

Sandalwood Park News

January 2011



*Sandalwood Park Homeowners, Inc.
Venice, Florida*



From the President:

The talking is finally done and we're fixing them! I'm referring to our streets. Our deteriorating streets have been conversation for years and have been identified as our next major expenditure. Considerable money and time have been spent on patching over the past few years.

The past summer, the full time resident board members put forth a major effort toward the project. They solicited proposals from five contractors. Included was consideration of resurfacing various areas at a time over several years, resurfacing the worst while resealing others, overlaying the existing streets, and milling and resurfacing. They also checked references of the various contractors. After much consideration, the board decided to use the surest and most complete method. Sandalwood deserves, and can afford, the best! We also learned that we can reduce our cost by using a single contract to lock in the entire project. We have contracted with Superior Asphalt to mill one inch off all asphalt roads and parking areas. They will follow with a tack coat and one inch of new material. The process will eliminate the lots of dips and crevices, providing a pleasingly smooth and safe surface with better drainage.

The total contract price is \$180,155.00 with an option of spreading the work (and cost) over 2011 and 2012 summer paving periods. We currently have \$80,000 available for the project. But we now also have three (soon to be empty) lots for sale @ \$50,000 each. The sale of two of them will provide the additional funds. This will allow the improvement without lowering our cash reserves or increasing our fees. The board will determine at the April meeting how much to spend in 2011. We are, and intend to remain, debt free.

For your information: Two area mobile home parks have recently been bought out by their residents. Riverwalk, a 221 unit park in North Port was purchased in February and Country Lake Village, a 444 unit park in Palmetto was purchased in December. The share price on each is \$70,000.00. It makes our \$50,000.00 a very good investment. Tell your friends we have three available. It's a great time to invest in a new mobile home!

I trust you all had a blessed Christmas and I wish you a prosperous 2011.

Carl Van Gilst

Sandalwood Park Homeowners, Inc.
300 Sandpiper Drive
Venice, Florida 34285

*Resident Owned Community for persons
55 years of age and older*

Office Number
485-3646

In an Emergency Call
911

SANDALWOOD MANAGEMENT STAFF

**Marietta Jones—Office Manager
Charlie Kane -Maintenance**

**SANDALWOOD PARK HOMEOWNERS, INC.
Board of Directors**

**SANDALWOOD PARK HOMEOWNERS, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Carl Van Gilst (2011) President**
- Harley Wheeler (2011) Vice President**
- George Taylor (2012) Secretary**
- Dan Hutchinson (2012) Treasurer**
- Joe Cromwell (2013) Assistant Treasurer**
- John Dane (2012)**
- Sandra Marsocci (2011)**
- Mitch Watson (2013)**
- Norm Vandenbusche (2011)**

Appointed by the board:

Marietta Jones - Assistant Secretary

The Sandalwood Board of Directors has the responsibility of administrating the wishes of our shareholders. Contact any board member with your concerns or suggestions and they will act in the best interest of the park. Written comments may be sent to the office or e-mailed to vangilst@maplenet.net



SANDALWOOD NEWSLETTER STAFF

EDITOR:

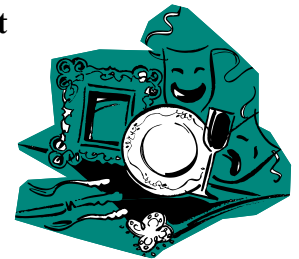
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SANDALWOOD ACTIVITIES CLUB, INC.

- President – Carmen Wallin**
- Vice President – Betty Pratt**
- Secretary – Lois Cottrill**
- Treasurer – Ralph Puffer**
- Barbara Moore**
- Pam Brown**
- Gil Weidemiller**



WEDNESDAY IS GAME NIGHT

Do you like to play cards?



Come to the clubhouse on Wednesday evening and join the fun!

Everyone is welcome, the more the merrier!

BINGO!

Tuesday & Friday 7 PM

So fun...try your luck.

***Come one,
come all.....***

Leave all your troubles at home, join your Neighbors at the clubhouse and have a good time!!!



NEWSLETTER MAILBOX

Submit letters or articles to Alice Fitzpatrick, 346 Longwood Drive or Pat Gleckler at patanee@copper.net. All correspondence must be signed. Contents may be edited for space, clarity and suitability for print.

Articles and editorials printed in this newsletter reflect the thoughts of the individual writers and do not necessarily reflect those of the editor.

AD PAGE 1

Name this Resident

Hopefully, this newsletter article will bring in lots of old pictures. Do you know who this is? Can you guess??

Please send a picture to publish in an upcoming newsletter and see how many can recognize you.

Even baby pictures are fun. Help us keep this article alive! Give your picture to Alice Fitzpatrick (346 Longwood Dr) or send or email to Pat Gleckler.

patannee@copper.net

3056 Longleaf Ranch Cir, Middleburg, Fl 32068

Mystery person will be revealed in next month's newsletter.



PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR PICTURE FOR THE UPCOMING NEWSLETTER.

Welcome to Sandalwood

NEWCOMERS' PARTY

WEDNESDAY-JANUARY 19TH

2:00PM

**WELCOME YOUR NEW NEIGHBORS
SIGNUP SHEET ON BULLETIN BOARD**

COME ONE, COME ALL



PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Saturday - January 22, 8-9:30am

Chef Tony Ellis invites you to the first pancake breakfast of the season.

\$2.50 per person

Tickets can be purchased at the Sandalwood office or from Tony or Joan Ellis or Betty Pratt.

There will also be a pancake breakfast in February. Watch the newsletter for details.

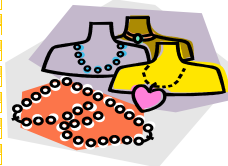


HUFF AND PUFF
Starts on Friday, Jan 7th

MON, WED & FRI
AT 9:00AM

IN THE ACTIVITY ROOM

Alice St Onge, Leader



CLEO JEWELRY CLASS
Wed—Jan 12, 2011- 1:00PM

\$5.00

Bring two strings of beads and a small pliers.

SIGNUP SHEET ON BOARD
CALL LORETTA 485-7842 FOR DETAILS

AD PAGE 2



FIRST 2011 CASINO TRIP

January 26, 2011
Depart Sandalwood 9:30 am
Leave the casino 4:30 pm

Cost per person \$20.00

*You will receive \$25.00 free play + a \$5.00 meal voucher
That's right.....you get \$10.00 for going!*

The casino trips sell out quickly, so SIGN UP EARLY

Sign up in clubhouse

Submit payment to Alice Fitzpatrick
(Make checks payable to SAC)
346 Longwood Dr.
(Front door please)

YOUR COOPERATION IS NEEDED

Everyone wants to keep Sandalwood a clean well kept community, so it's important that each resident has a registered caretaker for their property. (EVEN IF YOU ARE THE CARETAKER).

Forms are available outside the office door in the Activities Room.. Please pick one up and take a couple of minutes to complete it. **THANKS**



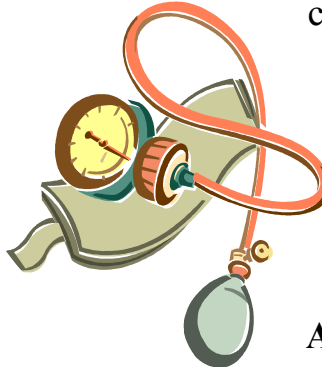
COOKS CORNER



Please share your favorite recipe in the newsletter. Submit to Alice Fitzpatrick or patannee@copper.net. Thanks!!

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK UP

Keep your blood pressure under control with a FREE monthly check up.



Every 3rd Thursday

10:00am-11:00am

IN THE SANDALWOOD ACTIVITIES ROOM

SAVE YOUR ALUMINUM PULL TABS FOR SHRINER'S HOSPITALS

The Ladies of Sar-1 Court started collecting and donating aluminum pull-tabs to the "Wheel Chair Repair Fund." in 1992 . As of Dec. 10, 2009, they collected 65,743 pounds, for a total of \$31,275.13 for the Shriner's Hospital for Children in Tampa.

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. Why not collect the whole can? (This would require a great deal more storage space. Recycle the rest of the can in the normal way).
2. How many tabs in a pound? (1,267)
3. How many tabs will a gallon milk jug hold? (5 pounds)
4. The tabs are delivered to the Sahib office (or almost any Sahib club/unit location) and then taken to the recycling center. The money netted goes directly into the "Wheel Chair Repair Fund" at the Tampa Shriner's Hospital for Children.

Call Ernie at 484-8712 and he will pick up the tabs.
Thank You, Ernie Stapf

BREAKFAST AT PERKINS

Weekly breakfast at Perkins Restaurant is on Thursdays at 9 am.



All Sandalwood residents and guests are welcome.

Come and enjoy the fellowship of your Sandalwood friends

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Recently there was a death in Sandalwood Park and the emergency contact was not up to date. I want to be able to contact someone immediately if you have an emergency and it is of utmost importance that I have the contacts up to date. The simple form below will bring our records up to date. Please complete form and submit immediately. Thank you for your consideration. Marietta Jones

EMERGENCY CONTACT FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____


Emergency Contact Name: _____

Emergency Contact Phone: _____

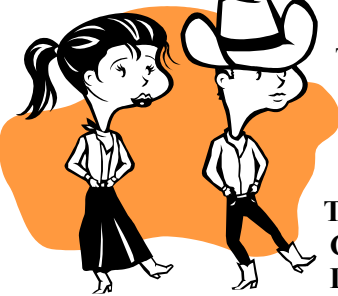
Relationship of Contact: _____

WATER AROBICS

Tues. and Thurs.
1:00 to 2:00 p.m.
Cost: \$20.00 per month
Drop ins \$ 4.00 a session



Bonnie Judy is back this year with great routines.



LINE DANCING

This activity is planned according to enrollment Sign up for line dancing--- ---sheet on bulletin board

Tuesday 3:00 to 4:00 PM.
Cost: \$10.00 per month
Drop ins \$ 4.00

SANDALWOOD MAINTENANCE FEES
Sandalwood quarterly fees are due on or before January 1, 2011


Maintenance fees 328.00
Lawn care 60.00 (Optional)



If you are paying both Maintenance and Lawn Care, submit one check for 388.00.

Thanks!

“MEALS ON WHEELS”
Venice Area Mobile Meals provides warm, nutritious noon-time meals, 6 days a week, Monday through Saturday, 52 weeks a year, including holidays. The meal cost is minimal and the service is available as long as needed.



Who needs Meals On Wheels....*The widow or the widower who cannot prepare a meal for themselves, the disabled who are physically compromised, the recently hospitalized who have returned home in a weakened condition and the elderly who are consistently in need of at least one nutritious meal a day. The volunteer who delivers the meals are sometimes the only personal outside contact the recipient has during the day.*

If you would like this service, or know someone who needs this assistance, a good meal is only a phone call away.

488-1889
Monday-Saturday 8am-11am

THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS

The mysterious disappearance of the Christmas tree decorations has everyone baffled! Are they lost, stolen, misplaced? Who Knows? In lieu of them, however, the volunteers still came up with a beautifully decorated tree!

ANY INFORMATION AS TO THEIR WHEREABOUTS WILL BE REWARDED.

AD PAGE 3

SANDALWOOD PARK

Minutes of the Sandalwood Activities Committee
December 13, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 10 AM. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members present: President Carmen Wallin; V. Pres Betty Pratt; Secretary Lois Cottrill; Treasurer Ralph Puffer; Pam Brown and Gil Weidemiller. Absent: Barb Moore

The minutes of the Nov 8, 2010 meeting were accepted with one correction. (The date of the Dec pot luck is the 18th).

The treasurer read a detailed report from last April to Nov 30th and reported an ending balance of \$4048.36.

Committee reports:

- Bingo is still the most attended activity in the park.
- Holiday dinners: Christmas Day will be at the Family Table Restaurant in North Port.
New Year's Day will be a brunch at the Dutch Heritage Restaurant in Sarasota.
- The Dec 18th Pot Luck will be chaired by Betty Pratt, with Gil Weidemiller hosting the entertainment.
- Saturday Breakfast missed a week due to lack of volunteers, but this has been corrected and Breakfast will continue as scheduled
- Sports: Shuffle board, water aerobics, line dancing and Huff & Puff are all scheduled to begin in January.
- Movie night is scheduled for tonight. The Jan 10 movie will be preceded by a Fish Dinner to be hosted by Carl Van Gilst.
- It was reported that very few people showed up to decorate the inside and outside of the Club house.
- The Cookie Exchange was not well attended, but no decision has been made as to the fate of this activity for next year.
- On Dec 15th, Venice Isles will bring their Golf Cart Parade thru the Park, to be judged by our residents.
- On Dec 16th judges from Venice Isles will judge our house decorations. Winners will be announced at the Pot Luck.

Other events on the calendar for January are:

- 8th - take down Christmas decorations
- 10th - lottery drawing for concert series seats
- 10th - Fish and Flick
- 15th - Pot Luck
- 16th - Concert with Donna Moore
- 19th - Newcomer's Welcome Party
- 22nd - Pancake breakfast
- 26th - Casino trip
- 29th - Italian Dinner Dance

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 AM. Next meeting Jan. 10, 2011

Respectfully submitted, Lois Cottrill, secretary

**SECOND ANNUAL
FISH & FLICK**

Monday, January 10, 6:00PM

It was a great event last year, so, we're doing it again. Tom Howell is bringing Whitefish fillets from the Georgian Bay in Northern Ontario, which he will pan fry to perfection. *(The Canadians among us know what a special treat this is).* Carl Van Gilst will add his Pepperoni Potatoes, Cole slaw, roll, and Ambrosia with iced tea and coffee. BYOB if you wish.

Only 120 tickets are available @ \$7.00 each and are available at the office.

Following the meal is a free movie **"It's complicated"**, a comedy starring Steve Martin, Meryl Streep, and Alec Baldwin.



ITALIAN DINNER

Saturday, January 29
6:00 HORS D'OEUVRES
6:30 DINNER

- ANTIPASTO SALAD
- PASTA FAGIOLI PASTA WITH RED MEAT SAUCE AND ALFREDO CHICKEN AND BROCCOLI WITH GORGONZOLA CHEESE
- DESSERT AND COFFEE
- BYOB

LIVE MUSIC AND DANCING FROM 7-10

\$10.00 Per Person

100 Tickets are available and will be sold by Harley Wheeler, Pam Brown or Marietta in the office.



AD PAGE 4

Sandalwood January 2011

Sun

Mon

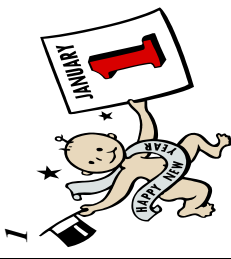
Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



1

8
Coffee 9:00 AM
Take down Christmas decorations

7
Huff & Puff 9AM
Computer Club 10AM
Bingo 7PM

15
Coffee 9:00 AM
Potluck
Cocktails 5:30PM
Dinner 6:00 PM

22
Pancake Breakfast
8-9:30 AM

29
Coffee 9:00 AM
Italian Dinner Dance

1
Breakfast Perkins 9AM
Water Aerobics 1PM
Euchre 7PM

8
Breakfast Perkins 9AM
Blood pressure check 10-11 AM
Water Aerobics 1PM
Euchre 7PM

14
Huff & Puff 9AM
Computer Club 10AM
Bingo 7PM

21
Huff & Puff 9AM
Computer Club 10AM
Bingo 7PM

28
Huff & Puff 9AM
Computer Club 10AM
Bingo 7PM

13
Breakfast Perkins 9AM
Blood pressure check 10-11 AM
Water Aerobics 1PM
Euchre 7PM

20
Breakfast Perkins 9AM
Water Aerobics 1PM
Euchre 7PM

27
Breakfast Perkins 9AM
Water Aerobics 1PM
Euchre 7PM

20
Breakfast Perkins 9AM
Water Aerobics 1PM
Euchre 7PM

5
Huff & Puff 9AM
BOARD AGENDA MEETING 9 AM
Poker 6:30PM
Cards/Games 7PM

12
Huff & Puff 9AM
BOARD MEETING 10 AM
Jewelry Class 1PM
Poker 6:30 PM
Cards/Games 7PM

19
Huff & Puff 9AM
Newcomers Party 2PM
Poker 6:30 PM
Cards/Games 7PM

26
Huff & Puff 9AM
CASINO TRIP
Poker 6:30 PM
Cards/Games 7PM

11
Lunch Noon
Water aerobics 1PM
Line Dancing 3PM
Bingo 7PM

18
Lunch Noon
Water aerobics 1PM
Line Dancing 3PM
Bingo 7PM

25
Lunch Noon
Water aerobics 1PM
Line Dancing 3PM
Bingo 7PM

1
Lunch Noon
Water aerobics 1PM
Line Dancing 3PM
Bingo 7PM

3
Huff & Puff 9AM
SAC AGENDA MEETING 10AM
Rhythmettes 3PM

10
Huff & Puff 9AM
SAC MEETING 10AM
Seat selection for Jan concert 11am
Rhythmettes 3PM
Fish & Flick 7PM

17
Huff & Puff 9AM
Rhythmettes 3PM
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE

24
Huff & Puff 9AM
Rhythmettes 3PM

31
Huff & Puff 9AM
Rhythmettes 3PM

7
Huff & Puff 9AM
Rhythmettes 3PM

14
Huff & Puff 9AM
Rhythmettes 3PM

21
Huff & Puff 9AM
Rhythmettes 3PM

2
CONCERT
Donna Moore 7PM

9
CONCERT
Donna Moore 7PM

16
CONCERT
Donna Moore 7PM

23
CONCERT
Donna Moore 7PM

30
CONCERT
Donna Moore 7PM

6
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CONCERT
Donna Moore 7PM

21
CONCERT
Donna Moore 7PM



AD PAGE 5



Life in Lee's eyes

As all the Sandalwood snowbirds know, it takes awhile to close up and secure a house for the winter. The process of getting to warmer climates can also be frustrating. Our frustration began on the journey to Iowa City to spend

a peaceful afternoon with John and Ally Dane. A neighborhood Hawkeye fan gave us his personal time saving directions to get from Spirit Lake, Iowa to Iowa City.

Somewhere along the route we missed a turn. My spouse was listening to a six hour exciting murder mystery and I kept dozing off instead of being the navigator. After awhile I remarked that I didn't remember Iowa City being so close to Dubuque. After calling John we learned that we had indeed missed a turn and were eighty miles the wrong way. We arrived at the stately "Dane farm on the hill", welcomed by an eight foot (at least) replica of Herky the Hawk in the front yard, just in time to enjoy a well prepared steak with all the trimmings.

The six hour murder mystery was frustration number 2. We were about to learn who did it and why when my spouse said "put the last CD in the player" "What last CD?" said I. After listening to the intrigue of a brilliant murder plan the last CD was missing.....and never found. Who lost it and when is still a debatable subject at our house. I think I know who the murderer was but I'm not telling.

Frustration number 3 was waiting for us at Knoxville, Tn. We had decided to drive an extra 150 miles and hopefully enjoy the changing of colors in the Smokey Mountains. The evening weather report warned drivers that heavy rains were expected for the next three days. The slippery slopes would not be a good trade for thousands of colorful trees. The lost CD suddenly lost its importance as

we decided to get to Florida as soon as possible.

A telephone message at Sandalwood informed us that a unit we had hoped to purchase last year was now available at the price earlier discussed. Thanks to help from Marietta Jones the sale was consummated within two weeks. Anxious to renovate, my spouse examined the house from one corner to another.

We hadn't seen a "palmetto" for years but right there on the bathroom wall stood a palmetto with a wing span of at least 10 feet and readying itself to take off flying. In a flash my spouse ran to the kitchen, found a swatter and returned just as the palmetto seemed to be saying "fire engine number 4" The swatter hit the craft with force of an Iowa tornado and the palmetto fell in a pile on the floor like a defeated German Messerschmitt. If there were any palmetto relatives in the vicinity they have disappeared.....probably from fright.

The first e-mail we got was a notice from "conservative son" reporting that Sarah Palin was going to have a book signing at our home town Wal-Mart store and wondered who would like to order one. The second e-mail we got was from "liberal son" who wondered if the book came with a box of crayons or would you have to buy your own.

That exchange reminded me of another frustration. I had written an article for the November newsletter noting that my spouse and I had different political views but we did agree on changing the congress by ousting all of them, good or bad, and starting over. But the article never got published in the Sandalwood newsletter.

Inquiring about the article Editor Pat informed me that she had never received it. "Strange" thought I. Going through the e-mail files I learned that I had not sent the article to Pat but had sent it to myself.

Time to take another nap.



SANDALWOOD BEAUTIFICATION
COMMITTEE CREATES A
VETERANS PARK

The Beautification Committee of Sandalwood Park has designated the area of land between Longwood and Sandpiper for a new Memorial Park to honor Sandalwood Veterans for serving our country to give us freedom. There is a new flag pole with a large American flag on the sandpiper side, along with a new light pole. Between the flag and light will be a large plaque engraved with "Sandalwood Veterans Park" and the park logo.

A memorial plaque with the name of a resident who was a Veteran can be placed in the Veterans Park at the base of any one of the many palm trees. There will be a criteria to follow as to the size of the plaques, etc. This is a cool and pleasant area and numerous bushes and plants and a new bench have already been donated. Plants that attract butterflies were chosen to add to the attraction of the park.

Upon completion of the park there will be a dedication ceremony conducted by the American Legion followed by refreshments.

Submitted by Sandra Marsocci, Beautification Committee

AD PAGE 6

WHO ARE THE BELL RINGERS??

Did you ever wonder who the people are or what circumstance brought them to be a bell ringer for the Salvation Army during the Christmas Season? Well, I have and took it upon myself to talk to the lady in front of Publics on East Venice Ave. It was 6:30PM on December 3rd, a very cold evening. This lady was ringing the bell with a most pleasant look on her face and a cheerful "hello" to all who passed her.



I explained to her that I lived in Sandalwood and we have a little newsletter and I thought it would be interesting for people to know what kind of a person would be willing to stand there for two hours freezing and ringing away. Her answer was very simple, "It is my way of giving back." She is a resident of Venice and works full time, 8 hrs daily, 5 days a week and then rings the bell for two hours five nights a week.

At one point in time the Salvation Army was very instrumental in helping someone close to her, so she decided to go to their facility on Albee Road to see how things were going. Much to her surprise she discovered there was a church and a minister there. She went to the services and then had dinner with others in the congregation. She found joy there and continued to participate. When the subject of bell ringers came up she realized this would be her way of "giving back" so she volunteered and found it to be most fulfilling. She said she gets more out of it than she gives.

Next year when you pass a bell ringer consider it to be your way of "giving back" by dropping something in the bucket. Life is surely a constant flow of ones actions changing what another might do. Try today to do something or say something nice to someone and keep the cycle going.

DECEMBER POTLUCK

Betty Pratt and Gil Weidemiller sure know how to put on a party and that is what the Dec. pot luck turned out to be. A large attendance turned out for great food and entertainment, all provided by the residents of Sandalwood. All got to partake of a choice of appetizers followed by a grand selection of food to please any palate.

fun for the audience as we all like to sing but not necessarily alone. We all sound good in unison, or so we think.

Gil opened up the entertainment with song and with his voice and professional manner set the tone for the rest of the evening. A group of Sandalwood ladies, dressed in festive red, sang a medley of Christmas carols touching both the serene and the jolly categories. Connie Wheeler and Dianne Purcell performed humorous cameo spots. The Rhythmettes with their tambourines are always fun to watch and we always appreciate their ability to remember their routines while smiling and counting at the same time. Ellen Swope, the leader, performed a tap dance and proved to us all that she still "has it".

Ellen Bette, a friend of Gil's and a fellow member of the "Silver Foxes" was gracious in assisting all in attendance to participate in the singing of the "Twelve Days of Christmas". It was quite competitive with different groups representing each day and this added to fun and provided much laughter and pleasure to the rendition. Thank you Ellen for joining us and contributing.

Betty Pratt did a hilarious routine about the "Twelve Days After Christmas." It was a show stopper as obvious by the clapping and laughter of the audience.

Tom Wallin was Santa Claus, dressed in his familiar garb, was a jolly, jolly addition to the evening. Santa presented each person a CD of Christmas Carols. Thanks Santa, you did your job well!

Gil provided us with some more Christmas tunes followed by Carmen Wallin on the piano accompanying the audience during a sing-a-long. This is always great

Coffee and dessert followed all the activities and everyone went home with the holiday spirit .

Many thanks from all to Betty and Gil and all who helped them, these things take a lot of helping hands. The kitchen cleanup crew does not usually get mentioned but I think an exception is due. Judy Sunzere, a newcomer, was the chief bottle washer. This to me is a good example of "move in" and "pitch in".

Submitted Alice Fitzpatrick



STAY INFORMED WITH CHANNEL 117 or 795

Sandalwood has a unique way to keep residents up to date on activities and updates. Just tune your TV to 117 or 795.

Be sure to keep residents up to date by having upcoming events or changes posted on the TV.

Forms are available in the Activities Room by the Comcast controls.

THE WEEK IN REVIEW

by Alice Fitzpatrick

The month of December is the start of many of Sandalwood weekly events. I decided this year to spend the entire week participating in everything happening for one week. The following is a report of my experience.

SATURDAY DECORATING

“So Few Did So Much”

Decorating time again and so few showed up for the task, it took two Saturday mornings to complete the job. Where is everybody?? Maybe new people in the park are unaware that this is a collective job, hopefully to be done by many helping hands.



Don't wait to be called upon to join, just come on down on the designated day. The few that did show up did a great job and should be congratulated for their work. Both the Activity room and the Sandpiper room look very festive. The Christmas tree on stage is charming. The outside of the clubhouse, the trees and the gates are all colorfully donned with Christmas lights and wreaths. With so few volunteers it proved to be quite a laborious task, but they met the challenge and got the job done. Thanks go to Mitch & Lil Watson, Steve & Loretta Demcher, Al & Pam Brown, Augie & Judy Sunpere, Jim & Betty Pratt, Carmen Wallin, Bob Gould and Chuck Burch.

One reason for the poor turn out to help decorate is that breakfast was cancelled on that Saturday because no one volunteered to be in charge of it. We now have volunteers for the month of January, but need someone to sign up for February, March and April. It works out well if couples run it for a month at a time. It's easy, come to the next breakfast and ask about it and everything will be explained.

COOKIE SWAP - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5TH



The cookies were all sitting on a nicely decorated table waiting to be chosen by other cookie bakers thus constituting a 'cookie swap'. They were all dressed in their finest apparel and smelled delightful. The anticipation was tense as they wondered just where they would end up and if their new owners would enjoy them. I'm sure they all found a happy home and were a delight to their new families.

The afternoon was somewhat of a disappointment to the planners as so few showed up to participate. One would wonder why???? This is the first event of the season and hopefully would set the pace for the rest of the month.. Maybe next year with a little more publicity and planning things will be different.

Those participating were Joyce Dagg, Connie Wheeler, Carmen Wallin, Betty Pratt, Pam Brown and Judy Sunzere.

TUESDAY LUNCH

Today the lunch group went to Gulf Coast Grille at Englewood Beach for their weekly get-together. Twenty five gathered together on this windy cold day to dine at tables overlooking the ocean. It was a rough sea, very picturesque, but all the more charming as you sat in the warm dining area enclosed with wall to wall glass allowing you a panoramic view.

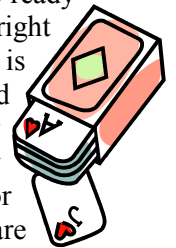


Joyce Burch has organized the lunches for the past few years and is to be congratulated for the fine job she has done. She has chosen to step down and Leo Flinn has volunteered to take on the task. Everyone is welcome, but it is important that you call Leo and make your reservation. If you are a regular and are not able to attend, you still must call and cancel. The restaurants are most accommodating but are not happy if more tables are saved than necessary and business is lost, due to inconsideration.

Call to join the Tuesday Lunch Group. The telephone number is listed on the Sandalwood TV channel, 795. It's a great opportunity for Newcomers to get acquainted with their neighbors. Good food, good company.

WEDNESDAY CARD GAMES- BRIDGE- POKER

The poker table always has an exuberant group ready to play. They arrive at 6:00pm and play right through until 9:00pm. At least one table is always going and some times two are required especially in peak Sandalwood season. Harley Wheeler provides coffee each week for everyone and usually someone brings a cake or other baked goods. Men and women are welcome to join the table, bring your money and you're in business.



A group of women play a card game "65" and they sure do have fun. Lots of laughter comes from this table and everyone has a great time. There is room for more to play and anyone interested just has to show up Wed. night. This game starts at 6:30pm and ends around 9:00pm.

There is also a bridge table, lately just one table but all bridge players are welcome, so if you're a bridge player, come to the clubhouse Wednesday at 6:30pm. Two or three tables of players makes for more fun.

Remember Wednesday night is "Game Night" in the Activity Room. Come, meet your neighbors and have fun. A great for newcomers to get acquainted!

WEEK IN REVIEW (Continued)

THURSDAY BREAKFAST AT PERKINS

On a cold and rainy Thursday morning I set out for Perkin's for the weekly breakfast gathering. This has been run by George Taylor since 1900 and is still going strong. Thirteen showed up this morning to enjoy each others company and have a great breakfast. The conversation was endless and lots of smiles and laughter prevailed. Lil and Mona were there and they are both witty and add to the pleasure of the table conversation. Mona "poured" by the way. Sylvia and Bob explained why they were there, Bob likes to eat and Sylvia doesn't want to do the cooking. What better reasons? Jean Clark came, lived a long time in Sandalwood, now in North Port, happy to spend time with her old neighbors. The Noel's and Mable Michaels came and they always add much to any function they attend. Barbara Brown and Dick Wallace are both quiet by nature but both have a knack of lighting up a gathering with there presence. Grace Bysiewicz is a plus anywhere she goes and proved it again this morning. Of course George sits center court and thoroughly enjoys the camaraderie of the entire group



Everyone is welcome to join with this group on Thursday mornings at 9:00 AM, no need to call, just show up.

FRIDAY AND TUESDAY BINGO



Activity list would not be complete without mention of Bingo. It is one of the most popular activities in the Park. The hall is filling up more and more each week as the snowbirds return.

The pots are getting bigger and bigger and of course this adds to the enticement of the game. Fifty-fifty tickets help support the SAC treasury so it is a worthwhile chance for everyone to take. You have as much a chance of winning that as a game of bingo. Get your tickets!!

Tuesday there is a mixture of games and Friday it is just straight bingo. Some like one night better than the other but most come to both. The thrill of yelling "BINGO" cannot be surpassed for a bingo player.

DRAWING CLASSES

Monday and Thursday 1:30 - 3:00pm

Barbara Brown, artist in residence, has initiated a drawing class for those of us who have little or no talent in the drawing field. It was a little intimidating at first, sometime beginner classes have students with much



artistic ability who belong in the advanced class. Not to put down my fellow students but this is not the case in this class. Some naturally are more adept at this art than others but no one needs to feel inadequate, everyone's work is different and their own creation.

Among other things, we have enjoyed drawing profiles of our fellow students and even though sometimes they are hard to identify, even to the model, it is honing our ability to see "lines and shapes". As hard as it is to believe each class it seems we show a little more knowledge of the task at hand. Barbara is very patient and allows us to fine tune our work to our own satisfaction. I feel the class is a quieting moment in our otherwise busy lives. Our work is done to give a feeling of pleasure to ourselves.

Barbara is quite a talented person as she is also in the Venice Community Band as an oboist. If you get a chance to join her art classes, please do, you will enjoy it immensely. We have lots of fun and all feel like Picasso at the end of the day.

RED HAT LADIES ENJOY EVENING OUT

The Red Hot Peppers would like to give a big "THANK YOU" to Alice Fitzpatrick and Grace Bysiewicz for putting together a great start to our holiday season. A nice dinner at Too Jays, followed by a wonderful presentation of "Circque Dreams Holidayze" at the Van Wezel Theater in Sarasota was enjoyed by all!



Submitted by Betty Pratt

HELP WITH NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

The Newsletter is most informative in regard to the past and future business and activities at the Park.

Alice St. Onge usually delivers the Newsletter, but she is away this time of the year, so we are looking for help with delivery. When you come to the clubhouse to pick up your copy, take a few extra and give them to your neighbors. Maybe someone would enjoy the newsletter, but can't get out to pick it up.

Actually, we would like volunteers to deliver all of the newsletters to the residents homes. If you would be able to deliver to a certain area (any number you chose) please contact Alice St. Onge and volunteer to do so every month. You get to meet your neighbors, get exercise and will be contributing to the Sandalwood Community. A lot of work goes into the Newsletter and it is discouraging to see so many copies just left in the clubhouse unread. If you feel the newsletter is worthwhile, please help with distribution. If not, maybe the work in is vain. Thanks!

HAPPY NEW YEAR.....Alice Fitzpatrick

**THE PARK ACTIVITIES DO NOT RUN THEMSELVES, WE NEED YOU!
OFFER TO LEND A HAND.....COME ON DOWN!!!**

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SANDALWOOD PARK

SANDALWOOD PARK HOMEOWNERS, INC.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 08, 2010

All present stood for the pledge of allegiance

Meeting:

Called to order by President Carl Van Gilst

Roll call:

Present were Carl Van Gilst, Harley Wheeler, George Taylor, Dan Hutchinson, Sandra Marsocci, Joe Cromwell, Norm Vandebusch and John Dane. Absent Mitch Watson.

Reading of Minutes:

Minutes of November 10, 2010 meeting were approved as written. (see attached)

Treasurers report:

Read by Dan Hutchinson and filed for audit.

Consideration of Communication, Resignations and Elections :

Letter from Patricia Stack received asking SPH to take her mobile. She does not own her lot. **Motion by:** John Dane to accept home, if Stack's contact does not remove home as agreed, SPH to contract removal of home and sell lot. Cap of \$3,000.00 **2nd:** Harley Wheeler **Motion passed**

Reports of officers and employees:

Review of park sales and rental properties: Carl VanGilst gave report of year to date sales and number of rental lots remaining. SPH has 3 lots for sale at \$50,000.00.

Reports of committees:

Beautification: Motion by: Sandra Marsocci requesting \$2,000.00 to purchase fertilizer for palms trees along Cortina. Monies in contingency fund to be used. **2nd by:** Harley Wheeler **Motion passed**

Unfinished business:

Road Paving: Carl VanGilst gave explanation to the ongoing negotiations with Superior Paving. They agreed to hold price for 2 years. Discussion followed. **Motion by:** John Dane to accept bid of \$180,155.00 for road project **2nd.** **By:** Sandra Marsocci **Motion passed**

Lenzini 508 Walnut Cir.: George Taylor received telephone call from resident complaining that park was harassing him about the yard. Discussion followed. Registered letter from park president to be sent explaining SPH would hire someone to clean his yard and if he did not pay, the park would file a lean against the property.

Other resolutions and new business:

Veterans Park: Sandra Marsocci suggested naming the area at junction of Longwood Dr. and Sandpiper North, Sandalwood Veterans Park. Discussion followed. **Motion by:** Sandra Marsocci **2nd.** **By:** George Taylor Roll call vote **Motion passed**

Other Business:

Application to Purchase: George Taylor requested deleting "A community for persons 55 years of age or older" and "by Beacon Background Screening Services, LLC". **Approved**

Carport/lawn sales: George Taylor requested deleting "An estate sale may be held by an individual only after a sales transfer". **Approved**

Pool Rules: George Taylor requested adding "No diapers allowed in pool" to item # 12. **Approved**

Next Meeting:

Agenda : Wed. Jan. 05, 2011 @ 9:00a.m. (Sandpiper room)

Board: Wed. Jan. 12, 2011 @ 10:00 a.m. (Sandpiper room)

Meeting adjourned by President Carl Van Gilst.

Respectfully Submitted, George Taylor, Secretary

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