
Times Facts

Jeff Klinkenberg is a *St. Petersburg Times* staffer who writes about Florida culture. He joined the *Times* in 1977 and his work takes him throughout the state from Pensacola to Key West.

Talking points

- The Everglades • Natural Florida • Wilderness cycling and hiking
- Fishing and camping • Environmental issues • Writing tips • Florida culture
- Florida history • Florida literature • Places to visit

Jeff Klinkenberg has been profiled on Florida Public Radio and is a frequent guest on WMNF and essayist on WUSF. He has lectured at the University of Florida, the University of South Florida, St. Petersburg College, the Poynter Institute for Media Studies and several National Writers' Workshops.

Education

Born in Chicago, he attended parochial and public schools and junior college in south Florida. He is a University of Florida journalism graduate.

Background

Born in 1949, Klinkenberg grew up in Miami and began exploring the Florida Keys and the Everglades as a small boy. He started working at *The Miami News* when he was 16 and later became a journalism graduate of the University of Florida. He enjoys cycling, running, swimming, hiking, canoeing and fly fishing. He is the author of the collections of essays about our state *Real Florida* and *Dispatches from the Land of Flowers*. Both are published by Down Home Press of Asheboro, North Carolina and available at book stores. His latest essay collection, *The Seasons of Real Florida*, was published in 2004. "If Jeff Klinkenberg isn't careful, he might give journalism a good name," says the author Carl Hiaasen. "He has a rare eye for marvelous detail and an affectionate ear for those small, wise, bittersweet voices that tell the true story of Florida."

Awards

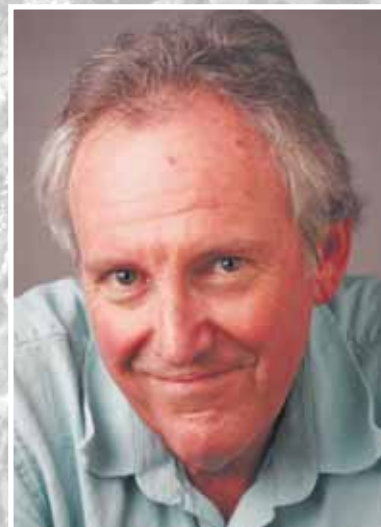
He is the only two-time winner of the Paul Hansell Distinguished Journalism Award, the highest honor in state journalism, given annually by the Florida Society of Newspaper Editors. Klinkenberg also is a two-time environmental journalism finalist for the national Scripps-Howard Meeman writing contest, and has been an Ernie Pyle Human Interest writing finalist. Six times his essays and stories have been nominated for the Pulitzer Prize. He has been an adjunct instructor in the University of Florida's college of Journalism and served as the Writer-in-Residence for the University of South Florida's "Florida Studies" program in the college of Arts & Sciences. He has written for magazines that include *Audubon*, *Outside*, *Travel and Leisure* and *National Wildlife*.

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