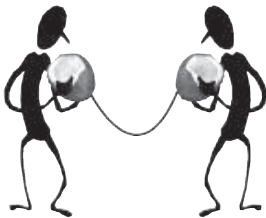


Coconut Telegraph
April 2016
Volume 10 Issue #110
Prestige Publishing, Inc
101425 Overseas Highway
PMB #628
Key Largo, FL 33037

Deadline
for the
Coconut Telegraph's
next issue is
Thursday,
April 21, 2016

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Editorial: A Gift of Love

Several years ago Sue Beal wrote down some stray thoughts that we published in parts in the Coconut Telegraph. Those of us who have lived here a while get a chuckle out of what we call "Keys Disease," an affliction that occurs in those who enjoy our islands so much that they begin to feel that they are on



One of John McKinna's illustrations.

a permanent vacation. In the Help Wanted classified sections of local papers, some businesses advertising for help have actually put in their ad "No Keys Disease Need Apply."

We, the hard working residents here, think it is hilariously funny and true. I knew this would make a great book and I set out to publish it. Sue Beal said she did not want any profit from it. We decided to donate it to charity. Along came John McKinna, a musician and a syndicated cartoonist, who volunteered to do the cartoons for our book collaboration.

Together we decided that what the Upper Keys needed was a fund for musicians in

need. Most of them do not have other jobs to fall back on, they often do not have health insurance and when they get sick or hurt there is little to help them other than their friends. We plan to help them pay their bills when they are not able to.

Our local musicians work hard, playing in the heat, and sometimes rain and wind, just to entertain us... and we want to give back to them. John McKinna's recent passing broke our hearts, but he had left this legacy, a gift of love for us and his fellow musicians.

Gilbert's Resort gave a very generous grant to get the book published. The book is small but mighty. There will be a book signing and benefit

at Gilbert's Resort on Monday, May 23rd from 5 to 9. We have some great musicians lined up, who have volunteered to play (more are still needed) and there will be raffles and a silent auction (donations are still needed). Contact me at 305-304-2837 if you can help.

More benefits are planned for the future. 100% of all monies go to the Musicians Relief Fund, B.P.O.E. Elks Lodge, PO Box 255, Tavernier, FL 33070-0255. You can also donate by check.

Support
Local
Music!

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Square Grouper
Tournament Results
Are In!



We'd like to share them, but it seems the papers got used for something else! Better luck next year.

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