

## AUTHORITIES CRITIQUE ON THE BOOK

“For ten years, Martha Saconchik-Pytel has dug deeply into the remarkable lives of Baker’s Haulover pioneers at the north end of Miami Beach, Florida. She is an exceptional researcher of forgotten events and landmarks; her investigations will absorb the reader. *Baker’s Haulover, A Maritime Treasure of History and Pioneers* is a stunning study of an important element of early Miami. Many of its historic images are from the camera of Doris Barnes, the Official Dock Photographer at Haulover, who for fifty years recorded a maritime era. This work will take its place with other valuable studies of the area's rich history and it will also serve as a valuable reference volume.”

**Dr. Paul George, Author/Historian, Historical Museum of Southern Florida, Miami.**

“Martha Saconchik-Pytel’s single-minded devotion, attention to detail, and tenacity in pursuit of her dream to record the lives and events of Baker’s Haulover as a memorial to her father, has rendered a book vital to understanding the maritime history of Florida. After years of research and writing, her personal memoirs, the unique first-person narratives, and authentic photographs have captured the very essence of that time, much like the sports fishermen who avidly sought and landed the big fish.”

**Sandra Kux Morton,  
Associate Professor,  
Tallahassee Community College.**

“ . . . I think (Saconchik-Pytel) is a formidable woman. She’s very intelligent, very talented and did a great job with this project (obtained

“ . . . She (Martha Saconchik-Pytel) has demonstrated that the sport fishing industry is really the story of the growth of Florida tourism, as we now know it. It was the first industry to consistently bring national press coverage to Florida in a positive manner. Sport fishing attracted the famous and notable that spread the word about the wonders and joys of Florida living. Martha has clearly demonstrated that sport fishing was and is one of the bedrocks of the tourist industry that has done so much to support Florida’s overall economy. . . Martha has put the sport fishing industry and those who made it back into the limelight it so richly deserves. . . .”

**From the Preface in this book by Dr. Joe Knetsch, Author/Historian,  
Florida Department of Natural Resources, Division of State Lands, Tallahassee.**

the only historic marker in the state for a fishing dock). We’re proud to be associated with the project.”

**Catherine Hageston Clark,  
State of Florida Historical Marker  
Coordinator (From the *Tallahassee Democrat*  
article by Gerald Ensley, February 21, 2004).**

“*Baker’s Haulover, a Maritime Treasure of History And Pioneers* provides insight into little known events at an American deep-sea fishing destination. For the first time, the significance of the site and the deeds of its charter boat skippers during World War II are revealed. Particularly interesting are the stories of charter boat captains who voluntarily patrolled for enemy submarines and aided in rescue efforts. The book’s wide-ranging scope makes it attractive to scholars and recreational readers alike.”

**Michael Gannon, Author/Historian, Professor  
Emeritus of History,  
University of Florida, Gainesville.**

“ . . . These hardy captains left a legacy of perseverance and tenacity in the face of unpredictable weather and hurricanes, a World War, where their first job was to track enemy submarines, to the building of an inlet bridge and the replacement of their dock. The good news is that they always came back to fish again. This is their story, lovingly told by an eye-witness who fought to preserve their legacy.”

**From the Foreword in this book by Arva  
Moore Parks, Author/Historian,  
Acting Director/Curator of the Coral Gables  
Museum, Miami.**