

Estero Historical Society

January 2017

Editor: Pamela Fernandez

In This Issue...

- 2017 Board of Directors
- What's Beverly Doing?
- A Note from your Editor
- January Events at EHS
- Our Christmas Luncheon Photos
- A Tribute to a Long Standing Member- Elizabeth Kay McCullers
- Marlene's Corner
- Genealogy Pages: Preserving Old Documents and Records

EXCITING NEWS!

On December 12, 2016, we held our Annual Members Meeting at our Cottage. The 2017 Board of Directors are as follows:

Officers:

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

Directors at Large:

Marlene Fernandez
Eileen Galvin
Sis Newberry
Maryann Weenen
Ken Wisen

What's Beverly Doing?



Beverly MacNellis had the honor to present a "Certificate of Recognition" to Michael Naro, VP of Lowe's, for his continued support of EHS.

THANK YOU MICHAEL!!

A Note from Your Editor

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2017. I wanted to share with you one of our Newsletter New Years Resolution... Beginning this month, we will be starting to research the Genealogy of the early Pioneer Families of Estero. In addition, we will be including an article each month written by Bryan Mulcahy, MLS of the Lee County Library System which will give you some helpful information on researching your own family Genealogy. We will look to offer some classes in the near future to assist you in your researching and help you get started. This is going to be another great year at EHS!!

Did you notice in our December newsletter, I added a new feature within the newsletter? If you are reading this on the web, and a website is mentioned you can click where noted and it will take you right to the webpage! No more going through Google to find the information.



Upcoming Events at EHS

~ Preserving our History Lecture Series ~

Speaker: Ellen Biella-Saggau, Naturalist
All lectures start at 7:00 PM at our Cottage

Part One

January 11, 2017

Calusa Mounds and the Estero River from 12,000 BC

Part Two

January 25, 2017

Calusa, Pedro Menendez de Aviles 1565-1763

Part Three

February 8, 2017

Calusa, Florida's Lost Tribe

Part Four

February 22, 2017

Florida's First Engineers and Canal Builders

Advanced Reservations Required

Call 239-272-1911

Membership Meeting

January 9, 2017 at 2:00 PM at our Cottage

Program: Charles Dauray will speaking on a 4500 year old human skull that was found in the river basin at Bay West Nursery

Twelve for Tea

January 19, 2017 at Noon in Mimi's Tea Room

Join us for an intimate Tea for only Twelve Guests, Tickets \$15 pp ~ Advanced Reservations Required.

Call Barb Toth 239-498-7937

It's a Valentine's Day Celebration

February 13, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. at Cottage

In honor of all the Women who contributed to the establishment of greater Estero in S.W. Florida

Come have tea with ***Deaconess HARRIET BEDELL, 1st**

Missionary to the Miccosukee & Seminole tribes and

****TOMMIE BARFIELD, 1st** Superintendent of Collier

County Schools, originally Lee County.

Harriet Bedell portrayed by Marion Nicolay and Tommie

Barfield portrayed by Betsy Perdichizzi.

We had another wonderful Christmas Luncheon on December 9th, 2016.

A "BIG" Thank you to **Eileen Galvin** who put a lot of time and effort into this flawless event!!



JoAnn Luce, Eileen Lutz
and Bob Boudreau



Member, Anne Duffy was the
winner of the 50/50 raffle.
Anne kindly donated a portion
of her winnings back to EHS!
Thank you Anne!!



Guests enjoying the Luncheon



Maryann Weenen
& Mary Popovich

We Wish You and Your Family a Happy New Year!!!

Elizabeth Kay McCullers

Elizabeth was born on April 15, 1939 to her parents Hugh and Della Smith at home in Estero. She passed away on December 14, 2017 in Fort Myers.

A proud descendant of one of the founding families of Estero, she grew up there and attended Estero Grammar School and the Andrew D. Gwynne Academy. She graduated from Fort Myers Junior-Senior High School in 1957.

She worked at Goodyear Tire after high school, and then worked at the U.S. Post Office in Estero for many years. She helped her husband, John, build Caloosa Well Drilling and they grew oranges and raised goats for many years. They lived in Estero from their marriage in 1959 until moving to Buckingham in 2005.

Kay was active in her community and was a lifelong member of the Estero United Methodist Church. She was a leader of the Estero Go-Getters 4-H Club for ten years. She proudly supported the Estero Historical Society from its inception.

She loved to cook, sew, embroidery, garden, work crossword and jigsaw puzzles, conduct sermon-like blessings for holiday dinners, and talk to complete strangers about her family. She was a voracious reader, kept a house full of books and marched her children to the bookmobile every month long before they attended their first day of school. She tended to keep friends close for decades – and in the case of her fourth-grade classmate Phoebe for nearly their whole lives.

Kay was a true steel magnolia: pretty, silly and sassy, and sentimental, generous and kind. She was a gracious hostess and she could drive a tractor. She got to see Elvis, raise a sandhill crane from an egg and live her whole life married to her true love.

It was her clear instruction that no funeral or service be held for her, so the family will honor her wishes. Her ashes will be scattered in a private ceremony after the new year.



Elizabeth Kay Smith McCullers
Photo Courtesy of the McCullers Family

Marlene's Corner

Did you know...*The Orange Blossom Special* (Seaboard Railroad) went through Estero on January 7, 1927 with 600 guests on board headed to Naples? Among the passengers was the owner of the line and notables from around the country. You may ask, who were some of those notables and did they have one or two engines as there was no turn-around at the end of the line. Today the right-of-way for this railroad is now the Florida Power and Light right-of-way.

Still in need of 'Old Estero Pictures' ~ My current project is to recreate an album to show what used to be in Estero. Most importantly try to identify who, what, where, and when. Bring them in or scan and email them over to us. Thank you!!

Visit our website at:
www.EsteroHistoricalSociety.com
for more information and a complete
listing of our calendar of events

Cottage Hours
Monday-Wednesday-Friday
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
239-272-1911



Preserving Old Documents and Records

Many patrons come into the library asking what to do with old papers and records that they inherited after the death of a parent or grandparent. Many of these materials were passed down through several previous generations. If the original documents were printed within the last 100 years, they are probably on highly acidic paper. Oils from your hands can also contribute to the decay of papers and documents.

The process of encapsulating each document will normally prevent the acid or oil from spreading to other papers that come into contact with them. Original photographs and documents should never be framed and placed where sunlight can fade and destroy them. Make a color photograph or photocopy of the document or picture to frame. Store the original in a protective sleeve away from light, humidity, and any possible water damage. Documents and photographs should never be stored where the temperature and humidity fluctuate widely.

Lamination was once the method of choice for preservation. Today, encapsulation of items within acid-free sheet protectors has made the preservation process more efficient. Most experts recommend preserving your precious and valuable documents or photographs in this manner versus the old method of lamination. Encapsulation allows the historical item to float freely and can easily be removed when necessary. Lamination, on the other hand, will damage photographs and documents, because the process involves heating and melting a plastic coating over the item. This process is irreversible.

Encapsulation supplies can be obtained through most archival supply companies. Two of the most popular with genealogists, historians, and librarians are [Gaylord](#) and [Light Impressions](#). You may locate these types of companies on the Internet using the keyword search "archival supplies" or consult with the library staff at a local library or repository near your residence.

Many photographers are now active in the restoration and duplication of family photographs, artifacts, and memorabilia. They create negatives of the original so additional copies may be made and shared with others. Distribution of copies of these items can maximize the possibility that some copies of the original photographs will last for future generations. It is also important to purchase a pen or marker that is safe for photographs and label every picture. Note the names of people in the photograph, the date or approximate date, and the occasion.

More than a few genealogists have talked about inheriting boxes of old photographs with no identifiable information. Many people without any genealogical interest end up tossing these items in the garbage or giving them to flea markets and garage sales only to realize their mistake years later when they become interested in genealogy. Our companion handout called Preserving Family Archives will provide more details on this subject.

Bryan Mulcahy, M.L.S.



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 Statement... 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. Visit our website at www.EsteroHistoricalSociety.com