**The Volunteer Voice**

*Relationships o Service o Accomplishment*

**Volume I Issue 9**

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**The Interim is Gone…**

**Say Hello to John Allen, the New Executive Director!**

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### Volunteers Plan for the Future!

Meeting to plan for the future of the volunteer corps at the museum, nine of the most active members gathered on March 29th and generated some interesting ideas. These members felt that a less formal meeting agenda was preferred with a goal of meeting for a “Happy Hour” every other month. The format is to include meeting in various restaurants in The Gables and to meet twice a year in a more formal setting at the Museum. The next meeting is to be held at Season’s 52 on May 23 at 5 PM.

Major concerns were the lack of active volunteers and the issue of enough guides for the Saturday Walking Tour in the summer. It was revealed that soon the tour will be offered using the “Freebee.” This plan’s focus is to bring more volunteer guides to the activity as well as be more welcoming for visitors.

Tapping into the vast numbers of residents now living in the downtown Coral Gables core could bring many more visitors as well as potential volunteers to the museum. Brainstorming brought out some excellent ideas such as open air dances, musical performances and wine appreciation classes. More critically placed and targeted marketing of the museum, its tours, exhibits and activities was felt to be an important vehicle for encouraging visitors and volunteers. The newly designed and opened Giralda Mall was seen as a prime area for such advertising.

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**JOHN ALLEN, INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**JUDE ALEXANDER, ADULT VOLUNTEER LIAISON**

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**APRIL 2018**
ON-GOING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

SPECIAL VOLUNTEER INFO!

✓ CASH COMPENSATION AND NEW HOURS HAVE BEEN ADDED TO THE POSITION AT “THE BUBBLE” AKA THE INFORMATION BOOTH AT THE ACTOR’S PLAYHOUSE AT THE MIRACLE THEATER!

All volunteers will be compensated at $9 PER HOUR with FREE PARKING. Volunteers who commit to one day a week will also receive 2 TICKETS FOR A WEEK-DAY PERFORMANCE!

In addition to the regular hours (Monday through Saturday from noon until 3 pm) additional hours have been added when there is a production playing from February through August. These new hours are Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 5-8 PM.

Please contact Jude if you are interested. Jude.Alex@Live.Com

✓ GALLERY NIGHT: FIRST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH APRIL 6, 2017 / SHIFTS: 5:30 - 8PM AND 8-10 PM

Four (4) volunteers needed for each shift. Number of volunteers needed may change to adjust to situations on the particular evening. Please be flexible when choosing a shift as we must cover the entire evening.

✓ FAMILY DAY: EVERY SECOND SATURDAY: APRIL 14, 2018

Ten (10) volunteers needed. Contact: Angela@CoralGablesMuseum.Org

TOURS

✓ DOWNTOWN WALKING TOUR: EACH SATURDAY, 11 AM APRIL 7, 14, 21, 28, 2018

One (1) volunteer needed for each date to guide groups to locations near the museum, explaining the history and architecture of significant sites. Training required.

✓ CREATING THE DREAM: EACH SUNDAY, 1 PM APRIL 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 2018

One (1) volunteer needed, inside the museum, for each date, to interpret City Founder, George E. Merrick’s vision and ultimate achievement of creating Coral Gables, The City Beautiful. Training required.
PLEASE TAKE THE INITIATIVE. EMAIL JUDE AND TELL HER THE EVENTS/TOURS FOR WHICH YOU WISH TO VOLUNTEER.

MUSEUM CLOSED ON EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 1, 2018

Volunteer Manual: In a pink folder at the front desk you will soon find the new Volunteers Manual. It was created to help volunteers understand the various positions at the museum. It also contains museum staff job descriptions and phone extensions.

The Coral Gables House (Merrick House) remains closed for extensive renovation.

Don’t Forget...there’s a 15% discount for museum volunteers at the museum gift shop!

Have fun but be professional, friendly, helpful and know your “stuff”!

The Volunteer Voice welcomes your suggestions re: tours, the newsletter or any other helpful hints.

Send to: Janebond@Comcast.Net, your humble newsletter editor or Jude.Alex@Live.Com.

EXHIBIT HIGHLIGHTS

100 YEARS OF HUMANITARIAN PARTNERSHIP: THE AMERICAN RED CROSS IN SOUTH FLORIDA
FEBRUARY 2, 2018—MAY 27, 2018

Join us for a journey through the past century celebrating the Centennial of the American Red Cross in South Florida. From the early days in 1917 through its modern-day response to Hurricane Irma, see how the lifesaving work of the American Red Cross has evolved along with our changing South Florida landscape. This multi-dimensional exhibit includes historical artifacts, images and uniforms that will bring the humanitarian mission of the Red Cross to life.

CROSS POLLINATION: HONEYBEES AND MURANO GLASS
MARCH 2—MAY 20, 2018
VIP PREVIEW RECEPTION FOR CGM MEMBERS & VOLUNTEERS

Part of the International Artist Series

Abraham Gallery

Judi Harvest worked with seven Murano glass masters, employing three ancient and challenging Murano glass techniques: cera persa (lost wax), lume (flame work) and soffiato (blown). For over 40 years Harvest has lived, worked and exhibited her art in Venice. She worked for the last two years in a Murano glass factory owned by Giorgio Giuman, which went from 75 employees to a mere 4. She began to see parallels between the disappearing bees and Murano’s disappearing glass-making families. She has had many exhibitions in Venice, including 2015’s Room of Dreams and her massive 2013 exhibition DETERRED: Honeybees + Murano, for which she created 100 amber toned glass Honey Vessels, other honeybee-related paintings and sculptures and the permanent installation, Honey Garden, a bee-friendly garden which has transformed the grounds of Giuman’s glass factory. The garden is home to six healthy honeybee hives which have produced the first Murano honey.
You Are In Good Company!

It is said that you are known by the company you keep. If that is so, then the Museum’s staff and active volunteer corps, which we have profiled in The Volunteer Voice, in the last eight months can, without doubt, be defined as “Good Company.”

The Museum is honored to have a group of talented, educated, well-traveled people who share those gifts with the community of Coral Gables. Of the 14 volunteers and staff members featured in our monthly issues, eleven are bi- or multi-lingual, eight have Master’s Degrees or higher and eight have lived in countries other than the United States.

Saying "Good Bye..."

...to Jill Loewen. Though she was with us only a short time, Jill found a way to make lasting memories as one of the museums active volunteers.

Having moved to Coral Gables from Oregon in 2015, Loewen quickly found a home at the CGM. Exploring The City Beautiful on her own for a week or two after her arrival, she discovered the Museum and went on the Saturday Walking Tour. She states that she immediately felt the sense of community which motivated her to join the Museum and become a volunteer. Loewen has enjoyed helping out at Gallery Night and the various Special Events but says the Walking Tour is her favorite way of presenting Coral Gables to interested visitors.

Jill will soon be returning to Oregon to rejoin her family. We wish her Safe Travels and hope that she will plan a future trip back to her second home. Thanks, Jill, for being part of the volunteers at the Coral Gables Museum.

...and we are saying, Arrivederci” to Denise Napolitano, who with her husband, is moving to the beautiful country of Italy. They have often visited there and now, having made the decision, are going to make the next visit permanent.

Thanks, Denise, for your help at the Museum. We wish you all the best in your new home.