



# FOUNDATION NEWS

by The Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach  
www.palmbeachpreservation.org • 561-832-0731

## JOHN RIPLEY NAMED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**J**ohn M. Ripley has been named the new Executive Director of the Preservation Foundation. He brings a well rounded education and experience in preservation that enhances the mission of the foundation. He attended Woodberry Forest School in Orange, Virginia and holds a degree from Virginia Military Institute.

A certified real estate appraiser specializing in complex and high value appraisals, Mr. Ripley has expertise in historically designated properties, high value residences and land valuations. As a lecturer in regard to appraising historic properties and related subjects, he made a strong presentation at the foundation's November workshop on Marketing Historic Properties.



Mr. Ripley carries on a family tradition of advocating historic preservation. His father, Col. John W. Ripley, USMC retired, held positions as the Dean of English and History at the United States Naval Academy, and the Director of the History Division of the Marine Corps where he oversaw all archives, publishing and development of the recently completed National Museum of the Marine Corps and Heritage Center in Quantico, Virginia.

Ripley's background in preservation and real estate will assist the foundation's board in carrying out its preservation policies and community programs. As executive director, he will serve to strengthen its advocacy initiatives for preserving the architectural and cultural heritage of the Town of Palm Beach.

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## FUTURE PLANS FOR LAKE DRIVE PARK

**T**he Preservation Foundation was asked by the Palm Beach Town Council to fund a master plan for Lake Drive Park and the marina, located on Lake Drive South from Worth Avenue to Royal Palm Way. In response to the request, the Preservation Foundation has retained the nationally known planning firm of LaQuatra Bonci Associates of Pittsburgh. The firm, which was founded in 1984, is a leader in urban design and public open space planning. Fred Bonci, a founding principal, will personally spearhead the project.

The focus will be on maintenance of green space, landscaping, usage by residents, marina usage, public works functions, safety issues and parking. There will be a series of public workshops to gain feedback from all interested parties. Hopefully residents will attend and participate in the process. The goal for completion of the plan is May.

## BOOK SIGNING FEATURED ANNE FAIRFAX OF FAIRFAX & SAMMONS

It was standing room only when Anne Fairfax, of the New York architectural firm of Fairfax & Sammons, delivered a presentation at the foundation on January 18. The impetus for Ms. Fairfax's talk was the recent publication of a book regarding the works of her and husband's company entitled, *American Houses: the Architecture of Fairfax & Sammons*.

The lecture was an engaging exploration of the work of one of America's preeminent architectural partnerships that specializes in the classical vernacular. In fact, Ms. Fairfax is currently the president of the Institute of Classical Architecture. In 2005 the firm opened an office in Palm Beach.

One of the most endearing client vignettes presented by Ms. Fairfax concerned the renovation of a Manhattan brownstone townhouse owned by Sarah Jessica Parker. The direction provided by Ms. Parker for the restoration was the desire to install front porch steps because “she wanted to sit on the stoop and eat ice cream with her future children.”

Another example mentioned of the firm's classical genre was the design for *Litchfield*, a Georgian style villa in Connecticut. The residence was constructed of brick and cast stone columns, pediments and quoins obtained from the West Palm Beach firm of Herpel, Inc. Anne related that the owner of *Litchfield* was so impressed by the elegance and architectural integrity of the interior that he has yet to furnish the house in the ten years since its completion.

Following the lecture, Ms. Fairfax signed copies of the book which was written by architectural historian Mary Miers. The book is a celebration of Fairfax & Sammons' adaptation and use of classical architecture's precepts and principles to meet contemporary requirements.

*Richard P. D'Elia, Ph.D.*



*Rick Herpel and Anne Fairfax*

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## A CELEBRATION OF SOUND IN PAN'S GARDEN

A jazz trio from the Dreyfoos School of the Arts will perform in Pan's Garden at the Preservation Foundation on Friday, March 9 at 4:00 pm.

A celebration of sound is how the Music Department at the Alexander Dreyfoos School of Arts is often described. The department is recognized as one of the best in the nation. Admission to the Dreyfoos School is a highly selective process that includes auditioning. As a result, it is the norm that students are at the top of their field where “practice makes perfect.”

Young talented musicians throughout Palm Beach County attend the Dreyfoos School of the Arts Music School, which is located in West Palm Beach near City Place. The students' performance for the Preservation Foundation will not only be proof of their dedication and academic achievement, but will delight the ear. The public is invited to attend.

## 2007 GRUSS MASTER ARCHITECT LECTURE

### FEATURES RICHARD MEIER

The 2007 Gruss Master Architect Series of the Preservation Foundation will host internationally acclaimed architect Richard Meier, who will present a lecture at The Harriet Theatre in West Palm Beach on March 16. The educational program was initiated in 2004 and is sponsored by long-time foundation members, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Gruss. The series has brought three world renowned architects to Palm Beach – Hugh Newell Jacobsen, Robert A. M. Stern, and Jaquelin Robertson – and now Richard Meier.

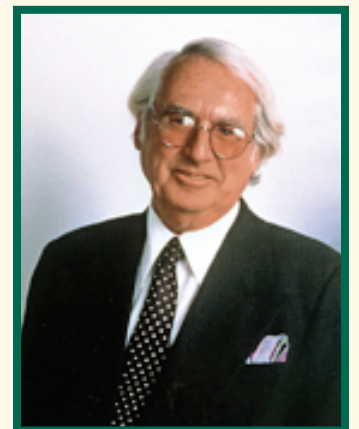
As senior partner of Richard Meier & Partners Architects in New York City and Los Angeles, Meier is respected around the world for his architecture and designs. He has been awarded major commissions in the United States and Europe including courthouses, city halls, museums, corporate headquarters, housing and private residences. Some of his best-known projects include The Getty Center in Los Angeles, the High Museum in Atlanta, the Frankfurt Museum for Decorative Arts in Germany, the Barcelona Museum of Contemporary Art, The Hartford Seminary in Connecticut, and the Jubilee Church in Rome. The Jubilee Church project, completed in 1993 to commemorate Pope John Paul's 25th anniversary as pontiff, made Meier the first Jewish architect in history to design a Roman Catholic church.

Recognized with the highest honors available in architecture, in 1997 Meier received the AIA Gold Medal from the American Institute of Architects, as well as the Praemium Imperiale from the Japanese Government, in recognition of a lifetime achievement in the arts. In 1995, he was elected Fellow to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He received the Deutscher Architektur Preis in 1993 and in 1992 the French Government awarded him with the honor of Officier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres. In 1989, the Royal Institute of British Architects, of which he is a Fellow, awarded him the Royal Gold Medal. He also received the prestigious Pritzker Prize for Architecture in 1984, which made him the youngest recipient of the award in the history of the prize.

A graduate of Cornell University, Meier is an exponent of modernism that stresses crisp geometric shapes. A fine example of his residential work can be found in Palm Beach on North Lake Way. One of his recent projects, completed in 2006, is the Museo Dell'Ara Pacis. The non-classical building in the center of Rome houses a 9th century B.C. altar that celebrates the victories of the Emperor Augustus. The mayor of Rome had personally invited Meier to design the museum instead of holding a competition.

Meier has taught at Cooper Union, Princeton University, Pratt Institute, Harvard University, Yale University and UCLA. He has given numerous lectures throughout the world and participated in many architectural juries. Not only is he an author in his own right, but is also the subject of many books and monographs and innumerable newspaper and magazine articles.

The Gruss Master Architect Lecture featuring Mr. Meier is open to the public. Tickets are \$15. Students and members of the foundation may attend free of charge. Tickets may be purchased at the door of The Harriet. The lecture begins at 2 pm Friday, March 16. Please call 832-0731 to make reservations.



## Calendar of Events for 2007 Season

### MARCH - MAY 2007

<b>Friday, March 2, 2007</b>	8pm	Annual Dinner Dance	The Breakers
<b>Wednesday, March 7, 2007</b>	2-4pm	Adult Education Series II	311 Peruvian Ave.
<b>Friday, March 9, 2007</b>	4pm	Musicale - <i>Dreyfoos School of the Arts</i>	311 Peruvian Ave.
<b>Thursday, March 15, 2007</b>	3pm	Film/Q&A - <i>The Venetian Dilemma</i> Film by Carole and Richard Rifkind	311 Peruvian Ave.
<b>Friday, March 16, 2007</b>	2-4pm	Gruss Lecture Series - <i>Richard Meier</i>	The Harriet/WPB
<b>Wednesday, March 21, 2007</b>	2-4pm	Adult Education Series III	311 Peruvian Ave.
<b>Saturday, March 24, 2007</b>	10-4pm	Palm Tree Sale	Royal Poinciana Plaza
<b>Thursday, April 5, 2007</b>	2pm	Elizabeth L. and John H. Schuler Award Presentation/Lecture. Award for New Architecture	311 Peruvian Ave.
<b>Friday, April 13, 2007</b>	4pm	Musicale - <i>Yale Alley Cats</i>	Pan's Garden
<b>Tuesday, May 1, 2007</b>	Noon	Bridge Party	311 Peruvian Ave.

## 2006-2007 NEW MEMBERS

Mr. and Mrs. Patrick A. Gerschel

Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Johnson

Mr. Kevin P. Mahaney

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Mambrino

Ms. Cynthia L. Martin

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas C. Murphy

Mr. and Mrs. James Pizzagalli

Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Royce

Mrs. Paul K. Salter

UBS Financial Services

## REQUEST FOR UPDATED INFORMATION

To provide timely information regarding the foundation, please forward your name, address and e-mail address to [scottm@palmbeachpreservation.org](mailto:scottm@palmbeachpreservation.org). If you have moved or your status has recently changed, please call us at 832-0731.



## March 2007

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					2 Annual Dinner Dance	3
					4	5
11	12	13	14	15 The Venetian Dilemma Film/Q&A 3pm	16 Guss Lecture Series Richard Meier 2-4pm The Harriett	17
18	19	20	21 Adult Education Series III 2-4pm	22	23	24 Palm Tree Sale Royal Poinciana Plaza 10am-4pm
25	26 Seating is limited for events.	27	28	29	30	31

## April 2007

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5 Schuler Award & Presentation 2pm	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 Musicale Yale Alley Cats 4pm	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 Events subject to change.					

## MISH IN PALM BEACH: FEBRUARY 28 TO MARCH 7

Fine jewelry designer and Preservation Foundation supporter, Mish Tworkowski of Mish New York, will be in Palm Beach February 28th until March 7th with a wonderful selection from his new jewelry collections. Mish's beautiful pieces are often described as classic with a touch of whimsy and are highly regarded for their unmatched craftsmanship and amazing use of color. Amongst many other honors and accomplishments, Mish was recently touted as Town & Country's top pick as the jewelry designer "of the moment and also of the future." His work can be found monthly on the pages of *W*, *Vogue*, *Veranda* and *Elle Décor*.

A member since 1995 and for the last three years, Mish New York has very generously donated wonderful custom designed gifts for the attendees of the Preservation Foundation's Annual Dinner Dance. Last year Mish made an exceptionally detailed sterling silver Seagull key ring in honor of Sea Gull Cottage. Once again, Mish will be designing an amazing donation to be given away at the Annual Dinner Dance on the evening of March 2nd.

Please stop by to meet Mish and view his fine jewelry collections.

**February 28 to March 7, 2007 (except Sunday)**

**10:00 am to 6:00pm**

**Mary Mahoney**

**351 Worth Avenue • Palm Beach**

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## OLIVE GOWEN POST CARD COLLECTION



Mrs. Olive Gowen of Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania recently donated a unique collection of Palm Beach post cards to the Preservation Foundation Archives. The collection consists of 770 postcards dating from the early twentieth century. Hope Annan, a friend of Mrs. Gowen, as well as a foundation trustee and archives volunteer, facilitated the donation.

Mrs. Gowen, nee Olive Mills Massie, grew up in a Maurice Fatio designed house at 320 Chilean Avenue. After marrying Francis I. Gowen, she and her husband moved to Philadelphia where she began collecting her nostalgic post cards.

The Gowen Post Card Collection includes subjects ranging from architecture to local attractions. Many of the cards predate World War I, which was the period known as the Golden Age of Post Cards. For a large number of Americans the family post card album served as an inexpensive means of home entertainment in the days prior to radio and television.

Post cards are a direct reflection of the attitudes and interests of society and provide a glimpse into the past. A casual perusal of the Gowen Collection yields remarkable pictorial treasures – Jungle Road when it was just a jungle path, tea dances at the Royal Poinciana Hotel, the use of bicycle chairs, and the island's own Garden of Eden.

*Richard P. D'Elia, Ph.D.*

## 2007 WALKING TOUR ~ CLARENDON AVENUE

On February 1, members of the Preservation Foundation toured five grand homes on Clarendon Avenue. Special thanks to tour sponsor, Sotheby's, and all the gracious hosts and residents who participated in making the annual Walking Tour such a success.

Clarendon Avenue is considered one of the most distinguished residential streets in Palm Beach. The picturesque streetscape includes tall palms that line the avenue and an old boat basin on the lakeside. The Mediterranean and Classical styled homes on the block, both old and new, were designed by such well known architects as Marion Sims Wyeth, Maurice Fatio, Ames Bennett, and Howard Major.

Vita Serena is the name of the subdivision in which Clarendon Avenue was platted, having been developed by E. Clarence Jones in 1922. Addison Mizner designed the first house on the south side of the street, with the estate encompassing all of the property from ocean to lake. The house, called Casa Florencia, was one of Mizner's two great Palm Beach estates, the other being Playa Riente. However, Casa Florencia was demolished in the 1950s. Only an empty ocean lot remains.

In typical fashion of foundation walking tours, the event ended with an elegant tea. The hosts of the tea, owners of Vita Serena, a restored Wyeth designed home built in 1926, provided a serene setting in a beautiful courtyard for members and guests to relax and appreciate the architectural delights of earlier times. The Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach extends a special thank you to the owners of Vita Serena for hosting the lovely tea – a perfect ending to a beautiful day on a charming street.



*Les Colonnes*



*Vita Serena*



*Tea in Vita Serena Garden*



*Charlie Roberts and Susan Markin*

*The past hurricanes have destroyed thousands of our beautiful palm trees. Purchase palms for your property or donate palms for town property through the Preservation Foundation's*

# Palm Sale

Saturday, March 24  
10am – 4pm  
Royal Poinciana Plaza

## I WOULD LIKE TO BRING BACK THE PALMS TO PALM BEACH

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ 3 foot Coconut Palm(s) installed on town property at \$30 per tree = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ 8 foot Coconut Palm(s) installed on town property at \$150 per tree = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to contribute to larger trees 18-20' (\$1,000) or 25-30' (\$2,500) installed on the town's oceanfront, parks and N. County Rd. \_\_\_ tree(s) at \$ \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total check enclosed = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please return with a check to:

**Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach**  
311 Peruvian Avenue • Palm Beach, FL 33480

You will receive a receipt. Palms donated to the Town of Palm Beach may be planted in honor or memory of others. All donations will be acknowledged in the *Palm Beach Daily News*.

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PRESERVATION FOUNDATION OF PALM BEACH  
311 Peruvian Avenue  
Palm Beach, FL 33480

