

ences. Clyde and Niki first met Adams at his newly-opened gallery in Rocky Mountains National Park in 1961. It wasn't until 1985 that Clyde realized how uniquely suited Florida's landscapes are to black and white presentation. His photos of the state's natural areas have become timeless and pow-

Are you experienced? Anyone seeking inspiration-under-glass should visit the South Florida Water Management District's headquarters on Gun Club Road in West Palm Beach. The District houses an impressive collection of Clyde's works, framed and ready to be experienced. And, of course, it's easy to find the Butchers' Big Cypress Gallery by taking Tamiami Trail to Ochopee, where you may find Clyde and Niki "minding the store."

erful reminders of the treasure that is Florida. Clyde's photographs have no doubt inspired many Florida visitors and residents who may have never seen or known of the existence of some of the vistas and details he captures.

Clyde's talk left me with a lasting impression central to the goals of EPPC and FNPS. You don't need to be a scientist, a wildlands manager or a politician to be involved in Florida's future. You just need to think about

things, to care. Perhaps we can all be inspired by the moon framed in the sky by a twisted cypress, a cloud roaring overhead, or the way water flows past a blade of sawgrass. We can all step back, look at the big picture, and then step back in, ready to act as a part of it.

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The Grand Dame of the Everglades



**MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS
1890 -1998**

When Marjory Stoneman Douglas was only fourteen years old, Napoleon Bonaparte Broward was campaigning for governor of Florida. His platform centered on the Everglades, and he began accusing the railroad barons of "draining the people and not the swamp." His most famous phrase, "Water will run down hill!", always received standing ovations during his campaign speeches, as he explained how, if elected, he would "knock a hole in the wall of coral (the Miami Rock Ridge), and let a body of water obey a natural law and seek the level of the sea . . ." He profited politically from the widespread discontent and sentiment of the times and was elected in 1905. During the first year as governor, Broward ordered the first dredges to start their slow, grinding trek through the sawgrass and change the Everglades forever.

It wasn't until the 1920s that the formation of Everglades National Park was being proposed. A long struggle was to ensue between Floridians who cherished this watery piece of Florida's natural heritage and those who thought that any diminishment of Florida's growth was bad for business. Then along came Ernest Coe, a Coconut Grove landscape architect, who took on the creation of Everglades National Park with a vengeance. Marjory Stoneman Douglas once wrote, "Gentle-mannered, soft-voiced, and mild,

a man on fire with the passion of the idea that would possess him for the rest of his life. No one ever wrote more letters, paralyzed more people with his insistent talk, or was considered more a fanatic than Ernest Coe." Marjorie quickly befriended him. Through persistence, Coe slowly gathered some influential sponsors, of which one was Marjory's father, Frank B. Stoneman, founding editor of the Miami Herald.

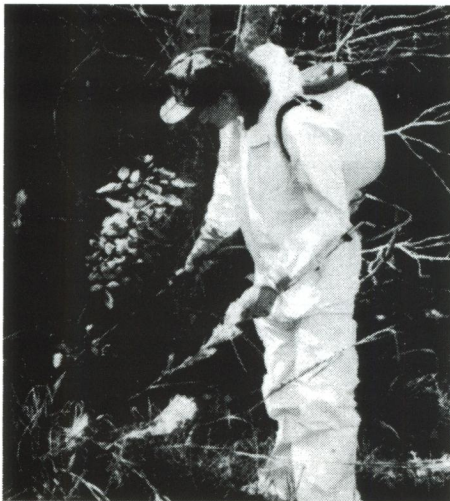
Marjory Stoneman Douglas was one of the 10,000 attendees who watched President Harry S. Truman as he officially dedicated Everglades National Park on a palmetto-thatched platform along the edge of the Gulf of Mexico. The date was Saturday, December 6, 1947. She listened intently when President said, "Here we can truly understand what the Israelitish Psalmist meant when he sang: 'He maketh me to lie down in green pastures, He leadeth me beside the still waters, He restoreth my soul.'" For a second, everyone stood as silent as the great swamp around them. Then their applause thundered. The band played, and a soprano voice sang, "Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light . . ." The words soared into the warm December air, and a breeze unfurled the lone American flag on the platform, as the song ended: "O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave." The Sunday headlines in the Miami Herald read, "President Dedicated Everglades Park - U. S. Conservation Policy Advocated To Save Heritage."

Marjory didn't even stand as tall as the sawgrass that she so dearly loved, yet she towered over the politics

and bureaucracy that has threatened the Everglades for the past century. It was Marjory who illuminated her beloved Everglades so all could see its importance to South Florida and its residents.

Her eloquent voice was silenced on Thursday, May 15, but it will always live on in the annals of Florida's history and in her now infamous 1947 book, *The Everglades: River of Grass*, which has never been out of print. Her name graces the Department of Environmental Protection building in Tallahassee, schools, parks, a nature center on Key Biscayne, a significant portion of Sunset Drive in South Miami, and, perhaps, most appropriate of all, the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Wilderness Area within the Everglades National Park. It is there where he ashes will mingle for eternity with the footprints of panthers, bobcats, egrets, and alligators.

A lot of water has flowed through Everglades National Park, much of it now polluted by agricultural and urban interests to the north, but Marjory lived to see new legislation signed to help clean up the glades' water. She lived to hear the cry, "Save The Everglades!", from elementary school children who rallied around the effort to restore some of the historic freshwater sheet flow through the sawgrass, and, perhaps, some of that clean freshwater will slowly carry her ashes southward through the open sawgrass prairies, past flowering orchids, into Florida Bay, just like the water flowed in April 1890 when she was born - Roger L. Hammer



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