



September 4, 2018

Dear Friends of Prologue --

We hope you're as excited as we are -- **the 2018-2019 season is about to begin!**

Membership:

Our annual membership packet mailing will go out to everyone as soon as the materials are back from the printer's. But you don't need to wait for that, because you're able to quickly & easily renew or register a new membership online right now! Simply visit the *Join Us* page on our website. We offer three season selections, each with Individual and Couple options: full season, fall mini season, and spring mini season.

Events:

Our fall events are being added to the website and all will be open for registration this week. In fact, our **October 4th luncheon with Jack E. Davis (*The Gulf: The Making of an American Sea*)** is already open for registration.

Continue reading to see a list of the 2018-2019 events we've confirmed to date, as well a detailed listing for our Oct. 4th luncheon.

Other ways to register for memberships and events:

- Complete and return the enclosed enrollment form, along with your check.
- Call or email Debbie Hirshson, our program coordinator, to let her know what you'd like to do and how you'd like to handle the payment; her contact information is below.

Be sure to watch your inboxes and mail boxes in the coming days and weeks, and call or email us with any questions.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Best,
The Prologue Society

P.S. Be sure to invite your friends, or share their contact information with Debbie and she'll reach out to them.



2018-2019 Confirmed Luncheons

As you look ahead, we eagerly ask that you **save these dates**, noting each individual event's Coral Gables venue. You may visit our website to conveniently register & pay online:

Fall 2018 –

- September - No events
- **12:00pm Thurs., Oct. 4 - Jack E. Davis, *The Gulf: The Making of an American Sea* (Coral Gables Country Club)**
- **12:00pm Fri., Nov. 16 - Doris Kearns Goodwin, *Leadership: In Turbulent Times* (Riviera Country Club)**
- **12:00pm Wed., 12/5/2018 - Antony Beevor, *The Battle at Arnhem: The Deadliest Airborne Operation of World War II* (Coral Gables Country Club)**

Spring 2019 –

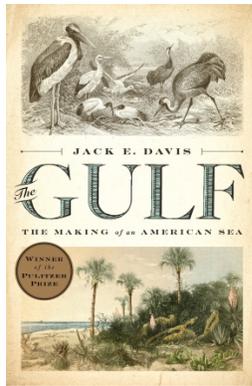
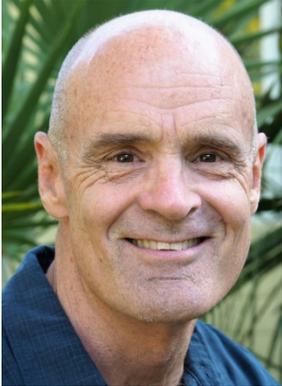
- **12:00pm Thurs., Jan. 31 - Andrew Roberts, *Churchill: Walking with Destiny* (Riviera Country Club)**
- February - **Doug Burnham** (details are pending)
- March through May (details are pending)

Keep reading for full details regarding our October 4th luncheon with Jack E. Davis.

Lunch with Jack E. Davis, *The Gulf: The Making of an American Sea*

October 4, 2018

Coral Gables Country Club Ballroom
997 N. Greenway Drive, Coral Gables, FL 33134



When painter Winslow Homer first sailed into the Gulf of Mexico, he was struck by its "special kind of providence." Indeed, the Gulf presented itself as America's sea—bound by geography, culture, and tradition to the national experience—and yet, there has never been a comprehensive history of the Gulf until now. And so, in this rich and original work that explores the Gulf through our human connection with the sea, environmental historian Jack E. Davis finally places this exceptional region into the American mythos in a sweeping history that extends from the Pleistocene age to the twenty-first century.

Significant beyond tragic oil spills and hurricanes, the Gulf has historically been one of the world's most bounteous marine environments, supporting human life for millennia. Davis starts from the premise that nature lies at the center of human existence, and takes readers on a compelling and, at times, wrenching journey from the Florida Keys to the Texas Rio Grande, along marshy shorelines and majestic estuarine bays, profoundly beautiful and life-giving, though fated to exploitation by esurient oil men and real-estate developers.

Rich in vivid, previously untold stories, *The Gulf* tells the larger narrative of the American Sea—from the sportfish that brought the earliest tourists to Gulf shores to Hollywood's engagement with the first offshore oil wells—as it inspired and empowered, sometimes to its own detriment, the ethnically diverse groups of a growing nation. Davis' pageant of historical characters is vast, including: the presidents who directed western expansion toward its shores, the New England fishers who introduced their own distinct skills to the region, and the industries and big agriculture that sent their contamination downstream into the estuarine wonderland. Nor does Davis neglect the colorfully idiosyncratic individuals: the Tabasco king who devoted his life to wildlife conservation, the Texas shrimper who gave hers to clean water and public health, as well as the New York architect who hooked the "big one" that set the sportfishing world on fire.

Ultimately, Davis reminds us that amidst the ruin, beauty awaits its return, as the Gulf is, and has always been, an ongoing story. Sensitive to the imminent effects of climate change, and to the difficult task of rectifying grievous assaults of recent centuries, *The Gulf* suggests how a penetrating examination of a single region's history can inform the country's path ahead.

Jack E. Davis is the author of the award-winning *An Everglades Providence: Marjory Stoneman Douglas and the American Environmental Century*. A professor of environmental history at the University of Florida, he grew up on the Gulf coast, and now lives in Florida and New Hampshire.

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Photo credit: Lynn Weir

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION: Thursday, September 27, 2018.