



A beautiful painting of the 1904 Estero Creek Schoolhouse showed up mysteriously on the front porch of the Schoolhouse. It was left anonymously and we couldn't be more delighted with this artists' masterpiece. We just wish we knew who the artist is so we could give a big THANK YOU!

Does anyone know who the Artist is?

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### The Estero Historical Society announces The 2015 Board of Directors

*Bob Morris - President, Jean Pryal - Vice President  
Dave Pryal - Treasurer, Pamela Fernandez - Secretary  
~ Director's at Large ~  
Marlene Fernandez, Eileen Galvin, Sis Newberry  
Maryann Weenen and Ken Wisen*

*The folks elected to the 2015 Board of Directors, all have a special place in their heart for seeing Mimi Straub's dream of the Estero Historical Society remain a reality.*

### Guess Who Came for a Visit?

On January 14, 2015, Marlene Fernandez had a visit from The Ladies of The Brooks. While they were visiting, Marlene gave a tour of the Cottage and exterior of the school house all the while, giving them a talk on our Estero history. Marlene made sure that before they left, they all had a few books and Mango Chutney to take home!

The water pump in this photo was kindly donated to EHS by the late Harry O'Boyle and his wife, Joyce O'Boyle.

This water pump definitely needed to be displayed properly. Ken Wisen built this beautiful cabinet from scratch.

Ken used the excess wood from the new floors and some of the bead board from the walls. After a coat or two of stain on the wood, VIOLA! A beautiful masterpiece!

Excellent craftsmanship!  
Nice job Ken.



OOO

### OUR PHYSICAL ADDRESS OF THE COTTAGE:

Estero Historical Society  
9200 Corkscrew Palms Blvd.  
Estero, FL 33928

Winter Cottage Hours:  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday  
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

## ~ Upcoming EHS Field Trips ~

### Sanibel Schoolhouse

February 28, 2015

A special tour of the historical Sanibel Schoolhouse will be given by Alex Werner just for those who are attending this tour. Mr. Werner was involved in the original preservation of the schoolhouse to the Sanibel Museum and Village.

We will meet at the Cottage at 8:30 a.m. sharp and carpool to the schoolhouse. Tour begins promptly at 9:30 a.m. We will have lunch afterwards for those who wish.

If you are interested in going, contact Carolyn Fischer in advance at 239-949-1518 or email her at [sunnytraveler@comcast.net](mailto:sunnytraveler@comcast.net).

A donation of \$5.00 is required. Middle and High School students are free.



Sanibel Museum and Village  
950 Dunlop Road  
Sanibel, FL 33957

## Marco Island Historical Society

Saturday, February 7, 2015

Painting of S.W. Florida History - A show of artwork depicting the life and times of pioneers living in S.W. Florida during the early 1900's

If you would like to go we will be meeting at the Cottage at 9:30 a.m. to carpool. We will head down to Marco Island and see the exhibit and then have lunch before heading back home.

If you are interested in going, please get in touch with Carolyn Fischer and let her know in advance.

239-949-1518 or email her at

[sunnytraveler@comcast.net](mailto:sunnytraveler@comcast.net)

If you wish, you may meet us there, the address is:

Marco Island Historical Museum

180 South Heathwood Drive

Marco Island, FL 34145

239-642-1440

## OUR MAILING ADDRESS:

Estero Historical Society  
P.O. Box 1314  
Estero, FL 33929

Visit us on the web at [www.EsteroHistoricalSociety.com](http://www.EsteroHistoricalSociety.com)

Find us on Facebook. Search Estero Historical Society and "Like" our page to get updates on your news feed.

# Estero Historical Society

FEBRUARY 2015

## *Florida Tales* By: Chester Keene

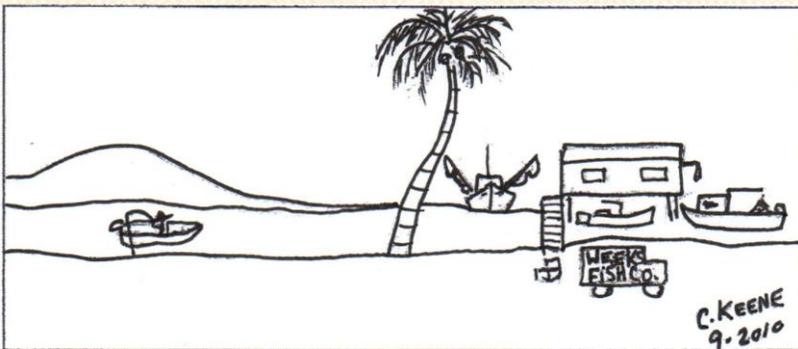
### Coconut, FL

To some people it was a wrong turn on a road that went nowhere. To others it was home, happiness and family, a small fishing community of personal pride.

In the distance, Mound Key was on the horizon. A home and way of life, to be experienced by few, and abandoned by many, a place called 'Coconut'.

Life was simple, but hard, things taken for granted were not often found here. Family was close and loved. I have a few friends that grew up here. They are deep rooted in the history of this small fishing village on the Gulf Coast.

On a scrub pine ridge is the cemetery where their ancestors who settled in this area are resting in eternal sleep, away from the mosquitoes and ever-hungry sand gnats.



A drawing of Coconut, Florida (circa 2010)

Chester Keene is a retired law enforcement officer and Florida native. He retains the copyright to this article and sketch.

## *Member of the Month* *Joann Luce*



Photo courtesy of Maxine Batrawi

**Joann has lived in Estero for 18 years and has been a long time Society Member. Joann contributes to the Society by helping Marlene Fernandez with collecting, copying, filing and any and all news regarding Estero's past and present.**

**Joann also volunteers at the Koreshan State Historic Site as a Botanical Garden docent and on ground maintenance staff in the settlement area for over 12 years.**

**She has been a member of the alligator Amblers chapter of the Florida Trail Association and is currently serving as a program chair.**

**In her spare time, when she's not volunteering, Joann enjoys biographies, history, art, and outdoor activities.**

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

To learn, teach and preserve the history of Estero. By continuing efforts, we hope to secure a rich historical legacy for future generations and a strong sense of community identity

**ESTERO HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
P.O. Box 1314  
Estero, FL 33929

**Mark your calendar!**  
**Our Next Monthly Meeting will be**  
**February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015**  
**At the Estero Community Park**  
**Meeting Room 103A**  
**2:00 p.m.**

**Guest Speaker: Larry Kiker**  
**Topic: Estero Incorporation, Cityhood**  
**and the Transition**



Larry Kiker - Lee County Commissioner

*The Estero Historical Society, Pioneers and Friends are getting together to write a story using our very own brick walkway ... This is a wonderful opportunity to become a part of Estero history.*

*You may buy a brick in a 4x8 (\$75) or an 8x8 (\$100).  
You may honor a loved one, a beloved pet, yourself or your entire family.*

*You may print an order form from our website [EsteroHistoricalSociety.com](http://EsteroHistoricalSociety.com). Go to "Help EHS" and then "Brick Walkway". You may also add a clip art image.*

*There are over 1,500 clipart images available to choose from at the Cottage. Stop by and take a look. It adds a nice touch to your brick.*