

*The Villas Voice*  
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**President's Message:**

This spring and early summer were very dry and our landscape and lawns suffered from it. Also, our ponds were very low at one point. We finally got some rain in late summer that helped a great deal. However, when it was so dry, we had problems with bugs in the lawns and problems with the irrigation system. We had to replace one pump and two timers this summer.

We now have a new Irrigation Committee and they are doing a super job. We owe Jerry Brock and Don Beckwith a big thank you for their hard work on the committee. Our new committee consists of Russell Weber and George Ulrich. You have probably noticed them in your back yards recently. They are getting familiar with the irrigation system and finding problems that need attention.

Nancy and Jack Zeman did an inspection of all our mailboxes. There is a lot of work that needs to be done, such as repairing the posts and painting. We plan on doing this when it cools down a little.

Everyone could help by cleaning the mold from his or her mailbox with a little bleach.

*Gary Koch, President*

**Architectural Review Board (ARB):**

The Villas ARB approved the following requests:

- Hurricane shutters for 4531 DTB
- 3-foot high privacy lattice for lanai at 8006 BCC
- 4-foot wide cement pad outside lanai door at 4615 DTB
- Satellite antenna for 4596 DTB

*Ron Benice, Chair*



We want to take this opportunity to remind you that we are now able to make a change to the light fixtures on garages and home entries. However, you do need to fill out an Action Request Form and then contact Joni Rushforth who has a catalog of lighting solutions for you to see - in living color -the fixtures approved by the BOD.



In 2005, the BOD approved a request from ARB to allow the painting of garage doors to match the color of resident's houses. This proved to be a popular idea. If any of our newer homeowners are interested and would like to update their doors, please give an ARB member a call and we'll give you the details.

*Joni Rushforth, Member*

#### Landscape Committee Report:

As most of you are aware, it has been a trying season. Drought, dying grass, rainy season chinch bugs, more dying grass and much, much more. Mother Nature played havoc with our budget. Lawn plugging became a priority leaving plant replacement running second. The committee is aware that there is a need for some replacement. We would request that only if the situation is in the front of the Villa where all can see that an Action Request Form be filled out. Unfortunately, we are almost out of funds for this year and all other requests will have to wait until next year's budget. We appreciate your cooperation in this respect.

Mulching will be coming up in November so that the Villas will be prepared for the holiday visitors.

We would like to remind everyone that Sue from Wilhelm Brother's works off action requests only. Stopping her to complain about your property not only slows down her schedule but also delays any progress on your property.

The Landscape Committee would like to wish each and every one of our neighbors a Happy Holiday Season.

*Ann Brock & Pat Beckwith Co-Chairs*

#### Irrigation Committee Report:

Sarasota County has recently changed the rules on irrigation watering days and has banned Sunday watering. In order to comply

with these regulations, we are adjusting the Villas schedules as follows:

- Sunday irrigation areas will be moved to Tuesday.
- Tuesday areas will be moved to Thursdays
- The times will remain the same
- Changes will be effective on October 16<sup>th</sup>

*Russ Weber & George Ulrich, Co-Chairs*

#### Pool Committee Report:



The Pool Committee is pleased to report that there have been no major problems or expenses recently. We changed a pool filter, replaced a drain cover, repaired a lock and sprayed for ants. Our natural solar heating system kept the water nice and warm.

*Ron Benice, Chair*

#### Welcome Committee Report:

Welcome Committee members Pat Koch and Joan Wills called on William and Ruth Ellis at 4492 Deer Trail Blvd. They are former residents of Potomac, MD.

Both Bill and Ruth had exciting careers from which they are now retired. Bill retired after 28 years as a Senior Writer and Assistant Editor at the National Geographic Magazine. He traveled extensively in his work and covered stories of major proportions that affected all our lives.

Ruth, wife and mother of five, also was a successful journalist (notably the Washington Post.)

Floridians now, they plan to stay most of their time in Deer Creek along with their pets Chloe, a beautiful gray poodle and Leo the family cat.

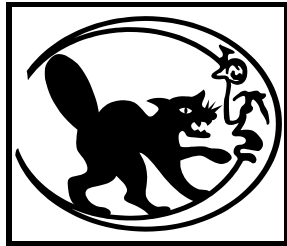
Ruth has expressed interest in starting a Deer Creek Book Club and is willing to give of her time and expertise.

Anyone who is interested should contact her in a few weeks from now by calling her at home. (923-5682)

*The Welcoming Committee*

**Social Committee Report:**

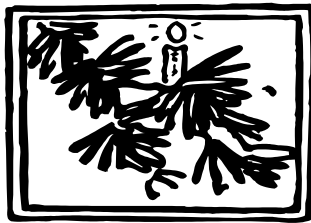
Party season is upon us once more. Read on to learn what we have in store for you.



**SPOOK NIGHT AT THE VILLAS:**

– Better known as our annual Halloween gathering - is set for Thursday, 26 October, 4:00 – 6:00PM. We wish to encourage everyone to let go, use his or her imagination and show up in a wacky costume. You will be surprised and delighted by the wonderful prizes to be rewarded! See our attached flyer for a *skeleton* outline of details.

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**FESTIVAL OF THE LIGHTS:**

The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival of the lights is to be held on Sunday Evening, December 3<sup>rd</sup> starting at 6:00PM at the pool house. Come with your favorite beverage in hand and your incredible voices tuned and ready to swing into some caroling. We can all take the opportunity to wish our neighbors a joyous holiday and a healthy New Year. Please see attached flyer for details.

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The decorating committee will be looking for “all good men & women to come to the aid of the party” on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 PM to help with the work of decorating the shrubs and palm trees at the pool house. We will especially need some hardy, daring soul to climb the ladder for decorating on high. Not quite as high as the angels fly, of course.

As it is the Villas Social Committee custom, flyers will be placed in the glass bulletin boards at the pool house for all planned events. The information will be typed on colored paper to distinguish it from other posted information. Check them out whenever you see one. Stay tuned in!

Give either of us a call if you have questions, suggestions or comments. However, remember, you are at risk of being recruited to execute the suggestion!

*The Social Committee*

Pat would like to let you know she has the extra copies of the Deer Creek 2006 Directory/Handbook. The book was delivered late in the spring after some of the residents had left for the season. Please give her a call at 921-1892 and arrange to pick up your copy from her.

**Deer Creek Social Club (DCSC):**

The Committee would like to remind people they are all invited to the Prime Rib Buffet at TPC at Prestancia on October 19. Cash bar 6:00 till 7:00 PM followed by a dinner buffet. The cost of the buffet is \$25.00 per person.

Interested? Send checks and reservations to Deer Creek Social Club. They can either be dropped off at the homes of the Zemans or Forsyth's. Deadline is October 17<sup>th</sup>. A nice way to meet the neighbors.

A bus trip to The Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center to see "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels" – fresh from Broadway – is being planned for Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. The bus will leave the Villas parking lot at 5:00 PM for the 7:30 PM performance. We will be dropped off and picked up at the Center's door. Arrival back at the Villas pool house will be around midnight.

Bring a sandwich and beverage to enjoy on the bus, or get a bite to eat at the theater cafeteria. Keep in mind the line for food tends to be long.

The cut-off date for reservations has been extended to November 5<sup>th</sup>.

Reservation forms for both the buffet and the trip to Tampa are attached to "The Trails" which was distributed to all homes in Deer Creek last week.

Questions should be directed to Nancy Zeman at 927-7522.

*Nancy Zeman, Co-Chair DCSC*

**Thank you:**

Gary and I would like to thank the Villas Board and residents for keeping us in your thoughts and prayers. Gary had successful by-pass surgery on September 22<sup>nd</sup> and is doing great. He's recuperating at home and his present activities consist of walking, resting and watching football! We send our love to all.

*Pat Koch*

**On the injured list:**

Jane Bell recently fell on the tennis court and unfortunately broke an ankle. Jane, heal quickly and get back to one of your favorite pastimes!

**Condolences:**

Sincere sympathies to Regina Johannsen and her family on the death of her husband, Bill. Regina and Bill have been long time residents of The Villas and reside at 8041 Bobcat Circle.

Our sympathies are also extended to the family of Ken & Leona Krisher, 2977 Vincent Rd., Silver Lake, OH 44224.

Leona died on October 4<sup>th</sup>, at their home in Ohio. During the fall and winter months, the Krishers reside at 4428 Deer Trail Blvd.

Condolences to Lin Schlossman and her family on the death of her husband Irwin. Lin and Irwin have lived at 4480 Deer Trail Blvd. for many years.

We are all sorry that several of our fine neighbors have left us over the past months. May their families find peace and comfort in the difficult days ahead.

**Palmer Ranch News:**

**"Spring Fest 2007"**

A charity event benefiting Sarasota YMCA will be held March 31<sup>st</sup> & April 1<sup>st</sup> at the corners of Clark & Sawyer Loop Roads. Organizers are planning to hold the event annually.

The call has gone out for volunteers. The event's coordinator stated that there is a great need for help to pull off the event and has estimated that 500 to 600 volunteers will be needed.

The question "How to spread the word?" was asked at the organizer's first meeting. "Word of mouth" was the answer. So let's join in and do our part by telling our friends and neighbors.

Some of the events being planned are drawings, arts, crafts, food, environmental & wellness booths, classic cars, and three races. The YMCA has teamed up with Manasota Track Club to host a 1-mile fun run. 5K and 12K races on the morning of March 31st will kick off the 2-day event.

If you are interested in volunteering some time for the first Palmer Ranch Spring Fest, please contact either Sue Ambrecht at [prms.sue@verizon.net](mailto:prms.sue@verizon.net) or Toni Borman at [tbspringfest@aol.com](mailto:tbspringfest@aol.com).

**Tips from Heloise:**

I'd like to mention that Joan Wills just presented me with a rare edition of the book "hints from Heloise." Over the next few months, I will be avidly perusing the "over 2,000 tested, trustworthy, inexpensive and ingenious tips to make homecare EASY!" Look for a report in the next Villas Voice.

However, not personally having had any good tips from Heloise lately, I submit 12 tips for graceful living from the world-renowned author, Anonymous. The original column is from "Ask Abby."

I personally plan to post the "Rules" on my refrigerator as a constant reminder that I'm working hard at becoming graceful.

*Joni*

1. If you open it, close it.
2. If you turn it on, turn it off.
3. If you unlock it, lock it up.
4. If you break it, admit it.
5. If you can't fix it, call someone who can.
6. If you borrow it, return it.
7. If you value it, take care of it.
8. If you make a mess, clean it up.
9. If you move it, put it back.
10. If it belongs to someone else, get permission to use it.
11. If you don't know how to operate it, leave it alone.
12. If it's none of your business, don't ask questions.

**Golden Rules for Living:**

(Author Unknown)