

2008 Membership Dues are seriously OVERDUE!

Please send your check for \$25 payable to IWCNE to
IWCNE
P.O. Box 351
Cape Neddick, ME 03902

Membership Report

New Email Address

Catherine Trent is crt@mainetelnet.com

New Members

Barbara Bridge (George)
P.O. Box 7715
(20 Lands End Lane)
Cape Porpoise, ME 04014-7715
(857) 891-1799
ubbridge@yahoo.com

Patricia DuBois
850 South Road
Rye, NH 03870
(603) 964-7449
dubois@comcast.net
Country of Close Affiliation: England

Paula Sable
20 Tremont Street
Newburyport, MA 01950
(978)462-6718
readwrite@comcast.net
Countries of Close Affiliation: Canada, Poland, Russia

Hannelore Simonds
59 Troon Way
Mashpee, MA 02649
(508) 477-6114
hsimonds@mail.town.foxborough.MA.us

Returning Member

Monique L. Zombeck
5 Chestnut Lane
York, ME 03909
(207) 363-5786
moniquezombeck@yahoo.com

Happy Birthday to Our Members:

April 3 Lillian Christo
April 10 Brenda Sullivan
April 12 Katharine Kane
Jeannine Kolb
April 20 Greta Martin
Muriel Poulin
April 22 Pearl Somaini-Dayer
April 25 Joyce Fouts
April 26 Hilda Emerson
Nancy Squatrito
April 28 Claire Quintal
April 30 Anna McGann



Executive Board of Directors 2008

President: Charline Ludgate – USA
(207) 439-8884 ccludgate@comcast.net
Vice President: Ellen O'Toole – USA/Ireland/Scotland
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Secretary: Anne Gately - USA
207-337-5488 artannie@maine.rr.com
Treasurer: Priscilla Schwartz – USA
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Fundraising: Lucille Gentsch – Germany
(207) 967-5623 Lmgentsch@gwi.net
Programs: Mary Kinnear - USA
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Lunch Coordinator: Regina Godfrey - Poland
(207) 363-7547 regal207@aol.com
Membership: Karen Hull – Norway/Sweden
(207) 985-7433 nordic44@roadrunner.com
Activities: Maria Twomey-Thompson – France/Italy
(207) 282-1054 mtt2006@verizon.net
Publicity: Ellen Sue Farber - USA
207-646-8666 musicaellen@aol.com
Historian: Rachel Gowen – England
(603) 431-2568 gowenRR4719@aol.com
Newsletter: Dorothy Healy - USA
(207) 363-4167 Dorothy.Healy@gmail.com
WCI Liaison: Kristine Slater – Norway/USA
(603) 427-0322 jorun@comcast.net
IWCNE Founder: Anna Kristina Sawtelle – Sweden
(207) 361-1508 aksawtelle@aol.com

The date of the next board meeting to be held at the Conference Room at Sentry Hill is April 14 at 9:30am.

Deadline for the April2008 Newsletter is Monday, April 14, 2008.

The Newsletter will be mailed the week following the Saturday luncheon. If you cannot attend and do not receive your newsletter in the mail, please leave a message for Dorothy Healy at 207-363-4167. Items submitted are subject to editing, due to space.

IWCNE Activities

Please note: We are asking that members give a call to the hostess or facilitator when an event is in someone's home, by no later than the day before for **all** scheduled activities, including **Book Club and Foreign Film Discussion** evenings, so that appropriate arrangements may be made. Also in case of poor driving conditions, we are then able to telephone those expected if it seems best to cancel an event.

Foreign Film Discussion Evening

(1st Monday of the month)

Barb Poulin (Acting coordinator for April)

Place: The Foreign Film Discussion Group will meet at the Yorkshire Commons Community Room in York.

Date: Monday, April 7

Time: 6pm

Film: *The Italian* (a 2007 Russian film, despite its title)

Light refreshments will be served. Please call Barb Poulin for at 207-363-8731, email: barbpoulin@aol.com for film choices and/or if you plan to attend.



(1st Tuesday after club luncheon)
Around the World with Women

Coordinators: Julie Stathoplos and Barb Poulin

Place: Home of Barb Poulin 207-363-8731

Date: Tuesday, April 29

Time: 7:00pm

Book: *Eat Pray Love* by Elizabeth Gilbert

Please call hostess if you plan to attend.

Francophone Gourmet Circle

Call Janine Kolb 207-439-5705 for date and specific information.



Seacoast Singers

The chorus will meet Thursday,
April 3rd 5:30 p.m. at the home of Ellen Farber



The singers are rehearsing for a CD to be made of our first performance and beginning rehearsal of their next performance which will be a medley of Rock 'n' Roll songs from the 40's to the 70's. Please contact Ellen Farber at 207-646-8666 or 617-320-8556 to join. You need not be a star but we'll have fun making you one.

Kaffee und Kuchen



April's meeting falls during school vacation so we won't meet.
The next meeting will be May 23rd.

Feel the Beat! Fabulous Raffle Prizes

Entertain nine guests in style on a luxurious three hour boat cruise, a grand prize in this year's Fashion Show Raffle. Christopher Ayer is offering the trip and will be your host. The boat is a brand new Sea Ray 32 foot Sun Downer, and you may choose either a lunch or cocktail cruise. The winner will contact Christopher to arrange a date in July or August and will set out from the Newcastle/Wentworth dock.

If you prefer your leisure on dry land instead of the sea, enjoy a weekend in a waterfront cottage in beautiful South Bristol, Maine. This generous prize has been donated by IWCNE member Donna Peaker Ritzo, and the winner may choose any weekend in September.

This is the year to buy lots of raffle tickets! In addition to these Grand Prizes, you'll have a chance for other delectable gifts. Look for the tickets to arrive soon in the mail and send yours in for a chance to win and to support fund raising for our charities.

The drawing will be at the annual fashion show, "Feel the Beat", on June 1st at the Union Bluff Meeting House. With a South American theme, fashions by Saco Bay, and music by Ray DeMarco and Karen Stathoplos, it promises to be a festive event.

SAVE THE DATES

- May 7th Bread Baking Demonstration
- May 24-29th WCI Conference in San Diego, CA
- June 1st Fashion Show

Women Around the World Celebrate

International Women's Day was celebrated by more than 40 women watching films on a rainy Saturday in Wells, Maine. The importance of the event was that it was a collaborative effort of women for women.



S o m e months ago, W e l c o m e C l u b s International encouraged its member clubs worldwide to hold welcoming teas to celebrate International

Women's Day. More importantly we were also celebrating ourselves, our friendships and the work that we do throughout the year.

Kristine Slater, our WCI Liaison suggested a tea. Lucille Gentsch, currently Fund Raising Chair admitted she'd been trying for years to get us to do something for International Women's Day and had been quietly talking to Cheryl Mills, the head of Wells Ogunquit Adult Community Education to co-sponsor an event. The rest is history!

International Women's Day was celebrated on a rainy Saturday at Wells High School on March 8, 2008 co-sponsored by the Wells Ogunquit Adult Community Education and the International



Women's Club of New England. In keeping with our goal of understanding cultures other than our own, two films were shown in the Wells High School auditorium: *Yesterday* and *The Syrian Bride*.

Kristine Slater welcomed everyone and gave the non-member women in the audience a snapshot description of the IWCNE and our goals.

The first film was *Yesterday*. It takes place in South Africa where we watch a Zulu woman infected by her husband with HIV grapple with the illness and her desire to provide for her child after she and her husband are dead. Her strong will allows her to care for her husband until his death and see her

daughter start school – an achievement she never realized



for herself. The circumstances of their meager existence are emphasized by the movie director's visual study of this harsh land. No happy ending here.

Lunch was served in the cafeteria after the first film and Cheryl Mills facilitated a lively discussion of the morning film. The group then reconvened in the auditorium for the second film of the day.

The Syrian Bride was about an arranged marriage between a Syrian TV star and a Druze woman living in the Golan Heights. The wedding day is complicated by personal and political intrigues. Everyone gets in the act: an ostracized son who arrives for the wedding, the village elders who want to dictate who may attend, and the bride's father, a political prisoner on parole vs. a vindictive police officer. These issues are eventually ignored and everyone heads for the border where the bride is to meet the groom and get married. At the border, petty bureaucrats find the bride's papers are not in order and a push me/pull me tug of war prevents her from crossing. She eventually takes matters into her own hands and sneaks across the border while everyone else is distracted with arguments over her insufficient documentation.

Lucille Gentsch led the discussion of the second film and tea – "a cup of friendship"-- was served by some of the IWCNE members. Copies of our newsletters and our new membership brochures were made available to the 20+ women from the Seacoast area that joined the IWCNE members for the program.



Our Snow Birds



Did you know that over 20 percent of IWCNE members head off to warmer climes in the winter? That leaves the rest of us wondering what it's all about. Yes, they come back looking well rested and healthy. But, where do they go?

What do they do there? After all months go by...so we decided to ask based on a snip-it of information that Betty Williams passed along from Anna McGann.

It was a clipping from the Welcome to Florida International Club Newsletter for January 2008. Yes, it's another WCI connection in Naples Florida and we have five members in common: Hilda Emerson, Kirsten Ivancevic, Anna McGann, Kay Ruel and Monique Zombeck.

The newsletter goes on to tell about their December luncheon at the Royal Poinciana Golf Club and the wonderful Annual Holiday Dinner at The Club at the Strand. This is a social group to be sure. But there's so much more...

Anna McGann (Kennebunkport) is the leader of The Salon. In January the lecture was particularly interesting. Leon Hesser gave a lecture based on his book *The Man Who Fed the World* followed by a discussion on world hunger and the life of the Nobel Prize Laureate, Norman Borlough.

Kay Ruel (Portsmouth) led a Book Club discussion at the Colonade, a photo of which was passed along by Elisabeth Schwesinger. Mention was made of Barbara Roy's presentation of a Cambodian Wedding at the Vineyards. This is a heady group and we want to know more.

Monique Zombeck (York) responded to our inquiries and sent a detailed letter about Naples and its surroundings. Space is limited in this issue of the newsletter. We will publish the letter in parts as space allows: Part I "Bonjour From Naples Florida" on the reverse side of the calendar.

Thank you to our five members "in common," Elisabeth Schwesinger for sharing her photographs and especially to Monique Zombeck for her brilliant portrayal of Naples and its surroundings.

Pot Luck Dinners

For Future...

- Spring Fling! (We can only hope!) Barb Poulin is planning a heart healthy Pot Luck for April 17th at 6 pm in York. Dinner will feature seafood and poultry specialties plus lots of fresh vegetables and salads to keep us healthy as we come out of winter hibernation. Think healthy and come join in by calling Betty Williams 207-646-5772 and share your favorite healthy recipe with all of us.
- Stay tuned for May and June dates.

A Memorable Performance of the Seacoast Ladies Who Can't Say No

The show must go on and so it did even though three of the cast members were missing. Marie Kelleher was ill, Sylvia



Rubin is in the hospital, and Pat Dateo, returning from Switzerland, got caught in a snowstorm and was stranded in the Newark, New Jersey airport. We

all hope that Marie will recover soon and Pat will eventually find her way home. Five of the original cast - Barbro Bohl, Charline Ludgate, Ellen O'Toole and Lee Regan-Jacks joined Ellen Farber, the organizer and musical director of the group, who played the piano and sang. A former IWCNE member Hannelore Simonds was Lee's guest at the luncheon and graciously added her voice to the ensemble and decided to become a member again even though she lives in Massachusetts. Let's hope she finds her way to Maine again for some of our functions in the future.

The ladies donned black bowler hats with red spangled bands and red shawls made by Pat Dateo for the occasion. The show started with the song "Let Me Entertain You" followed by a brief reading

a b o u t t h e founding of the IWCNE in 1992 by Anna Christina Sawtelle. The singers took turns recounting short excerpts from a script explaining the history of the



IWCNE and our activities. Other tunes included "Kids" from "Bye Bye Birdie" honoring the Club's commitment to women and children, "The Way We Were," "Sisters," "I Can't Say No," "Maria," and "It's A Small World." The finale, "All That Jazz" was sung with a great deal of enthusiasm and the ladies received much applause for their performance.

Fundraising Committee

The Fundraising Committee has been busy working on fulfilling the Club's obligation to raise money for charity and we would love to have your help. If you would like to work on any of the following events call the Fundraising Chair Lucille Gentsch at (207) 967-5623 or email Lmgentsch@gwi.net. The events we have been thinking about are both traditional and new. Some of the familiar events which you will see again this year are the Fashion Show in June, the annual flea market / yard sale in the summer, the Strawberry Banke Tea Party at the end of the season and the big finale Holiday Fair in November. During the year we will also have our beloved pot luck dinners and an occasional gourmet dinner evening. There are also a lot of new ideas being considered - for example, an event at a museum, an art auction, special field trips, etc. Two new ideas which have already been acted upon are a 50 - 50 raffle where the winner and the charity fund split the proceeds (more details next newsletter, but if you are curious, call Lucille at number above) and a bread-baking demonstration. The bread-baking will be done by Anne Gately (club secretary but obviously a woman of many talents!) at the home of Pat Dateo on May 7th at 10 AM. Anne will demonstrate how her delicious bread is made and you can have it for lunch - just bring something to put on it! \$15 is the charity donation. Call Lucille to reserve a place.

Of course the selection of this year's charity is also our job (again, if you would like to join the committee, call Lucille). The Fundraising Committee has sent out 13 applications to charities suggested by the membership. Since the application deadline is April 11, there is still time if you know of a charity which might qualify for our next year's selections - charities which benefit women and children with no religious or political affiliations - please contact the Fundraising Chair, Lucille Gentsch with your suggestions. The meeting for reviewing the applications will take place April 18th. All members of the club are welcome to be part of this process so call Lucille for more information.

Susan Heckaman
Financial Advisor - AAMS

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



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Foreign Film Discussion

In Retrospect...

Water: A Brief Review by Rose Safran

Water, a 2006-released film directed and written by Canadian filmmaker Deepa Mehta (Indian-born), makes a deeply touching poignant anti-tradition statement concerning the miserable lives of Hindu women of a variety of ages and backgrounds who are entrapped in a virtual prison through circumstances beyond their control - namely, as widows, they are condemned as outcasts to spend the rest of their lives institutionalized. It is Hindu law. Paralleling this theme is the Mahatma Ghandi movement which ultimately will break the back of British colonialism. Magnificent photography with brilliant light and dark shadows along with indigenous Indian music transport viewers into the culture of a restricted corner of India, circa 1938.

Water - the title is symbolically feminist ("the warm, wet, waters of the womb") and, at the same time, references the omnipresent, inescapable, supportive, ever-flowing life-giving yet at times sadly life-taking River Ganges next to which the women's colony (called an ashram) is situated.

The film opens with eight-year-old Chuyla's head shorn of all her lovely dark locks as her family tells her that her husband (early betrothals and young marriages through family arrangements are common in some cultures) has died and she must leave her family home to live in an ashram. Not understanding the forever aspect of this shift, the child is spunky, bright and rebellious, turns the ashram upside down and yet wins over the beautiful young illiterate Kalyani (the only woman whose hair is not cut) who has been forced into prostitution to support the ashram as well as the religious middle-aged widow Shakuntula, both of whom ultimately question the system and break its rules - Kaylani through a tryst (with a tragic outcome) with the wealthy liberal-thinking law student Narayan, and Shakuntula, inspired through Ghandi philosophy, by saving Chuyla who represents hope for women in the new India. "Give her to Ghandi," shouts Shakuntula as the film ends. Significantly, protests by Hindu fundamentalists forced the original production of *Water* out of its original turf - Varanasi - and it was filmed in Sri Lanka.

For Future...

On April 7th: *The Italian* Six-year-old Vanya (Kolya Spiridonov) is about to be handed every Russian orphan's dream: A loving Italian family wants to adopt him and take him away from the rundown orphanage he calls home. But Vanya can't let go of his yearning for his birth mother. Determined to find her, he runs away and sets off on an adventure that leads him into a mysterious and sometimes perilous world. This moving drama received several international awards.

IWCNE Luncheon Registration Form

International Women's Club of New England
April 26, 2008

NAME (S): _____

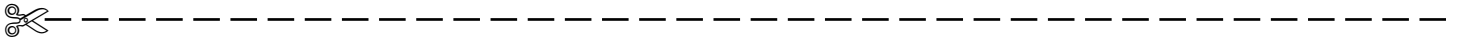
Seacoast Science Center
50 Ocean Boulevard, Rye, NH 03870-2104
603-436-8043

Deadline: April 18, 2008

R.S.V.P.: Please send your check for \$20.00 per person to
Micky Robinson 5 Meadowlark DR York, ME 03909 or call 207-363-8074
Pre-registration only. No refunds. Send someone else in your place.

Buffet Luncheon

- Hors D'oeuvres, cheese, fruit and crackers
 - Salad
- Buffet will offer a choice of Organic Beef Tenderloin, Pan Seared Atlantic Salmon, Grilled Breast of Chicken, Vegetables, and Wild Mushroom Orzo
- Dessert will be an assortment of Fruit Tartlettes.
 - Coffee/Tea



International Women's Club of New England Program for April 26th, 2008

11:00 a.m. Registration (Coffee available)
11:30 am Business Meeting
12:00 noon Luncheon

1 p.m. Speaker:
Wendy Lull, President of the Seacoast Science Center
Galapagos Islands
Video and talk about her recent trip

Directions to the Seacoast Science Center:

From 95 North or South

Take exit 5 on Interstate 95 North or South to the Portsmouth Traffic Circle. From the Circle take Route 1 By-Pass South to Beaches/Hampton. After 1 mile the road connects with Route 1 South. Follow Route 1 South for approximately 1 mile. At the third traffic light, take a left onto Elwyn Road. Pass the Urban Forestry Center (on your left), go approximately 1.3 miles to the roundabout at Foyes Corner. Go half-way around the roundabout onto Route 1A South. Continue for 1.8 miles, over the wooden bridge, past the Odiorne Point State Park boat launch parking area (on left), to the main entrance of Odiorne Point State Park (on left).

International Women's Club of New England
P.O. Box 351
Cape Neddick, Maine 03902



*At Backwater Jacks:
Monique Zombeck,
Doreen Blosser,
Anna McGann (The Salon),
Karl Eskrath,
Carolyn Bashaw
(Summer Luncheons)*

*Kirsten Ivancevic and other
Florida members waiting to
sign in for Barbara Roy's
presentation at the Vineyards*



Kay Ruel



IWCNE - April 2008 Calendar



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 Seacoast Singers Ellen Farber's 5:30 pm	4	5
6	7 Foreign Film Yorkshire Commons 6 pm	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Board Meeting Sentry Hill, York 9:30 am Deadline for newsletter	15	16	17 Pot Luck Barb Poulin's 6 pm	18 Deadline for Luncheon Signup / Payment	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 Luncheon Seacoast Science Center 11 am Registration
27	28	29 Book Club Barb Poulin's 7 pm	30			

Bonjour from Naples Florida!

by Monique Zombeck

At least five of our *International Women's Club of New England* members are dual members with the *Welcome to Florida International* women's club of Naples, FL. founded in 1986: Hilda Emerson, Kirsten Ivancevic, Kay Ruel, Anna Mc Gann and Monique Zombeck. Karen Hull and her husband are also in town for a few weeks.

Our Club down here is very active and has about 180 dedicated members. We have a monthly Business Meeting followed by a small luncheon, monthly Luncheons with a speaker, Special Events, and interest groups that meet at different locations: The Book Club, Mah Jongg, Bridge, the Spanish Group, the Salon, Dining with Friends, Share your Passion, Coffee & Conversation. We also receive a monthly newsletter.

We, snow-birds have been wintering here for the past three years. Let me tell you about the Naples I know. Around here, we call it Paradise. Situated in Southwest Florida, on the Gulf of Mexico and in **Collier County, Naples** (inc. 1949) enjoys a subtropical climate tempered by the soft breezes of the Gulf. Winter days are warm and sunny, usually reaching the high 70s to low 80s by early afternoon and nights are comfortably cool. In December the sun is setting about one & 1/2 hours later than in York, ME. The spectacular sunsets, when the sky is clear, will often end with the reward of observing the green flash.

The beautiful ten mile Municipal Beach is made of fine white sand and is opened to the public, even in front of the fine homes of **Port Royal (Gordon Drive area)**. The old town's lovely **Palm Cottage** (1895), the pride of the Historical Society, with its thick walls made of tabbie mortar (crushed, burnt and whole shells mixed with sand and water) is the sentinel of the past.

Redesigned in the early 1990s, **Old Naples, Third Street South** is resplendent with its long fishing **Pier**, (where one can watch *dolphins* and brown *pelicans*) wide sidewalks, fountains and sculptures, excellent restaurants (many French) and cafes with terraces, luxurious boutiques, handsome buildings in pastel colors, tropical vegetation and numerous (140 in all of Naples) serious art galleries. The description above is true also of all the various centers of Naples. The City of Naples doesn't allow either advertising billboards or the building of high-rises. and I don't remember ever seeing a cleaner city. To relieve parking, the new *5th Avenue Trolley* makes a loop about every 15 minutes. **Fifth Avenue South**, or "**Downtown**", also redesigned in 1994 by architect Andres Duany, under the influence of the New Urbanism movement, has in addition, the *Naples Players Sugden Community Theatre*, the *Von Liebig Center for the Arts*, the *Norris Center*, and the very busy Har-Tru public tennis courts at the *Arthur Allen Tennis Center*. *Cambier Park* also hosts weekly open-air concerts and/or art fairs. This downtown area is being extended to the colorful **Bay-Front** on the **Gordon River**. It will have apartments and shops and a new Arts and Music Center, project of the *Renaissance Academy* (FGCU). Nearby **Tin City**, born from the old canning factory buildings, offers casual fish restaurants on the water's edge and boat tours. The nearby **City Docks** on **Naples Bay**, is also a fishing port. Naples Bay is surrounded by residential areas on coves and canals. Another picturesque center, further north, is **The Venetian Village**, like a water-lily patch, with gorgeous views on **Venetian Bay**. I should also mention the upscale boutiques at newly redesigned **Waterside shops**, in Pelican Bay, where a *Barnes & Nobles* bookstore also is, as well as several restaurants. South of the city, because of its numerous canals, **Marco Island** has 60% of its residences on the water.

In his book *The Best Art Towns in America* (2005), author John Villani named Naples N.1. Upscale homes can also be seen along **Gulf Shore Blvd.** and around the **Crayton Rd.** area. Further north, in **Pelican Bay**, residential luxury high-rises line the coast, as they do on Marco Island. Palm trees, Banyan trees, flowering trees and flowers everywhere are part of Naples' lush landscaping. Thomas Edison, who wintered in Fort Myers from 1916 to the

1930s, received as a gift in 1925, the first *Banyan tree* (now over 400 feet in circumference). He should also be remembered for planting the first majestic *Royal Palms* in Florida, now so much part of the Naples' flora. A visit to his and Henry Ford's homes is an interesting day trip.

Mostly yachts and motorboats (about 25,000 registered) rather than sailboats are seen on the waterways. There is water everywhere and never far under the sandy ground, reason why all inland communities are mostly built around small lakes. Sophisticated and affluent **Naples** has grown at a tremendous rate, in the past 20 years. The new **Fort Myers International Airport** (a 3 hour flight from Boston and a 30 minute drive from Naples) and I-75 have brought fast an easy access to the area. The small **City of Naples** (*just 14 square miles*) now has about 22,000 residents, and Metropolitan Naples, now counts 315,000 people, including Marco Island, Pelican Bay and **North Naples**. The population is not all retirees, the median age of Naples residents being 44 years old. Gated communities are gaining popularity (already around 40 in the greater Naples area). ,have resort-style amenities, with one or several pools, a tennis center many with a private golf course and with a built in Whether condos, villas, townhouses or private homes, these communities, gated or not and more or less luxurious, have resort-style amenities, with one or several pools, a tennis center, many with a private golf course and with a built in private pool for each house or villa. Unfortunately, the high cost of living is forcing the middle-class to move out of town. Further north, just over the county line (Bonita beach road), **Bonita Springs**, in Lee County, closer to the Southwest Florida International Airport and a little less costly than Naples is becoming a very popular place to buy and live.

The first inhabitants of the Naples area and mainly Marco Island were the *Calusa* who sadly did not survive. Later on, the *Seminoles*, a mix of several Indian tribes trying to escape the white man's invasion of their lands, runaway slaves and white outlaws occupied the land. No one was adventurous enough to go and look for them into the dangerous Everglades. The Naples *Collier County museum* exhibits their story. Further east, **Everglades City** has the *Museum of the Everglades* and *The old Gun and Rod Club hotel* , an interesting place to visit. At the end of SR.29, the Smallwood Store and Museum, **Chokoloskee Island's** Ole Indian Trading Post (est.1906) mentioned in Peter Matthiessen's *Killing Mister Watson* is on **Chokoloskee Bay**.

Hunting (quails, water fowl, plumage birds, deer and turkeys) and fishing (mostly tarpon) used to be the reason to come to remote Naples at the turn of the last century. Access was only by boat. Ice was carried to the camps daily from Fort-Myers on small boats. There was only one hotel: the Naples Hotel, (1889). In 1928 Naples was finally accessible by car, thanks to *Barron Collier*, a visionary who using his own money managed to drain the Everglades and build **The Tamiami Trail**, a road joining **Miami** to **Tampa** (now US. 41). The building of the trail, thru Seminole country, cost many lives as the courageous workers had to fight malaria and all sorts of adverse conditions.

There is a wealth of activities in art-loving Naples. The town has a beautiful *Art Museum*, (at this writing offering a *Picasso* exhibit) and the *Naples Philharmonic Orchestra* (*the Phil*), both part of the *Philharmonic Center for the Arts* which constantly hosts celebrities, Broadway performers, opera and a great number of other superior programs. It is also the winter home of the *Miami City Ballet*. **Naples** also has several excellent libraries, the *Conservancy of Southwest Florida Nature Center*, offering boat tours, canoe/kayak rentals and nature walks, and with a wildlife rehabilitation center; the *Renaissance Academy* (FGCU) with classes and lectures, the *Botanical Garden*, the *Zoo* and *Caribbean gardens*, a good newspaper "*Naples Daily News*", yearly festivals, numerous art fairs, organized visits and activities, lecture groups (*the Naples Council of World Affairs* as an example, with more than 3,200 faithful members), clubs of all sorts, as well as a new professional opera company.

(To be continued)