a new jet-capable airport within the boundaries of the wildlife refuge were believed to be designed to degrade that refuge to where it would be abolished. Such a result would accomplish two things. One, it would open up the hammocks areas of the refuge for development at least equal to that on the other side of the

road; and, two, provide a jet airport to enhance the saleability of the developments already under way along the east side of Route 905.

PART OF THE justification for a new airport has been to replace the existing Port Largo Airport about 12 miles south at mile marker 100 which the present title holder, Port Largo, Inc., plans to close in July of 1982. The bay-bottom land on which this airport is built was secured from the state in 1968 on the express promise that the airport would be built on top of a needed breakwater and deeded to the county. Somehow the transfer to county ownership was never effected and now the owner wishes to close the airport and build luxury residences on the 150' by 3,000' fill.

THE PORT LARGO Airport is much

WE HAVE RECENTLY SEEN PROJECTIONS BY THE MONROE COUNTY PLANNING AND ZONING DIRECTOR THAT THERE IS A TOTAL BUILDING POTENTIAL, INCLUDING PLANNED DEVELOPMENTS AND OTHER PLATTED AND/OR ZONED SUBDIVISIONS AND TRACTS, (FOR NORTH KEY LARGO) THAT WOULD AMOUNT TO NEARLY 20,000 UNITS AND OVER 46,000 PEOPLE.

better situated in the existing population center than a proposed new airport in the crocodile refuge, and we believe that Port Largo Airport could be improved and expanded at much less cost than a new airport. We had urged the county to pursue a lawsuit to secure title to the airport land and we are very pleased that the county has, within the last month, filed a well-framed suit to establish the ownership of the county to the airport land on the basis that the present titleholder holds the land only as Trustee for Monroe County. We suggest that the county also seek the assistance of the Florida Attorney General to correct the "scrivener's error" in the original deed from the Trustees of the Internal

Improvement Trust (TIIF) whereby the interest of the county was left off the 1968 TIIF deed.

WE HAVE NOT been alone in our concern about the sudden rapid development of the Upper Keys. The Governor and Cabinet, the Florida Department of Veterans and Community Affairs, the South Florida Regional Planning Council, the Florida Keys Resource Planning and Management Committee, and a number of citizens' groups and individuals have expressed concerns similar to ours. They have recommended a slow-down or moratorium on processing and approving major new developments until the county Planning and Zoning Department can be reorganized and expanded to deal adequately with the sudden increase in major development applications.

THE BIGGEST CONCERN appears to be that the individual developers in their impact assessments only deal with the individual impact of their own project, and that no one, including the county planning department, has had the capacity to assess the cumulative impact of the Upper Keys development on the Keys as a whole. The 90-day moratorium or "hiatus" that the county imposed on processing new major developments is about to expire. Although a new planning director has been selected, he has not started work yet, and other planning staff increases are still only plans.

EXTENDING THE MORATORIUM for a substantial additional period seems

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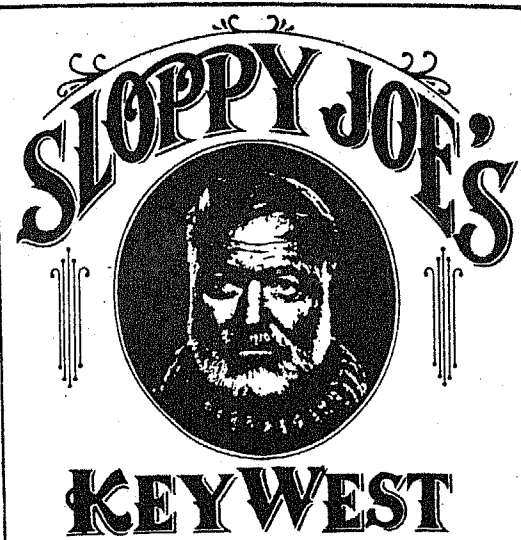
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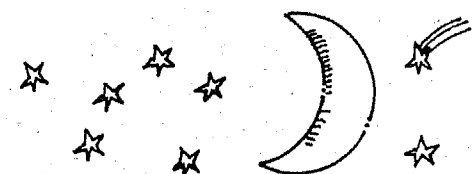
**KEY WEST'S
HOROSCOPE**
BY EMMA CALES

Sun in Taurus, after 20 in Gemini
Venus in Pisces, after 5 in Aries.
Mercury in Gemini, turning retro-
grade on the 21st.
Saturn in Libra, retrograde,
Jupiter in Scorpio, retrograde.

Mars in Libra, retrograde, turning
direct the 12th.
Uranus in Sagittarius, retrograde.
Neptune in Sagittarius, retrograde.
Pluto in Libra, retrograde.
North Node in 16 degrees of Cancer.

THE FULL MOON on May 7th in Scorpio
aspects the sixth house of work and
health of the Key West chart. The
planet called the Great Benetic,
Jupiter, now in the constellation
Scorpio, is conjunct the Jupiter in the
Key West horoscope. This adds up to
good vibrations where employment
matters, work, service and health
oriented areas are concerned. Scorpio
also rules the military establishment,
and continued financial assistance to
the city from the military presence is
strongly aspected in our chart.

THE NEW MOON on May 23 in Gemini
aspects the ascendant of the Horoscope
of Key West. This is a favorable time
for new starts, and continued public
exposure for the city. Our "image"
is still very much in the limelight.



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AMUSEMENTS

BY ROBIN KAPLAN

FOR STARTERS, THE Monroe County
Public Library has announced their
state of films for May's 7 p.m. Wed-
nesday viewings. The month's schedule
follows: May 5--*Eliza, Nature's Colors*,
Louise Nevelson in Process; May 12--
Islam: the Prophet and the People; May
19--*African Sanctus, Vonder Come Day*.
Wrapping up the spring season on May
26 is a clip from The Ascent of Man
series, entitled *Music of the Spheres*.

A FEW NEW restaurants have opened
in town. The Pit Bar-B-Que has a new
location at 700 Duval and offers gen-
erous portions of simple fare--ribs
and chicken hickory smoked with deli-
cious sauces.

CAPTAIN HORNBLLOWER'S, cherished
for its live jazz nightly, serves na-
tive Key West cooking. Fresh local sea-
food is always available. The house
recommends fresh fried grouper in beer
batter, conch salad, bar-b-que chick-
en and their Key Lime pie. They also
carry a wide variety of wines and
liquors, plus 65 kinds of domestic
and imported beer.

THE OLD CUBAN Club is now the
Fountains Restaurant and Bar. *Gourmet*
magazine and *Bon Appetit* have acclaimed
the establishment's Key West Bouilla-
baisse and their Paella Valenciana. The
Rack of Lamb served with mint chutney
has been highly touted, also. Special
Sunday Brunch, served 11:30 a.m. to 3
p.m., has a menu offering omelettes,
seafood p  te, cold roast goose, other
exotics, and fresh-baked pastries. Call
294-2729 for reservations.

A NEW SERVICE is being offered in
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8766.

WHAT'S NEW AT the Monster? Flamin-
go Road Cafe, serving soups, salads,
sandwiches, desserts, Cappuccino and
liqueurs from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m., upstairs.
How Divine. *Female Trouble* will be shown
on May 2nd; *Desperate Living* is on May
5th and 9th; and on May 12th and 16th,
it's *Pink Flamingo*. Films are shown
Wednesdays at 8:30 p.m. and Sundays at
midnight. Coming Memorial Day--get ready
for the Annual Survivor's Party and
Hurricane '82.

BAGATELLE IS JOINING the Tea Dance
scene. Stroll on up to the 115 Duval bal-
cony for Thursday boy and girl parties
from 3 to 6 p.m. Weekends, live enter-
tainment is presented.

ANOTHER SERVICE, catching on slow-
ly but surely, is Soma Bodywork. Dale
Alexander (296-5626) works on neuro-
muscular integration, also known as
rolfing, realigning the body through
deep tissue manipulation so that it be-
comes balanced in the field of gravity.
Soma Bodywork "affirms the unity of mind
and body, as mental and emotional states
are reflected in structure." Reports
from those who have completed a series
of sessions, vary. Some report feeling
younger and lighter, having more energy
and enthusiasm. Others say appropriate
bodywork seems to facilitate psychologi-
cal growth; others claim reduction of
physical tension; another claimed
heightened sensual and sexual awareness.
For some it involves a great deal of
pain--some like it, others can't take
it. Yet the general consensus seems to be
that it creates greater clarity in
thinking and that the recipient has a
general sense of well-being.

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All Hail the Conch Republic!

BY PHOEBE REDNER COAN

KEY WEST IS an island city of poetry! This evidenced by the April 23 rally at Old Town Square (back of Mallory by the Chamber of Commerce). The Conch flag was spiritedly hoisted to rounds of applause and rousing cheers, and Prime Minister Dennis Wardlow spoke well in proclaiming the Conch Republic.

THE GATHERING WAS announced in *The Key West Citizen* the night before to protest the unfair tactics of the U.S. government's county border blockade to ferret out aliens and drugs.

The ceremony was well attended by a good crowd of locals and visitors; the spirit was high, amused and playful. People were really enjoying their government.

PLACARDS READ: "Big Brother NO, Bubba YES," "Key West is an island like Cuba, and the Falklands," "I Just Wanted to Let My Conch Flag Fly Free," "Equal Rights for Winnie in the Florida Keys," "Long Live Aloe," and so on. The Chamber of Commerce sold replica Conch flags at two dollars each, and border passes and tourists visas sold out.

NEWSMEN from the Miami TV stations were on hand with full photographic regalia. Many citizens spoke up in front of the microphones offering colorful and heated views. Said one man: "They won't find any aliens in ashtrays!"

"Travel with a crowbar," advised another in mock seriousness.

ED SWIFT CLEARED up the matter of the American flag, stating there was no disrespect meant, but that from now on the Conch flag would wave beside it. Thankfully, breezes blew to cut the heat. Then the long-awaited address from Prime Minister Dennis Wardlow,



The Prime Minister speaks to an enthusiastic crowd

looking his best, was delivered with a smile. There was serious intent and intense feeling underlying his remarks, which kept the whole matter from being a "laughing stock" as one lady worried. His speech is as follows:

WE, THE PEOPLE OF KEY WEST, ARE

CALLED CONCHS. SOMETIMES WE ARE CALLED CONCHS WITH AFFECTION, SOMETIMES WITH HUMOR, AND SOMETIMES WITH DERISION. I PROCLAIM THAT KEY WEST SHALL NOW BE KNOWN AS THE CONCH REPUBLIC, AND AS THE FLAG OF OUR NEW REPUBLIC IS RAISED, I THEREBY STATE TO WASHINGTON AND THE REST OF THE UNITED STATES, AND THE WORLD, WHAT THE CONCHS ARE AND WERE.

WHEN JAMESTOWN, VIRGINIA, WAS SETTLED BY ENGLISHMEN FED UP WITH THE ARROGANCE, THE DERISION, THE ABUSE OF RIGHTS BY A DESPOT, A KING WITHOUT COMPASSION OR SENSE OF HUMANITY, ANOTHER GROUP WAS SETTLING IN THE BAHAMAS AND THEY WERE CALLED CONCHS.

THEY WERE KNOWN AS CONCHS BECAUSE THEY HOISTED FLAGS WITH THE TOUGH, HARD, CONCH SHELLFISH INDICATING THEY'D RATHER EAT CONCH THAN PAY THE KING'S TAXES AND LIVE UNDER HIS TYRANNY.

THERE'S OUR FLAG. IT HAS A CONCH ON IT.

WE SECEDE FROM THE UNITED STATES. WE'VE RAISED OUR FLAG, GIVEN OUR NOTICE, AND NAMED OUR NEW GOVERNMENT.

WE SERVE NOTICE ON THE GOVERNMENT IN WASHINGTON TO REMOVE THE ROADBLOCK OR GET READY TO PUT UP A PERMANENT BORDER TO A NEW FOREIGN LAND.

WE, AS PEOPLE, MAY HAVE SUFFERED IN THE PAST, BUT WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF SUFFERING IN THE FUTURE AT THE HANDS OF FOOLS AND BUREAUCRATS.

WE'RE NOT GOING TO BEG, TO BESEECH THE NATION OF THE UNITED STATES FOR HELP. WE'RE NOT GOING TO ASK FOR SOMETHING WE SHOULD NATURALLY HAVE AS CITIZENS—SIMPLE EQUALITY.

IF WE ARE NOT EQUAL, WE'LL GET OUT.

IT'S AS SIMPLE AS THAT.

THE FIRST STEP WAS, LIKE MARIEL, UP TO WASHINGTON.

THIS STEP IS UP TO US. WE CALL UPON OTHER PEOPLE OF THE FLORIDA KEYS TO JOIN US OR NOT, AS THEY SEE FIT.

WE'RE NOT A FEARFUL PEOPLE. WE'RE NOT A GROUP TO CRINGE AND WHIMPER WHEN WASHINGTON CRACKS THE WHIP WITH CONTEMPT AND UNCONCERN.

WE'RE CONCHS AND WE'VE HAD ENOUGH. WE'RE HAPPY TO SECEDE TODAY WITH SOME HUMOR, BUT THERE'S SOME ANGER, TOO. BIG TROUBLE HAS STARTED IN MUCH SMALLER PLACES THAN THIS.

I AM CALLING ON ALL MY FELLOW CITIZENS HERE IN THE CONCH REPUBLIC TO STAND TOGETHER, LEST WE FALL APART—FALL FROM FEAR, FROM A LACK OF COURAGE, FROM INTIMIDATION BY AN UNCARING GOVERNMENT WHOSE ACTIONS SHOW IT HAS GROWN TOO BIG TO CARE FOR PEOPLE ON A SMALL ISLAND.

GEORGE MIRA, NEW director of Drugs and Food, proclaimed Key Lime pie and conch chowder the traditional foods of the new Conch Republic. Everyone cheered in agreement. Joe Balbontin, as Minister of War, cited that the first shot of stale Cuban bread to be tossed, was metaphor to the opening shot of war, "so that we could ask Federal aid."

"WELL, WE KEPT you from being bored this afternoon," the officials proclaimed after announcing a party to be held afterwards at the Casa Marina and a holiday to be recognized on that Saturday, April 24.

Meanwhile, the peacock blue and yellow of the Conch flag furling in the breezes as overseer to the island republic of Key West.



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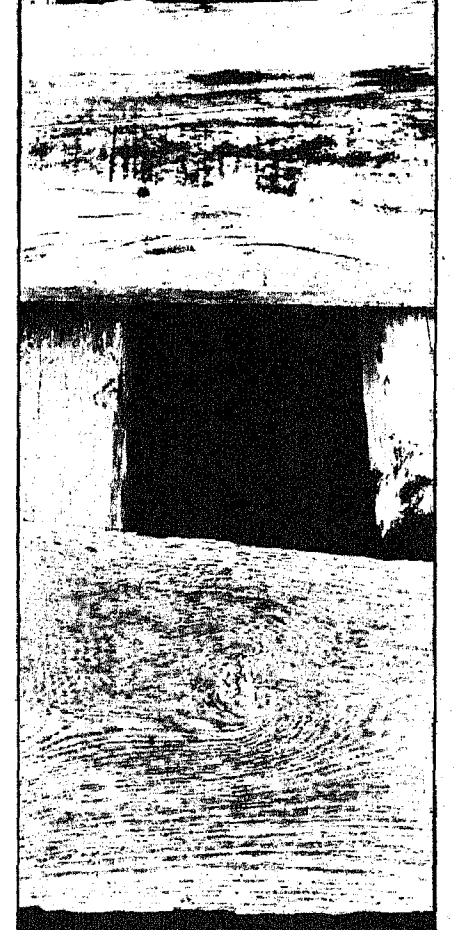
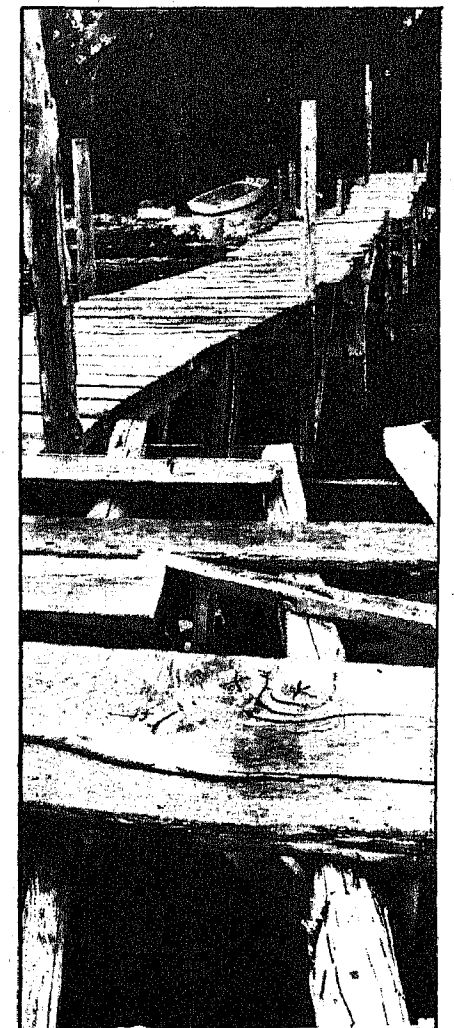
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BY PHOEBE REDNER COAN

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looking his best, was delivered with a smile. There was serious intent and intense feeling underlying his remarks, which kept the whole matter from being a "laughing stock" as one lady worried. His speech is as follows:

WE, THE PEOPLE OF KEY WEST, ARE

CALLED CONCHS, SOMETIMES WE ARE CALLED CONCHS WITH AFFECTION, SOMETIMES WITH HUMOR, AND SOMETIMES WITH DERISION. I PROCLAIM THAT KEY WEST SHALL NOW BE KNOWN AS THE CONCH REPUBLIC, AND AS THE FLAG OF OUR NEW REPUBLIC IS RAISED, I THEREBY STATE TO WASHINGTON AND THE REST OF THE UNITED STATES, AND THE WORLD, WHAT THE CONCHS ARE AND WERE.

WHEN JAMESTOWN, VIRGINIA, WAS SETTLED BY ENGLISHMEN FED UP WITH THE ARROGANCE, THE DERISION, THE ABUSE OF RIGHTS BY A DESPOT, A KING WITHOUT COM-PASSION OR SENSE OF HUMANITY, ANOTHER GROUP WAS SETTLED IN THE, BAHAMAS AND THEY WERE CALLED "CONCHS."

THEY WERE KNOWN AS CONCHS BECAUSE THEY HOISTED FLAGS WITH THE TOUGH, HARD, CONCH SHELLFISH INDICATING THEY'D RATHER EAT CONCH THAN PAY THE KING'S TAXES AND LIVE UNDER HIS TYRANNY.

THERE'S OUR FLAG. IT HAS A CONCH ON IT.

WE SECEDE FROM THE UNITED STATES. WE'VE RAISED OUR FLAG, GIVEN OUR NOTICE, AND NAMED OUR NEW GOVERNMENT. WE SERVE NOTICE ON THE GOVERNMENT IN WASHINGTON TO REMOVE THE ROADBLOCK OR GET READY TO PUT UP A PERMANENT BORDER TO A NEW FOREIGN LAND.

WE, AS PEOPLE, MAY HAVE SUFFERED IN THE PAST, BUT WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF SUFFERING IN THE FUTURE AT THE HANDS OF FOOLS AND BUREAUCRATS.

WE'RE NOT GOING TO BEG, TO BESECH THE NATION OF THE UNITED STATES FOR HELP. WE'RE NOT GOING TO ASK FOR SOMETHING WE SHOULD NATURALLY HAVE AS CITIZENS--SIMPLE EQUALITY. IF WE ARE NOT EQUAL, WE'LL GET OUT.

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IT'S AS SIMPLE AS THAT.

THE FIRST STEP WAS, LIKE MARIEL, UP TO WASHINGTON. THIS STEP IS UP TO US. WE CALL UPON OTHER PEOPLE OF THE FLORIDA KEYS TO JOIN US OR NOT, AS THEY SEE FIT.

WE'RE NOT A FEARFUL PEOPLE. WE'RE NOT A GROUP TO CRINGE AND WHIMPER WHEN WASHINGTON CRACKS THE WHIP WITH CONTEMPT AND UNCONCERN.

WE'RE CONCHS AND WE'VE HAD ENOUGH. WE'RE HAPPY TO SECEDE TODAY WITH SOME HUMOR, BUT THERE'S SOME ANGER, TOO. BIG TROUBLE HAS STARTED IN MUCH SMALLER PLACES THAN THIS.

I AM CALLING ON ALL MY FELLOW CITIZENS HERE IN THE CONCH REPUBLIC TO STAND TOGETHER, LEST WE FALL APART--FALL FROM FEAR, FROM A LACK OF COURAGE, FROM INTIMIDATION BY AN UNCARING GOVERNMENT WHOSE ACTIONS SHOW IT HAS GROWN TOO BIG TO CARE FOR PEOPLE ON A SMALL ISLAND.

GEORGE MIRA, NEW director of Drugs and Food, proclaimed Key Lime pie and conch chowder the traditional foods of the new Conch Republic. Everyone cheered in agreement. Joe Balbontin, as Minister of War, cited that the first shot of stale Cuban bread to be tossed, was metaphor to the opening shot of war, "so that we could ask Federal aid."

"WELL, WE KEPT you from being bored this afternoon," the officials proclaimed after announcing a party to be held afterwards at the Casa Marina and a holiday to be recognized on that Saturday, April 24.

Meanwhile, the peacock blue and yellow of the Conch flag furled in the breezes as overseer to the island republic of Key West.



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Monday
Baked Stuffed Shrimp
8.95

Tuesday
Shrimp au Gratin
9.95

Wednesday
1 1/2 lb. live Maine Lobster
Boiled or baked stuffed
15.95

Thursday
Seafood au Gratin
Scallops, Shrimp, Lobster, Crab
10.95

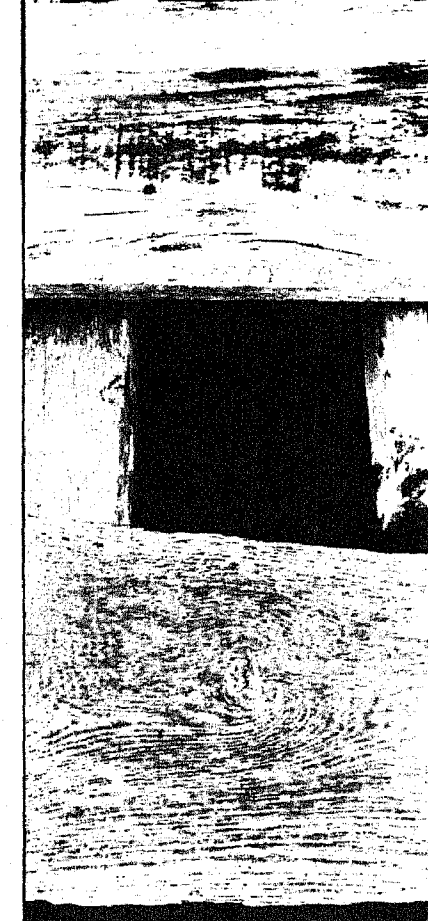
Friday
12 oz. N.Y. Strip Steak
10.95

Saturday
Filet Mignon with Alaskan King Crab
12.95

Sunday
Prime Rib of Beef au Jus
10.95

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SPECIAL EVENTS

Creative palm readings and interpretations by Stella, Mon.-Fri., 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. and Thurs.-Mon., 9:00 p.m. to midnight at Claire Restaurant (in garden), 900 Duval St.

Flea Market: Saturday mornings, American Legion Home, Stock Island.

Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center: May 4, 7:30 p.m.: The Australian film, *Breaker Morant*.

Key West Poetry Guild: meetings 1st Sundays at 121 Duval, Mostly Magnificent, 8:00 p.m.

Red Barn Theatre: *The House of Blue Leaves* is presented for three weeks beginning April 22. No performances Tuesdays and Wednesdays. 296-9911.

Monroe County Public Library:

May 1982 Children's Programs at the Monroe County Public Library

Preschool Storyhours:

Thursday mornings, 9:30 - 10:30, May 13, 20 and 27th. Preschoolers are invited to participate in these story-hours featuring stories, songs and movies.

GALLERIES

Artists Unlimited: 221 Duval St., 296-5625. Hours are 12 to 5 p.m. or by appointment. A delightful gallery in a Conch-style setting with an international reputation.

Artist warehouse: 8 Charles St., (located in Old Sponge House off Duval St.) Monday thru Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and by appointment. A unique "work" gallery representing works by Lois Locklear and Karen Clemens along with other local artists. 294-7141. April 5 - June 4: French classes. Call for further information.

East Martello: 3500 S. Roosevelt Blvd., 296-3913. A "fort-museum" with some of the most interesting facts of Key West history and lore. Show beginning May 5 - 30 features Barbara Bauer, porcelain; Sharon Cobb, basketry; Charles Roig, crewelwork.

Farrington Galleries: 711 Duval St., 294-6911. An artist-supply gallery featuring new work by Mario Sanchez, including his woodcarving, "Bucket of Fish" and the new biography on him by Kathryn Prob.

Gingerbread Square Gallery: 901-rear Duval St.; weekends also in the atrium at the Pier House. 296-8900, 11 to 6 daily. This art gallery blends the modern and primitive styles in the works of Robert Franke, John Kiraly and Tennessee Williams, and many more. April 13-27: group show featuring artists from gallery.

Guild Hall: 614 Duval St., 296-9359. Open 9:30 to 5:30 daily. Exhibiting an outstanding array of original art by Key West professionals Walter Ashe, Barbara Bauer, Sharon Cobb, John Cryer, Joan Howe, Ann Irvine, Fran Kebschull, Maxine Mcullen, Irma Quigley, Norma Renner, Bee Sackett, and Carolyn Seiler. Featuring oils, acrylics, watercolors, drawings, prints, porcelain, weaving, basketry and other media.

Haitian Art Co.: 600 Frances St., 296-8932. Key West's newest gallery is like a trip to Haiti itself, replete with paintings and metal sculpture. Owner Ruth Kravitz encourages all interested to stop by and see her selection of a "little bit of Haiti."

Key West Art Center: 301 Front St., 294-1241. 10-5 daily. Sundays 11-4. This is a membership gallery, featuring individual wall shows every two weeks.

EVENTS

Public lectures given from time to time on subjects pertinent to art and artists. March 21 through April 4 Bill Henry is featured; water and oil.

Lighthouse and Military Museum: 938 Whitehead, 294-0012. The highest view of Key West can be had here, along with a survey of aircraft and wartime materials convenient to island defense.

Moir: The art gallery in Key Lime Square, 294-1254. Oil portraits by Bob Birbeck. 11 to 5 Monday through Saturday; 12 to 4 Sunday; or by appointment. 296-9560.

Perkins Chantry: 218 Whitehead, 294-7635. Showing the following artists: Roland Baker, A.S.M.A.; Commander J.A. Cryer.

Oldest House Museum: 322 Duval St., 294-9502. Antique lovers will enjoy this excursion into the furniture, housewares and decorations of old island interiors "way back when." Be sure to visit the kitchen out back.

FILMS

Monroe County Public Library:

Children's activities are scheduled for 10 a.m. every Saturday, one or more films followed by (usually) an arts and crafts activity.

Monroe County Public Library:

May 1: *Whistle for Willie*; *The Magic Flute*; and *Disney's Rascal*. Followed by a May Day activity. May 8: *Jack and the Beanstalk*; *Giant's Come in Different Sizes*; and *Yankee Doodle Cricket*. May 15: *Dr. Seuss' The Cat in the Hat*; *Tchou-Tchou*. Followed by a group effort at a box construction. May 22: *Mighty Mouse*; *Runt of the Litter*; and *The Hundred Penny Box*. Followed by the Summer Information Fair with booths publicizing the various offerings for children this summer. May 29: *Seize you later*, *Alligator*; *Little Blue and Little Yellow*; *Teddy Bears Balloon Trip*; and *The Juggling Movie*. Followed by a mural painting session.

All programs are open to the public and free of charge.

Adult films are scheduled for Wednesday evenings at 7:00 May 5: *Eliza, Nature's Colors*, Louise Nevelson in Process. May 12: *Islam: The Prophet and the People*. May 19: *African Sanctus*; *Vonder Come Day*. May 26: *Musie of the Spheres (Ascent of Man series)*.

Key West Picture Show: Key West Picture Show, Thursday-Sunday, 2 p.m., 3 p.m. and 4 p.m.

REGULAR EVENTS

Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority: no meeting in the Keys this month.

Key West City Commission: meetings 1st and 3rd Mondays at 8 p.m., City Hall, corner Simonton and Angela streets.

City Electric Utility Board: meetings 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 5 p.m., Board Room, 930 Caroline St.

Key West Woman's Club: regular meeting 1st Tuesday of each month, 2:30 p.m., 319 Duval St.

Marathon Lions Club: dinner meetings 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, Indies Inn, Duck Key, 7:30 p.m.

Monroe County Commission: May 3, Key West, Monroe County Courtroom, beginning 10:00; May 17, Plantation Key Government Center, 10:00.

Marathon Shrine Club: luncheons every Friday, at high noon. All Shriners welcome.

Wesley House Board of Directors: Second Tuesday of the month, 5 p.m., 1100 Varela St., 296-5231.

National Association for Retired Federal Employees: meetings last Sunday of the month at the Senior Citizens Plaza, 1400 Kennedy Drive, 3:45 p.m.

Friends Worship Group (Quakers):

A gathered silence 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., Sundays, 416 Greene St., up, outside stairs. Inquiries, Sheridan Crumlish 294-1523.

SELF-HELP

Alcoholics Anonymous: #4 Peary Court (Clubroom), 8:30 nightly; Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 12 noon; 10:30 a.m. on Sunday; 7 and 11 p.m. Friday. 294-9062.

Domestic Abuse Shelter Volunteer: 294-5586.

Emotional Health Anonymous: Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., First Congregational Church, 527 William St.

Conscious Pregnancy Classes: 296-6259. Key West Singles: 296-6977, 296-3423, 294-6973.

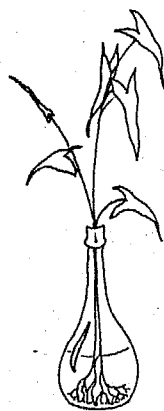
Mail-A-Book Program: costs you only 29 cents, for mailing. Library, 294-8488. Overeaters Anonymous: meetings Mondays at 7:30 p.m., at the Fleming Street Methodist Church, 729 Fleming St.

Classes on Natural Family Planning. Avoid or achieve pregnancy naturally. Instructor R.N. certified by the Ovulation Method Teachers Association, Inc. More information call 296-7214 in Key West or 666-1402 in South Miami.

Workshops in Life Painting and Drawings: with Malcolm Ross, Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. and Fridays at 2:00 p.m. For exact times and information call 294-8301.

MORE SPECIAL EVENTS

Evan Rhodes, local author will discuss his new book, "Bless This House" 10:30 a.m., May 17th at the Library.



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My marmalade cat
asleep near conch shell;
ear interior also pink.

FIVE HAIKU

My boat at anchor--
mute, calm, going nowhere
(neither is the harbor).

Passing... a small black boy;
shadow, slightly lighter,
following ahead.

It snowed while you slept,
and now the silent voice
of whiteness everywhere.

Water at the boil
sings its last song
before becoming tea: the cup.

By Fred Laros



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all of
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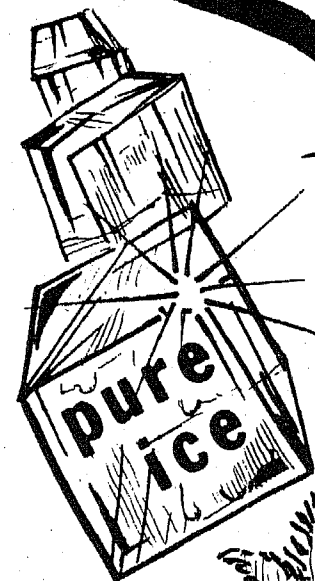
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