

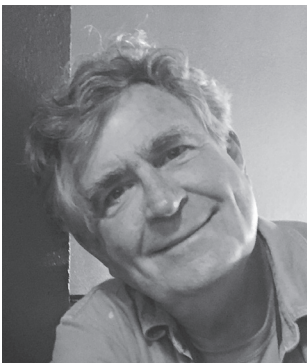
THE NEWS PACKET



The News Packet

www.thebarnacle.org

Winter 2019



My View from the Porch

By John Palenchar, President

Fall is here (well, almost)! As I sit here in my rocker on the Barnacle porch, gazing down the lawn toward the sparkling bay, my eye wanders to our newly-restored Barnacle Boathouse, glistening in its fresh coat of "Flagler Yellow" paint. It's been over a year since a derelict shrimp boat tore up our dock then smashed into the Boathouse, taking out its front doors, ripping up its flooring, then working its way down the side, stripping the siding and finally ending up, literally at the "end of its tether" between the back of the Boathouse and the Micco Pavilion—its next "target." (The shrimper's "anchor" is still visible at the base of the Boathouse bulkhead, where it hung up, thankfully arresting its progress and sparing the Pavilion!)

Now our treasured Barnacle and the Boathouse are ready for the long-awaited fire-suppression (aka "sprinkler") system which we, The Barnacle Society, have worked so long and hard to fund. It is because of the generosity and inventiveness of you, our members, that this is about to become a reality! From individual donations, large and small, to Charitable Foundation matching grants, to member-funded (you know who you are!) matching grants, we have slowly but surely put together the **\$114,566** dollars to fund this much-needed project. The nightmare of a catastrophic fire will be put to rest!!

But never fear, there is still work to be done! We still have no dock, which is such a key element of the "fabric" of The Barnacle. The story of this historic property and its owner, Commodore Munroe, cannot be told without its link to Biscayne Bay and the beautiful boats which he is renowned for designing. We also need to rebuild our Pavilion which serves so many functions and is currently loosely cobbled back together but nowhere near its former functionality. Two victims of Irma still awaiting rescue!

So....there's work being done and work to be done. But meanwhile we have our beautiful Barnacle to enjoy and great events in the offing—**"Shakespeare in The Park"** in January, the **Washington's Birthday Regatta** in February and the **Commodore's Birthday Party** in March! Throw in our monthly Moonlight Concert Series and a couple of free movies by the Coconut Grove BID, and we have some fun times ahead! Let's all enjoy this wonderful jewel, The Barnacle, and **encourage our friends to become members of our Barnacle Society!** It really doesn't hurt to ask and there is "strength in numbers!"

Cheers!



The Boathouse

A Walk in the Park

By Katrina A. Boler, Park Manager

Although this article is for the Winter edition the weather outside definitely has the feeling of summer days! However, the sky is an autumn sapphire blue and the grass a brilliant green ~ as life in the park goes on.

Park staff was quite busy this past quarter as our event season fell into full swing ~ concerts and movies, as well as the park's fourth *Owl-o-ween* celebrating all things owl. This year we were happy to welcome Zoo Miami Ambassadors Tweak, the Eastern Screech Owl and Rob Lara. October marked the four-season partnership with *The Haunted Ballet* and we are again very pleased with the community's response for this beautifully creative event. We also had the opportunity to host Derek Hankerson's documentary on the Gullah Geechee Corridor. It was well-

received and we're planning another program with him in February ~ so stay tuned! You might have noticed that there was no *Mad Hatter Arts Festival* this season. The Festival Committee postponed it due to the construction going on around the park. Word has it that Mad Hatter will be back with us this coming March...so expect some March Madness!

There are so many wonderful events coming up this next quarter, so check out the Calendar of Events for your favorites and choose a couple of new ones to try. We're really excited that Florida Shakespeare Theatre returns in January with three performances of their production of *Romeo & Juliette*. The costumes are fabulous!

Washington's Birthday Regatta is also on the horizon and we're busily planning that weekend of events. You may have noticed an extra series of movies this past season. Coconut

Grove BID offered free Movies in the Park June through September. The series was such a success that BID will offer three more movies this coming season, the Fourth Friday of December, January, and February.

It is not too early to reserve Saturday, March 30 ~ to join us in celebration at the Commodore's Birthday Party. Make plans now to attend.

The Barnacle received a grant from the Villagers and a challenge grant from the Clinton Family Fund and an Anonymous donor for the Fire Suppression System for The Barnacle and the Boathouse. These very generous grants have helped us meet our funding goal and installation of the system is set to begin very soon.

Bookmark The Barnacle Society's website www.TheBarnacle.org to keep up with what is happening next at YOUR state park!

What is Going On at The Barnacle: Your Money at Work

By Sheryl Weir-Latty

The Barnacle Society is dedicated and vigilant in our efforts to guard, protect, and maintain the treasure, The Barnacle House, in the heart of Coconut Grove. We continue to assist and provide the much-needed funding for all projects. With the assistance of you, our Barnacle Society members, we were able to complete the Fire Suppression System. The cost was approximately \$122,000.00. You completed the project. Thank you. Your generous donations and participation at all our events made this possible.

We ask for your continued support, as we begin to prepare for our upcoming projects. The effects of Hurricane Irma are still visible at The Barnacle. We are eager to wipe these visible remnants away. Therefore, the upcoming projects are: the dock, the pavilion, and the soil erosion around the house.

Come out and support our events. Donations are also graciously accepted at any time of year. Once again, THANK YOU!



On the Waterfront

By Bill Tenney

Egret was taken out of the water on August 6, and has been under tarps at Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park since then. During this time, extensive work, mostly painting, has been done on *Egret* to ensure that she is well-maintained and looking good. Jason Biondi, Lee Taylor, and John Retwoski

were very helpful to me. Also, Michael Laas painted the *Proa*.

Hurricane season ended on November 30. It is time for *Egret* to go back into the water, and return to her mooring in front of The Barnacle. The day selected is Wednesday, December 5, and the Maritime volunteers have been notified accordingly. We can always depend on the Coconut Grove Sailing Club to be of assistance. We

thank them, and all of our volunteers.

As you know, our dock was destroyed by Hurricane Irma. Now that the Boat House repairs have been completed, we can turn our attention to the dock. There are two questions. Should we put a new dock on the old pilings, or go to something completely new like a floating dock? Either way, the new dock will be expensive. Fundraising efforts are being planned.

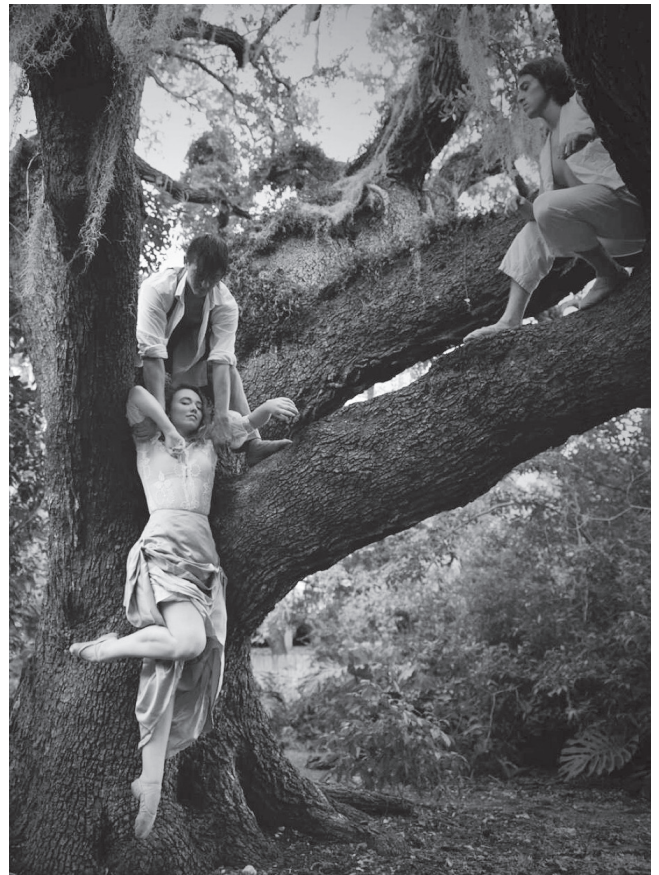
The Haunted Ballet

By Crystal Peattie

I came up with the idea to create a contemporary dance performance inside a haunted hotel and take people on a journey throughout the space to witness the dances or the ghost stories of the spirits that “lived” in the hotel. That was four years ago. The idea is real and has come to life. This year was the 4th year we produced The Haunted Ballet at The Barnacle Historic State Park. Every year has taken on its own feeling, proving that this property never disappoints when we go looking for new inspiration to draw from. The topography itself, this amazing house, shaped like an octagon on the inside, sandwiched between and winding pathway that is one of the last hammocks in Coconut Grove and the water’s edge of Biscayne Bay.

The story of Ralph Munroe’s life is nothing short of spectacular and even more, the events that transpired on and around this land before him, from shipwrecked pirates to the Seminole Wars, provide endless amounts of content to create from. What I think is the most beautiful part of it all is that we are just telling the stories of the land. It’s nothing new, it’s not innovative, but it’s honest and familiar to a land that is a true gem in the middle of the hustle and the bustle of the Magic City.

I must note that the community that surrounds the Barnacle from Katrina, the park manager, to the team of rangers, to the volunteers and the people who faithfully attend all of The Barnacle’s special events, are all a special bunch. It’s apparent that what Ralph Munroe built here is magical. His legacy lives on through those who are drawn to this property because of the intention and love and the dedication he had to this unique community of Coconut Grove. I will forever be grateful to the entire Barnacle community for supporting my vision, being open to art, as I think, I hope, Ralph would be pleased if he were here today.



Volunteer Spotlight: Jason Biondi

By Sheryl Weir-Latty

More valuable than money is human capital. The time and effort that our volunteers give is priceless. Jason Biondi continues to provide his skills and time to us. He and friends Michael Laas and Sanna O'Sullivan sail the South Sea Island style proa that we have at The Barnacle, and he assists with 28' *Egret* moored off-shore. We put tarps over the cockpits to keep the rain out. He also took the masts off the cabin top and put them on sawhorses alongside *Egret*, allowing us to inspect the masts and rigging and make repairs or improvements, if needed. We want to take this time to shine a spotlight on Jason Biondi, our Winter Issue volunteer.

Jason Biondi, THANK YOU!



A Classic Movie Night-My Fair Lady

By Vicki Katz

On Sunday November 4, we watched *My Fair Lady*. It won eight academy awards and is considered by many as one of the best films ever. It was produced in 1964 and starred Audrey Hepburn and Rex Harrison. Did you know that the title, *My Fair Lady*, comes from the children's song, "London Bridge is Falling Down?"

What a beautiful night it was for The Barnacle Society members to enjoy a classic movie. This is one of the member benefits we enjoy at The Barnacle Historic State Park. We sat on chairs or on blankets under the stars. The music made us want to jump up and dance. There was popcorn and candy. What more could we ask for?

In the past we have watched other classics like *On the Waterfront*, *Picnic*, and *Never on Sunday*. If you have any suggestions, please let us know.

Our next Starlight Movie Classic is on Sunday, March 3, 2019. Remember to use your coupon from the News Packet for a free popcorn.



A Gift to our Loyal Readers

Present this card at any of our events
for a free bag of popcorn.

One popcorn per event.

Three bags of popcorn on us.



Calendar of Upcoming Events: Winter 2018-2019

Friday, December 28

Gates open at 6:00 p.m.; Movie begins at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 12

Gates open 6:00 p.m.; Music at 7:00 p.m.

Friday - Sunday, January 18-20

Friday & Saturday 8:00 p.m.; Sunday 7:00p.m.

Friday, January 25

Gates open at 6:00 p.m.; Movie begins at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 9

Gates open 6:00 p.m.; Music at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 16

Gates open at 6:00 p.m.; Film begins at 7:00 p.m.

Friday, February 22

Gates open at 6:00 p.m.; Movie begins at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 23

10:30 a.m.

12:00 noon

5:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 24

11:00 a.m.

Sunday, March 3

Gates open at 6:00 p.m.; Movie begins at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 9

Gates open 6:00 p.m.; Music at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday, March 16 & 17

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Saturday, March 16

Gates open at 7:00 p.m.; Movie begins at 8:00 p.m.

No admittance after 8:15 p.m.

Sunday, March 30

5:30 p.m.

Movies in the Park Family Movie
Rise of The Guardians

Barnacle under Moonlight Concert
Andro Baudelaire

Shakespeare in the Park
Romeo & Juliette

Movies in the Park Family Movie
The Incredibles 2

Barnacle under Moonlight Concert
Keith Johns

Derek Hankerson Documentary
TBA

Movies in the Park Family Movie
Hotel Transylvania 3

Washington's Birthday Regatta
Skippers' Meeting
Regatta on the Bay
Chowder Party & Awards

Washington's Birthday Regatta
News Packet Fun Sail on the Bay

Starlight Movie Classics
TBA

Barnacle under Moonlight Concert
American Darling Valve

Mad Hatter Arts Festival
Music ~ Art ~ Fun!

Movie Night at The Barnacle
Alice in Wonderland

Commodore's Birthday Party
RSVP required ~ see website for details



Yoga by the Sea continues each Monday and Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

**with the exception of Monday, January 21 ~ MLK Day
and from December 24 through December 31

Events sponsored by The Barnacle Society raise funds to support The Barnacle. Picnics, blankets, and lawn chairs are welcome but please no pets at evening events. Service animals are welcome at all times. Accessible facilities are available.

For more information, call 305-442-6866 or visit www.TheBarnacle.org



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Park Hours

Open:

**Friday, Saturday,
Sunday and Monday**

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Wednesday

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Thursday

9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Closed:

Tuesday, News Year's,
Thanksgiving,
and Christmas Days

Guided Tours

10, 11:30 a.m., 1 and 2:30 p.m.

Group Tours

with two-week advance reservations
are welcome Wednesday, Thursday
305-442-6866

**[https://www.FloridaStateParks.org/
Park/The-Barnacle](https://www.FloridaStateParks.org/Park/The-Barnacle)**

About This Newsletter

The News Packet was created to inform members and public about The Barnacle Society, The Barnacle Historic State Park, and events and activities there. It's published quarterly by The Barnacle Society as part of its continuing program to support and preserve the home of Commodore Ralph Middleton Munroe. *The News Packet* represents the method of mail and news delivery before the turn of the 20th century. A small boat sailed to Fowey Rocks Light and received a "packet" of newspapers and mail from passing coastal sailing ships bound for Key West or Jacksonville.

Sheryl Weir-Latty & Bill Tenney, Editors

Mission Statement

The Barnacle Society, Inc. is a volunteer non-profit, citizen-supported organization created to generate public awareness, education, and financial support for the preservation and maintenance of The Barnacle Historic State Park.