To: Miami Marines

No dramatic events over the last month, just steady, positive progress. Below is an update:

**Virginia Key Planning Charrette on March 27**

Several classes from the University of Miami (UM) are developing plans for Virginia Key and the Marine Stadium Basin with the full cooperation of the City of Miami Administration. The City hopes to incorporate the results of the student work in its final recommendations for the Master Plan for Virginia Key, scheduled to be presented to the City Commission in June or July.

You too can help shape the future of Virginia Key and the historic Miami Marine Stadium at a charrette co-sponsored by UM, The Urban Environment League, and Dade Heritage Trust. Students from UM’s School of Architecture, taught by UM Professor and Friends of Marine Stadium Co-Founder Jorge Hernandez, and Hilario Candela, architect of the Stadium, will be presenting their work (in draft form) followed by public input on Saturday, March 27 at the Rusty Pelican, 3201 Rickenbacker Causeway, Virginia Key from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM. The event is free. Call 305-358-9572.

Don't miss this important opportunity to participate.

**Presentations, Letters of Support, and Press**

Our work to generate awareness and "re-introduce" the Marine Stadium to our community never stops. Last month, presentations were made to the following groups:

- Ponce Business Association
- Marine Industry Council
The Treasure Coast InBoard Hydroplane Regatta, a major boat race, will be held in Jensen Beach Florida the weekend of April 24-25. The sponsors of the race have generously offered to donate 100% of the proceeds of sales from the beer tent to Friends of Marine Stadium! If you would like to join us and volunteer for this event, please email Don at Dontonton@gmail.com. We expect that hotel rooms will be provided. Click here for more information about this exciting event!

**Upcoming Marine Stadium Presentations**

Don Worth will be presenting a power point presentation, "The Future of Miami Marine Stadium" on the following dates:

- March 10 at Design Within Reach, 927 Lincoln Road, Miami Beach; Reception is from 6:00-8:00 PM; with presentation at 7:00 PM; This FREE event is part of Dade Heritage Days.
- March 31, at the Van Dyke, 846 Lincoln Road, Miami Beach at 8:00 PM. Event is part of the Civic Circle, an informal forum that gathers to listen to speakers and to discuss issues of concern to the community. Click here for details. Event is FREE.

**Miami International Triathlon**

The Miami International Triathlon will be held at the Marine Stadium Basin on Sunday, March 14. The "pre-event" featuring many booths and shopping areas, will be held Friday and Saturday. Click here to go the website and see details of this exciting event.

Triathlons are a very fast growing participatory sport and the Marine Stadium Basin has the potential to be a world class facility. We have been working closely with Excel Promotions, the producers of the Miami International Triathlon, and other triathlon groups to make sure that the Marine Stadium becomes THE perfect place for triathlons.

Friends of Marine Stadium will have a booth at the Triathlon on Friday, Saturday and Sunday to "spread the word" on our initiative. We could use some volunteers to man the booth and spend a few enjoyable hours at this amazing site. Please email dontonton@gmail.com if you're interested.

**Conclusion**

Work continues on feasibility issues for the Marine Stadium. In past updates, we have focused on boat races and triathlons-both potential users for the Stadium and Basin.
Miami Marine Neil Harden, has written a wonderful memory of Marine Stadium that manages to combine both boat racing and triathlons, past and future. Click here to read it. The story will tell you what the “1st place award” pictured in this box means and how the Marine Stadium inspired Neil to win it.

We encourage you to submit your great story about the Marine Stadium to Girl Scout Hannah Imberman, who is compiling them for a book called IF SEATS COULD TALK. Email your story to Hannah at ifseatscouldtalk@gmail.com Several paragraphs is fine.

We continue to make remarkable progress!

Jorge Hernandez
Becky Roper Matkov
Don Worth

Friends of Marine Stadium
www.marinestadium.org

Photo by Jay Koenigsberg