



Estero Historical Society

P.O. Box 1314 * Estero, Florida 33929

May 2013 News Letter

WWW.esterohistoricalsociety.com

Editor: Bev MacNellis

The **Estero Historical Society's** mission is to learn, teach and preserve the history of Estero in order to secure the historical legacy for future generations in an effort to aid and promote a strong sense of commu-

Membership runs from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31.

Want to become a member?
\$20 Individual - \$35 Family
Mail to: EHS, P.O.Box 1314,
Estero, FL, 33929

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- Celebrate Estero-April 6
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- Estero Historical Society lost a special person, Bob Nelson.

Speaker Theresa Schoeber Mound Key - March 11

Theresa Schoeber is a name we will be hearing for some time to come. An expert in her field of archeology and Mound Key especially. She used no notes and had us spell bound with the story of Mound Key and it's history. We hung on to every word. We wanted to go and see for ourselves. Which we did on April 8th.

Member Carolyn Fischer arranged it all. We went by boat with **Theresa, Marlene, Dave and**

Bob. walking shoes on. It was a limited number of tickets and it filled up within 24 hours after the notice went out. A donation was given to Ms. Schoeber to help promote and pay for the movie she is very involved in about Mound Key. We look very forward to its' realization.



Featured picture this issue from "Lace".

Estero Chamber of Commerce hosts "Celebrate Estero" on April 6



Every year we try to be at this event held in the parking lot of Miromar Outlet shops off of Corkscrew Rd. and sponsored by the Estero Chamber of Commerce. Again you see Jean and Betty here telling the public about our mission and selling chutney, T-Shirts, note cards and etc. Other members can out to help them also.

BBQ & Family Fun Fest Rotary Club of Estero

Jean Pryal and Betty Shandor are two member that we always count on to help and promote the Society on any day and any place. On March 23rd they were at the Estero Community Park for the Rotary Club of Estero's BBQ day.

It was hot and very windy that day. Note how they moved the table to follow the shade. They are not new to this volunteer work.



Volunteers Betty Shandor and Jean Pryal.



Betty gives the stilt lady a drink of water.



Board Members Dave Pryal VP, Carla Director & Bob Morris President.



Past Chamber President David Gavaila stops by with his family and chats with society members Eileen Galvin, Jean Pryal and Bev MacNellis.

Want to help the Society?
Like the shirts Betty and Jean have on? Come to the Historical Headquarters at the Estero Community Park on Wed. between 1 and 3 PM. to get one. Adult non member is \$15 and member is \$12. Summer hours: Wed. 1-3 PM



Betty talked to lots of interested people. Many had heard of our chutney and wanted to know more.

Bob H. Nelson: January 23, 1942 - April 13, 2013

Reprinted here and edited from: Online Obituaries for the Troy, Royal Oak, Clawson & Shelby Township MI Area, written by Georgia Nelson.

Robert H. NELSON Passed away on April 13, 2013, in Florida. Age 71. Beloved Husband of Georgia. Dear Father of Michael (Sally) and Patrick (Cindy) Nelson. Dear Grandfather of Christian, Kendyl, Lia, Audrey and Henry. Dear Brother of Shirley(Doug) Szudy. Dear Uncle of Brett (Sally) Szudy.

Bob Nelson was retired from General Motors, and was an avid golfer and fisherman.

Bob and his wife Georgia were married in 1967 .

Bob majored in civil engineering for 2 or 3 years, attending both U of Wisconsin at Madison and at Milwaukee. He switched to electrical engineering and earned a bachelors and masters in that field. After other jobs he was recruited by General Motors about 1968, Bob and Georgia moved to the Detroit area. He worked in Research at the Tech Center in Warren, Mich. for 5 years, then became the Chief Engineer & Program Manager for the Electric Car, then Chief Electrical Engineer on the Chevy Caprice, Buick Roadmaster and Cadillac Deville, and finally became Director of Engineering doing specifications and assembly documents for the North American assembly plants. He retired on January 1, 2001. They became official residents of Estero, FL but spent 5 months of each year on Sapphire Lake in Lake City, MI.

During the GM years, they moved to Pleasant Ridge, where they lived for 26 years or more. Bob became a loving and beloved daddy to Mike who was born in 1972 and Pat, born in 1974. He was a Webelo leader when the boys were in scouting. Bob has always been an excellent bridge and poker player, bowler, tennis player and golfer. Golf was his passion. He particularly looked forward to the annual houseboat fishing trip to the Boundary Waters with long time boyhood friends from the Fox Lake cottage in Wisconsin.

In retirement, he became very involved with our community association in Florida, ultimately becoming president of the master board and helping to get a \$3 million clubhouse renovation project completed. He was an excellent leader who always kept his cool under pressure.

We were able to share the hobby of reading mysteries in our dotage and enjoyed season tickets to professional repertory theater in Florida. After Bob played the title role in Wild Cat Willie Gets Brain Fever in junior high, he retained an interest in plays and play acting . In



fact, we both played roles in the Koreshan Ghost Walk at the Koreshan State Historic Site in Estero, Florida for the five years or so that we volunteered there.

After diagnosis with carcinoid cancer in 2007, he fought a good fight enduring procedures to head back the disease including liver tumor embolization followed with a clinical trial of the drug, Sutent, that turned him a shade of yellow. Next came a year or so on Interferon shots, the effects of which he tolerated until he became too weak to play golf. When his strength rebounded enough, he was back on the course. But he had run out of treatments and his strength again began to ebb making golf and tennis beyond his ability. And this year he was going to have to miss the fishing trip for the first time.

With earlier diagnosis he might have beaten the disease, but it was already well advanced when finally identified in 2007 and beyond cure. He had the finest medical care in Florida and Michigan by a team headed by carcinoid expert, Larry Kvols, MD of Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute in Tampa, FL. Bob was very brave and never gave in to despair. A year ago, we were told there was nothing more that could be done and he did begin a steady decline. In the next few years, treatments now in trials will become available in this country but too late for us. This disease, thought to be rare, is gaining some public awareness at last.

Memorials may be made to -

Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute, 12902 Magnolia Drive, Tampa, FL 33612; Carcinoid Cancer Foundation, 333 Mamaroneck Avenue, #492, White Plains, NY 10605; Joanne's House of Hope Hospice, 27200 Imperial Pkwy., Bonita Springs, FL 34135



"When he was President of the Villages of Country Creek Board he provided them with great leadership....he guided them through the very contentious decision to repair some serious problems with their clubhouse and updating and expanding it very successfully...he was concerned about the entire Estero community, not simply Country Creek, and was always very supportive of the ECCL"

Don Eslick

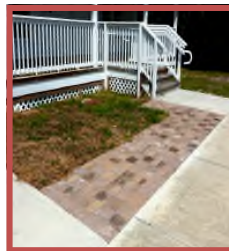
Be A Friend . . . Buy A Brick

The Estero Historical Society has selected commemorative bricks as a fundraiser. They may be personalized to honor a loved one, close friend, a lost pet, your company and don't forget yourself. We can design your brick to suit you, two sizes of bricks and your choice of logo. Logos must be one color. They may be attached to this form or emailed to beverlyann@comcast.net as a jpeg. For more information and help in deciding call Beverly at 498-0678

Our next goal is to restore the 1904 School House for which the offering of commemorative bricks is just one of the fundraising efforts.

We hope that in preserving the buildings we will help fulfill our mission in providing a place where the community could come together to learn about the early life in Estero and in doing so promote a strong sense of community identity.

We want to thank all the many friends of the Estero Historical Society for all their help and generous support through the years and hopefully into the future.



Please visit our new web site which is still a work in progress to find out more about our Society. Find out future plans, trips, speakers and events that are going to take place. You will be able to join and up date your membership information, make donations, and order your "Memorial Brick" on line.

<http://www.esterohistoricalsociety.com>

For more information on the commemorative bricks

**4" x 8" Brick \$75
8" x 8" Brick \$100
Sale until October**

The \$100 8 x 8 brick price is a special until October 2013. Don't miss out.

Please print your letters as you want them to appear on the brick, using upper and lower case as desired. Please use a separate form for each order.

For more information and help on this project contact:
Beverly MacNellis at 239-498-0678 or at
[Beverlyann@comcast.net](mailto:beverlyann@comcast.net)

Be a Friend and Buy a Brick

Make checks payable to:

The Estero Historical Society

P.O. Box 1314, Estero, FL 33929

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Your Email: _____

Artwork included Emailed YES NO

Brick size:
4" x 8" \$75 _____

8" x 8" \$100 _____

Logo (Add \$20) \$ _____

Total enclosed \$ _____

8" x 8" Brick - 6 lines of 18 to 20 letters

4" x 8" Brick - 3 lines of 18 to 20 letters

Font: Grilled Cheese or **Snap**

Pioneer Picnic - April 20



Bob Morris, a long time resident of Estero and president of the Society, welcomes the old timers and friends to the Pioneer Picnic pot-luck lunch. There is a big difference in this pot luck lunch. Many of the dishes are from old family recipes passed down. A real treat.

Pictures would not do the taste and smells of the local foods any good. The smells and combinations of local ingredients was a topic of conversation. I usually do not

President Bob Morris

come to this affair because I have only been here since 2002. It is however, for friends also and everyone is welcomed. I will not miss next years Pioneer Picnic. Hope to see you there.

After lunch old stories were told of "The good and not so good times." Food or the stories, it was the people I met that was the highlight of the lunch.

Co-Chairs: Dorothy Horne Evrard and Darlene Horne Johnson.



Jean Pryal, Bob Morris, Dorothy Horne Evrard, Betty Horne Hodges

Estero Community Planning Panel will have a Speaker on early Estero at it's June 17th meeting. It is open to the public and starts at 5:00 PM at the Estero Community Center.

If you have forgotten to renew your membership to the Estero Historical Society, please do so now. Those who have not will be getting a friendly reminder in the near future via email.

Dues is due every Jan. 1

See last page for more information



Rich Fein, Lois Fein, Curtis Horton, Gayle Horton



Lena McCullers, Andy McCullers, John McCullers, Herby Johnson



Betty and Steve Shandor



Nancy Ewert, John Evert, Bob Morris



Elda Sinopoli, Darlene Horne Johnson, Shirley Shenefield Hall, Norma Soto Williams



Dave Pryal, Dotti Brown, Doreen & Dennis Wisniewski

Membership to the EHS is due Jan. 1 of each year.

Dear Member or Past Member,

Thank you for your support in the past of the Estero Historical Society, Inc. The new year is here and we ask for your annual membership dues. Every dollar is so important to us at this time.

Renovation on the Hall-Collier Home is completed. The deck connecting both buildings and granting the public access to the buildings is also done. We need your support for the renovation of the one room school. It doesn't stop when the buildings are done. We also have to maintain them and pay the utility bills. The finished "Cottage" (Hall-Collier home) has been used for several events and rentals. It is open to the public. On Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1:00 to 3:00 PM each week. Chutney and books may be bought at that time.

The mission of the society is to learn, teach and preserve the history of Estero. One way we do this is to have monthly meetings with speakers of interest to our members.

Our monthly meetings are held on the second Monday of the month from October to May at 2 PM. They are held on the new deck at the Estero Park. We have just installed Shade sails so the deck is out of the sun.

Our web site (www.esterohistoricalsociety.com) is undergoing an update so visit it often for more information about us and to see pictures of our past events.

Annual Events Included:

Feb. 11, 2013 General Membership meeting Speaker Robert C. Brooks, Park manager of the Korean State Historic Site - 2 PM

Feb. 23, 2013 - Antique Appraisal Faire - 11- 3 PM
call Carolyn Fischer at 949-1518

March 4, 2013 - "LACE" Annual Spring Tea/Lunch-Shadow Wood, Tickets \$35, Chair Beverly MacNellis 498-0678

March 11, 2013 General Membership meeting -

April 20, 2013- Pioneer Picnic is at the cottage, on our deck. Co-Chairs: Dorothy Horne Evrard and Darlene Horne Johnson. 992-3178

July 4th - Reading of the Declaration of Independence- Noon - Very popular event.

June - Making of the Chutney and Jam - volunteers always welcome. Marlene Fernandez, Chair.

More activities and fund raising events are in the planning. Please watch for announcements in your email or visit our web site.

We are always looking for help in the society and you will be most welcome so let us know what you would like to do. If you have any further questions please call:

Treasurer Beverly MacNellis 498-0678

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

Due January 1, to get the advantage of the full year.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

ZIP _____

PHONE _____

* E-MAIL _____

* Your acceptance of e-mails allows us to keep you up-to-date on events and saves the Society a great deal in mailing costs.

- Individual \$20.00 Family \$35.00
 Supporter \$50.00 Patron \$500.00
 Lifetime \$1,000.00
 Business \$50.00 Business Patron \$500.00
 Donation to building fund \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please check your personal volunteer interests below. In order to function well, the Society NEEDS the help of its members.

- Docent-Office: Hall/Collier Home
 Care of Hall/Collier Home:
 Inside Yard

- Activities at the Hall/Collier Home: Exhibits
 Tea/Lunches Work Special Events Picnic
 Lectures (Getting speakers, set up, food etc.)
 Fundraising Events (Special Tea, Tours, Dance, etc)
 Children activities Mailings Take Pictures
 Phone calling Office School Projects
 Oral Histories Product Sales Publicity
 Newsletter Planning Committee
 Other _____

Please make checks payable to:
"ESTERO HISTORICAL SOCIETY"
PO BOX 1314, Estero, FL 33929

Annual dues are an important revenue source to cover our operating expenses.

Many thanks for your membership.

For more information please call

Jean Pryal at 239-498-5296

Visit our web site at:

<http://www.esterohistoricalsociety.com>