

The Villas' Voice
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President's Message:

This past year has been a good one. I believe our community looks very nice. We should all thank the many volunteers that give of their time and talents to serve on the Board and our many committees. They save our association thousands of dollars a year. If you should see any of these individuals, a nice "thank you" would mean a lot to them.

On December 6th we had a group get together to put up our Christmas decorations at the community pool. This is always fun and the results are always very impressive. We had over 20 people show up to lend a hand. On Sunday evening, December 7th, we had the official lighting ceremony and then went to Joni Rushforth's house for cocktails and appetizers. It was great!!

Nancy Zeman decided not to run for election to the board this year. She will be greatly missed. However, she deserves a break, as I believe she has served on the Villas Board for eight years, which is a long period of time. She has agreed to remain on as Co Chair of the Landscape Committee. Nancy has devoted a great deal of personal time to this committee and it shows in the attractiveness of our grounds.

A list of Board and Committee Members for 2009 is included in this newsletter.

We wish to welcome our new members and take this opportunity to thank all those who served so well in 2008.

Soon you will be receiving in the mail two amendments the Board of Directors has prepared to our documents.

These amendments are largely to bring our covenants into compliance with recent changes in Florida law. Please read them and vote "yes." Then return them right away as we need two thirds (2/3) of the residents to vote for the amendments. By law, we only have 60 days to do this.

Pat and I hope your holidays were merry and also wish everyone the best New Year ever.

Gary Koch, President

Treasurer's Report:

The attached budget was approved and adopted at the Annual Members Meeting held on November 17, 2008. You will note that the monthly assessment will increase from

\$193.00 to \$198.00 (approximately 2.6 percent). This is the result of an expected increase for expenses in insurance, landscaping, cable TV, tree trimming and propane.

Expenses for 2008 were pretty much within the Budget for the year.

Ken McKinnon, Treasurer

Architectural Review Board – ARB:

In the past six months of 2008, the ARB approved two house paint color selections, Four installations of protective hurricane shutters and two choices for new exterior lights on garages.

Ron Benice, Chairman

Landscape Committee:



The palms and the McIntosh hedges were trimmed and mulch was applied in preparation for the holidays and our northern visitors. We also changed the fall decorations at the pool to Poinsettias and decorated the pool entry for the holiday season.

Grass will be mowed once a month in January, then twice a month in February, March and April. Grass was fertilized in November with a combination weed/feed product.

Plant Replacements: Plant replacements were done and residents were asked to water the new plants every other day until they became established.

During the dry season we ask you to watch your plants carefully and water them when they look limp and dry. If you are physically unable to do the watering, please notify a

member of the Landscape Committee so we can arrange to have someone take care of it.

New Resident Information: Committee members make routine rounds of the Villas yards and the common ground, but please notify us if you notice a problem so we can try to take care of it.

We welcome our new neighbors and take this opportunity to inform you of the proper steps to report landscape, irrigation or pest control problems.

Landscape problems should be reported on a Villas Action Request form, which you may pick up at the McIntosh gatehouse. Fill in the information and return it to the gatehouse to be picked up by the landscape chairman.

For problems with ants or other insects, call Fahey Pest Control @366-9090. Fahey comes to the Villas early on Wednesday mornings; if you need help, remember to call them no later than Tuesday afternoon.

Report irrigation problems to either Russ Weber @921-9150 or Roger Garcia @706-4531.

We wish to remind everyone that there is absolutely **no parking** on the grass at any time. Please, inform your company and work-people. Thank you.

Nancy Zeman & Bob Hulvat, Co-Chairs

Irrigation Committee:

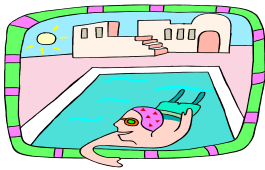
Each Monday morning between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m., Russ Weber, Roger Garcia and two employees of the Sarasota Lawn and Sprinkler Company, inspect a third of the irrigation system in the Villas to assure it is working properly. These efforts help keep our community attractive and a joy to live in. If you encounter a problem with the irrigation system, please call Russ (921-9150) or Roger (706-4531) to have it fixed. You should also advise your guests not to park on the edge of the lawn where many irrigation sprinklers and rotors are located.

The Villas has a complex irrigation system consisting of three wells, six control systems and 87 irrigations zones. Each well has two control systems and each control system operates 13 to 16 irrigation zones. Each irrigation zone may cover a whole lot or parts of a lot and is watered for 20 to 80 minutes once a week. The first 10 or 12 zones are watered sequentially between 12:00 a.m. and approximately 10:00 a.m. and the last 2 or 5 zones are watered sequentially between 8 p.m. and approximately 11:30 p.m. Irrigation zones around odd-numbered homes are watered on Thursdays.

Irrigation zones around even-numbered homes are watered on Tuesdays (except that all zones of 4508, 4504, 4500 and 4496 and some zones at 4482, 8030, 8034 and 8038 are watered on Thursdays.)

Russ Weber, Chair
Roger Garcia

Pool Committee:



Our goal is to keep the pool usable as many days as possible during Sarasota's cold season.

We try to maintain the water temperature between 80 and 82 degrees, but our propane heater needs a little cooperation from nature. Our heater cannot keep up if the overnight temperature drops below 50 degrees or if the daytime high does not go over 70 degrees. Whenever the weather forecast calls for many cold days in a row, the heater is turned off to conserve expensive propane. It would be a waste of money to burn propane and still have the water too cold on days when very few residents would even try to swim. Whenever such a "cold spell" lasts three or more days,

it will take one "warm" day before the pool temperature recovers to 80 degrees.

There should be many good swimming days the rest of the season!

Ron Benice, Chairman

Social Committee News:

Halloween Special:



After a long, hot summer many of our neighbors returned to the Villas to greet one another and share summer experiences at our Annual Halloween Party. This took place at our usual watering hole, the Villas pool, on Tuesday evening October 12th. We welcomed back the returning Campbells, Corsentinos, Joneses, Mazanecs, Goldmans and Joni R. Also, we were happy to welcome Barbara Beal, a new Villas' resident to the festivities. The Social Committee would be very pleased to see more of our neighbors at our pool gatherings, so, come on down, y'all!

The group enjoyed dogs-n-buns, beans, salads, delicious hors d'oeuvres and desserts. We had some interesting and imaginative costumes including clowns, witches, cats, and a gypsy, who was unable to get anyone to listen to their fortune, even when the price was reduced! However, it was noted that **SOME PEOPLE** were keeping hands on their wallets whenever she passed by!

It was a shivery and windy evening, but it beat rain, which sometimes sneaks in to spoil our plans for an evening of fun and adventure. We did manage to hang in until 6:00 by following the sun but when we eventually found ourselves congregating on the same sunny spot, it was agreed to give up the ghost and go home!

6th Annual Festival of the Lights:



Our intrepid work crew of willing workers did their thing on Saturday December 6th at our pool entrance. Thank you everyone.

Another year found us untangling and checking lights, watching and advising Bob as he climbed the ladder to hang the wreath. He so appreciated his audience!

Our other nimble climbers scrambled up and down the palm trees while winding a few more miles of lights around them.

Bob Hulvat installed a drip irrigation system around the beautiful poinsettia bed planted by him and other landscape members. We are grateful to Bob for his work, as it will be so much easier to keep the bed well irrigated throughout the year and thus prolong the life of the various seasonal plantings.

Sunday evening, December 7th found a wonderful group of neighbors getting together for the start of the holiday season at the Villas. We enjoyed the suspense of the countdown and the throwing of the switch lighting up our spectacular display of lights.

The party animals then meandered to Joni's villa for champagne punch and appetizers where the Christmas Spirit continued to glow.

Pool Party Dates for your 2009 calendars:

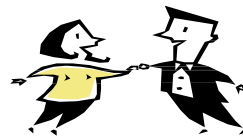
Valentines Day – Tuesday, February 10th
St. Paddy's Day – Tuesday, March 17th
Easter Sunday – Tuesday April 7th
Cinco de Mayo & Mother's Day –
Tuesday, May 5th
Memorial Day – Monday May 25th
Father's Day & 1st day of summer
Tuesday – June 21st
July 4th – Saturday, July 4th
Full Moon – Thursday, August 6th
Labor Day – Monday, September 7th
Halloween – Tuesday, October 27th
Veterans' Day - Wednesday, November 11th

THE DATES WILL BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Be sure to stop by and check the pool bulletin boards whenever you notice a colored flyer posted in one or the other. They will confirm the date and time of the planned gathering a week or so before it occurs. We are discontinuing dropping off individual flyers in your tubes for each event.

*Pat Koch
Joni Rushforth
Nancy Zeman*

Welcome Committee:



A big welcome to our newest neighbor, Barbara Beal, who moved from Jacksonville to the Villas' this past summer. She resides at 4480 DTB and can be reached @356-3617/ Her daughter Nora is also a Florida resident and resides in a Sarasota.

Barbara is a registered nurse and has dabbled in real estate. As a naval officer's wife for twenty years, she and her husband traveled a lot and spent an extended period of time in Japan.

Barbara is very active in the Sarasota Garden Club and among her favorite hobbies are gardening, flower arranging and painting. She is a volunteer at Sarasota Memorial's New Center for Advanced Medicine on Clark Road, and is also a "Friend of the Park" at Oscar Scherer State Park.

Barbara has two talkative pets, Cricket & Gum-drop, two African Jardin parrots.

Joan Wills for the Welcome Committee

Congratulations:

Recently, Nancy Zeman received an award from The All Faith Food Bank and a congratulatory letter from Governor Christ for organizing an impressive food drive in Deer Creek.

Nancy and her crew of willing DC workers collected and delivered to the Food Bank, 2,000 pounds of food from the very generous residents of Deer Creek. Good job!

Condolences:

We would like to offer our sympathies to the families of Ray Denton & Jackie Doe. Both these long time residents passed away in 2008.

Villas 2009 Directory:

We have begun work on publishing The Villas' 2009 Phone Directory. Please check your own information on the 2008 (blue) directory and get back to me ASAP with any changes, preferably via email, or call 922-0094. It's OK to leave a message.

Email: jonirush@yahoo.com

FYI: Stopping at the Gate House and requesting a change form from the guard can accomplish any changes you might like to make to your personal information in the 2009 Deer Creek Directory. Also, if you wish, you may add or delete names on your visitor list.

Lost: My red, square plastic pillow that I used at the pool for lounging has gone missing. If found, please give me a call @ 922-0094. Also, it can be dropped on a lounge chair or in the ladies restroom. I'll gather it up at some point. Thanks.

Joni

Found: An attractive tote bag with a big, red sun face. It was left at my house Sunday evening, 7th December. Can be claimed.

Chuckle for the day:



First you tell your friends you are having an affair. Then a friend asks you." *Are you having it catered*"????? THAT, my friends, is the definition of OLD!

FYI:

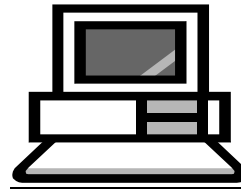
Book Club to be formed:

There will be a meeting at the home of Ruth Ellis, 4492 DTB, Thursday, January 15th, at 11:00 a.m. Interested? Please call Ruth @ 923-5682 if you plan to be there.

Please be sure to pick up after your animal. We love your dogs, but not their "calling cards." Thank you.

Daylight Savings time begins on Sunday, March 8th.

Computer Problems?



I make house calls!
I build and repair computers!
Call Scott Bell @ 809-4143
8029 Bobcat Circle