

# The Estero Historical Society

MARCH 2017

Editor: Pamela Fernandez

## March Membership Meeting March 13, 2017 2:00 P.M. at the Cottage

Join us at our March Membership Meeting where we will be holding a "Kaffe Klatch". This is the perfect time to tell us what kinds of programs would interest you.

Hear the story of Frank and Molly "Grandma" Johnson who homesteaded Mound Key in 1891 as told by Marlene Fernandez, EHS Docent, Archivist and Chutney Maker!

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## ~ Marlene's Corner ~

Did you know... The Cabbage Patch used to be Clyde C. Marshall's, ESTERO RIVER GROVES? Mr. Marshall owned many of the Citrus groves in Estero. His business on U.S. 41 shipped fruit, sold novelties and gifts to the tourists and others from about 1940 to 1980.

SUNNY GROVE MOBILE HOME PARK was a beautiful orange grove owned by Mr. Marshall. Developed by Mr. & Mrs. Williamson

CAMPBELL'S AUTO REPAIR was owned by Mark Williamson as a nursery and landscaping business.

REPEAT, REPEAT, if you have empty canning jars or know someone who no longer does canning, please ask them to let us recycle their leftovers and any supplies that are left! We will put everything to good use.



## What's Beverly Doing?

She is working on something very special! Bev, along with Eileen Lutz, find themselves collecting "old" vintage cards. The kind your Mother used to send and receive, especially the holiday cards. The older the better! We are looking for donations of these cards and will make them part of our collection.

We will present them in a display at the Cottage depending on the holiday they represent. For further information on this project, get in touch with Beverly at [bevmacnellis@gmail.com](mailto:bevmacnellis@gmail.com).

## EHS Tea Tickets on Sale NOW!

When: April 3, 2017

Where: Shadow Wood Country Club

Theme: Mad Hatter / Alice and Wonderland.

Tickets \$45pp ~ You may also host a table.

Get in touch with Beverly for more information,

239-498-0678 or visit us at:

<http://esterohistoricalsociety.com/event/its-a-mad-hatter-tea-party/>

*Good News! The Schoolhouse will be open on Saturday from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. through April! To celebrate, we held an open house on February 4<sup>th</sup>. It was a great turnout. Here are some photos from the event.*



Cole and Mindy Jennette with their three children Selah, Skyler, Leeland



FGCU student Joshua Mena



EHS volunteers, Bev MacNellis, Ken Wisen, Sylvian Goodspeed, Mary Ann Weenen, Diane Wisen, Barb, Melody Gibson, Marlene Fernandez.

*Now is your chance to Stop by and see the Schoolhouse!*

## 2017 Board Members

### Officers:

President – Charles Dauray  
 Vice President – Beverly MacNellis  
 Treasurer – Bob Boudreau  
 Secretary – Pamela Fernandez

### Directors at Large:

Marlene Fernandez  
 Eileen Galvin  
 Sis Newberry  
 Maryann Weenen  
 Ken Wisen

**EHS Golf Shirt  
 \$19.50**



**100% Cotton  
 Any color/any size**

Shirts are available for purchase at the Collage



Pamela Fernandez and Charles Dauray at the Fine Mark Bank reception for his WWI Poster Collection ~ Feb 15, 2017

Enjoy pictures from our February Membership Meeting...



Charles Dauray with our Guest Speakers



Carolyn Fischer with Betsy Perdichizzi as Tommie Barfield and Marion Nicolay as Deaconess Harriet Bedell



Tim talks about making of the book stand which will hold a dictionary that was donated to the Schoolhouse.



Tim describing how it opens



Tim next to the book stand he made as it is placed in its permanent home in the schoolhouse.

Did you know...

The Lee County Genealogical Society has Special Interest Groups (SIG). One of the SIG's is on IRISH ROOTS which meets the 2nd Tuesday of the Month 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Contact: Gary Clements [caneadea@juno.com](mailto:caneadea@juno.com) or Mike Carroll [carrollmjr@centurylink.net](mailto:carrollmjr@centurylink.net)

Check the online calendar for meeting location and how to become a member at [www.lcgsfl.org](http://www.lcgsfl.org)

 Happy   
St. Patrick's Day!

From the  
Estero Historical Society





## Irish-American Heritage Month

March has unofficially been considered Irish-American Heritage Month. This celebration has always coincided with the celebration of Saint Patrick's Day which for Catholics and some Protestants is a religious holiday in honor of the introduction of Christianity to Ireland in the early fifth century.

In the United States it has developed into a celebration of all the achievements and customs of the Irish. The Charitable Irish Society of Boston organized the first observance of Saint Patrick's Day on 17 March, 1737. For more information on this society please visit <http://www.charitableirishsociety.org/>. This first celebration was not Catholic in nature, since early Irish immigration to the colonies was dominated by Protestants. The society's purpose in gathering was simply to honor its Irish homeland. While the society continued to meet annually to coordinate charitable works for the Irish community in Boston, they did not meet on 17 March again until 1794. During the observance of the day, individuals attended a worship service followed by a dinner.

New York's first Saint Patrick's Day observance was similar to that of Boston. It was held on 17 March 1762 in the home of John Marshall, an Irish Protestant, honoring Irish soldiers serving in the British military protecting the Colonies during the French and Indian War. These informal gatherings soon became the norm and greatly increased in scope and popularity.

The first recorded parade in New York was by Irish soldiers in the British Army in 1766. The first documented Saint Patrick's Day celebration in Philadelphia was held in 1771. Philadelphia's Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick <http://www.friendlysons.com/> was founded to honor Saint Patrick and to provide relief to Irish immigrants in the city.

Irish Americans have celebrated Saint Patrick's Day in Philadelphia since their arrival in America. George Washington, a member of Philadelphia's Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick, actively encouraged Irish American patriots to join the Continental Army. In 1780, while camped in Morristown, New Jersey, General Washington allowed his troops a holiday on 17 March as an act of solidarity with the Irish in their fight for independence. This event became known as The Saint Patrick's Day Encampment of 1780.

In 1948, President Harry S. Truman, of Scottish descent, attended the New York Saint Patrick's Day Parade and gave a speech to attendees. This was a proud moment for the many Irish whose ancestors had to fight stereotypes and prejudice to find acceptance in the United States. In 1960 John F. Kennedy was elected as the first Irish American Catholic President; in 1961 he was in New York to review the Saint Patrick's Day Parade. In 1991, President George H.W. Bush issued a formal proclamation honoring the date. On February 29, 2016 President Obama made it official with a Presidential Proclamation.

As of the 2010 United States census, close to 40 million U.S. residents claim some level of Irish ancestry. This number is almost nine times the population of Ireland itself (slightly more than 4 million). Irish is our nation's second most frequently reported ancestry, trailing only German.

By: Bryan Mulcahy, M.L.S.

On February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017, Fine Mark National Bank & Trust held an opening reception which featured a private collection, owned by Charles Dauray, of original WWI posters which were on exhibit at the bank for two weeks so everyone would have a chance to see them. At the reception, there was one poster that Mr. Dauray unveiled so that everyone could see it at the same time. It really was quite special. The event was wonderful as we enjoyed delicious wine and great company. Please enjoy the photos below from the opening reception.



“A Special Unveiling”



Charles finishing up our brief history lesson as we all admire the final poster in this collection.



Guests at the event (L-R):  
Brandy Minchew, Katy Errington, Dr. Garth Errington, Gary Israel, and Peggy Phillips



Original WWI Posters on display as guests enjoy their reminiscing of how it “used to be”...



Marlene Fernandez, Dr. Garth & Katy Errington, Pamela Fernandez, Eileen Galvin, Beverly MacNellis and Charles Dauray

# Join/Renew The Estero Historical Society Membership

## MEMBERSHIP DUES

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.

\_\_\_\_ Yes, I would like to become a member and/or renew my membership.

\$35 for a SINGLE membership: New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

\$50 for a FAMILY membership: New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

\$100 for a BUSINESS membership: New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

\$1000 for a LIFE TIME membership: New \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ I would like to make a donation in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_. My check is enclosed.

**TOTAL ENCLOSED \$** \_\_\_\_\_



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 our headquarters between 1-3 PM M-W-F at 239-272-1911

Visit our web site at <http://www.esterohistoricalsociety.com> and like our FaceBook page!

Estero Historical Society  
Post Office Box 1314  
Estero, FL 33929



Our mission is to learn, teach and preserve the history of Estero. It is our hope and vision that by our continuing efforts we will help secure a rich historical legacy for future generations and a strong sense of community identity in the Village of Estero.