

GUEST WRITER: PHILIP BURTON, MEMORIES OF DYLAN THOMAS, PART II, PG. 22  
FRANK KAISER, SNOWSTORM OVER KEY WEST, PART VI, PG. 60

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VOL. 15, NO. 5 / KEY WEST, FLORIDA / MAY, 1987

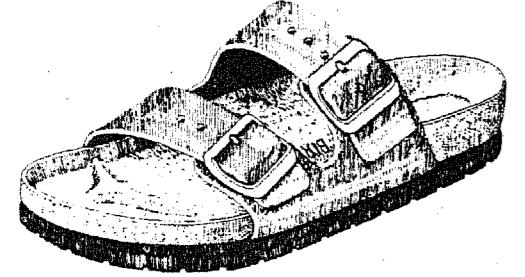
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## FROM THE EDITOR

Hello,

Richard Wilbur, the new poet-laureate of the USA, is, as I'm sure many know, a member of our distinguished winter literary colony. It is rather nice to think that we might be rubbing elbows with the poet laureate of the US while selecting carrots at Fausto's. Congratulations to Richard Wilbur and congratulations to the committee that selected him for honoring such a fine poet.

Any hobbyist knows (or at least can imagine) the thrill of discovering something rare in his field be it stamps, coins, 1st editions or, in this case, birds. Carl Weekley, a bird watcher who has recently returned to his hometown of Key West, spotted a Key West Dove Quail, which has not been seen in these parts for years and years. What a nice welcome home for Carl.

Grapefruit eaters of the world arise. There is a mind-boggling assault on our well-being underway. Someone has convinced a number of local restaurants to serve grapefruit with soup spoons! Why not shovels? To properly eat a grapefruit a serrated grapefruit spoon is best but, lacking that, a teaspoon will do. Don't be bullied; ask your waitress for a smaller spoon when necessary.

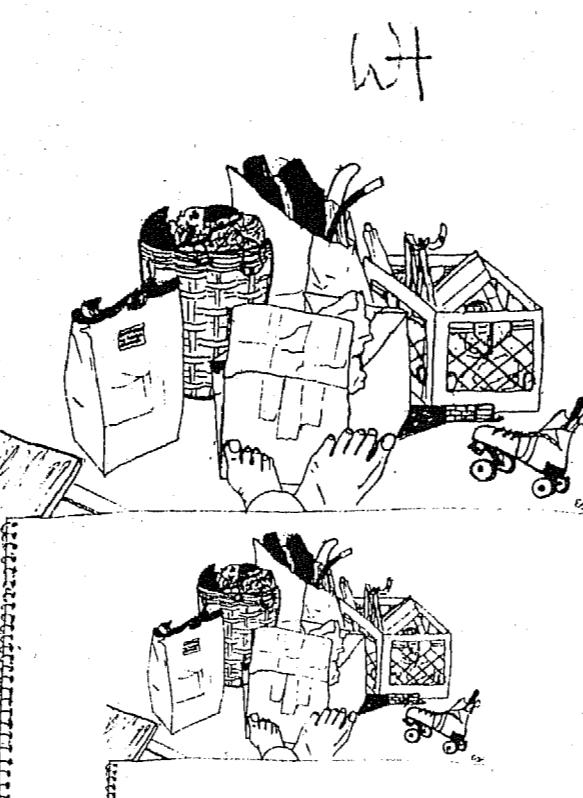
The *Florida Keys Magazine* has been flourishing spectacularly under the gifted leadership of David Ethridge. The most recent issue is a gem -- beautiful cover, lovely layout, fine articles and, as a delicious bonus, a first-rate editorial by David himself. An outstanding issue of a fine magazine.

Mal and his partner Jack, over at Coconuts Restaurant on Duval Street, have been putting on some fine live jazz performances in recent months. It's nice to

walk down Duval and hear jazz float out on the street. Keep it up, Mal.

The inequities of sentence guidelines in our country are staggering. In the newspapers it was reported that a man who had chopped the arms off a 14-year-old he raped and left to die (she survived, however) will be paroled after serving 1/2 of a 14 year term for this offense, which was the maximum under the law of that particular state. In the same paper there was a report of a man who received 35 years for setting cars on fire. It is time to convene a congress of lawyers, judges, etc., to attempt to create some enlightened uniformity in our wildly haphazard sentencing guidelines.

See you next month.



Our cover artist this month is Kathleen Elgin.

Solares Hill is a community newspaper published every month on the slopes of Solares Hill, Key West's highest point, by Solares Hill Company, #4 Key Lime Square, Key West, Florida 33040

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## The Barrosos: Growing Up In Key West

by Carol Shaughnessy



Photo by Chris Vidal

(L. to R): Barry and Sandra Barroso, Sue and Tony Barroso at the Old Town Trolley Centennial Ball 1985.

It can be a complicated matter to get all the members of Key West's Barroso clan together for dinner. Not that anyone in the large Conch family is adverse to gathering --

quite the contrary, actually. The complication lies in finding a dining table that will comfortably seat forty people -- the number that Sandra Barroso estimates

should be included in the "close family."

Sandra, an energetic brunette with a look of distinction about her, reports that at her house it's not unusual to have four generations of Barrosos sitting at the dinner table -- her husband Barry's mother, herself and Barry, their son, and the son's baby daughter.

In fact, the Barroso name in Key West goes back many years to Joaquin Barroso, a well-known painter whose works include the starry ceiling of the San Carlos theatre. Tony Barroso, the great-grandson of Joaquin and brother of Barry, is presently putting together a photographic collection of their great-grandfather's paintings. "It's amazing the number of families in Key West that have a painting by Joaquin Barroso," says Tony's wife Sue, a vivacious woman who moves like a young girl. Joaquin, reports Tony, painted amazingly accurate scenes of old Cuba from memory -- and did his last canvas when he was blind. "My aunt held his hand when he did the painting," Tony reports. "She would dip it in the paint and he would paint."

Tony's and Barry's father was Alfredo Barroso, who worked in the Navy Yard by day and was a local musician by night. With a band consisting of Key Westers 'Crip' Lastres, Hector Barroso, Julio Lopez, Raymond Lopez, and Mae Piedela, he played saxophone at the La Concha in the grand old hotel's heyday. Tony and Barry were born on Solares Hill. "I can remember my grandparents," Tony says, "sitting on the porch watching the old funerals go by with their bands."

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Later they moved out to Seidenberg behind what is now the Winn Dixie, where the boys' playhouse was a burned-out cigar factory abutting on their backyard. "We had chickens, goats, pigs, ducks -- we had everything," recalls Tony. "We would get our eggs from the chickens, and Mama used to chop the heads off the chickens because my daddy couldn't do it."

Growing up, for the Barroso brothers, was basically an outdoor adventure. "In the summer," Barry says, "we used to be in the water. Go out and stay all day. When we were kids, between Bertha Street and the White Street Pier was the prettiest beach in Key West. It was a pure sandy beach with little huts. We used to go there on Sundays ... spend a lot of time just getting fish and stuff out of the water. You could walk out

in the water and get all the crawfish you wanted. We would cook everything ourselves in the bushes with a little fire. We used to drink coconut water and eat coconuts and raw berries, sapodillas."

For spending money the boys collected returnable bottles to redeem or caught bait fish off what is today the Pier House property, selling the fish for a dollar a dozen. "Years and years ago, when the fishermen came in, that's where they used to sell their fish -- the old fish house there," Barry explains in his resonant voice. "All the tourists would come there and throw money in the water and the black boys used to dive it up. No goggles, no fins, and they'd get every single penny that was thrown in there."

Like her husband and brother-in-law,

Barry's wife Sandra also spent her childhood in Key West, on Truman Avenue where her grandfather had a small grocery store. Originally a Tampa cigar-maker, Sandra's grandfather Antonio Herce was helped in the establishment of his business by "Calleja," the grandfather of Key West's Dr. John Calleja. "Calleja had a grocery store on Caroline Street where Copy Spot is now," Sandra recalls. "He used to service all the shrimpers when the shrimpboats were in that area. My grandfather and Calleja were very close friends and so helped each other establish these corner grocery stores."

When her grandfather closed the Truman Avenue store, Sandra's father opened it as a toyshop, which he operated for several years. "Across the street from us lived the Larizes," says Sandra. "Tony Lariz, Harry Lariz, and David Lariz are now on the police force. I grew up playing with them." Sandra's family eventually moved out to Thompson Street.

Unlike Sandra, Sue Mummert Barroso was an 'outlander' who didn't move to Key West until her junior year in high school. The lively Sue quickly made up for lost time, though, and she and Sandra became fast friends. The two of them attended the Convent of Mary Immaculate.

"We called ourselves Convent Girls," Sue remembers. Both of them have an abiding love for the old Convent. The girls recall having to present themselves to the nuns before any dance or party to have their appearance approved; longing for their senior year in school because seniors were



(Back row): Gregory; Christi; Barry; Gloria and Anthony Herce (Sandra's parents); Sandra; Ygdelina; and Barry, Jr. (Front row): Jason and Brian, 13 year old twins.

girls were in their teens, was not all a peaceful round of cheerleading and school functions. In 1962 the island became the focus for the entire nation during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Missiles sitting on Smathers Beach, barbed wire, caravans of military trucks -- all were common, if frightening, sights for Sue and Sandra. Not long after that, Hurricane Donna hit Marathon, knocking out the water line so that Key West was on water rationing for some time.

It was in those early 1960s that Sue and Sandra met Barry and Tony Barroso. Barry was dating a good friend of Sandra's, and she acted as their go-between when her friend's parents refused to let their daughter see him. Gradually the friendship between

Sandra and Barry deepened into a relationship that has lasted over a quarter of a century. Sandra was the one who introduced her best friend Sue to Barry's brother Tony. The boys were out of school -- Barry had graduated, and Tony had left school to work on the charter boats -- when the four of them started to spend their time together.

Key West in those days was essentially a wide-open Navy town. "When we were growing up, on Friday and Saturday nights everybody got dressed up and went downtown," Barry remembers. "There was no shopping center -- no other place to go. People would go to the movies, go eat, walk down Duval Street. You saw a lot of people. Of course you had a lot of Navy back then. The population was maybe 35,000, so there were probably 10,000 sailors and Marines in Key West. Gambling was very prevalent; most of the law enforcement people knew what was going on. You had to be doing something really, really bad for a policeman to arrest you."

The four friends quickly developed their own traditions within the framework of sixties Key West. Friday nights they went to the old Hickory House for dinner; Monday nights there were dances at the Elks Club, of which they all were members. There was picnicking up the Keys, charter fishing on the "Gulfstream" when Tony was crewing, the adventure of 'pool-hopping' on hot summer days from motel pool to motel pool. And always, there was Pizzi's

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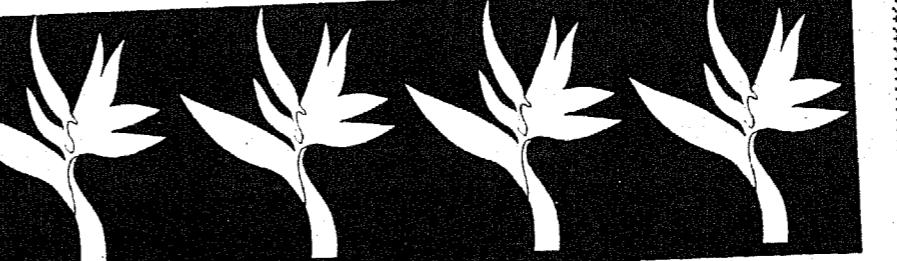
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Drive Inn. "It sat where the Amoco Station is now. It was a true drive-in, just like you see in *American Graffiti*," Sue says nostalgically. "Nobody went anywhere till they cruised through Pizio's and checked out who was there. And if they went somewhere, first place they came back to was Pizio's. You found out who was dating who, who broke up -- that was the place to be."

Pizio's emphatically *wasn't* the place for teenage Tony to be on one occasion -- a plot hatched there landed him in serious trouble for trespassing on private property. "It was Bubba Hardin, Red Rodriguez, me, and Curry Blackwell. One of the girls, who was going with Bubba, called Pizio's and said they were having a slumber party and wanted us to come over," Tony recalls. Upon arrival at the so-called slumber party, the boys discovered no girls -- they had been tricked. Their next move was clearly to find the teasing girls, and find them they did at a house on Johnson Street -- where there really was a slumber party going on. Tony and Bubba went to the window to talk to the girls, who ordered them to go away. "So I turned the hose on and put it in the window. And all those girls in their pajamas were all screaming and hollering and I was soaking them with the hose!" Even now, Tony laughs at the memory.

That might have been the end of the

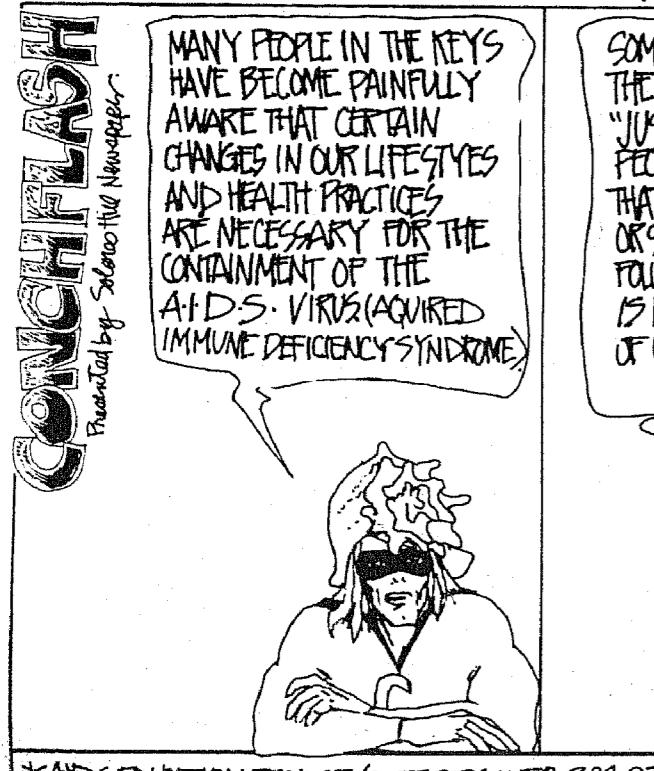


Sue and Tony Barroso with sons Blane and Patrick.

incident if Curry Blackwell hadn't appeared at Pizio's soon after with a box of very loud red cherry bombs. "Three carloads of us went back to Johnson Street," says Tony. "Everybody got out and we all lit the firecrackers at the same time and we threw them at the house and then we left. My God," he recalls, "when all those big cherry

bombs started going off the whole neighborhood thought it was blown up. The police came, the fire chief came, the ambulance came, everybody came. We went back to Pizio's."

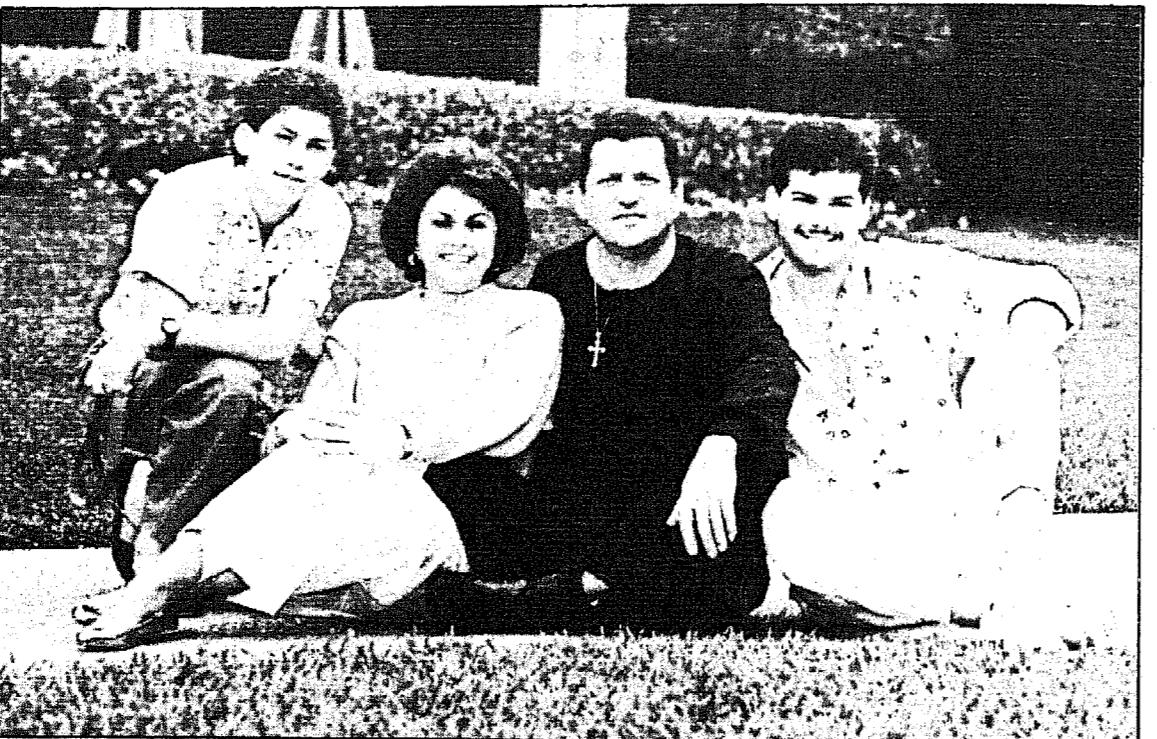
There followed the arrival at Pizio's of the irate father of the girl from Johnson Street, accompanied by Billy Spencer the



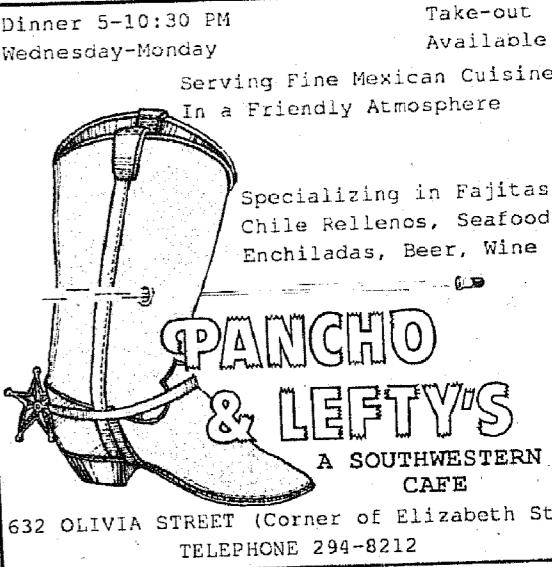
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(L. to R.): Gloria Recupero Veliz; Sandra Herce Barroso; Margaret Albury; Carolyn Artman Blackwell; Susan Petty; Vivian St. Pierre; Sue Mummert Barroso; Jackie Rackley; Marie Key Puig; and Theresa Fazio.

policeman -- and a ride in the paddy wagon for Tony and Bubba Hardin.

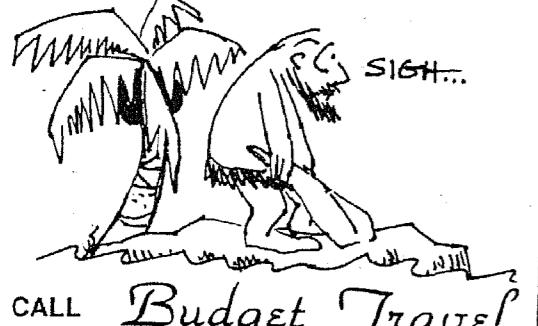
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Today, Tony Barroso is a good

humored, broad-faced man who hasn't thrown a cherry bomb in years. Both he and his brother Barry are the successful operators of Key West Plumbing, and



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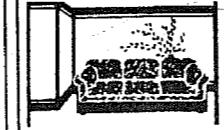
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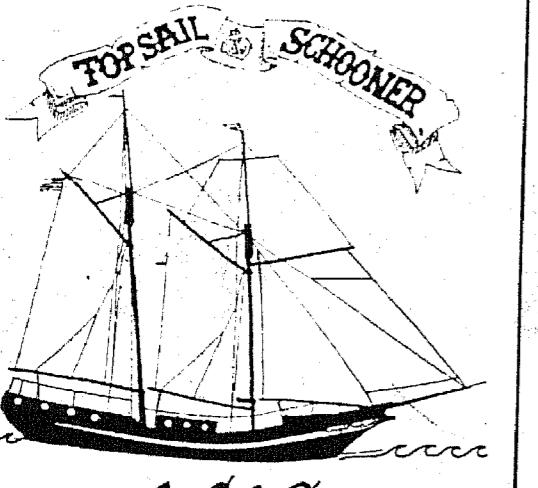
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(L. to R.): Arnold Brye; Jo Brye; Sue; Tony; Sandra; and Barry as young adults after a day of fishing.

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Sandra and Sue work for Ed Swift. Tony and his wife Sue are the parents of three teenage children; Barry and Sandra moved back to Key West after a short stint in Miami and are the parents of five — and the grandparents of baby Yanae, four months old.

The adult Barrosos are just as involved in the mainstream of Key West life as they were when teenagers. Pizio's may be gone, but places like the White Street Pier are still here — and Tony, who grew up on the water, spends almost every morning before he goes to work fishing or birdwatching on the Pier. The magnificent Convent of Mary Immaculate has been torn down and a utilitarian school built in its place, but the religious background their Convent educations instilled in Sue and Sandra is still strong. Both are active in their church, Sue as a lector at St. Mary's and Sandra in the children's Christian education program. Barry, who played high school football with George Mira and still has the lean, compact look of an athlete, has been coaching local Little League football teams for 21 years — and baseball for 14 of the 21.

Perhaps because of their own experiences as children and teenagers in Key West, all four Barrosos felt very strongly that their children should have the chance to grow up here. "We lived away from Key West for about three years," Sandra says. "We moved to Miami, my husband and I and three children, and I had two more while I was in Miami, which prompted me to come back. I had so many things available to me in a large city, but I

could go days and never see a person that I was familiar with. In Key West, you could stall your car and in five minutes have someone either fixing your car or offering you a ride, because you knew everyone. I missed that closeness; I missed that identity that you have and I wanted that for my children. I wanted them to know that same closeness, that same specialness, that security."

Sue is very proud of the fact that all of their children — the next generation of Barrosos — are still in Key West with the exception of her oldest son, who is away at school. "I travel in my job a lot, and sometimes I'm really anxious to get away," she admits, "but I can't tell you how anxious I am always to come home. I couldn't imagine raising my children anywhere else. And although I encourage my children to travel themselves, to experience, in my heart I hope that they come back here."

### Monroe County Student Art Show Opening at East Martello

The East Martello Art and Historical Society will present a showing of original art by the students of the Monroe County School District, grades kindergarten through twelve. The show will open on May 3, 1987, with a reception and party from 1:00-3:00 PM, generously hosted by the Marriott Casa Marina Resort.

The works of this show, entirely created by the students, will be of various sizes and in any media. The artist judges will be selected by the schools in coordination with the District Arts Director.

The show will be on display at East Martello thru May 29. Following the Martello show, the exhibit will be retained for one year for showing at the School Board Administration Building and other locations. The exhibit is being coordinated by Dr. Shirley Freeman.

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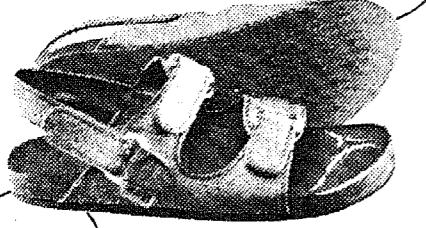
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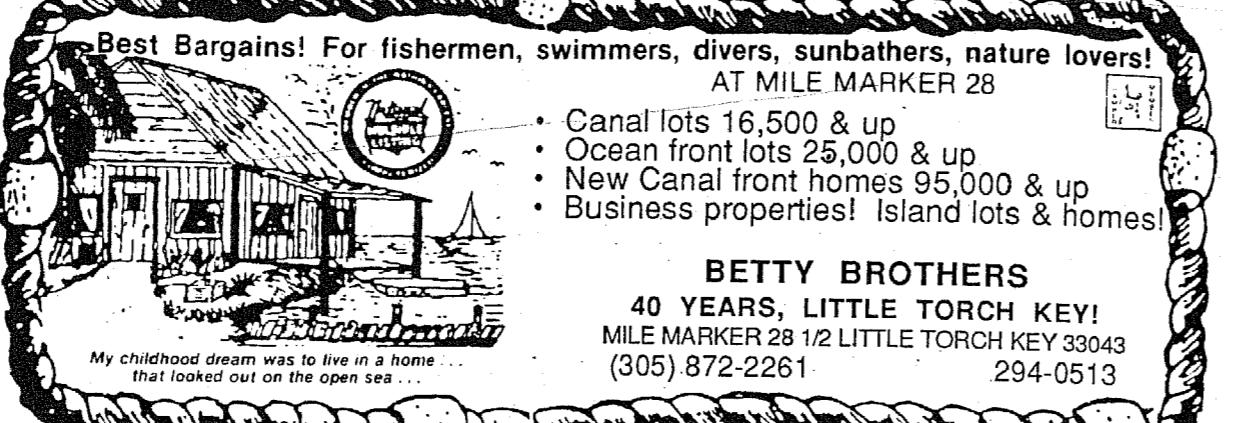


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portable typewriter. My Quaker mother was strong. Strong like the kind of women who chained themselves to bannisters for causes. The Mother thing must be a very powerful human force, I say, moving my lips and looking at the calendar with a picture of a cow standing by a windmill, but not seeing it. Mother's face rises up before me even after all these years, all these fragments, these scenarios ... the moves from an adobe farm house on the Pecos River to school dormitory to a boarding house to an apartment to a ranch style house to an old Conch house to a cottage. The trips, tours, sojourns over state lines, into foreign countries. The offspring and the cars, the washing machines and the convection ovens, the overdue library books, the bosses and the employees, the husbands and the churches. It seems that I know Mother better every year since she passed away these few years ago. Perhaps it's that I never seem good at seeing the persons that I love most when they are present.

As I live through these recollections, I have dragged out this photo in an old album. Mother young in khaki knickers depicted descending into the Carlsbad Caverns with a rope around her waist and sandbags, accompanied by her date, Jim White, who discovered this Eighth Wonder of the World. She is so vital in the picture

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kindly out at me from behind a flowing white beard. It's like being watched through an arelia hedge. I am seated, elevated atop two sections of the Unabridged Oxford Dictionary, A-N and T-Z, and each suppertime my head switches back and forth between Mother and Grandfather like a clock ticking. Except my clock has a terminal stroke. Popsicles cost a nickel, and after two weeks of profound supper summits, decision handed down: No popsicle. I am too young and too old to sit there at the table and try holding my breath so that I will turn blue.

... I am six years old at a funeral of some friend of Mother's in New Mexico. She pulls me out into the hall, spits on a corner of her handkerchief and rubs furiously at seepage near my mouth. "Stop eating peanut butter sandwiches with the peanut butter on the outside." I still can smell the comfortable spit and feel the tough love. At this point, a fat grey cat scuttles past out there along the top of the rock wall and the ginger cat rallies and darts out. I am not swerved from my reminiscences ... there eating cornbread mashed in milk, elbows on table. Decision making time, 'age seven,' I am to go to the circus coming to Carlsbad, N.Mex. Will I be allowed a popsicle during this event? It is the Great Depression. My father passed away, and Mother and Grandfather are the judges at the tribunal. Grandfather uses the Quaker "thee" and "thou" in the home. He peeps

You see, this is the way it was with Mother and me. I was not very closely nor deeply attached to her. I was very closely and deeply attached to her. Both are true. Through the years, I would give her my opinion of everything, and we wouldn't agree on everything. In short, everything

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would be well. I can hear her. I am buckling the girth wrong on my Shetland pony, Bevo. "Pay attention to what you are doing. Control as much of your life as you can." Or, I am bitterly lamenting that I am to gather the eggs laid by our White Leghorn hens. States Mother, looking up from studying the price of a baby chick incubator in a catalog: "Don't spit in the well you drink from." Mother fools our hens, back then in the thirties, into laying twice a day by having gasoline lanterns flare all night in the chicken house. She takes up

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this deception of our hens after a chicken-raising correspondence course which also put her onto culling good layers and lazy layers. Good layers got to wear purple bracelets around their warty legs.

Mother had a lifelong fondness or receptiveness to the spiritual side of life. When she got wind that our Senator professed to being an agnostic: "When a great man only has a little bitty soul, this is because of inadvertence. He simply hasn't made the connection yet." When Mother died, I became intimate as never before with the process of a loved one passing on. She bore the undisguised marks of 90 years of life on earth. And, as I implicitly believe that there is but one Life and we all are in it and that she just has gone around the bend ahead of the rest of us, it's okay. But, at the time it did feel like someone had unplugged a light.

If you really do not know someone completely when they're alive, you certainly won't when they've passed. Is she that lady at the blackboard making penmanship

ovals? Is she the woman delivering a tart axiom while she bastes my skirt hem in her sewing room with the orange flock wallpaper? Or, is she the teacher who dispenses a good shaking to me for getting out of my seat during geography class and having that miserable Norman Gerlach tattle on me? "A good shaking strengthens a child's teeth roots and is markedly better manners than a good slap."

These images come at me. These different "Mothers" got through to me by osmosis that you want to seek out as you go among persons, friends, who "walk alone"; those dependent upon their own resources with a contented surety in their own natures. I believe she is why I seem to look for interesting, vigorous-minded women like Mother, women who have burned the charming girl out of themselves.

Will I ever glimpse a Mother's Day ad, will there ever be the time when these ideas and conjectures about Mother fade? Do snakes have elbows?

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# Editorial

by Bill Westray

As we go to press this Mid-Spring 1987, it is well for those of us who are conservationaly and environmentally oriented to reflect on where we have come from, and where we are headed since the city elections of 1985 and the county elections of 1986.

In 1985, city voters gave a clear mandate to their elected officials that they wanted overdevelopment stopped, or at least slowed down, by returning two conservation minded commissioners, and electing a new mayor by the tightest of margins. In the year and a half since, this government has been responsive to its mandate by denying new large development wherever possible, by preserving the salt ponds (thus far), by requiring municipal services in place and impact fees where appropriate before occupancy. Unfortunately, those large developments still building were approved before the presently constituted commission took office. Also, unfortunately, most of those large developments which the commission decreed should pay impact fees, have hired high-priced lawyers, and filed suits to avoid such fees and set aside the impact fee law. These costly suits have yet to be settled; but meanwhile, in order to build new sewage and garbage disposal systems and improve our streets, the "little"

people have to pay, by increased fees and higher taxes, and by degradation of services. Traffic on our main arteries is atrocious and predicted to get worse. Nonetheless, the majority of our present city commission continues to make sound decisions to deal with some of the errors of the past, and endeavor to maintain the quality of life that they were elected to protect.

In the county, the situation is very different. In the 1986 election, the conservationists were badly divided and were beaten notoriously by a developer's "concrete coalition." The latter were highly financed and well organized and won all counts not only with their candidates but on referendum issues as well. The staff organization that had been put in place to implement the Land Use Plan (LUP) has been demoralized and splintered. The plan itself is being ignored and decimated. The true impact of the 1986 elections remains to be proved, but the direction is clear by the appointments and other actions of the new commissioners thus far.

We frequently hear the complaint that it has become so costly to live, that native "Conchs" can't afford to live here anymore ... which seems to be true. However, even more alarming is the departure of many of

the more affluent "retirees" who originally settled here to enjoy the laid back lifestyle and quiet ambience of the Keys. With a direct transfer of payments income of over \$120 million a year, retirement income represents the largest economic segment of Monroe County according to the official Florida Statistical Abstract. Many economists accelerate direct dollars by a factor of ten to show total rotational economic impact on a community -- for retirees this would amount to \$1.2 billion per year. Thus the loss of a single retiree with a direct income of \$50,000 a year, would represent the loss of \$500,000 in total economic impact.

Our biggest concern is that the progressively declining quality of life, which is causing the out-migration of conchs, retirees, winter-birds and others, is rapidly eroding the tropical ambience that brought people here to visit and/or stay. Not only are individuals being affected, but we are seeing a turnover in ownership of large developments as the entrepreneurs who exploited the earlier quality of life pocket their profits and move on to other green pastures.

What to do about this? There is an urgent need for those who are concerned with what is happening to bind closer together and get more involved. There is a need for the environmentalists and conservationists to settle their differences, decide on common objectives and goals, and work together to achieve their aims. The answers lie in the ballot and at the ballot box. We must elect city and county officials



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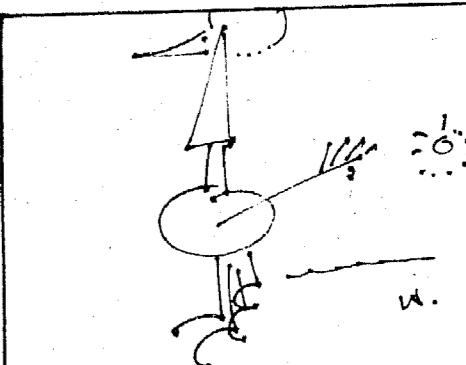
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Key West

who represent our views and are responsive to our "quality of life" objectives. "Save Our Reefs ... Our Beaches ... Our Salt Ponds ... Our Keys ... Our Way Of Life," must become more than just slogans. They must be our goals -- our objectives. We must identify and elect commission candidates, city and county, who represent our goals.

The next election will be the city election in the Fall of 1987. We must elect two commissioners and a mayor. We

conservationists need to back conservation-minded candidates who have the motivation to get involved, the ability to govern, the integrity to represent the people, and the character to stand up for what they believe in. It takes money, organization and planning. Get together, Conservationists. The time to start is now!

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## POLITICAL GAMESMANSHIP 101

What in heck is going on? On an otherwise beautiful February day in Paradise, an extraordinary, albeit staged, event occurred in the Monroe County Election Supervisor's office.

17, count them, 17, prominent (and less so) lifelong Democrats, including five-time Key West mayor Charles "Sonny" McCoy and former City Commissioner Joe Balbontin smiled for photographers and declared their conversion to the Republican Party.

Had each of these people, after deep soul searching, determined simultaneously that indeed the values and goals of the Republican Party more honestly represent their own moral and social values? Are they born-again Republicans? Could this be a new twist on the old political side step called co-opting the opposition? Or could it be a serious case of sour grapes.

The answer appears to be yet another political crazy salad resulting in what may be a more logical coalition than the old

Democratic coalition which lies in shambles from coast to coast.

Anxiety and resentment about social change seem to be underlying motivators in the dissolving of these old loyalties. Joe Balbontin, Key West's eccentric ex-city commissioner, exemplifies this.

(How eccentric? A story from "The World According to Joe": Balbontin, while Commissioner, had been wronged by another member of the Commission. After telling his nemesis he would kill him if the

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offense were repeated, Joe decided he should shoot the fellow anyway. "Not to kill him, but to let him know I was there."

Upon leaving his office to go home for his gun Joe found on the street a shiny 1906 Indianhead penny which he placed in his pocket. In his office at home he mulled his proposed action. As he began to pace he noticed that the penny was gone. After a search of the room failed to turn up the penny he decided to leave town for a while. He and his wife, Gloria, drove to Tampa in his Cadillac.

In Tampa he paid a visit to an old friend named Sanchez who is a barber and mystic. After greeting Joe, Sanchez looked at him and said, "You have crossed much water and have faced a problem."

Joe shrugged off the concern and sat

down to have Sanchez trim his hair. At the conclusion of the haircut Joe was bidding his farewell to Sanchez when Sanchez pulled from his pocket a small squeeze change purse. He squeezed the purse top and extracted from it a shiny 1906 Indianhead penny. He held it out to Joe saying, "I think you lost this. Your problem will be solved."

I didn't get the point of this very strange story, or what it had to do with the state of the country and the Republican Party, but apparently Joe did.

According to Balbontin, the country is going to hell in a Communist cart. He believes that the Democratic Party, which has "become so liberal that it's disgusting," has at best failed to provide leadership and

at worst played into the hands of an international Communist plan since JFK failed to save Cuba from Castro at the Bay of Pigs.

Joe views with alarm the 'Drugs, Sex and Rock and Roll' lifestyle of many young people. He believes that the sharp increase in the availability and use of illegal drugs is being coordinated by Castro out of Havana. He wonders how we can control rape when young women appear in public in such unseemly garments as the G-strings which he saw two women shoppers wearing in a Duval Street store on a recent Saturday. His conclusion is that "too much freedom is worse than not enough."

Balbontin believes that Reagan and the Republicans have turned the country around and stopped a "Red Dawn in America." He

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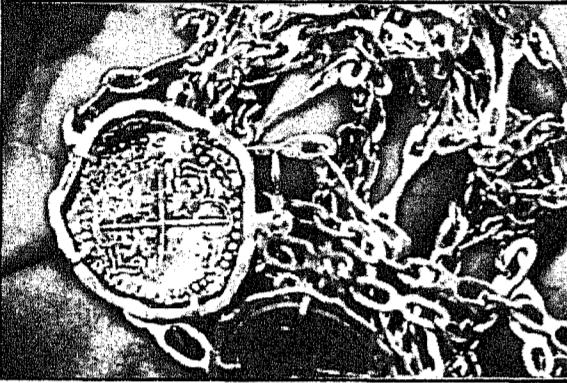


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### Reef Relief

Reef Relief held its most important meeting to date on Wednesday evening, April 22. It was the Skipper's Meeting, designed to acquaint the members of the local watersport industry of the pending installation of sixty mooring buoys at Key West coral reef locations. It was a great success in that more than thirty members of local dive shops, charter boats and fishing boats gathered to discuss the project and offer their support.

At present, the county will finance the installation of the first sixty buoys with funds from the Boating and Recreational Fund providing REEF RELIEF maintains the buoys and provides educational materials to all reef boaters and divers. REEF RELIEF has accepted that responsibility and the county has awarded the bid for the construction to a Marathon marine construction firm. Now REEF RELIEF must raise the funds for this project and a big fundraiser is being planned for this summer, when the buoys will be installed.

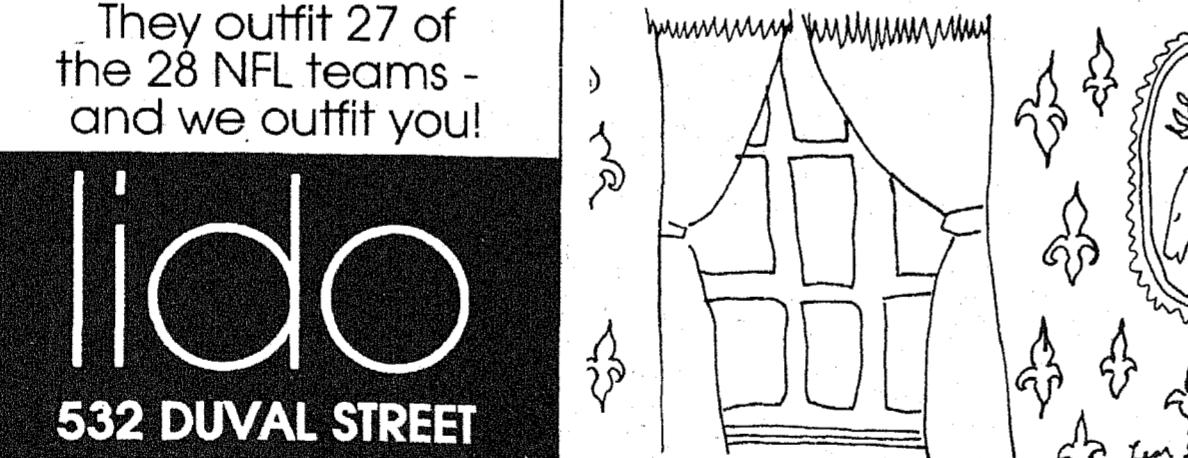
For more information or to become a member of REEF RELIEF, call Craig or DeeVon Quirolo at 294-1891. Annual membership is \$20 and entitles you to a bumper sticker, a window decal and the quarterly newsletter, REEF LINE.

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notes that Castro has "shut up" since Reagan took office.

As far as the Iran-Contra affair is concerned, Balbontin is convinced that the entire controversy is a product of the press. From his experience as an elected official he understands that "sometimes the President has to override Congress" and "do things that aren't exactly legal in the best interest of the people."

Five-time former mayor "Sonny" McCoy's conversion is the result of less global concerns. Indeed he had registered Republican weeks before the recent gathering at the Election Supervisor's office and was urged to join the rest of the group at the photo opportunity to add clout to the ensemble.

McCoy's conversion is the result of his deep unhappiness with changes in the local Democratic Party. He feels that the party has fallen into the hands of newcomers whose only motivation is the "acquisition of personal power."

Leading his parade of horrors is the controversial accession of Peter Ilchuk to the job of Election Supervisor. Ilchuk -- a specialist in political campaigns and public relations, formerly a congressional aide to recently indicted New York Congressman Mario Biaggi -- was appointed to the office in Gov. Graham's 11th hour after the elected candidate, Mary Brown, whose campaign Ilchuk coordinated, chose not to serve.

To McCoy, this exemplified the self serving ambition of the new Democrats in Key West.

On the other hand McCoy, an admirer of Richard J. Daley, long-time Mayor of Chicago when it was called the City that Works, says his concerns are the same as when he was mayor. He worries about services to residents and the tax burden on the single family home owner.

McCoy is "saddened" by the lack of leadership in the current Democratic establishment, and hopes the New Republicans will provide a venue in which such leadership will be nurtured.

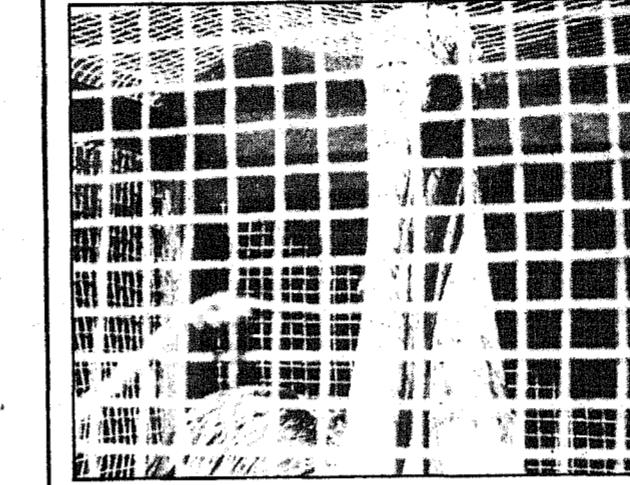
In short, these Born-Again Republicans seem to be motivated by a refusal to accept that the perceptible changes in social mores and values which have sustained widespread acceptance over the past decade are here to stay. Whether for reasons of moral commitment, greed, jealousy, or fear, these "Born Agains" are digging in their heels to protect the old ways and old values.

The dreaded Peter Ilchuk, in his official capacity, provides some interesting, though inconclusive, statistics. At the time of the 1986 general election the electoral rolls in Monroe County were divided at 61.8% Democrat, 30.4% Republican, 7.8% other. Since that time, new registrations (which includes the Born-Again Republicans) have increased Democrat numbers by 1.7% and Republicans by 6.6%.

If this is a trend and not an aberration, the Born-Agains may just have picked the right wave at the right time. At any rate, folks, politics in Monroe County are destined to get even more interesting. However, it may be useful to remember the old Chinese curse, "May you live in interesting times."

### Partridge in a pear tree?

No, but a lot of our Florida Keys bird-citizens were represented in our recent trip to Tropical Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Miami. This came about when Dr. Alan Bush, veterinarian from Ramrod Key, discovered that what started out as a gesture of great kindness — to treat, for free, any injured wild birds brought to him — had turned into a serious problem, for both him and the birds.



A patient

Dr. Bush, and Dr. Rene Cruz of the same clinic, didn't mind at all helping our injured, feathered friends, operating, prescribing medicines, often having to amputate a mutilated wing or leg, but what then? Most of these birds would need lifelong care and the clinic was not prepared for this. The birds, pelicans, herons, gulls and others, often had to be kept outside in dog kennels. It wasn't fair to the clinic or the birds.

Enter Tropical Wildlife Rehab Center of Miami.

My mother, who lives in Miami and who is up on all the latest animal stuff — my mother who prefers animals to people eight days a week — had the answer.

"There is a new place in Miami," she said.

She gave me the address of Tropical Wildlife and also the address for Suncoast, a seabird sanctuary near St. Petersburg, but I had already heard that Suncoast was up to their bills in birds, and besides, I wanted to keep it in our area. At Tropical Wildlife I talked to a woman named Maria, explaining the problem.

"Sure," she said, "we'll be glad to take your birds."

Maria was friendly from the outset and took away any paranoia I had about foisting our birds on another community.

"We're all volunteers," she said, "and that's why we're here — we care. There's myself — I'm here in the daytime, I go to school at night — there's Faye, Mike, several others, and Glenn Fried is our veterinarian — he's in charge. He gives us as much time as he can," she said of Fried, "but it's rough for him, running his own clinic and taking care of all the animals out here. We've asked lots of vets in Dade County to volunteer some time, but they turned us down, all but one, Doug Folland of West Kendall Animal Clinic."

We agreed on a date for delivering the birds and Mike gave the directions.

"Just ask for the old, secret missile base," he laughed. "EVERBODY knows where that is."

### THE TRIP

"We'd better get a big cage for the Great White Heron," Dr. Bush said when I told him the good news, "or you could lose an eye or something."

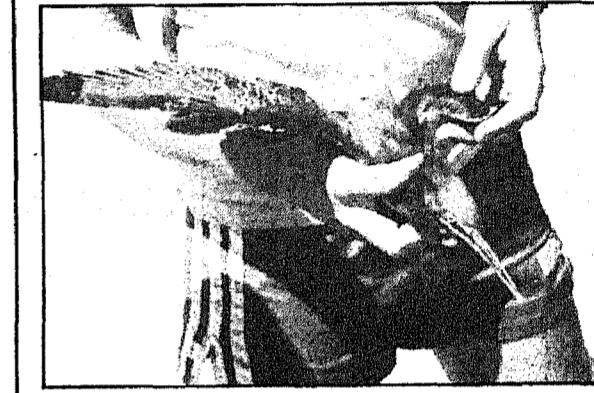
I envisioned going through life with an ovalish hole in the side of my head and realized that moving these birds would require more planning than loading my three dogs in the car (which only requires an open door and no invitation). With the help of

the staff at Bush Animal Clinic, cages were acquired from here and there, one of my own thrown in. On the appointed morning my wife and I drove our Bronco to the rear of the clinic. I stood around nervously, wondering about handling wild birds of this size.

The list was as follows:

- 1 Great White Heron
- 2 pelicans
- 1 green heron
- 1 snowy egret
- 1 silkwood
- 1 laughing gull

Brave Alice, a Bush Clinic assistant, walked boldly into the kennel with the snowy egret, swerved out of the way of several orange-beaked egret stabs, and



Mike examines a wing.

gently got the bird by the neck. It looked easy, but ... In the next cage was a very large, very alert Great White Heron who had the distinct look of a bird who disliked dark-haired men with Broncos.

"Do you want to get this one?" Brave Alice asked me.

"Go ahead, dear," my wife, Maribeth, said, smirking. "Don't make Alice do all the work."

"Just watch your eyes," Alice warned.

Well, thankfully, it was over in a minute and this most beautiful and majestic of birds

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was comfortably in a large cage. In forty-five minutes the troops were loaded aboard, along with specific medical information, and we were off. The drive up US-1 was slow, because of traffic and because none of our passengers had ever contemplated moving under anything but their own locomotion. Three hours later we arrived at the center. My folks were there to greet us, along with Maria, Mike, and Faye. We all had big grins — THE ANIMAL LOVERS WERE UNITED IN ANIMAL LAND.

from a love base. Money is tight, the food demands are great, but Glenn, Mike, Maria, Faye and the others we talked to were upbeat about the whole thing.

The aviary, donated by the Kiwanis Club, had blown down in a recent storm. Mike had called Florida Power and Light, to see if they could help get the aviary cloth back up to its high poles. On this issue his hopes were a little low because they had already had difficulties dealing with officialdom, especially with the local police



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## HELP FROM A GREATER POWER

If you are an animal lover, GO! Go to the Tropical Wildlife Rehabilitation Center. What an experience! And you are welcome. My wife, my mother, father, and myself were greeted with open arms. We were taken from room to room, pen to pen, and saw wild boar (yes, you can pet them), raccoons, horses, ducks, snakes, turtles, flying squirrels, frogs, birds, and many other once-homeless and threatened creatures. There is no hype, no ego-trip here — these people are working strictly

department, which seemed reluctant to respond to calls that men with high-powered rifles were hunting on the Center's property.

But FPL showed!

Two giant FPL trucks rumbled in while we were there, and Mike showed working foreman Carroll Jackson all around the aviary. Together they made plans for the repair. FPL, Carroll Jackson told me, is usually able to help out with community projects like this, but people just don't think to ask.

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Well, the whole experience was wonderful, awakening and enriching, and as long as there are people like Dr. Bush and Dr. Cruz, and like Dr. Glenn Fried and Mike, Maria, Faye and the others who give freely of their time and love, then there is hope in a sometimes bleak world.

The Tropical Wildlife Center is surviving hand to mouth — or is it beak? — and donations are badly needed. But better yet, go up the road and see for yourself the wonders of working with these amazing creatures. Pet them, smile at them, hold them, and get a little animal on you — it's a wonderful smell.

The Tropical Wildlife Rehabilitation and Nature Center is located at 22025 S.W. 87th Avenue, Miami, Florida, 33189. Their phone number is 305-251-4996.

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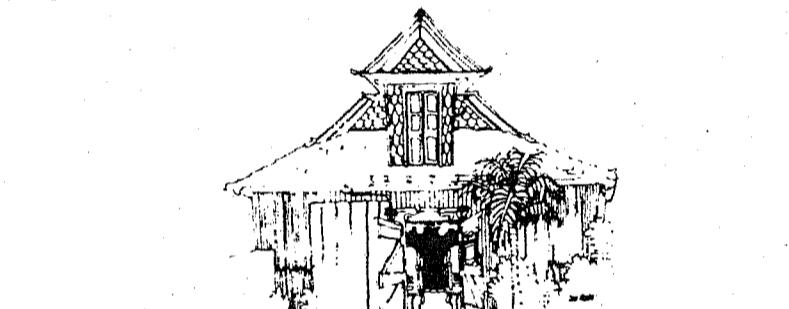
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## Memories of Dylan Thomas, Part II

by Philip Burton

In 1948 I left Cardiff and moved to London to become the Chief Instructor in the Training Department of the BBC. When Dylan heard about this he got in touch with me and I invited him to lunch at the Cafe Royal. It was a memorable meeting. He was all on fire with ideas for a new radio program whose tentative title was *The Village of the Mad*; it was ultimately to become his best known work for radio, *Under Milk Wood*. At that time he wanted me to direct it, to repeat our happy experience on *Return Journey*, but I explained that my new position in the BBC made that impossible; still he wanted to discuss it with me. It was to be a dramatization of the clash in values between the conventional and the unconventional. The scene would be a courtroom where a whole village was on trial. The ordinary world had accused its inhabitants of being insane, and so a danger to society. If they won their case, they expected the sentence to be the gradual extinction of the village by cutting off all supplies to it. The narrator was to be a blind man speaking from the gallery of the courtroom. For the village Dylan created the name Llareggub, a characteristic verbal joke; spelled backwards it is Bugger all. (After Dylan's death, the printed form of the name became Llaregyb, thus robbing the author of his laugh.)

These are some of the "insanities" he

described to me; the church organist would play for hours with no audience but a dog; a young couple would write love letters to each other every day but never meet; a craftsman would spend weeks making something beautiful and then he would destroy it, and this he did over and over again.

Towards the end of the lunch the Dylan was revealed that I had heard much about but had never seen. A third person joined us. I cannot remember who it was but he was quite well known. The creative and friendly person I had known became the loud-mouthed show-off; he was playing a part, the notorious character that everybody talked about. He said some outrageous things that embarrassed and saddened me. I left as soon as I could; Dylan knew why. Tales of that public Dylan Thomas have regrettably become widespread and magnified so that many people "know all about him" but never have read a poem of his.

In 1952 I left the BBC to devote myself to the theatre. Both Richard and I looked forward to my directing him in a season at the Old Vic. That didn't work out but I was able to work on some of his parts with him. I acted in two plays in the West End, chiefly to get the feel of the London Theatre backstage. Dylan, of course, knew of this, and it led to our last meeting. It was in my

London apartment on Sunday, October 11, 1953, a week before he set out for America for the last time; he was to die there on November 9. His death made recollections of that last meeting important, and I was asked to write an account of it for the International Review: *Adam*. What follows will be an expanded version of that article.

Two weeks before that last meeting we had met in Swansea. Both of us were there for the BBC, I to make preliminary arrangements for the recording of a dramatic script I had written entitled *Super Tramp*, a radio biography of the poet, W.H. Davies, and Dylan to record some poetry. My diary for Monday, September 28, 1953, has this: "We drank our way through lunch-time, and I lost my train." I had been eager to hear about the final form of what had now become *Under Milk Wood*. He had already taken part in New York in a public reading at the Poetry Center of an incomplete version of it, and it was for a further reading, now of the finished work, that he was flying to New York again. But Dylan soon dismissed *Under Milk Wood* because he was all afire about a new work. He delighted me by saying that he wanted my collaboration in it because it was an entirely new venture for him, a stage-play. He said he would come to see me in London on his way to America. I rather doubted that he would be able to find the time, besieged as he would be by his many friends and in the rush of departure, and I reconciled myself not to hear from him until he came back from America, but I was wrong. He was clearly so obsessed by his new idea that out of his last hectic days in London he set aside a whole quiet evening to visit me for a talk about it.

We soon felt it necessary to find a working title for the play. We decided on *Two Streets*. My part in the discussion was to suggest how Dylan's vision might best be realized in the physical opportunities and limitations of the stage, for the play was to have little resemblance to the normal three-act entertainment. To begin with, there was to be no intermission. On this Dylan was adamant. The possibility of members of the audience trooping to the bar in the middle of the performance of any play of his made him very heated indeed. Even the cinemas had better manners; they sold ice-cream only between films. A play must be an unbroken experience, like a film or a symphony. If it turned out that *Two Streets* was short enough to warrant including another short play "or something" in the program, then the bars could ply their trade between the plays; otherwise, no.

*Two Streets* was to be a "simple love story." It was to be set in a small industrial town in a South Wales valley, and it would tell of the lives of two families who live unknown to each other in neighboring streets. The play would begin with the birth of the boy in one street and the girl in the other, and it might possibly end with their first meeting, centre-stage, in a dance hall. There was to be little realism in the presentation, and the families would live their separate but unconsciously interwoven lives at the two sides of the stage until at last the boy and the girl meet in the middle. The first character to form a link between the

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Dylan Thomas at Dion Allen's apartment in New York City rehearsing *Under Milk Wood*, 1953. Allen was an actor in the play for voices.

families would be the midwife who attended both mothers. What a rich Dylan-esque character she would have been! I was

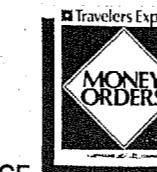
concerned about the most important part of the stage, the centre, and I suggested that throughout the play it might be dominated

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by the voice of the valley itself, a character who would become different things at different times, a voice that the families sometimes listened to and sometimes ignored; he could be a preacher, a politician, a football-supporter, a recruiting-sergeant, a poet, a cheapjack selling the valley in the Depression, a bureaucrat, a multiple-shop owner ... In this part I saw Dylan himself; he would have been superb. But even if he did not play it himself -- and, although he revelled in acting, the nightly discipline of a successful run was not for him -- such a fat star part would have enhanced the play's chance of a profitable production. Dylan took warily, but I think approvingly, to my idea of the central character, and we were both going to ponder the form and shape of the play in preparation for our next meeting. His last word about *Two Streets* was notably characteristic. During the discussion he had enjoyed treating me as an obstructive stage-producer whom he had to badger and plead with. In the actual staging

of the play his mind's eye had not seen much beyond the opening, and for this he begged with comic fervor, "Please, please let me have two prodigiously pregnant women."

*Two Streets* was the main subject of conversation during that last meeting, but there were others. He was venturing into yet another new field, and to this one he was formally committed. He had undertaken to write an opera-libretto for Stravinsky. The Opera Workshop of Boston University had agreed to sponsor the opera, but Dylan had recently heard from the composer that they would do better for themselves if they completed the work and then got commercial sponsorship; in any case, the Workshop had not promised much money, and was having difficulty in raising even that. Dylan appreciated the argument but he had, as usual, been counting on an advance payment from the Workshop and on its paying the expenses of the trip to California for meetings with

Stravinsky; now he would have to use his earnings from the reading of *Under Milk Wood* in New York.

Dylan's ideas for the opera seemed to be almost as nebulous as those for *Two Streets*, except for one little incident which crystallized the theme for him. The setting was to be the world destroyed by atomic warfare. Almost all life had disappeared. The scene was to be a cave in barren surroundings. Miraculously two young people had survived, and they had to find life again in an almost total absence of it. The boy was older than the girl -- or should it be the other way around? -- and he had dim, groping memories of life before the destruction. The incident that fired Dylan's imagination was the boy's discovery of a shoot peeping through the ground, a shoot that would grow into a tree. Another character was to be an old prophet who had survived the doom he had foretold. As I listened, it suddenly struck me that Dylan was feeling towards a second Garden of

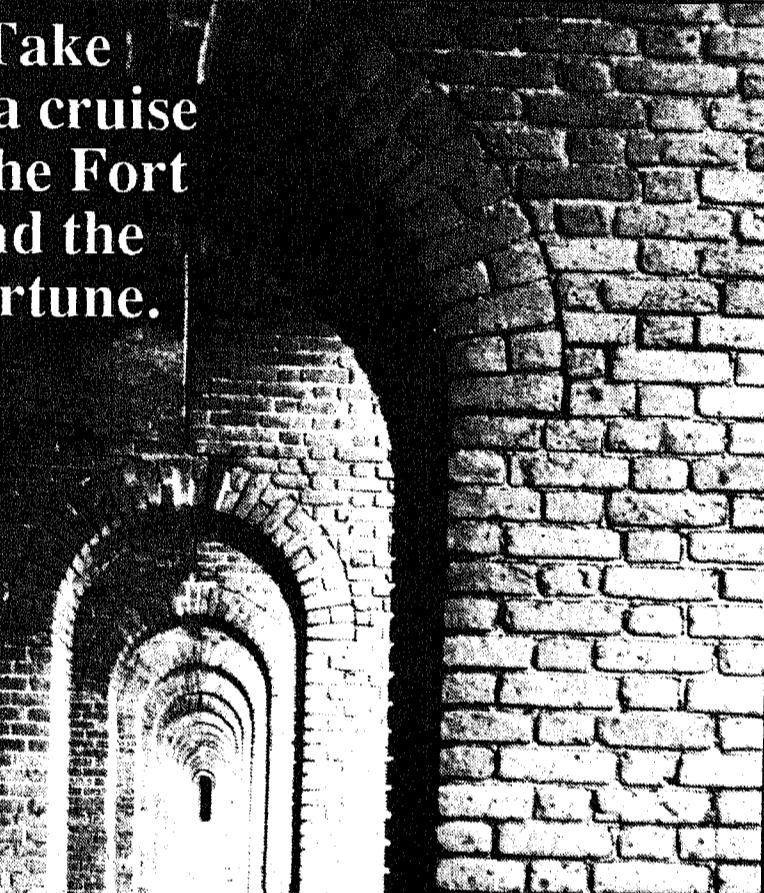
Eden story. When I told him this, he was momentarily surprised and then he seized excitedly on the idea and began to develop it with brilliant spontaneity. The theme of the opera was clearly to be one that underlies much of Dylan's work: life is stronger than death ... But he wasn't to keep his appointment with Stravinsky.

What else remains of that last meeting? His imitable reading of some revisions of *Under Milk Wood* brought up from the depths of his cavernous pockets; ("That word won't do. The Censor wouldn't pass the word she would really use, but 'loving' is too feeble altogether, and it's got too many other associations.") After some fumbling I suggested 'pleasuring'. He savored it. "Yes, that's better. It's a word she might use, and an actress could do something with those consonants.") his wickedly funny and very enjoyable comments on some mutual friends; his tidbits of political gossip; but, above all, his warm humanity that robbed his quips of all cruelty.

At the end of the evening -- he had been

talking solidly and wonderfully for over three hours -- he said quite suddenly, "May I lie down?" Soon he was in a very deep sleep on my bed. He had told me when to wake him but, when I tried to do so, I had great difficulty. I shook him and shouted. Slowly he became awake and conscious of where he was. He asked, "Was that a long one? Did you have trouble in waking me?" When he left he was bouncing with life again and full of the usual promises of a certain future: "I'll write you from New York, and see you as soon as I get back." Not surprisingly I had to pay his taxi fare back to Hammersmith where he was staying. Earlier I had asked him why he was going to America. He replied, "To make money." "How much will you bring back?" With a wry smile he said, "Not a penny."

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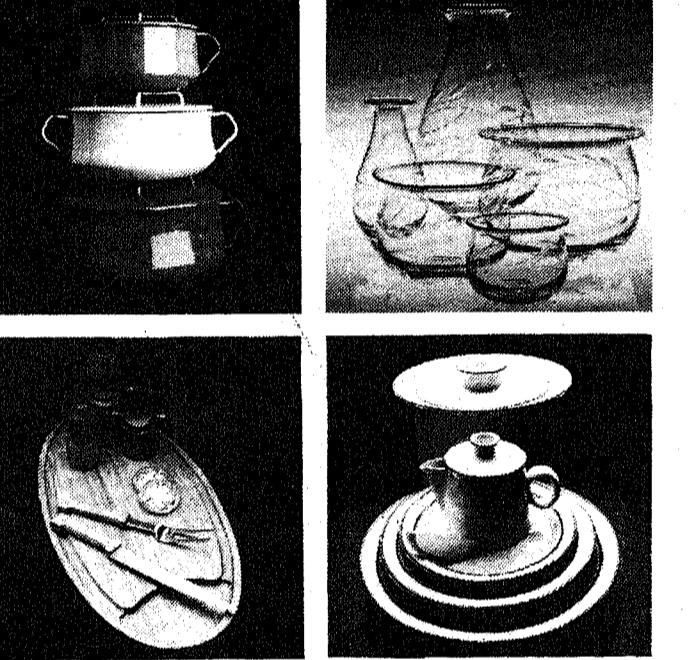


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## Friends of the Library

by Edith S.C. Camp

Most of us Friends of the Library in Key West remember, with affection, the ladies in the Helen Hokinson cartoons made fashionable in *The New Yorker* and later spread all over by advertising. The ladies were mostly in groups, doing their good works by committee, feeling safer in a flock. Though they were laughed at, they were special. One usually found two or three among one's maiden aunts or ladies a generation more away. They were admittedly a comfortably-off, homogenized sector of the communities of the thirties, forties and early fifties.

I think of these ladies every time I enter our library -- I mean a *Pink* library! Who ever heard of a pink library? None of the suggestions of work and steel mills in the May Hill Russell Library ... no flavor of Mr. Carnegie bringing enlightenment to the workers as in the slightly grubby yellow and red brick libraries that adorn almost all small towns in America. Not in Key West, though: nothing utilitarian, but a thoroughly feminine and frivolous looking library. But as one should not judge a book by its cover, so one should not judge a library by its body paint. The library is a hive of serious

activity serving the communities' colony of writers, ranging from the distinguished to the impossible, in the capacity of a research laboratory and it has a large and eclectic enough collection of books to take care of the readers in this town. It also has the activities sponsored by the Friends of the Library, the most notable of which, I think, is the series of lectures on Monday mornings.

The season is larded with lectures by people chosen by the committee for the library. From the rich mix of people who gravitate to Key West, the ladies have a good grab bag to choose from. This year we have had, so far, Mr. Philip Burton reading an important poem (*Fancy*, by W.H. Davis) and accompanied by Matthew Jampol on the classical guitar. It was a fabulous way to start that week. Mr. Burton, whose wonderfully mellifluous voice could make the reading of a K-Mart inventory sound like the advice of a Druid priest inspiring and mystifying the faithful, felt that Jampol's music would "color the changes of mood," in Davis' poem. It was indeed a riveting hour, a truly inspired choice to open the season.

This last year it seemed to me the speakers were more on a person-to-person crusade, not necessarily teaching or imparting information on unknown subjects, but rather a show-and-tell on their own experiences and biographies.

Among the speakers were Robert Nathan discussing the role of government in the economy and Jerry Cash on linguistics. To have one so brilliant as Nathan and so



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closely involved in the economics of today was a treat indeed. His worldwide experience and involvement as an advisor on the highest level made "Unprecedented Economic Distortions" (his title) a privileged look into policies and decisions far from the everyday person's ken. Not a "pink library" frivolous morning chat but the real nitty gritty. The other speaker increasing our knowledge was Jerry Cash, who taught us about the two Charlestown dialects: "Gullah" which the Blacks spoke and "Geechie," the White dialect spoken in South Carolina. Mr. and Mrs. Cash occasionally speak to each other in these dialects stemming from the 17th and 18th century English, not written and changed and honed by time only.

There is not space to tell the whole roster for this year or next, but the Friends of the Library have had the privilege to get to know better Grant Spradling and his various careers and contacts with the Metropolitan Opera, Marcella Cisney, who painted a picture of infinite variety and hard work in the history of the American theater. There

was writer Ellie Welt with her tribute to John Ciardi and ex-TV producer Bill Anderson with an hilarious account of live television and the endless complications that could arise particularly dealing with Jack Paar and going to Cuba -- not all a bed of roses. There was a morning with David Kaufelt and his wife, Lynn, who told of their recent works and (David especially) of their life in Florida. Both these writers have had a close alliance with the Friends of the Library and in recent years have run the literary seminars.

The season reached the peak of show-and-tell with marine archeologist Duncan Mathewson -- what he showed us was gold from the *Atocha*. A gold bar was passed around so one could hold and weight it in one's hand and see the markings that showed the weight in little "m" marks in small circles. He told us of the plans and care taken to observe archeological techniques and methods, that objects seemingly valueless like timber and nails revealed much more of history and life in the 16th Century than the gold and jewels

one rushed to instinctively. He has added to the whole project an incalculable value by shifting the emphasis to scholarship rather than treasure hunting. He leaves to the world a legacy of students trained in underwater archeology, so that parts of the past will not be lost forever. The next week we had Mr. David Lowe with a stunning slide show and lecture on Palladio, master architect of the post Italian renaissance, probably the greatest architect of all time. It was a tour de force and one felt ready to try for a PhD. It left an exhilarating aftertaste as he brilliantly showed what Palladio had done for Key West. For a week or so, one walked around feeling Mr. Lowe had washed one's eyes with a magic lotion as building after building were revealed carrying the blessings of the Palladian influence. The past is all around us in this town.

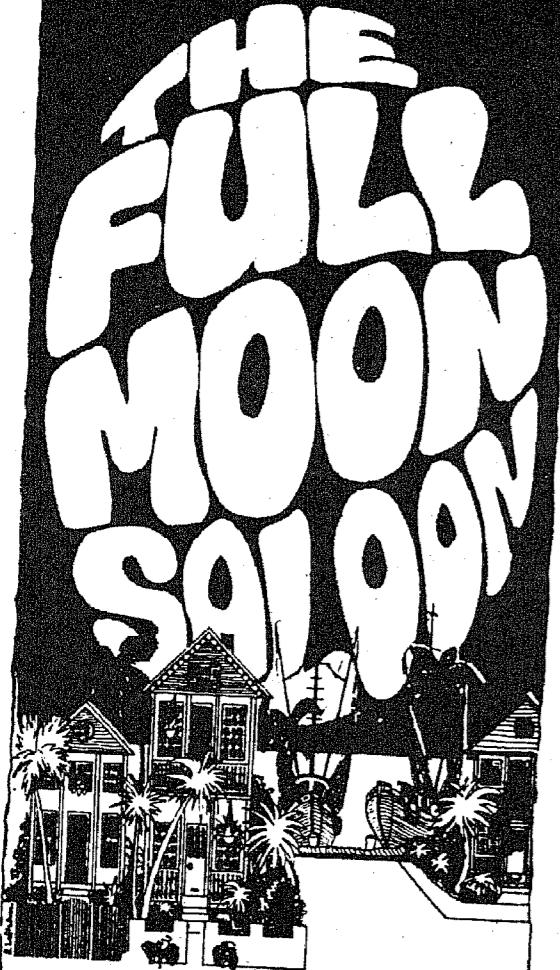
I am sure Miss Helen Hokinson would have enjoyed all these sessions and would have found material for her stylish drawings in the library mornings presented with her unerring wit and affection for the Human

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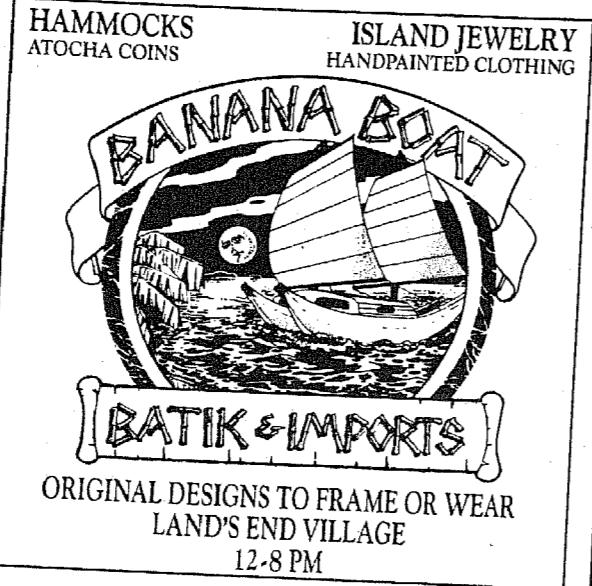
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Comedy. I first met Miss Hokinson when I was an associate editor on a national magazine and had been assigned to write captions for a special two page spread she had done for us. It was a charming set of sketches, out of her usual satirical vein, of a day in the life of a girl visiting her beau in boot camp and what the routine of a brand new G.I. could reveal. I was terrified, as it seemed presumptuous to caption the drawings of such a famous artist, but a job is a job, and I set to it. I used army slang and army commands changed around to take the couple through their day of romance and routine hour by regimented hour. Miss Hokinson liked that.

When I took her to lunch at The Bagatelle in New York, a restaurant then frequented by magazine people and publishers, she confessed the one thing that annoyed her about *The New Yorker* was that they did not let her write her own captions; though she occasionally added one or two, never used. "Don't tell anyone, but quite often I write the captions for myself, then I see the ones in *The New Yorker* they wrote and they are not as funny as mine."

Miss Hokinson then changed the subject, "Isn't that Clifton Fadiman over there?" I said, "Yes, aren't you two buddies -- working for the same shop?" Miss Hokinson was a tiny little spinster. She peered at me through the blue feathers hanging over her hat brim and said, "I am not at all familiar with the *important* people on the magazine." I said, "Shall I go over and ask him to come to the table?" She said, "Oh, no, I would be embarrassed." Her shyness and the unaffected modesty

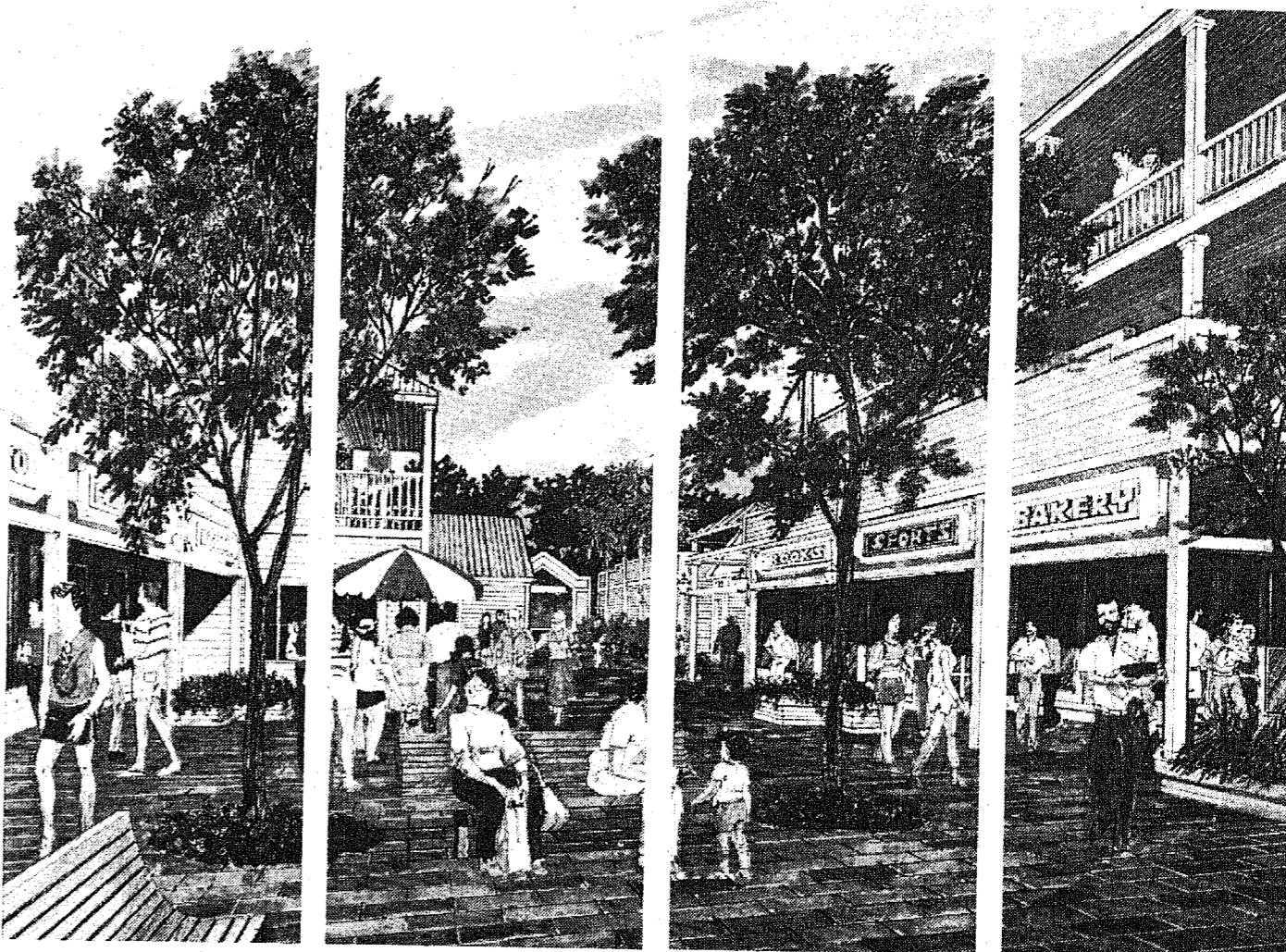
with which she spoke was very endearing. I wanted to ask her a lot more questions about herself, but I didn't know how to break through her reserve, so I started talking off the top of my head about dynamic symmetry, a formal analysis of composition which she had studied at art school. How she worked it out on the grandmotherly, billowy bosom swathed in chiffon, the thin legs and elegant ankles appearing below Chanel suits, with those hats was what made her the best cartoonist of that era, I suppose.

I would be hard put today to explain dynamic symmetry -- but I remember when I was rather fascinated by it, taking pictures from Botticelli through enormous Davids, Vermeers and even Frederick Church, trying to see if they fitted into the analysis of dynamic symmetry. It had to do with scale and perspective and light. We drew lines across, and vertically, and diagonally on the art prints we bought for art history and if one persevered and worked carefully, in the web of crossing lines appeared one dominant triangle. This was the heart of the painting. The golden triangle. After my lunch with Miss Hokinson I pounced on all *New Yorkers* and started my lines on Miss Hokinson's cartoons (there was always at least one in every issue). The golden triangle appeared miraculously and regularly in the groups -- it might frame a laughing face which suffused the drawing with warmth and gaiety or a double chin trembling with rage at a raised hand, also in the triangle. You could almost hear a screechy voice, "Madame Chairman, Point of order ..." Maybe it was the discipline of dynamic symmetry that made Miss Hokinson's drawings more than cartoons, revealing a great deal more depth about her subject matter than one expected -- pictures which superficially might seem simply comic statements of the ladies whose good works made the difference between a dull town and a good town.

I like to speculate that what the Friends of the Library have done in the development of the May Hill Russell library is to take a wonderfully pretty building and, by a kind of dynamic symmetry of the mind, if such a thing is possible, develop to potential into a stimulating yet restful place, cared for by modern-style Miss Hokinson ladies who have mastered scale and perspective in their plans and thinking, thereby nurturing the public's interest and response. In an exotic small town which one wag characterized as the largest outdoor insane asylum in the world, the library stands as a link with tradition ... still a fount of learning. Here everyone feels at home and gains from the knowledge that is so freely disbursed by this extraordinary little institution on Fleming Street -- the golden triangle of Key West.

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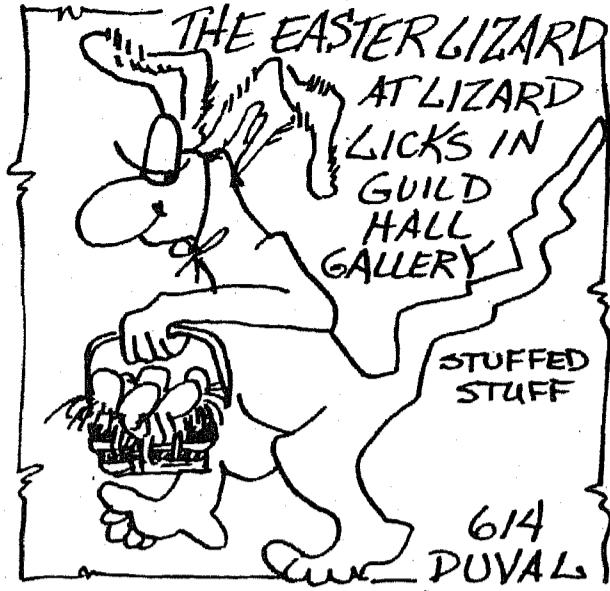
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## GALLERY HOPPING

by Gordon Lacy

All the backing and filling before the final acceptance by the College of Noguchi's proffered gift of park-mound-landscape-sculpture (I wish I had been able to contact David Wolkosky who is the prime mover in all this, but alas ...) is over finally and will surely, once finished, become one of the island's most visited spots. Ron Saunders recently solicited input and I wrote that we need quality

tourism; down powerboats, up Aida.

Parvan's evening of opera in recital at the Tennessee Williams Center was a mixed bag of surprises. The ensemble's raggedness was offset by the charm of hearing grand opera accompanied by a chamber orchestra devoid of any percussion. The featured artist of the evening, Mr. Terranova, took us back to another era of singing; all-out metallic head tones, final A's seemingly held forever without a wobble and accurately, too. This Italian school of singing was the underlying cause of an epidemic of herniae among tenors, I have been told. A magnificently trained voice, Margaret Pent sang "Care Nome" courageously and nimbly and I had the

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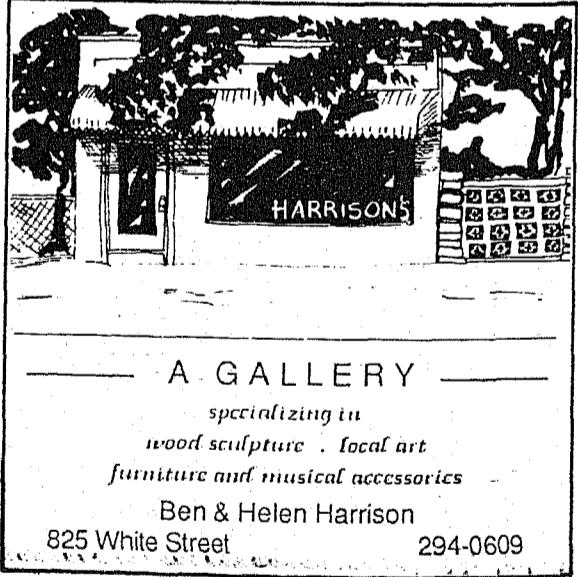


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presidency after John Tosi's resignation. John is developing a property in Miami and will not be able to be present at the required number of Martello meetings to continue in office. I wish there were a bit of scandal in all this, but it is depressingly above-board. Anyway, John has done a super job for us all and I have never seen him lose aplomb or energy. A gusty round of applause for John and we continue to welcome in Richard. The last show at Martello will be the ghastly yearly children's show and here I gather between the lines there has been the customary bickering over the judging and the quotas of the various Keys' schools. That there be a show to educate children is one thing; to take up space in a museum to show their work is another. Martin Lessig's splendid color photos of Key West and Jeremiah Miller's large northern landscapes were a welcome change of pace.

Barbara at Aristos has been knocked out by pneumonia but is on the mend. She seems very happy to go on the summer schedule with her gallery artists, all regulars, Michael Shannon, Henri LaChapelle, Esther Ganet and Jack Pardou. In fact, all the gallery owners seem to feel the same; I have been longing for summer since February.

The Key West Art Center will be showing two artists of-the-month. From May 2-May 16, Faye Peterson will show her watercolors of flowers and things Key West to be followed by Maxine McMullen's watercolors of Key West scenes, through the end of the month. Maxine is unfortunately at present in the hospital and we are all hoping that she will be released in

time to realize her show.

The Haitian Art Co. will be doing its annual half-off show for the locals. This much anticipated event will take place from the 15th through the 31st. As Ruth says, out with the old, in with the new.

Farrington's will offer prints, lithos and serigraphs at half price the whole month in a sort of Mother's Day special; it also happens to be Ned's birthday. They have some new work in the "birds-become-boats" series by Jean-Olivier Heron. See ad this page. Free parking out back; last time I used it I got blocked in by a truck in a typical SoMo incident that is better not mentioned.

Alice Terry's Easter day show at the Lane Gallery was a whopping success for Alice. Many of her large vivid flower paintings sold. Joe will be giving Tom Szuter a one-man show from Sunday, May 10-24. Tom has been working very hard on impressionistic architectural settings under plexiglass. Plexiglass icons Joe calls them. After the 24th he will show the gallery's artists, Vaughn Gibson, Jack Baron, Scott Jones, the Cattel-Magurez team from France and Walter Defel whose small and droll veneered panels have been selling one an evening for the last two weeks. Speaking of Jack Baron as we were, he tells me he has again been asked by the Institute of Naif and Primitive Art to show in their International Toy Show in Chicago.

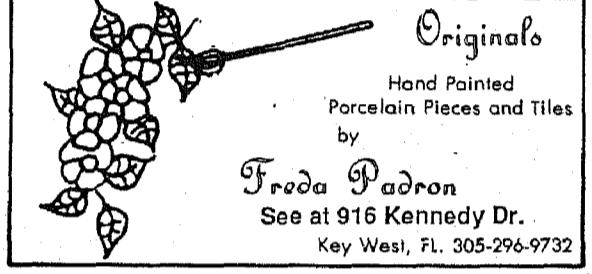
There is a new gallery, The Gem, on Simonton across from the old Post Office. They specialize in one-of-a-kind pieces of jewelry; coin medallions with jewels by Reilly, Bijoux by Beauchay, Brad Weiland's creations, Shirley Bregman's

gold jewelry. As anyone can tell, I am at a loss when faced with jewelry. It glitters. The Gem also carries a line of Mimi Martin Santon dolls from Toulon, made of terra-cotta and dressed in traditional old-timey authentic costumes. The Gem will also be showing various local painters. The day I was there it was oils by Mally.

Helio-Graphics is not new. It has operated in the Halloran building for five years. The building itself is a marvel with a central stair-well that goes spaciously up three storeys, lit by sky-light. For Helio-Graphics' recent show it was hung with owner-artists Dawn Wilkins' and Nancy McCordell's painted stuffed canvas fish, beach chairs, folding screens and paintings. The overall effect is riotously colorful fish, flowers, trees. The paintings are frankly decorative and for fun. They are signed "Helio-Graphics" rather than with the two artists' names which they explained is because they both work on the same canvas. At different times, I presume. Their last show was entitled "Mid Ocean Dreams."

Kay Hoppock finished off Gingerbread's one-man season. It was a big show, flowers mainly in reds and

Con't on pg. 46



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# POETRY

Sue Ellen Thompson's collection of poems, *This Body of Silk* (Northeastern University Press), was the recipient of the 1986 Samuel Morse Poetry Prize. Three of the poems in that collection were written during her visits to Key West. We thought that our readers would enjoy seeing Key West through the eyes of yet another award-winning poet who found inspiration here. Ms. Thompson lives in Mystic, CT.

## Breakfast in Key West

The tablecloths are membrane-pink and the white light falling through the gumbo-limbo sets them vibrating with expectation. Food comes on a plate in the shape of a lagoon, with bright green petals of kiwi floating in the pale yellow foam of an egg. With my eyes I embrace my friends and beyond them all of Duval Street, the shops with their tinsel-framed doors, houses tiered like birthday cakes, the garland of palms that rings the island and mile after mile of shallow green sea where coral gathers itself in baskets and fish scatter in the wind.

My arms rise involuntarily in a gesture not quite of ownership but of one who expects to receive everything: the motions of sleep on a houseboat with walls that winkle and shimmer, where the air chimes with every breath, swelling

and subsiding in a music that is never the same; friendships that probe and descend like the mangrove, their tangled arches a landfall for the ready survivor.

Late at night, in the still pools of conversation, we feel the allegiances rocking slowly, shifting beneath us. There is talk almost constantly of not going back, of finding some minimal trade to ply and joining the loose pastel throngs that swarm the pier at sunset. The tightrope artist in Mallory Square jokes about the woman he left behind in Oneonta, making us believe that we, too, can face death at where we have lived for love.

One by one I shed my associations: the sand at dawn is cool and blond as sand. The palms have no branches for cutting and stacking against the wind, which fills my skirt with a rustle of legs. I am tawny and contented as the strays who litter

the streets, indifferent to all meals but this one: its pale pink tables like clouds, its faces forever within my reach.

## Conversation in Key West

She seized a lime by the skull and reamed the pulp from the rind. To break it down, she explained. It's the only way to make a margarita. Back from Spain in her Alpenstocks and cropped gray hair, she looked like a woman of sixty grown into a boy of twenty-two. She spoke of her translations, how she'd become the Spanish poet's confidante. Next I'll go to Grenada. He has family there.

## The Compliment

He came on like a week in the Bahamas: hot, predictable

and not to be trusted. He said he'd photographed the fighting in Iran and snapped my face in all its postures of defense. He leaned across the table to pay for drinks, safari shirt unsullied by the evening's powerful humidity. Then he winked and told me I looked tasty in that sweater. His stylized advances were amusing, and god knows I wanted the attention, his eyes on my cleavage like a bunker in a desert war. He said he wanted me for one half hour against a wall, no strings, and like the sea my body swelled, my clothes receded. Then friends appeared, and to this day I wince when I'm reminded of that precipice of longing. But then he called me "tasty"—a compliment I've savored ever since.

A Phantom from the base nearby screamed low across the sky. That's where death comes from. I lost my husband at twenty-nine in a naval plane that was never found, and eight years later my son, electrocuted when he fell from a tree he'd climbed against my will, near the home of a man I no longer loved, in a state I had not wanted him to visit.

One thing I've learned, she said: You attract what you fear most.

Already I could feel the poem rising like a vapor trail behind me, sinking under the knowledge that it could not be unwritten.

## Key West

(For George Murphy)

by James Grady

Visitors from other planets throng here. They never last except as photographs framed on bar room walls, fading next to the truly famous, forgotten by the next barmaid's second shift. But see them today, tomorrow, applauding fire jugglers, cruising boutiques, sporting sophisticated sunglasses and flamingo shirts, sandals sold here courtesy of Korea, hand-in-hand lovers defined by their grasp, white sand warriors smeared with coconut oil, baking, blank faces to the bikinis and breakers. The tide. In the bars, the bars, long blonde girls laugh, toss their hair, glance sideways, almond eyes eager to learn who looks back.

Some salt air souls are not strangers. Call them natives, locals at least, savoring the doesn't matters of their homestead where tourists rent the sun and shadow the land on which it shines. Clerks with no past to sell. Exiles. Optimists. Poets with unevaporated vision. Gypsies with nowhere to go. Too Lates and Too Soons and Nevers. Heirs. Chartered skippers with perfected jokes and leather skins — deep blue eyes or tooth gap grin — all the same fishing game. They know the right toasts clink beer bottles with the clients, sailors one and all. There goes the tour train laden with Blue Hairs, Japanese and tethered children. The cats are crippled, no alleys and too many toes. Behind brick walls, they scavenge a dead man's dreams. A quarter clanks in the jukebox.

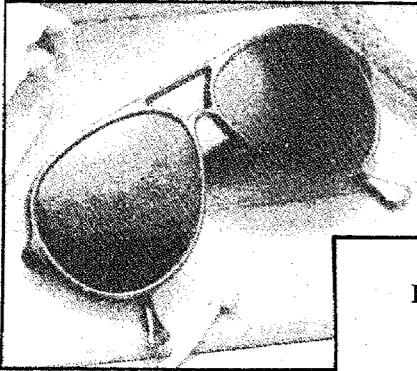
Perhaps this is heaven's shore, arriving is enough. Forget all So Smarts. The Blue Moon bartender has a PhD in Western Civilization, knows Chinese, German and the Tao of pouring beer: seek perfection in one act, find it everywhere, even hiding in the open, by the palms between guest houses and seafood cafes. Perhaps ocean breezes blow away ghosts. Perhaps our only commandment is existence; here, peace reposes in a shopgirl's smile.

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Perhaps on this heaven's shore,  
ticking clocks have no power  
and the angels share their stars  
every night. In hurricane season  
only faith is required. Yet  
visitors from other planets  
lose the key for reality,  
flow back to where they were  
or are ambushed by wild dreams,  
flee by surrendering here,  
trade in their tans, caterpillar  
to butterfly on this island  
out of orbit.

### The Everglades

by Judith Kazantzis

Where the strangler fig  
clasps the tourist  
by his red neck finally  
where the pointed snail  
glows a skein

a slipping lick of cats' milk

down a trunk

a pure white jumbly

and a dozen jumped

out of our cars to gaze.

South the 'river of grass'

flowing to the brown Gulf

Such a sundrained yellow  
lions and lionesses might fly out  
from bronze lairs after gazelles  
But look down and small fish  
steer round the grass blades

They feed  
in the transparent underlay  
zigzagging underfoot to the rills.

Water hurries the stem, wind  
strips the grass head: a  
sky of all directions swirls on  
vacant and stupendous levels

Drive drive on

Leave the white snail  
wending the red trunk  
of the braided gumbo limbo tree.

South the grass makes  
headway to the Gulf  
Look down small craft  
steer by gold marker posts  
limestone: coasting  
piebald naked and  
down to the old crushed volcanoes.

Expunged from some sweating hammock  
of hot hard  
iron hard mahogany trees  
Unstrangle a breath redneck  
and gaze  
how minnows  
sail through  
the gold grasses.



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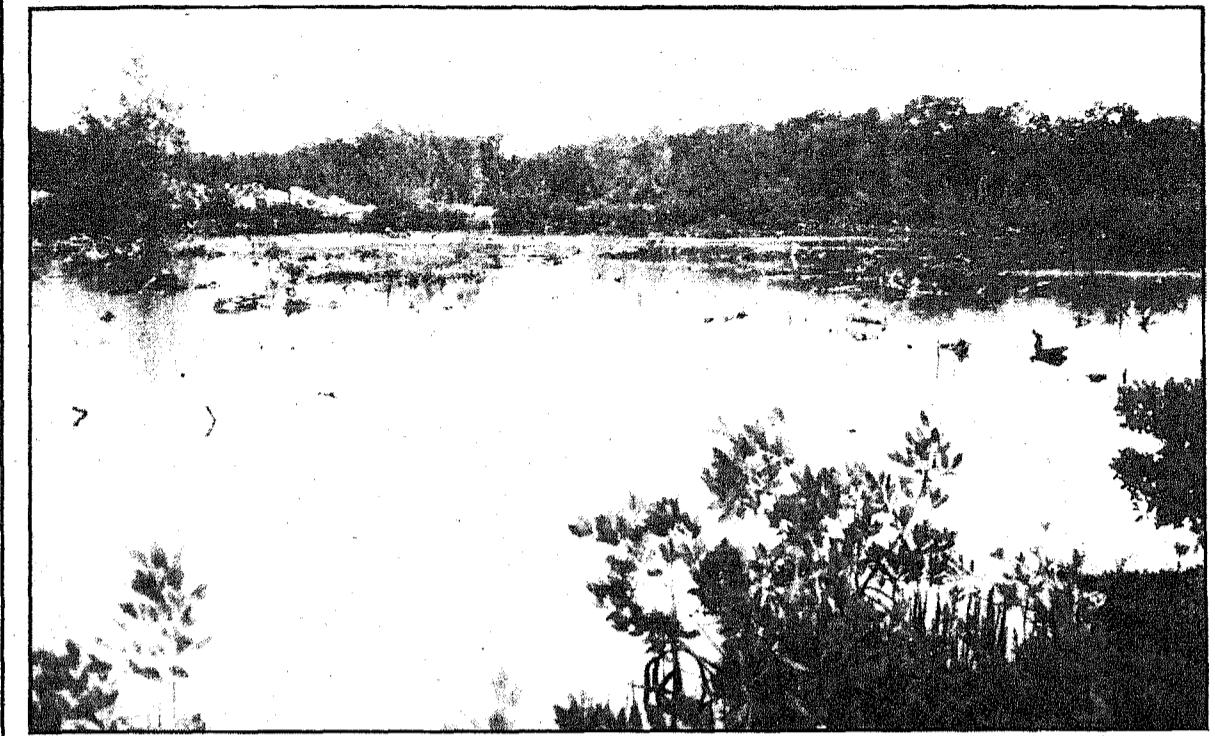
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## Help Jimmy Buffett Save the Key West Salt Ponds

### Acquisition & Preservation Campaign



A small glimpse of the serene beauty of the Key West Salt Ponds.

When John James Audubon explored the Key West Salt Ponds area back in 1832 looking for flamingoes, he found a shallow salt pond and tidal lagoon system separated from the sea by a long sand bar and an

almost impenetrable tangle of mangroves. Today the Salt Ponds are the last remaining natural expanse on urban Key West.

In recent years the community has seen its open space disappear. It has experienced the financial burden of absorbing rapid growth. Much of the island's shoreline has become inaccessible through private development. The preservation of these quiet ponds offers great public recreational, educational, and economic benefits and a priceless heritage of greenspace for future generations.

The Salt Ponds support a unique and flourishing ecosystem. Their sheltered marine nurseries contribute to the fisheries and provide feeding and nesting areas for migratory and indigenous birds. Among the about twenty species of special status found in the area are several extremely rare plants growing in remnants of hardwood resulted in morphological differences of scientific interest. Historically and environmentally valuable, the Salt Ponds are threatened by development. The current situation is

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critical. The cumulative effect of presently planned projects will seriously degrade this valuable natural resource.

In 1986 concern about the loss of the ponds led the City of Key West and Florida Audubon Society to propose an alternative: State acquisition under the C.A.R.L. program of the remaining 407 undeveloped acres. Under the proposed plan, a public park would be established providing nature trails, biking, canoeing, camping, picnicking, play areas, a boat ramp and other public facilities. The Salt Ponds area has great economic value as a major new weatherproof tourist activity with the flavor of former times in the Keys. Scenic natural areas attract visitors and their preservation from further degradation will help to ensure the long range viability of the island's tourist based economy.

The success of the Salt Ponds project depends upon a major joint acquisition effort on the part of the government, conservation groups and the community. In an effort to forestall the largest project proposed for the Keys since Port Bougainvillea, the C.A.R.L. Committee has already listed for State acquisition about a quarter of the area, and the remaining 300



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acres are under consideration. The land belongs to a score of public and private owners. It is all zoned for single or multi-family development. Much of it cannot be developed under current



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regulation, but the parcels that are filled or have grandfathered rights are priced accordingly on an island where land is scarce. Failure to protect these surrounding uplands may damage the long term viability of the whole Salt Ponds system.

In an effort to increase public appreciation of the recreational potential of Key West's wild and little known windward quarter, and to raise funds for its acquisition, a campaign is being organized by Jimmy Buffett's Friends of Florida with

the Florida Keys Land Trust and the Audubon Society.



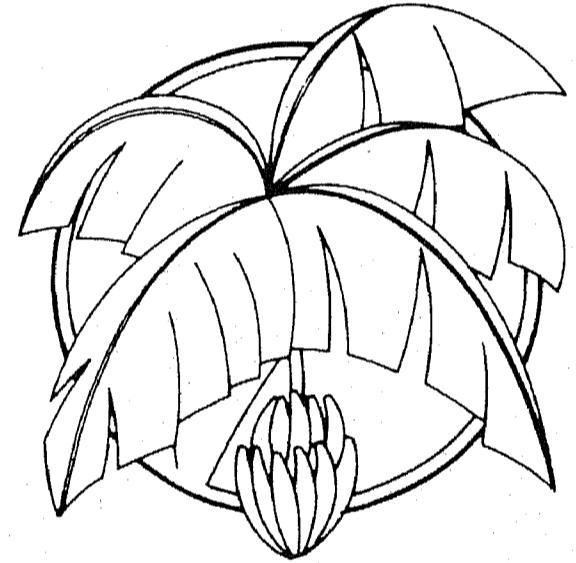
Jimmy playing to help the cause.

weekend. Tourists and residents are also entreated to donate their pennies. A 250 word essay contest for Key West school children on the theme "Why The Salt Ponds Are Worth Saving" is in progress. The winners from two age divisions will win a canoe tour of the Salt Ponds with Jimmy Buffett. Prizes from Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville Store will also be awarded. Winners' names will be published over Memorial Day Weekend.

For more information on these campaign events please call Friends of Florida (305) 296-0152. Donations can be sent to Salt Ponds, c/o Friends of Florida, P.O. Box 1938, Key West, FL 33041. Anyone donating \$10.00 or more will receive a certificate proclaiming them to be a citizen of Margaritaville.

The help of the entire community will be needed. Now is the time that steps must be taken if the Salt Ponds are to continue to exist. Without a major acquisition program, the threatened development and its accompanying degradation of natural systems will become reality, this valuable resource will be lost forever to the people of Key West. In fifty years the Salt Ponds could be a park with expansive salt marshes full of life, tropical hammock and clear rivers flowing through the mangroves, or they could be just another casualty of unplanned urban sprawl. Please help in this effort.

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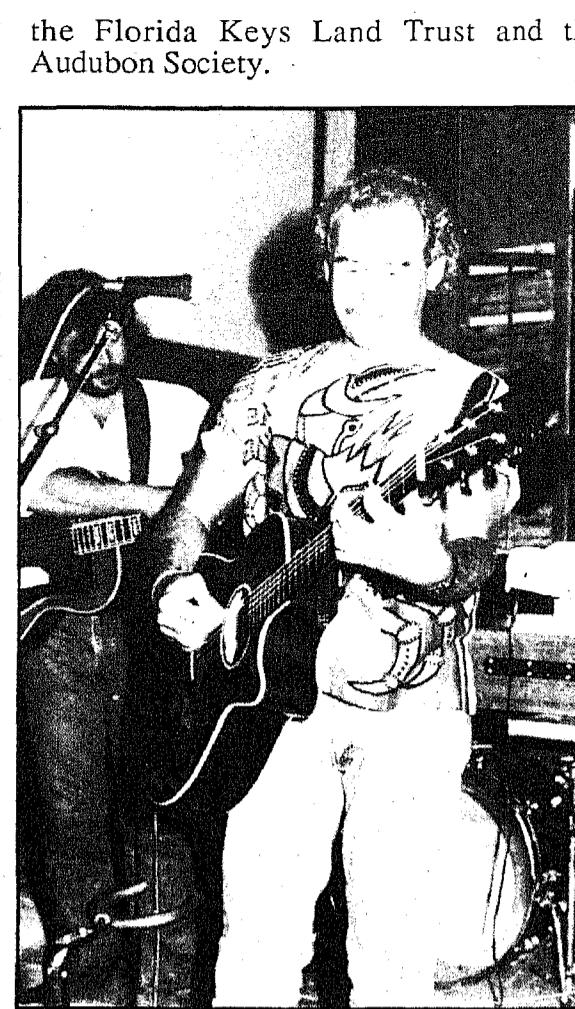
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## Book Review

*The Florida Keys From Key Largo to Key West, A History and Guide*; by Joy Williams; Random House; 226 pages; \$9.95 by John Leslie

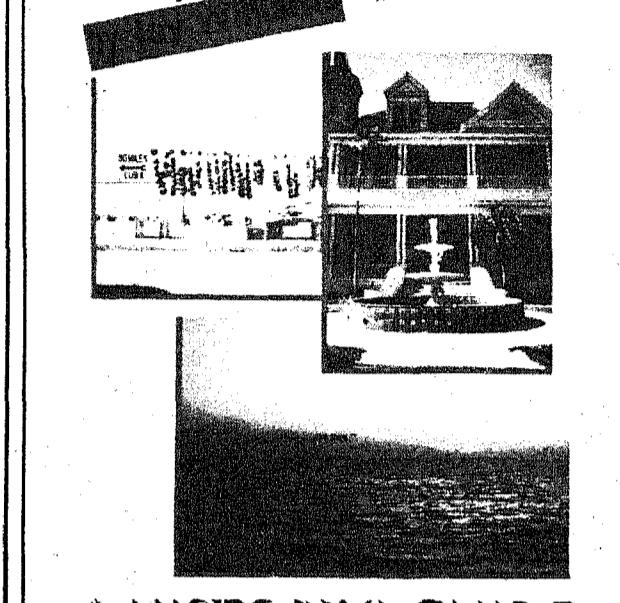
In most respects tourist towns are all alike — they are traps. Key West is a tourist town; it is, therefore, a trap. There is a certain depressing truth to this syllogism. Think of any town anywhere whose sole function is the encouragement of tourism and by and large you probably won't think kindly of the place — unless of course you're a tourist and you enjoy wearing T-shirts with absurd slogans written across the front and back while eating endless ice cream cones and wondering where you are.

But of course those of us who live here know better, don't we; Key West is much more than just a tourist town, isn't it?

In Joy Williams' guide and history of the Keys she has an account of how Julius Stone came to Key West in 1934 as the New Deal's Federal Relief Administrator to straighten out the bankrupt island city; Key West's past, from its early days as a pirate den and later wrecking capital is relived, as well as its future foretold in this tale of a well-meaning opportunist turned swindler.

Stone took one look at the dilapidated city, its citizens who were living on fish and coconuts, and determined that "Key West's salvation was to be The Tourist."

Within weeks he had a Volunteer Work Force sprucing up the town, a Maid's



A HISTORY & GUIDE



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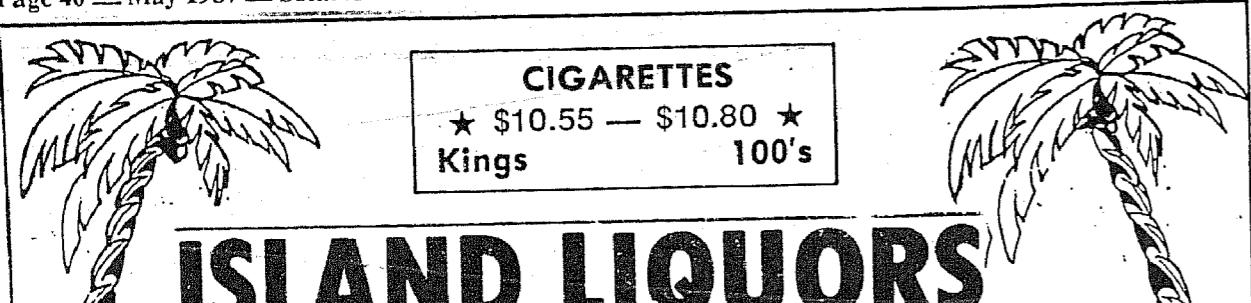
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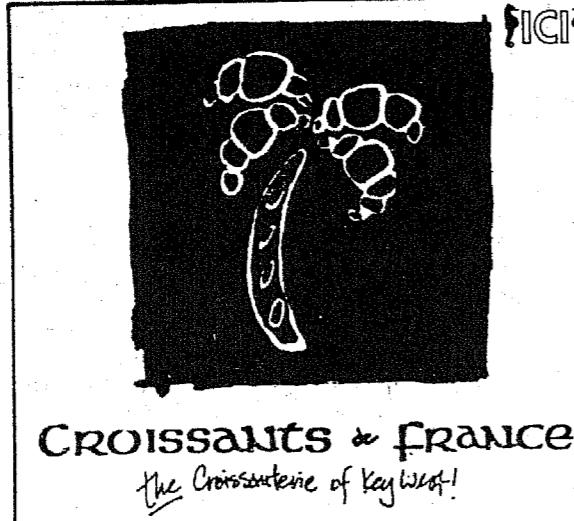
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training school as well as a school for fishing guides and a Hospitality Band formed from out-of-work musicians to meet arriving ships and trains. As an experiment to turn Key West into a resort island like Bermuda it was a great success. Though doomed by nature to failure. After a money-making season the Labor Day



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hurricane of 1935 hit the middle Keys and destroyed the railway. Tourism was forgotten until after the war — World War II bringing its own form of prosperity to a town in the form of the Navy.

As for Julius Stone, he returned to Key West in 1940 to live and work in investment, banking, and law and "... managed to represent and bilk just about everyone in town." In 1960, after twenty years of scamming, he was forced to skedaddle to Cuba, later Jamaica and finally Australia where he died in 1967. It was about the time, incidentally, that a new wave of developers was gearing up to create the tourist boom years that we are now experiencing. Proving perhaps once again that those who forget the past are condemned to repeat it?

We shall see as Key West strives to reach its zenith as a tourist mecca.

Joy Williams sees all too clearly. She has looked the Keys in the eye and seen through to their soul. She captures every nuance, every change of color, each rise and fall of the social, historical, and political barometer; and she puts it all together in her singularly witty, ironic, sometimes even

Williams has this to say about bad trees: "There are three trees that have really become pests in Florida — the punk, the pepper, and the Australian pine. Some people like all three because they're fast growing and good screening material ... the punk because it reminds them of the eucalyptus, and the pepper because of its little red berries, and the pine because of the pretty sound the wind makes coursing through its branches.

"But you should not like any of them and should never plant the punk, the pepper, or the Australian pine." Sage and sylvan advice.

Inside, the book is handsomely presented though certainly not to be judged by its cover which looks like a ransom note from a color blind Miami Beach coke dealer. Once inside, however, the print is easy to read with points of interest, attractions, and businesses listed in bold face type for easy referral, with addresses and telephone numbers when useful. Prices for lodgings are given, and Williams even provides a mnemonic device for remembering Key West street names.

This guide is thorough. It can also be iconoclastic and sometimes even irreverent. Williams is not afraid of taking pot shots at

outraged voice that makes reading this book both fun and instructive — a combination seldom companionable. (In real life Ms. Williams is a novelist and exceptionally fine short story writer whose collection of short stories, *Taking Care*, should be read by anyone who enjoys short fiction.)

Williams takes care to tell us all we need to know to enjoy the Keys. Her guide, illustrated by Stan Skardinski, is divided between the upper Keys, the middle Keys and the lower Keys and the last half of the book devoted to Key West. She not only tells us where to go, what to see, where to stay, what to do, where to eat (and more importantly *not* eat) in all of these locales, but also how to behave — crucial counsel for the thousands of people who trample through these islands each year, sometimes without the dimmest notion of what they are seeing. For example, she gets quite stern, as she should, over divers who dive the reef and break off pieces of the ancient coral and sea fans to take home as souvenirs. "If you see anyone taking coral," she writes, "or harming or molesting other protected marine species ... contact the Marine Patrol."

There are many sidebars dotted throughout the book, bracketed and labelled, which serve as a kind of naturalist's mile marker to be read with the text or referred to later; there are even anecdotes about colorful Keys characters like Cuco Bobo who caged drinks during the depression by standing on bars all over town. He would "move his arms like an engine gathering steam, shuffle his feet, and make toot-tooting noises while imitating the train and calling out the stops from Tavernier to Key West." But most of the sidebars contain scholarly, though never boring, material. There is information about turtles and shrimp, sponges, as well as the difference between dolphins and porpoises, hurricanes, snakes, and — bad trees!

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anyone who enjoys short fiction.)

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the traditional Chamber of Commerce hype. It was the *Finca Vigia*, Hemingway's "Lookout Farm" in Cuba, where "the ghastly collection of inbred cats roamed and not in Key West," as the Hemingway House tour touts, "where the pet population, which numbered several peacocks, included only two cats, one of which the children dyed a dark green."

Williams also observes of the House that other than the books which contain his life's work and are for sale here, "Hemingway is as dead as a doornail in this place."

Audubon is not spared either. "Audubon shot thousands of birds and never in his mind made the connection between the wholesale slaughter he so earnestly engaged in and the decreasing number ... It is ironic," she writes, "that the Audubon Society has taken as their standard the name of a man who had no interest in the survival of the birds he so painstakingly drew, and that the Audubon House ... was a home which Audubon never visited."

Nor is the Conch Train let off the hook: "Imagine a little amusement park train with open cars and a fringed top, pulled by a Jeep camouflaged to look like a locomotive, rattling through the streets of a living town ... the driver babbling about trees, houses, gingerbread, cisterns, hydrofoils, presidents, and gold ... You needn't feel embarrassed riding the Conch Train. A strange cloak of invisibility is dropped over your self as you board. Once in a while a tourist will take a picture of you ... but mostly no one pays the slightest attention to this contraption whirring down the streets, the driver repeating outlandish jokes without the slightest trace of hysteria or shame."

However, one should not get the idea that this book is some kind of camp put down. It is not. Reading it you know that Joy Williams loves this place, and has spent more than two weeks getting to know it. As a result she is able to offer her own remarkable observations. Who else could define Key West's "tea dances" as "bare-chested bump and grind kissy boogie?" This isn't the prose of a WPA guide.

And listen to this about Duval Street.

"... Duval trembles, even totters, between sleaze and restoration. Duval has it all — emeralds and chicken wings, dance clubs and missing elks, lewd underwear and failed fountains, and TV's flickering in appliance store windows, day and night, with what appears to be true 1950's snow. It's got chic shops and forbidding hotels. It's got the raunchy movies, the arty movies, the twinkling galleries, the bars. It hums at night and in the sun. In the rain it appears less than electrifying. Old timers feel they've lost the real Duval which was darker, danker, noisier, had even more bars and certainly fewer postcards."

For anyone braving Duval Street in season the image should be familiar — frigate-birds or no frigate-birds.

Locals and visitors alike, read this book. Not since the *Key West Picture Show* has the place and its characters been captured so compellingly.

\* \* \* \*

The Florida Keys From Key Largo to Key West, A History and Guide is available at Key West Island Bookstore at 513 Fleming, Bargain Books at 1028 Truman Avenue, and at Waldenbooks in Seaside.

You don't have to be one of Jimmy Buffett's "Parrot Heads" to appreciate the Margaritaville Store. However, once you've experienced "Margaritaville," you'll most likely want to join the club.

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### Nature's Way - Minuets of May

by Alice Terry

You are now discovering for yourselves what we locals have always known. To wit: May is the most glorious month of all in South Florida. The world seems less harsh. The light, the air, the breezes ... all are softer, more companionable. Ah, spring. Ah, spring!!

Here in Key West we may look for an average temperature of eighty degrees. We may also expect about two and a half inches of rain. Don't put away your garden hoses, for they are still needed.

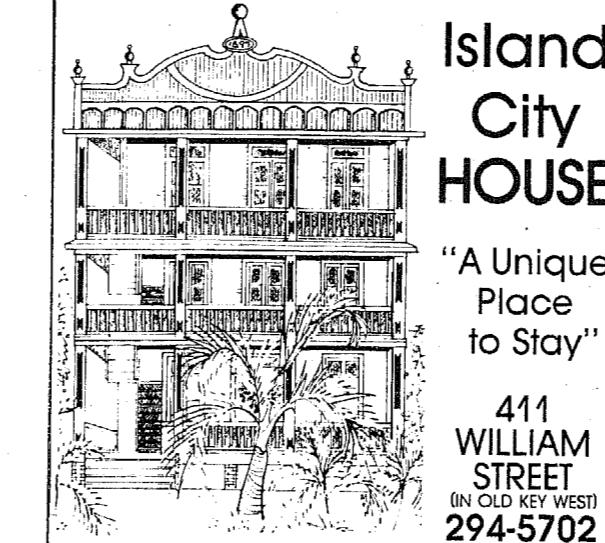
Please take time to enjoy the promises of fruitage to come, in the proliferating avocado and mango blossoms, seemingly everywhere in town. New growth is evident, also, in the frangipanis and other native and exotic trees. I recently learned that kalanchoe pinnata (Bryophyllum Pinnata), used as a living mulch under your avocado trees, will help the yield considerably. Try it.

Cuttings and layers of garden shrubs will respond well at this time of year. Allamanda, both purple and yellow varieties, are crying out for new starters. Make cuttings of begonias, torenias, and other flowering favorites. Prune oleanders heavily to keep them within bounds. Dig bulbs and corms when leaves turn brown. Transplant broad-leaved evergreens not in flush, and also palms. Divide and replant herbaceous perennials that bloom in winter or early spring: daylily, morea, lilyturf, strelitzia, zephyrily, maranta, and so on.

This is the time to plant seeds of sweet alyssum, China-aster, late cosmos, cypress-vine, gaillardia, globe-amaranth, hollyhock, marigold, morning-glory, torenia and zinnia. Bulbs to plant are caladium, gloriosa, lycoris and zephyranthes.

It's gardenia time again, and I was presented with a wonderfully perfumed specimen blossom, home grown by a friend. If you are purchasing a plant for Key West growing, buy a grafted plant, making sure that it has Gardenia thunbergia as its hematoxin-resistant rootstock. Plant the bush in full sun or in a spot that gets early/late sun but is shaded at midday. If you have a healthy, robust plant but no flowers after a while, you may have planted it in the wrong spot. Gardenias like acid soils and are heavy feeders. Fertilize four times a year, and keep the area around the plant heavily mulched. The mulch maintains the moisture level, and will help keep the soil acid through decomposition. Keep the soil evenly moistened right after planting, then water weekly once the gardenia is really established.

Local interest in birds has been fueled by the nearby sighting of the supposedly vanished Key West dove-quail. Key West acts as host to many other feathered birds, as well as the visiting northern snowbirds. We are now witnessing the tail-end of the warbler migration, with the Blackpoll warbler greatly in evidence. Note that the American redstart and the Cedar waxwing



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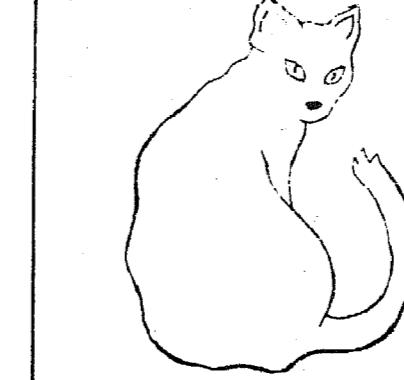
411  
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are now doing their post-breeding wandering.

Roseate spoonbills may be sighted on the shallow ponds along the highway in Boca Chica, two at a time. The Least terns, which arrived around mid-April and breed here, are nesting on flat roofs downtown.

The Mangrove cuckoo may be heard more easily than seen, in more sparsely popular areas. The Black-whiskered vireo, White-crowned pigeon, Gray kingbird, Antillean nighthawk and the House sparrow are building nests, preparing to breed.

At the end of March an unusual storm, accompanied by plummeting temperatures, brought in a variety of birds rarely seen in this area. The short-term presence of these colorful birds has helped spark local interest in birding. At that time there were reported local sightings of the Summer tanager,



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An extensive nesting survey, under the joint sponsorship of the Florida Audubon Society and the Non-game Wild Life Section of the Florida Freshwater commission, is now underway. The survey started in 1986 and will continue through 1990. It involves observations in both probable and confirmed breeding categories. The survey-takers are asking for news of any current sightings.

In fact, if you are willing to help in the survey in any way at all, please call Joe Ondrejko, who is considered the local guru of birds. He may be reached by phone at 296-0536, or by mail at Post Office Box 868, Key West, Florida, 33041. Joe is hoping to reach out -- through the means of

this column, other media notices, and word of mouth -- to anyone in our area who is interested in birds. The survey covers the following birds: Green-backed heron, Osprey, Least tern, Mourning dove, Common-ground dove, Collared dove, Antillean nighthawk, Red-bellied woodpecker, Great crested flycatcher, Gray kingbird, Northern mockingbird, Brown thrasher, European starling, Black-whiskered vireo, Red-winged blackbird and the Common grackle. Please pick up the phone or pen and let Joe know that you are interested in birds. Now.

A quotation from Walter Savage Landor provides a personally apt ending for this month's minuet:

*Nature I loved,  
And next to nature, art.*

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Solares Hill — May 1987 — Page 45  
fully appreciated together with his other achievements.

These were two "moderns," therefore, returning to the vision of the child -- not to escape, but to transmute the atoms of our distress into grace. As with Jacob wrestling with the angel, the artist grapples with that which afflicts him and wins from it a blessing.

Quotation:  
*A dictatorship is a country where they have taken the politics out of politics.*

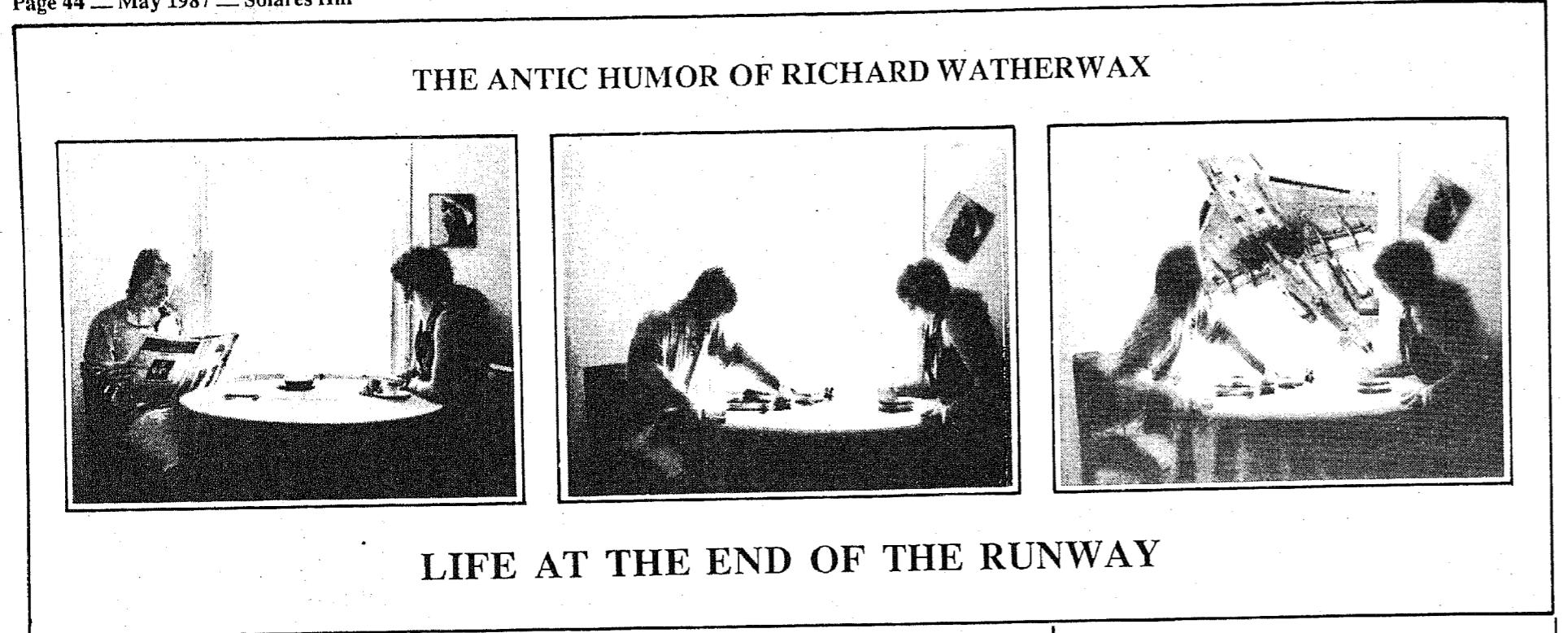
-- Sam Himmel

The recent election held at the Key West Art & Historical Society (with much wailing and gnashing of teeth behind the scenes during the previous week) proved to be anti-climactic. As it turned out there were no nominations from the floor and the slate passed as proposed.

My feelings about Cullen Chambers have not changed. I still believe that he offers superior qualifications which are especially valuable to the Society. Before the vote was taken Cullen disdained to have his name on the ballot and publicly extended the olive branch (if not the whole tree).

At the meeting I spoke against the proposed by-law changes which would have given the board absolute control of future nominations. This proposal resulted from a very understandable over-reaction.

There is, however, a major flaw in the current system. A slate is presented and people can be nominated from the floor. This seems to provide a good safeguard for the democratic process. Yet, when the prospect of nominations from the floor



## LIFE AT THE END OF THE RUNWAY

### Commentary

by V.K. Gibson

A couple of months ago I had some fun with quotations and it proved to be a popular column. This seems a good time to repeat the exercise. Quotation:

*When nations grow old the arts grow cold, and commerce settles on every tree.*

-- William Blake

This makes me wonder about the health

of our global culture, for commerce is indeed settling on every tree. The recent



sale of the Van Gogh painting for almost \$40 million underscores this. The factors of

sentiment, love of art, and ego aside, the economic aspect is most impressive. New York art dealer Richard Feigen has said:

*Someone figured out that a Van Gogh Sunflower is a legitimate place to park \$40 million.*

One obvious fact is not often mentioned: the price for the Van Gogh did not climb so high by itself: there were opposing bids, not merely one over-eager collector. With the purchase at such a huge price by a Japanese company we have witnessed the transformation of art into a "financial

instrument" more substantial than treasury bonds.

The contemporary art market has also been profoundly affected by the current overflow of ready cash. Art collecting is seen as one of the quickest means to social prominence. It has become a frenzied sport in New York, much tied to the processes of hype, fashion, and the thrills of gambling.

Fashion and hype affect the sale of art even here in Key West. There are local artists, virtually unknown outside of our community, whose works fetch five, ten, fifteen thousand dollars apiece. It will be interesting to see if these prices hold up in the long run.

Quotation:

*He is the greatest artist who has embodied, in the sum of his works, the greatest number of the greatest ideas.*

-- Ruskin

Several years ago, over dinner, I elaborated to a friend a theory of writing which I had developed. It dealt with the use of "negative space" in literature, and grew out of some of Hemingway's statements concerning the importance of leaving much of the story unstated, yet implied.

After I'd run out of breath my friend asked, "You mean you want to write between the lines?"

I could've stabbed him with my shrimp fork!

I've gotten to the point in my fiction writing where I have no concern whatever for theories or for conveying "great ideas." What I really want to do is to beat a path to a high place, from which the reader can gain

wide perspectives upon the great variety of the human condition. From such a vantage point the reader can see clearly for himself.

Another quote from Picasso:

*Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist when he grows up.*

An acquaintance of mine, a brilliant professor of economics, has often told me: "I don't understand modern art. I'm a very unsophisticated man, a philistine. Paint for me a church in the snow, that I can understand."

The "secret" of modern art is rooted in our troubled modern world.

Perhaps the person who yearns for his "church in the snow" wishes to forget, at least in his own home, the unpleasant aspects of life. Perhaps he suspects that contemporary artists are a pack of charlatans (many are) who want to cheat his pocketbook and, more importantly, his heart.

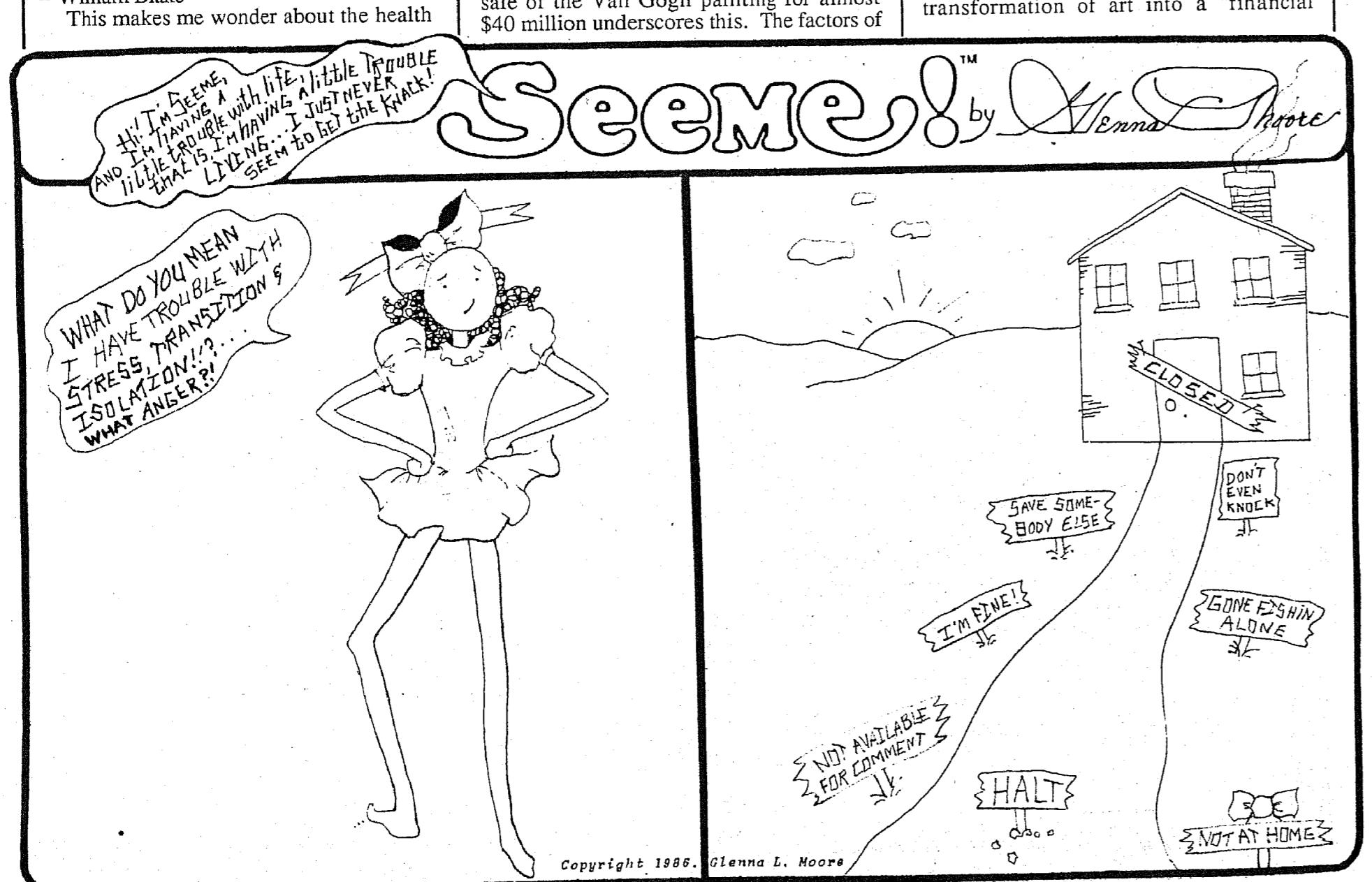
But, what of the child who grows up to be an artist in our time?

The two greatest artists of our century, Picasso and Matisse, combined the highest level of intellectual achievement with visions which, particularly in their mature work,

can only be described as "youthful."

Matisse, greatly infirmed in old age, lay in bed and made highly sophisticated yet childlike paper cutouts which have come to

represent one of the most important bodies of work in the history of art. Picasso, like a naughty infant rending his playthings, produced paintings which, twenty years after the artist's death, only now are being

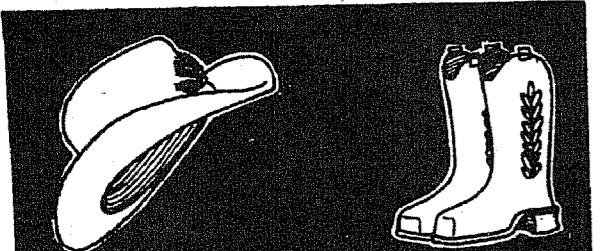


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Map showing the location of The Poinciana Lounge on 3432 Duck Ave, between North Roosevelt Blvd and Holiday Inn, near the beach.

*Con't from pg. 31*

whites, watercolors. I never know what to say about flowers; they are there and I feel no emotional pull. The final show here is the Gallery group consisting of Craig Biondi, represented by a huge flame tree; Ron Clemons' fun "Encore," with a red sold mark next to it; Michael Palmer's charming, small off-centered scenes; Jim Salem's two small detailed bird-flower studies; Sal Salinero; Gary Shaw, back after a New York hiatus; English newcomer Patricia Townsend's finely drawn oils that might have come out of *Punch*, London's *New Yorker*; Wendy Turner, who has two pastel marine scapes of the Keys; Stewart Vaughan, one of my personal favorites; and a new serigraph from John Kiraly, "Poinciana Place." Richard has a newcomer, Tomasz Holuj, who bears watching.

The White Street Gallery will be showing its permanent artists: Simone's eroticism; Jordon Meinster's not-quite abstractions; eclectic work from Michael Haykin; Henocque's carefree oils; Soisson's abstracts; Gregogna's graffiti; Nick Lawrence's mixed-media fancies; Bertrand Penot's photos of Paris; Bernard Germont's abstract lithographs; and a few of the illustrious Lorjou's works. A roster like this cannot be found in Miami; Clare is off in France choosing next season's shows.

Still uptown, Helen of Harrison's on White Street will have in two new Scotty Hillman works in colored pencil, one a

arises all hell breaks loose and people are "embarrassed." The relative merits of the candidates cannot be discussed publicly in even gentle fashion without causing dismay and outrage. The selections of the nominating committee are not only final but, it seems, must remain inviolate and above reproach.

What we really need at Art & Historical is an election process which not only technically allows, but encourages, additions to the official slate. Martello needs a good dose of politics.

Quotation:  
*A doctor can bury his mistakes but an architect can only plant vines.*

— Frank Lloyd Wright

We've seen this happen fairly frequently about town, haven't we? A huge water tank for a hotel suddenly appears where no one expected it and a few seagrape bushes are added. As for architecture, we have our share of hulking monsters. Cosmetics cannot really make an ugly structure beautiful.

And what of HARK? What a thankless job that is! No one likes to be told what color he can paint his house. But, would you want to live next door to one which was slathered with metallic auto paint (which happened once in my neighborhood)?

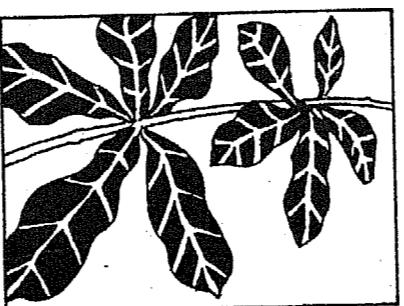
I admit to being torn by the whole issue. There is a seductive siren call from the notion of maintaining "standards" and "taste," whatever they are. But deep inside me I like the idea of total freedom, of letting things fall wherever and however they may. Why, for example, should we have a height

restriction which prohibits construction of another Curry Mansion? To prevent another Pelican Landing? Yes, but ...

So there we are. In keeping at bay the worst we find ourselves sometimes locking out the best.

The future development of the Truman Annex will be the last major alteration of the Key West architectural scene (until the next big penitentiary-style condos). It seems that Pritam Singh wishes to create buildings whose styles are rooted in the "organic" traditions of Key West.

I hope that HARK will be able to loosen its corset a bit when dealing with the Annex and to remember that Key West contains many forms of architecture. It's not all Bahamian Classical. There are distinctive Cuban influences, as well as charming examples of madcap eccentricity. I also suggest that Mr. Singh consult with locals like Tom Szuter, and Tom Pope, who have both spent years adding sensitive structures and renovations to the town.

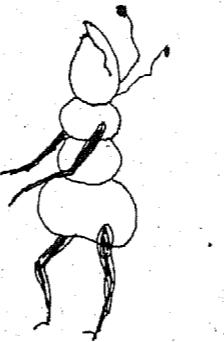


tryptich, a new marl stone sculpture by Matthew Lineberger, a batch of Norma Sohl's calabash dippers just arrived from Jamaica. She also has some stationery and postcard graphics done by Melanie Griffith that are useful in that they are not the usual SoMo junk. There are some very designy wooden puzzles from Mexico for adults and children and finally two Guatamalan coverlets or wall hangings, totally hand embroidered and bargains for fans of this sort of thing.

The Guild will be giving a wine party on the 9th of May to present this month's guest artists, Suzanne Alexander, who works on pre-washed canvas with fabric dyes. The result is vivid and abstract-expressionist. The second, Will Docherty, using pen and ink, produces primitive and sophisticated angst-ridden dramatic romances, a la old Motown. I think we'd better be there. Cappy Seiler will present a new series she's been working on of the "Q Rooms" on the corner of Fleming and Simonton.

I had meant to talk of David Schofield and his work this month but it will have to be rain-checked until next time.

■



Otherwise all the Guild Hall regulars will be there: Ann Irvine; Judi Bradford; Vianne and Fritz Stange and the ubiquitous Lois Locklear who is turning out more clay under glass and to celebrate her 40th birthday, inaugurated a new technique, clay on canvas.

Last month's show at the Lucky Street Gallery of Roberta Marks' retablos again proves that she is in a class alone. The work itself has taken on a less nostalgic tone and I have the feeling that she is using more tainted lucites and plexiglass than before. It

# NEW AGE FORUM by Carol Shaughnessy



## New Age Editorial

In this materialistic era, even in Key West we find ourselves surrounded by "Condo Commandos" trailing Cuisinarts and cordless phones. No matter how much we might fight it, materialism has become the wave of the present. And yet, as our increasingly acquisitive outward goals are met, many of us find ourselves correspondingly less and less satisfied, more and more convinced that something is missing. It would seem, then, that since belongings have not satisfied our longings, there's only one place left to turn: to the inner self.

As we approach the Age of Aquarius, we are encountering the birth of a movement to

do just that -- to replace our focus on the material with a focus on the spiritual, to replace the "pills to cure ills" mentality with a belief in holistic health and wellness. Key West is rapidly becoming a center for those of us interested in developing our minds, bodies, and spirits to their fullest potential.

For this reason, Solares Hill is pleased to announce a brand-new section in the paper: a New Age Forum. Each month we will highlight one or more aspects of the varied New Age philosophies, disciplines, and therapies -- from message therapy to rebirthing, from Reiki and Ro-Hun to the benefits of chiropractic care and cooking for wellness. We will also present, from time to time, profiles of people influential in Key West's New Age movement. Through our advertising, we will offer interested readers a sort of directory of various practitioners to which they can refer for guidance in augmenting their own knowledge.

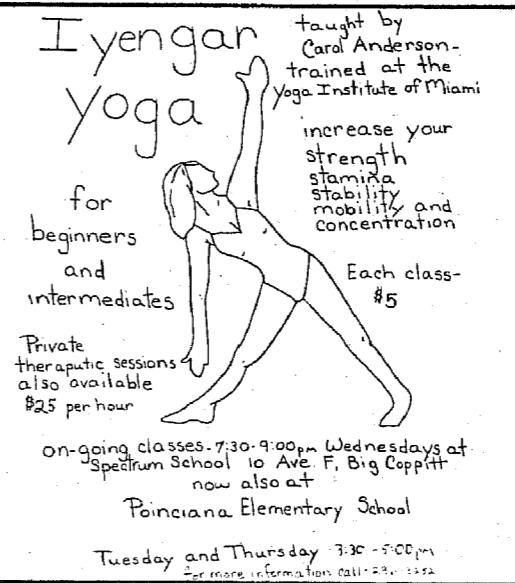
Our guest writer this month is Valerie Ridenour, well-known in Key West both for her writing and her music. She is also the editor of the Key West-based Psychic Journal, a national publication debuting in

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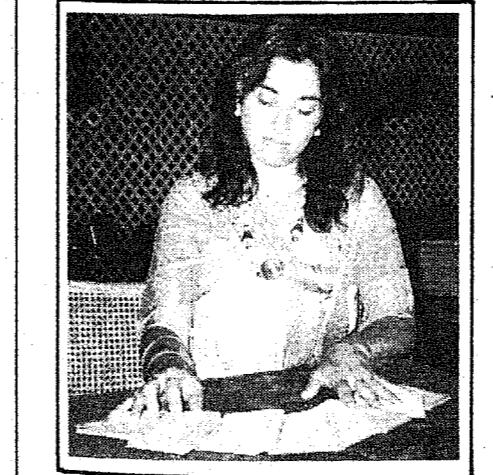


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June. Valerie speaks of the journal as designed to be a consciousness-raising entity; a means of helping people become more aware of their own spirituality through their interest in psychic phenomena. We are glad to have Valerie's assistance in this premier issue of Solares Hill's New Age Forum, and we hope you will join us in our belief that this is only the beginning of a very exciting exploration for us all.

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**NEW AGE**  
FORUM by Carol Shaughnessy

### What is the New Age?

by Valerie Ridenour

To define the New Age, one would have to use the Bible as the first reference. Remember the promise and prophecy of a thousand years of peace on earth? That is the New Age we are preparing for. It is there for us, but only if we are ready, willing, and able to receive it ... mentally, physically, and spiritually.

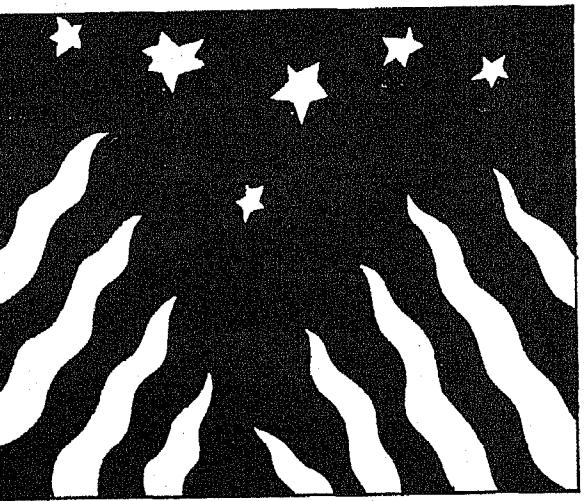
Astrologers tell us we are leaving the age of Pisces and entering the age of Aquarius, where the thousand-year prophecy is supposed to come true. But we humans have made a colossal mess of this planet. We have changed the chemistry of earth so much with industrialization and fertilization that we may not be able to recover in time. Our environment has been so seriously damaged that we are experiencing the "greenhouse effect," causing the meltdown of our polar icecaps. We have subjected ourselves to the likelihood of a global catastrophe, and it can come within the next twenty years -- our own lifetimes. Unless we get our collective act together, we face earthquakes, drought, and climatic changes that will cause worldwide hunger. Chaos and starvation are not worthwhile goals; runaway pollution which is manifesting in acid rain must be stopped at once. Time has run out.

Many ways are available to humanity to insure its continued existence on the planet. New Age thinkers know we must have world government with total cooperation -- now. Isn't it ridiculous to think of man fighting man over a way of life or a piece of real estate, when we really need to use our energy to clean up our planet, feed our hungry, and cure our ills? As we have so little time left, our quickest avenue to success is through spirituality. Think

peace. Affirm peace. Set a universal goal of love, unconditional and irrevocable for every fellow human. Metaphysical thinkers believe we are what we think.

Therapies for healing the spirit are being developed and practiced everywhere. Here in Key West, we have available to us Reiki, Ro-Hun, Rebirthing, reflexology, neuro-linguistic programming, massage, psychic healing, and many, many paths toward realizing our bodies' full potential, including holistic medicine, chiropractic, and acupuncture.

We are fortunate in Key West to have so many avenues to New Age awareness and



improvement in self. For example, the Sanctuary on Simonton Street is a lovely building that was once a synagogue, currently a center for various therapies and classes from Reiki to Zen. There is also a cafe there, serving a vegetarian cuisine that is especially welcome to those who prefer macrobiotic diets. The Heritage House on Caroline Street is host to many visiting psychics and healers, whose seminars, classes, and massage circles are available to the public. Unity of the Keys has opened a fine metaphysical bookstore, and presents

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lectures and seminars -- often for love offerings. Unity also carries cassette tapes and crystals. Outstanding New Age speakers like Alan Cohen attract ever-growing numbers of people seeking something better.

On your local television channel you can enjoy Bill Trantham's wonderful course entitled *Improving Human Capabilities*. Astrologer Sioux Rose invites guests to participate on her weekly show who are in town to present seminars and lectures aimed toward greater awareness. There are fine health resorts here, organizations like EST, Eckankar, and A.A., and alternative religious groups like Baha'i Faith and the Church of the Cosmic Lightbearers.

New Age artists are creating visions on canvas, showing us pictures of worlds we have not yet experienced that are there waiting for us. Musicians are writing music to inspire us to improve ourselves through meditation, joy, and understanding. New rhythms are inducing us to dance to a new tune while we re-think our way of living into a holistic approach. Metaphysical writers are pouring out literature for the nourishment of our impoverished spirits. Religions are becoming less defined and confining and more universal.

Psychotherapists I work with tell me that psychics are "coming out of the closet" in enormous numbers. Everyone IS psychic; we only differ in our degree of development. Once we accept that premise,

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"All for one and one for all" has taken on new meaning. We have responsibility for each other, and our time has come to step forward and DO. Welcome to the New Age.



One of the services we will be offering our readers in this section is a listing of New Age special events occurring each month. However, we can't do it without help -- if you are aware of a seminar, lecture, or other important event coming up, please call 294-3602 and ask for Carol Shaughnessy or Bill Lee.

The following are only a few of the New Age happenings scheduled for May.

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\* How To Heal Yourself With Energy, a presentation by Dr. R.S. Donald Papon, will be held at Unity of the Keys, 3424 Duck Avenue, at 7:30 PM on May 1. The doctor will discuss alternative healing processes such as homeopathy and Radionics. While in Key West Dr. Papon will also present two workshops at 410 Caroline Street: Energy Medicine and the Immune System on May 2 at 7:30 PM, and Medical Astrology at 7:30 PM on May 3.

For more information and reservations, please call Renate Perelom at 296-2585.

\* A Shiatsu Massage Workshop with Augusto Viana will take place May 9 and 10

\* Massage For Runners ~ The Keys Chapter of the Florida State Massage Therapy Association members will donate their time to give complementary massages to runners in the 7-Mile Bridge Run, scheduled for May 9. Look for them after the race.

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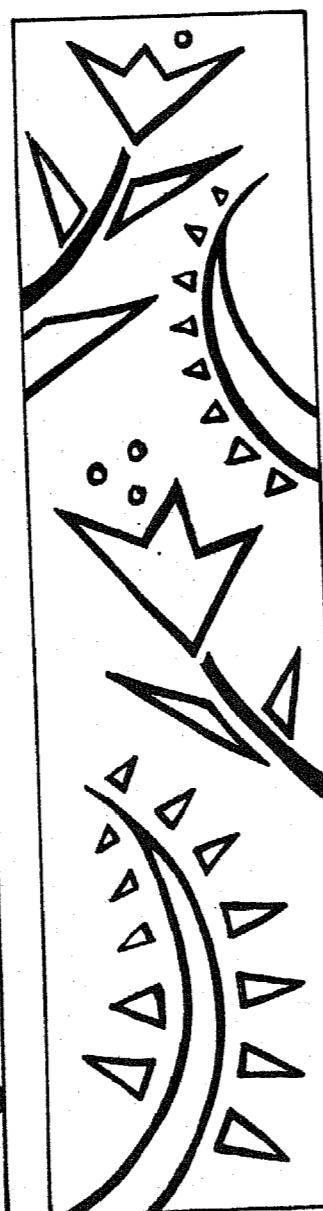
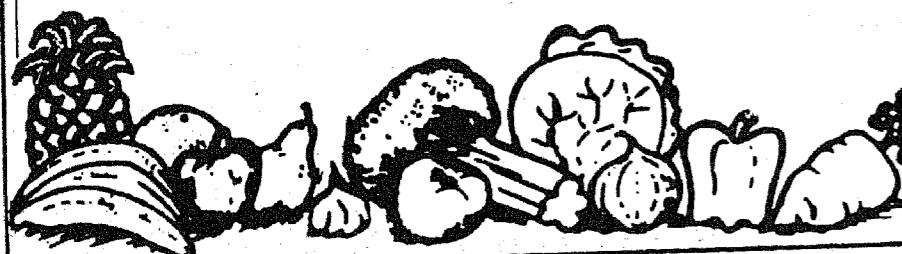
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## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE LOWER KEYS

### Just My Opinion

by Gil Ryder

even once a year and try to figure out the possibility of some particular bill not arriving or, having arrived, being inadvertently lost?

I remember discovering one time that I had been without any kind of insurance on my home for over three years -- simply because the broker's office had not sent me any notice of premium due and, since insurance payments for life, house, car,



Evidently, from the news accounts, liens have been placed on various properties, and the property owners have been understandably shocked to discover, at least in some cases, that property they believed to be free and clear was not. One such property owner was notified by mail dated March 20th that liens had been placed against her property in 1979, 1980, 1981, and 1982. This owner claims that no previous notice had been received. We might assume that if she had paid her garbage bills no liens would have been placed against her property and, therefore, she has no legitimate right to complain. But -- it may be that she does have a legitimate right to complain. After all, the average homeowner, who is also the homeowner, receives literally hundreds of bills in the course of a year. Who would be aware that one of hundreds of bills was missing?

How many homeowners actually sit down every day, or week, or month, or

health, etc., are not on my mind at all until a premium notice arrives, I had no way of knowing that I had not been paying those bills.

Just think about how many bills you receive every week, month and year. How on earth would you know if one didn't arrive? You'd need some kind of personal computer equipped to spit out a daily printout, telling you which bills you should have received on that day and advising you to check with the entities that should have sent any bills that were not received.

Ordinary homeowners suffer a great disadvantage in such matters because, in general, the homeowners do not have computers programmed to take care of all household monetary details, but, again in general, businesses, government bureaus, public utilities, etc., do have computers that can keep track of non-payers even though they are obviously not programmed to investigate reasons for non-payment nor to suggest that a customer or client be sent a reminder.

All this is leading up to the opinion that the State of Florida should have a very restrictive law forbidding the placing of liens on property without prior (30 days) personal, provable notice of intent to the owner of record of the property involved.

It should be clearly understood that notification by newspaper ad will not be considered a "personal" notice. Most homeowners have no reason to concern themselves with newspaper "legal notices," neither are they required to read them. Can you imagine Mr. and Mrs. average citizen studiously working their way through "legal notices" just in case their names might appear? That would be as silly as reading all the classified ads for used cars and/or furniture when you're not in the market for either.

continued on page 54

### Along the Lower Keys

by Bill Becker

Not to be missed this month is the Lower Keys biggest weekend of the year: the First Annual Lower Keys Marine Exposition, May 16 and 17. Sponsored by the Lower Keys Chamber of Commerce it will be a combination of two popular events, the Lower Keys Food Festival and Raft Race at Sunshine Key Camping Resort (MM 39), and the Underwater Music Festival at the Looe Key National Marine Sanctuary.

This will be the sixth year for the Food Festival and Raft Race. Saturday, May 16, the good folks at Sunshine Key graciously provide a wonderful seaside location for this event which was born with the 1982 dedication of the new Seven-Mile Bridge and has expanded each year since. Visitors can browse among dozens of booths, sampling local and ethnic foods, playing games and viewing displays. (Booth space is still available at a flat \$30 for Chamber members, \$50 for non-members.) Beer, wine, and soft drinks will also be served. Entertainment will be provided by two of the Keys' most popular groups: the Survivors and the Southermost Band.

Representatives of the Looe Key and Key Largo National Marine Sanctuaries will have information on the Second Annual NMS Underwater Photo Contest, running during May and June. Grand prize is a \$1000 savings bond from the Marine Bank.

Other prizes include Nikonos V cameras and Chronosport dive watches. For applications, contact the Looe Key NMS office at Bahia Honda, 872-4039.

A helicopter will be offering five-minute rides. (Your chance to do a video of your favorite entry in the raft race, just like the powerboat racers do.)

Saturday's highlight will be the Lower



Bill Becker is  
News Director  
for US-1 Radio  
(104.7 FM)

Keys Marine Exposition Races, sponsored by Stroh's Beer and Universal Brands, Inc. This year the ever-popular races will feature an expanded field of four distances -- from ten miles to 1000 yards -- and five vessel classifications:

- I. Raft -- Anything that floats which is tied or bound together;
- II. Canoe -- any type of canoe (propelled by paddles);
- III. Kayak -- any type of kayak (propelled by paddles);
- IV. Rowing craft -- row boats, sculls, etc. (propelled by oars);
- V. Craft -- anything not listed above.

No sails, engines or motors. Both commercial and homemade hulls are permitted, with no size limits. Entry fee is \$5 per crew member before May 15; \$7.50

on race day. The races are being coordinated by Capt. John Duke. Call the Chamber at 872-2411 for an official race entry form.

Race day on the 16th will begin at 9 AM with the Florida Competition Paddlers Association elimination heats for the Ten-Mile Race for canoes, kayaks and rowing craft. The Ten-Mile Race begins at 10 AM.

Spectators should enjoy watching the 1.5-mile Raft Race at noon, followed by the Three-mile Race at 1 PM (for canoes, kayaks and rowing craft), and the 1000-yard dash at 3 PM (for all types). US-1 Radio will be broadcasting live from Sunshine Key.

Tickets are being sold around town for a benefit drawing on a dandy prize: a five-day Caribbean cruise-for-two aboard the Chandris Cruise Line's SS Galileo.

That drawing will be held Sunday, May 17, when the marina at Sunshine Key Camping Resort hosts a marine show of boats, tackle, dive gear, electronics, plus contests, food and drink, and a lot more. The Low Key String Band will entertain, with the festivities beginning at 11 AM.

The jewel of Marine Expo '87 shines Sunday, May 17, from 1 till 4 PM, when divers and snorkelers will have an opportunity to participate in one of the most unique underwater experiences of all: the Underwater Music Festival at Looe Key National Marine Sanctuary. Three hours of specially selected, uninterrupted music will be broadcast on US-1 Radio (104.7 FM),

continued on page 54



## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE LOWER KEYS

continued from page 51

Come to think of it, maybe that antiquated system of legal notice should be abolished on the grounds that in most cases it's a completely inadequate and inefficient method.

Now that we are all aware of the garbage fiasco, let's look at the coming water fiasco: FKAA has been lobbying for a law or laws that would give them the authority and the power to borrow money (bonds) without referendum approval and to place liens on property for non-payment of bills.

Your first reaction may well be that it's all right to do that to deadbeats who just won't pay their bills. If we could all be sure that the action would be used only against those "deadbeats," few would argue -- but -- how about people who didn't get bills and don't know that they owe the money? Remember the folks who have liens against their property because of garbage bills that they did not know they owed?

Consider another possibility: you've been paying your water bills regularly, you owe FKAA nothing, and suddenly discover that FKAA has placed a lien against your property, even though you know that you owe them nothing.

Do you think that can't happen? Think again -- it sure can. All that's needed is for

someone in FKAA to punch the wrong buttons somewhere and confuse your lot and block numbers with those of a person not paying his bill.

You think that can't happen? Think again. Let me give you an example. Approximately five years ago, a pickup truck with FKAA logo on the door pulled up in front of my house and two men got out and pulled out some tools. I'm always curious about things that happen close to home so I went out and talked with the two men, asking what the problem was. They were both very pleasant and explained that they just had orders to remove my water meter.

Ron Saunders' address is: 17 House Office Bldg., Tallahassee, Florida 32399.

I told them that I couldn't think of any reason for such an order as I owed FKAA nothing. One of them showed me the order and, sure enough, there it was: Lot 3 Block 3 (that's my property). I asked the men to come in the house while I phoned FKAA. They did. I phoned and after a bit of back and forth the party in charge conceded that there had been a error. Someone in the area had been by-passing their water meter and the person filling out the form had inadvertently put my Lot and Block numbers on the form instead of the culprits.

No one at FKAA was being mean, no one wanted to harm me, but if no one had

been home, my meter would have been gone, my water off, and I'd bet I'd have an awful time getting my meter back, and I'd bet also that they'd want me to pay for the re-installation.

Don't give FKAA or any other utility, government bureau or business entity an iota more power and authority than they already have. Write to Ron Saunders, telling him to work against this heinous bill. If you don't want to write, cut this column out and mail it to him -- if you have enough courage, sign your name and give your address. Let the legislature know that you've had enough and you're not going to take it anymore!

Key West Baptist Temple, 5727 Second Ave., Stock Island. Morris Wright, pastor. Sunday worship 10:50 am and 6:30 pm, Sunday school 9:45 am, senior citizen service 2:30 pm, Wednesday evening prayer service 7:00 pm.

Sugarloaf Baptist Mission, meeting at Sugarloaf Elementary School, 45-2204. Rev. Mark Beasley, pastor. Sunday school 9:45 am, worship service 11:00 am. Vacation bible school for children ages 3 thru 12 July 14-25 Mon. thru Fri. 9:00 am to 12 noon, at Sugarloaf Elementary School.

St. Bede's Catholic Church, 2700 Flagler Ave., 294-2984. Rev. Thomas F. Mulligan, pastor. Mass Monday 10:30 am at Senior Citizen Plaza, Tuesday thru Friday 9:00 am in the church, Sunday 9:00 am, 11:15 am, 7:00 pm in the church; Vigil Mass Saturday 7:00 pm.

St. Mary Star of the Sea, Truman Ave. & 1010 Windsor Lane, 294-1018. Sunday Mass 10:30 am, Spanish service Sunday evening 6:00, daily Mass at 8:00 am.

Grace Lutheran, 2713 Flagler Ave., 296-5161. Rev. Paul N. Rauscher, pastor. Sunday worship services 9:00 am, Sunday school and adult Bible class 10:15 am. Elementary school for three-year-olds thru sixth grade.

Holy Trinity, 3424 N. Roosevelt Blvd., 294-1305. Donald Johnson, pastor. Sunday worship 11:00 am.

Cornish Memorial AME Zion, 702 Whitehead St., 294-2350. Dr. F. Issac Lowe. Sunday worship 11:00, Sunday school 9:30 am.

First United Methodist, 600 Eaton St., 296-2392. Rev. David H. Schantz, Jr. Sunday worship services 8:30 and 11:00 am, Sunday school 9:45 am.

Fleming Street United Methodist, 729 Fleming St., 296-2812. Rev. Charles H. Ketchum.

Ley Memorial United Methodist, 1304 Truman Ave., 296-3313. Walter R. Mathews, Jr. Sunday school 9:45 am, Sunday worship 11:00 am. Bible studies: short term at various times.

Cosmic Lightbearers, 721 Waddell Ave., 294-0294.

Rev. Jeanette Bottoms. "We are a small group of New Age people who currently use the natural settings of Key West as our place of worship. Thursday 7:30 pm, Higgs Beach gazebo.

Gospel Chapel, 720 Southard St., 294-4351.

Metropolitan Community Church, Universal Fellowship, 1215 Petronia Street, 294-8912.

Movement of Spiritual Inner Awareness, 1005 Seminary St., 294-6739. Rev. Sheri Flyk. Taped seminars by John-Roger, 1st & 3rd Tues. 7:30 pm.

Peace Covenant Presbyterian, 2610 Flagler, 294-1223. Sunday service 11:00 am, Sunday school 9:15 am.

Trinity Presbyterian (USA), 717 Simonton St., 296-3318. Rev. Albert W. Moses. Sunday service 11:00 am, Sunday school 9:30 am.

Quakers, Sunday 10:30 am. Information 294-1523.

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

Seventh-Day Adventist, 1006 Thomas St., 294-4077.

Congregation B'nai Zion, 750 United St., 296-5739.

Rabbi Sol Landau. Services on Fri. evenings at 8:00.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

First Congregational, 527 William St., 296-8633. Rev. V. K. Relyea. Sunday services 11:00 am and 7:00 pm. Sunday school 9:45 am.

UNITY

Unity of the Keys, 3424 Duck Ave., 296-5888. Sunday 11:00 am, Tuesday evening course in miracles 7:00 pm.

Thursday 11 am basic Unity principles.

WESLEYAN METHODIST

Holiness Wesleyan Methodist, 800 Eisenhower Dr., 294-4742. Raymond Shreve, pastor. Sunday worship 11:00 and 7:30 pm, Sunday school 9:45 am, Wednesday

prayer meeting 7:30, Thursday evening service at 7:00.

remaining in this column is the recent welcome resurgence of concern for the Key Deer. Prompted, no doubt, by discussion of the Big Pine Key Access Road, there seems to be a growing realization that the survival of this endangered species will require a unified effort toward effective legislation, education and enforcement.

Local newspapers have recently published a number of letters expressing concern for the deer. A somewhat caustic and unfortunately misinformed letter from a Robert A. Clark was received here and also published April 22 in the *Key West Citizen*.

Mr. Clark stated that my last *Solares Hill* column was vehemently opposed to the Access Road. A subsequent conversation with Mr. Clark revealed that he apparently misinterpreted my pro-Key Deer column as being anti-Access Road. Further discussion indicated that Mr. Clark, a resident of Cudjoe Key for about one year, was under the mistaken impression that the Access Road was somehow going to be a 55-mph super-highway paralleling Key Deer Boulevard! An enlightened Mr. Clark has promised to publish a retraction.

Next month's column will look at some of the recent efforts being undertaken to protect the Key Deer. While these efforts are encouraging and welcome, we are still a long way from a coordinated effort that will result in the survival of this endangered species.

Till next month, fair winds and following seas.

Louie, who has survived AIDS and was featured in *People Magazine*, will share the secrets of his breakthroughs in attitude and health, and how this can apply to all of us, no matter what our situation.

M.C.C.

1215 Petronia Street

Key West

Wed., May 20

7:30-10:00 PM

Presented by the Living Circle Group. This

event is free of charge, thanks to the

generous sponsorship of Richard Heyman

and John Kiraly.

continued from page 51

picked up by receivers on boats at the sanctuary (six miles south of Big Pine), and amplified through special underwater speakers.

The effect underwater is magical. Water carries sound much faster and more efficiently than air, giving divers the effect of being surrounded by directionless music. Heard underwater, the music is non-intrusive, but ever-present. Higher frequencies are seemingly enhanced while chest-thumping bass notes are absent. Strings and percussive sounds have a wonderful feel -- you "hear" the music with more than just your ears. While snorkelers can enjoy the music adequately, scuba

divers have the added ability to get away from any wave noise at the water surface.

The music has been specially selected by Festival founder Dr. Fred Troxel and US-1 Radio Program Director Dave Beveridge. Selections will range from Buffett to Beethoven, with a lot of modern classical and progressive music. (If you enjoy Dave's regular Saturday evening show *Alternative Currents* on US-1 Radio, you'll love these three hours of music ... no matter where you will be listening.)

Broadcast from US-1 Radio's 100,000-watt tower and studio on Big Pine, the continuous music will be received and transmitted underwater with the use of state-of-the-art technology from Lubelle Labs of Columbus, Ohio. Al Lubelle will be

personally demonstrating these special units aboard several boats. (Meet him and see his display at Saturday's Food Festival.) Underwater speakers will also be lowered from the *Margarita* out of Underseas, Inc., and the *Looe Key Diver* from the Looe Key Reef Resort.

For information on local dive shops, marinas, motels and campgrounds providing charters, rentals, launch ramps, facilities, etc., contact the Lower Keys Chamber of Commerce at P.O. Box 511, Big Pine Key, 33043. Or call 872-2411. Be a part of this unique underwater experience.

Worthy of more space than I have

## LOWE'S SHEDS

• Free Delivery, Set Up and Tie Downs  
• Marathon to Key West  
• Large Selection of Colors and Styles  
• Sizes From 3'x5' to 20'x60'

Summerland Key - MM 24 - 745-1166

Open 7 Days, 7 AM-2 PM, 5 PM-10 PM  
MM 25 745-3446

Summerland Key

Big city got you down? It's just a short drive through Paradise to the...

## Galley Grill

- Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner -  
- Specials Every Day -  
- Cozy Tropical Atmosphere -  
- Beer, Wine -  
GOING FISHING?  
We'll pack your lunch and cook your catch!

Open 7 Days, 7 AM-2 PM, 5 PM-10 PM  
MM 25 745-3446

Summerland Key

U.S. 1  
5:30 AM-11 PM 745-3993 MM 24.5  
COUPON FREE DRAFT BEER COUPON

Slice of Paradise

Angelotti's Italian Pizza Too

• Sandwiches • Pizza  
• Charbroiled Burgers • Salads

FISHERMAN'S SPECIAL

BREAKFAST 5:30-11:00 AM

Open 7 Days 5:30 AM-11 PM 745-3993 MM 24.5

COUPON FREE DRAFT BEER COUPON

## Church Directory

AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL  
Bethel A.M.E. Church, 223 Truman Ave., 294-9951. Sunday worship 11 am, Sunday School 9:30 am, prayer meeting Tuesday evenings at 7:30.

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD  
Glad Tidings Tabernacle, 1209 United St., 296-5773. Charles C. Elliott, pastor. Sunday worship 10:30 am and 6:30 pm, Sunday Children's Church 10:30 am, Wednesday night youth service 7:00 pm, Thursday mid-week service 7:00 pm. Nursery available for all services. Helping Hands child care center for ages 1 thru 4.

BAHAI  
Baha'i Faith, 718 Duval, 294-2060.

BAPTIST  
Greater Keys Baptist Church, Fifth & Seidenberg, 296-3648. Dennis Clark, pastor. Sunday school 9:45 am, Sunday services 11:00 am and 7:00 pm, Thursday service 7:00 pm.

St. James Missionary Baptist Church, 312 Olivia, 296-5593. Fred L. Carter, DD, pastor. Sunday worship 11:00 am and 6:00 pm, Sunday school 9:30 am.

Big Coppitt First Baptist Church, Ave. F, MM 10, 294-4118. Randy Kitchens, Pastor. Sunday worship 11:00 am and 7:30 pm, Sunday school 9:45 am, prayer meeting Wed. evenings at 7:30.

Fifth St. Baptist Church, 2318 Fogarty Ave., 294-2255. Rev. R. Hetherington, Sunday worship 11:00 am and 7:00 pm, Sunday school 9:45 am.

First Baptist Church, 524 Eaton St., 296-8544. Charles Teagle Jr., Pastor. Sunday worship 11:00 am and 7:00 pm, Sunday school 9:45 am, Wednesday evening service 7:00.

Key West Baptist Temple, 5727 Second Ave., Stock Island. Morris Wright, pastor. Sunday worship 10:50 am and 6:30 pm, Sunday school 9:45 am, senior citizen service 2:30 pm, Wednesday evening prayer service 7:00.

Sugarloaf Baptist Mission, meeting at Sugarloaf Elementary School, 45-2204. Rev. Mark Beasley, pastor. Sunday school 9:45 am, worship service 11:00. Vacation bible school for children ages 3 thru 12 July 14-25 Mon. thru Fri. 9:00 am to 12 noon, at Sugarloaf Elementary School.

CATHOLIC

St. Bede's Catholic Church, 2700 Flagler Ave., 294-2984. Rev. Thomas F. Mulligan, pastor. Mass Monday 10:30 am at Senior Citizen Plaza, Tuesday thru Friday 9:00 am in the church, Sunday 9:00 am, 11:15 am, 7:00 pm in the church; Vigil Mass Saturday 7:00 pm.

St. Mary Star of the Sea, Truman Ave. & 1010 Windsor Lane, 294-1018. Sunday Mass 10:30 am, Spanish service Sunday evening 6:00, daily Mass at 8:00 am.

LUTHERAN

Grace Lutheran, 2713 Flagler Ave., 296-5161. Rev. Paul N. Rauscher, pastor. Sunday worship services 9:00 am, Sunday school and adult Bible class 10:15 am. Elementary school for three-year-olds thru sixth grade.

Holy Trinity, 3424 N. Roosevelt Blvd., 294-1305. Donald Johnson, pastor. Sunday worship 11:00 am.

METHODIST

Cornish Memorial AME Zion, 702 Whitehead St., 294-2350. Dr. F. Issac Lowe. Sunday worship 11:00, Sunday school 9:30 am.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

First Congregational, 527 William St., 296-8633. Rev. V. K. Relyea. Sunday services 11:00 am and 7:00 pm. Sunday school 9:45 am.

27 YEARS  
IN KEY WEST

B&F CLEANERS  
AND  
LAUNDRY

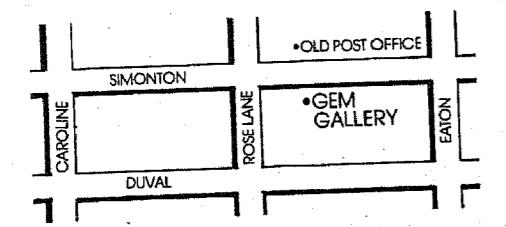
1001 Truman Avenue  
Telephone: 294-1818

A piece a day.



A very elegant gallery  
in which four resident  
artists produce a piece  
of fine jewelry a day  
(on their good days).

Hours 12-5 Mon.-Fri.  
or by appointment.  
316-A Simonton St.  
Key West, FL 33040  
305-294-2198

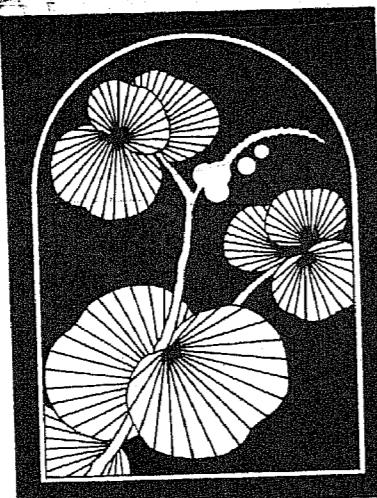


Garrison Bright Marina

sales,  
Service and storage.

711 Eisenhower Dr.  
294-3093

Wkdys  
8-6  
Wkend  
7-6



## KEY WEST NATIVE PLANT NURSERY

Landscaping With Plants of  
the Florida Keys

Wed. through Sat.  
9-2

296-0457 or 296-3334  
901 FLEMING STREET (REAR)

## Temple Celebrates 100th Birthday

It's a centennial celebration for Key West Jews, and the public is invited to join in the festivities May 15 through 17.

Shabbat services will begin promptly on Friday at 8 PM at B'nai Zion Synagogue, 750 United Street.

Then everyone will have a chance to see an exhibit of photographs and memorabilia highlighting the Jewish community's achievements through the years.

Rabbi Sol Landau said the centennial committee has invited city, county and state

Hebrews take much interest in the improvement and development of the town, and are counted among the most progressive citizens. As was to be expected of the descendants of a race who preserved through the ages of Greek and Roman pantheism the belief in one God, their first public act was to organize a Hebrew congregation." The Synagogue is now thriving.

In the years since Judge Browne wrote, Jews have contributed much to the vitality



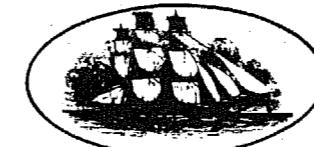
The temple  
political leaders to participate in weekend events which include 9 AM Saturday morning services, followed by a reception and kiddush; a religious school assembly Sunday starting at 10 AM and a dinner at 6 PM.

Federal Judge Sidney Aronovitz will be guest speaker at the dinner, and visitors will be given a centennial booklet to commemorate the weekend.

Judge Jefferson Browne, in his 1912 history of Key West, wrote, "In 1887, a few Jewish peddlers began to ply their trade here, going from house to house with their packs of dry goods, laces, etc. In 1891, the city imposed a license on peddlers of a thousand dollars each, and they gave up that vocation and opened stores. This was the beginning of the Hebrew migration. The

and prosperity of the easy-going town, despite their relatively small numbers. In a year-around population (not counting winter visitors) of some 30,000, Jews constitute perhaps 3% of the non-Hispanic whites. When Jews arrived, early local industries (shipwreck-stripping, cigars, sponges) were either history or on the wane. So it was by the same "peddler-to-store" route here, as elsewhere in the United States, that they first progressed. The roster of Key West Jewish "pioneers" who became merchants include the names Appel, Aronovitz, Einhorn, Holtsberg, Kantor, Kirchik, Lewinski, Markowitz, Mulberg, Pearlman, Weintraub, Wolfson, Wolkowski and others.

Jack Einhorn is unofficial archivist, raconteur and cicerone of the Jewish



## CHINA CLIPPER



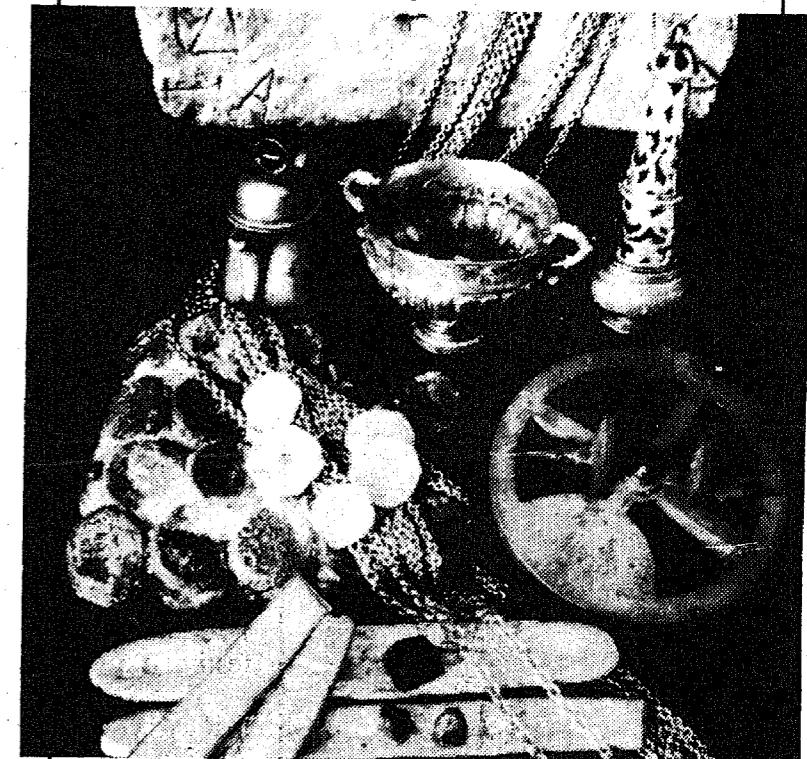
We are constantly told that we  
are the finest store in Key West.  
Come see why . . .

Outstanding Works of Art from  
the Orient for serious collectors  
and decorators, too.

310 Duval -- Key West  
294-2136

## LOCALS DISCOUNT

ADMISSION \$1.00  
with Local I.D.



The Santa Margarita



Museum  
Recovered after  
363 years on the  
ocean floor. You'll  
see beautifully  
ornate gold and  
jewelry worn by the  
Spanish aristocracy.

On Display at the  
Mel Fisher Maritime  
Heritage Society

The riches of  
the Atocha and

the Santa Margarita

Museum

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## Family and Health Services

### EMERGENCIES

Ambulance ..... 296-2401 or 911  
Fire ..... 296-2828 or 911  
HELP/Latch Key Program ..... 296-HELP, 294-LINE  
Missing Children ..... 1-800-342-0821  
Poison Control (24 hours) ..... 1-800-282-3171  
Police ..... 911 or 294-2511  
Rape Victim Advocacy Program ..... 294-5531 x4766  
Sheriff ..... 296-2424

### EDUCATION

Adult Education ..... 294-5212  
Child Find (FDLRS) ..... 296-7541  
Downtown Center, FKCC ..... 294-8481  
Exceptional Student Education ..... 296-7541  
Florida Keys Community College ..... 296-9081  
Monroe County Schools ..... 296-6523  
Parenting Skills Classes ..... 296-5911

### RECREATION

Boy Scouts ..... 745-3987  
City of Key West Recreation Dept. ..... 294-3721  
Girl Scouts ..... 745-3737  
Monroe County Public Library ..... 294-8488

### CHILD ABUSE

Child Abuse Office, FKM ..... 294-5531  
Child Protective Services, HRS ..... 294-9513  
Child Protection Team, FKM ..... 294-5531  
Coalition Against Child Abuse ..... 294-5531  
Guardian Ad-Litem ..... 296-7518  
Parenting Classes, FKM ..... 294-5531  
Parents Anonymous ..... 296-HELP, 294-LINE  
Puppet Show ..... 294-5531  
Reporting, HRS ..... 1-800-342-9152, 294-1050  
Volunteer Child Advocacy Team ..... 294-5531

### NAVY

Counseling & Assistance Center ..... 292-2533  
Family Advocacy ..... 296-2461  
Navy Alcohol Safety Action Program ..... 292-2555  
Navy Family Service Center ..... 292-3152  
Navy Relief ..... 292-2196

### DAY CARE

See Yellow Pages listing for day nurseries and child care.

### SOCIAL SERVICES

Big Brothers & Big Sisters ..... 294-9891  
Commodity Food Bank ..... 294-8468  
Community Control ..... 294-1059  
Developmental Services ..... 294-1059  
Domestic Abuse Shelter ..... 296-HELP, 294-LINE  
Juvenile Alternative Services Program ..... 296-7465  
Monroe County Food Bank ..... 294-8468  
Monroe County Social Services ..... 294-8468

### HEALTH

Al-Anon ..... 296-6616, 294-5531  
Ala-Teen ..... 296-6616  
Alcoholics Anonymous ..... 296-8654  
Alliance for the Mentally Ill ..... 294-5237  
Blind Services ..... 1-800-342-1828  
Chemical Dependency Unit, Delphos ..... 294-5531  
Childbirth Educ/Midwifery ..... 294-4536  
Easter Seal ..... 294-1089  
Family Planning ..... 294-1021  
Hello Baby ..... 294-5531  
Helping Hand Stroke Club ..... 294-8812  
Hospice ..... 294-8812

Improved Pregnancy Outcome ..... 294-1021  
LaLeche Foundation ..... 745-2274  
LaMaze ..... 294-1068, 294-4218  
MARC House - Detox ..... 743-6551  
Mental Health Care Center ..... 294-5237  
Monroe County Health Dept. ..... 294-1021  
Narcotics Anonymous ..... 296-7999  
Nutrition Program ..... 294-1021  
Ostomy Support Classes ..... 296-8659  
Overeaters Anonymous ..... 294-5183  
Pregnancy Aid & Counseling ..... 296-7337  
Up Front/Drug Information ..... 1-800-432-8255  
Well Baby/Medicaid Clinic ..... 294-1021  
W.I.C. (Women, Infants & Children) ..... 294-1021

### MISCELLANEOUS

Adoptions ..... 294-9513  
Birth Certificates ..... 294-1021  
Family Resource Center, FKM ..... 294-5531  
Foster Homes, Information & Licensing ..... 294-9513  
Legal Services ..... 294-4641 x358  
National Switchboard for Runaways ..... 1-800-621-4000  
Red Cross ..... 296-3651  
Salvation Army ..... 294-5611  
Single Parent Hotline ..... 1-800-638-9675  
Victim Witness Assistance Program ..... 294-5165

Welcome Home Ministries ..... 296-2366  
Zonta ..... 296-4357  
Vietnam Vets of Key West ..... 294-9802  
AIDS Education Project ..... 294-8302

Would you like to sponsor someone with AIDS to swim with the dolphins? Call Sonia at 294-8302 after noon.

**At Old Town Medical,  
the key is caring.**

Doctors Larry Siegel (M.D.) and John J. Jonikas (D.O.) share a special commitment to both top quality medical care and quality of life for the people of Key West. That's why their clinic provides:  state-of-the-art medical equipment  parking at the rear of the building in convenient Old Town  handicap access  first class medical expertise in everything from general medicine to alcohol and drug dependency treatment to highly specialized kidney disorders  the Key West Kidney Center and  24 hour on-call availability. Call for an appointment today.

**OLD TOWN MEDICAL CENTER**  
520 Southard St. 296-8593



## EMERGENCY CARE!



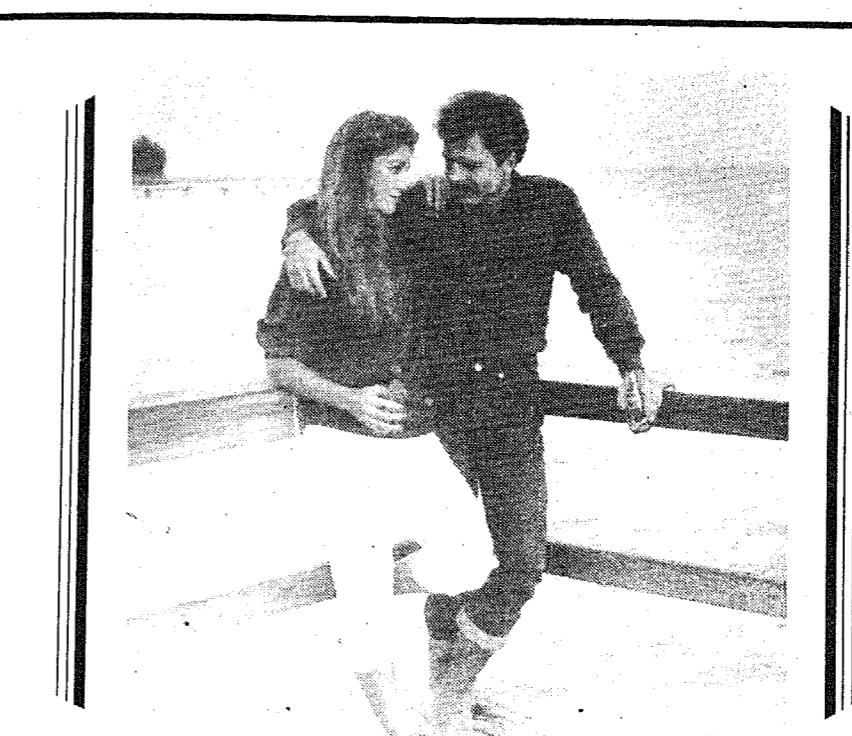
### NEW PRICING SYSTEM ... SMALL EMERGENCY - SMALL FEE

Our charges are based on the emergency care actually provided, rather than on a standard fee.

NOW, IF YOU HAVE A SMALL EMERGENCY,  
YOU WILL ALSO HAVE A SMALLER FEE.

The next time a member of your family needs emergency care, from an earache or soar throat to more complex problems, call your physician immediately. In the event that you are unable to reach him or her, come directly to our Emergency Department.

Your not-for-profit, nationally accredited Community Hospital  
**Florida Keys Memorial Hospital**  
5900 Junior College Road  
294-5531



## ADDICTION AND RELATIONSHIPS

The fear, distrust, and confusion of chemical dependency can destroy relationships. Treatment and recovery can help drug addicts and alcoholics learn to love and be loved once more. Call us.

The Delphos program is covered by most major insurance policies including Medicare and Florida Medicaid.

**294-5531  
Ext. 3505**



Florida Keys Memorial Hospital  
5900-J West Junior College Road, Key West, Florida 33040

### Key West Named A Tree City, USA

"Key West has been named a Tree City, USA," Mayor Tom Sawyer reports. It is the first time the city has received this type of national recognition.

Communities entering the nationwide program receive the Tree City, USA designation upon recommendation by state foresters. To qualify, communities must meet the following standards: a city tree ordinance, a legal tree governing body, a comprehensive urban forestry program, and observance of Arbor Day.

"I am very proud to have been successful in applying for the designation of Tree City, USA. It is indeed an honor to accept this and to insure that we will be more than aware of the necessity of community tree planting and the importance of caring for the trees in our parks and throughout the entire community of Key West today and in the future. This program recognizes the efforts being made by our city commission, tree commission, garden club and our residents. We should all be very proud of this award and recognition," commented Mayor Tom Sawyer.



Mayor Sawyer receiving the plaque.

State Forester Michael Brady presented the Tree City, USA flag, a plaque and community entrance roadsigns to Mayor Sawyer on Friday, April 24, 1987 at 2:30 PM at the Indigenous Park in Key West. A Paradise tree was also planted at the Indigenous Park during this ceremony in honor of National Arbor Day.

### ACUPUNCTURE

**THEODORE BERLIN, C.A.**

Acupuncturist  
Florida State Certified  
615-A United Street  
294-0559

Acupuncture  
is Recommended by  
The World Health  
Organization

Treatment for:  
• All Painful Problems  
• Internal & External Diseases  
• Disposable Needles Used



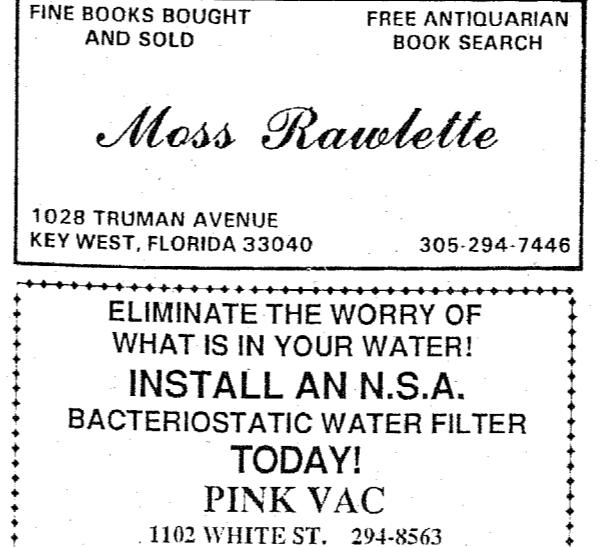
**Key West Employment Service**  
A Full Service Company Handling:  
Restaurant • Hotel/Motel • Clerical  
Temporary Management  
Data Processing • Construction  
Recruitment & National Placement  
508 Southard St. 294-6301

### Keys Office Equipment

335 Eaton Street  
P.O. Box 807  
(305) 294-3030  
Key West, Fla. 33040



**ADLER TEC**



**ELIMINATE THE WORRY OF  
WHAT IS IN YOUR WATER!**  
**INSTALL AN N.S.A.**  
BACTERIOSTATIC WATER FILTER  
TODAY!  
PINK VAC  
1102 WHITE ST. 294-8563

**LOUI G. FRANKE, D.D.S.  
PERIODONTIST (GUM SPECIALIST)**  
**FULL TIME IN KEY WEST**  
3263 Flagler Avenue 296-2074  
Wednesday Through Saturday  
Hours by Appointment

## Snowstorm Over Key West, Part VI ...

### Delphos Offers Cocaine Addicts Hope for New Life

A Key West cocaine addict tells his story:

*I was freaking out, over-amped on coke. I hadn't slept for three days. I'd been snorting almost a quarter ounce a day, maybe a third of a gram per line. I just couldn't stop and didn't know what to do! I did know that the party was over and I had to get help.*

It was a golden morning and the young man was frantic. He knew nothing of drug treatment centers, "Help" lines or 12-step programs. He knew only that he wanted to live more than he wanted to die and so caught a cab to the closest medical help available: DePoo Hospital.

*They asked me questions and I started lying again. It was weird. I knew it was time to get honest, yet I couldn't. The cocaine had me. I thought I'd go crazy at that point. I realized that this might be my last chance ever. I was close to the edge and knew I had to get clean and honest. Things started spinning around. The doctor in DePoo's emergency room gave me a shot, then sent me to Delphos.*

Delphos. The word means dolphin in Greek. Greek Mythology has dolphins carrying the spirits of the dead to their rebirth in paradise.

#### BRASS DOLPHINS AND THE BEARDED DOCTOR

Providing the drug and alcohol addicted person a chance at rebirth was foremost on the minds of local doctors Larry Siegel and William Greenwood when they opened Delphos' 20-bed drug treatment facility at Florida Keys Memorial Hospital in the summer of 1983. Until then, the closest treatment center was located in Miami -- too far away to get deep family involvement, a vital ingredient in the arrest of addiction.

In August, 1984, Dr. Ron Ersay, a psychiatrist with some 17 years experience in the treatment of addiction disorders, entered as Delphos' first full-time medical director. Today, if you want to get treatment at Delphos, you first see Dr. Ersay.

*Dr. Ersay calmed me. He examined me, looking especially at my nose and the abscesses on my arms and body. We talked about my drug use. Until then, I didn't know I had a drinking problem, too. I considered any alcohol problem minor compared with my cocaine addiction. I didn't think I was an alcoholic at all. I just knew that I had a problem with coke. And even then I didn't want to admit that I was an addict or anything.*

Look around the office of Dr. Ronald Ersay, 42, and you see representations of his life's loves. Dolphins abound, fashioned in brass, porcelain, even brass relief. And the walls and desk reveal yet another love through picture and model, that of the 36-foot Mariner ketch he and his wife Molly call "Moira." Speak to this bearded

doctor about addiction and you find him expressive and compassionate, self-deprecating -- for a doctor, anyway -- with the ability to admit that he sometimes makes mistakes, that he's still learning about his specialty.

#### WILL POWER CAN'T HELP

(Let's get one thing straight off: Alcohol is a *drug*, by far this nation's most abused drug. So when we speak of drug addiction, we're talking about any mind-altering substance, any drug on which a person becomes dependent whether you buy it on the street corner, in the liquor store, or at your pharmacy.)

Although recognized for many years by medical science as a disease, drug addiction is even today surrounded by myths and misinformation. Researching this series, I talked with many otherwise informed people, including some in local law enforcement and corrections, who believe that (1) drug addiction is a weakness of character which can be cured, and (2) put the addict in jail for a few days, get him off the drug and dried out and there's no excuse for him to go back to using the drug again.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

We live in a society where almost everyone uses drugs. They're touted on TV as the easy solution to problems of pain, of obesity. They're celebrated in beer commercials and cigarette print campaigns as fostering friendship, conviviality, even romance. In a land where everyone uses, it's little wonder that we choose not to look under the rock at addiction's real face; we might just end up seeing ourselves.

Some facts: Like diabetes, drug addiction is a chronic relapsing disease. The addict can't help be an addict. The addict can't stop being an addict. The addict is an addict for life. He can only arrest his disease by quitting the use of addictive drugs and, most often, he can't stop that without help.

Simply put, an addict is a man or woman whose life is controlled by drugs.

The addict isn't weak-willed. Will power has nothing to do with it. Nor does he necessarily have a compulsive personality. Even low self-esteem has little to do with becoming an addict. It may be the reason a person picks up his first drink or drug, but low self-esteem is really a manifestation of the disease once the person becomes addicted.

According to Dr. Ersay, there's good evidence that a person is born with the potential to become addicted. It's in the genes. And it's something metabolic. Addictive people metabolize drugs differently than non-addictive people, to the point where drugs literally poison the addict, affecting memory, thinking, judgment, and the ability to deal with emotional issues.

This drug poisoning affects the addict spiritually, as well. Says Ersay: "If we

focus on the physical and mental parts of the disease without treating what happens to the person spiritually, there's little chance of recovery."

#### THE DISEASE SAYS "NO PROBLEM!"

Addiction is a disease which tells you that you have no disease. No other disease can make that statement. A major symptom of addiction is denial. Addicts always tend to deny or minimize the destructive effects of their using or drinking.

*Dr. Ersay told me that the program of recovery was one of complete abstinence. I was actually devastated to learn that if I wanted to recover, I could never even drink again. I didn't want to hear that. I was in so much pain -- emotional and spiritual pain -- I decided that I had to give it my best shot. It was now life or death. I had to admit that I was an addict.*

At what point is a drug user an addict? There are some who say that the first time you use a drug and "really like it," you'd better watch out! You're a potential addict, and sooner or later you'll become addicted if you continue to use drugs. Sooner with more potent drugs like crack cocaine, later with relatively less potent drugs like alcohol.

Ersay answers the question this way: "When a person continues to use, despite repetitive medical problems, family problems or loss of control -- even if once or twice a year -- he's an addict. A lot of people are misled by this out-of-control business. But if it happens, they've crossed the wall."

#### THE FIRST STEP

Most people come to Delphos in crisis. Their livers are backing up from cirrhosis and they're bleeding to death. Or the boss or the wife or husband or children or something inside them is pushing them to help themselves, something that intuitively knows that death or insanity is inevitable unless the addict stops using. And the addict must give up not only the drug, he must accept powerlessness over the drug as well as powerlessness over life itself.

The first step in the 12-step recovery program of Narcotics Anonymous, a recovery program with which Delphos works closely, states: "We admitted that we were powerless over our addiction, that our lives had become unmanageable."

Since denial is so often a prominent symptom of the disease, Ersay and his staff must sometimes intervene in the disease process to get the addict to break the vicious cycle of self-poisoning and its consequences. Basically, such intervention means sitting down with the addict and his loved ones -- spouse, other family members, boss, colleagues, physician, whomever -- and let the person see, through the observation of others, what the drug is

doing in his life.

Then, if the person is still unwilling to get help, family and friends tell him that they will no longer be a part of his self-destruction. He's told that he can't live with them, he can't work with them, even that his doctor won't doctor him anymore. It's tough love and it often works to push the still-denying addict into treatment. Once in, the first step is detoxification: medically supervised withdrawal.

*They put me in a room to detox. It took me three days to get through the shakes, sweats and hallucinations. Medically, this is a very dangerous time; they check on you constantly.*

*Then began the most wonderful days of my life. Honestly! I was given hope for the first time that I could kick the habit. So many times I'd tried to stop doing coke. I'd even overdosed and, one time, died for all practical purposes. I remember seeing the terror in my friends' faces and was scared stiff myself. But a day later I was sniffing. Two days later I was booting it up again. I couldn't shake it. I craved it, constantly.*

#### TREATMENT

Hope. To the addict it is water in a desert of despair. Hope is the first by-product of Delphos' treatment plan. After the initial phase of detoxification, the addict is assigned a comfortable room -- usually by himself, assigned a personal counselor and then is immersed in a highly structured program of group and individual therapy, educational lectures, audio and video tapes, plus daily attendance to groups of Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous. Delphos' staff of 14 keep the new patient hopping.

*I got up, made my bed, got my vitamins from the nurse's station, had breakfast. I was so run down, dehydrated and undernourished, I gained 15 pounds the first few days.*

*After breakfast there was a morning devotional time. Then group therapy where a counselor and all the patients sit around a room talking about our problems.*

*Sometimes you get asked to spill your guts. Asked? Told! And there's no place to hide, no drug to cover your feelings. Such times can be scary but cleansing. Very revealing. We'd help one another get honest and to open up. We had a lot of homework, too. A ton of written assignments.*

There's also role-playing. If a patient is having particular problems finding his feelings about, say, his father, someone will play the part of his father in an impromptu drama between "father" and patient.

Emotional breakthroughs often result.

At least once during the 30-day in-patient phase of Delphos' treatment, the addict gets told by the staff the exact nature of his character defects. It's said to be a humbling experience, but then humility is a trait deemed necessary for long-term sobriety.

*They try to break you down emotionally, to make you cry and open up. They tore me up. But I made such progress after that staffing they felt I didn't need another.*

About the third week the addict's family gets involved. Delphos' formal three-day program puts significant family members --

lover, mate, father, mother -- with the individual patient and his treatment. The family learns that they too are suffering from an illness. Called co-dependency, according to Ersay, it's a very real disease. "Co-dependency has many symptoms similar to those of the addict. Depression, physical and spiritual problems -- all can be and are manifested in the spouse and family of the addict, sometimes they're found even in the addict's secretary and co-workers. Symptoms are so similar that often it's difficult to tell which one is drinking or using when I first see a husband and wife."

Co-dependency, like addiction, is a relapsing disease needing ongoing care and support. Ersay sees the programs of Tough Love and Alanon as very helpful in treating this disorder.

#### A DAY AT A TIME

Towards the end of the residential phase of the program, the patient is required to take a "searching and fearless moral inventory" of himself. For a person who for years has intentionally hidden his life from himself under the clouds of drugs and dishonesty, this step shakes the soul. He is then required to share this inventory, admitting his wrongs to God and, then, to another human being of his choice.

To take such an inventory and then admit one's wrongs are two of the steps which 12-step programs like N.A. and A.A. suggest which make recovery possible. In fact, most drug treatment programs like Delphos provide only the basis for a drug-free and productive life; ongoing participation in A.A. and/or N.A. is considered necessary for continuing sobriety, spiritual growth and emotional fulfillment.

*I had to write about my feelings every night. To describe one or two feelings, plus my inventory, plus the rest of the homework, all I did is write and write and write. It's hard. But it's worth it. I finally began to know myself. I finally began to know how to live one day at a time.*

*Honestly, I became one humble s.o.b. up there at Delphos. I became grateful. I became loving. That program worked a miracle in my life.*

The Delphos program lasts an entire year. After 30 days inpatient care, the addict and his significant others are encouraged to attend weekly group therapy sessions for the 11 months after discharge.

*When it came time to leave, I felt a little creepy. Afraid. The day that I left, that night they had an aftercare meeting. Thank God. It felt good to get back. Even now if I have a problem, I can go back day or night and be welcome and helped. But for me now, life's great. I still get a little nervous when I see a syringe, feel almost threatened when I see a package of Plasti-Pack disposable needles. It's still fresh in my mind how bad it was.*

#### IS LIFE WORTH \$9,000?

There is a catch to all this care. The program costs about nine grand. "Spread out over a year it's not terribly expensive," says Ersay. "What makes it hard is that the majority of the cost has to be paid coming

in. Most times that's paid through insurance, Medicare or Medicaid. Unfortunately, there are those who have no insurance."

Is cost the reason that this excellent program is seldom even half-utilized? Last year when I first interviewed at Delphos there were only three in-patients in the program, three patients and 14 staff. On my interview just last month there were seven. The program hasn't been paying its way. Last September the hospital governing board essentially put Delphos on probation: the treatment center must increase its number of in-patients and decrease the 20 percent who don't pay their bills or it may be curtains for the only drug rehabilitation center in the Keys.

Does Monroe County have so few addicts that Delphos isn't needed (he asks, tongue in cheek)?

Nationally, one adult in 20 to 25 is probably a cocaine addict; one adult in 10 an addict of alcohol. That makes six or seven thousand eligible for addiction treatment in this county alone. And that's assuming that Key West has no more addiction problems than the average, say, Fargo, N.D.

So much for statistics.

Think about your neighbors, your co-workers, your own family. Isn't there at least one person who desperately needs the Delphos program, possibly to save his or her life?

Of course the cost is high. And in this town of minimum-wage work, an entire year's salary comes up \$2,000 short of the Delphos' tab.

Taxes won't pay the bill; county taxes already pay for MARC House (Monroe Addiction Recovery Center), the 15-bed arm of the Middle Keys Guidance Center at which there is a medically supervised detox program. Federal money won't do it either. After all of last summer's pre-election "War on Drugs" hoopla, our president has called for a \$201 million reduction in spending for drug-prevention programs and a \$211 million cutback for drug treatment. The White House boys say that combating illicit drugs is still a "number one priority" of President Reagan despite a \$915 million cutback in proposed funding for 1988. Apparently we must learn to make do with "just saying no," a perfectly good tool for drug education but, as we have seen, a very unrealistic treatment plan.

For the addict who qualifies for free or low-cost public programs there are tax-supported treatment centers in Miami: Avon Park, Concept House, Village South, Bethesda Manor. MARC House in Marathon makes such arrangements. In Key West, Mental Health Care Center of the Lower Keys located in Truman Annex assesses individuals for treatment. All it takes is a call to 294-5237 for an appointment with one of the drug and alcohol counselors.

#### GO DIRECTLY TO TREATMENT ...

In the meantime we have addicts on the street, stealing from us to support their addictions. Captain Jake Key, head honcho at Monroe County Jail, estimates at least 50 percent of his charges are behind bars as a

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direct result of drug and alcohol abuse. The *Miami Herald* recently pointed out that when caught, it costs the state \$30,000 to put the addict in jail. For the same money, the state could provide effective treatment for several addicts thus turning them into law-abiding, tax-paying citizens. Or so goes the theory.

Dr. Ersay, a man of science and practicality, sees little chance for the idea. He believes the money would have to leap too many bureaucratic barriers to get from corrections to his treatment center.

But there has to be a way to keep Delphos going.

According to Ersay, the unit is now considering treating adolescents. This large and needy market could mean the difference between profit and loss. (See "Cocaine and Kids: How Drugs Affect Key West High School Today," *Solares Hill*, April, 1987.) Delphos has already improved their marketing stance, now advertising in regional publications as well as gay

magazines. And our drug treatment center, indeed, has a leg up on many others: it is headed by a psychiatrist; it's a comfortable, homey place located in a hospital where all medical problems can be cared for; and Key West itself offers the prospective patient great support with its many 12-step meetings.

It's said that South Florida leads the nation in drug smuggling, drug addiction and drug deaths. Monroe County alone had about a dozen cocaine overdose deaths just last year.

Despite this nation's best efforts, more cocaine than ever floods our streets. As long as there's a lucrative market for the stuff, it's unstoppable.

There's simply no getting around the fact that if we don't treat the addict we can't win the drug war.

Next: *Narcotics Anonymous, Everyman's treatment plan.*

## Barbershop Show Time -- May 16

A musical extravaganza featuring the Key West and Miami Barbershop choruses and quartets will be presented at the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center, Florida Keys Community College, at 8 PM on Saturday, May 16, 1987.

Key West's "Old Island Harmony" singers, hosts for the show, will lead off

with a medley of old favorites like "Let Me Call You Sweetheart" and "Down by the Old Mill Stream."

The "Miamians" will then present their show, *It's A Great Day for the Irish*, with the opening scene set in the Shamrock Harmony Pub. In addition to the 50-man championship chorus, there will be performances by quartets such as the Pros 'n Cons, the Caddy Shack Four, and the Sun Country. The comedy foursome, the Opa Locka Gas Co., will sing several side-

## I Always Promised You Arose Garden

by An Anonymous Addict

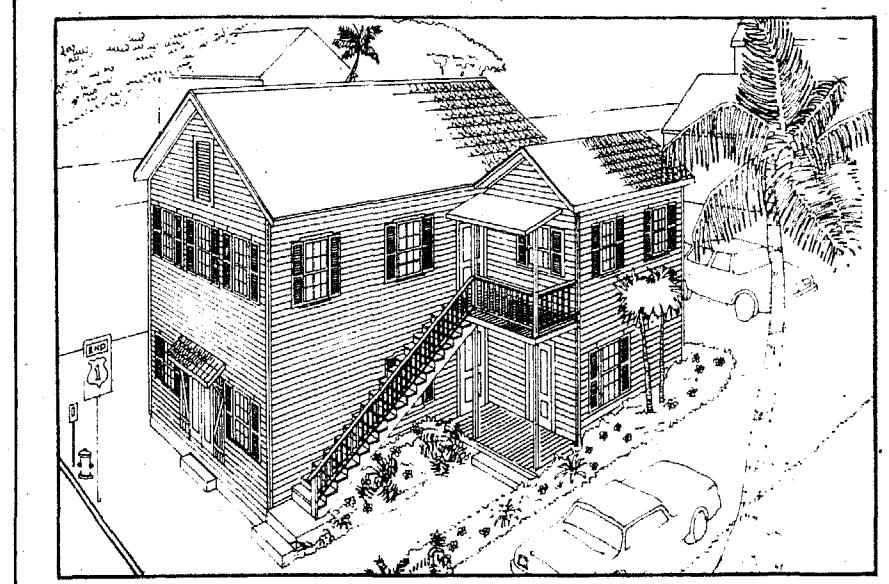
Touching deeply in group

I see

that in expressing my grief  
it was absorbed  
evaporated by them  
forming clouds  
to rain  
be precipitated  
on their own fertile soils  
to nurture the seed sown there  
to water, those flowers  
Colors

Blossoming in those fields of our / self

I always promised, you'd arise.



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A very special property has now become available in Key West, across from the Monroe County Courthouse and the US Post Office, at 501 Whitehead Street (US 1, Mile Marker Zero). This Classic Key West Commercial Structure has just undergone a thorough National Register Certified Historic Rehabilitation.

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## ISLAND CLUB OWOO

Once again, to prove that the local Island Club chapter is full of wild'n crazy guys & gals of all ages, out to destroy any vestige of sanity left, even in John Mercer, we are again unleashing the Mystery Member AKA the Master of Madness to write the QUIZ QUESTION in this ad. Answer the quiz correctly, write the two names on your check when applying for your membership and receive (your option) either a FREE 2nd membership for a member of your household, or b) a two year membership for yourself for the price of one (\$48). There are TWO parts to the quiz & this offer, which might get us in some deep S--- ends midnight, May 30th, 1987. Let's Party!

For the third year in a row the Ft. Lauderdale Bahia Cabana getaway offer is back and members may stay at this legendary retreat for the terminally crazed, AND sit/crouch or hunch over the most famous water-side bar in a land of ten-thousand bars for only \$25 a night for one, two or three people. (We want a report on those threesomes). Details in ICI newsletter. Quiz question # 1: What former local public office holder is so enamored, vain, and filled with self-importance that this person will do anything possible/legal & most certainly obnoxious to get (the) name and (most important) (the) face photographed & published in as many local publications as possible, as often as is (inhumanly) possible?

Our last local meeting/party was held at the Hukilau and was a resounding success thanks to owner Allan Merrill whose staff did an incredible job of providing a sumptuous feast of freshly grilled swordfish, an entire roast pig & a gorgeous display of vegetable and fruit dishes. Once again Allan, thanks very much. Thanks also to the Party Committee Chairman Grover Sawyer, & committee members Carol Sawyer, Jane Busby, Wade Russell, Vicki Sawyer, Denise Jackson, Jim Laliberte & Jim Cox. And thanks to former Eastern Airlines pilot Jack (Wildman) Waterbury for doing the Guest Prizemaster service. A special welcome to new committee members Rick & Kristal Lynn Curry.

**SILLY SEASON'S STARTING!!!** Bartenders, waitrons, hotel personnel, shop & store personnel, taxi-drivers and all others dealing with the public...things are going to get slooooweeer soon and now is the time to get ready to pick up some fast cash!!! If you deal with visitors to Key West and the Florida Keys, you can double or triple your take home by selling the ICI visitors VIP-Passport card. Sell only five a day and earn an extra \$9,000 to over \$11,000. For details call Anita at 296-4839, or 296-3280...or call Rob Vanderkay at 294-6301 (office in Key Lime Plaza). What do you have to lose by not calling? Money! You get SIX dollars (OR MORE!) for every card sale! And if you own a business--isn't it silly not to add this extra "profit center" to your business?

The current ICI National Report lists 38 ship's cruises at special discount prices for ICI members & cardholders, from now through the fall. The next Report will list even more cruises, available from three ICI authorized cruise brokers. If you don't see what you want in a cruise, call the club (296-3280) and we will get you the best price possible for any cruise, any time, anywhere in the world! Just one more good deal from your local club that's part of the club network with world-wide connections! Tell us what cruise, what ship, & the date--we will send out for bids to our brokers!

The current report also tells members how they may buy a new car or truck, any make any model for only TWO percent over dealers cost and receive a computer printout of EXACTLY what every single charge is to ANY dealer for every extra or accessory on any model...this same TWO percent offer also applies to car leasing!

This month's party will be held pool-side at the Ramada Keys' End Resort's almost-notorious Tiki-Bar, scene of some of our most popular Lucky 13 parties. Digger O'Dell has absolutely PROMISED that he will be there wearing a hula-skirt, golf cap, hi-topper sneakers and bright magenta face paint...can you wait for it? (And if he doesn't do as promised...well, the pool is nearby). Wednesday, May 13th, starts at about 5 and ends (for those of us who work) at 8:30. Free feast, fun & frivolity for all—all are welcome. Bring your friends to see Digger.

Next month (June for those who have a hard time tracking such matters) there will be a special Saturday pool-side party at Joe & Pam Glenn's Looe Key Resort. This party will start with an afternoon swimming party at 2 pm (1400 for our military members) and then the regular party starts at 5. This is going to be one fuuuuuuuu party, so plan your car-pool now. Looe Key Resort is at MM 28.5 or so, give or take a hundred miles...special discounts for ICIers wishing to stay overnight. Joe has asked the Hukilau!!! to help cater!! Bring your bathing suit, your friends, and have great fun! New business members here in Key West are Cafe Exile (Duval & Angela), featuring live jazz from 8 nightly, disco opens at 10 and this European style cafe is open 24 hours a day. Bay Trading company, source for THE clothes in town is back in the club and we also welcome the Key West Native Plant Nursery. Full details will be in the May ICI local newsletter mailed to all members. Business owners interested in finding out about business membership please call Anita Utter at 296-4839 or 296-3280.

Now for quiz question number two. Name the local business-person who is well known for writing totally demented ads and letters to the editor, 40% of the contents of which are absolutely incoherent and (who) the "Animals" have a quick-fix for getting rid of...all that need be said is " (Name), Manny Jiminez wants to see you right away". Get the two names correct in this ad and receive the prize as given above. For the security and health of ourselves AND the winners--names will NOT be announced (publicly)! We may be running into the far end zone--but we are not completely stone cold crazy. Send application and check for \$48 with the two names (preferably written on a \$100 bill) to ICI/Membership, PO Box 4250, Key West, FL 33041.

**VISITING?** and reading this? You too may be part of the marvelous mad world of Island Club International. Start a local club chapter in your hometown. No Franchise or license fee! Call 296-3280. Check it out now, buy a visitors card from any business where you see the friendly seahorse, sign of a good deal.

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