

Community Foundation Honors Local Environmentalist at Celebration of Philanthropy

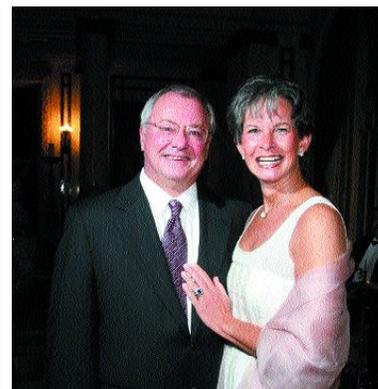
Photos by: Lucien Capehart



Nathaniel P. Reed (dinner honoree), Polly Ober (event co-chair), William M. Matthews (Community Foundation Chairman), David G. Ober (event co-chair)



Honorable Edward Rogers (CF board member) and Sanjena Clay



Peter (CF board member) and Carol Matwiczuk



Jean and William M. Matthews (CF Chairman) with Anne and Jerome Fisher

WEST PALM BEACH -- Each January, the Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties recognizes individuals who have made a significant difference in our local community at its Celebration of Philanthropy dinner dance. The 2006 honoree is Nathaniel P. Reed, noted Hobe Sound environmentalist. The event was held January 4th, for the first time at The Henry Morrison Flagler Museum on Palm Beach and close to 200 attended the gala event. Chairmen were Mr. and Mrs. David G. Ober, and Honorary Chairmen were Mrs. S. Christopher Meigher, III and Mr. Mario Nievera. Northern Trust Bank was the foundation's grand corporate sponsor (a complete list of sponsors follows).

Nathaniel P. Reed was born in New York in 1933. He served as Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife and parks in the Nixon and Ford administrations (1971-77). Reed was raised in Greenwich, CT and Jupiter Island, Florida. He received a B.A. from Trinity College in 1955 and served as an officer in the U.S. Air Force military intelligence throughout Europe, North Africa and the Middle East (1955-59). Following military service and upon returning to Florida, he became Vice President and then President of the Hobe Sound Company, a real estate and holding company, which owned the world famous Jupiter Island Club. Under his parent's vision, Jupiter Island was developed slowly and wisely with hundreds of acres of wilderness preserved on the island and mainland. Mr. Reed's concerns with the exploitation and thoughtless destruction of much of Southern Florida by ill-conceived Corps of Engineers and state drainage projects led him to become a highly visible and articulate critic.

Mr. Reed's first assignment in state government occurred with his appointment as Chairman of the State Board of Antiquities (1962-63). Governor Farris Bryant challenged Mr. Reed to preserve part of the substantial amounts of treasure that had been discovered within shipwrecked Spanish galleons lying on Florida's ocean bottoms. Mr. Reed was able to secure 25% of the vast treasure trove as "Florida's share" that now grace our state's museums.

As a result he became the state's first Governor's Environmental Counsel (1967-71). In 1969, following the exposure of years of neglect and lack of enforcement of basic air and water pollution state laws, Mr. Reed was

appointed Chairman of the newly formed Department of Air and Water Pollution Control which has evolved into the Department of Environmental Regulation. In the spring of 1971, Mr. Reed accepted the invitation President Nixon to become Assistant Secretary of Interior for Fish, Wildlife and National Parks. Assembling the brightest staff in Washington, Secretary Reed set out to make substantial changes in the Department's position on the misuse of coyote poison known as Compound 1080, which killed thousands of non-target animals. He vigorously prosecuted the eagle killers, formed an Interior team to ban the use of DDT, supported the creation of new national parks and wildlife refuges and opposed Corps and Bureau of Reclamation dams and drainage schemes – outdated, environmentally destructive projects, coast to coast. Reed's articulation of the costs, both financial and environmental, of pork barrel projects and the need to protect our national parks and refuges wound up on three segments of 60 Minutes.

Mr. Reed has served seven governors on every conceivable committee and commission. He is best known as the highly visible Chairman of the Commission on Florida's Environmental Future which recommended a \$3 billion investment in the remaining best wild lands in Florida. Two million acres later the program continues to be supported by (now former) Governor Jeb Bush and the Florida Legislature. Event Chairman Polly Ober said of Mr. Reed, "David and I had the great pleasure of traveling with the Reeds this fall when we learned first-hand the truth of Nat's famous quotation "We are all fellow passengers on planet Earth". He is indeed a passionate passenger of the planet who cares deeply about the environment's well-being."

The Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties is one of 700 community foundations throughout the country. Gifts received from individuals, families, businesses, corporations and other foundations make up the permanent endowment of the Foundation, now totaling \$128 million. Income from the endowment is used to make grants and award scholarships in Palm Beach and Martin counties. The Foundation, established in 1972, is governed by a Board of Directors composed of community leaders interested in the welfare of the counties and is managed by a staff recognized for its expertise in specific program areas. For more information contact the Community Foundation at (561) 659-6800, or visit its website www.yourcommunityfoundation.org.