



Village of Biscayne Park Commission Agenda Report

Village Commission Meeting Date: August 4, 2015

Subject: Pass a resolution indicating the Commission's desire that the Village of Biscayne Park become a member of the Florida Humanities Council

Prepared By: Commissioner Barbara Watts

Sponsored By: Commission

Background

With the completion of the Administration Annex Building and the Log Cabin's restoration, the Village of Biscayne Park will have a facility other than the Rec. Center for meetings, activities, and events. When residents have asked "For what will we use the Log Cabin?", the stock (and accurate reply) has been that Advisory Board, Commission meetings, and the like will be held there, thus "freeing" the Rec. Center for additional recreational activities, and that the Cabin may be rented on occasion for wedding parties . . . Beyond this, there has been talk of art exhibitions etc. which is fine, but to do exhibitions well requires a good number of people with expertise who have lots of time, and, of course, money. What to do?

I believe that we should make optimum use of the Log Cabin so as to enrich the cultural offerings the Village brings to its residents, but do so recognizing our limitations re: staff and resident time and the lack of funds for such endeavors (we cannot impinge upon funds designated for more pressing, practical matters). The Florida Humanities Council offers a solution to this dilemma: Currently, it offers programs that may enable the Village to offer cultural enrichment to its residents and, as well, to those of its neighboring communities. In the long run, programs offered through the Florida Humanities Council

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may provide the Village and its Log Cabin with a track record that will make possible larger projects, larger grant applications, and collaboration with significant South Florida arts and cultural institutions.

With the help of the Administration and, in at least one instance, the Biscayne Park Foundation, I would like the Village to engage in three initiatives that involve programs sponsored by the Florida Humanities Council:

1) To apply (through the Foundation) for a mini-grant (up to \$5,000) to fund a cultural program in celebration of the Log Cabin's restoration and re-opening. I am willing to write this application (as with the Miami-Dade Cultural Affairs grant for the Village's 75th Anniversary, I will need help from the Village Administration, the Foundation and those who help it so as to obtain the necessary financial information). Deadlines: Sept. 1 and Oct. 1.

2) To benefit from the Council's recently established "Speakers Bureau" Program, which provides funds for the engagement of scholars, journalists, actors, and others to provide lectures and/or performances on a host of topics related to the history and culture of Florida, past to present (as much as \$750 for each "program" (lectures or performances), three programs maximum). This requires that the applicant be a member of the FL Humanities Council, which costs \$75 per year. This is a timely matter as funds are limited, and are given on a first come first served basis. See below for a selection of speakers and their lecture titles that I've chosen from the Council's Speakers Bureau listing. I am willing to spearhead this project, but would appreciate help.

3) In the future, to apply to host one of the Council's cultural exhibitions through the Smithsonian Institution's "Museum on Main Street" program (MoMs), which offers a "free-standing Smithsonian exhibit," \$6,000 for programming and more, a privilege granted to only several applicants per year (this year's exhibition: "Water: Resource for Life"; deadline, July 3).

Fiscal / Budget Impact

\$75.00 per annum Florida Humanities Council membership, staff time, and depending upon activities, increase in utilities expenses, and perhaps, some funds for advertising.

Recommendation

Pass a resolution indicating the Commission's desire that the Village of Biscayne Park become a member of the Florida Humanities Council and its intent that the Village engage in efforts to make use of the opportunities it offers.

Attachments

Consult the Florida Humanities Council website: floridahumanities.org Click on the "Grants" and "Programs" links.

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From this website, "About Us": "Mission: "The Florida Humanities Council is dedicated to building strong communities and informed citizens by providing Floridians with the opportunity to explore the heritage, traditions and stories of our state and its place in the world.

Established in 1973, we are an independent, nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. We develop and fund public programs and resources around the state that explore Florida's history and cultural heritage, literary and artistic life, environment and development, issues and ideas, communities and traditions."

- **About the Florida Speakers Bureau from the Florida Humanities Council website.**
- **Grant information; John Stuart, Professor and Associate Dean for Cultural and Community Engagement**

About the Florida Speakers Bureau, from the Florida Humanities Council website:

Speakers Bureau

The Speakers Bureau provides funding to help local organizations around Florida bring high-quality humanities presenters to their communities. Organizations can book up to three programs per year and receive up to \$750 per program to help cover the expenses. The Speakers Bureau is a benefit offered to organizational members of the Florida Humanities Council. Becoming a member is easy and costs \$75 per year.

For the next several years, the Florida Humanities Council will explore the topic of water in our state. Water defines us as Floridians. From more than one thousand miles of coastline to our nearly nine thousand lakes and springs, water impacts our state no matter where we live. We invite you to join us in a discussion about how water impacts our state's history, culture, and future.

How it works:

- Join the Council! Access to the Speakers Bureau requires an [organizational membership](#) of \$75. For questions about membership, contact Barbara Bahr at 727-873-2003 or bbahr@flahum.org
- Browse our roster of programs or [pick a series](#) that's right for your organization
- Contact the speaker(s) to discuss program details (date, honoraria, equipment, etc.). In it up to you to negotiate the speaking fee. We do not set the honoraria rate with speakers.
- Submit an online Speakers Bureau application. Book one program or up to three. We will notify you within 2 weeks if the application has been approved.
- After successfully hosting your event, submit an online final report. A report must be submitted after each individual program.
- Upon approval of your final report, you will receive a reimbursement of up to \$750 per program.

Florida Humanities Council funds must be matched by the organization by an equal amount of cash and/or in-kind services. Approved matches include staff/volunteer time, equipment/facility usage, publicity, and other program-related expenses. We reserve the right to reject applications based on an organization's prior history. Funding is limited, so book your programs today!

Organization members can book up to three programs per year. Save time and book all at once! Choose from one of our themed series below or mix and match from our main roster.

This program requires an in-kind match, which I am told, usually is not a problem. In kind can be staff time, facility rental and the like.

My thought is to negotiate and propose three “programs” of differing subjects rather than a “themed series” so as to offer a wide variety of lectures. We might choose one historical lecture, one environmental, and another, perhaps an enactment. The Administration can determine the possible dates and these may determine the selected speakers, as the speakers will have their own schedules. My thought is to request three lectures (hoping for at least two) and offer one in January or early February, the next in late April or early May, and a third in late August/early September.

We might also reduce the amount of each Speaker’s fee by offering our hospitality. Many residents have spacious homes with spare bedrooms or bedroom suites. We might those who have space to offer to their hospitality to our out-of-town guests.

The Commission should decide how to proceed. I do not think that we have time to entrust this to an Advisory Board or form an ad hoc committee. I think that we should, individually, elicit thoughts of residents, identify six speakers/lectures in the different categories, and proceed ASAP.

I am willing organize this project or merely make the initial contact with the chosen speakers and get a sense of the person learn his/her fees and schedule etc. (I’ve experience with this)—whatever is the direction of the Administration and Commission, If the Mayor or another Commissioner would like to join me in this endeavor, that would be great, especially if his/her contribution would simplify matters, reduce my typing load, and reduce the burden on the Village Administration..

Below are some of the lectures (with descriptions) from the expansive FHC Speakers Bureau list that I think may be of interest to BP residents and others in the area. The short bio of each speaker played a significant role in my choices (will explain if asked)..

Majory Stoneman Douglas: A Life with the Everglades

Presented By Jack Davis

University of Florida historian Jack Davis draws on his award-winning biography to discuss the life and legacy of writer, feminist, and environmentalist Marjory Stoneman Douglas, recognized as a Great Floridian.

Dr. Jack E. Davis is a professor of environmental history and sustainable studies at the University of Florida. He is the author or editor of several books on Florida and is a frequent contributor to Forum. His latest book, *An Everglades Providence: Marjory Stoneman Douglas and the American Environmental Century*, won the gold medal in nonfiction from the Florida book awards. He is now writing *Gulf: The Making of an American Sea*, an environmental history of the U.S. Gulf region from geological formation to the present. The book builds on an article wrote for Forum, which was the recipient of two Charlie Awards.

Nature's Dozen: Key Moments in Florida's Environmental History

Presented By Jack Davis

University of Florida environmental historian Jack Davis offers a brief survey of Florida history—from the pre-Spanish period to the present—showing how nature has shaped the course of human events.

See bio. paragraph above.

Florida and the Gulf of Mexico: History, Wisdom, and Hope

Presented By Jack Davis

Drawing from his forthcoming book, *Gulf: The Making of an American Sea*, University of Florida history professor Jack E. Davis will talk about the role the Gulf of Mexico has played in the course of U.S. history. He is interested in the way people, from pre-Spanish natives to current shoreside residents, have organized their societies and individual lives around nature, and how Gulf nature has been a positive force in human events. Unfortunately, human activities have sometimes led to unintended consequences that have undermined the Gulf's beneficence.

See bio. paragraph above

RAIN: A history for stormy times

Presented By Cynthia Barnett

An engaging natural and cultural tour of RAIN, from its key roles in civilization, religion, and art; to the peculiar history of the world's first raincoat; to the rain obsessions of our "Founding Forecaster," Thomas Jefferson – all building to the uncharted rains of climate change. We'll also take a look at how many communities are coming to live differently with rain — as with all water, part of a new water ethic in America. Rain connects us in all sorts of ways – as profound as prayer and art, as practical as economics, as genuine as an exchange between strangers on a stormy day. Too much and not enough, rain is a shared experience, and one of the ways climate change can become a conversation rather than a confrontation.

Cynthia Barnett is a long-time journalist who has covered freshwater issues from the Suwannee River to Singapore. She is the author of three books on water. *Mirage: Florida and the Vanishing Water of the Eastern U.S.*, won the gold medal for best nonfiction in the Florida Book Awards and was named by The St. Petersburg Times as one of the top 10 books that every Floridian should read. *Blue Revolution: Unmaking America's Water Crisis*, was named one of the top 10 science books of 2011 by The Boston Globe.

The Globe calls Barnett “part journalist, part mom, part historian, and part optimist.” The Los Angeles Times writes that she “takes us back to the origins of our water in much the same way, with much the same vividness and compassion as Michael Pollan led us from our kitchens to potato fields and feed lots of modern agribusiness.” Barnett’s latest book, *Rain*, comes out in spring 2015.

Blue Revolution: A Water Ethic for Florida

Presented By Cynthia Barnett

Water defines us as Floridians no matter where we live: Idyllic beaches surround us on three sides. Rivers and streams flow for ten thousand miles through the peninsula. We’re blessed with nearly eight thousand lakes and a thousand more freshwater springs – the largest concentration of artesian springs in the world. Florida’s economy and idyllic lifestyle are built on a foundation of pure and plentiful water. Yet, for the first time in state history, the latest generation of Floridians has not inherited waters as clean and abundant as when they were born.

In her uplifting program *Blue Revolution: A Water Ethic for Florida*, journalist Cynthia Barnett shows audiences how one of the most water-rich states in the nation could come to face water scarcity and quality woes – and how it doesn’t have to be this way. With a shared ethic for water, Floridians come together to use less and pollute less. We live well with water today, in ways that don’t jeopardize fresh, clean water for our children, ecosystems, and businesses tomorrow.

See bio paragraph above.

Spies, Schemes, and the Sons of Liberty: The Shadier Side of East and West Florida during the American Revolution

Presented By Roger Smith

Did you know that the British royal governor of East Florida accused prominent men in the colony of holding a Sons of Liberty meeting? Or that during the American Revolution the British put plans in motion to literally steal the Mississippi River? These and other wild escapades of treason, revolutionary land schemes, spies, and espionage fill the annals of East and West Florida history throughout the Revolutionary War period. This discussion will introduce you to the shadier side of British occupation in Florida and how those instances impacted the nation’s fight for independence.

Dr. Smith received his Bachelor's Degree in History in 2006, a Master's Degree in American History in 2008, and a Ph.D. in Early American History and Atlantic World Studies, with a certificate of scholarship in Museum Studies, in 2011 – all from the University of Florida. His work on the American Revolution in the South has received the Aschoff Fellowship Dissertation Award and the Jack and Celia Proctor Award in Southern History. Dr. Smith's new book, *The Last Union Jack*, discusses the little-told story of British intention and military activity in the southern colonies from 1775 – 1780, as recorded from a British perspective.

Dr. Smith now represents the firm of Colonial Research Associates, Inc., and speaks across the South on his Revolutionary War research. His current projects include the new AMC television series *Turn*, a spy thriller set on Long Island, New York, in 1778. Dr. Smith provides historical research for Super Music Vision, the music production company for this and other AMC programs. You may also see Dr. Smith speak of Florida's Revolutionary War history in the PBS documentary, *America: the Prequel*, a four-part series on the 450-year history of the city of St. Augustine that is due out in the fall of 2014. Most recently, Dr. Smith is in the process of selecting several primary stories of interest from his book and reworking them into a series of 32-page "gift shop" booklets that are designed to reach a broad general audience and will include Core Curriculum requirements in the Humanities and Social Sciences for the State of Florida's public school systems. The first booklet in the series is called "The 14th Colony: George Washington's Planned Invasions of East Florida" and will be available by July 2014. Book two, "Hope of Freedom: Southern Blacks and the American Revolution" will be available by late summer/early fall.

The American Revolution's Best Kept Secret: Why East and West Florida Mattered

Presented By Roger Smith

Based on his award winner doctoral dissertation, Dr. Roger Smith shares newly recovered information concerning British intentions in the southern colonies during the American Revolution. Did you know that there was more than one British southern invasion, or that George Washington penned over 80 letters to his general staff and the Continental Congress about St. Augustine? Did you know that there were 34 colonies that comprised the British Americas, stretching from Nova Scotia in the North Atlantic to Grenada in the farthest reaches of the southern Caribbean—and when measured, the geographic center of this vast area is two miles north of the St. Johns River in present-day Jacksonville. Dr. Smith's research reveals that not only was the South crucial to the needs of the empire from 1775 on, but that East and West Florida played critical roles in these designs.

See above bio for Dr. Smith.

Spanish Colonial Foodways

Presented By Catherine Parker

Food is more than the stuff of life; it is an important part of our heritage and culture that defines us as a people. How do we know what we know about food in colonial Florida? Cathy Parker demonstrates for her audience how information from the written historical record, together with evidence from the archaeological record, has answered this question time after time—giving us a more complete picture, for example, of early life in la Florida. She shows that careful comparison of archaeological evidence—in the form of bones, shells, and burned seeds; with appropriate documentary evidence—in the form of letters, inventories, requisitions, and church records—is very much like solving a mystery or a puzzle. Cathy presents examples of foods the colonial settlers craved, compared to what they actually had to eat (if they were lucky!). She also recreates the standard European military ration, which, with few minor changes, would be readily recognized as “home cooking” by any soldier in the 15th – 19th centuries. Handouts with recipes will be provided, and questions are encouraged.

Catherine B. Parker earned both a bachelor’s degree in Anthropology and a master’s degree in Historical Archaeology from the University of West Florida in Pensacola. Since the late 1990s, Cathy has worked for the Archaeology Institute at UWF as their faunal analyst, identifying and studying animal remains excavated from archaeological sites. As most of these are bones and shells which represent discarded food remains, she naturally became interested in the diets of both indigenous peoples and the “newcomers”—primarily colonial settlers of European, Mexican, and African backgrounds. She shares her knowledge and enthusiasm for her profession with archaeology students, at public events and seminars in the Pensacola area, at professional conferences, and has contributed to three scholarly publications and numerous archaeological reports.

The Scent of Scandal: Inside the Wild World of Orchid-Smuggling

Presented By Craig Pittman

Orchid collectors are the folks who put the “cult” in “horticulture.” The proof: The discovery of a spectacular new orchid from South America leads to black market sales in Miami at a price of \$10,000 a plant and then to a grand jury investigation in Tampa that ensnares one of the state’s tourist attractions. Truly one of the weirdest “weird Florida” stories ever, and it’s all true.

Award-winning author and journalist Craig Pittman is a native Floridian. Born in Pensacola, he graduated from Troy State University in Alabama, where his muckraking work for the student paper prompted an agitated dean to label him “the most destructive force on campus.” Since then he has covered a variety of newspaper beats and quite a few natural disasters, including hurricanes, wildfires and the Florida Legislature. Since 1998, he has covered environmental issues for Florida’s largest newspaper, the Tampa Bay Times, winning state and national awards. He’s the co-author, with Matthew Waite, of *Paving Paradise: Florida’s Vanishing Wetlands* and the *Failure of No Net Loss*, (2009) and the author of *Manatee Insanity: Inside the War Over Florida’s Most Famous Endangered Species* (2010), and, most recently, *The Scent of Scandal: Greed, Betrayal, and the World’s Most Beautiful Orchid*. He currently lives in St. Petersburg.

When Manatees Were Sea Cows: How Floridians Coped When Times Were Hard

Presented By Janie Gould

This program explores some of the inventive ways in which Floridians survived during the Great Depression and later in the 20th century. The presentation will focus primarily on food, especially items not generally consumed today, such as sandhill cranes, gopher tortoises, raccoons and armadillos. It will also include a woman's memories of how her unemployed father was able to put food on the table during the Great Depression by collecting Spanish moss and selling it for use as mattress stuffing. Most of the people whose voices will be heard reside on the Treasure Coast, but the topic has general interest.

Janie Gould, a fourth-generation Floridian, lives in Vero Beach. She is a writer, editor, lecturer and retired public radio journalist. She created and produced the Floridays show for WQCS, the NPR member station for the Treasure Coast. Her Floridays segments on Florida history and culture were also carried on the statewide public radio show, Florida Frontiers. She received numerous awards from the Associated Press, and the Florida Historical Society selected her to receive the Hampton Dunn Radio Broadcast Award in 2007. She has published two books, *Floridays: Stories From Under the Sun, Vols. 1 and 2*. Her third book, *Food for Floridays: Stories and Recipes*, is due out in November. She is a board member of Vero Heritage, Inc., a former president of the Indian River County Historical Society, and a former board member of the Florida Historical Society.

The Immortal Fountain: The Fountain of Youth in Florida's History, Mythology and Art

Presented By Mallory O'Connor

The story of the Fountain of Youth has proved to be amazingly long-lived and multi-cultural, beginning with the accounts of Herodotus who described a fountain located in Ethiopia that was reputed to give exceptional longevity to those who bathed in its waters. Myths of a magical fountain also appear in the Alexander Romances and in popular culture throughout Asia. A similar story of a legendary fountain was circulated among the indigenous people of the Caribbean and recounted in Antonio de Herrera's chronicle of the voyage of Ponce de León published in the early 1600s. Among the many storied locations of the Fountain, Florida is definitely high on the list of possibilities.

O'Connor explores the connection between the fabled Fountain of Youth and the development of Florida as a land where dreams come true and people can reinvent themselves. Works of art—both traditional and popular—provide the framework for an intriguing look into the heart of Florida's self-image.

Mallory O'Connor is a Professor Emerita of Art History at Santa Fe College. She has been involved in numerous exhibits on Florida, including: Florida Before Columbus, Opening the Door to a New World: Mark Catesby in La Florida, and The Great Alachua Savanna: A Visual History of Paynes Prairie. Currently, she is working on a book and an art exhibition focusing on the Fountain of Youth in Florida history, mythology and art.

The Highwaymen: Florida's African-American Landscape Painters

Presented By Gary Monroe

This lively PowerPoint-assisted talk relates the story of these now-acclaimed artists, who taught themselves to paint idyllic versions of the Florida landscape and sell their creations door-to-door during the height of the Civil Rights Movement. Their paintings have become the measure of indigenous Florida art and are now celebrated and widely collected. Having written the seminal book that introduced the Highwaymen to the world, Mr. Monroe successfully nominated them into the Florida Artists Hall of Fame.

When Gary Monroe isn't traveling the world to photograph, he spends his time looking at life in Florida through his photography and his writings. His imagery and his literary works have been recognized by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, Florida Department of State's Division of Cultural Affairs, Florida Humanities Council, and the Fulbright Foundation. His long-term photography projects include Miami's old-world Jewish community, Haiti and Haitian immigration, and tourism in the Sunshine State.

Focusing on self-taught and vernacular art, Mr. Monroe began his literary pursuits with *The Highwaymen: Florida's African-American Landscape Painters* (UPF, 2001). In this book, he told the story of these painters and offers a fresh interpretation of their art. Consequently, public interest in these compelling, but forgotten, artists was revived. The *New York Times* wrote a Lively Arts front-page article about the book, saying that "These colorful landscapes... shaped the state's popular image as much as oranges and alligators." In subsequent books, including *Harold Newton: The Original Highwayman* and *The Highwaymen Murals: Al Black's Concrete Dreams*, Mr. Monroe continued to tell this inspiring story. Additionally, he has brought the Highwaymen story to the citizenry of Florida through some 250 public lectures. Based on his nomination, these painters were inducted into the Florida Artists Hall of Fame in 2004. He has written other books about Florida art, including *Extraordinary Interpretations: Self-taught Florida Artists* (2003), *Silver Springs: the Underwater Photographs of Bruce Mozert* (2008), and *Florida's American Heritage River: Images from the St. Johns Region* (2009).

Florida History from Palmetto-Leaves to The Yearling to River of Grass

Presented By Betty Jean Steinshouer

Experience Florida through the milieu of three women authors, in character and costume: Harriet Beecher Stowe, Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings, and Marjory Stoneman Douglas. Each wrote a book that put Florida on the map – in 1873, 1938, and 1947, respectively.

- **Harriet Beecher Stowe in Florida: 1866-1884** Little-known facts about Mrs. Stowe's work for the Freedmans Bureau and her family's activities during the Civil War, including the Battle of Olustee. Illuminates discussion of the Reconstruction Era and its aftermath in Florida and the Sea Islands of Georgia and South Carolina
- **Marjory Stoneman Douglas: Reclaiming Florid** From her first glimpse of Florida light in 1891, when she was a toddler, to her death in 1998 at age 108, the woman known as the "matriarch of the Everglades" wrote volumes in addition to the River of Grass book. She wrote about hurricanes, trees, flowers, and "the long frontier" of Florida history.
- **Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings and 75 Years of THE YEARLING** Can it really be that long since Jody Baxter came into the America imagination? The book that won the Pulitzer Prize in 1939 will be the focus of a Florida history lesson – set in 1871, it tells of Cracker life immediately after the Civil War.

Betty Jean Steinshouer has been doing public programs and teacher seminars for the Florida Humanities Council since 1989 and has toured 43 other states for the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Big Read program of the National Endowment for the Arts. She is a Fellow in the Florida Studies program at the University of South Florida and portrays Marjory Stoneman Douglas in the "Dreamers and Schemers" trio that includes Henry Flagler and Gov. Napoleon Bonaparte Broward.

Global Events That Touched Florida: Great Depression through Cold War

Presented By Janie Gould

This program explores Floridians' memories of U-boat attacks, German POWs, the Cold War, Cuban Missile Crisis, and more, using excerpts from her Floridays shows first heard on public radio station WQCS/88.9 FM, Fort Pierce. In one excerpt, a man talks his father's poker game that was rattled by a submarine blast 15 miles away, off Jupiter Island. In another, a Florida resident talks about his first visit to the state, when he was a German prisoner of war at Camp

Blanding. Another man remembers planning for Soviet missile attacks during the Cold War. An African-American man, now retired from the Army, remembers being personally affected by racial segregation in Florida during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

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The African Presence in Spanish Florida: Black Seminoles

Presented By Rosalyn Howard

African slaves have often risked life and limb to escape southern slavery, but their options for sanctuary were extremely limited. Some fled to the Caribbean, while others fled south and joined forces with another group of freedom-seekers: the Seminoles. Dr. Rosalyn Howard will examine the African influence on Florida's iconic tribe, as well as the related Caribbean diaspora.

Professor Rosalyn Howard is Associate Professor of Anthropology and Director of the North American Indian Studies Program at the University of Central Florida. She specializes in Cultural Anthropology and her primary area of research is ethnohistorical studies of the African Diaspora with a focus on the interrelationships formed by African and Indigenous peoples in the

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Dr. Smith received his Bachelor's Degree in History in 2006, a Master's Degree in American History in 2008, and a Ph.D. in Early American History and Atlantic World Studies, with a certificate of scholarship in Museum Studies, in 2011 – all from the University of Florida. His work on the American Revolution in the South has received the Aschoff Fellowship Dissertation Award and the Jack and Celia Proctor Award in Southern History. Dr. Smith's new book, *The Last Union Jack*, discusses the little-told story of British intention and military activity in the southern colonies from 1775 – 1780, as recorded from a British perspective.

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Mini-Grant

Through the Foundation, I would apply for a mini-grant to engage a speaker(s) and, if the grant allows it, musicians to mark the Log Cabin's restoration. The advantage of this grant is that, to my knowledge, it is not a matching one—so the Village will not have to expend its own funds for the event (food and beverages, of course, are not within the grant's parameters).

My thought is to ask Mr. R.J. Heisenbottle, who is overseeing the restoration to speak about the restoration itself and to enjoin Prof. John Stuart, Professor and Associate Dean for Cultural and Community Engagement of FIU's College of Architecture and the Art. Prof. Stuart is co-editor of [The New Deal in South Florida: Design, Policy and Community Building, 1933-40](#) (Gainesville, University of Florida, 2008) and well equipped to place the Log Cabin in its historical and architectural context. If Prof. Stuart is not willing or available, I will ask another scholar, if not an architectural historian, an historian who specializes in early 20th century America.

If the grant will permit this (the person who oversees this grant has been on vacation for the past few weeks and will not return to work 'till early August), I will include a funding request for a musical performance of music from the era, notably popular classical music from the era, such as works by Aaron Copeland's (*Fanfare for the Common Man, Appalachian Spring, El Salon Mexico*) and George Gershwin (*Porgy and Bess, Rhapsody in Blue, Of the I Sing*) and/or jazz, and/or some music from the Afro-Cubanismo movement of the 1920s-30s, such as works by Amadeo Roldan (*Overture on Cuban Themes*) or by Alejandro Garcia Caturia (*Obertura cubana*). My thought is to contact the North Miami Community Band, as it provided a fine performance for the Village's 75th Anniversary or the Gold Coast Jazz Society and/or Ted Grossman of WLRN's *Night Train* for suggestions as to musicians who perform works from the 1920s-40s, and, if necessary, faculty from FIU's School of Music.

Back-up to the back-up:

John Stuart's Bio from FIU's CARTA website:

John Stuart, Professor and Associate Dean for Cultural and Community Engagement

John is a registered architect and principal of John Stuart Architecture with research interests focused on architectural design, its contexts, and its impact. He is currently a 2007-08 New York Prize Fellow at the Van Alen Institute. During his residency at the institute he will develop

“TimeZone,” a built project intended to empower communication between diverse people in public spaces in an effort to address global poverty and the “digital divide.”

In addition to his design work, Stuart has written Paul Scheerbart, *The Gray Cloth*, Paul Scheerbart’s *Novel on Glass Architecture* (Cambridge, Mass.: The MIT Press, 2001); Ely Jacques Kahn, *Architect: Beaux-Arts to Modernism in New York* (New York: W. W. Norton, 2006) with Jewel Stern, and edited *The Journal of Architectural Education: Gender and Architecture* (ACSA, 2002). His most recent book, *The New Deal in South Florida: Design, Policy and Community Building, 1933–1940* (Gainesville: The University Press of Florida, 2008) was co-edited with political scientist and FIU professor John Stack.

Professor Stuart’s research has been supported by grants and fellowships from the Graham Foundation for Advanced Study of the Fine Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, The National Endowment for the Humanities, The National Science Foundation, and a Wolfsonian Research Fellowship. He won the 2004 Miami American Institute of Architects Award for Design Excellence for his project “Time Zone,” the chapter’s highest award.

His designs are part of the permanent collection of the Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library at Columbia University. In 2003 he was a visiting associate professor at Columbia University’s Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation and has served as a guest critic on design reviews at Cornell, Harvard, Yale, RISD, University of Michigan, University of Florida, University of Miami, and FAU, among others.

Stuart has undergraduate degrees in classics and applied mathematics from Brown University, a graduate degree in classical archaeology from Princeton University, and completed his professional architecture degree at Columbia University.

He currently serves as chair of the FIU Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Building and the Environment and is a member of the FIU President’s Climate Commitment Task Force.

Description of [The New Deal in South Florida: Design, Policy and Community Building, 1933-40 from Amazon.com:](#)

Review

"A valuable study of how national policy was translated into social and cultural realities in one of America's most unique landscapes and what that local transformation tells us about the limits and achievements of national reform efforts." - Carroll Van West, Middle Tennessee State University"

Book Description

Reveals how the New Deal made Florida what it is today "A valuable study of how national policy was translated into social and cultural realities in one of America's most unique landscapes and what that local transformation tells us about the limits and achievements of national reform efforts."--Carroll Van West, Middle Tennessee State University The New Deal sought to restore national economic strength in part by reallocating resources and restructuring local landscapes. Few parts of the country were transformed as significantly as South Florida. Blurring the traditional disciplinary boundaries of design

history and political science, the contributors to *The New Deal in South Florida* explore the impact of a wide variety of New Deal projects on the region. They examine letters and photographs--many never before published--public murals, housing, parks, and architectural and community design. Heavily illustrated, this book offers historians and enthusiasts of Florida history a unique perspective on South Florida's growth during the 1930s. It reveals how Coral Gables, Miami Beach, Miami, and other communities were permanently altered by the impact of New Deal programs. It also reveals hidden gems of architecture and visual art that still exist today. Editors John Stuart and John Stack's work highlights the importance of New Deal projects to the area's development into one of the nation's premier urban districts and tourist destinations.