

TRAILS

DEER CREEK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



March 2009

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Phil Mentz



This is my first letter as president of the Association. Although active in the Association for some years, the president's position presents some new challenges, and certainly requires an expanded horizon of responsibility and thinking.

Our regular Association monthly meeting was held on February 24. An important subject was on the agenda; a proposed change in our guard service. After a presentation and some discussion, a change from Wackenhut to Alert was voted. This will become effective April 1. The proposed change was thoroughly evaluated by the Traffic Committee and discussed, but it was disappointing to see less than 15 homeowners in attendance. The Board represents all residents of Deer Creek, and we welcome any point of view on any subject. Please read the agenda and make your opinions known. The agenda is on our website, and for those without computer access, hard copies are available at the gate. The next meeting of the Association will be held on March 24 at Faith Lutheran Church on Beneva Road.

During February there were two instances of the unusual in Deer Creek----daytime burglaries. Force was not used and there were no injuries, but valuables were lost. During the 17 years that Margaret and I have lived here there had been only three break-ins of which I am aware. To have two in the same month is a startling change, and a most unwelcome one. Perhaps the economic situation has some bearing, but whatever the reason, precautions are in order. Doors and windows should always be locked when not in use or unobserved. Even with someone in the house, there have been instances of sneak thieves making off with valuables. There are always non-residents in the area, and it is impossible to prevent all unauthorized entry. The police are involved, and ask for cooperation in their investigation.

Jack Sullivan has just completed a term as DCCA president. For a job well done, the thanks of the Board and the community to Jack and Martha.



www.deercreeksarasota.com



EDITOR'S DESK

James Farnum



Deer Creek Advertising Policy

Personal classified ads are free for Deer Creek residents. "Commercial" ads for residents will be accepted on a space available basis and subject to modification at the discretion of the editor. Images should be 300 dpi, however, larger images under 300 dpi, that can be sufficiently reduced, are also acceptable. Please send unformatted text ads (upper & lower case only), and/or graphics to **dctrails@comcast.net**. You will receive an e-mail confirmation when the ad is received. Ad DEADLINE is the 26th of the month. Those without computers may call in their ads at: 921-3063.

DCCA Board of Directors

<i>Position</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Term Ends</i>
President	Phil Mentz	2010
V. President	Sandy Twyon	2011
Secretary	Roger Garcia	2011
Treasurer	Tom Frey	2010
Director	Al Mahan	2010
Director	Jay Olin	2011
Director	Jack Sullivan	2011
Director	Richard Tabor	2011
Director	John Zwakman	2010

Committee Chairpersons

Budget & Finance	Tom Frey
Communications	Linda Slack
Design & Development	Howard Pascoe
Landscape & Irrigation	Grace Cuffaro
Lakes & Waterways	George Ulrich
Social Committee	Carla Manley
Streets & Structures	Richard Tabor
Rules & Regulations	Phil Mentz
Traffic	Jay Olin

Key Positions

Palmer Ranch Communities Coalition	Howard Pascoe
Palmer Ranch Master Association	Sandy Twyon
Prof. Vendors List	Irwin Cooper
Telephone Book	Clark Southworth
Trails Distribution	Candi Messerschmidt
Trails Editor	James Farnum
Website Manager	Clark Southworth
Welcoming	Mary Ann Spayd
Gatehouse Captain	Stan Copenhaver

— LOST —
Stainless steel necklace.
If found please contact Chris at: 961-5597

Quarterly assessments of \$294 are due as follows:

- 1). Jan. 1, 2009
- 2). **April 1, 2009**
- 3). July 1, 2009
- 4). Oct. 1, 2009

Assessment Reminder

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.



❖ Notice of Next Board Meeting ❖

The next regular meeting will be held at 2 PM on Tuesday, March 24, 2009

at

the Faith Lutheran Church

7750 Beneva Road. Residents are always welcome and encouraged to attend Board meetings.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Linda Slack



Iguanas, Monitor Lizards and Pythons: These unwelcome and invasive creatures have been spotted with increasing frequency in Sarasota County. With no natural predators, the reptiles can take over the ecosystem. They threaten and can replace native species such as the gopher tortoise and birds. Even small domestic pets are at risk. To report a sighting of one of these reptiles, call Sarasota County at 941-861-5000.

Extreme Water Shortage: On Feb. 24, 2009, the Southwest Florida Water Management District issued a Modified Phase III Water Shortage Declaration for Sarasota County.

The biggest impact of this declaration is that county and city utilities are now mandated to begin fining homeowners and businesses that violate watering laws – no more warnings. Previously unrestricted hand-watering must be done before 8 AM or after 6 PM. Fountains and other water features may only operate four hours per day. As a reminder, Deer Creek residents with even numbered addresses may water their lawns on Tuesdays only and odd numbered addresses on Thursdays only. Lawns may be watered only once on your designated day either before 8 AM or after 6 PM.

SpringFest 2009 is a 1-day event Saturday, March 28, from 9 AM to 6 PM and will benefit the Child Protection Center of Sarasota. SpringFest 2009 will be held at the corner of Sawyer Loop Road and Clark Road. Parking is free and admission is \$1.00 for adults and free for age 12 and under. Highlights include children's activities, music, food, pony rides, exhibits by Mote Marine and G-Wiz, a family run/walk and a 5 K and 12 K race. For more information call Gail at 365-1277, ext. 100 or go to their website: www.sarasotaspriingfest.com

The **2009 Deer Creek Directory/Handbook** pages will be distributed with the April issue of the *Trails*. If you have a new email address or need to update any part of your listing, please complete and return an Entry Control and Resident Information Form immediately.

To do this online, go to the Deer Creek website - www.DeerCreekSarasota.org

Click on the Documents button

Scroll down until you see the Entry Control and Resident Information form

Click to open the form.

Complete any areas that need to be corrected (put your name & address at the top)

Save a copy of this form to your computer.

Attach this form to an email

Email to ClarkTrails@Verizon.net

A hardcopy of this form can also be obtained at and returned to the McIntosh guard house.



Monitor Lizard

STREETS & STRUCTURES

Richard Tabor



Street Lights

Members of the Streets and Structures Committee conducted a survey of our community and discovered five street lights not functioning properly. Members subsequently completed repairs after replacing defective bulbs and photo-electric cells.

Gatehouses

A contractor repaired a sliding glass door at the McIntosh gatehouse by replacing defective rollers. The county fire marshal requested that the closing time for the gate at the Woodbriar entrance be increased to 30 seconds. This request was made after the fire marshal determined that emergency vehicles did not have sufficient time to clear the gate during emergency conditions.

Stone Bridge

An automobile struck the stone bridge after the driver experienced a seizure while traveling on McIntosh Road. The accident resulted in minor damage to the stone façade and the driver's insurance company assumed responsibility for the repair costs.

Roads

Committee members repaired small potholes on Deer Creek Boulevard, Deer Trail Boulevard, and Cypress Hollow Drive.

Homeowners with questions regarding streets and structures can contact me at: rttennis@verizon.net.

Jose and Ina Gomez, Deer Creek residents, after completing the half and full Sarasota Marathons on February 15.



Jose Gomez crosses the finish line after completing the Half Sarasota Marathon.



Ina Gomez, from Deer Creek, crossing the finish line after running the Full Sarasota Marathon.

LANDSCAPE / IRRIGATION COMMITTEE

Grace Cuffaro



It's February and time to trim the Oak trees. Since there are so many, we will do this in sections, as we have done in the past. This year we will be trimming all the Oaks from McIntosh thru Deer Creek Blvd. Since the same trees are not trimmed every year, they will be cut back sufficiently until we can do them again in several years.

We have a huge Pine Tree between the guard house and guard's parking space that was hit by lightning last year. This must be removed.

We have two Legustrum trees at the Deer Creek sign on Central Sarasota Parkway, which are diseased. The D & D committee has approved the removal of these three trees. The two Legustrums will be replaced shortly with other suitable trees.

We did not quite get down to 32° this season, therefore, we have not had frost problems with our shrubs or bushes on the common ground. Our geraniums continue to flourish.

** Garden Corner by Rachele Farnum **

March brings the first season of the year: "Primavera", as it is called in both Italian and Spanish, from the latin word "primum" (first) and "ver, veris" (season). March, however is not the month for starting spring gardens in South Florida.

In South Florida, we prepare our garden sites and flower beds in September and October, and plant in October and November. March is a bit late for most things, but if you want to plant some of the crops recommended for March, you have to provide irrigation and get ready to fight insects. You can keep insects away at least most of the time by spraying all plants weekly with an insecticide-fungicide combination. Never apply insecticides in your garden during the morning, while the plants are wet or while bees and wasps are at work among the flowers. Instead make the application in the afternoon.

During the dry spring, it is important to place mulch around the plants. Mulch is very beneficial for the following reasons :

1. Preserves moisture in the soil.
2. Protects the soil from the intense heat of the sun.
3. Provides a constant source of organic material.
4. Prevents the quick drying of the soil during the windy, dry period of late winter and early spring.
5. Improves soil texture.
6. Gives some protection against rootknot-causing nematodes.

In March, you might also consider planting a new tree in your landscape. Trees add value to homes and neighborhoods.

Trees have always been an important part of our landscape for aesthetics and shade on a hot summer day. They are so valuable for many other reasons. They provide stormwater runoff savings, air-pollution clean-up, and energy savings. Plants as you know, are the only source of oxygen. One acre of trees can produce enough oxygen per diem for 18 people to breathe. Let's not forget the benefits for wildlife — trees provide habitat and food. They provide shelter and nesting areas for birds large and small, as well as for some mammals. Their seeds and fruits provide food for much of our wildlife.

According to Joan Brasch, one of our residents in Deer Creek, eggshells are a great source of calcium for our plants. Dry them in the oven, or microwave, crush them as finely as possible, and add them to the plant mix or soil.

Joan also tells us not to dump the water that we use to cook the pasta or the potatoes. Instead, let the water cool off, and then water the plants with it. The plants will love the starchy boost of nutrition.



RULES & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE

Philip S. Mentz



Spring is around the corner and the vegetation surrounding our homes is beginning to grow. In some cases there are plants close to fire hydrants, streetlights, signs and sidewalks. If not trimmed these plants may obscure the permanent installations. This creates an inconvenience for pedestrians and drivers, and in the case of the hydrants and lights, a safety concern. Please watch these areas on your own property and take the necessary steps to keep the open areas clear.

As you may have noticed in the newspaper, the enforcement of watering restrictions very likely will be tightened by the county. The warning notices issued heretofore to first time violators may be dropped and fines levied for first offenders. The county can, and has, conducted their own enforcement patrols. To avoid possible fines make certain that your irrigation control system is set for the correct day. Even numbered houses may water only on Tuesday, odd numbered houses on Thursday. There are further requirements as to hours, hand watering and new plantings. Please consult the county's website at scgov.net or call them at 941-861-5000 for details.



TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

Jay Olin

Following the 4th Quarter 2008 review process previously reported, the Traffic Committee recommends to the DCCA Board that Alert Protective Services become the Deer Creek security guard service for 2010 effective April 1st. The revised Alert Services contract has been cleared for execution if approved by the Board of Directors. If the change in guard service provider is approved as recommended, the required 30-day notice of cancellation will be sent to Wackenhut prior to the end of this month. During the 30-day transition period, the Traffic Committee will work with Alert to finalize the Post Orders, to interview the prospective guard service personnel, especially the individual(s) proposed to be on duty on the weekdays and to provide necessary training on the computer system to ensure as smooth a transition as possible.



Since the Woodbriar Gate opening/closing cycle has had to be increased to 30 seconds at the request of the Fire Marshal to accommodate emergency vehicles, we are examining acceptable alternatives that will allow the return to our original shorter cycle. This should be resolved in about 30 days.

All former members of the Traffic Committee have agreed to serve on the Committee for another year. My thanks for all their help and counsel over the prior year.

DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT

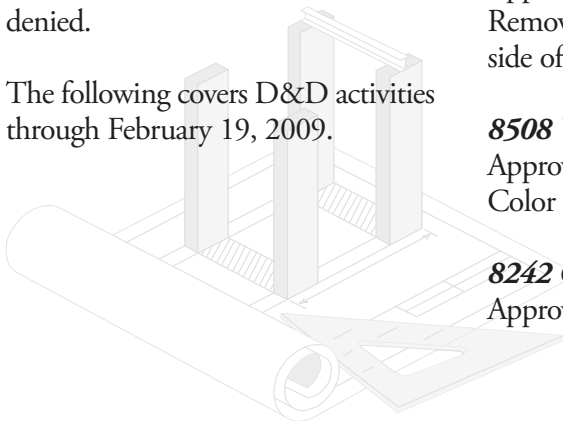
Howard Pascoe



In accordance with Deer Creek Development Standards and Architectural Requirements (now posted on the Deer Creek Web Site: deer-

creeksarasota.org), approval from the Design and Development Board is required before any changes are made to the appearance of any home or property 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). An Action Request Form, available at the guardhouse or from our web site, must be filed in order to obtain approval. We only list the addresses of approved requests, not the address of those that have been denied.

The following covers D&D activities through February 19, 2009.



8166 Shadow Pine Way -

Approved removal of invasive Holly tree, recommended by certified Arborist. Replacement not required.

4534 Deer Creek Blvd. -

Approved landscaping modification. Plan on file.

8341 Shadow Pine Way -

Approved replacing exterior side door. Color same as had.

8467 Woodbriar Dr. -

Approved minor landscaping modification.

8386 Cypress Hollow Dr. -

Approved concreting of damaged driveway section.

8252 Shadow Pine Way -

Approved landscaping modification. Remove barren Magnolia tree from side of house.

8508 Woodbriar Dr. -

Approved painting exterior of house. Color chips on file.

8242 Cypress Hollow Dr. -

Approved landscaping addition.

8506 Sandy Oak Ln. -

Approved painting exterior of house. Color chips on file.

Villas

4468 Deer Trail Blvd. -

Replace sliders from master bedroom to lanai with a wall with two windows.

4564 Deer Trail Blvd. -

Replace side entry door and front door.

4572 Deer Trail Blvd. -

Replace garage light fixtures.

4579 Deer Trail Blvd. -

Replace garage door and approved exterior paint color for house.

4588 Deer Trail Blvd. -

Glass enclosure of lanai.

4503 Deer Trail Blvd. -

Replace side entry door to garage.



AMERICAN RED CROSS CPR CERTIFICATION



Even if you were certified for CPR once before, certification must be updated each year.

March 11 (Wednesday) - Howard Pascoe (923-1516) has arranged for Deer Creek residents to take CPR training for this important life-saving skill. The training, at the home of Carla Manley and Roger Garcia, 4540 Deer Trail Blvd., will begin at 6:30 p.m. and take

approximately two hours.



SOCIAL COMMITTEE NEWS

Carla Manley



MIXERS : On February 27, Patrick & Charlotte Emerson hosted an evening mixer. We wish to

thank the Emersons and all who generously volunteer to host Deer Creek mixers.

Planning for late April and May mixers has already begun. Look for details in next month's *Trails*.

Also, as a courtesy to hosts, attendees are asked to avoid bringing red wine to mixers (white wine is fine).

Interested in hosting a mixer? Please contact Charlotte Emerson (924-4572) to select a date.

LADIES LUNCHEONS: February's Valentine's Day-themed luncheon at Stoneybrook Golf & Country Club's Palmer Room was enjoyed very much by all who attended. Thanks to J.C. Grimme and Nancy Zeman for organizing this lovely luncheon.

March 5 (Thursday) - Lake Garden has reserved part of Mattison's 41 for our March ladies luncheon. Ladies will order off the menu and have individual tabs.

April 2 (Thursday) - Pat Krug and Fran Van Schoor have selected Sam Seltzer's for April's ladies lunch. Ladies will order from the full menu and be billed individually. Please contact Pat (927-5062) if you plan to attend.

MEN'S BREAKFASTS: Twenty attended February's breakfast at Millie's, organized by Howard Pascoe.

March 11 (Wednesday) - The next men's breakfast will be at Millie's, 3900 Clark Road. Call or e-mail Howard (923-1516, howpasc@aol.com) if interested.

DC BOWLING ADVENTURE: *Each Wednesday at 2:00 for all interested!* A dozen Deer Creek residents went bowling at the AMF Gulf Gate Lanes on Wednesday, February 18 and 25. For several, this was their first bowling experience. All agreed it should be repeated every week and bowlers of every level are invited to join! The total cost of \$8.50 includes 3 games, shoes, ball, a soft drink, bottomless coffee and tax. The fun is free and contagious! Gather your friends and neighbors; contact Sharron Mahan and get your name(s) on the list. (929-7694 or asmahan21@comcast.net)

Deer Creek BOWLING "Open House"

Wednesday, April 15 at 2:00 - The General Manager at our local AMF "non-smoking" Lanes (7221 S. Tamiami Trail) has offered Deer Creek residents (and our guests), a FREE and special "Open House" with 3 games of bowling, shoes, ball, snacks, a soft drink and bottomless coffee. Come early on April 15 to pick out your ball and shoes, and join the fun! Please RSVP to Sharron Mahan so we can reserve the appropriate number of

lanes. (929-7694 or asmahan21@comcast.net)

HERMAN'S LIPIZZAN STALLIONS:

March 7 (Saturday) - Join us for an exciting performance by the Hermann's Royal Lipizzan Stallions at the Hermann family's ranch in Myakka City. Carpools leave from the Villas pool area at 8:45 a.m. for the 10:00 a.m. program. The program is free, but donations are welcome. Call Diane Geimer (924-4184) if you plan to go.

CPR TRAINING:

March 11 (Wednesday) - CPR training is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. at the home of Carla Manley and Roger Garcia, 4540 Deer Trail Blvd., for those who previously registered. Because of the instructor's class size limit and stronger than expected interest in the training, Howard Pascoe plans to schedule another session. If you are interested, please contact Howard (923-1516) or howpasc@aol.net.

BOOK CLUB: Twelve members gathered in February to discuss the book, The Wednesday Letters.

March 13 (Friday) - The group will discuss Anne Morrow Lindburgh's book, Gift from the Sea. For information, contact Joan Saunders (925-0453).

CO-ED BOOK CLUB: On February 19, eight residents gathered for the group's first book discussion.

March 19 (Thursday) - Loving Frank, by Nancy Horan, has been selected for discussion in March. It presents the life of Frank Lloyd Wright from a different perspective. Sue Worden will host the discussion. If you are interested in attending, please contact Ruth or Bill Ellis, call 923-5682 or e-mail wwellis@comcast.net.

BIG CAT HABITAT:

April 4 (Saturday) - "Lions, tigers & bears, oh my!" Join your Deer Creek neighbors and friends for a fun afternoon at the Big Cat Habitat and Gulf Coast Sanctuary, 7101 Palmer Blvd., in Sarasota. Watch up close "edutainment" demonstrations with rescued tigers, lions, bears, and other animals. Come view other rescued wild animals in the habitat and visit the petting zoo. Admission: adults \$12, seniors \$10, and children \$6. Refreshments are available for purchase. We will carpool from the Villas pool area at 11:45 a.m. To reserve a seat at the program, contact Judy Kupperbusch (961-8401).

DERBY DAY AT SARASOTA KENNEL CLUB:

May 2 (Saturday) – Burt Raimi is organizing "a day at the races" at the

Sarasota Kennel Club. Join others from Deer Creek as we watch horse races from all around the country, including the Kentucky Derby, at reserved tables equipped with their own TV's in the Club House. (Betting is optional.) Because of space limitations in the Club House and the large crowds expected that day, tables must be reserved no later than April 3. Contact Burt at 927-1603 or e-mail Howard Pascoe at howpasc@aol.com before April 3 to RSVP.

"FIDDLER ON THE ROOF":

May 3 (Sunday) – Act fast! Tickets are still available for "Fiddler on the Roof" at the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center. Roger Garcia has reserved a bus and a limited number of tickets, which are located in three different theater sections with prices suitable to all budgets. The cost, including bus, depends on theater seat location: \$88.00 (mezzanine/orch.), \$72.00 (balcony), and \$58.00 (gallery). The bus leaves at noon from the Villas pool area and returns at 6:00 p.m. Don't miss the opportunity to watch this outstanding and popular musical. *Please reserve your tickets before March 28, as the theater-imposed dead-*

line requires us to return unsold tickets one month before the performance. Send your check, payable to DCSC, to Roger Garcia, 4540 Deer Trail Blvd. For more information, contact Roger (706-4531, rogelio3@comcast.net).

DC BIKERS: (*Saturdays, 9:45 a.m.*) This group varies in size each Saturday morning, and distances vary as well, depending on the biker. A few of our more determined members have pedaled down the Legacy Trail to the Venice Train Station and down Casey Key, while others have gone on much shorter rides on and off the Trail. The group welcomes bikers of all skill levels for short and longer group rides. Contact Bob Dannewitz if interested (923-8191).

E-MAILS: If you have a new e-mail address or if you haven't been receiving e-mail reminders from the Social Committee and wish to, please send your e-mail address to dcsocialcommittee@comcast.net. Visit Deer Creek's website at www.deercreeksarasota.org for updates on social events.



Get together with friends and neighbors to enjoy a hilarious variety show of songs, dance and comedy - THE SILVER FOXES 2009 FOLLIES at the Venice Theatre. Dory Kaiser, Deer Creek resident, is assistant to the artistic director of the Foxes, and also writes, directs and performs for the group. Performance dates are March 18, 19, 20, and 21, at 8 p.m. and March 22 at 2 PM. Tickets are \$22 and are on sale now. Call the VT box office at 941-488-1115 or online at: www.venicestage.com.



Social Opportunities at a Glance:

- March 5 - Ladies Luncheon – Lake Garren (921-5193)*
- March 7 - Hermann’s Royal Lipizzan Stallions - Diane Geimer (924-4184)*
- March 11 - Men’s Breakfast – Howard Pascoe (923-1516)*
- April 2 – Ladies Luncheon*
- April 4 – Big Cat Habitat*
- May 2 – Derby Day*
- May 3 – “Fiddler on the Roof”*

Ongoing:

- 1st Monday/month - Artists of Palmer Ranch- Jeanne Collette Romance (924-8182)*
- 1st Thursday/month - Ladies Luncheon – Carla Manley (706-4531) & Suzi Harkola (927-5689)*
- 2nd Thursday/month - Men’s Poker - Herman Freese (927-6805)*
- 2nd Friday/month - Book Club –Joan Saunders (925-0453)*
- 3rd Thursday/month - Co-Ed Book Club- Bill/Ruth Ellis (923-5682)*
- Monthly – Ladies Golf– Judy Kupperbusch (961-8401)*
- Monthly – Men’s Breakfasts - Howard Pascoe (923-1516)*
- Variable- Mah Jongg – Pat Krug (927-5062)*
- Weekly/Saturdays - DC Bikers - Bob Dannewitz (923-8191)*

JOIN US FOR A PERFORMANCE OF
“FIDDLER ON THE ROOF”
 AT THE TAMPA BAY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

DATE: **SUNDAY, MAY 3**

TIME: **12:00 NOON** — CHARTER BUS LEAVES THE VILLAS POOL AREA FOR THE 2:00 P.M. PERFORMANCE AND RETURNS TO DEER CREEK AT 6:00 P.M.

TICKETS (INCLUDE BUS) - THREE LOCATIONS AND PRICES:

ORCHESTRA/MEZZANINE - **\$88** BALCONY - **\$78** GALLERY - **\$58**

To reserve your tickets, please complete the portion below and return it, along with your check made out to the Deer Creek Social Committee, to Roger Garcia, 4540 Deer Trail Blvd. Order before March 28. For additional information, call or e-mail Roger (706-4531, rogelio3@comcast.net).

“FIDDLER ON THE ROOF” TICKETS

Your Name: _____

No. of Tickets:

Orchestra: _____ Balcony: _____ Gallery: _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

SOCIAL COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

Sharron Mahan



Deer Creek was a very social community in 2008. Our committee of 18 residents met each month on a Sunday evening for 2 to 3 hours. Committee members take turns developing and coordinating various events; once an event is offered, a lot of time has been spent planning and discussing the details.

Communications with Deer Creek residents is foremost on our agenda. We make every effort to receive and share information with DC residents in a timely fashion - which includes details and deadlines of upcoming activities. Events have to be planned months ahead; a substantial deposit often has to be made to hold seats for plays and to have a bus

on hold.

We THANK Jim Farnum and the Communications Committee for their work on the monthly *Trails* — we greatly depend on the newsletter, and we count on each of you to read it.

The two announcement boards have been very helpful as well; thanks to Carla Manley and Roger Garcia for keeping the boards updated.

Roger has a group e-mail list available to send reminders and details. We encourage residents to send Roger their e-mail address if he doesn't have it already.

A summary of our year:

At the January Deer Creek Annual Meeting, coffee and cookies were served plus our Committee members greeted residents.

LADIES LUNCHEONS (11) at various sites with terrific turnouts—up to 55 ladies getting acquainted; each month a different person plans and coordinates the luncheons. Carla Manley & Suzi Harkola did a fine job on the over-all organizing.

MENS BREAKFASTS are now underway. Thanks to Howard Pascoe for making these plans.

The OLD-FASHIONED COMMUNITY PICNIC in November at Oscar Scherer State Park was delightful and will become an annual event. Joan Wills initiated the plans and our Committee carried out the details. People attending had a great time and we supported our local state park as well.

THANK YOU to Jim Baxter for his wonderful keyboard music provided at the picnic and other Community events all year.

In November, we conducted a **FOOD DRIVE** for All Faith's Food Bank. This was Nancy Zeman's idea, which she quickly planned and our Committee helped implement. Please see the January *Trails* showing Nancy (on behalf of Deer Creek) holding a bowl received from All Faith's Food Bank in appreciation. Governor Crist also sent Nancy and Deer Creek a thoughtful letter. Our residents donated over 2,000 pounds of food!!!!

A new group –**THE DC BIKERS** developed from a discussion at one of the MIXERS – and by the next weekend, Bob Dannewitz had organized the weekly group that bikes each Saturday morning.

(continued on next page)

TRIPS in 2008 included:

A bus to see the great **LION KING** play at Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center.

Lunch together at **SNOOK HAVEN**, listening to the banjos and enjoying a nice boat ride

The **MURDER MYSTERY TRAIN RIDE** in Ft. Myers

DEEP SEA FISHING

BASEBALL GAME at Ed Smith Stadium

SEA-LIFE ENCOUNTER CRUISE with Mote Marine—a great afternoon!

A couple of **RINGLING SUNSET/COCKTAIL** evenings with music

A series of 4 **MAH JONGG** lessons for new players

4 MIXERS: at Clark & Jean Southworth
 Joe & Grace Cuffaro
 Bill & Jean Kayser
 Al & Sharron Mahan – an Omelette brunch

The BOOK CLUB

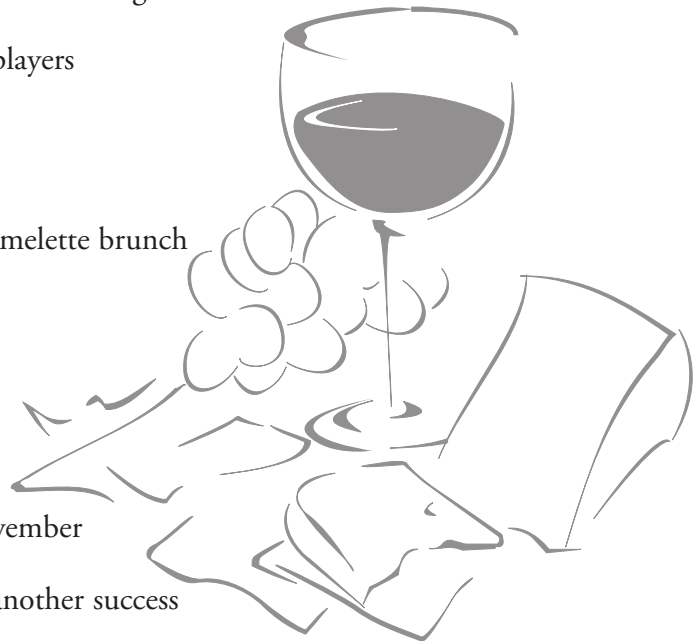
A new **Co-Ed BOOK CLUB**

HALLOWEEN PARTY for children

FLU and PNEUMONIA vaccinations in November

Annual **HOLIDAY PARTY** at Prestancia -- another success

New this year - - The Deer Creek **WEBSITE** now includes our Social activities and calendar.
 Judy Kupperbusch keeps the site current.



And our Social Committee has an active e-mail network

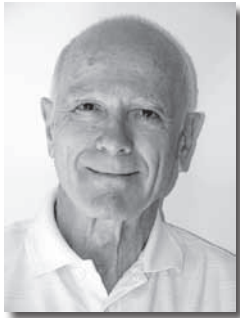
Other offerings in 2008 included:

- A DC Travel Club
- Ballroom Dancing in Venice
- A Knitting Group
- Games of Hand & Foot
- Mens Poker
- Ladies golf
- Mens golf
- The Artists of Palmer Ranch

... yes, it was a "very good and busy year!"

BOARD ACTIONS

Roger Garcia



At its February 24, 2009 meeting the Board approved unanimously appointment of the following members to the following committees:

Budget and Finance: Tom Frey - Chair, John Zwakman - Liaison, Jay Olin and Howard Pascoe; **Communications:** Linda Slack -Chair, Roger Garcia- Liaison, Irwin Cooper, Isabella DeJohn, Jim Farnum, Candi Messerschmidt, Carol Seegars, Mary Ann Spayd, Clark Southworth, and Diane Weeghman; **Design & Development Board:** Harold Pascoe - Chair, Al Mahon - Liaison, Ed Caldwell, Bill Edelman, Jean Southworth, Carol Tisch, Howard Tisch, Lynn Towson, **Villas Architectural Review Board** (Ron Benice, Joni Rushforth, and J. Collette Romance); **Landscaping & Irrigation:** Grace Cuffaro - Chair, Sandra Twyon - Liaison, Joe Cuffaro, Rachele Farnum, and Ann Lang; **Lakes & Waterways:** Chair – George Ulrich, Jay Olin - Liaison, Irwin Cooper, Bill Morgan, Clark Southworth, George Ulrich, and Ned Wilson; **Rules & Regulations:** Phil Mentz - Chair, Sandra Twyon - Liaison, Jim Baxter, Patricia Beckwith, Robert Bell, Lorraine Glixon, Peter Kupperbusch, Mary Ann Spayd, Jack Sullivan, Grace Valentino, and John Zwakman; **Social:** Carla Manley - Chair, Jack Sullivan - Liaison, Erika Baldwin, Jenefer Carlin, Charlotte Emerson, Dee & Bart Forsyth, Roger Garcia, Diane Geimer, Donna Hurley, Judy & Pete Kupperbusch, Sharron Mahan, Kathy Olin, Howard Pascoe, Lorie Rabin, Burt Raimi, Joan Wills, and Jack & Nancy Zeman; **Streets & Structures:** Richard Tabor - Chair, John Zwakman - Liaison, Jack Messerschmidt and Howard Pascoe; **Traffic Committee:** Jay Olin - Chair, Richard Tabor - Liaison, Pat Beckwith, Ron Benice, Kurt Ottinger, and Clark Southworth

Approved the Traffic Committee’s recommendation that Alert Protective Services become the Deer Creek security guard service beginning April 1, 2009. Voting in favor were Directors Tom Frey, Roger Garcia, Al Mahan, Jay Olin, Jack Sullivan, Richard Tabor, Sandra Twyon and John Zwackman, and abstaining Director Phil Mentz. The Board then voted unanimously to send Wackenhut a termination notice cancelling the current security guard service effective April 1, 2009.

Treasurer Frey reported that five homes in Deer Creek are in the foreclosure process. Discussion regarding foreclosure related issues led Directors Olin and Zwackman to recommend that the Budget and Finance Committee hold a meeting in order to get a better understanding of those issues. President Mentz approved the recommendation and directed Zwackman to report back to him after the committee met.

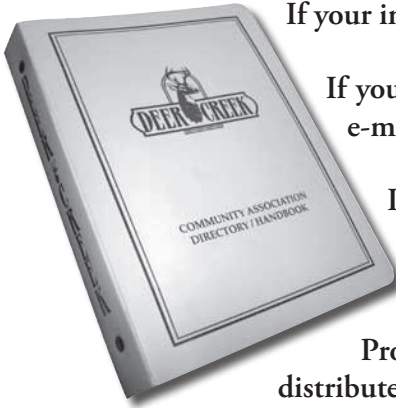
Mat Wilson of AMI gave a brief overview regarding data currently available, and that could be added, on the Deer Creek website on AMI’s home page. Directors agreed to access the website in order to evaluate its usefulness to the community.

Director Tabor reported that several studies indicated that streets in the community did not need resurfacing for another three to five years, and the latest survey suggested five to seven years. However, he advised evaluating street conditions every year. He also will seek estimates regarding the cost of resurfacing a small section of the road in front of the McIntosh Gatehouse.

Director Garcia urged Board members to acknowledge and try to respond to inquires they receive from homeowners.



2009 Deer Creek Telephone Directory Notice



If your information was printed correctly in the 2008 book, no need to do anything.

If you used a DC Entry Control and Resident information form to update your e-mail, phone etc, you do not need to do anything.

If there are changes required and you have not previously done so, pick up a yellow “Entry Control and Resident Information” form at the gatehouse or fill one out online at our Web site: www.deercreeksarasota.org.

Providing all goes according to plan, the new phone book inserts will be distributed with the April newsletter.



REAL ESTATE CORNER

Isabella DeJohn



Deer Creek has 26 properties listed for sale --five villas and twenty- one houses!

The villas range from \$249,000 for a 2b/2b home of 1687 sq. ft. to \$320,000 for a 2b/2.5b home of 1965 sq.ft.

The houses range from \$349,000 for a 3b/2b cul de sac home of 2067 sq. ft. to \$697,000 for a large lakefront home of 3513 sq.ft.with 4b/3,5 b.

4731 White Tail Lane has sold for \$375,00 after a final listing price of \$399,000! It was listed as a “short” sale, and had been listed originally two plus years ago(when hopes for sales were high) at \$750,000.-- with multiple reductions along the way before sale--a beautiful house with many original upgrades--3000 sq. ft., 3b with library, backing to a quiet preserve.



One house is “pending”, a foreclosure with a low asking price.

As an active member Realtor my information is derived directly from the Sarasota Association of Realtors.



MARCH 2009

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
1	2 Artists of Palmer Ranch	3	4 Bowling at AMF Gulf Gate Lanes	5 Ladies Luncheon at Mattison's 41	6	7 Royal Lipizzan Stallions DC Bikers
8 Daylight Savings Time Begins	9	10	11 Men's Breakfast at Millie's CPR Certification Training Bowling at AMF Gulf Gate Lanes	12 Men's Poker	13 Book Club	14 DC Bikers
15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 Bowling at AMF Gulf Gate Lanes	19 Co-Ed Book Club	20	21 DC Bikers
22	23	24 Board of Directors' Meeting, 2 PM, Faith Lutheran Church	25 Bowling at AMF Gulf Gate Lanes	26	27	28 SpringFest 2009 DC Bikers
29	30	31				

APRIL 2009

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
			1 Quarterly assessment of \$294 due Bowling at AMF Gulf Gate Lanes	2 Ladies Luncheon at Sam Seltzer's	3	4 Big Cat Habitat DC Bikers
5	6 Artists of Palmer Ranch	7	8 Men's Breakfast CPR Certification Training Bowling at AMF Gulf Gate Lanes	9 Men's Poker	10 Book Club	11 DC Bikers
12 Easter Sunday	13	14	15 Bowling Open House at AMF Gulf Gate Lanes	16 Co-Ed Book Club	17	18 DC Bikers
19	20	21	22 Bowling at AMF Gulf Gate Lanes	23	24	25 DC Bikers
26	27	28 Board of Directors' Meeting, 2 PM, Faith Lutheran Church	29 Bowling at AMF Gulf Gate Lanes	30		

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