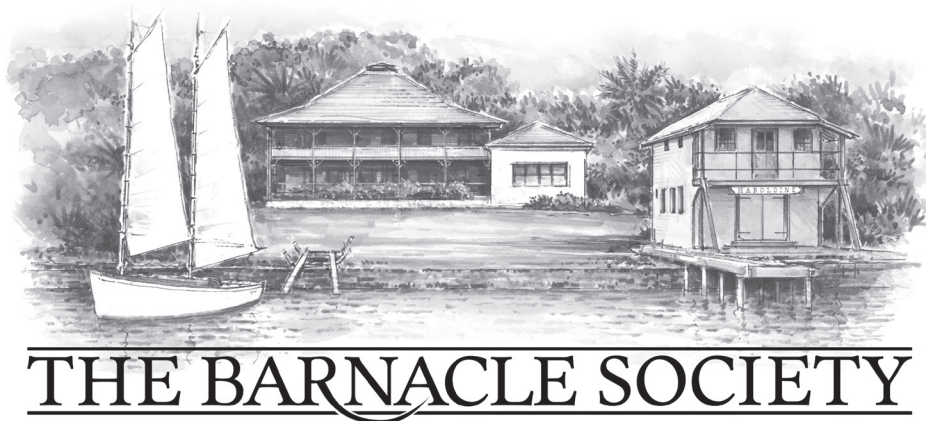


The News Packet

Autumn 2019



My View from the Porch

By John Palenchar, President

If you visited The Barnacle on Labor Day weekend, you might have thought you were in a Ghost Town. There were no interpretive signs along the driveway, no welcoming

benches or patio furniture on the lawn, and even my favorite vantage point, the front porch, was wrapped in black hurricane screen. The park was fully prepared for Hurricane Dorian—which, thankfully, gave us a miss.

It takes a full-court press of Park Staff and Volunteers to “batten down” The Barnacle “hatches”—many, many hours of hard work and gallons of sweat, which brings me to this issue’s topic—**volunteers**. I know that our Barnacle Society members have many talents, and the

Park can surely use them. Whether it’s greeting visitors in the Gift Shop, giving house tours, or performing simple maintenance jobs, help is needed and most welcomed. If you have some time to give, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, **Debra Wellins**, at debrawellins@gmail.com. I will attest that volunteering at our wonderful Barnacle is satisfying and fun!

Speaking of fun, our Events Season has begun. Check our website, thebarnacle.org, for dates and times, and come out and enjoy the park.

Before I sign off, I encourage each one of you to mark your calendars for this year’s **Give Miami Day—November 21, 2019**. This is an excellent opportunity to support The Barnacle Society and participate in a great day of giving to not-for-profit community organizations such as ours. Last year we raised over \$5,000, and we hope to top that this year. We can do it with your help.

As the weather cools, come and enjoy this beautiful place that we call The Barnacle and the fantastic view from the porch! You will be glad you did.

Spirits Rise Again, and Again, at The Haunted Ballet

By Bill Kress

The spirits of a bygone era, haunting the lands of The Grove, were summoned to The Barnacle October 17-20, for The Haunted Ballet 2019.

Presented in an open walk-thru concept on the grounds of The Barnacle, audience members watched in awe as the troupe of dancers played out their stories beneath the moonlit sky while trying to escape their tragic endings, night after magical night.

Produced by Center Street Projects, various dances choreographed by a group of Miami’s most talented artists were performed throughout the five-acre property, home of Commodore Ralph Munroe. Dancers were cast as fictional characters based on the history of Coconut Grove, specifically between the late 1800s and early 1900s.

One of several amazing events hosted at The Barnacle, word of this amazing spectacle quickly spread, resulting in sell-out performances each night.

ABOUT THE PRODUCER: Producer of The Haunted Ballet, Center Street Projects, is committed to producing original work that encourages collaboration of artists from different platforms and genres. They provide professional opportunities for artists to connect with their community through outreach as well. Initiating relationships through Center Street Projects’ productions is how they help to unify and promote our community of artists.



Each year, *The Haunted Ballet* graces the “stage” over a four-day period at Coconut Grove’s most historic site, *The Barnacle Estate*.

Sawdust and Shavings

By John Palenchar

Commodore Munroe was a salvor. In his biography, *The Commodore's Story*, Munroe refers to the many wrecks he salvaged, including *City of Alexandria*, *Ingrid*, and *Haroldine*. Continuing in the Commodore's tradition, The Barnacle Boathouse crew has retrieved all of the original floorboards from the recently renovated Barnacle front porch. These inch-thick boards are from our native Dade County pine forests, remnants of which can now be found only in our local, state, and national protected areas. The sawdust of this resinous, durable, and extremely dense material still exudes the rich pine aroma of the day it was harvested—over 100 years ago!

The Boathouse Crew is busy crafting camp stools, a table, and small sea chests made from "treasure wood." They are hoping to offer some of these items for sale. If you pass by the Boathouse on a Wednesday or Saturday, and it smells like someone just spilled a bottle of "Pine-Sol," you will know that it's only the Boathouse Crew at work, repurposing our salvaged treasure. To become part of our endeavors, walk into the park any Wednesday or Saturday and join the fun!



Dade County Pine Folding Table



Sea Chest and Camp Stools

Volunteer Spotlight: Jim Stamps

By John Palenchar

Meet Jim Stamps, this issue's featured Barnacle Volunteer! Jim began volunteering some six years ago, helping Park Staff set up for events. He then began helping with cataloging the many documents in The Barnacle collections, using his photography skills to photo-document the hundreds of items related to Commodore Munroe. This sparked his curiosity in the history of early Coconut Grove and its residents, so Jim began giving tours of The Barnacle, which he continues to do to this day. To date, Jim has graciously given over 1,550 volunteer hours at The Barnacle. If you want to have a good "gam" about early Grove history, come join Jim on The Barnacle front porch. You'll be glad you did!



Meet a Board Member

Featured board member: **Bill Tenney**

Bill Tenney was born in Northern Wisconsin but grew up in West Palm Beach, Florida. In 1955, Bill graduated from Palm Beach High School and went to the University of Florida, where he graduated with a degree in English. In 1960, he went to work as a Florida State Probation and Parole Officer in Bartow, and in 1963 he was transferred to Miami.

Bill's boss was the Chief Probation and Parole Officer for South Florida and was a friend of the Munroe family. He introduced Bill to Wirth and Mary Munroe at The Barnacle. Mr. Tenney met his wife at The Barnacle. They sailed off on their honeymoon from The Barnacle. In 1971, Bill accepted a job to work for the United States Parole Commission; he relocated to Washington D.C.

Bill Tenney retired in 1994 and returned to Miami. By then, The Barnacle had become a State Park. He joined The Barnacle Society and became a member of the Board of Directors. Bill Tenney served as Chair of the Maritime Committee, Co-Editor of *The News Packet*, and Captain of **Egret**. Bill shares, "*The Barnacle holds a special place in my heart, as it does, I'm sure, in the hearts of many others.*"



Bill on the Egret



Nora and Bill



Bill in Boca Chita

How can I help The Barnacle?

We all love The Barnacle, but for one reason or another, we may not have the ability or time to volunteer. Don't be dismayed, you can still help us preserve the best back yard in Miami. Here is how you can still help. On November 21, be part of the biggest annual giving event in the United States, **Give Miami Day**. Throughout the day you can make a charitable gift directly on givemiamiday.org. As you plan for the Future, remember the Past. Please consider The Barnacle Society in your Estate Planning or when updating your Will. Your collective support and contributions have helped us preserve history and the beauty of The Barnacle for all to enjoy. Thank you for your generous support that allows us to generate public awareness, education, and provide financial support for the preservation and maintenance of The Barnacle Historic State Park.



A Walk in the Park

By Katrina A. Boler, Park Manager

It's a gray day in the park today ~ a welcome change from the hot summer sun. It seems someone forgot to tell Old Sol that it's autumn and to tone it down a bit! There's a moment of magic in the park before the gates open, and the Village

really wakes up, when the air is filled with sounds of nature ~ plip, plip, plip from heavy dew or rain falling from the leaves and impassioned voices as one bird after another, followed by squirrels, gleefully call out as if their Maker is calling roll. "Here. Here. Here I am!" And life in the Park goes on.

Summer has been rather busy between events and watching for updates on the Tropics through NHC. NOAA.Gov. Thankfully it has only been a drill. We've been a bit cautious in putting things back in order as you'll see when visiting. We're midway in taking the shutters down. Hopefully, the rest will come down soon.

As you'll find on our website, www.thebarnacle.org, the Autumn season is gearing up, and The Barnacle has many activities in store. Many magnificent events are

planned. A couple of special mentions: **Mad Hatter Arts Festival** is back again ~ the weekend before Thanksgiving (November 23 and 24) with a wee bit of a change to our lineup: **Alice in Wonderland** will be shown on Friday evening as a kick-off of the Festival. Coconut Grove BID has selected this as one of their Movies in the Park, and we're thrilled! We're also working on another program series: **Earth First Fridays** ~ a collaboration with Coconut Grove Chamber of Commerce's Committee on Sustainability and Resilience. Beginning Friday, November 1 and running until Friday, May 1, each First Friday of the month will feature either an environmental program or movie on how to be better stewards of our fragile ecosystem. We're excited about being a part of this!

Yoga by the Sea offers restorative yoga twice a week in a natural setting, free from pesticides, traffic exhaust fumes, and bustle from modern life. Participants are invited to breathe and stretch either on the grassy lawn beneath the open skies or in **Micco** pavilion, in case of inclement weather. Set your intentions for a tranquil practice with us on Mondays and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Be sure to check out the calendar of events and make plans to join us for the wide variety of programming we're offering at YOUR state park!

Calendar of Upcoming Events: Autumn 2019

Friday, October 25

Movies in the Park sponsored by BID

101 Dalmatians

Gates open at 7:30 p.m.; Movie begins at 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 26

Make A Difference Day

Volunteer Work Day

NPLD Volunteer Appreciation Picnic

9:00 a.m. to 12 noon – Volunteer Work Day

1:00 p.m. – NPLD Volunteer Appreciation Picnic

Friday, November 1

Earth First Friday: TBA

Gates open 6:30; Program begins at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, November 9

Barnacle under Moonlight Concert

Deblois

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

Friday, November 22

Movies in the Park sponsored by BID

Alice in Wonderland (1951)

Gates open at 7:30 p.m.; Movie begins at 8:30 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday, November 23 & 24

Mad Hatter Arts Festival

Music ~ Art ~ Fun!

10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 1

Starlight Movie Classics: Gaslight (1944)

Gates open at 6:30 p.m.; Movie begins at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, December 6

Earth First Friday: Rubber Jellyfish

Gates open 6:30; Program begins at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 8

Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol ~ a play with music

Gates open 6:30; Performance begins at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 14

Barnacle under Moonlight Concert

The Miamians

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

Friday, December 27

Movies in the Park sponsored by BID: TBA

Gates open at 7:30 p.m.; Movie begins at 8:30 p.m.

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 welcomed at all times. Accessible facilities are available.

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



THE BARNACLE SOCIETY

3485 Main Highway / PO Box 33-0579
Coconut Grove, Florida 33233-0579

FOR SALE—Nutshell Pram This beautiful Joel White-designed Nutshell Pram will make any young sailor proud. A custom-built 7'7" lapstrake boat, it comes with tanbark sail, oars, and covers for spars, rudder, and centerboard. It was donated to The Barnacle Society as a fund-raiser. The first \$1,950 owns it! Contact John Palenchar at (305) 803-1653.



Board of Directors 2019-2020

Officers

President - John Palenchar
First Vice President - Lee Taylor
Second Vice President - Sweet Pea Ellman
Third Vice President - Debra Wellins
Recording Secretary - Olivier de Lavalette
Corresponding Secretary - Lilian A. Walby
Treasurer - John Powers

Board Members

Jason Biondi
Louis Del Borrello
Vicki Katz
Terina Lopez
Lorna Owens
Mary Scott Russell
Pam Shlachtman
Jorge Sotolongo
Colleen Stovall
Bill Tenney
Karelyn Travieso
Sheryl Weir-Latty

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

www.floridastateparks.org

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.**