

TRAILS



February 2008

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NEW DIRECTORS ELECTED



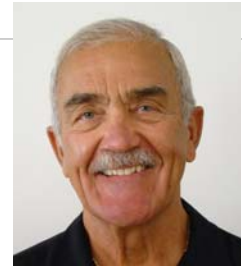
Tom Frey



Al Mahan



Phil Mentz



John Zwakman

In a close election, Deer Creek residents voted in four new directors (photos shown above) to serve two-year terms ending in January 2010. They join the four continuing directors and one appointed director (Jack Sullivan), all shown below. The results of the election were announced by Matt Wilson (of AMI, Inc.) who was voted to preside over the January 31st Annual Meeting.

Ballots cast represented one hundred seventy Deer Creek homes, and seventy-four homeowners attended the annual meeting.

During the meeting, brief annual reports were presented by several committee chairpersons and officers.

There were 188 votes cast regarding the proposed amendment to set a time limit to proposed changes in the Deer Creek governing documents. One hundred fifty-nine in favor votes were less than the 267 needed to approve the amendment. Homeowners at the annual meeting voted to continue the meeting for the next 60 days in order to increase resident participation in deciding this issue. ◼

Notice of Next Board Meeting

The next regular meeting will be held at 2 PM on Tuesday, February 26 at the Faith Lutheran Church on Beneva Road.

Residents are always welcome to attend Board meetings.

Now-Serving Directors



Jay Olin



Linda Slack



Richard Tabor



Sandy Twyon



Jack Sullivan



COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

DCCA Board of Directors

| Position | Name | Term Ends |
|--------------|---------------|-----------|
| President | Jack Sullivan | 2009 |
| V. President | Sandy Twyon | 2009 |
| Secretary | Linda Slack | 2009 |
| Treasurer | Tom Frey | 2010 |
| Director | Jay Olin | 2009 |
| Director | Al Mahan | 2010 |
| Director | Phil Mentz | 2010 |
| Director | Richard Tabor | 2009 |
| Director | John Zwakman | 2010 |

Committee Chairpersons

| | |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Budget & Finance | Tom Frey |
| Communications | Linda Slack |
| Design & Development | Howard Pascoe |
| Landscape & Irrigation | Grace Cufarro |
| Lakes & Animals | Dick Spayd |
| Social Committee | Sharron Mahan |
| Streets & Structures | Richard Tabor |
| Rules & Regulations | Phil Mentz |
| Traffic Committee | Jay Olin |

Key Positions

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Palmer Ranch Communities Coalition | Howard Pascoe |
| Palmer Ranch Master Association | Sandy Twyon |
| Prof. Vendors List | Ron Meijer |
| Telephone Book | Clark Southworth |
| TRAILS Distribution | Candi Messerschmidt |
| TRAILS Editor | James Farnum |
| Website Manager | Clark Southworth |
| Welcoming | Mary Ann Spayd |
| Gatehouse Captain | Cheryl Rankin |

EDITOR'S DESK



As my four-plus years as *TRAILS* editor concludes with this issue, my hearty thanks for the hard work of our unofficial editorial board consisting of Ron Meijer, Diane Weeghman, and Jean Southworth. They made me look good and helped make all of us proud of Deer Creek for having one of the better community newsletters in our region. Thanks also to Communications Chairperson Linda Slack and members Candi Messerschmidt and Carol Seegars, and all of you who help distribute the *TRAILS* each month.

Fortunately for Deer Creek, Jim Farnum has agreed to take over this job starting with the March 2008 issue. As you probably recall, Jim published two outstanding newsletter editions last summer while I was away. As those examples illustrate, we can be confident that the editorship will be in good hands. Thanks Jim for volunteering!

FYI, I am not going into retirement. Rather, I will continue my work on the Lakes and Traffic committees, publishing the Deer Creek Telephone/Handbook, serving as Website Manager, and being a backup to Jim Farnum in the event I am needed. ■

Clark Southworth



Ballot Counting In Progress
Left to Right: Judy Brinker, Marie Tabor and Martha Sullivan

Questions or suggestions regarding publication of the Deer Creek Community Association *TRAILS* newsletter should be directed to James Farnum:
farnumfoto@comcast.net



COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

LINDA SLACK



As chairman of the Communications Committee, I wanted to express my heartfelt thanks to an absolute army of

community volunteers who ensure that Deer Creek residents are “in the know” at all times.

A lot of things happen behind the scenes to guarantee that information is at our fingertips. We have people who submit articles, some who proofread the newsletter, many who walk door to door delivering the *TRAILS* and the phone directory (which saves Deer Creek a considerable amount of money that would otherwise have to be spent on postage), those who keep our website exciting and current, others who welcome new residents to the

community, those who keep us abreast of real estate sales and trends, and several who maintain the various databases concerning our homeowners and preferred vendors. So, for that concerted effort by our Deer Creek army of dedicated and tireless volunteers, thank you!

After this issue and after more than four years, Clark Southworth will be handing off his duties as editor of the *TRAILS*. Maybe he'll get in a little more golf, but he will still be very busy managing our website, maintaining the Gatehouse entry control system and database, plus publishing the Directory and Handbook and volunteering on committees. We appreciate all you have done and all you continue to do for our community.

That being said, I want to welcome Jim Farnum as the new editor-in-

chief of the *TRAILS*. As you know, Jim was our summer editor and did a fantastic and professional job! I appreciate your stepping up to the plate.

Just a reminder, the **2008 telephone Directory and Handbook** will be delivered the first week of March with the *TRAILS*. If you have any updates or corrections (**this includes e-mail address changes**) you must complete a new yellow Entry Control and Resident Data Form which can be obtained at the gatehouse. You can also print a form from our website (deercreeksarasota.org) and drop it off at the gatehouse.■

Assessment Reminder

Quarterly 2008 assessments of
\$280 are due as follows:

1. Jan 1, 2008
2. **April 1, 2008**
3. July 1, 2008
4. Oct 1, 2008

Payments must be received within 30 days of the due date to avoid a late charge of \$25 plus interest and other costs.

For your convenience, sign up for automatic payment whereby your bank, at no charge to you, sends in the exact amount each quarter.

To sign up for automatic payment or for questions regarding payments, please call AMI at 359-1134

March 29th - 30th
Corner of Sawyer Loop and
Clark Road



PALMER RANCH SPRINGFEST 2008

Dates: March 29 and 30, 2008

Location: Sawyer Loop Road between McIntosh and Clark

Springfest is a charitable event benefiting this year, The Child Protection Center, which deals with child abuse: Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!!

Committees: 5K/12K Races/Walk
Parking
Entry Gates
Volunteer Command Post
Entertainment
Soda/ Water Stations
Beer Station
Historical Display
Raffles and Games
Hospitality/Food Court

Shift Times: 3/28 --- Race Registration; 3p.m. - 7 p.m.
3/29 ---Races --6a.m. - 10a.m.
3/28 and 3/29 : Raffles and Games : 12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
3/28 and 3/29 --- All other Committees: 8:30 - 12:30 or 12:30 - 4:30

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact me: Sandy Twyon
8684 Woodbriar Dr.
Phone: 921-6022
E-Mail: stwyon@att.net

In your e-mail, please include the following information:

- 1) Name(s)
- 2) Address
- 3)Phone Number
- 4)E- Mail
- 5) Choice of Committee
- 6) Day 3/28, 3/29, or 3/30
- 7) Shift requested

THE MORE VOLUNTEERS, THE MORE TO BE GIVEN TO A VERY WORTHY CAUSE!!!!!!

Thank you!



Deer Creek Web Site Update

By Clark Southworth

Fred Rowley has just completed his first year as the Deer Creek Webmaster. As you may recall, Fred is a retired computer professional who now lives in Ithaca, New York. The huge improvements that Fred has made are not easily visible by design. Only those of you who use the site often or have a good recollection of what it used to be like, will really appreciate the changes.

The new Documents page is better organized, and it's now easier to find information residents need. On this page, residents can click on the underlined link, for example, to review the Bylaws, Protective Covenants and Architectural Standards. Also on this page, one can view Deer Creek's "Recommended Vendor's List" which is now easier to navigate thanks to an alphabetical list of sections at the beginning of the list. Click on "Plumbers" for example, and you will jump directly to that part of the list.

Need to update your gatehouse entry information or change a telephone number? Just download a copy of the yellow form used by the guards.

Need to make a change to the exterior of your home? Just download the Action Request Form

DEER CREEK
Deer Creek Community Association, Sarasota, Florida

[HOME](#) [LOCATION](#) [CONTACTS](#) [CALENDAR](#) [DOCUMENTS](#) [LAKES](#)

WHAT WE ARE:

- An attractive bit of real estate a stone's throw - figuratively - from the most incredible beach in southwest Florida (Siesta Key).
- A vest-pocket-sized plot of land (but with 485 homes and villas) festooned with enough lakes - 17 - to make Minnesota mad with envy.
- A designer's epiphany of meandering lanes, grassy knolls and variegated, mature landscaping that draws gasps from visitors.
- A Carnegie Hall of chirps, warbles, squawks and cacophonies from a feathered parade that may march across your backyard or your driveway at any time.
- A casually disciplined passion for beauty and deed-restricted order behind friendly, but guarded gates, and tended by dedicated resident volunteers who want their community to be the tops.

Read the current issue of our newsletters, the [Deer Creek Trails](#) and the [Villa's Voice](#). [Previous issues](#) are also available. You can review the neighborhood vendors list [here](#).

to send in to the Design and Development Board.

Want to review Deer Creek's financial reserves and other financial documents? Head to our Website.

Selling your home?

Ask your real estate agent to add a link to our Website as a part of your listing. It's a great selling point!

Send me your ideas for improvements and additions:

clarktrails@verizon.net ☐

www.deercreeksarasota.org

PALMER RANCH COMMUNITIES COALITION

HIGHLIGHTS OF PALMER RANCH COMMUNITIES COALITION (PRCC) MEETING 1/23/08



HOWARD PASCOE

NEWSPAPER RACKS

The Coalition has been trying to get the news and magazine racks removed from Central Sarasota Parkway in front of where Albertson's used to be. They have made some progress in the last few weeks. Several racks have been removed because of no identification on the rack, and/or improper bolting to ground. The Coalition feels that these racks are in a dangerous location because cars have to stop to retrieve the newspaper or magazine, thus partially blocking the roadway. Secondly, the racks are an unsightly mess. The removal of these racks will continue to be a project for the Coalition to pursue.

HOLIDAY DECORATING

Each year, Palmer Ranch has a holiday decorating contest. This year, first place went to Palisades, second place to Glenridge, third place to Village Walk and honorable mention to Silver Oak. Each of the winning communities received a plaque. What is your feeling about Deer Creek spending a little more money and doing a spectacular job? I'd like you to contact me if you think we should form a decorating committee for this coming December's holidays (and if you'd like to be or not be on this committee).

NEW FIREHOUSE

Fire Chief Gorski gave an update on the new fully funded firehouse to be built on Honore opposite Silver Oak. The construction bids for the project went out just today. The indication is that at least 25 companies will bid since the construction business is at an all time lull. The one acre land was donated by Hugh Culverhouse.



The house itself will have solar power and a device to capture rain water for toilet flushing (what if we continue to have a drought). An ambulance and fire truck will be available 24 hours a day. Noise will not be a problem, since no sirens or air horns will be used because the fire truck is equipped with a system that will be able to control the traffic lights at intersections.

What this new firehouse will mean to Deer Creek is a really short time span for the fire truck and ambulance to reach us. I will be working with others in the community to solve the problem of our Woodbriar gate opening as the fire truck approaches, so they do not have to stop to open the gate.

NEW I-75 INTERCHANGE

Yes, talks continue regarding a new I-75 Interchange at Central Sarasota Parkway. Representatives from the hired engineering company working on the project have completed and presented 40% of the finished plan. The 60% finished plan must be presented to the County in May 2008. This project was first discussed in 1992 and has gone through many on and off phases. At first Culverhouse donated the land for the interchange, then reneged because of County indecisions. The engineering firm believes that once the plans have been completed he will again donate the land. At present, the project has not been fully funded. The State has committed to partially funding this project, but we need more funding from the Federal Government to make it a reality (the way our economy is tilted, I doubt that the



Government will make a contribution any time soon). However, on a more positive note, the plans, at this point look good. A landscaped pond will be used as a buffer between VillageWalk and the exit road from I-75. Many tall trees

(Continued on page 7)



LAKES, WATERWAYS AND ANIMALS

DICK SPAYD



In general, our 17 lakes are in good shape. Algae has abated and some water plants are showing signs of resurgence.

The water-filling issue with Lake 1-6 (between Shadow Pine Way and Staghorn Lane) still has not been resolved. The problem is that the supplemental water feed from the McIntosh canal pumping station is blocked. The old gate valve was replaced, but initial attempts to blow out the line from the valve to the lake failed. We have tried digging up the line as it enters the lake, but the water level is still too high to allow successful excavation. We are waiting for the lake level to drop further until we resume work to



New Valve Installed near Lake 1-7 (in background) controls supplemental water to Lake 1-6.

restore the supplemental water system.

Those of us who live along the shoreline of our lakes are requested

to please pick up any debris that may be behind their property. This would include plastic bags, styrofoam, citrus fruit, branches, etc. In addition, Aquagenix asks us to keep open an 8 foot corridor along the shoreline so that their "spray cart" can easily navigate the water's edge. ☐



White PVC pipe exposed as it enters Lake 1-7. The pipe is blocked somewhere between this entrance point and the valve shown above. The underground length of the pipe is approximately 100 yards.

PALMER RANCH COMMUNITIES COALITION (CONT.)

will be planted so that VillageWalk residents will not be able to see the 57 foot tall bridge crossing I-75 and leading to the northbound ramp. The plan also includes a barrier wall to block distracting headlights from exiting vehicles and feature low level lighting so brightness is not a factor. Noise control studies are presently being conducted.



Before the interchange is constructed, Central Sarasota Parkway west of Honore will be widened to four lanes with a wide median in between. When will this project be started? Look for the

start of the widening of CSP, but don't be fooled because the new Lowe's also has to

widen the parkway near and around Tamiami Trail (Rt. 41). I truly believe this interchange will be constructed or why would the County continue to pay the engineering company, and why would the engineering company continue to devote so many people and so much time to the project. Well, who knows? Maybe *The Shadow* knows. ☐

Howard Pascoe
Deer Creek Representative

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

JAY OLIN



The year began with the Traffic Committee committed to improving access control through the Woodbriar Gate entrance/exit. The solution was to install a new motion-activated camera system and DVR capable of capturing license plate numbers on entering vehicles and to install an added camera to monitor the pedestrian walkway. Committee member Kurt Ottinger agreed to manage the process of soliciting proposals from numerous vendors and evaluating the content of the proposals along with the balance of the committee. After an unexpectedly lengthy period of time caused by difficulty in locating qualified vendors, a proposal was received that not only met the security criteria but also was deemed to be reasonably priced.

Installation was started in late December. However, completion has been delayed by the decision by the vendor and the committee to reposition the critical license plate reading camera to obtain maximum clarity under all lighting conditions. Final completion and committee training is now expected before the

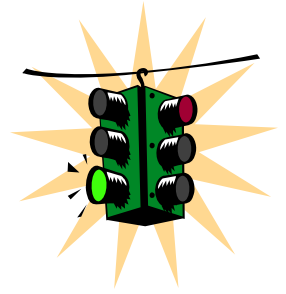
end of February 2008. After experience is gained with this new Woodbriar Gate system, it is expected that a less sophisticated camera system will be added at the Deer Creek Blvd. entrance in support of the guard service activities.

During the fourth quarter, the committee formally reviewed the performance of Wackenhut under its security guard contract. Several competing security guard service proposals were received during the year, but this review resulted in the committee being unanimous in recommending that we remain with Wackenhut for 2008 - especially with their agreement to forego their planned cost increase. There were guard service performance issues that came to our attention early in the year; however, these were virtually eliminated after the committee members clarified performance expectations with

Wackenhut and the individual guards to require full enforcement of existing entrance identification and recordkeeping orders. A formal review of the guard service contractors will be regularly accomplished during the fourth quarter of 2008 with bid solicitations sought from interested vendors.

Clark Southworth enhanced the guardhouse software to improve its recordkeeping utility and generally make it more efficiently support the activities of the security guards. Also, issuance of new and replacement resident vehicle bar codes was successfully transferred to the senior security guards and has been working well. And finally, most reported incidents of traffic violations and access control have been successfully resolved at the security guard level so Traffic Committee member involvement has been minimized. It is the conclusion of the Traffic Committee that the security guards are performing their assigned duties at the level generally expected by the Deer Creek residents.

My personal thanks to the members of the Traffic Committee for their service to our community in assuring continued safety and security for all residents. ◻



Kurt Ottinger holds one of the new security cameras for the Woodbriar gate.



New security camera at Woodbriar gatehouse monitors pedestrian traffic in and out of Deer Creek.



REAL ESTATE CORNER

ISABELLA DEJOHN



There are thirteen houses and five villas listed for sale at the present time. The houses range in price between \$469,000 and \$699,500. The villas range from \$239,900 to \$349,900. One house is under contract.

Five houses have sold since October 30, 2007:



| Address | List | Sale | Price /sq. ft |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|
| 8371 Cypress Hollow | \$499,000 | \$435,000 | \$156 |
| 8227 Cypress Hollow | \$499,000 | \$470,000 | \$163 |
| 8515 Woodbriar | \$495,000 | \$400,000 | \$135 |
| 4391 Maplewood | \$460,000 | \$430,000 | \$171 |
| 8166 Shadow Pine | \$450,000 | \$400,000 | \$194 |

Sales are slow, but interest is picking up in Deer Creek. There are many people out "viewing" as I have witnessed myself at recent Sunday Open Houses. Each house that has sold recently seems to have a story behind it, which helps explain the difference between listing price and sale price - transfers, illness, a strong need to be somewhere else - natural turnover reasons, which encourage owners to negotiate offers now rather than waiting it out with further price reductions and time on the market.

Prices have come down, and there are good bargains to be found.

Information taken from Sarasota Association of Realtors

Isabella Phillips DeJohn
Realtor with Crown Properties Group

SOCIAL COMMITTEE NEWS

DEE FORSYTH & NANCY ZEMAN



Deer Creek had two successful social events in December. On December 9, 66 people went by bus to Tampa to see the Radio City Rockettes Christmas Spectacular. On December 13, there were 76 people who dined and danced at Prestancia for the annual Deer Creek Holiday Party. Good times were had by all who attended these events.

Deer Creek Ladies Lunch:

Our monthly get-together of Deer Creek ladies continues to be a success, with new faces at every gathering and lots of catching up from the holidays.

A big thank you to Carla Manley for hosting a great lunch at The Open in Palmer Plaza in January. Carla had inspirational table decorations that perfectly accompanied a varied and tasty menu. It's always fun to listen and learn about what people like to eat, and The Open was a perfect forum for our Irish and British gals to have a taste of "back home."

In February, Jan Franke graciously took the reins for Sharron Mahan, as Sharron dealt with family illness issues, by hosting the lunch at her house. Jan's home is beautiful, and the "pot luck" was creative with a choice for every appetite. Best of all, we had a chance to mingle and get to know each other better. It was a great opportunity to chat with those new to our group and learn more about our various backgrounds

and interests (including food, of course!) Sharron hopes to have the lunch at her home sometime in the future, but for now we wish the best to Al and Sharron's daughter Jody.

The March luncheon will be on Thursday, March 6, at Ruby Tuesday at Westfield Sarasota Square Mall. Kathy Olin will be our hostess. We'll have the back room of the restaurant to ourselves and will order from the menu, making it easy to find something for everyone in a convenient location. Afterwards, shopping and a movie might be on the bill of fare. Hope to see some new faces there. If you plan to attend, call Kathy Olin (926-9171).

On April 3, Pat Krug and Fran Van Schoor will co-host our luncheon at beautiful Prestancia. We'll have

(Continued on page 11)

Social Opportunities at a Glance:

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|---|
| Feb. 7 | Ladies Luncheon | Jan Franke (927-4537) |
| Feb. 14, 28, etc. | Ballroom Dancing | Sharron Mahan (929-7694) |
| March 6 | Ladies Lunch | Kathy Olin (926-91711) |
| April 3 | Ladies Lunch | Pat Krug (927-5062) or Fran Van Schoor (923-9769) |
| April 10 | Snook Haven | Joan Wills (921-3846) Jen Carlin (926-1762) |
| May 3 | Derby Day Party | Charlotte Emerson (924-4572) |
| June 1 | <i>Lion King</i> | Nancy Zeman (927-7522) Dee Forsyth (927-1355) |

Ongoing:

- 1st Mon./Month – Artists of Palmer Ranch – Jeanne C. Romance (924-8182)
- 1st Thurs./Month -Deer Creek Ladies Lunch -Sharron Mahan (929-7694)
- 2nd Thurs./Month – Men's Poker – Herman Freese (927-6805)
- 2nd Fri./Month – Book Club – Joan Saunders (925-0453)
- Variable – Mah Jongg – Pat Krug (927-5062)





SOCIAL COMMITTEE NEWS (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 10)

three salad and sandwich entrees to choose from and will order off the special menu at the restaurant. The cost is \$15 in advance, and checks should be made out to the Deer Creek Social Committee but delivered or mailed to Pat at 4529 Deer Creek Blvd. Please e-mail her PatriciaKrug@aol.com or Fran johnfranvs@verizon.net to reserve your space. Or phone Fran (923-9769) or Pat (927-5062).

Serving as a luncheon hostess is easy and fun! Carla Manley has developed a set of suggestions to make it simple and quick. If you would like to become involved and perhaps hostess a luncheon in the future, please contact her at 706-4531 or e-mail carlafm@comcast.net. The more, the merrier!

New Groups

Travel Club: All Deer Creek travelers and those who just enjoy



hearing about trips to far-away places are invited to the first meeting of the Deer Creek Travel Club at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, March 11, at the home of Chuck and Erika Baldwin, 4386 Indian Point Trail. We will discuss goals and possible future activities of the club. Come for international cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and desserts. If you plan to attend, call the Baldwins at 929-1629.

Deer Creek residents who are interested in joining a group to play the card game Hand and Foot, call J.C. Grimme at 925-0014.

Anyone for **Ballroom Dancing**? We have a special opportunity to have a Deer Creek table (or tables) at the Venice Community Center (326 S. Nokomis Avenue) for their twice-a-month dances – 7:30 to 10:30 PM – sponsored by the



Community Center, Inc. Their room is very large and has a lovely dance floor; each evening has a different band. Please call Sharron and Al Mahan (929-7694) by the Monday prior to each dance so that we can reserve a chair for you at the Deer Creek table – singles and guests are most welcome. Dress code is no shorts or t-shirts. There is a 50-50 drawing each night with nice prizes.

BYO beverages and snacks.

Dates are:

- Feb. 14 (Melody Booth Orchestra) - \$7.00 per person
- Feb. 28 (Jimmy J. Trio) - \$5.00 per person
- March 13, March 27, and April 10 Each evening is \$5.00 per person.

If you are interested in joining the **Ladies Golf Group**, call Judy Kupperbush (961-8401).

If you would like to play **Mah Jongg**, or would like to learn, call Pat Krug at 927-5062 for information.

Upcoming Events:

See Old Florida at its best! Mark your calendars now for a day at **Snook Haven**. A group from Deer Creek will go to Snook Haven on Thursday, April 10. The day will start with a boat ride at 11:30 AM followed by lunch with banjo music for entertainment. We will be going



in individual cars and should plan to arrive early (by 10 or 10:30) to get good parking. We can listen to music while we wait. Details about cost and menu will be in the next issue of the *TRAILS*. For information call

SOCIAL COMMITTEE NEWS (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 11)

Joan Wills (921-3846), Jenefer Carlin (926-1762) or Joni Rushforth (922-0094).

Coming up on Saturday, May 3 will be the always popular **Deer Creek Derby Day Party**. We hope that you'll plan to attend.



The fabulous *Lion King* is coming to Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center for a limited engagement. The Deer



Creek Social Committee has reserved 100 excellent seats for the Sunday, June 1, 2008 matinee performance. We also have two buses reserved to take us directly from the Villas pool to the Carol Morsani Theater at Tampa Bay and return when the play is over. The cost per person, including round-trip bus service is \$98 per person. Call Nancy Zeman (927-7522) or Dee Forsyth (927-1355) for more information. (A reservation form is

included in this issue of the *TRAILS*.)

Mixers: We are seeking residents to host a mixer in their home in March or April. Please call Charlotte Emerson (924-4572) for information. There is no cost to you. All those attending are asked to bring their own beverages, an appetizer to share, and \$1 per person to cover any costs.

The Deer Creek Social Committee meets monthly to plan events for Deer Creek residents and their friends. If you are interested in becoming a member of the committee, or if you have ideas for new activities or events, please call one of the committee members.

We're hoping to see you at our next event! It's a great way to meet fun loving, interesting people.☐

Nancy Zeman & Dee Forsyth



STREETS AND STRUCTURES

RICHARD TABOR



This report presents a synopsis of the projects and accomplishments of the Streets and Structures Committee

beginning in January 2007 through January 2008. Many of these activities could not have been completed without the willingness of committee members, namely, Jack Messerschmidt, Brian Lavery and Jorgen Graugaard, who selflessly shared their time and expertise. A special note of thanks is also extended to Ned Wilson and Paul Mehalso, two gentlemen who frequently assisted the Streets and Structures Committee. Their hard work is greatly appreciated.

The Streets and Structures Committee conducted a review of invoices in the early part of the year. The review revealed that an electrical contractor who repaired street lights in Deer Creek often submitted invoices showing the frequent replacement of ballasts, photo-electric cells and bulbs. These repairs were difficult to verify and remain questionable. As a result, the Streets and Structures Committee decided that the committee members would assume responsibility for maintaining and repairing street lights in our community. Jack Messerschmidt has given a significant amount of time to this effort and his contribution has resulted in a

\$4,000 budget reduction for Streets and Structures.

A survey of sidewalks in the common area by the Streets and Structures Committee during mid-summer reflected that concrete grinding of twenty-six joints was needed along with the replacement of two concrete slabs. Many of the uneven sidewalk joints were due to root uplift. Repairs were subsequently completed, but it

appears that this problem will continue due to the lush vegetation in our community and the rapid growth of trees.

Despite having surge protectors, the McIntosh and Woodbriar gates were both damaged by close lightning strikes during

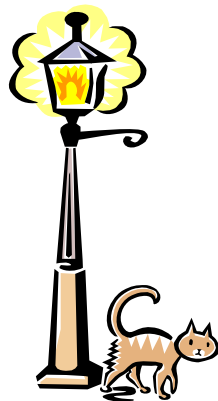
the summer storms. As a consequence, several electrical parts had to be ordered from the manufacturer and installed by a security firm. The McIntosh gatehouse was also struck twice by commercial trucks after the drivers failed to see the low clearance sign. The gatehouse suffered minor damage to the stucco and soffit. The companies assumed responsibility and repairs were completed. The Streets and Structures Committee subsequently installed a stop sign at the front of the gate. The low clearance sign was also relocated to the median so as to better alert

drivers to the height of the building. In addition, new gate arms with reflective tape were placed on the entrance side of the McIntosh gate.

Pressure washing of the 3,440 linear-foot wall bordering Central Sarasota Parkway was completed in the fall by a contractor. The gatehouses, pavers, and the stone bridge were also power-washed at this time.

Finally, fourteen broken finials on the top rail of the Woodbriar entrance fence were replaced by spot-welding. A hinge on the entrance gate was also discovered to have a stress fracture and was reinforced by additional welding. ■

Richard Tabor



LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT



It was a difficult year of drought. There are new pests showing up due to the lack of freezing temperatures to kill them off. Palm trees in particular have been affected, but also bushes such as Arboricola and Dwarf Indian Hawthorn. Each year brings new challenges.

For most of the year, the Landscape and Irrigation committee is involved with maintaining and replacing as needed, our grass, trees, and bushes on all common ground.

I would like to share with you what we accomplished in 2007:

- In January we added 450 Jasmine Minima to six cul-de-sac islands.
- In February we trimmed and de-mossed Oak trees, Cabbage Palms and Queen Palms. FYI, we have over 400 trees to maintain.
- Our big job in March and April was to renovate the front entrance from McIntosh Rd. to behind the guard house. This included the removal of old plantings, the addition of new soil in certain areas, and the planting of the newly designed front boulevard. We also added lighting to enhance the plantings. All irrigation was replaced or repaired to insure proper watering. The new plantings seem to be doing quite well.
- In April we also added 230 new plantings along the outside south wall on Central Sarasota Parkway, that is from our rear entrance to McIntosh Rd.
- In May we added sod and a few Viburnums to fill in around the newly repaired pump by the Villas. We also added more grasses and Bougainvilleas along Deer Creek Blvd.
- In June we planted Sweet Potato Vines at the entrance beds. The summers are usually quiet except for South Coast's keeping grass cut and fertilized and tending to bush trimming. In the Fall the beds were mulched and the Palm trees were trimmed again.
- In December we planted the geraniums and put up the Holiday decorations.

I am on the phone about once a week with our contractors to be sure there are no slip ups. We continue to be very satisfied with both South Coast Maintenance and Don Vos Irrigation. Thank you to my committee members Ann Lang and Rachel Farnum for all their help.

Grace Cuffaro



TREASURER'S REPORT FOR YEAR 2007

TOM FREY



Once again, we had a very successful year financially, ending up with a surplus of \$12,200 that will be carried forward to the 2008 budget. This result came about primarily because our operating committees were able to hold expenses to less than the budget. Offsetting this was a loss of over \$7,500 resulting from non-payment of assessments and related legal fees when two

residences owned by the same owner were foreclosed on by the mortgage holders.

Our reserves continue to be in sound condition even though interest rates will be somewhat lower. As indicated last year, the largest demand on our reserve funds will come in about three to four years when we will need to repave the streets. Our

projections indicate that we will have adequate funds to cover this major expenditure.

The financial statements for 2007 are included in this issue and have been posted on our web site. We do not anticipate that the audit, which is currently in process, will result in any changes. Anyone wishing a copy of the audit report when it is issued should call AMI at 359-1134.



Thomas F. Frey
Treasurer

Deer Creek Community Association, Inc. Capital Reserve Analysis For the Year Ended December 31, 2007

| | ACTUAL | BUDGET |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| BALANCE 1/1/07 | 512,142.59 | 507,390.00 |
| RESERVE ASSESSMENTS | 61,952.00 | 61,952.00 |
| INTEREST | 23,345.42 | 24,200.00 |
| EXPENDITURES | <u>(153,568.11)</u> | <u>(42,000.00)</u> |
| BALANCE 12/31/07 | \$443,871.90 | \$551,542.00 |

ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES:

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Irrigation Well | 3,635.00 |
| Relandscape McIntosh Entrance | 16,350.00 |
| Lighting McIntosh Entrance | 7,400.00 |
| Golf Cart - Disaster Relief Team | 2,345.00 |
| Sewage pump for lake | 1,240.13 |
| Sewage pump for lake | 3,635.00 |
| Gate Opener - Woodbriar gate | 3,049.50 |
| New Mailboxes | 116,307.83 |
| Entrance Surveillance System | <u>1,994.00</u> |
| | \$153,568.11 |

Deer Creek Community Association, Inc.
Balance Sheet
For the Year Ended December 31, 2007

ASSETS

OPERATING ACCOUNTS

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| CASH-OPERATING ACCOUNT | 27,020.01 |
| CASH-DEPOSITORY ACCOUNT | 41,040.28 |
| ASSESSMENTS RECEIVABLE | 1,364.90 |
| FINES RECEIVABLE | 2,125.00 |
| DEFERRED INCOME-FINES | -2,125.00 |
| PREPAID INSURANCE | 1,266.00 |
| UTILITY DEPOSITS | 100.00 |

TOTAL OPERATING ACCOUNTS **\$70,791.19**

RESERVE INVESTMENTS

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| SMITH BARNEY CD -12/30/13 5.15% APR | 50,000.00 |
| COLONIAL MONEY MARKET | 10,625.45 |
| SMITH BARNEY CD-12/08/09 4.0% | 25,000.00 |
| SMITH BARNEY-MONEY MARKET | 3,123.29 |
| SMITH BARNEY-CD 5/23/18 5.25% | 50,000.00 |
| COLONIAL CD - 12/14/09 4.26% | 73,667.76 |
| 1ST STATE BANK CD-4/12/08 4.5% | 79,844.92 |
| RIVERSIDE BANK CD-5/7/10 5.25% | 99,379.51 |
| PEOPLES BANK CD-2/8/10 5.4% | 52,230.97 |

TOTAL RESERVE INVESTMENTS **\$443,871.90**

TOTAL ASSETS **\$514,663.09**

LIABILITIES AND RESERVES

LIABILITIES

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| ACCOUNTS PAYABLE | 3,837.30 |
| ASSESSMETNS RECEIVED IN ADVANCE | 53,395.17 |
| ACCRUED INCOME TAXES | 1,339.00 |
| SURPLUS CARRY/FORWARD | 12,219.72 |

TOTAL LIABILITIES **\$70,791.19**

RESERVE FUND BALANCE **\$443,871.90**

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND RESERVES **\$514,663.09**

Deer Creek Community Association, Inc.
Statement of Income and Expenses
For the Year Ended December 31, 2007

| INCOME: | ACTUAL | BUDGET |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| MAINTENANCE FEES | 406,560.00 | 406,560.00 |
| LESS-ALLOCATED TO RESERVES | -61,952.00 | -61,952.00 |
| UNCOLLECTABLE ACCOUNTS | -2,570.35 | 0.00 |
| AVAILABLE FOR OPERATIONS | 342,037.65 | 344,608.00 |
| | | |
| INTEREST | 2,195.34 | 1,500.00 |
| LATE FEES | 2,633.36 | 1,500.00 |
| FINES | 3,197.50 | 0.00 |
| PRIOR YEAR SURPLUS C/F | 7,054.99 | 7,700.00 |
| MISCELLANEOUS | 35.00 | 0.00 |
| TOTAL INCOME | \$357,153.84 | \$355,308.00 |
| | | |
| OPERATING EXPENSES: | | |
| ADMINISTRATIVE | | |
| MANAGEMENT FEE | 23,233.50 | 23,250.00 |
| OFFICE SUPPLIES/SERVICES | 7,169.00 | 6,500.00 |
| TELEPHONE | 1,384.96 | 1,500.00 |
| INSURANCE | 5,171.00 | 5,000.00 |
| LEGAL | 4,938.75 | 1,000.00 |
| AUDIT | 2,000.00 | 2,200.00 |
| RESERVE STUDY | 520.00 | 700.00 |
| DUES/LICENSE/PERMIT | 86.25 | 100.00 |
| INCOME TAXES | 4600.00 | 4700.00 |
| NEWSLETTER | 3095.10 | 2900.00 |
| WEBSITE | 1457.33 | 100.00 |
| DATABASE | 227.89 | 850.00 |
| DIRECTORY | 952.35 | 1450.00 |
| MEETINGS | 726.75 | 750.00 |
| D&D/R&R EXPENSE | 0.00 | 100.00 |
| DISASTER RELIEF EXPENSE | 0.00 | 2500.00 |
| MISCELLANEOUS | 69.95 | 8.00 |
| TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE | \$55,632.83 | \$53,608.00 |
| | | |
| LANDSCAPING/IRRIGATION | | |
| LANDSCAPE CONTRACT | 57096.00 | 57100.00 |
| LANDSCAPE CONTRACT - EXTRAS | 619.76 | 0.00 |
| LANDSCAPE CONTRACT - MULCH | 10000.00 | 11000.00 |
| IRRIGATION CONTRACT/PARTS/REPAIRS | 9483.45 | 10000.00 |
| FLOWERS & DECORATIONS | 5582.70 | 5500.00 |
| TREE CUTTING/TRIMMING | 9496.00 | 10000.00 |
| PLANT REPLACEMENT-WALL | 2976.64 | 1000.00 |
| MISCELLANEOUS | 0.00 | 400.00 |
| TOTAL LANDSCAPING/IRRIGATION | \$95,254.55 | \$95,000.00 |
| | | |
| LAKES & WATERWAYS | | |
| LAKE MAINTENANCE CONTRACT | 25272.00 | 25300.00 |
| MITIGATION MAINTENANCE CONTRACT | 900.00 | 900.00 |
| AQUATIC PLANT REPLACEMENT | 0.00 | 1000.00 |
| LAKE CLEANUP | 0.00 | 1000.00 |
| FOUNTAIN MAINTENANCE/REPAIR | 465.32 | 1500.00 |
| MISCELLANEOUS | 375.00 | 300.00 |
| TOTAL LAKES & WATERWAYS | \$27,012.32 | \$30,000.00 |
| | | |
| STREETS & STRUCTURES | | |
| GATEHOUSE MAINT/SUPPLIES | 3,029.93 | 3,700.00 |
| ELECTRIC/MAINT/SERVICES | 1,513.97 | 3,500.00 |
| GROUNDS/STRUCTURE REPAIRS/SERVICES | 3,876.68 | 5,000.00 |
| GATE REPAIRS | 3,100.73 | 3,500.00 |
| UTILITIES | 14,740.73 | 13,800.00 |
| ROAD/DRAIN CLEANING/REPAIRS | 509.44 | 1,500.00 |
| MISCELLANEOUS | 0.00 | 200.00 |
| TOTAL STREETS & STRUCTURES | \$26,771.48 | \$31,200.00 |
| | | |
| TRAFFIC CONTROL | | |
| TRAFFIC GATE SERVICE | 140,290.99 | 140,300.00 |
| BAR CODE INCOME | -945.00 | -800.00 |
| BAR CODE EXPENSE | 874.00 | 0.00 |
| MISCELLANEOUS | 4 2.95 | 0.00 |
| TOTAL TRAFFIC CONTROL | \$140,262.94 | \$139,500.00 |
| | | |
| CONTINGENCIES | \$0.00 | \$6,000.00 |
| | | |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | \$344,934.12 | \$355,308.00 |
| | | |
| NET INCOME | \$12,219.72 | \$0.00 |
| | | |
| SURPLUS CARRY FORWARD | \$12,219.72 | \$0.00 |
| | | |
| ADJUSTED NET INCOME | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |

RULES AND REGULATIONS

PHIL MENTZ



Attention New Owners

The driveway parking restriction enforcement is suspended for six weeks in the case of new move-ins. This is offered in order to allow time for the new residents to

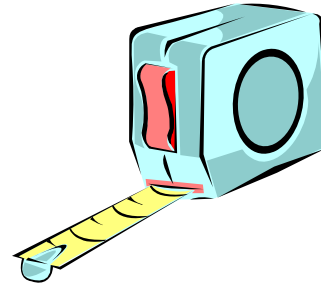
unpack and clear the garage of belongings.

Following the issuance of some citations, R&R received calls asking about what hours the driveway parking prohibition applies. Some callers thought that “no parking on the driveway” applied only at night. That is not the case. The restriction applies at all times of all days, not just the nighttime hours.

Please trim foliage which overhangs the sidewalks or obstructs the fireplugs. It is a courtesy to those who use the sidewalks, and a safety concern with the fireplugs.

Recently a representative of Sarasota County attended the R&R Committee meeting. He provided much information about the water restriction program and answered numerous questions. He took action to have the entire text of the county regulations posted on their website. It is now available. The address is:

<http://www.co.sarasota.fl.us/EnvironmentalServices/Water/Conservation/WaterRestrictions.asp>



Holiday Notice

Homeowners should remember that with the exception of an emergency, **contractors are not permitted** in Deer Creek on Sundays and Federal holidays. **February 18 is President's Day.** Please schedule your contractors accordingly to avoid having them turned away at the gate.

LOST & FOUND

I found a gift card (probably a Christmas gift). If someone can name the card and the amount, they can have it.

Pat Rose 921-5472



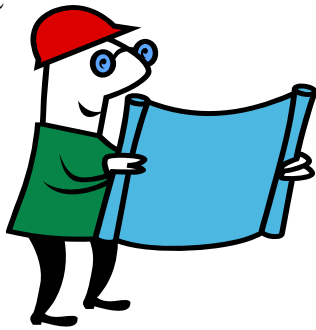
DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT

HOWARD PASCOE



In accordance with Deer Creek Development Standards and Architectural Requirements (now posted

on the Deer Creek Website (www.deercreeksarasota.org), approval from the Design and Development Board is required before any changes are made to the appearance of the exterior of any home in our community. This includes painting the exterior, installing a new roof, as well as any additions or removals from the property (e.g. trees, shrubs, decorative items, etc.). To obtain approval, homeowners should fill out an “**Action Request Form**” which may be obtained at the McIntosh gatehouse or by downloading the form from our Website (see above).



The following covers D&D activities through January 29, 2008 (we only list approved requests, not those that have been denied):

4376 Maplewood Ln. - Approved replacing garage door with storm resistant door.

8387 Cypress Hollow Dr. - Approved landscaping modification. Plan on file.

8607 Woodbriar Dr. - Approved replacing Areca palm with foxtail palm.

4480 White Egret Ln. - Approved painting exterior of house same color as before.

4421 Staghorn Ln. - Approved replacing garage door with storm resistant door.

8708 Woodbriar Dr. - Approved painting exterior of house with same color as before.

8335 Shadow Pine Way- Approved replacing dead hedges with new ones of same species.

8548 Woodbriar Dr.- Approved replacing dead Hibiscus with Crotons.

4753 Antler Tr. - Approved painting exterior of house. Same colors as before.

4367 Maplewood Ln. - Approved replacing tiles at front door entrance.

8263 Cypress Hollow Dr. - Approved removal of diseased Queen Palm tree. No replacement required.

4487 White Egret Ln. - Approved landscaping modification and additions. Plan on file.

8675 Woodbriar Dr. - Approved landscaping modification. Plan on file.

8559 Woodbriar Dr. - Approved removal of dying Palm trees. Replacement required (will advise).

8362 Cypress Hollow Dr. - Approved removal of Citrus tree from rear. No replacement required.

8431 Woodbriar Dr. - Approved painting exterior of house. Color chip on file.

8468 Woodbriar Dr. - Approved painting exterior of house same color as before.

4724 White Tail Ln. - Approved removing diseased Canary Palm tree and replacing with a Magnolia tree.

8635 Woodbriar Dr. - Approved removal of diseased Hibiscus and replace with queen Vibernum.

4452 Staghorn Ln. - Approved removal of dead grapefruit tree. No replacement required.

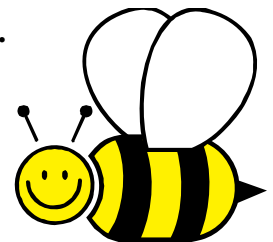
8515 Woodbriar Dr. - Approved painting exterior of house. Color chips on file.

8532 Woodbriar Dr. - Approved painting exterior of house. Color chip on file.

8299 Cypress Hollow Dr. - Approved installation of new plantings.

4492 White Egret Ln. - Approved installation of new code-approved front doors. Same color as before.

8615 Woodbriar Dr. - Approved installation of new pavers for driveway, walkway and front entry.



4368 Maplewood Ln. - Approved installation of new roof, same as before.

(Continued on page 20)

RECOMMENDED VENDORS / SERVICES LIST



This is a reminder that your Deer Creek neighbors have provided information regarding

vendors and services that they were satisfied with. These vendors and their phone numbers, along with the name and phone number of the Deer Creek resident who recommends them, are listed in the Deer Creek neighborhood vendors list on the new and improved Deer Creek Web site (bottom of the home page). You can now simply click on the vendor category at the beginning of the preferred vendor listings and it will link you directly to that category in the document.

We are looking for **YOUR** input regarding vendor recommendations. If you recently have done business with vendors listed on the Deer Creek vendor list or with new vendors not currently listed and you are

very satisfied, please let us know, so we can share that information with other Deer Creek residents.

I am particularly interested in your feedback about vendors for minor roof repairs, appliance replacement and repairs, air conditioning replacement and repairs, driveway pavers, garage door replacement and repair, granite counter installation, hurricane protection services, irrigation / sprinkler system replacement and repair, pool refinishing and repairs, security system services (monitoring), Verizon FiOS installation, floor tile installation, window replacement, and window washers, but feedback on ANY product or service is appreciated.

As always, please provide the name of the company, contact name, phone number(s) and your name and phone number as well as any relevant comments about the service(s) that you would recommend to other Deer Creek residents. We only accept



positive recommendations and referrals, but will remove currently recommended vendors from our list, if you have a negative experience.

Please send your input by e-mail only to: ronmeijer@verizon.net (note new address!)

Your neighbors thank you!☐

Ron Meijer
Preferred Vendors List
Coordinator

DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT (CONT.)

8531 Woodbriar Dr. - Approved replacing sod in front and side of house.

8283 Shadow Pine Way - Approved painting exterior of house same color as before.

4475 Deer Trail Blvd. - Approved new exterior lighting fixtures for garage.

4507 Deer Trail Blvd. - Approved new exterior lighting fixtures for garage.

8688 Woodbriar Dr. - Approved painting of front doors with neutral color.

8186 Shadow Pine Way - Approved replacement of entire roof with 30-year shingles.

8515 Woodbriar Dr. - Approved removal of Washingtonia palm tree on side of house.

4712 White Tail Ln. - Approved painting exterior of house. Color chips on file. Landscape modification plan on file.☐

Howard Pascoe
Chairman



CLASSIFIEDS

**Classifieds are Free for Deer
Creek Residents!**
E-mail items to
farnumfoto@comcast.net

BIKE FOR SALE

Men's Schwinn Jaguar 7-speed bike in
shiny, new condition. \$50.

Douglas Anderson 926-2303

WALL MIRROR FOR SALE

Two layers, octagon shape with beveled
edges. Measures 24" x 36". New
condition. \$90.00 OBO.

Harleen Epstein 923-8694

PET CARETAKER AVAILABLE

Sixteen year old with Experience

Jordan Huminski 924-7936

FOR SALE

Compaq 17-inch Color Monitor
Excellent Condition
\$25

Art Nehman 921-2252

FOR SALE

Wheelchair, like new \$175.
New Grundig AM/FM/SW radio.world
band receiver w/earphones \$25

Dee & Rosser Jones 925-7485

BABY SITTING

Eleven year old with Experience
I Love Children! Available on Weekends

Haley Huminski 924-7936

FOUND!

I found a gift card (probably a Christmas
gift). If someone can name the card and the
amount, they can have it.

Pat Rose 921-5472

NOTICE TO DEER CREEK RESIDENT-ADVERTISERS

Please e-mail the new editor, James Farnum, to confirm placement of your recurring ads in
future editions of the *TRAILS*.

Send your requests to: farnumfoto@comcast.net



See the Tony Award Winning Broadway Sensation

When: Sunday, June 1, 2008

Where: Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center

Cost: \$98.00 Per Person (includes transportation)

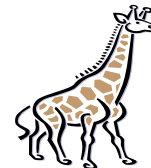
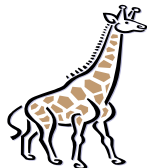
“Visually stunning, technically astounding. Giraffes strut, birds swoop and gazelles leap. Animals are brought to life by a cast of more than 40 actors.”

The bus will leave the Villas pool area at 11:00 am and return between 5:00 – 5:30 PM. Bring a lunch and beverage to have on the bus.

Refer questions to either Dee Forsyth @ 927-1355 or Nancy Zeman @927-7522

Checks should be made out to Deer Creek Social Committee (DCSC) and mailed along with your reservation form to: Dee Forsyth @8326 Cypress Hollow Drive or Nancy Zeman @4572 Deer Trail Evd.

Cut off date for reservations: March 31st.



-----tear here-----

Reservation Form

| Contact Name | Phone# | No. of Tickets | Amt. Enclosed |
|--------------|--------|----------------|---------------|
| | | | |