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VOL. 16, NO. 1 / KEY WEST, FLORIDA / JANUARY, 1988

FESTIVAL of the CONTINENTS and ARTS EXPLO '88

KEY WEST LITERARY SEMINAR

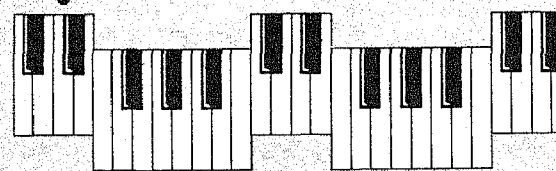
Chinese Golden
Dragon Acrobats
and Magicians
of Taipei

*Do Patent Leather
Shoes Really Reflect Up?*

COPPELIA

**Guys
&
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Jazz Pianist
JAMES GIBSON



**'88 VISITING
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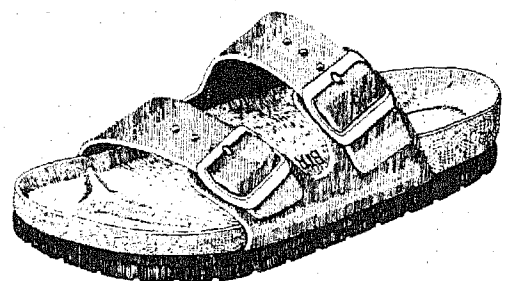
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FROM THE EDITOR

Hello.

I take serious exception to the idea that a Black can only be elected to office in Key West by the creation of a separate Black voting district. You run people like Fred Shaw, Roosevelt Sands, Jr., Phyllis Allen, Harry Chipchase, Betty Campbell, Willie Ward, etc., etc. and they would stand an excellent chance of being elected. There has not been a strong candidate for City Commissioner from the Black community since Lang Milian ran and was elected over 10 years ago. Carroll Tynes ran one time but he was not so well known outside his immediate community. When Noah C. Allen ran for County Commission a few years ago he was almost a total unknown with no real grasp of local issues. White candidates similarly unprepared routinely go down to defeat. Charles Major, Sr. has run several times and the voters have just plain said no to him. I'm sorry that City Electric board member Otha Cox, who has enjoyed widespread public support as an elected official, chose to agree with this notion that a Black can't run and win when I feel the truth is that a strong candidate would undoubtedly do just that.

I remember Police Lt. Tito Casamayor saying Whites were out to get him because they resented a Black with so much power in the police department. It was the abuse of power the community, Black and White, objected to. A Black man, Oscar Macintosh, with perhaps an equivalent position in the fire department to that formerly held by

Casamayor in the police department, is widely respected and may some day be chief. He's a great guy and the majority of the community wishes him well, I'm sure.

Of course racism has played a large role in holding back qualified Blacks from positions of power here and elsewhere. But it is lessening and the people who want competence in place of color restrictions are at last in the majority here. The idea of setting up individual districts amounts to little more than creating ward politics and political bosses. Peter Ilchuck, Supervisor of Elections, wrote an excellent brief advising against the creation of separate districts (he estimated it could take nine districts to ensure a Black voting majority in one of them) and I heartily recommend it to anyone with an interest in this subject.

The Black community has heavy, heavy problems that are not being addressed. The economic tourist boom that has reinvigorated Duval Street and pumped money and jobs into our economy has been almost exclusively for the White community. Cross Whitehead Street and one can find too much hanging around with too little to do. All of the scourges of lack of affordable housing and proper paying jobs, rampant

continued on page 55

Cover image for the Monroe County Fine Arts Council created by Solares Hill Design Group.

Banner Tire Now The Goodyear Distributor: Rodriguez Brothers Win A Top Line

by Bud Jacobson

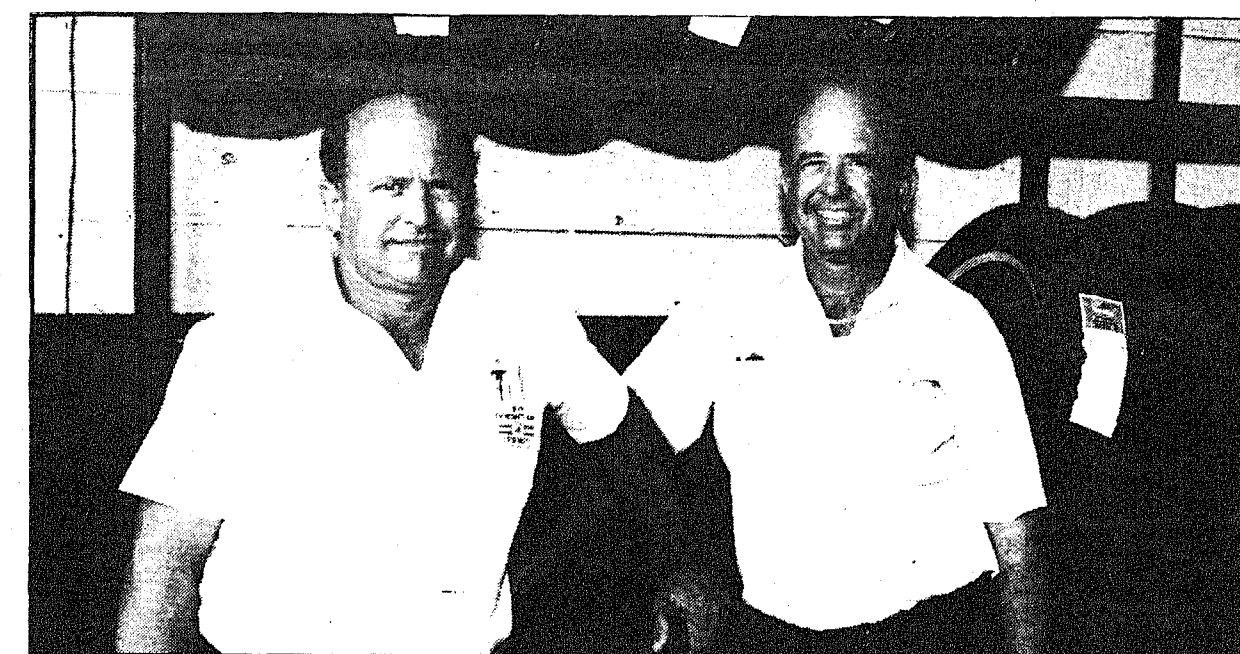
The New York Giants, a fabled major league baseball team back in the 1920s, arrived in Key West on a hot, dusty spring day in 1923 for an exhibition game that drew almost all the island's population to a ball field near Bayview Park.

The big leaguers, bruisers in size, tough, hefty, unshaven after the long trip from Miami, were used to meeting big guys like themselves on the ball field.

But when they got to the field, the local ball club, called "Cuba," consisted of a bunch of slightly built, wiry Latin Americans, a few with large looping mustaches like Pancho Villa sported. Wide welcoming smiles and warm courtesy were the hallmarks of the Key West ball team. They could run the bases like a gang of rabbits, according to Louie Carbonell, a baseball fan all his life.

The marvelous thing, however, about the Key West ball club was that six of its nine players were brothers in the Rodriguez family, forebears of Rod and Nilo Rodriguez, owners of Banner Tire on North Roosevelt Boulevard.

"It was something like that song at the time," mused Carbonell, "Keep Your Sunnyside Up -- 'If you've got nine sons in a row, baseball teams make money you know.'"



Nilo & Rod

The Rodriguez family wasn't out to prove the truth of that lyrical line from the song, it just happened they were one of the prominent Cuban American families in Key West and those families customarily had lots and lots of children, and all of Key West, then, was baseball wacky.

One of the ballplayers in that 1923 exhibition was the pitcher, Rafael Rodriguez, and he was of such outstanding

ability that he had his name inscribed on a plaque to top athletes set in the wall at El Cerro stadium in Havana. The plaque is there today, according to members of the family.

Rafael was also the grandfather of Nilo and Arcadio (Rod) Rodriguez. The brothers get that hustling, competitive spirit from the long line of athletic members among their ancestors.

Photo by Richard Watherwax

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Key West baseball team "Cuba," in 1920. Played the New York Giants in an exhibition game in the 1920s. Six Rodriguez brothers in the lineup. From left front row: Fernandito Rodriguez, Chicho Rodriguez, Evaristo Rodriguez, Chichi Rodriguez, Tata El Chino, Rafael Rodriguez. Back: Nene Benitez, Serafin Guajiro, Antonion Rodriguez, Florentino Gonzalez. Photo courtesy of the Salinero family.

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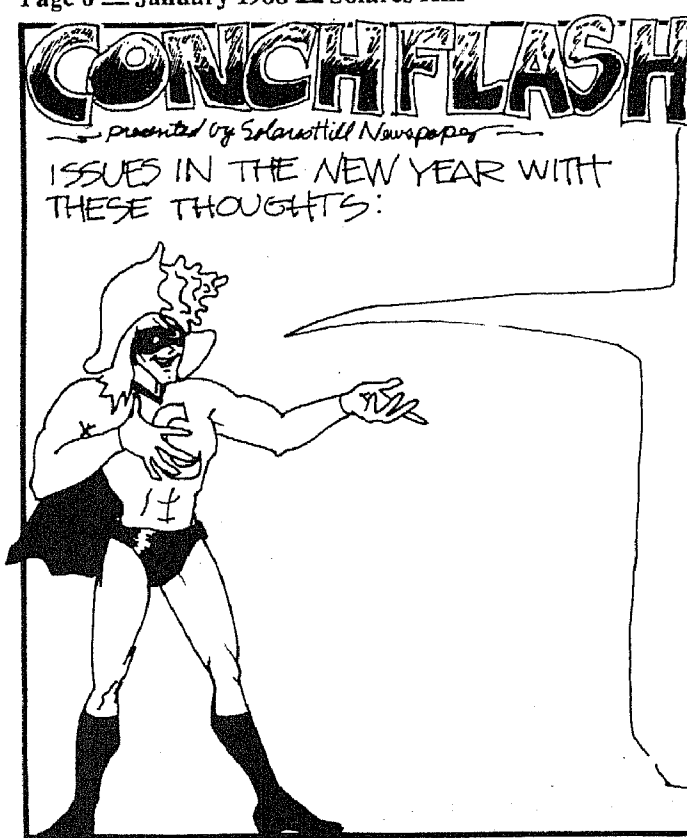
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MAY WE ALL HAVE A
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

wendy waterline 1-88

Pancho Salinero, a friend of the family and relation, through marriage, for many years, credits "that go-getting spirit to Rod and Nilo's success over the last 15 years."

"When we decided to get into this business, my brother and I were looking at an empty lot on North Roosevelt where a gas station used to be; filled with weeds and beer cans and in spite of the trash it had the location we wanted," said Rod.

Rod was a 1954 graduate of Key West High and at the time the family was living in the neighborhood of Amelia and Duval, near the old Cuban Club, an area liberally sprinkled with Cuban American families, all of them with close ties to home and friends, all of them fiercely proud of being Key West Conchs. After high school, Rod went on to the University of Florida and then into the Army for a number of years on active duty.

The two brothers, Rod now 53, and

Nilo, 46, moved around considerably in those years before setting up Banner Tire, and broadened their knowledge of business, especially in automotive work, tires, batteries, how to organize work crews and how to "stay in the black ink," as they like to say.

Rod, with a degree in business administration from the University of Florida, put in eight years with Firestone on White Street and learned business management while Nilo's hands and talent leaned toward the mechanical side of the business.

Both men are third generation Conchs with great pride in both their town and their friends from school days and early years, with whom they're still close. Guys like Frankie Hernandez, formerly a deputy sheriff and now with Tarmac Corp.; the ex-police chief, Larry Rodriguez; deputy Jakey Key, in charge of the county jail for Sheriff Billy Freeman; Boog Powell, of

baseball fame, and more.

Neighbors from the old days are always in touch -- the Salinero family, Perucho Sanchez, Gene Martinez, and others from the Duval-Catherine-Amelia Street district.

Talking about his old school chum, Rod, Hernandez says his success at Banner Tire is no surprise -- "he's not shy about hard work and when he gives you his word, you know it's good. Both of them have the energy and competitive spirit that's necessary for good businessmen."

Like all the Key Westers, the two brothers remember an early indoctrination into the town's political ins and outs, its social life and many community affairs, much of it then centering around the Cuban Club, years before it burned down.

The high school bunch grew up in the fifties.

Rod courted and married his wife, the former Jean Rogers, a nurse whose hometown was Hazelton, Ohio, and they have two sons, Richard, 24, and David, 22. David is presently active in the Banner Tire business, one of seven of the men employed at the place, including his father and his uncle. Nilo and his wife, Kathy, are parents of a daughter, Dorrie, 22, now living in Ft. Lauderdale and attending Broward Junior College.

Jean is a real estate broker today, connected with Knight's Realty office. She recalls with humor the "fast and furious" courtship before she consented to marrying Rod.

"I was a nurse with the Coral Gables Hospital when Rod came in with a friend who was a patient. Six months after we met, we were married. Whew! He's a strong willed person and he hasn't changed much."

This tight family life extends outward from their business to almost all phases of life. Dinners, festivities, holidays, big year-end parties are shared so that there's a strong continuity and sense of community in their daily doings.

"I joined the Lions Club about 14 years ago, sponsored by Al Weintraub," noted

Rod, "and that involved me in community work."

In the line of business, Rod was named to the national advisory council of the trade magazine, *Modern Tire Dealer*, as a representative of Key West and Monroe County. He is quoted in the August 1987 issue, talking about "name-tire promotion and sales." The items under discussion in the article concerned Delta and Dean tire products and Rod said those lines made up to 65 percent of the sales volume in the shop.

The brand offers high performance and Rod added that Banner Tire "doesn't push private brand high performance tires under-70 series, even though they're available, unless the customer's really shopping for price."

They may have started small -- Rod smiles when he says that -- but today the shop handles as many as 6,500 cars and trucks in the course of a year, doing everything from fixing slow leaks on tires to major mechanical work and they've serviced

Sheriff Freeman's fleet of patrol cars for many years.

"We got the Goodyear distributorship and we're looking toward some expansion," they claim.

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BOOK REVIEW

Key West Woman's Club Cookbook (Surfside Publishing, Inc.: \$14.95, 346 pp.)

by **Kathy Roach**

The latest book sure to be of interest to Key Westers is a culinary, rather than a literary, masterpiece. The 1988 edition of the Woman's Club Cookbook contains almost 300 recipes culled from the kitchens of present and former Woman's Club members and their husbands. Recipes from past editions of the book have not been eliminated; rather, the book has been expanded to include the favorites of the current Woman's Club members.

The first edition of the *Key West Woman's Club Cookbook* was published in 1949, when Emily Goddard was president; hence the dedication of the current book to her and her fellow members. Recipes were numerous and varied, and the book was taken on a Good Will Tour by the General Federation of Women's Clubs and presented to representatives of the many countries visited. Each recipe in the original book was reproduced in the script of the contributor, resulting in a very personal, but sometimes hard to read, format.

For legibility's sake, the 1988 edition

has been altered to present the gastronomical treats in a uniformly printed format. Everything from appetizers to desserts to beverages has been included. One of the most interesting sections is the one entitled 'Et Cetera.' Here are found tropical fruit delights -- mango chutney, natal plum jam, guava jelly, to name but a few.

The meat and poultry section of the cookbook features recipes for any size gathering from Wilhelmina Harvey's Cuban Style Roast Pig for 15 down to Peggy McClain's Plum-Sauced Chicken Wings to serve two. Cream pies, custards, puddings, and a wide variety of cakes featured in the dessert section are enough to test the willpower of any dieter. And the Seven-Foot Key Lime Pie -- calling for 360 egg yolks -- is a great idea for your next party of 1000 or so guests.

Speaking of parties, the beverages in the book make excellent party drinks, from The Frozen Quinby to Quarter Deck to Southernmost Swill -- enjoyed by guests at the Club's publication party in December.

This edition also features, for the first time, a section devoted to specialties of nine of Key West's most popular restaurants, an idea that came from Roy McClain, husband of Woman's Club President Peggy. Seafood and poultry entrees are the most popular recipes from the restaurants, enabling

Key West cooks to serve at home some of the more elaborate dishes they have enjoyed when dining out.

The cookbook is attractively assembled using pages in pastel colors -- some pink, some lavender, some blue or green. Katherine Orr's cover design carries out the pastel theme, and the pages feature her tropical illustrations.

Proceeds from the sale of the Woman's Club Cookbook will be used for complete renovation of the building at 319 Duval Street which has been the Club's headquarters since 1940. In addition to housing the Woman's Club, the brick building has been rented -- for a nominal fee -- to many civic organizations in the community for meetings, classes, church services, recitals, and the like. Restoration of this old building will enable such organizations to continue to hold their gatherings there; so, according to Peggy McClain, club president, success of the cookbook will benefit many Key West citizens.

The 1988 *Key West Woman's Club Cookbook* is on sale at many different local outlets, including Fast Buck Freddie's, The Reach, Key West Aloe, and The Reach. For a unique gift, or for a gastronomical treat for yourself, the cookbook is a must purchase.

24

BUSKERFEST '88

What is a Busker?

Borrowing it's nickname, Busker, from the old floppy English hat of the same name, Street Performing is enjoying a well deserved resurgence in America led by Key West and other cities such as New York, San Francisco and Boston.



BUSKERFEST '88 the 2ND Annual Street Performers Festival in Key West, will once again bring the streets of Old Town to life with musicians, dancers, mimes, magicians, jugglers, aerilists, and puppeteers from all over the world. This year's festival will also include the 1ST Annual International Busker's Hall-Of-Fame Awards Show, a hilarious Vaudeville/Variety show and awards presentation.

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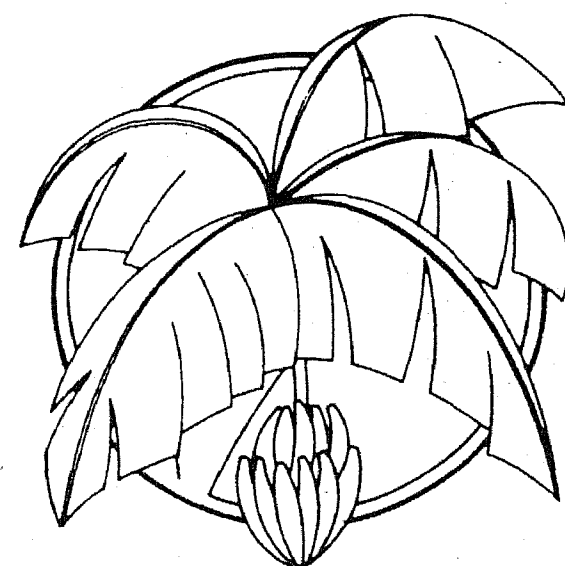


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Pick up the phone. Male voice. "I am your Sutton cousin, Tom, from Russia, Alabama, because I always have wanted to be in a place where you never have had frost."

I: "Ah, yes. Some of the Suttons on Mother's side settled in Alabama."

Tom's voice: "Yes, indeed. Dear cousin, my hamster has a headache, and, because of this, I'd best not stay at a motel."

The approach is original and I am in a benevolent mood, having just found a \$20 bill in an ancient mislaid raincoat at the back of a closet. Anyhow, Tom, cousin, arrives at the Similar Sound cottage and stays three days. I am standing at the door trying to compose my forehead, eyes and limbs into a plateau of excitable delight. However, I must testify: If discovery of a new relative is so phenomenal, I don't feel like Balboa when he first spotted the Pacific Ocean.

Tom tells it all right off the bat. He drove Eye Ten until he reached the Turnpike; he is happily married; he is an encyclopedist (sells them door to door); he makes \$30,000 a year; and he displays his little girl's milk teeth that he keeps in an old prescription pill bottle. He has a vaguely familiar look of some relative who has slipped memory.

Perhaps it is his tapir-like nose.

My angora cat, Elizabeth Dole, sits there looking very contemptuous while he unloads his hamster travelling companion. Hamster, Cousin Tom discloses, adores capers. I allow this menu idea to pass harmlessly, and Tom runs out to Tom Thumb convenience store for a treat for the headachy hamster. All through the three days Tom stays, I can hear small, cutting noises: Hamster crunching Cracker Jacks.

Truthfully, this houseguest is not much trouble. Exception: He insists that he must lie flat on his back on the dining room table 40 minutes following dinner. If I were slow to clear away, I do believe he would put his foot in the jello bowl, lying himself down there by the salmon patry platter and stretching his hand out holding the pickle dish.

Tom is working Key Haven. I can't really pass judgement that, when he goes out mornings, he wears his Masonic apron. Says he gets discounts some places. When he is all ready to go, he gathers up his Encyclopedia Americana, volume T - tarantula, Tennessee, turkey, tap dancing, Transylvania.

Certainly nothing rowdy; he does go out evenings, but upon leaving the house, he always shows the daughter's milk teeth in the bottle. "It keeps me pure. These Keys women are so beautiful." He points out that St. Francis of Assisi threw himself into a rose bush to escape temptation.

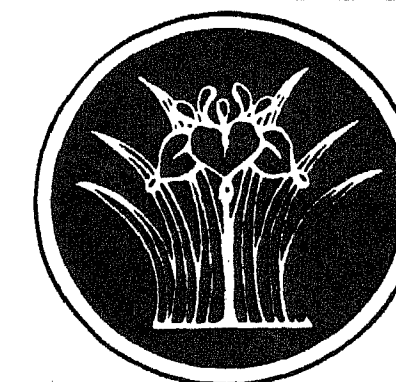
Tom is a fount of experience-relating. No subject you have touched upon has

escaped him. California earthquake: One threw him out of bed there once. Fortune telling: He is an expert at splanchnomancy, the art of telling fortunes, reading entrails - chicken's, dog's, cat's. Here, Elizabeth Dole indignantly rears up off my sweater she is sitting on and flounces out of the room. Robbery: A thief hot-wired Tom's Toyota in a church parking lot and drove off in it while he was inside worshipping. Vanity: He often stands before a mirror rubbing on placental extract to preserve his neckline. This is in defiance of a demon aunt when he was a child (not a Sutton aunt), an aunt who would admonish his being vain: "There is a boogie man hiding in that mirror!" Politics: He once kissed the hem of George Bush's right trouser leg



when he ran into him in a breakfast place on Eye Four.

Tom only asks to borrow money once and he does that rather half-heartedly, really no passion in the request. Just a run-of-the-mill try. I quickly whip out the Oriental adage: "One of the main human blessings is to be without money." I can't recall what are the other two human blessings. Probably growing a bunion and falling for a terrorist.



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Seeme! by *Glenna L. Moore*

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Yesterday Seeme took a great fall.
There were no King's Horses,
There sure were no King's Men!*

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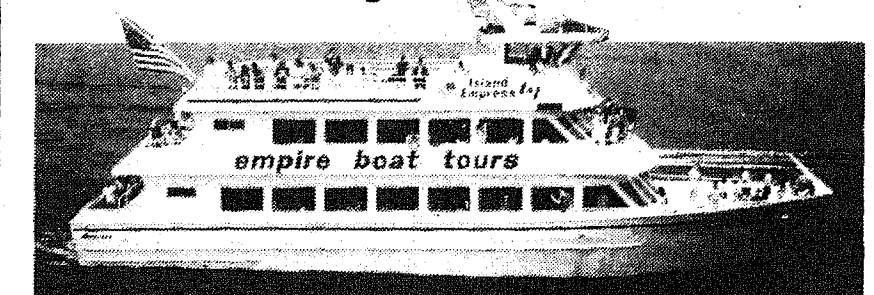
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BOAT TOURS

Rites of Arrival & Departure

by Sol Jacobson

Three of us went to visit a friend, who had moved into a newly constructed sea front condo the day of its unveiling in Key West. We came armed with a painting she wanted to borrow.

I wish I could construct the sequence of "security" events entering and exiting the edifice. I'd like to have given them to the late Jacques Tati as a sequel to some of his later comedies, the ones in which he did battle with gadgets.

It began when we toolled up in our car. I left my mother-in-law and wife off at the entrance after phoning from the outer lobby. Luckily for them a tennis playing resident came along just then and let them in with his key. We hadn't heard a buzzer response. I found a parking space next to some earthmoving equipment. I returned after telling them to go on up, I'd follow. Not to wait. And just as well as it turned out.

I called a minute or two later to our hostess, who said she was buzzing the buzzer. Again nothing as I stood expectantly by. I could see on the other side of the triangular-shaped, glassed-in entrance, three folk trying vainly to get in the lobby from an auto port. They motioned me, thinking I was about to enter, to let them in. I pantomimed back, in my best Tati fashion,

that I couldn't get in either. Much frustrated outstretched palms, shoulder shrugging and eyebrow arching. They understood I was trapped outside just as they were inside. Neither of us were able to get to the lobby.

I tried the phone again, and detected irritation on the hostess' part. She'd buzz again. Still no go. Just then out strolled a resident. I ducked in before the door could slam. I let the frustrated car parkers in from their lobby door. We all ascended to the fourth floor remarking that it was a new building and maybe was like a new ship or hotel. Needed a shakedown perhaps. By then we needed a shakedown, or a cocktail.

Down a long, long hall to #408. I was greeted like a long lost idiot. What had happened, where had I gone all that time? I suggested maybe the buzzer wasn't operative yet. Our hostess said she'd look into it in the morning.

After a reviving spirit, pleasant conversation, we thought we'd head for home. Again I went out on my own, ostensibly to bring up the car so my mother-in-law wouldn't have so long to walk. A dim notion. It was the last I saw of my dear ones for quite a while.

I was unsure of which direction I had come from, and I opted to go left instead of right. There were Exit signs at either end of the block long hall. Left was a mistake. I

took the elevator down to ground level, or what I presumed the G button stood for. Ground Zero it turned out to be. I strolled out into the night to find myself in the middle of a tropical, enclosed garden, surrounded by blowing palms and I noticed what appeared to be a mother and daughter doing laps in the pool. The mother saw my dilemma as I vainly tried to push my way out of locked doors on both sides of the patio. She called to her spouse to toss down the keys from his fourth floor perch. Fortunately she had the projection of an Ethel Merman and he responded as we all covered behind the palms so as not to be brained.

The swimmers let me out and held the door for this bewildered old white haired geezer, who then was able to push a door onto another cell-like corridor that turned out to be an interior parking area for tenants. A Security guard sporting a ten gallon hat, and horse opera badge, was sprinting around punching clocks. I yelled, "How do you get out, afoot?" He motioned to head "thattaway". I began trotting "thattaway!" and could see headlights of an incoming car and gates slowly ascending. Putting on a burst of speed I was able to duck under them before they clanked down on me. I found myself about an eighth of a mile up the road from the other side of the blocks

where I had parked.

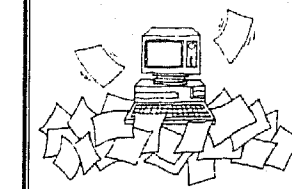
I found my dear ones patiently waiting for me. My mother-in-law looking quizzical with an "Explain that one if you can, Buster" look. Her daughter was on the phone frantically imploring our hostess to send for the sniffer dogs from the Coast Guard, and were there any unfinished shafts or laundry shoots her spouse might have fallen down?

My wife, when we got home, called our pal to explain - as best she could. Our charming hostess said it was a lesson to her. "I'll just have to put up a sign to the correct exit. I wouldn't want my guests wandering off into the sea." she said in a consoling fashion. Maybe she ought to warn them about the swimming pool, too. Remember "Sunset Boulevard?" They might end face up like Gloria Swanson.

Great thing security systems, I mulled, as I fumbled around for the key to the old conch house under the doormat. ☐



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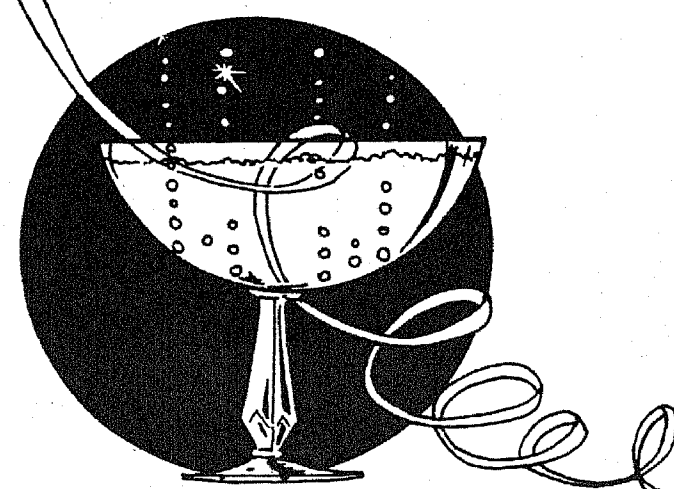


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TEENA RICE: REMARKABLE LADY OF KEY WEST

by June Brasgalla

Some folks head for Key West to lose themselves; some to find themselves. Some see it as an adventure; others see it as an escape. Some find culture and excitement; others find ennui and lethargy. One might say one finds what one seeks. Or that we get out of life what we put into it.

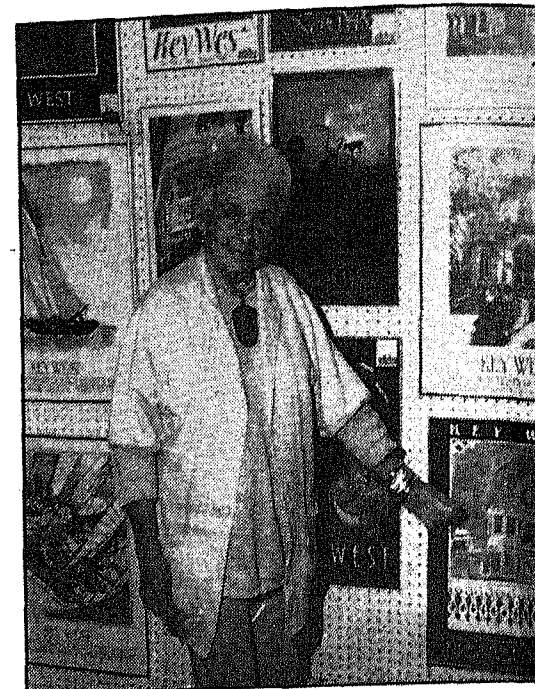
Eighty years young, Teena Rice gets more out of life than people half her age and twice as rich! She finds Key West "a marvelous place for fun and excitement!" Granted, Teena is "turned on" by sunrises and sunsets, bright tropical foliage, lush colorful fabrics, warm morning swims, witty and charming people, sensuous paintings, good literature, and exciting theater. It doesn't take much money to enjoy all those things in Key West.

You must have run into Teena in your jaunts around the island! Browsing through one of several Kennedy Art Studios, where Teena has worked for 10 years, you may have been helped by an attractive lady who is happy to give you advice on what to see and where to eat, along with your purchase of an original water color or tee shirt.

PERHAPS YOU are an early riser? Then you may run into the lady at the south end of Duval St., splashing around in the ocean each morning. Stay long enough and you're sure to see her breeze by you on her "Conch cruiser", the trusty bicycle which takes her to work and back each day.

Have you been to an art exhibit at the Martello Towers? A fine artist in her own right, Teena is a member of the Martello Towers Art Association and will be seen at all their openings, wearing a knockout outfit.

In her role as "Red Shawl Lady", she may have greeted you warmly at one of the colorful homes open to viewing during "Old Island Days". If you visited us from a cruise ship, she may have pinned a flower in your hair as you disembarked. She may have ushered you



Teena Rice

to your seat at a Monroe County Junior College production, or sat next to you at The Red Barn Theatre.

You may have encountered her working on the annual literary seminars sponsored each January by the Monroe County Library. Or, you may have seen her modeling fashions from the Key West Hand Print factory at the Hukilau or Casa Marina Hotel.

THIS REMARKABLE LADY is involved in every aspect of life in Key West. She explains, "I love to be involved...it is so stimulating, and besides, it means I am constantly meeting new people!" Teena has many friends and admirers here. She is sought after as a companion because she has so many enterprises, holding her own in any conversation.

Her interests and talents are numerous. She paints-bold, splashy acrylics which burst with the color and drama of the Keys. She designs and produces most of her clothes and makes a distinct line of jewelry for sale. She knits and crochets sweaters which are unique in design and texture. Her flair for decorating with

Photo by Richard Brasgalla

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limited funds and in a confined area are evident in her tiny apartment, which exhibits a delightful and interesting use of available space. Her balcony, outside her apartment on the second floor of a conch house, wraps around her apartment and is bright with flowers and comfy places to sit and have lunch.

Besides working two days a week, Teena fills the hours with activity that would tire a marathon runner! When alone, she reads, writes letters, knits, sews, and paints. With friends, she dines at local restaurants, enjoys boating and snorkeling in local waters, and loves to party and dance.

TEENA SAYS, "I love the social life here! I love to 'dress up' and show off all the clothes I design. Like most women, I absolutely love flattery! Parties are a great place for compliments, as well as for the fun of seeing all my friends."

Teena, a resident of St. Petersburg until her husband's death in '66, was recently honored by her children and grandchildren at a family reunion at The Tides Hotel and Bath Club in Redington Beach, FL. Twenty seven family members and 30 long-time friends attended an Open House for Teena in celebration of her November birthday! Teena literally danced on the table tops to illustrate her energy and zest for living! The following day, she amazed her friends and terrified her adult children when she took a parasail ride around the Gulf!!!

She was recently featured in an article in FLORIDA WOMAN, a quarterly magazine published in Ft. Myers and distributed on Peoples' Airlines and Ozark Airlines. Titled, "Golden Years-Key West Lifestyle", the story appeared in the summer issue.

With her good friend, Don Porter, Teena spends the summer in Ipswich, Mass., sailing painting, redecorating, and entertaining friends. They recently celebrated their November birthdays with a dinner party for a dozen or more friends

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from the Great Neck area. She and Don have given a birthday brunch each year here in Key West for their many friends.

Teena Rice is an inspiration to everyone who knows her! Her lifestyle proclaims loud and clear that life is for living...every minute of every day...no matter what you age! Long live Teena!

Solares Hill — January 1988 — Page 15

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ADVENTURES IN BABY SITTERS: one daddy's on-going odyssey

by David Kaufel

WE BREEZED THROUGH the first month of Jackson's life in a whaling captain's house in Sag Harbor, Long Island, with my mother and her housekeeper in constant and total attendance. We didn't touch a diaper. We spent the next two months in a deluxe cigar maker's cottage located in a walled-in, swimming-pooled compound in Key West, Florida. Ralph, the compound's leading literary agent's diminutive house man, crooned Italian lullabies in Jackson's shell-like ear during his daily colic (5 to 6 p.m. like clockwork) while we went for a walk (we couldn't stand to see Jackson cry). Together, they passed the evenings we spent out on the town, watching television in Ralph's little penthouse atop his boss' house. Just call me Mama Mia, Ralph — who had brought up half a dozen brothers and sisters in his hometown of Brooklyn — said, making Jackson google.

On the night before Christmas Eve, we went to a supper party, leaving Jackson in his portable wicker cradle on the sofa in Ralph's boss' all-yellow living room while Ralph and half a dozen equally skinny and little men friends put up the tree and strung colored lights and clever

decorations. The stereo played Bing Crosby's Perennial Christmas Songs. There was some idle and witty chatter about constructing a crotch (creche?) featuring a live Christ child (Jackson) but the consensus was that the possibility of finding a virgin to play Mary in Key West seemed dim. Ralph, wearing red shorts, a red Sloppy Joe's T-shirt (Ernest Hemmingway's likeness glowering) and a red night cap in his rendition of a Key West Santa Claus, forbade such talk "in front of The Baby." We felt as if we were indeed leaving Jackson among Santa and his elves.

We wondered, on that magical subtropical late December night, what our other and more experienced friends were cvetching (as opposed to cretching) about: finding reliable, responsible people to care for Jackson was duck soup.

CUT TO REALITY and Manhattan at the end of Lynn's three month maternity leave. Dripping in fox, she's putting on her gold Wings of Samathrace earrings and her twenty minute face to take the subway up to Fifth Avenue and her job as a design director for one of the world's fabled cosmetic and fragrance giantresses. Jackson and I are clutching one another, appalled at this defection. Where's the nanny we hired at a salary equal to the

annual GNP of Perth Amboy, through the haughtiest nanny employment agency in Manhattan?

The nanny, late, arrives only after Lynn has departed. Taxies, she says and I think of Lynn in the subway, hoping against hope that no mugger is going to believe either her earrings or her coat is real. Princess Daisy is shorter than I remembered, but perfectly sweet and capable, in a reassuring pale green uniform, taking the red-faced Jackson from my arms, pinching his chest, calling him "Little Mon" as I retreat into the bedroom where I am supposed to be working on a novel. I hear a chorus of reassuring Little Mons throughout the day. Daisy is from Jamaica (we learn this when Lynn asks what her native language is and Daisy, much annoyed, says English, of course. . . but an English as spoken on Jamaica). She arrives late and leaves early — her taxi driver, a brother-in-law, will not drive in rush hour — and has an annoying habit of calling Lynn at the office to tell her what she's missed: the Little Mon smiled for the first time! Nor will she sit at night or prepare meals for either herself or me. "I am not the housekeeper. I am the nanny." I make her white meat chicken, white bread (lightly dusted with mayo) sandwiches and, per instructions, cut off the crust.

TWO MONTHS into this nannyship, Princess Daisy does not show up on a Monday morning (always the critical time in nanny-dom) but calls instead. "I had a choke over the weekend," she explains. "I won't be working for you anymore. My regards to the Little Mon." We later discover that Daisy was not the fifty seven she said she was but seventy five; that her choke was a stroke from which she quickly recovered but decided, wisely, to retire from the nannyship business.

In her place we hired Robab, a Persian ("not Iranian," she was insistent: "Persian!") woman on the windy side of thirty five who lived in an all-woman hotel in the West Twenties with a mythic telephone in the hall (we never once got her on the phone) who came with a stack of brilliant references and some sort of a degree from Oxford. She looked, unfortunately, like the comedian Ruth Buzzy during her "Laugh-In" days and, though clean, took what I decided was perverse pleasure in scary hair-dos (hair-don'ts, mother said) and nauseating dress colors and designs of her own making ("creations," she said.)

Despite these and other foibles, our friends with children told us we had ourselves a gem. She was reliable and bright and we were to do everything in our power to please her. Jackson loved her despite the fact that she had her own eccentric ideas of child rearing. We lived in a long, grey, multi-corridorred loft and, on more than one occasion, I found myself shouting with fear when I came upon Robab, Jackson in her lap, sitting on the floor in unaccustomed places (e.g., behind the kitchen counter; next to the toilet in the guest john.) Once, I came into the loft to find Robab parading Jackson up and down a sixty foot hall under a sheet. He was crying, Robab explained, evidently subscribing to the time honored keep-the-parrot-quiet tradition by shrouding him in darkness. Teeth clenched, I asked her never to use that technique again. She complied but not without a lot of tongue clicking and eye-rolling and muttered imprecations against American barbarians.

BY EARLY SPRING, Lynn had decided she had had enough with New York and her high pressure job, that she wanted to be with her child. So we sold the loft which we couldn't afford anyway and moved out to Sag Harbor, bringing Robab with us. She lasted three days. The air smells peculiar, she said, sniffing the unaccustomed fresh ozone as if it were redolent with rotten eggs. She loathed the garden (too confining), the lack of traffic (too somnolent) and her large, airy room with its own bath (which she wanted to paint red-brown). On her last day, while she was holding an adoring Jackson, while Lynn and I were moving furniture, we had our final disagreement. Lynn wanted our new and wonderfully expensive sofa to face the fireplace and I wanted it to face the french doors. Robab, at the end of her patience, said, neither of you have a shred of taste and you should junk that vulgar American

sofa but if you must keep it, it should face the stairway which is the only possible architectural detail in this dreary room.

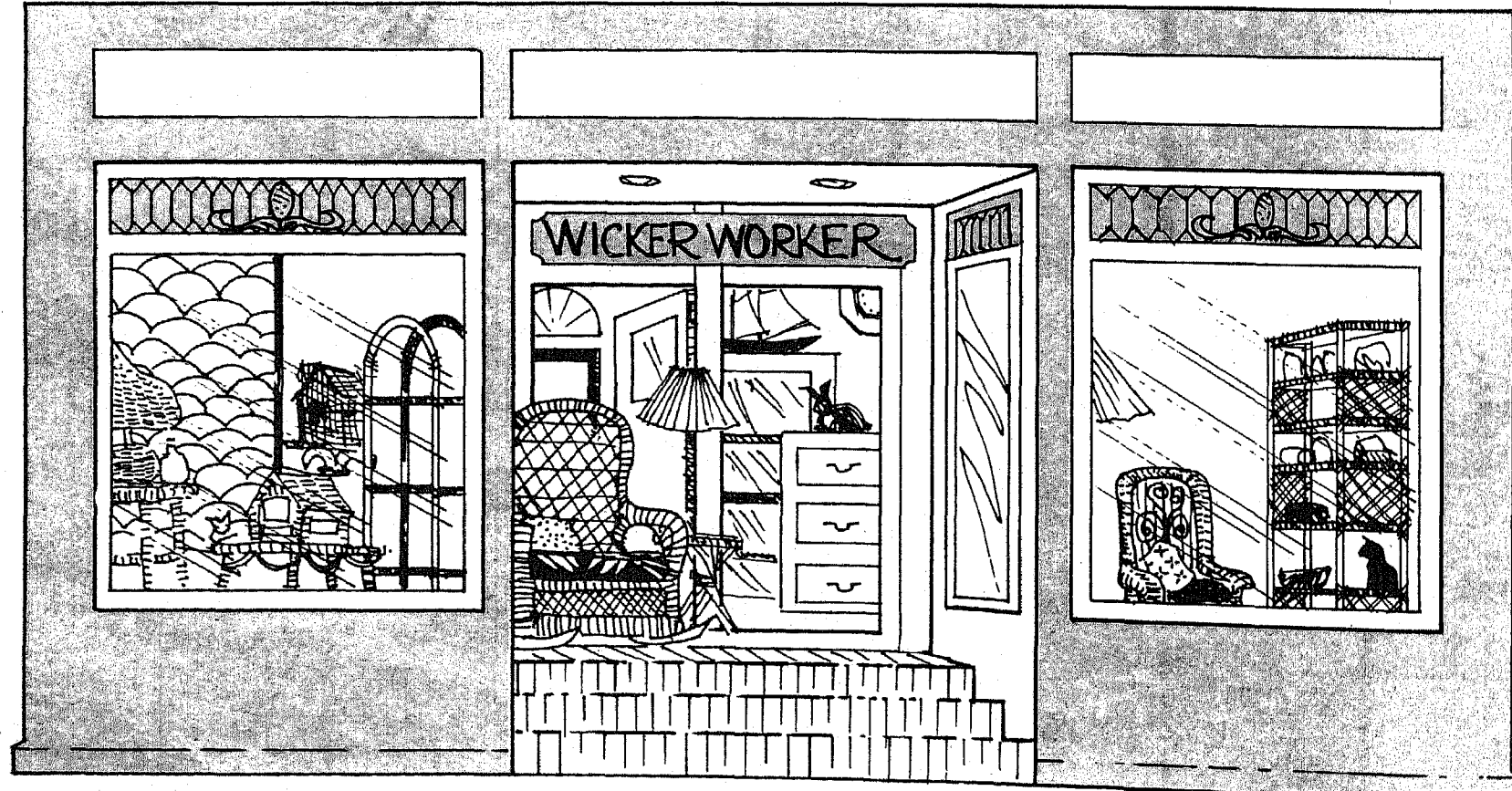
She left that afternoon, kissing Jackson on the chin, accepting her salary for the full month with her usual disdain, but climbing off her high horse long enough to touch Lynny's hand in a gesture of infinite pity (you poor, trapped creature, married to that animal) and good-bye. I was ignored, then and forever.

MARIE, THE CENTRAL AMERICAN BOMBSHELL, exploded next. She didn't speak a word of English but she managed to communicate a myriad

of wondrous and never convincing lies. Frivolous, young, pretty — actually, nearly beautiful — she said (for the two months she was with us my Spanish dictionary was never far from hand): she had left her brutal husband in Costa Rica, bringing with her her square faced daughter (eight, she looked and acted sixty), and had come to keep house for her cousin, Ramon, whose own wife was still in Costa Rica with four of their children. The other four — bad boys — lived with Ramon and Maria in a house on the edge of Sag Harbor which we dubbed the Costa Rican Consulate. Handsome Ramon, working as a mechanic, reputedly saving enough money to bring his wife to

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Sag Harbor, had seen our ad in the local newspaper and had arrived with a giggling, jiggling (no bra) Maria to negotiate terms.

Maria was the real gem. We couldn't give her any instructions so she did what she thought she had to do: she cleaned (mother was unimpressed but it was better than our efforts), cooked (the best arroz con pollo I've ever been privileged to eat) and took care of Jackson who fell in love with her at first sight. They'd disappear for entire days, Jackson arriving home with a chocolate smudged face and a full diaper, a big adorable smile. Sometimes we'd catch sight of him careening down Main Street in the back of Ramon's truck, in the middle of the four bad boys and

Maria's square-faced child, just another happy-go-lucky Costa Rican expatriate.

THE FLY IN THE OINTMENT was the fact that whenever Ramon decided to take a day off, so did Maria. Invariably without notice. This happened, in the beginning, every other week and then, increasingly, every week and, as Ramon grew bored with his job, every other day. I blew on a Friday when -- after carefully telling both Ramon and Maria that Lynn and I had to go to New York on business (the long awaited closing on the loft) -- she arrived to say Ramon had the day off and she couldn't take care of Jackson. Vaya con dios forever, I told her, stuffing some money into her lovely hands.

We'd catch sight of her occasionally, riding in Ramon's truck, their arms around one another (such close cousins), the four bad boys and her daughter sticking their tongues out at passers-by. Both she and Ramon would flash us brilliant smiles as if nothing had passed between us, as if we were still on the best of terms and maybe we were.

FAT PATTY, Maria's successor, looked (5'1, 180 pounds) and smelled (My Sin) totally unreliable. Seventeen or thereabouts, she came from one of Sag Harbor's oldest families, now down on their uppers, resembled a blond Betty Boop and spoke with a Mae West double entendre inflection. She called Jackson alternately "Woo Woo" and "Action Jackson" and took him for endless walks

around Sag Harbor, followed by a coterie of grimy little girls in alarmingly adult clothes. Jackson loved her, too. (By now we were beginning to suspect Jackson had little refinement in taste concerning loved ones, boding ill for the future.) We only became alarmed late in the summer on a Saturday night, when, walking up Main Street, we happened to look up at the apartment over Sag Harbor's one disreputable bar. There was Fat Patty, a bit glazed, leaning out the window, pea green in the bar's fading neon light, shouting words we didn't want to hear at a compatriot on the pavement. Next to her was grinning, sleepy Jackson and next to him was a bare-chested, tattooed sailor.

When we spoke to Fat Patty the next morning, she said she was resigning her position, that she was going to have her own baby. And she did, only a month later (it was difficult to tell pregnant Patty from unpregnant Patty) > We found, by sheer luck, a happy, neo-hippy multi-racial family whose house smelled of fresh vegetables and incense and who cared for Jackson (in many ways) for the rest of the summer and into the early fall when we moved to Key West and had to start all over again.

The Key West Baby Sitting Nightmare

There was the tiny Cuban housewife whose tiny husband had a train running around their tiny house in which Jackson could sit and who seemed caring and

perfect until the first morning when Jackson cried and she called, hysterical, to say she couldn't have crying. There was the girl whose father, we learned from the pages of the Key West Citizen, was a convicted child abuser and at home on parole. There was the boy who dressed like a girl and the girl whose purse opened to reveal a pistol and a year's supply of cocaine ("it's only been stepped on once," she reassured us, offering us a line). There was the Conch family who were sitting around the breakfast table looking very Grant Woods and down home when we left Jackson off. . . they were still, all of them, sitting around the breakfast table but looking more Diane Arbus and plain drunk when we picked him up five hours later. (For once, Jackson was not smitten by his captors.) There was the adorable country girl from Virginia whose father was stationed on the Navy base (she swore on her Tammy Bakker bible that they had just arrived and would be in residence for years) and who came for Jackson every morning, swooping him up in her thin arms, bringing him home in a variety of inexpensive cars each night, giggling and greasy faced. Happy, Charlene said, as a pig in a poke. She didn't show up one Monday morning and when we checked, we discovered she and her entire family had been reassigned to Newport News and were on route. Betrayed again.

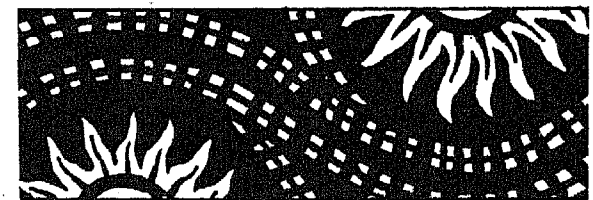
THERE WERE OTHERS, too numerous and gruesome to mention in a

family publication. Finally we lucked into Katy who was a part time check-out girl at the now deceased Gulf Stream Supermarket, had a daughter (Miss Ashleigh) Jackson's age and who, for several years, could be seen at all hours of day and night schlepping Little Miss A. and Mr. Jackson around Key West on her bike. It always took a moment to recognize her when she was without them.

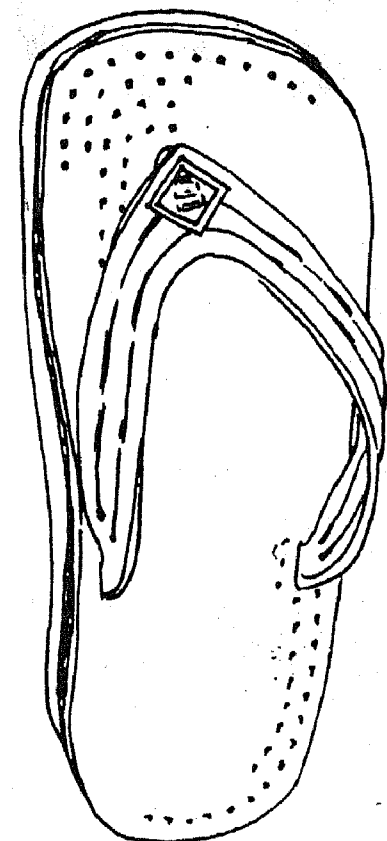
Eventually Katy and Ashleigh moved up to Fort Lauderdale and we moved up (seventeen miles north of Key West) the Keys, as they say, and encountered the ideal Holly and her mother, June, and thus introduced Jackson to the ever fascinating world of trailer camp activities. When Holly had the nerve to get married and move away and June (really!) left for the summer, we found another Holly (a very peppy twelve year old) and her kind and good mother (baby sitters with mothers are as important as lox with bagels), Mary, not to mention Holly's father, Eddie, who keeps Jackson in stitches. Then there's Brian and/or his brother, teenagers Jackson quotes often, and a potential army of babysitters at the new Sugar Loaf junior high. Our baby sitting troubles seem, for the moment, to be over (though we're keeping our collective fingers crossed).

I suppose what we've learned during our baby sitting experiences is that it takes love and more -- a sense of family and

responsibility -- to make for a situation in which we would place our child. We've come a long way from the uppity, starched nannies of Manhattan. But the proof, as Ma used to say, is in the pudding and I'm pleased to report that Jackson only gets better.



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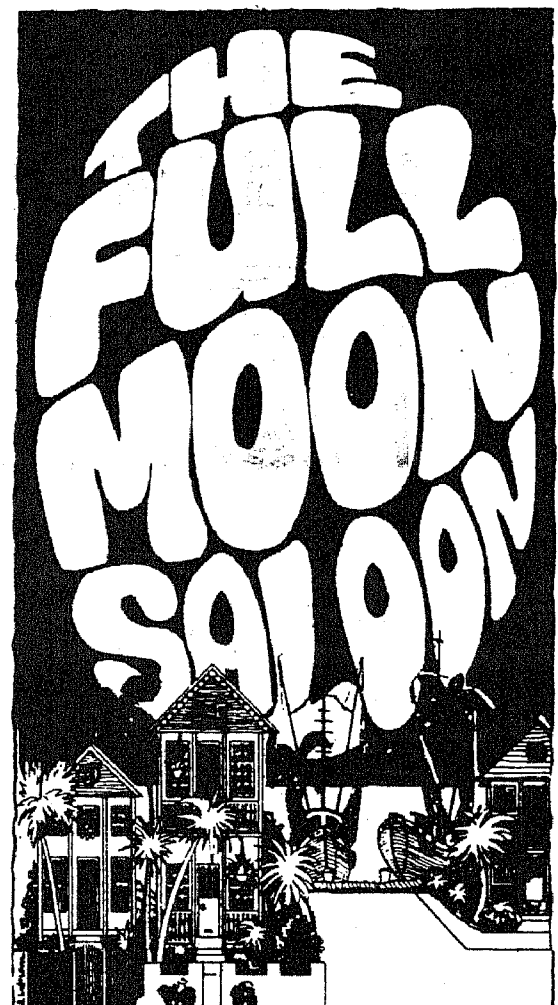
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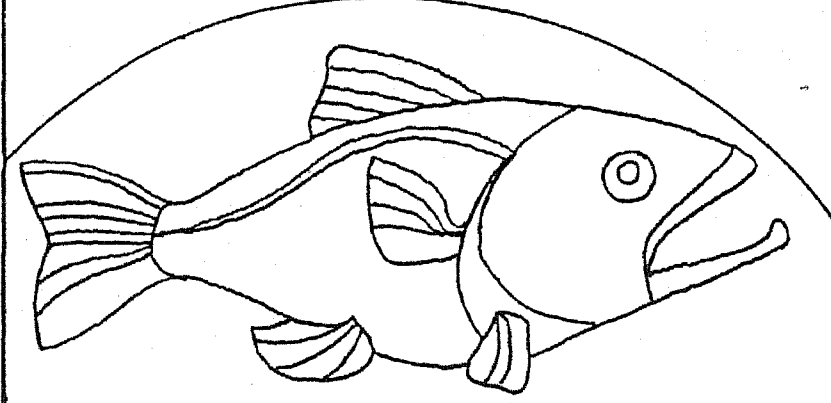
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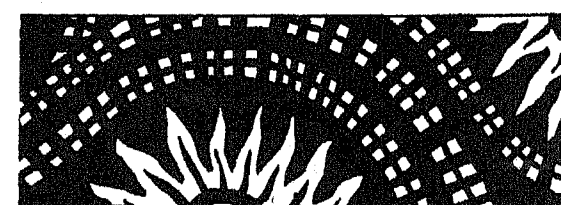
Jimmy Buffett's

SIMILE AROUND ME

The Everglades hum like a crowd whispering a song.
The fish swims like a racing car.
The palm fronds wave like a bird taking off.
The seaweed sways like your cat's tail.
The spiders' legs move like they are marching in a parade.
The lightning bug glows like a polka dot in the sky.
The jellyfish stings like needles poking you.
The hitchhikers* stick like bubble gum on your shoes.
The raccoons scavenge like someone looking for buried treasure.
The deer freezes like a stone statue.
The leaves flutter to the ground like golden snow falling.
The sun shines like an orange fireball.

* - A "hitchhiker" is a furry seed pod which sticks to whatever brushes by it.

by Christina Harwood, fifth grade student of Mrs. Jan Donaldson in Creative Writing at Sigsbee Elementary School.



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KEY WEST - Restaurateurs and Lounge owners gathered recently in Key West, Florida for the annual KEY WEST RESTAURANT AND LOUNGE COMPETITION. During the event competitors were encouraged to be creatively different and unique, while at the same time retaining a sense of familiarity for excellence.

This, the second year of the competition, *Cafe des Artistes* won BEST IN SHOW out of two hundred entries. In 1986, the restaurant won the same award for their dish, LOBSTER TANGO MANGO, and patrons have by choice declared it to be the most favorite dish served by the restaurant.

Cafe des Artistes was again honored with the 1987 award for their new dish, STONE CRAB GINGER SNAPS. "My staff are some of the most talented people in their field. Their dedication and imagination have really made *Cafe des Artistes* the award winner it has become," said Timothy Ryan, owner. He also said that he and his staff have been overwhelmed with congratulations from all over the area.

Cafe des Artistes is now in its sixth season in Key West and is becoming more and more popular each year for locals and visitors alike. The restaurant has received excellent reviews in the past year by such publications as *Miami South Florida Magazine*, *Fort Myers News Press*, *South Florida Home and Garden*, and *Modern Bride*. It is now the location of the annual event, BASTILLE DAY, held during the month of July.



KEY WEST KITE COMPANY INC.

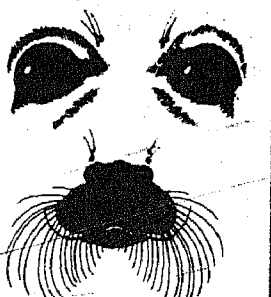
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Pictured here are the winners of the Second Annual Official Key West Food and Beverage Competition representing the Pier House Resort, Louie's Backyard, Marriott's Casa Marina, Two Friends, Conch Pasta and Pastry, The Sidewalk Cafe, N.A.S. Boca Chica, Foley Square, El Loro Verde, Croissants de France, Cafe at Louie's, Beach Club Bar, Rooftop Cafe, Cafe des Artistes and the Hukilau.

Whodunit?



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Nature's Way: January Journey

by Alice Terry

It's January and the start of a brand-new year. New Beginnings. New Hopes. New Pleasures. New Accomplishments. A new emphasis on nature and the environment.

Here is some of the good news, for starters. The Tourist Development Council has released the monies which were earmarked for beach renourishment and other shoreline work in Key West. The Reef Relief people staged a most successful fundraiser at East Martello, which added about \$15,000 to their coffers. This means more help for the endangered reef. The MacArthur Foundation has awarded a 1.25 million dollar challenge grant to the Florida chapter of the Nature Conservancy for the protection and maintenance of priority habitats and species in the Florida Keys. In addition, it awarded the National Audubon Society \$855,000 over a three-year period for eco-system research in the Keys. The Florida Keys Land Trust was awarded a \$300,000 challenge grant by the MacArthur Foundation to implement a long-range strategic plan that addresses land acquisition and education needs.

COMPLIMENTS TO THE STATE of Florida for planting decorative palms at the entrance to Key West. Hopefully, the city will take a cue from this orderly, simple landscaping and continue it on North

Roosevelt Boulevard. First impressions are lasting impressions. Millions of advertising dollars have been expended in the effort to lure tourists to our Paradise. We welcome them with a profusion of ugly signs, unappetizing thoroughfares, and poorly maintained, disappearing beaches.

A glaring example of the city's lack of concern over its properties is its scandalous disregard of the Peary Court situation. Peary Court, owned by the Navy, is leased to the City of Key West for \$1 a year. This area, once home to an army housing project, became a lovely, inviting greenspace after the dismantling and removal of the buildings of the military camp. Huge, wonderful trees remained in place and a lovely green grass carpeted the ground, affording locals and tourists a cool, inviting retreat. It was especially appreciated by the neighborhood, a collection of older, kept-up homes populated, mostly, by working or retired locals. Two years ago Hycon used the park-like land as the staging arena for its massive machinery and enormous piles of sand, gravel, broken-up street surfaces and the like. The mountainous piles of rubble and dust-producing hills of dirt eventually disappeared, and the neighborhood breathed a collective sigh of relief. The contracted re-seeding of the ground by Hycon consisted of a half-hearted scattering of grass seed by hand. Today, we have a dusty, scarred race-track for speeding autos and trucks,

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where once there was a continuous grassy park. Following the most recent invasion by the Power Boat people, overflowing dumpsters spewed contents throughout the neighboring areas. Several discarded major home appliances found their way to this nest, too. Derelict cars and trailers line the upper Angela Street roadside ... accompanied by trailers, compressors, and extra vehicles owned, by the most part, by non-residents. The two years' worth of appeals by the neighborhood to city officials and agencies continues to fall on deaf ears. Commissioner Harry Powell is now working towards correcting this sorry state of affairs. Maybe the highly-touted Clean Up Key West Campaign could start in the Peary Court area. Tomorrow. No, today.

THE WEATHER AT THIS TIME OF year is pretty "iffy." However, we may expect an average temperature of 69.6° and approximately 1.53 inches of rain, allowing for various outdoor activities.

In the garden, protect blooming annuals from pests. Fertilize twice during January for vigorous growth and heavy flowering. Clip faded blooms to prevent seeding. Amaryllis will produce larger blossoms on taller stems if fertilized. Plant seeds of ageratum, balsam, dianthus, gaillardia, morning-glory, nasturtium, portulaca and torenia. Bulbs to plant now are caladium, calla, crinum, eucharis, gloriosa, Easter lily, tuberose and zephyranthes.

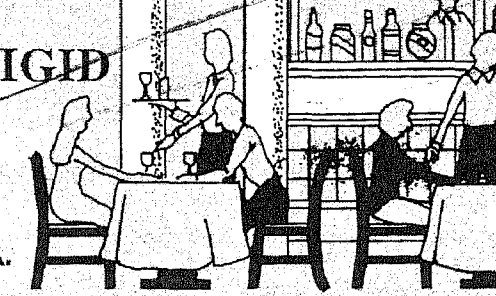
INCREASING ATTENTION has been focused, the past few months, on the coral reef of the Florida Keys. This reef is the third longest barrier reef system in the world, stretching 250 miles from the Dry Tortugas to Soldier Key near Miami. The

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substance of the reef itself is a living organism, depending on staying alive for its existence. It needs good, clean, unpolluted water to survive. Although much of the reef does not, as yet, enjoy official protection, it has been illegal in the past few years to pick or sell coral in the Keys.

Coral grows at an incredibly slow rate: about 1.2 centimeters a year. Because of this slow growth rate, when a section of reef is damaged, it may take decades for new growth to restore the community to its former glory. Recent alarming news concerns the fact that some of the South Florida reefs are losing their color and taking on a bleached condition. Scientists feel that there is an atmospheric cause for this phenomenon, rather than a localized disease. The soft coral reefs off Palm Beach County are turning white, as are the reefs off the Lower Keys. There was a similar occurrence near Key West in 1983. The color did return to these corals, leading to the hope that the current bleaching is a temporary one. Reef life is based on a delicate balance of atmospheric conditions. When corals suffer, the ocean's health must be questioned. Fishing, boating and related businesses, diving, and tourism in general depend on healthy coastal waters.

We must escalate our efforts to maintain and further protect our precious natural resources. There must be public education, community awareness and action as well as political action. Private dollars and public dollars need to be raised and expended. These are all parts of the picture. Let's call ourselves environmentalists and activists. The labels don't matter. What matters is that we act now. Let's all get involved. Today.

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Arts Explo '88 Craft Show

by Florence Recher

The third annual Arts Explo Craft Show will be held January 30 and 31. It is the final event for Arts Explo '88, culminating the successful presentation of a varied program of cultural events encompassing all of Monroe County from Key Largo to Key West.

The show is gaining yearly in popularity among crafts artists. The seventy artists selected from several hundred applicants are some of the best in their chosen crafts. Some favorite exhibitors from previous years are returning this year plus many who are showing their work in Key West for the first time. The show is limited to original work only; no manufactured goods are

permitted. What will be displayed in the booths is hand-made and of original concept. Among the varied crafts are the unusual, such as woven hammocks, cloth and rugs, and stained glass room screens. In addition there will be jewelry made from natural materials, gold, silver and wood, pottery which is practical and beautiful with colorful glazes, clothing from hand-dyed to hand-painted and sewn, belts, bags and bracelets made from leather. Prices range from a few dollars to several hundred. There is something for everyone.

A total of \$1,200 in Merit Awards plus ribbons will be presented by the Key West Players, Inc., sponsors of this event. The judges for the Merit Awards will be Dorothy Downs and William

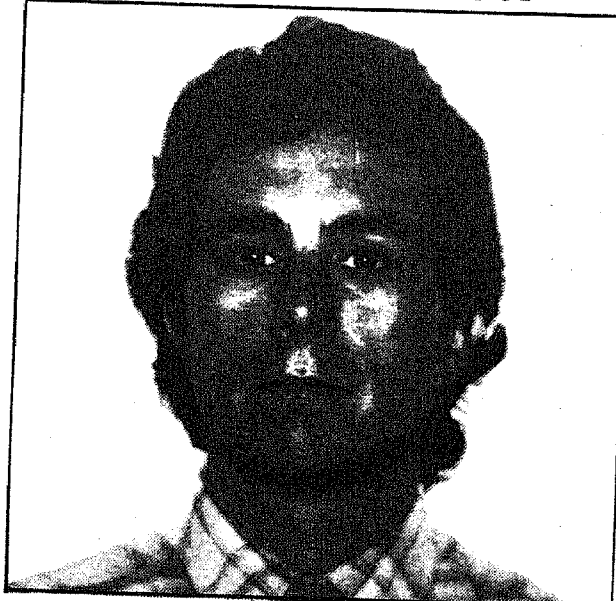
Burke.

Ms. Dorothy Downs, MPA, is an art consultant and appraiser whose studio and home are in Miami. Ms. Downs is an experienced judge, having judged many art shows throughout Florida and the Southeast. An author who specializes in Indian art, her books and articles are widely read. Ms. Downs is a former staff member of the University of Miami and of the Lowe Art Museum. Ms. Downs received her advanced degree at the University of Miami, Coral Gables.

William Burke, MFA, is an Associate Professor of Art at Florida International University in Miami. In addition to his teaching duties, Mr. Burke is a well known artist and maintains a studio in his home in Miami.

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Dr. Carmine Mandarano, who specializes in Allergy and Internal Medicine, received his B.S. degree at State University of New York at Stony Brook, L.I., New York, and earned his M.D. at the Ohio State University College of Medicine in 1980.

Mandarano and his family will have been in the Keys three years this May. He and his wife, Lisa, have two children, Gregory, age 7, and Michaelina, 7 months. They live in Big Pine Key. Dr. Mandarano is an avid fisherman who enjoys both offshore and reef fishing in his own small boat.

He joined the Sunbelt group on October 26 and is looking forward to a busy and satisfying practice here in Key West.

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Browsing at last year's show.

The Key West Players, Inc., as a participant in this year's Arts Explo, is sponsoring the Craft Show in addition to its presentation of the chilling mystery play by Agatha Christie, the ever-popular *Mousetrap*, December 21 through January 2. A concert by Matthew Jampol, *A Tribute to Key West Poets*, January 24 at 4:00 pm at the Waterfront Playhouse, an afternoon of music, poetry and dance. The Players hope to continue serving the community and its visitors by presenting programs of interest and pleasure for all.

Remember, Saturday and Sunday, January 30 and 31, from 10 am to 5:30 pm, the Arts Explo Craft Show may be seen at Whitehead and Greene Street in Mallory Square. It is necessary that the community support this event by bringing the family for a day's outing and pleasure to help establish the show as a continuing attraction in Key West. See the show -- admission is free.

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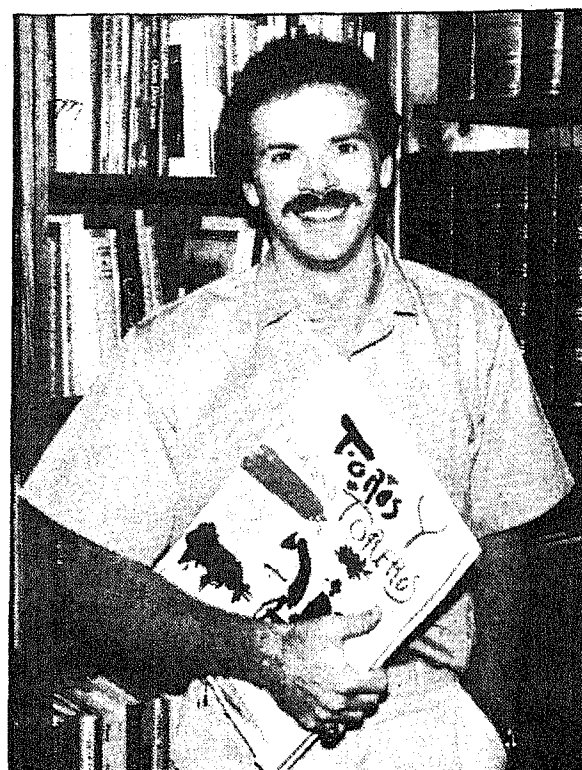
Island Book Store: New Mecca For Readers, Collectors

by Bud Jacobson

In the 18 months since John Boisonault took over the books, shelves and what remained of the lease in the Key West Island Book Store at 513 Fleming Street, he and his wife, Maritane, have transformed the shop into a handsome, smartly merchandized emporium which, like all good book stores, has that indefinable air of welcome to all those who enjoy reading and meandering through aisles stacked with

interesting material.

Now, with an appreciation of what's going on in town, Boisonault has extended



John Boisonault

Photo by Richard Wetherwax

the influence and reputation of the small book shop by offering his place for informal autographing sessions in the evening during the Writers' Workshop, Jan. 10-14, at the nearby La Concha Hotel.

The Writers' Workshop is sponsored by Florida International University in tandem with the Literary Seminar and will feature teaching and discussion meetings with James Crumley, Joy Williams, Henry Taylor and John Katzenbach. The writers will be available in the bookstore, just down the street, after the meetings.

John Boisonault has also signed a contract with the Literary Seminar organization as the exclusive bookseller who'll have a display stall in the lobby at the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center during the seminar. Last summer, the Key West Island Book Store sponsored the short story contest during Hemingway Days.

"I think we help ourselves and the town by taking part actively in these events," Boisonault remarks.

Boisonault is not a newcomer to the ways and wiles of the modern retailer who has accurately gauged his market and aims directly at success.

John and Maritane were on vacation in the spring of 1986 when they came to Key West and strolled into the book store, then owned by Terry Risko. Risko said he

wanted to sell it. Boisonault, with his own book operation in the small college town of Farmingdale, N.Y., perked up his ears. Negotiations started. Boisonault scouted the territory and soon the deal went through including some 8,000 books in the inventory. Today, that inventory has climbed to over 16,000 volumes, tastefully displayed and clearly marked in shelves and units throughout the store.

One large portion of the store, up front and set aside, is devoted to Key West and Florida Keys subjects, a favorite browsing place for many of the tourists and locals.

Moving down from New York, Boisonault brought with him his long-treasured collection of Ernest Hemingway novels, first editions, signed copies, notes and essays. Estimated value at retail? About

Receptions and book signings for January (to follow evening readings at the Key West Public Library):

Jan. 10 -- Henry Taylor
Jan. 11 -- Joy Williams
Jan. 12 -- John Katzenbach
Jan. 13 -- James Crumley

Upcoming signings:

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\$20,000, he reckons.

This was the valuable core of a steadily growing collection of rare books which he keeps in his back room for scholars and serious book buffs who really know their stuff in that esoteric field. That special collection of the old, rare and unusual now numbers over 1,200 volumes.

"I really got going in this direction in high school. A very good English teacher got me onto Hemingway and I started collecting his writing. Before long I had about 450 articles, books and essays."

During those years Boisonault worked in a supermarket chain operation for about 14 years, where he learned well the ins and outs of merchandising, inventory controls, buying, markups, etc. After leaving the large store, he bought his own shop, owned

it a few years and then made the move to Key West.

"The potential for a literary bookshop was here and we liked the place a lot. There's more to it than appears on the surface to many of the tourists so we thought we could promote the local writers, the scene here, tropics, the things offered in abundance in a small island."

Boisonault's shop on Fleming Street, a smattering of smaller book stores around town and an excellent public library have all contributed substantially to a steadily growing reputation of Key West's cultural level.

"People read more and more and we're here to channel the habit of reading, exploration by the mind and to encourage younger school and college people to read good books," Boisonault said. ☐

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BUSKERFEST

For the last five months Buskerfest organizers, under the guiding whip of Will Soto, have been putting together the 2nd International Street Performers Festival.

The pertinent question in regard to Buskerfest would seem to be, "Just what is a busker?" Joan Toast, Head Cook and Bottlewasher and sometimes Assistant Coordinator of the six-day event says, "It's a funny word. Busker. Some people might even be embarrassed to say it out loud in an elevator. Not me. It's an old word. It's Old English slang for a person who carried all his worldly possessions in a big floppy hat and went from village to village making people happy by entertaining them and forcing them to laugh. Afterwards he would accept food or money to help him move on to the next town."

These days the term busker is used to refer to any street performer who passes his or her hat after a performance. Some examples of different kinds of buskers are musicians, mimes, dancers, puppeteers, ropewalkers, aerialists, jugglers, fire-eaters, sword swallowers and many other acts which simply do not lend themselves to stock descriptions.

BUSKING IS NOT A CROWDED

profession, but after ten years of traveling and performing his own act all over the U.S., Europe and Canada, Will Soto has met many of the best. As director of Buskerfest he has managed to talk some



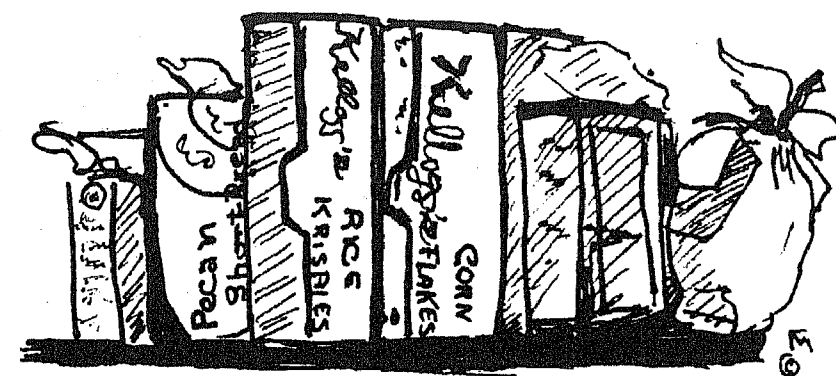
Steve Hanen, "The Puppet Man," from New York will be on hand to delight and entertain audiences during Buskerfest '88.

of the world's greatest buskers from seven different countries into coming to Key West for a week this January. Says Soto, "Why not Buskerfest? It wasn't very hard to get the performers here in January. It's been a lot of work setting up the details, but I'm sure that anyone who comes to the festival will see something they have never seen before, more than once."

"It looks like it's going to be great," says Toast. "It's wild to think they are all going to be here at once. On this little island! I've seen some of these acts on video. Most of them are not what you would call normal fare, but that's not what Buskerfest is all about."

BUSKERFEST WILL HOST 22 events from January 13-18. The main events will be two street fairs, a family day in Bayview Park, Truman Annex Day, and two vaudeville variety shows to be held in Jan McArt's. Selected buskers will perform at businesses around town and lunchtime busking shows and workshops will be held daily. All of the events will be free to the public with the exception of the two vaudeville shows.

For a complete schedule of events call the Buskerfest World Headquarters at 294-1665.



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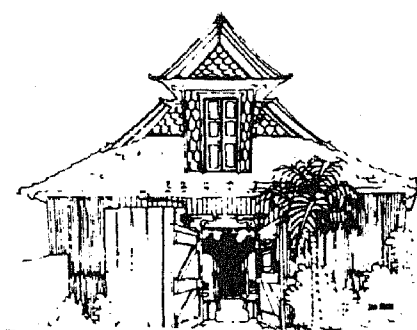
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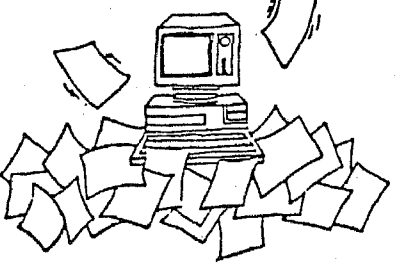


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EDITORIAL

by Bill Westray

PORT BOUGAINVILLE. During December another important step in the North Key Largo Habitat Conservation Plan process transpired. Port Bougainville, the 2800-unit, 400-acre, bankrupt condominium project went on the auction block at the Monroe County Courthouse steps, to satisfy part of the Developer's \$55 million mortgage indebtedness to Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. After one bid of \$29 million by FDIC itself the land and improvements became the property of FDIC, apparently leaving a \$26 million indebtedness still owed FDIC by developer Fritz Scharenberg. This transaction presumably clears the way for the Florida Department of Natural Resources to negotiate purchase of the parcels from FDIC as part of the North Key Largo C.A.R.L. (Conservation and Recreation Lands) project. DNR has been offering

about \$18-\$19 million for the parcels. FDIC would seem now to have about \$30 million invested. We would hope that this remaining transaction could be completed quickly between the two public agencies so that the people's interest could be satisfied. We would also hope that DNR and its C.A.R.L. staff would "get



cracking" on the remainder of this Number ONE state C.A.R.L. project, which has as its object the preservation of the Coral Reef, as well as preservation of habitat for four endangered animal species.

KEY WEST SALT PONDS. This 407 acre C.A.R.L. project around Key West International Airport, received a setback recently when the C.A.R.L. selection committee decided to put on "hold" all C.A.R.L. projects below priority Number 16 because of fund limitations. The Salt Ponds which are Number 34 on the state's 40-project list, thus fell below the active-negotiation group even though considerable money had already been spent on appraisals, bargain acquisitions, etc. Friends of Florida under Jimmy Buffet, who had raised thousands of dollars in a November concert, as well as the city and Florida Audubon, saw a lot of their recent efforts disregarded. In particular, negotiations with Larry Marks for his forty acres of borderline developable land, have been broken off for the present and are not apt to be renewed in light of the fund cutoff for this project. Mayor Heyman has written a strong letter to the C.A.R.L. committee on behalf of the city asking that the Salt Pond project be exempt from the cutoff rule because of its status of already being in the active negotiation stage, and because it lies in the state designated "Area of Critical State Concern." We urge the C.A.R.L. committee to reconsider its cutoff rule for the Salt Ponds. We urge our readers to express their concerns to the C.A.R.L. Committee, Department of Natural Resources, 3900 Commonwealth Blvd., Tallahassee, Florida 32304.

AIRPORT NOISE. The long delayed FAA Part 150 airport noise studies got underway in early December for both Key West International Airport and Marathon Airport. During public meetings in late November we learned more about the study process and what it might reveal. It will cost \$130,000 for both airports; it will take about a year; it will contain recommendations for landing and departure flight paths to minimize noise impacts on developed areas. In particular it will determine new airport noise contour lines around the runway for 65, 70, and



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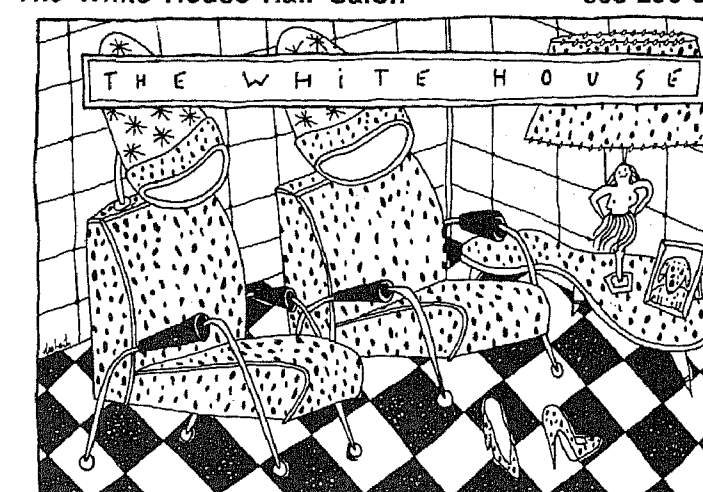
75 Ldn noise levels. But these contour lines will not be determined by actual noise measurements. Rather they will be determined by mathematical calculations (computer modeling) using inputs of aircraft type, frequency of flight, flight paths, and other such factors. While noise measurements will be made, they will be made to confirm what the computer modeling predicted, and not to determine the contour lines. The contour lines themselves might be expected to barely extend beyond the side boundaries of the airport, and will look like long ellipses that encompass the runways, and in Key West, curve northward for a mile or so through Cow Key Channel. The consulting engineers doing the study, AVPLANS of Cincinnati, is experienced in the process and has recently done similar studies at Naples, Florida, and Fort Lauderdale.

Naples is an airport similar to Key West, with two 4800-foot runways rather than one. We visited there in November and talked at length to the Noise Abatement Officer, Richard Oakes. Its noisiest aircraft are F-28 Fokkers and Grumman G-3 Gulfstreams operated by commuter airlines. They are both about 100 DBA (weighted decibel) noise sources. They seem to be the most annoying. However, even though many measurements were recorded around the airport in the 90-100 DBA range, the 65, 70, 75 LDN contour lines fell mostly within airport boundaries because they were averages of noisy and quiet periods. We have a copy of the final Naples Noise

Study (325 pages) and it is obvious that nobody (public that is) was satisfied with the result.

Back in Key West we observed AVPLANS technician Ken Reed taking noise measurements around our airport. The 7 a.m. departure of Piedmont Flight 808 measured by Reed at the rear of Key West by the Sea on December 7 produced a peak of 104.7 DBA. This was similar to readings we obtained previously for F-28 and B-727 operations at various locations around the city. We read the lengthy transcripts of public testimony at Naples and began to realize that the Part 150 study had settled nothing there with respect to public annoyance at the commuter jet noise. We then read an ordinance which the City of New Haven had adopted that did seem to control the problem. They simply passed a law which prohibited aircraft which produced more than a specific noise level at source from operating from New Haven Airport at various intervals during the day and night. For example, aircraft producing more than 70 DBA according to FAA certified tests, can operate only from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., those over 78 DBA can't use New Haven at all. Most turbo props can meet this standard but few older jets can. At nighttime the noise restriction is lowered to about 65 decibels. One other factor came out in the Naples hearings. Very few people actually phoned the airport to complain. But overflow crowds attended the public hearings and voiced complaints. The lesson would appear to be clear to Key Westers. Those who are

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annoyed should complain more, and when public hearings are held, they should attend and speak out. Lastly, the county commission, as the airport operator, should be urged to adopt an aircraft noise control ordinance modeled after the New Haven code.

BEACHES. Late newspaper item: County Commissioner Jerry Hernandez now wishes to ignore the recommendations of city and county engineering consultants and widen Rest Beach to 160 feet for its entire length from White Street Pier to Bertha Street. This proposal would bury about 11 acres of valuable fish and marine nursery wetlands and destroy the game and shell fish that spawn and develop there. There seemed to be an implication that the commissioner would hold up Smathers and Higgs Beach renourishment and renovation unless he got his way. Hernandez' proposal would primarily benefit private interests along Rest Beach at public expense. We would hope that other members of the county commission and the beach advisory committee would act in favor of the overall public interest, not the privileged few. Let's get on with putting sand on Smathers Beach where it's desperately needed; let's fix Higgs Beach pier; let's cut a gap in White Street pier and restore shoreline continuity as the engineers recommended; however, let's go slow and look hard before disturbing Rest Beach where the fish and birds feed and grow. ☐

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WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY... AND WHODUNIT?

by Monica Haskell

The placid pink library in Key West was the site of the first annual Key West Literary Seminar in 1983, sponsored by the Council for Florida Libraries and an outgrowth of the Florida Book and Author Festival. The location was apt; Tennessee Williams researched here, beneath the seagrasses and frangipani, as did other writers, scholars, and poets. (Today you might meet John Hersey or

Jane O'Reilly or Shel Silverstein or Richard Wilbur browsing in the stacks.)

But, organizers wondered, would anyone come? Key West usually relied on the lure of turquoise waters, azure skies and sensuous sea breezes to draw visitors. Its literary heritage offered a more subtle pleasure.

Interest was overwhelming, though, and as a result the Seminar flourishes every January, examining various topics of literary interest. Writers, would-be

writers, readers, scholars, editors, publishers, critics and the curious meet for four days of panel discussions, cocktail parties, scholarly dialogue and celebrity gossip.

THE COUNCIL FOR FLORIDA LIBRARIES passed sponsorship of the Seminar on to the local Friends of the Library organization, who administered the program for several years until the scope became so great as to overwhelm the Friends' capacities. Now an independent, non-profit corporation, the Key West Literary Seminar, Inc. is managed by a dedicated board of directors active in the fields of business and literature, and professionally staffed.

Past Seminars have investigated the life and work of Ernest Hemingway (1985), Tennessee Williams (1986), Wallace Stevens, Elizabeth Bishop, and Writers & Key West (1987). In 1988, the Seminar presents "Whodunit?," an exploration of the historic legacy and literary influence of the mystery genre.

South Florida and the Keys have served as the setting for much contemporary mystery fiction, from the Travis McGee series by the late John D. MacDonald to James Wilson Hall's current best seller, "Under Cover of Daylight." Local residents are as intrigued as the rest of the world by the area's image as an exotic fantasy land of mystery and intrigue where labyrinthine plots are hatched over pina colodas and played out under palm trees, in mangrove swamps, and on paradisaical beaches.



Elmore Leonard, one of the more prominent members of this year's seminar.

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"WHODUNIT," JANUARY 14-17, 1988 will feature best-selling mystery writers Mary Higgins Clark, James W. Hall, Carl Hiaasen, Tony Hillerman, Elmore Leonard, Donald E. Westlake, Charles Willeford plus other authors, critics, editors, publishers and scholars and mystery fans.

Panel topics include:
THE DETECTIVE AS A CONTEMPORARY HERO

A discussion concerning the various forms taken by the protagonist in mystery fiction, including the mythic, archetypal and cultural significance of this figure.

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An examination of how our cultural values influence mystery fiction.

MYSTERY LITERATURE AS A

attitudes and values of various subcultures in the United States.

FILM ADAPTATIONS

A discussion concerning the complex process of transposing mystery fiction from the page to the screen, with emphasis on changes required by the film medium.

PUZZLES, WHODUNITS AND PROCEDURALS: VARIETIES

A discussion of the various types of mystery fiction and the strategies for their construction, including the perspectives of both the critic and the working novelist.

ALSO ON THE PROGRAM are a keynote address, mystery film discussion series, exhibition of mystery book jacket art, question and answer sessions, and social receptions. There will be a walking tour of Great Key West Mysteries led by popular novelist and Seminar co-founder David Kaufelt.

By popular request, the Seminar is holding a hands-on writing workshop the week preceding the Mystery Seminar, from January 10-14, 1988. Co-sponsored by Florida International University, the workshop sessions in screenwriting, journalism, poetry and fiction will be led by James Crumley, John Katzenbach, Henry Taylor and Joy Williams.

LOOKING AHEAD, January of 1989 will feature noted contemporary writers in "The American Short Story: A Renaissance."

Co-sponsors for 1988 include The Monroe County Library Board and the May Hill Russell Library of Key West, The Monroe County Tourist Development Council, The Florida Center for the Book, The Florida Endowment for the Humanities (a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities), The Miami Herald, the Council for Florida Libraries and Florida International

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University. For more information, or to be placed on the mailing list, write Key West Literary Seminar, Inc., P.O. Box 391, Sugarloaf Shores, FL 33044 or phone 305-745-3640.

The Seminar is established in the literary consciousness as the gathering place for readers and writers in January; don't miss "WHODUNIT," January 14-17, 1988.

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GALLERY HOPPING

by Gordon Lacy

The season got kicked off at Richard Heyman's GINGERBREAD GALLERY with a show of the gallery artists. A new salle has been created during the summer hiatus and inside one could easily think oneself on 57th Street and I do not mean the Village or SoHo, or perhaps in Paris, Right Bank, of course. A perfect room and

Gingerbread's artists are not the only benefactors; we, unwashed public, too, can know that the chic exists along with old-conch-made-folklore, hand in hand. SoMo has been upgraded. The show was also the launching of the Art Explo 1988 season with Parvan on the dais to list the Art Council's long and varied coming schedule. Something for everybody, man, woman and child, and if you do not support it, I'll kill you. The show was highlighted by three Ron Clemons' oils of a quality and strength that we haven't seen from Ron for a while. The whole Gallery was well represented by its artists, but I'm not going to list as I did last month. The first one-man show of their season was Michael Palmer's. His work is comprised of local scenes and characters, mainly children. The tone is light, the

ARISTOS GALLERY

Barbara A. Cooper

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scenes are airy and the titles explain the subjects with humor. On the 5th of January our exotic English Lady, Patricia Townsend, will be showing her small and wry oils and on the 19th, Tommy Thomas, a New Yorker who does mixed media constructions, conch houses and store-fronts, will be on view.

LUCKY STREET GALLERY opened their season a week later and Roberta Marks' new works sparked the evening. Her constructions this year involve more collage than was her wont and the show was highlighted by a large wanton-pink abstract of hers. My all-time favorite painting here in SoMo, a large oil entitled "Oedipus' Dream," that I have known since its inception, by Jordan Meinster, reigns serenely over all; beautifully lit, it haunts and satisfies. Michael Haykin's portrait in the window is a stunner and there is also his large romantic cemetery view in oils. Bright pastels by Karasic, some small cut-out

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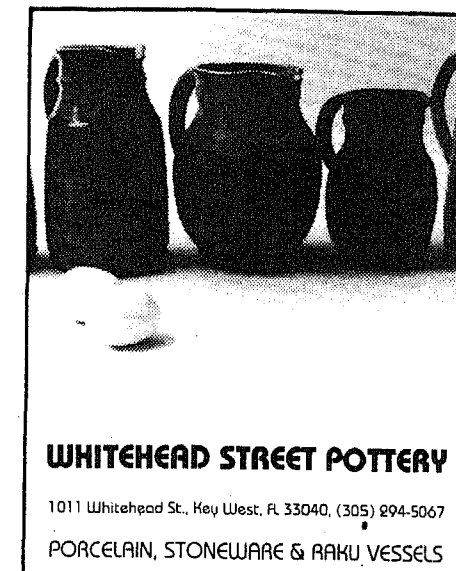
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wood panels by Reverend Finster, a naïf artist and some of John Martini's dross and finely done cut-steel works. The Gallery will be showing its artists through the month of January, which also heralds the arrival of Jean-Louis LeBrun.

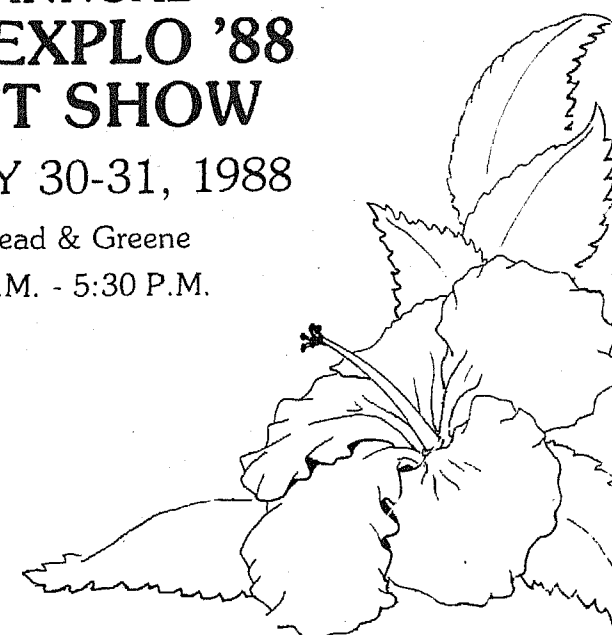
I have resisted speaking of Parvan and all the foofaraw that seems to surround him. He was employed to do a specific job, he was not handed the money to do it on his scale, he has accomplished wonders and who cares if not everyone can get along with him; we didn't hire a sycophant or a do-gooder. We wanted to put SoMo on the map culturally and he is doing it despite tremendous odds and factions. The job needs to get done and the nit-pickers can

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probably find a Donna Rice or a couple of joints smoked fifteen years ago and so what? Why is it always so hard to overlook the personalities and just get down to work?

EAST MARTELLO's annual Christmas tree decoration auction party was a smash because of the rain; everyone figured they had better go as no one in his right mind would be there with the result that everyone was there except for the little old ladies who hog the food. The mood was festive and people seemed genuinely happy with the evening, which says much about hosts Susan Olesen, Rick Fowler and the East Martello staff and everyone managed to get some roast pig. There were many fewer things in the auction this year but the quality was infinitely higher. As for the show of

Van Eno's paintings I have to rest ambivalent about his work, as I always have been. He was a remarkable draftsman and colorist and yet ... whereas I can admire, I do not automatically like. His best work was grouped behind screens with a warning sign, "Adult Pictures." What America does not understand it chooses to ignore, as though children do not realize they have genitals. The deeper these secrets are hidden, the more attractive they become. How quickly parents forget their own childhood!

On January 5 the museum will show Japanese prints on loan from the prestigious Clough collection, a rare treat, and on the 15th in conjunction with the Annual Literary Seminar, "Who Dunnit?" a show of mystery book jacket art.

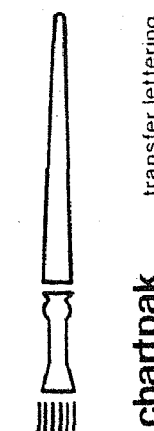
LANE GALLERY opened last month, remodeled and looking very fine indeed, with a group show featuring several small watercolors by Alice Terry that I found enchanting and one of her larger "arrangements," ditto, a variety of Vaughn Gibbons in different styles, two of which got sold forthwith. Jack Baron entered two or three paintings, one featuring a jovial teddy bear plus a painted sculpture. David Newton is represented by two new abstract oils refreshing amongst the conch houses

FARRINGTON'S FRAME SHOPPE & GALLERY

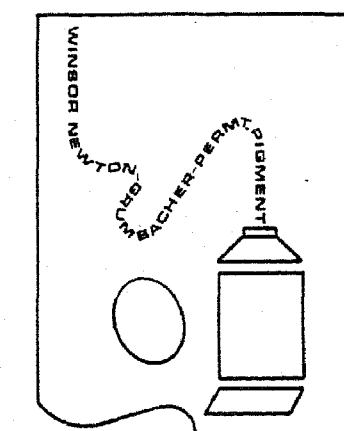
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and flowers. The most astonishing of the show must be Ann Labriola's sand sculptures composed of Canadian soil, animal bones, and I did not examine further. They are quite beautiful, in harmonious colors and awfully heavy. Will Docherty is showing lightweight pen and ink sketches, fun stuff. Terry Gindele has three very brilliant-surfaced abstracts and his one-man show will be the 3rd of January, one not to miss. Judi Wagner's views of local scenes are in watercolor and very pleasant. Fermin Coronado is displaying small colored etchings and Walter Pole, an English import, does almost miniature animal and nature scenes in watercolor. His last show in London was a sell-out. All I can find out about someone named Cricket Barnes is that she is a niece of friends and reportedly has platinum hair. I first noticed her work at East Martello and it grew on me, as I mentioned last month. She has a highly romantic colored oil at the Lane, a local scene, I believe, and we never looked so juicy. On the 17th of January Olivier Cotte and Pascale Margueroz will present their third SoMo show. This husband-wife team often paint on the same canvas, and this year's show promises larger works than last year's. On the 31st Anne Labriola will be showing her sculptural works; her concepts are usually outside of the norm and her work always surprises. Showing with her will be William Docherty, graphics with humor.

To replace the WPA painting of Hemingway in full Bacchanalia in the Author's Room at East Martello, which has moved to greater glory in the main hall, Joan Dwyer has graciously donated a large Alice Terry watercolor that features the Hemingway ambulance flag as the background. The original flag serves as a canopy in the same room.

I made a shamefully late foray to the BARRACKS in the 200 block of Whitehead and was delighted with the shop which mixes antiques and modern art harmoniously and successfully. There are even some nifty, chic Teena Rice shirts. The antiques are quality, there are underwater photos by Chris Adair who shows at the Guild and some iron work and prints by Reen Stanhouse also from the Guild. Melanie Starke's acrylics with ink are featured and her work is bright, clear and figurative. There is a South American cast over all, not surprising as she was brought up there. Her birds and fishes and lizards inhabit tropical seas and desert islands and the arrangements of these are always on a sort of cross-hatch field or background which is pre-Columbian in origin and which she does free-form. They are very attractive and I gather the right to reproduction goes with the sale. I hope the rest of you are ahead of me as usual and have already been there.

The PERKINS CHANDLERY on Fleming is, of course, one of SoMo's most engrossing outlets (for lack of more exact word) where the display windows change with stunning rapidity and with all the

opulence of Fast Buck's. It is like an emporium of yesteryear, with a sea-going optic. In December they presented a show of Historic Ships and Boats in watercolors by David Harrison Wright, a master of this media. In addition to S.S. *Manhattan* churning across an azure sea and the Steamship *Lampassas* leaving Mallory Dock, there are smaller craft and some lovely views of the Marquesas. A small gem of a show and no wonder that five paintings were sold opening night.

ARISTOS is doing fewer one-man shows this season and presenting the individual artists in combination. There are the landscapes of Michael Shannon, Walt Desel's small oils, a good representation of what is called "Chinese Peasant" prints that I prefer to call Chinese Folk Art and which are all charm, oils by Jason of the simplistic school and the works of Henri La Chapelle in varying styles; especially an eerie death's head that is chilling.

Judi Bradford at the GUILD says she has nothing new other than busy-keeping-up-with-baby, on view Fridays. Gary Zimmerman will be on the wall-of-the-month with his painted mirrors as will Tony Van Hasselt's watercolors. Chris Adair is showing underwater photography with many dolphins. Reen Stanhouse has started a new series of fans, highly decorated and not in iron this time, in paper. Cappy Seiler is progressing with lighting effects in her new acrylics, Ann Irvine has a new oil of the old Custom House, and Sonia Robinson new metallic collage purses in iridescence, gold and silver. The Guild can't seem to keep George Carey's paintings on the wall; he brings them in one by one and they keep getting sold. His average is one a week and he doesn't paint that fast. He does manage to keep a stock of prints, however,

Ruth Kravitz at the HAITIAN had a large shipment arrive in Miami the day I called which will be absorbed into the gallery during January. She is getting in a new six-foot screen by the famous Ezeze Domond to replace the one that, much like the case of George Kelly, got sold before anyone realized it was there. These screens are in the several-thousand price range and the subject matter is the marketplaces, the streams and mountains around the artist's native Jacmel, in rich, muted colors. A go-see ...

FARRINGTON's is featuring re-marks of Skipper's well-known shrimp boats and the Key West he-man scene. Re-marks, I come to find out, are lithographs of the artist's original which are numbered and signed and bear a small original cartoon with the signature. Live and learn... Donna Asche will be showing pastels of local scenes and her specialty, conch houses, scenes rather less macho than the aforementioned Skipper. Free off street parking.

Sandford will be showing her new

Mexican watercolors (lots of churches) at the TENNESSEE WILLIAMS in the beginning of January in the lobby.

And that brings me to Richard Matson whose bright acrylic studies of flora and fauna around town lead one's eye to intimate porches in sequestered gardens, odd corners that most of us miss in passing; small views that make up the charm of where we live and that Richard brings into perspective lest we forget or take for granted, and which were on view at Tennessee Williams in the lobby during the month of December.

The Monroe County Fine Arts Council gave us a Christmas Pops concert by the Florida Philharmonic that was a delight. I can safely say that I could have lived without Leroy Anderson in Medley, though it was remarkably played. It's the kind of stuff that has to be hoked and must be played at Pops concerts. In fact I am sure the composer wrote with only that goal in mind. However, I heard for the first time in a generation the music from Nutcracker without the grim images of sugar plums and phony wigs and the noble but ever-present Barishnikov bounding through tons of scrim and papier-mache and the music in itself is beguiling; played by this outfit it is heaven. It never occurred to me that opera singer Margaret Pent was up to Mel Torme and Silent Night. Margaret does not sell a song, no gestures, no pepsodent treatment, but when she sings with her clear and vibrant voice, the song gets sung. Thanks for a lovely brisk-rhythmed evening.

The WHITE STREET GALLERY is preparing a potpourri of paintings by Germond, Gregogna, Henocque, Simone and Soisson, and lithographs by Adami, Dali, Fassianos, Lorjou, Telemaque, Vassarely, this in lieu of our planned show of Simone's paintings. Simone sold out in her last exhibition in Belgium and because of sciatica has not been able to work, hence she was obliged to cancel much to everyone's chagrin. However she is sending on several new canvases as will Henocque.

On January 26 the gallery will present the paintings of Roumanian artist Vera Longu, who lives in Paris. Longu is fascinated with the human figure and her works often celebrate athletes and competitions.

Jim Mosely at ROSE LANE ANTI-QUITIES had a very fine show of pre-Columbian Peruvian pots and figures. Jim has presented us with the best fruits of his expertise and contacts over the years. Few cities of our size can boast such a resource and I take my hat off to him.

HARRISON's will be showing some new Bonnie Freeth works, collages and metal sculpture, Dick Syer's watercolors, Richard Matson's views-around-town in acrylics, Matthew Lineberger's marl work, Norma Sohl's seductive calabashes, Mally (Weaver) lithos of the SoMo point and Helen's own very smooth wood sculptures. Ben is stocking and selling all local recording artists' tapes, a needed service.

NEW AGE FORUM

BY ANN BOESE

ASTROLOGICAL TRENDS FOR THE NEW YEAR

By Sioux Rose

ARIES - March 21 - April 19

1988's forthcoming emphasis on Capricorn (your house of professional goals) and Jupiter moving into Taurus, your money house, indicate a year of down-to-earth hard work! Aries who need to change employment will find this the right year to do so! Extra money rewards those adventurous Aries natives who move out of old, boring niches and venture forward into new career expressions.

TAURUS - April 20 - May 20

This ought to be your best year in many! Jupiter, planet of good fortune enters your own sign (first time in 12 years) in March.

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universe is known to give. Essentially, these lessons revolve around emotional energies and how to use them in relationships. They also relate to what relationships ask of us! Many Cancers will begin a three-year cycle of profound change during 1988. It is essential to accept solitude as the teacher. It may also be the right time to cut loose substance dependencies and other chemical imbalances that disorder the body's own complex biosphere. Prayer and meditation prove useful now.

LEO - July 24 - Aug. 23

Fire signs will learn some tough lessons as four of the major planets shift into earth signs in 1988. Fire loves to burn freely and earth can put out flame, unless fire learns how to "feed off of the dark substance." The *I Ching* gives many useful meditations on this art! Leos: the party is over! It's a cycle of hard work in front of you. Now that your talents and abilities have received the greenlight of "go ahead," the universe has many areas in which you will work hard and express your gifts. Altruistic work is ahead; there will also be painstaking attention to detail in your work...much like the prelude to a sculptor chiseling away at a coming masterpiece.

VIRGO - Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

One of your best years: 1988! The earth emphasis, coupled with your own natal Virgo Sun (and possibly other accompanying planets) brings a virtual "pyramid" of earth. This makes career and business far more successful than usual. Many Virgos will receive a rise in professional status and/or the fulfillment of long-held professional wishes during 1988 and on. Your practical insight will be much needed by others; the world economy is on the brink of challenge and your expertise and attention to detail will be called upon. Virgos will, or should, capitalize on times ahead.

LIBRA - Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
The grouping of planets (stellium) in

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NEW AGE FORUM

BY ANN BOESE

Capricorn forms a cross angle, known as a square, to your Libra sign. The square emphasis represents creative challenge. After 1981 through 1983, these lessons ought to be less stressful. Residential switches are a strong likelihood for 1988 through 1989. Working out family understandings and healing old conflicts is another area of "spiritual lessons-learning." Jupiter shifts to Taurus, your solar 8th house, and enables you to profit from old business dealings.

SCORPIO - Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
The planetary emphasis for 1988 is in your favor. Jupiter, planet of good fortune, moves to your opposite sign and there heralds a good year for all manner of relationships: intimate and business. The movement of Saturn and Uranus into Capricorn (along with Neptune) means that your powers of understanding, powers of persuasion and general knowledge improve and cast a near spell over all those with whom you have communications issues to resolve. Many Scorpios grasp deeper meanings in their own lives and through interaction with the lives of others. (Courses are favored, too.)

SAGITTARIUS - Nov. 23 - Dec. 22
It's good to get Saturn/Uranus out of your sign, but they do regress back in from May through October 1988. However, planets shift to economically sensitive houses of your chart. You'll learn to discern true needs from superfluous spending. You'll also think in terms of long-term investment(s) rather than immediate financial gratification. Sagittarius persons will review their life values, in general. Jupiter brings more joy from the workplace and perhaps more dividends to invest.

CAPRICORN - Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
No sign is more in the cosmic limelight than yours! An unusual grouping of influences in your sign, beginning in February 1988, will not repeat again for centuries! Neptune, the mystic, in slowly opening the eyes of Capricorns to their inner life: dreams, ESP, déjà vu, the psychic, the power of prayer and, sometimes, the grip of unwanted addictions. Saturn, brings the need for discipline and a total life review of priorities and direction. Finally Uranus, planet of revolutionary self-will, brings the cosmic sword which cuts the "umbilical cord" and allows you to function from personal truth rather than from the "voices of the multitudes." Many breakthroughs occur and this will be an extraordinary period of change lasting about three years!

AQUARIUS - Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
In a sense, the stellium of planets (Saturn, Uranus, Neptune) which will occupy Capricorn for most of 1988, represents a very inward focus upon your chart. The earth emphasis hits your solar 12th house of

karma and the "dream within." This represents the soul purpose you took on, prior to incarnating into a physical form. During the next three to seven years, many Aquarius natives will become sensitive to an inner guiding voice, spiritual feeling that brings them to a new intuitive focus about the path ahead. It is my personal belief that many Aquarians have a special task within this lifetime. Coming years will bring it into focus. This can change many aspects of the old lifestyle.

PISCES - Feb. 20 - March 20
Like Virgo, your sign receives some truly wonderful aspects in 1988. All of the outer planets: Pluto, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Jupiter will favor your sign for most of 1988! The Capricorn emphasis occurs in your house of friends and social life. You may well go into new endeavors with friends -- these may be quite different from anything you've done in the past. Additionally, Jupiter moves to your solar 3rd house and enables you to benefit through the written and verbal expression of ideas. Suitable endeavors include: teaching, writing, advertising, sales, and seminars. The key is to clearly and creatively visualize what you wish to attain: it can really be yours. The celestial lights all bless your path.

Do You Know Who You Are?

by Bonnie Tynes Brown

How many times throughout our lives do we look in the mirror and ask, who am I really? What am I and who created me? I can remember asking myself these questions as a small child, always wondering where I came from and how I came into being. I remember looking closely at my fingers, hands and toes and wondering how I had the ability to move them. I used to think, how does my heart know how to beat? How did it know how to start beating when it first started itself? I also wondered how I knew how to breathe without consciously trying. I recall lying in my bed. I could see out of my window because my room was very small and my bed was positioned directly under it. I could see up into the heavens. The Key West sky was always clear and bright and sparkly. I would think, I wonder how many other worlds have people just like us on them? Maybe their lives were just the same, exactly like ours, or maybe they didn't look anything at all like us. Then I would start scaring myself with those thoughts so I would switch to more pleasant ones. Why did God put me

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on this planet instead of one of those out there? Why wasn't I God and He me? Nothing seemed to fit together or make any sense. Yet I knew there must be answers to all these questions. Maybe if I thought long enough and reasoned it out, I would start to get answers. Maybe God and His creation were knowable. Maybe someday I would find out all the answers.

Time went by and I began to grow. I did all the things little girls do and really enjoyed my life. I lived two blocks from South Beach. My sister and cousins and I went swimming a lot. I would float on my back in the water for a long time, looking up at the clear blue sky, watching those fluffy white clouds gently rolling around, not caring what was going on down on the earth. I wondered, did God just make the world, put people and animals on it and then take off for places unknown and leave us here to fend for ourselves, not really paying attention to what was happening because He was too busy creating other worlds? Maybe that's why some people got sick and had diseases and died because God wasn't paying attention? No, I thought, that couldn't be true.

Then a strange thing happened when I was seven years old. One morning my grandmother sent me to the corner grocery for some starch. I went running as fast as I could. When I arrived my heart was pounding and I was completely out of breath. I stood at the old wooden counter waiting my turn. I began to feel extremely weak. I reached out for the counter top, but as I tried to hold on I just didn't have the strength. Back I went and fainted. As I hit the floor I did not lose consciousness, but instead was wide awake! I had the sensation of floating on the ceiling. I could see everything going on beneath me. I saw my little body with eyes closed lying on the floor. The owner and his wife were rubbing alcohol on my arms and trying to pour coffee in my mouth. They were extremely excited and upset. I was

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thinking, I wonder why everyone is so upset because I'm perfectly alright. Then it occurred to me that they could not see me. It was like watching a movie, only I was in the movie! I began to ask myself how I could be down there on the floor, when I was on the ceiling. Then I began to realize that I had left my physical body. I didn't know why, but I knew one thing: me, the real me, was indeed separate from the physical me. The physical body could not function if the real me left it. I then became conscious of someone slapping my face. The next instant I was opening my eyes and once again I was in my familiar body. Needless to say I wondered about this for years. I tried to tell my mother and grandmother about the experience, but they couldn't understand. They told me I was dreaming. I knew this was no dream. I knew it was a genuine experience.

Life continued as usual. When I was about 30 years old I was in White's Book Store browsing around and I came across a book on Edgar Cayce and decided to buy it. That book opened up a whole new and exciting world to me -- metaphysics. It was the beginning of the most fascinating adventure anyone can embark upon. Not only did I get the answers to my questions, but answers to questions I dared not ask even myself. The experience I had at seven was an astral projection. This occurs when the spirit, which is our true identity, separates itself by projecting out of the body when it feels danger of one sort or another. The spirit reenters when the body is no longer in danger or leaves permanently at death.

I joined the Edgar Cayce Foundation for Research and Enlightenment. I studied all the Cayce material. Edgar Cayce was known as the sleeping prophet. He could go into an altered state of consciousness and "read" people's problems and then diagnose their particular disease and offer treatments. From there I studied every metaphysical book I could get my hands on. I discovered metaphysics was nothing new. It's the study of life governed and directed by thought through definite laws. I began to study Unity teachings.

Those interested in purchasing material on metaphysics should visit the Unity Book Store at 3424 Duck Ave.

Bonnie Tynes Brown hosts a talk show,

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Editorial

What else does one write about in a January editorial but the New Year and its associated resolutions? Here in the *Solares Hill* office employees spill their forth in dribs and drabs. From one desk comes a vow of no more procrastination: "It's the worst of all my sins." This is a salesperson talking, an individual whose livelihood depends self-motivation, the ability to pick up the phone and coax the attentions and commitments of others. A thin, well-kempt freelance writer announces that she's "going to watch carefully everything she eats, eat only what is good for her and exclude all unhealthy foods from her diet." Designer jeans hang loosely about her hips and she agonizes openly over the slices of rumcake she devoured last night. That will be absolutely the first and last "decadent rumcake interaction," as she calls it, she will indulge in forever, she states, stiff-jawed and adamant. Quit smoking, cut back on drinking, wake up earlier, call my mother more often, et cetera, et cetera. With so many bad habits to stop and unwanted characteristics to eliminate, it seems our hectic little office is one of traditionalists (only where resolutions are concerned, of course); and that, in this instance, that we, like most of society, are categorized by a tendency to identify and isolate the negatives.

I hope that with the New Age we will all learn to focus on the positives, that we will

grab ahold of those things in life that snowball forward and collecting better and better energy and experiences along the way, instead of always just letting go. And since time, though linear, is also cyclic, I hope that we will learn to celebrate the small cycles--the day, the hour, the minute--with the same reverence we do the New Year. After all, the opportunity to weed the bad and propagate the good is everpresent. I guess it's up to us to get to work; resolutions can be made on any day.

This month the "New Age Forum" feature article "Childbirth at Home--A Fresh Look at Traditional Beginnings" is contributed by Margaret Leslie Jolly, a student at South Florida School of Midwifery. Bonnie Tynes Brown shares her thoughts on self-discovery and the search for life answers. Astrologer Sioux Rose reveals 1988 trends for all signs of the zodiac. And as editor, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all the writers who contributed their time, talent and expertise to the "Forum" in 1987, and to encourage anybody who feels inclined to put pen to paper to contact me this month or at anytime in the future. Ideas and suggestions, too, are always welcome.

Best wishes for a happy, healthy New Year--Ann.

Childbirth at Home A Fresh Look at Traditional Beginnings

by Margaret Leslie Jolly

Once upon a time all women birthed their children in the comfort of their own homes. They were attended by midwives -- women who helped other women through the process of giving birth, from gestation to early child care. Ours was a more family-oriented society then, and the knowledge of midwifery was passed from mother to daughter. But social and philosophical changes rooted in the 1700s rendered home birth uncommon except in rural areas until recent interest in holistic health re-established it as an alternative to hospital birth.

As early as the 1960s women's interest in home birth resurged. It was an urban movement led by well-educated, middle-class couples motivated to take control of their basic health care. But in 1979 the Florida State Supreme Court struck down a 1931 statute designed to regulate midwifery, stating that the law was vague. Simultaneously, the Florida Midwives Association -- now known as Midwives Association of Florida -- was born. The association's goals were to promote education regarding safe home birth alternatives and to introduce bills legalizing midwifery into the Florida legislature.

Then in 1982, in response to the increased demand for safe alternatives in childbirth, Florida Statute 467 was enacted. It allowed for the training and licensure of midwives. To be licensed here, a midwife must complete a three-year training program that involves academic studies and clinical experience gained by observing 25 births and providing care to an additional 25

women, including delivery of their babies while under supervision. Upon completion of these requirements each student must pass a state board exam. But in 1984, FS 467 was amended, limiting the licensure of midwives. Today this means that, though education continues, only those midwives enrolled in midwifery school as of May 1984 are allowed to take the exam.

A licensed midwife (LM) may assist women who are considered at low risk for complications during childbirth. Degree of

home. She worked for 2 1/2 years in the maternity unit at Florida Keys Memorial Hospital.

Gazelle Lange, mother of two who were both born at home, has worked for 12 years in South Florida as a childbirth educator and was involved actively in preparing the legislation under which midwives are now licensed. She is soon to receive her license from the State of Florida. Beth and Gazelle attended the South Florida School of Midwifery together, and have been

IMPORTANT DATES IN HOME BIRTH

• 1700s--Childbirth ceases to be the exclusive domain of midwives and women and becomes included in the male-oriented practice of medicine.

• Turn of the Century--Although most are attended by doctors, 95% of American women give birth at home.

• 1940s--Home births decrease to 50%.

• Mid-1950s--Home births are less than 2%.

• Early 1960s--Interest in home birth resurges.

• 1979--The Florida State Supreme Court strikes down a 1931 statute regulating midwifery. The Florida Midwives Association is formed.

• 1982--Florida Statute 467 is enacted, allowing for training and licensure of midwives.

• 1984--FS467 is amended, limiting the licensure of midwives.

risk is determined by the midwife based on HRS (Health and Rehabilitative Services) Rules and Regulations which rate a woman's general health and reproductive history. Should complications arise during pregnancy, the midwife is required to refer the woman to an MD. The LM is trained to provide thorough care throughout normal pregnancy, labor, birth and afterbirth periods. She is also trained to recognize complications and to transport the mother and/or baby safely to the hospital.

Throughout the Keys, Willard J. Morse Jr., MD, Helen Swallow, CNM (Certified Nurse of Midwifery) and Beth Rodriguez, LM of OBG/Midwives offer complete obstetrical, gynecological and midwifery services. For families living in the stretch from Big Pine to Key West, the group offers home birth care and related services, in addition to their family-centered maternity care. Families who choose home birth maintain the same relationship with OBG/Midwives as those choosing hospital deliveries. In addition to their care with OBG/Midwives, home birth clients receive the services of a local women's collective under the auspices of Rodriguez. The collective consists of four women, all of whom are dedicated to the practice and promotion of midwifery and home birth.

Beth Rodriguez, RN, LM is the mother of three children, one of whom was born at

practicing as a team since May of 1986.

Anga Miller, whose three children were born at home, worked with a midwifery collective in Virginia for four years and has been assisting in the practice since the summer of 1987.

Midge Jolly, mother of one who was born in the hospital with a CNM in attendance, is currently a student at the South Florida School of Midwifery and has been assisting Beth and Gazelle since the spring of 1986.

Birth at home means more than just delivering a baby in your own bed. Philosophically, Key West midwives' goal is to provide women and families with knowledge that will empower them to experience their baby's birth in the manner they wish. To this end, the midwives offer a variety of service.

For instance, they make information on childbirth services available to women in the community. Their complete prenatal care program includes monitoring the mother and baby's progress, and encourages other family members to participate, if desired. (Children love to listen to the baby's heart-beat!) Counseling on nutrition and exercise and providing emotional support is an important component of these prenatal visits. The group also stresses continuity in care by attending deliveries, monitoring safety and well-being of mother and child,

providing information on aftercare, offering follow-up visits as needed by the new family, and continuing care should the need for hospitalization arise. Upon entering the hospital the woman will continue to be cared for by the obstetrician CNM, midwife and possibly other members of the collective.

Additionally, the group offers specialized home birth classes to all couples and tailors them to suit previous birthing experience. They encourage children to be present with their parents for slide and video viewings. And their lending library, containing books covering all aspects of family health and well-being, is available to all clients as is the information network that extends through the state.

Reasons families choose home birth are as varied as the families themselves. They include:

- Comfort - remaining in a familiar environment at a time of great changes
- Stress reduction
- Freedom of movement
- Continuity of care -- knowing that the same people will be attending for the entire birthing allows the family to be more relaxed and promotes a healthier experience
- Family -- the option for siblings to participate in the birth instead of having a baby appear mysteriously after mom and dad's absence
- Cost -- home delivery is generally one half to one third the cost of a hospital birth, though the decision to choose home birthing should not be based solely on cost

But to birth at home involves additional responsibility. The mother and family must be willing and able to maintain good health and vitality and to keep midwives and other health professionals informed as well as being available for prenatal visits and classes.

Support: Midwives Association of Florida
Education: South Florida School of Midwifery

Write to either at address below:

P.O. Box 557342
Miami, FL 33255

Support: Midwives Alliance of North America

Suggested reading:

Birth by Catherine Milinaire
Heart & Hands by Elizabeth Davis
Spiritual Midwifery by Ina May Gaskin
Immaculate Deception by Suzanne Arms
The 5 Standards for Safe Childbearing by David Stewart, PhD
Womanly Art of Breastfeeding by La Leche League

Margaret Leslie Jolly is a student at South Florida School of Midwifery. She and her four-year-old son, Donny, live on Upper Sugarloaf which she says allows her to keep her sanity.

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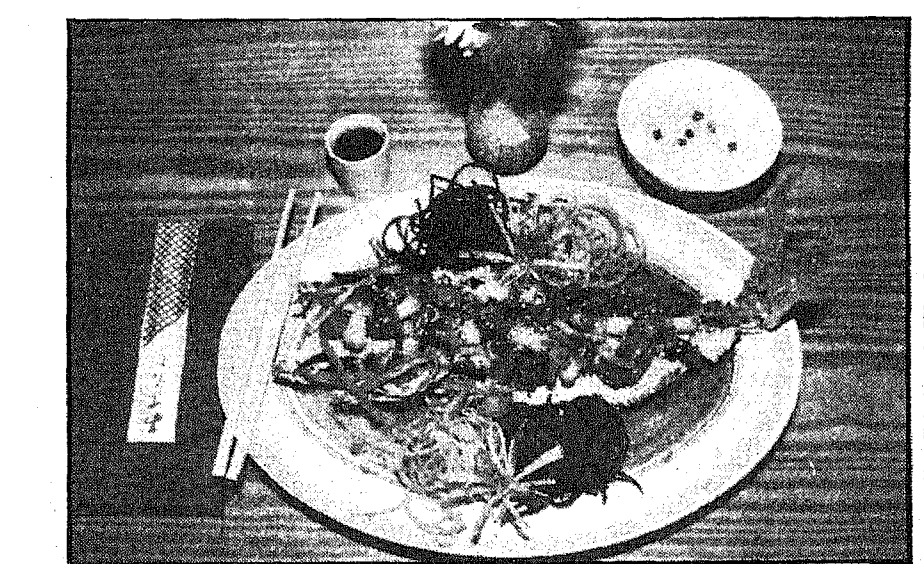
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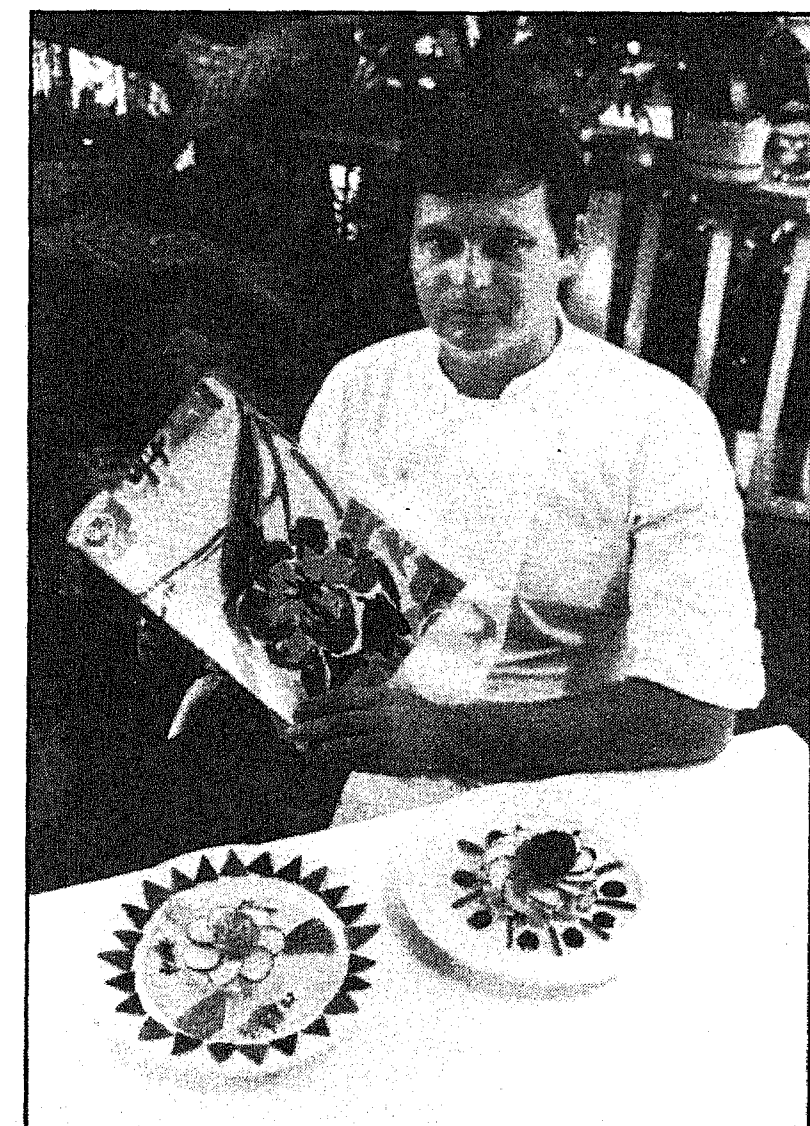
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Angelina's Pizza ('til 4 AM).....208 Duval
Domino's Pizza.....3218 Flagler & 922 Truman
Pizza Hut.....1980 N. Roosevelt

ORIENTAL
Amy's Filipino Cuisine.....Key Lime Square
Benihana.....S. Roosevelt Blvd. (A1A)
China Garden West.....3324 N. Roosevelt Blvd.
Dim Sum.....613 Duval St. (rear)
Twigs.....722 Duval

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Cafe Exile (All Nite).....Duval at Angela
The Conch Kitchen.....Alyce's Alley
Full Moon ('til 3 AM).....1202 Simonton
Louie's Backyard ('til 1 AM).....700 Waddell



Jean-Luc L'Hourre, the chef at the Rooftop Cafe with two beautifully prepared dishes - a display of his culinary expertise.

Photo by Richard Waterman

Photo by Richard Waterman

Family and Health Services

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Fire 296-2828 or 911
HELPLINE/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 294-5531
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
AIDS Help, Inc. 296-6196

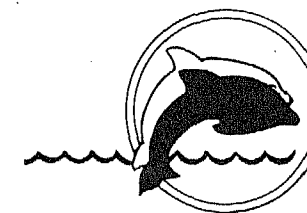
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FOUNDERS SOCIETY CHRISTMAS PARTY



(Left to right) Joe Liszka, Carolyn Cash, Frank Romano and Stephen Widup.

Members of the Founders Society, the direct support group for the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center, were treated to a festive, classy, old style musical sing-along and Christmas Party. The joyous events were provided by the Miami Chamber Symphony Orchestra and the Founders Society.

Leaving the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center, the audience hummed its way over to the Key West Woman's Club where with the aid of hard working committee members Bob Warren and Dr. Charles Smythe, Peg McClain and Carolyn Cash co-chaired, and Key West Aloe sponsored, a traditional post-performance Founders party; this one catered by Uncle Garlin's in Habana Plaza. The main dining room featured a whole pig done in Stephanie and Mike Montsavatge's conch tradition. Other rooms featured bountiful fresh fruits, chicken wings, swedish meatballs and a lovely selection of Christmas cookies.

Music for dancing was provided by the Ames Trio and many a Founders member graced the dance floor while Santa (Michael Moye) and a sexy elf (Carol Wesley) delivered Christmas candy to the guests. An open bar in the front patio was tended by Founders Board Member Max McQuillan and his crew of Founders members Bob Burton, Jerry Bever, Jerry Cash, Ty Bedford, Gil Haas, Carter Vineyard and Pete Heslin.

Membership committee member Jack Church and his aides Debbie Horan, Jeff Overby and Roger Braun, offered members the opportunity to participate in this year's drawing, which has traditionally offered a prize valued at ten thousand dollars. This year the drawing, limited to 200 tickets at \$100 each, will yield ten \$1000 prizes and will provide a substantial portion of the 1988 Founders donation to the theatre. All of these Key Westers contributed to a memorable evening for theatre goers who

had been treated to an outstanding performance.

As the lights dimmed across the "black tie optional" Founders Society audience Thursday night, violins were heard intoning the introductory tune. At the finale, after a pleasure cruise through Strauss and other traditional Christmas melodies, a choral group comprised of local artists led the audience in song.

This and three more promising performances comprise the Founders "Season," four performances and parties for members only. The Founders membership is limited to 500 and at this writing there are still a few memberships available. You are invited to join the Founders, support the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center and come to the parties. Call Helga Bazo for membership information at 296-9081. We would like to meet you!

"SEASON TIDINGS"

by V. K. Gibson

At the instigation of my editor, this Scrooge will look back upon the past year with uncouth gentleness and charity, and highlight a few of the best events and developments which impacted the scene.

Let's begin with our major cultural institutions.

The Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center, which I've often characterized as a black hole that sucks up a fortune in cultural resources annually, surprised me during the last season with two productions, one of them especially fine and the other profound.

The *Native Dancers of Senegal* have their act together and it was a pleasure to see the narrative dances of that culture and to have Western sensibilities rattled and mesmerized. A pageant of colorful and often startling costumes provided a constant delight. And I'm glad to say that our nudity ordinance was not enforced during the evening of the performance, so that the visiting female forms divine were free to sport toplessly with our libidos.

The other event at TWFAC which particularly impressed me was the recent *Founders Follies*.

Yes, that's right -- the Founders Follies! How my respect for director Susan Hawkens, already high, soars after this memorable serving of the sweet bounty of talent together with the rudest dregs of anti-talent.

It was logical that the tedious (if hearty) performances of the amateurs be leavened by some of our best local stage artists (and I plan to give them the space they deserve elsewhere in the coming year). Yet, magically, the whole exceeded the sum of the parts and, therefore, I must declare the Follies to be an authentic work of art.

The contrast of gold and brass were the secret of this success. I would like to devote a whole column to this process, but one graphic case is: Joe Leahy, in drag, singing "I Am What I Am," encapsulating a genuine human moment which rose above the trivialized sentiments of La Cage aux Folles contrasted with definitively trivialized moments elsewhere.

With such juxtapositions, reality bends and cracks and the profound is apprehended.

There was also the pleasure of seeing old friends and foes on the stage together. To single out just a few of the former groups: Carolyn Cash, a talented singer (and musician); the elegantly gowned and very sincere Shirley Freeman, partnered by those shamelessly strutting hunks, Carter Vineyard and Charles Smythe, in turn sexy and huggable (and don't ask me which was which!); and Max McQuillan, who, not surprisingly, is quick on his feet. Betty Williams was charming as a lady hobo.

(A bit of scandal! An informer tells me that the ladies dressing room was the scene of a veritable bacchanalia, with good cheer in many of its forms flowing hither and thither, and the girls romping like tipsy seals. Ha Ha!)

Back on stage, Joe Balbontin radiated undeniable charisma and Frank Romano was, well, Frank Romano. The courtship of these two ancient enemies, a "romance" which began, apparently, in a canoe in the salt ponds, flowered at the Follies.

Joe Liska made a perfectly convincing street person. Jack Baron's nimble dancing was upstaged only by his incredible makeup a.k.a. Howdy Doody.



IF I'VE NEVER BEEN A RUBBER stamp for the *Festival of Continents*, neither am I among the camp of "Parvan bashers." Allow me to salute Mr. Bakardjiev's drive (ambition is crass before it succeeds, admirable afterwards), his scope of vision, his high standards. And while I'm at, I do admire the board of the Monroe County Fine Arts Council for their solid public support of their Executive Director in the face of controversy. A good example.

In the spirit of this article, I'll push on, without examination of the (atonal pipe organ chords sound) "other viewpoints."

Our other theaters were not slack this year. The irreverent and very endearing *Nonsense*, at the Red Barn, was a major hit. I wish the Barn people would resurrect it once a year as a foil to "serious" fare -- and a sure moneymaker.

I've already expounded at length, and recently, on the Waterfront Theater's production of *Penny Lane*.

Jan McArt has made a habit of success elsewhere and I suspect that she will hang on until she has "conquered"

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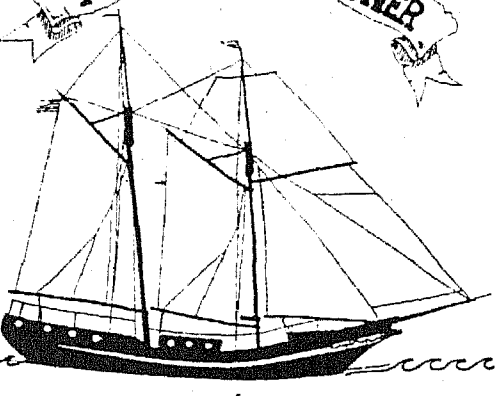
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OLD FASHIONED CARE!

Key West. Witness the ambitious productions of 1987.

MANY PEOPLE AREN'T AWARE that a new cultural resource was "in gestation" during the past year. It's creator is Dr. William Schlicht, a newcomer to our Keys and an academic-minded lover of literature. His upcoming publication, *Key West Review*, will feature prose, poetry, essays and art by talents famous and unknown, among us and from elsewhere.

Dr. Schlicht is quite industrious and will, I'm sure, make his mark in the realm of literary reviews. From early signs I do not anticipate "earthquakes and revolutions" to disturb our conceits. I predict that the *Key West Review* will be a "high tea" served with conviviality in a comfortably outfitted parlor at Ye Olde Literati Inn. And why not? I wish the enterprise well, and look forward to reviewing the first issue.

Another happy development of 1987 is the tendency of Key West artists to stand up and be heard. They're showing signs of becoming politicized, a terrible prospect which is, nevertheless, less odious than the alternative: remaining victims of the status quo.

Artists are getting on the boards of important local organizations. They are sending angry letters to their gallery proprietors, demanding greater professionalism and fairness in the marketplace. They are loudly and persistently speaking out in public places, before the media. In short, they're mad as hell and aren't going to take it any more. This, doubtlessly, surprises certain people. Good. You haven't seen anything yet.

If I had an award to present to a particular artist for his or her participation in community causes in the last year it would go to Craig Biondi. He has been particularly visible serving on the Art & Historical board, and on the Cultural Affairs Commission. Craig not only attends meetings -- he works. This quiet, intelligent man has done more for the community than many local millionaires I can name. And -- yes -- I will! They are...

No, another day. Given the focus of this column it may seem inappropriate to mention that 1987 has been the Year of Embezzlements for Key West. Real Estate chieftains are fleeing the island with bags of money under their arms, and even the Art & Historical Society has suffered the scandal of allegedly light fingers among the staff. Last month I mentioned the good works taking place at Martello under executive director Susan Olsen and with chairperson Richard Fowler, and the majority of their board. The triumph of recent upgraded exhibits and events has abruptly been tainted by a trusted employee being charged with embezzlements.


Happily, there's a silver lining to the cloud.

The recent uproar is unfortunate, but it has also provided an opportunity for the organization to test its fortitude and to

grow. There is something heartening breaking through the crust of dismay and outrage. Members of the Society have been calling by the hundreds to express support for the organization, and new memberships are burgeoning.

I think that when the dust clears people will realize that the current Martello leadership is not to be blamed for something which, by all indications, began years ago during the tenure of an earlier administration. The full story of this will doubtless unravel in the coming months.

Mayor Heyman's support of art in public places in highly commendable. The recent anti-proposition editorial in the *Citizen* raises common sense points which need to be addressed. For now, I'm sure that the impulse toward community enhancement by cultural means is a positive one. After we've considered the disasters and triumphs in other cities (that have embraced the public art idea) we can doubtless find an approach which pleases many, if not all.

I see that my space is used up so goodbye until next month, when I plan to skewer a whole herd of sacred cows. 



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter in response to an article in the current issue of *Solares Hill* by Mr. Ray Pace entitled "The Problem with PATA - Life Under Hamlin." In this article Mr. Pace includes five paragraphs of quotes from Peter Anderson. These quotes are a fabrication out of whole cloth. Mr. Pace never interviewed me for this article and these words are not mine!!!! I was thoroughly stunned to read this article. Mr. Pace asked to interview me for this series on PATA and I agreed but he never followed up on his own request and proceeded to fabricate these quotes and publish them without my knowledge or consent!

I have worked for several years to integrate Houseboat Row in to the greater Key West community by working with PATA and others in an atmosphere of cooperation and reason to solve our mutual problems; not an atmosphere of emotionalism and name calling. Nothing is served by name calling except those who would further divide and alienate our community. There are processes and forums for resolving problems and disputes in reasoned and gentlemanly manners, and these I have vigorously pursued. We on Houseboat Row and PATA have come far in resolving these problems in this new atmosphere of cooperation, not confrontation, and all these efforts are undermined by such totally irresponsible journalism at Mr. Pace's. The disservice continues, however, in that there are things I would have welcomed the opportunity to discuss in such a public forum as *Solares Hill* concerning PATA and Mr. Hamlin. Unfortunately, these thoughts and ideas were not included in this article and will have to be held until another opportunity to air my views is presented.

I think that those at PATA and others have worked with me long enough to know that name calling and emotional confrontation are not my manner or style in solving problems and will discount these lies in my name so that we may continue our work together in an atmosphere of fairness and cooperation to solve our differences and mutual problems and move on together in good faith.

Ed ... We extend an invitation to Peter Anderson to write down his ideas on PATA and Houseboat Row for us in our February issue.

To the Editor:

As a liveaboard resident at City Marina on Garrison Bight, I want to respond to Ray Pace's article in the December *Solares Hill* ("The Problem With PATA - Life Under Hamlin").

From a journalistic point of new, the

article is self serving. The piece sets up a number of themes that are critical of PATA and of the conditions at City Marina, but these arguments are then documented by extensive quotations from people whose identities have not been revealed. The adoption of such a technique leads this reader to question the factual accuracy of the allegations. Woodward may have had "Deep Throat," but I wonder how many City Marina residents Pace really interviewed and how recently the interviews were conducted.

A person with the pseudonym of "Donna Teller" is alleged to say that she pays \$63 each month for electricity at City Marina. Not so. Electricity is included in the monthly dockage fee.

A person with the pseudonym of "Alan" is alleged to say that chunks of concrete have fallen off the rebar and that electrical conduit has grounded the rebar making a wet dock dangerous to walk on.

It is my understanding that this condition did exist about a year ago but that it has been corrected for months now. The article gives the impression that it is a current problem.

"Donna Teller" complains of inadequate 15 amp electrical service and continually blowing fuses. I know people with full sized refrigerators, two 110V AC air conditioners, TV, and microwaves who never blow a fuse. I wonder how current the alleged "Teller" interview was.

I have been in the Keys since 1969 and have observed the development of our city. When Pace calls for the privatization of the marina, I am concerned. I have seen Key West "privatize" a lot of real estate and a lot of projects and in no instance that I am aware of have we received what we expected in return. Usually, we have been screwed.

Finally, I want to respond to Pace's characterization of our dockmaster and his staff as unfriendly "Lifestyle Police." My own experience with the staff at the Garrison Bight City Marina is that they are friendly, courteous, quick to respond whenever there is a problem, and professional in every way. And yes, I don't mind -- to use Pace's words -- "hanging out and bullshitting with them."

To qualify my remarks, I have never met Mr. Hamlin nor am I either for or against PATA. I tend to agree with Thomas Jefferson that a little revolution now and then is a good thing. I am more of a middle aged hippy than a polyester defender of the status quo. I am sure PATA could and should be criticized on a number of issues. I know Ray Pace and respect his work. I just thought that this was a lousy article and wish that it had been checked out more thoroughly.

Sincerely,
Jerry B. Montgomery
Dolphin Pier
City Marina

Ray Pace replies:

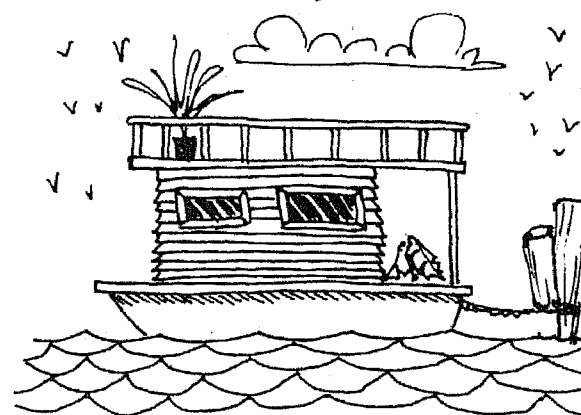
Regarding "The Problem with PATA - Life Under Hamlin," Peter Anderson was given opportunity for input, and was allowed to express himself on PATA and other subjects during that opportunity. His three (not five) paragraphs of quotation reflect accurately his ideas and attitudes at the time of the interview.

Regarding Jerry Montgomery's comments -- it is unfortunate that three of the sources in the article felt threatened enough to ask for anonymity. Regarding electricity for residents at the Bight, it is true that residents pay one inclusive dock fee; however, a look at a chart provided by PATA includes a breakdown of those fees, which includes electricity.

In the interview, Chuck Hamlin admits that \$110,000 have been allocated in the current budget for repairs to piers at Garrison Bight, an indication that those conditions noted are still extant.

Regarding "Privatization," it is not Ray Pace who is quoted as calling for it in the article, but members of the City Commission. Also, citing the unfriendly staff was not my input, but the input of three of the four sources used.

Calling the article "self serving" is true only in the sense that Ray Pace is one of the 75 on the "list" at Garrison Bight and, of course, would like to move up like the 74 others that PATA says are on that "list."



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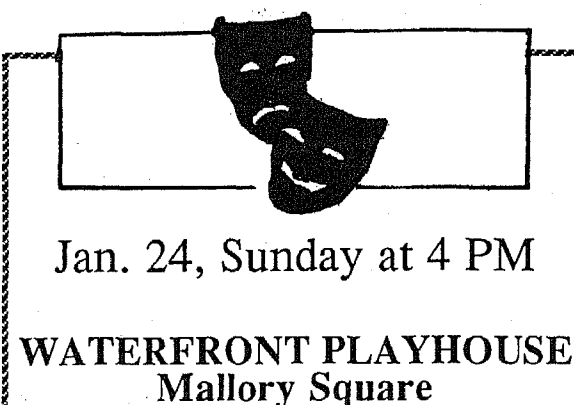
KEY WEST POETS

On Sunday, January 24 at 4:00 pm at the Waterfront Playhouse, a very special event will take place. A show called a *Tribute to Key West Poets* will be performed. This is a look back at some of the famous poets who have lived and still reside in Key West. Readings, improvised classic guitar, new compositions, dance, and the poets themselves are interwoven with the works from Robert Frost to Poet Laureate Richard Wilbur.

The Key West Literary tradition is a national treasure and this tribute brings the poetry of Key West's celebrated authors to the stage. Reading the poems of Wallace Stevens, John Chiardi, Elizabeth Bishop, James Merrill, Tennessee Williams, and John Malcolm Brinnin, will be many of the superb and outstanding actors of Key West. Special guest readers will be Philip Burton and David Kaufelt.

Matthew Jampol will be improvising on the guitar as background to the poetry. Penny Mollot will be dancing to the poetry and music. The special talent of director Joy Hawkins will bring these diverse artistic forces together. In addition, new poems by Jody Adams and George Murphy will be read by themselves.

TICKETS are \$8.50 at the Waterfront Playhouse. For information call 294-5015.



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Directed By Joy Hawkins

*An afternoon of music,
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Tickets \$8.50

294-5015

Presented by Key West Players, Inc.

OIRF 28TH SEASON

The 28th Annual House and Garden Tours sponsored by the Old Island Restoration Foundation have been scheduled for the three weekends of February 12 and 13, February 26 and 27 and March 11 and 12. Jud Dolle, president of OIRF, has announced.

Beginning with a night tour lasting from 5 pm to 9 pm, the weekend of February 12 and 13 will kick off the nationally acclaimed event when the doors to fourteen private houses and gardens will be opened to local residents and tourists from around the world so they are able to relive history first hand. The OIRF tours have become the highlight of Key West's Annual Old Island Days which begin in January and conclude in April.

Proceeds from the \$8 tickets have enabled the non-profit OIRF to fund restoration and preservation of Key West public buildings.

It took the 1956 destruction of one historic Key West house -- the mid-Nineteenth Century Carolyn Lowe House at 303 Duval -- and the threatened loss of an even more historic one -- the Audubon House on Whitehead Street -- to galvanize concerned Key Westers into forming a group of citizens dedicated to raising funds for the restoration and preservation of the island's unique architecture. The group, incorporated in 1960 as a non-profit organization, is the 700-member Old Island Restoration Foundation, Inc.

The partially burned upper floor of the Caroline Lowe House was the vantage point from where Mrs. Lowe, a strong Confederate sympathizer during the Civil War, reportedly teased Northern troops occupying the city with her flag waving of "Ole Dixie." But preservation-minded Key Westers said the fire damage to the upper house was not serious and the structure could have been saved. Instead, during the dark of night, the house was demolished.

Almost simultaneously, the pre-1850 Audubon House was about to be razed to make way for a new gas station. Fortunately, the Mitchell Wolfson family saved the day by purchasing the structure, originally known as the John Geiger House, and restoring and refurbishing it.

Since that meager 1960 beginning the OIRF has expanded its tours from a handful of houses including the Audubon House to 14 over a period of three weekends. The tours, which are manned by OIRF volunteers, have enabled the OIRF to allocate hundreds of thousands of dollars over the years to preservation of Key West public buildings, Dolle said.

During 1988's spectacular House and Garden Tours, visitors will be greeted by "red shawls," women dressed in white dresses with red paisley shawls draped over their shoulders -- a symbol of island hospitality. During the 19th Century, sea captains would return to Key West and present their wives and loved ones with red

shawls. The ladies would wear them and say, "I'm going red shawling," whenever they visited friends.

Many of the houses on the Tours were constructed during the 19th Century by ships' carpenters and are known as "Conch Houses," named after the mollusk that thrives in local waters and is a favorite food of native Key Westers, also known as "Conchs." Though mainly influenced by the architecture of New England and the Bahamas, these houses are a melange of Greek and Roman Classic Revival, Victorian, Queen Anne, Creole and shotgun styles.

Sheila Bilbrey, chairperson of this year's tours, explains that as in the past, houses again will fall into one of three categories: "historical significance," "unusual location," and "island living." For the convenience of visitors, Bilbrey also says each of the tours will originate at the OIRF's Hospitality House on Old Mallory Square, with transportation provided free during the two nighttime tours by Conch Tour Trains.

The houses and gardens on exhibit during the 1988 season include: *Tour One* (Feb. 12 & 13, from 5 pm to 9 pm): 410 Amelia Street, owned by Ron and Laura Solomon; 4 Pinder Lane, owned by Dick Duane, 2406 Staples Avenue, owned by Mark and Evie Kelly; and 1414 Alberta Street, owned by Joseph Bryan. *Tour Two*

(Feb. 26 & 27, from 10 am to 4 pm): 719 Fleming Street, owned by Capt. and Mrs. David Adams; 624 Elizabeth Street, owned by Marilyn and Bruce Burkholder; 3 Catholic Lane, owned by Mr. and Mrs. John Flanagan; 620 Catholic Lane, owned by Bill Grose and Don Smith; 320 Peacon Lane, owned by Robert Sykes, and 712 Eaton Street, owned by Sidney Bergen. *Tour Three* (March 11 & 12, from 5 pm to 9 pm): 614 Ashe Street, owned by Bob Zion; 639 William Street, owned by Al McCarthy and Ralph Wright; 618 Caroline Street, owned by Don and Carol Jo Vecchie; and 1600 Patricia Street, owned by Warren and Lynn Williams.

Each of the three tours is priced at \$8. Tickets may be purchased from the OIRF at Hospitality House (305-294-9501) or at any of the houses at the start of each tour. ☐

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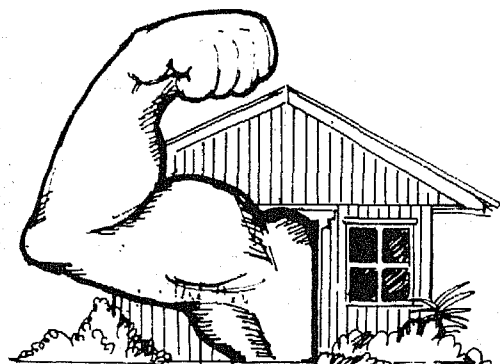
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Winners of the Annual Foods Competition recently held at Mallory Square are: "Whitey" of the Quay Restaurant for his entree, "Aged Venison with Escargo and Shitake and Enoki Mushrooms Vol-au-vent" and Tami Ritchey of Bagatelle Restaurant with her appetizer, Mussels & Clams Marquesas. In the dessert category the winner is Cindy Christensen, also of the Bagatelle, for three entries: A Bagatelle "Chocolate Box" filled with white-chocolate strawberry mousse, Truffle Minte Torte and a Pumpkin Cheesecake with Cranberry Cream.

Seven local eateries competed for the awards and an expanded competition is planned for 1988 by the Cultural Preservation Society. Congratulations to the winners!

Florida Keys and Key West Calendar of Events

We hope our Calendar of Events will be of benefit to planners of special events as well as to those wishing to attend. We want to include all interesting events taking place in Key West and the Florida Keys, and we really do need your help. If you have an event you wish to have included in our calendar, please send information to: Calendar, Solares Hill, #4 Key Lime Square, Key West, Florida, 33040.

NOTE: Because of space limitations and because of the exceptionally numerous special events currently taking place each month in the Keys, we have decided to limit the Calendar of Events to the current month.

SPECIAL EVENTS

- 1 Pier House Blast for Charity. To benefit AIDS Help, Pier House, Key West. Call 294-9541, Ext. 521, for information.
- 10-14 Hands-on Writing Workshop, sponsored by the Literary Seminar, Key West. Call 745-3640 for information.
- 13-17 Buskerfest, Second Annual International Street Performers' Festival, Key West. Call 294-3099 or 294-1665 for information.
- 14-17 SIXTH ANNUAL LITERARY SEMINAR and Tour, Key West. For times of all Seminar Events, call 745-3640 for information.
- 14-16 Film showings, Key West Library.
- 14,17 Mystery Tour of Key West, leaves from Key West Cemetery.
- 14 Welcome Reception, Holiday Inn La Concha.
- 15 At Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center: Book sale; Welcome by Prof. Les Standiford; Opening Address by Tony Hillerman; Panel Discussions; John D. MacDonald Reminiscence Session.

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- 15 Meet the Participants Cocktail Reception, East Martello Museum.
- 16 At TWAC: Book Sale; Panel Discussions.
- 16 Cocktail Reception, The Reach.
- 17 How-to-do-it discussion on how to organize a similar seminar, Key West Library.
- 23 Wrecker's Museum - Oldest House Benefit Party, Key West. Call 294-9501 or 294-9502 for information.
- 24 Old Island Days Fashion Show & Luncheon, Jan McArt Cabaret Theatre, Key West. Call 294-9209 for information.

ARTS

- 1-2 Mousetrapp, Waterfront Playhouse Key West. Call 294-9431 for information.
- 1-10 The Dark Wood, Red Barn Theatre, Key West. Call 296-9911 for information.
- 2 Opening of showing of Selected Plates from Double Elephant Portfolio, Audubon House, Key West. Call 294-2116 for information.
- 4 The Magic of Poetry, by Philip Burton. Key West Public Library. Call 296-5713 for information.
- 5 Opening of one-woman show of oil-on-canvas primitives by Patricia Townsend, Gingerbread Square Gallery, Key West. Call 296-8900 for information.
- 6 James Gibson, jazz pianist, TWAC, Key West. Call 294-6232 for information.
- 7 Chinese Golden Dragon Acrobats, TWAC, Key West. Call 294-6232 for information.
- 7-10 Second International Film Festival, The Reach, Key West. Call 296-5000, Ext. 645, for information.
- 1-31 Characters of the Keys Art Exhibit, East Martello Museum, Key West. Characters of Mario Sanchez thru 2/29/88, Recent Characters through 5/31/88. Call 296-1313 for information.
- 15 Opening of Sign of Sandford Watercolor Show, TWAC Lobby, Key West.
- 15-31 Audubon's Prints - A Special Exhibition, Audubon House, Key West. Call 294-2116 for information.

- 16&17 Florida Keys Renaissance Faire, Marathon. Call 743-4386 for information.
- 20-31 Three Guys Naked From the Waist Down, Red Barn Theatre, Key West. Call 296-9911 for information.
- 21 Opening of Guys and Dolls, Key Colony Beach.
- 21 An Evening of Chamber Music, Marathon.
- 22 An Evening of Chamber Music, Tavernier.
- 22 Talk by writer Dave Barry, Key Largo.
- 22 Tribute to Key West Poets with Matthew Jampol, Waterfront Playhouse, Key West. Call 294-5013 for information.
- 22&23 Tampa Ballet's Coppelia, TWAC, Key West. Call 294-6232 for information.
- 24-31 Group Art Show of Key West Artists, Key West Art Center. Call 294-1241 for information.
- 23 Art Under the Oaks, Tavernier. Call 852-5886 or 852-4904 for information.
- 30&31 Arts Explo Craft Show, Key West. Call 294-0431 or 294-1241 for information.

SPORTS EVENTS

- 23 Tenth Annual Key West Last Resort Half-Marathon and 10K Road Races, Ocean Key House, Key West. Call 294-1906 for information.

ALWAYS HAPPENING

- Mon. Yoga Class, Coffee Mill Cultural Center, Key West, 296-9982.
- Tues. Sweet Adelines, Presbyterian Kirk of the Keys Church, Marathon, 7:30 PM.
- Old Island Harmony Barbershop Chorus, Old Stone Church, Key West, 7:30 PM.
- Wed. Pool & Dart Tournament, Big Pine Moose Lodge, Big Pine Key, 872-9313.
- Thurs. Preschool Story Hour, Key West Library, 9:30 AM, 294-8488.
- Key West Handprint Fashion Show, Casa Marina, Key West, 12:30 PM.
- Afterschool Activities, Key West Library, 3:30 PM, 294-8488.
- Card & Game Night, Senior Citizens Center, Big Pine Key, 745-3698.
- Fri. Key West Handprint Fashion Show, Hukilau, Key West, 12:30 PM.
- Sat. Family Films and Crafts, Key West Library, 294-8488.

FROM THE EDITOR

continued from page 2

drug use and increased crime that have impacted on the island of Key West have hit particularly hard here. Where there are few meaningful jobs for the young, plentiful, cheap drugs and thrill-seeking tourists, crime is going to flourish. I sense that this wonderful part of Key West is in danger of dying.

Can anything be done?

I read someplace that the Black population in this country has an economic power by itself that is only exceeded by 10 or 15 countries. There is a growing Black middle class with money to spend. Suppose that Key West reclaimed its great musical heritage and became a center for Black tourism?

Remember that the great jazzman "Fats" Navarro grew up here. Wasn't "Cannonball" Adderly also a Key Wester? Our own "Miss" Ellen Sanchez, the writer of our Conch national anthem "The Beautiful Isle of Key West" (which she recently played to standing applause at the Casa Marina) and music teacher to many a Conch including the composer of "Is You Is or Is You Ain't My Baby," Billie Austin, speaks glowingly about the music of those days. The Hannibals, the Welters, "Baby" Gutierrez, etc. would get together and make music. The late Enver Hannibal Young would tell me how wonderful it was Sunday afternoons when musicians would drop by her father's house and begin to play. Music flowed through the community.

Today we are still blessed with great musicians. The Junkanoos, "Coffee" Butler, Harry Chipchase, and many others live and play here. We have yearly writers' seminars in Key West, why not a jazz festival? Wouldn't it be great to have a large jazz club and soul food restaurant involved in the Douglass School complex?

Supposing that there was a major tree replanting along Thomas and Emma Streets. Certainly the architecture in this part of town is genuine Key West and it should be a prime tourist attraction. Supposing a small museum could be created to celebrate Key West's great Black musical past. What town other than New Orleans still has a marching band that will play and accompany to the graveyard select members of this town who have died? There is a treasure of musical heritage here and it needs to be recultivated. If a district is flourishing then it is in everyone's interest to keep it safe and harmonious.

I remember the thrill of the Roots Festival; everyone, Black and White, danced in the streets as music overflowed. I remember the thrill of entering the San Carlos Theatre and seeing members of all parts of our community turn out for the Bahamian cultural night.

I remember also that our own "Bop" Brown brought James Brown to Key West to perform years ago. I remember revues that Miller and Carl Dean and others would put on featuring local people like the glamorous singer Shana La Verne, Bill Albury singing in his rich voice "Sittin' On The Dock of the Bay," and many other

talented Bahamian Village residents. Where is all this now?

The whole town needs strong leadership to emerge from the Black community. No one understands the needs of this area better than a person who lives there. Assume this person was elected to the City Commission. We need someone who has not only a sense for the whole island but a particular awareness of his or her turf -- if the fire hydrants don't work properly then they would be a priority item on the City Commissioner's agenda (I don't know if this is still a problem but it was once on Thomas & Emma Streets.) Then suppose the idea for a music festival for Bahama Village could take shape -- who better to help guide it along than a Black commissioner?

Again, I certainly agree that there is an overdue need for a Black City Commissioner but I don't believe you have to divide this island into little, tiny districts to accomplish it. Send out a strong candidate and let Key West as a whole elect him or her.

And Black tourism? Why not? We have a beautiful city with a great heritage, Black and White, with so much to offer. (Another thought: How about devoting a literary seminar to Black women writers?) I would

urge that a 3-5 year plan be initiated to capitalize on this (or a better idea) for the revitalization of the historic part of Key West. It would be wonderful if the arch saluting Bahama Village could become more than a symbol and come to be a real entrance to a great part of our city.

The folks from the casino ship *Southern Elegance* called to say they thought that Richard Watherwax, in his Antic Humor in December's paper, did them a disservice when it referred to them as a sunblock. They said that they leave 45 minutes before sunset and return 45 minutes after the sun has set which they said allows more time for the celebration of sunset than they are required to do. Whether Richard was thinking of sunset in particular or the fact that a big ship casts a shadow during the afternoon sun at Mallory Square, I'm not sure and he is away for Christmas. But if anyone was offended by this photo, I apologize for it.

See you next month.

P.S. Gil Ryder and Antic Humor by Richard Watherwax took Christmas off. They will be back in February.



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NOVEMBER

Wednesday Nov. 18: Founders' Follies
Founders' Night, 8:00 p.m.

Thursday Nov. 19: Founder's Follies, 8:00 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 20: Eder String Quartet, 8:00 p.m.

DECEMBER

Wednesday Dec. 2: National Dance Company
of Senegal, 8:00 p.m. (*Festival of the Continents*)

Thursday Dec. 10: Christmas Concert with the
Horace O'Bryant Middle School, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 12: Ivan Davis, 8:00 p.m.
(*Festival of the Continents*)

Thursday Dec. 17: Holiday Pops Concert, 7:30 p.m.,
Founder's Night

Sunday Dec. 27: A Classical Piano Recital
with David Williams, 8:00 p.m.

JANUARY

Wednesday Jan. 6: An Evening of Jazz
with James Gibson, 8:00 p.m.

Thursday Jan. 7: Chinese Golden Dragon Acrobats
& Magicians, 8:00 p.m., (*Festival of Continents*)

Saturday Jan. 9: Ballet Florida's Romeo & Juliet,
8:00 p.m.

Thursday Jan. 14: Key West Literary Seminar

Friday Jan 15: Literary Seminar (con't)

Saturday Jan. 16: Literary Seminar (con't)
Nathen Page Quartet, 8:00 p.m.

Thursday Jan. 21: Founders' Night Coppelia
7:30 p.m.

Thursday Jan. 21: Tampa Ballet's Coppelia,
8:00 p.m.

Friday Jan. 22: Coppelia, 8:00 p.m.

Saturday Jan. 23: Coppelia, 8:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY

Thursday Feb. 18: Opening Night
Music Man 7:30 p.m.

Founders' Night

Saturday Feb. 20: Music Man, 8:00 p.m.

Sunday Feb. 21, Music Man, 2:00 p.m.

Saturday Feb. 27: Music Man, 8:00 p.m.

Sunday Feb. 28: Music Man, 2:00 p.m.

MARCH

Thursday Mar. 17: Opening Night
Chorus Line 7:30 p.m.

Founders Night

Saturday Mar. 19: Chorus Line, 8:00 p.m.

Sunday Mar. 20: Chorus Line, 2:00 p.m.

Saturday Mar. 26: Chorus Line, 8:00 p.m.

Sunday Mar. 27: Chrous Line, 8:00 p.m.

APRIL

Saturday Apr. 2: Stabat Mater, 8:00 p.m.

Saturday Apr. 16: Opening Night

Garden District, 8:00 p.m.

(*Festival of the Continents*)

Sunday Apr. 17: Garden District, 2:00 p.m.

Saturday Apr. 23: Garden District, 8:00 p.m.

Sunday Apr. 24: Garden District, 2:00 p.m.

Saturday Apr. 30: Garden District, 8:00 p.m.

MAY

Saturday May 14: Opening Night
The Magic Flute 8:00 p.m.

(*Festival of the Continents*)

Saturday May 21: The Magic Flute, 8:00 p.m.

Saturday May 28: The Magic Flute, 8:00 p.m.

INFORMATION

About Founders' Society, call Helga Bazo at 296-9081. Tickets and reservations call 294-6232.