



The Woodlands Word @ Rivendell

January 2010

10 Candidates for 4 Board Slots to be Elected at the

2010 ANNUAL MEETING

FEB. 1, 2010 at 6 PM

THE OSPREY INN

CANDIDATE INFORMATION BEGINS ON PAGE 4.

Please Attend the

MEET THE CANDIDATES NIGHT

JAN. 18, 2010 at 7 PM

THE OSPREY INN

Highlights of Dec. 7 Board Meeting by Carol Heckert

Three members of the Board were present at the Dec. 7 meeting, which was conducted by Mary Marryott; also attending were Dave Gill and Jim Stepien; President Bill Straw was absent and Member Ralf Jurczyk had resigned effective Dec 6.

Among its actions, the Board stated:

Annual homeowners' fees will drop by \$30 for 2010 as Phase 2 Landscaping has been completed; the budget for legal fees was increased.

Five candidates have announced for 4 slots on the 5-member Board; Board Member Mary Marryott's term will carry over into the 2010 term of office;

An audit uncovered no major problems with the 2007-2008 audit; the auditors recommended three changes in accounting practices.

Continues on page 8

Notes from the Board President by Bill Straw

This will be my last report to the community. I am hopeful that the new board members to be elected in February will continue to act responsibly and without favoritism in enforcing the deed restrictions and serving the community. I sincerely care about this community and I care about fairness and the value of ethical behavior. I hope those too will factor into the decisions made about who to vote for in January and install as a board on February 1st.

That said, I do have some comments and opinions expressed below that will likely make the editors of the Word uncomfortable and some observations that some in the neighborhood will not like to hear. They are the result of having put up with over six months of vicious, often libelous, attacks by a small group of our neighbors who apparently feel that the deed restrictions are like the rules for a social club and who don't want to admit that those restrictions are as much a part of the

Continues on page 7

BOARD MEMBER RALF JURCZYK RESIGNS AS OF DEC. 6

I hereby resign my position as Director of the Board effective immediately, December 6, 2009.

As many of you know, certain members within the Rivendell community have followed a very aggressive policy of misinformation and overly aggressive enforcement actions against me. I can think of no logical reason for this aggression, and can only conclude that it is because, as a Board director, I have repeatedly pointed out severe problems with the running of Rivendell.

Continues on page 3

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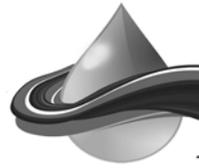
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THE GREATER **sarasota** CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CAC1813521

continued from page 1 "Board Member Ralf Jurczyk Resigns"

I previously mentioned that my Rivendell emails have all but dried up – since September I have received only a handful of emails – and it appears that my emails have been diverted, and that someone has opened fraudulent email accounts in my name. The Board has not assisted me in resolving this problem, with the result that I have effectively been cut out of the governance of Rivendell.

To end on a positive thought, I have enjoyed meeting and becoming closer to the many wonderful people who have stood by my side and have not buckled under to the enormous pressures placed on them by my fellow Board members and the Chair of the ARC committee, Mr. Warner. I do think that it is positive that we now have so many people interested in the running of Rivendell – this is the best thing that can happen for the community. I hope that by resigning at this point in time, one additional person may be elected to Board of Directors at the start of next year. ■

Once again, thank you for all your support!
Best regards,
Ralf Jurczyk

COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR RESIGNS AS OF FEB. 1st

Time for this chairperson to step down and hand off the torch to someone else. Due to time constraints and other responsibilities, I can no longer serve as chair after February 1, 2010, but have every intention of continuing my participation on the Committee. I have proudly served on this committee since 2001 and will continue to support the work we have accomplished.

Currently, the RCC has responsibility for *The Woodlands Word*, the Resident Directory, and oversight of the Block Captains. We meet monthly, mostly to brainstorm new material for the newsletter or to address issues pertinent to the committee. We are looking for new volunteers and, ESPECIALLY, someone who is willing to take over the leadership role.

I would also like to take this opportunity to extend my thanks to Nancy Wettlaufer and Linda Pearlstein, co-editors of *The Woodlands Word* newsletter who, together, have taken it to a quality publication of which we can all be proud! *The Woodlands Word* debuted in March 2001, well before the community transitioned to a resident-run HOA. As an arm of the Communications Committee, the first issues were strictly e-mail versions sent to anyone in the community who provided us with an e-mail address. In early 2004, Nancy and Linda took over as editors. By this time, we had transitioned to hard copies of the newsletter, provided at no charge to our residents. It continues to be completely funded by advertisers, thanks to OnTrac Publishing. For the last 5+

years, Nancy and Linda have dedicated their time, energy, leadership and guidance to making *The Woodland Words* what it is today....a class act! Many thanks to Pam Babbitt who has stepped forward to help out with the continuation of this publication.

Cindy Schmidl, the Block Captain Chair, is one of the most diligent, reliable people I have known! You can thank her for getting the Resident Directory to you every year and for helping out the RCC in whatever way she can.

For me, it has been a labor of love. I enjoy living in Rivendell, despite our periodic ups and downs. I am proud to have contributed my time and effort towards making Rivendell a better place to live and will continue to do so, as long as I am able. If you have an interest in this vital (and, usually, fun!) committee, please contact me at 966-5828 (home) or 586-3936 (cell). You may also e-mail me at bgahry@aol.com ■

Barbara Gahry, RCC Chairperson

RIVENDELL MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS

PLEASE NOTE:
NEXT BOARD MEETING JANUARY 5
at 6:00 pm at the
First Baptist Church,
265 N. Tamiami Trail, Osprey.

Homeowners are welcome and
encouraged to attend.

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Mark Adler



Our family moved from Chicago to Rivendell in 2003. I became involved in community affairs on the communications committee that same year. I was President of the Rivendell Board of Directors from February 2006 through October 2007. My wife, Maggie, works in the guidance department at Pine View School. We have two sons, Robert (a freshman at Northwestern University) and Michael (a junior at Pine View).

I was a director of Mergers & Acquisitions for Ameritech, which merged with SBC (and then became AT&T) until retiring in 2001. I currently own and operate J. Phillip Apparel, a manufacturer of souvenir apparel with national and international distribution. I believe in open communication between the Board and homeowners. During my previous term, Board meetings were always held as open forums including full interaction with the community. During that time, I held 5 separate town hall meetings with homeowners to make the Board more available to its members. Major initiatives and expenditures were always discussed with the community, such as Phase II Landscaping which went through a year of committee, sub-committee and community meetings until it was approved. I did not think I would ever run for the Rivendell Board again after I left in October 2007. I am compelled to run again because we seem to be going off track. Currently we seem to be at war with each other and things have become nasty. Neighbors are attacking each other, violation letters are going out in mass quantities and our legal bills are through the roof. Most of our community volunteers have quit. This has to stop. I believe in the enforcement of deed restrictions with an appropriate measure of common sense and human compassion, but not at the expense of the entire community being torn apart.

Mike Beaumier



I have actively been involved with Homeowner Association and Condo Boards since 2002. I served as President of the HOA's Board of Directors for Garden Lakes II at Colonial Country Club from 2003 until moving to Rivendell in 2006. As President of the Egret Landing HOA, I was involved in the turnover of the Association from the developer. Egret Landing is a community of 500 homes in Jupiter, FL with extensive common property. The operating budget is just under \$1 million dollars. The Association had been turned over by the developer with no reserves. Under my term, we successfully developed reserve funds in excess of \$400,000 without raising Association fees. That Board also worked successfully with the community to Amend the Declaration of Covenants. I have 23 years of experience in the Construction industry, with 12 of

those years in Florida. Having served in a number of leadership roles in this industry, I am currently Vice President of Suffolk Construction Company, located in Sarasota. I am responsible for providing top-level Suffolk management in all West Coast and Federal projects; our group is responsible for procuring and constructing all federal work throughout the southeast.

I reside at 682 Clear Creek Dr. with my wife, Lucy and 2 daughters, Genevieve and Gretchen, both of whom attend Pine View School. My vision for Rivendell is to have a community with rules that should be enforced but not to the detriment of the community as a whole. All of the issues that are currently being addressed by our Board should never have been gotten to the point that we are now paying for lawyers to be on our property to represent our Association. The bad publicity generated by recent events causes damage to all homeowners in Rivendell. Rivendell needs a Board that wants to work with its members. I believe as a Board Member, I can help our Association move past the current turmoil and help enhance our community's budgets and reserves for the long term.

Roger Bowman



I currently serve as the Director of Sales for EZ-FLO International, a manufacturer of supply lines and connectors for the plumbing and appliance industries. As Director, I am responsible for all sales activities within the US and Canada. I have held senior management positions in a wide range of retail and wholesale channels over a 30-year period. My experience in successful business development has lead to an eye for detail and a pragmatic approach to problem solving. My wife and I moved to Rivendell with our 2 young boys in 2005. We were attracted to Rivendell by its central location, the apparent pride that was taken in its upkeep and the belief that we were moving into a neighborhood, not just a house. My primary goal as a member of the board will be to maintain and regain that sense of neighborhood while at the same time work to protect every homes property value.

Given the opportunity to serve on the board, one of the first steps I would take would be in regard to the manner in which board meetings are conducted. I believe that the current agenda template, in which input from owners is acceptable only at the start of the meeting, is archaic and disrespectful of the homeowners. The agenda should include a time for owner input for every topic discussed, old and new business alike. With over 400 homeowners in Rivendell I have no doubt that there is a great deal that I can learn from each of you. Although I have not served on a homeowner's association board, I have extensive experience working as the founder and chair of the Water Committee within the Fountain Park Homeowners Association. The committee was tasked with the review of a pending sewer and water project that was projected to cost *each* homeowner over \$48,000. As a result of the committees' research and review of proposed improvements the project was revamped to less than \$10,000 per home. The project was presented to the local city council for designation as a SID (Special Improvement District). By having the project designated as an SID the cost per home will be paid over 20 years at a below market interest rate, thus removing a significant hardship for individual home owners. This was a complex project and it is still working its way to completion, guided by the original committee members. I do not have an agenda, I am not part of a "pro this" or "anti that" group, I do have experience and success in gaining consensus and making decisions based upon fact not conjecture and for the well being of all.



Bob Gililand



I have been a resident of Rivendell since 2003 when I retired after 30 years of service with USDA. With USDA, I was responsible for over \$2 billion of assets with an operating budget of \$450 million per year. I provided services to over 80,000 customers worldwide. I have extensive experience with contracting and managing large organizations. Soon after I moved to Rivendell, I became involved with the community and joined several committees. Over the past few years, I have volunteered on the Landscape, Environmental, ARC, Contract & Procurement Committees and served as Treasurer on the Board from November 2005 through 2007. As a Board member, I saved the community over \$30,000 on contract costs. I helped prepare the Rivendell budget for several years and oversaw the inventory of community assets in order to adequately fund the Reserves and cover the future replacement of our assets. As a past Board member, I have made sure that Rivendell had a firm financial basis.

The Board's primary responsibilities are maintaining the common grounds and enforcing the deed restrictions as outlined in the documents so that property values are enhanced. I am committed to these responsibilities but will respect your rights and treat you like a neighbor, not an adversary, while doing so. I will see that Rivendell is maintained in a manner that is aesthetically pleasing and respects the environment. The Board will take the time to listen to residents, treat them with respect and arrive at decisions that can please and accommodate most points of view. When you pay your dues you expect value for your money, so I will review all expenses to ensure that your dues are always used wisely. I ask for your vote in this election because this is a time to have someone on the Board with experience in running our community.

John Greco



My wife Mimi and I purchased our Rivendell home site in 2002 and moved here full time from Falls Church, VA in 2004. We chose to live in Rivendell because of the natural preserves, wetlands, wild life and proximity to Oscar Scherer. I have a Bachelor of Business Administration and a Masters in International Affairs from Ohio University. After college, I served two years with The Peace Corps in West Africa. My professional career in finance and marketing gave me the opportunity to travel extensively. I speak fluent French and I have successfully concluded business transactions in Europe, Asia, the Mid-East, Africa and Latin America. These years of international experience have given me the ability to be completely at ease and effective in dealings with people from any background. I concluded my professional career and retired in 2006 as a Vice President with Merrill Lynch's Private Banking and Investment Group. I currently have a part time position with the YMCA.

Here in Rivendell, I have been a member of the Architectural Review Committee, the Environmental Committee, and I was Chair of the Phase II Landscape Committee. Locally, I also served as Chairman of Manasota SCORE, a volunteer organization affiliated with the U.S. Small Business Administration that provides free counseling to small businesses and entrepreneurs. I believe that communication and total transparency of the board's deliberations and decisions are the keys to a smooth running HOA and satisfied homeowners. The Board should always seek input from the community at-large before major decisions are made. The spirit as well as the letter of the Florida statutes should always be followed.

Andrew Neitlich



My name is Andrew Neitlich and I have lived in Rivendell with my wife Elena and our children since 2002. We chose Rivendell after extensive research in Sarasota county and continue to love living here. I graduated from Harvard College in 1987, and then from Harvard Business School in 1991. I've spent the bulk of my career as a management consultant, working with complex health systems and emerging technology companies. Currently I'm writing a book with Jay Conrad Levinson, the creator of the Guerrilla Marketing series of books. I also run a number of websites that provide distance education and information for executives and managers. I enjoy my kids and play lots of tennis.

The past few months have been extremely damaging and challenging to our community, something akin to a constitutional crisis on a neighborhood scale. If we do not get through this crisis, we put our Deed Restrictions in jeopardy, will see our home values go down more than they already have, and will have a community culture that allows anyone to do almost anything they want to on their property. The good news is that there are only two "legacy" issues to resolve that go back to the days when US Homes managed the community, and one of those has already been addressed via mediation; then we can bring the community together again and move forward in harmony, peace, and respect for our deed restrictions.

If elected to the board, I will focus on three priorities. First, I will make sure that we maintain our Deed Restrictions through respectful but firm adherence to the rules we all agreed to when we moved here. This does not mean "policing" the neighborhood or conducting any form of aggressive "witch hunts," but it does mean that we handle issues that come to the board's attention quickly and respectfully. In addition, I intend to uphold the mediation completed with the Jurczyks via the previous board, and then work with Ed Lin to come up with a fair, fact-based resolution to this situation that maintains the integrity of our deed restrictions. From there, we can move forward as a community. Second, I believe that we need to continue to have common areas that look great and are secure, and will continue the wonderful work that previous board members and committee leaders and volunteers have put in place. Third, I will make sure that we stay within budget and that committees are accountable to the board to stay within their means.

I ask that you carefully research the candidates who are running for the board. It is my understanding that some of them, those who supported the recall effort, will reverse the mediation held with the Jurczyks, thus forcing all of us to pay even greater legal expenses while undermining our Deed Restrictions. Please be informed and don't let this happen.



Walter Perkowski



I first visited Osprey in 2002 - a short, family vacation and a much needed reprieve from my duties as the principal of an insurance agency in New York. It was also an opportunity for my daughters to visit the local Pine View School. We have not considered moving to Osprey, but a realtor, that we knew from our prior visits to Sarasota, insisted that we at least "drive through" Rivendell.

We were immediately drawn to the community. We loved everything about it: the proximity to the beach, the expansive preserve areas, the pristine lakes, manicured lawns and especially - the people, who always greeted us with a smile as they passed us on the sidewalk. The community had everything that was unattainable in a large metropolitan area or even the suburbs, including easy access to first-rate education and cultural events. Needless to say, we moved as soon as our home was built.

A lot has changed since that time. The prolonged draught has turned our lakes into marshes, the sidewalks are overgrown in front of the foreclosed properties that banks fail to maintain, the common areas are slowly disappearing and people are not as friendly as they once were. It is very easy to blame it all on the recession and the financial crisis. I blame it on the decisions made by the prior boards. If insanity is repeating the same action and expecting different results, then it is definitely time to change the Rivendell Board.

Please vote for me, if you would like to restore the community to the way we remember it and believe that it is not fair to: encroach on common land, fail to maintain your property, allow contractors working in the community to neglect their duties, involve the community in expensive litigation and then settle in complete disregard of our covenants or have individuals authorize substantial payments without board approval.

Tom Shola



I have been living on Scherer Way since January of 2004. As a firm believer in the value of education, I earned a BBA in Accounting from the University of Massachusetts along with an MS in Computer Science and an MBA from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. In addition to these achievements, I also earned my gemologist credentials from the Gemological Institute of America.

As a CERT Incident Commander, Sheriff's Community Safety Captain, Certified National Weather Service Skywarn member, FCC licensed and ARRL trained in Emergency Radio Communicator and the former Chairman of Rivendell's Emergency Response Group Committee, I have contacts at Federal, State and County government as well with other communities and will use these connections to constructively assist Rivendell.

As a consultant, I have worked to build alliances and directed and managed various teams' efforts. I believe that I have the experience to bring parties together by exploring areas of mutual interest and to successfully manage our community projects. It is important to recognize that our master Rivendell association exists to benefit and serve all property owners.

We in Rivendell enjoy our natural settings and our proximity to one of the nation's finest schools. We can enhance our investment in our homes as well as our overall enjoyment in our community by increasing the number of neighbors who take an active interest in and volunteer within our community. As a board member I hope to create an environment that encourages a sustainable high quality community. I believe that Rivendell can once again be a shining star community as well as being a well-run business.

Jim Stepien



My wife and I retired and moved to Rivendell in November 2003. Prior to 2003, we lived in Alexandria, Virginia for over 30 years while I worked for the National Labor Relations Board for 14 years and then the Defense Investigative Service and the Defense Security Service for another 17 years. During my years at the NLRB, I worked as a negotiator for many labor management disputes and union certification elections. I was a Senior Executive in the Department of Defense working on numerous committees in the area of defense contractor industrial security, background investigations for secure clearance positions and budget oversight.

During the past 6 years, my wife and I have taken an interest in the maintenance of the community. My wife currently serves on the Architectural Review Committee. I have watched as the community has begun to change over these years and not all of the changes appear to be for the better. I sincerely believe that to have a cohesive community that remains a pleasant place to live, retire or raise a family while maintaining property values we must have open and equal enforcement of our deed restrictions by our property management company in a firm yet thoughtful, fair and equitable manner. I also believe and have been told by many other residents that the community seems to be moving away from our origins of well-maintained homes, lakes and common areas. I would like to see our community once again have beautifully maintained homes and common areas yet remain wildlife enhancing with our well maintained preserve and wetland areas. I firmly believe that the Board and its committees' main purpose and responsibility must be to maintain the community, not change it. Significant changes can only be the result of full and open communication with and approval of the entire community. Your vote for me will be a statement for continued equal application of our deed restrictions.



Greg Warner



I have been a resident of Rivendell since 2003 and an active volunteer the past 3 years. I am a member of ARC (since 2006) and webmaster for our website since 2008. My background is in hospitality management with a BA from the American University in Paris.

This election is coming at a critical time for our community. As this year's campaign begins, a group of homeowners are still trying to recall the current board. Hopefully they will not succeed and we will have free democratic elections. The recall group is lead by and supports a group of homeowners who are running for the board who believe in selective enforcement. We as homeowners must decide in what direction we want to go.

This election is a referendum for those of us who believe that we are all equal and our deed restrictions apply to all of us equally. Vote for Andrew Neitlich, Walter Perkowski, Jim Stepien, and myself Greg Warner if you believe that the deed restrictions must be enforced equally for all of us. I believe that the elections are that simple and we as a community are going to decide what we want democratically on Feb 1, 2010. ■

continued from page 1 "Notes from the Board President"

description of their property as the survey they got prior to purchase. What follows are my opinions and observations from the time I have spent on the board and as president after the unfortunate resignation of two other fine people, Ellie Hartle and Joe Sefack, in the face of what I consider very unfair and unfounded attacks by a selfish few.

Three families in the community have absorbed an enormous and some would say unfair amount of time from this board because they do not wish to have the deed restrictions as fully apply to them as they do to others. One of the families sued the community and the other two are very active in the recall effort to get the current board out of office before we enforce the deed restrictions limiting their private use of common area. One even claimed at a board meeting that he had planned for many years to take control of the common area and now owned it.

There have been lies spread about the board and its members and even about their family members, along with threats and other forms of intimidation. It seems that this board has upset the accepted norm of a few people being able to control the spending and the direction of activity in the community. We recently completed an audit of the years 2007 and 2008 and one of the key recommendations was to implement stronger controls and definition over spending BEFORE the money went out. It was heartening to have an independent professional agree with the current board that budgets do not arbitrarily allow a committee to spend large sums without accountability in advance. We have spend well over \$100,000 on landscape and solar projects from 2007 to date, not including the routine maintenance, and I have received a great deal of criticism for asking for a better accounting of that money. My opinion is that spending over \$20,000 on solar irrigation without even getting a wiring diagram, operating instructions or a warranty is not getting an appropriate result for the money spent.

The majority of comments I have received from residents indicate that they want the lakes and banks to look clean and neat, and not wild and rangy. However, there is a group that favors that "wild" or "natural" look and has used the argument that it stops erosion better than grasses do to plant any number of flowers and other plants. I think that is an item that should be decided by a vote and that the deed restrictions say that lawns - and by implication lake edges - should be kept manicured.

The community needs to think about and decide if it wants committees to decide how or what to enforce and what should be done with the lakes, the public areas and other assets or if the deed restrictions should be followed more strictly. Keep in mind that if we do not follow the deed restrictions, or if the board modifies them through rule making, then they are likely to just go away. That is not a comment made to frighten anyone, it is an observation based on the experience of other communities nearby and the experience of dealing with the law. In the past, some boards made rules that contradicted the deed restrictions and those became what people believed to be the basis for activities and changes. This board has endeavored to clear up those situations and has met criticism from a few well-positioned individuals who felt we were infringing on their turf. I advise great caution in addressing this area of property rights. I believe that this community is a beautiful place and has value because we respect the natural surroundings while maintaining a neat and orderly appearance within our living areas. We respect our neighbors by following the deed restrictions and as long as we continue, we will continue to maintain our values. If we start making holes in the restrictions, we will also lower our overall values. I sincerely hope that the misleading and self-serving comments of a few will not be allowed to diminish the hard work of this board and the respect so many here have for their neighbors.

I want to personally thank you for the opportunity to serve the community, and I trust that those of you who value the high ethical and moral standards that are required to stand up for the deed restrictions will put the right people in office on February 1st. ■

continued from page 1 "Highlights of the Dec 7 Board Meeting"

Homeowners should address their concerns to Board members rather than writing letters to editor of *The Woodlands Word*.

Community input is requested on landscaping.

Homeowner's Comments

There were three owner's comments: one reminding people of the needs at the Veteran's Home (contact Vic McMurry); one objecting to, and one praising, the private newsletter called Rivendell News being sent to homeowners by Greg Warner via email.

Reports

The Treasurer's Report stated that the 2007-2008 audit has been completed, and identified no major problems. The audit report is available at Lighthouse Property Management, and can be seen by making an appointment with Kyanne Merrill. There were three recommendations for future changes in accounting practices, which will be shared with the next Board.

- Communications Committee (Barbara Gahry) - Ms Gahry announced her resignation as committee chair effective February 1. She will continue to take responsibility for the Community Directory.
- Management Oversight (Kyanne Merrill) - 2 hearings will be scheduled for violations. A committee is needed to conduct the hearings.
- Landscape (Dave Gill) - Bids are in from the 5 landscape companies who have bid for next year's contract. A bid is also in to add plants to the Park Trace buffer zone.
- Environmental - (Dave Gill) - There have been incursions into the preserves by some individuals. The County has fined the community for these incursions. Residents cannot do anything within these areas.
- Management Report (Kyanne Merrill) –
- Candidate's Night will be January 18 at the Osprey Inn.
- Compliance letters cost \$.79 each, except for those sent by certified mail.

Old Business

- The budget was finalized at the Budget Meeting. Our assessment dropped by \$30 per year. Some administrative costs were cut and legal fees increased. Phase 2 of the Landscaping Plan has been completed with funds moved into solar irrigation, a SWFWMD report, individual lake landscape review, more Bahia grass, mowing on several lake berms, hand weeding around front lakes.
- Nominating Committee reports 5 biographies submitted to date [as of Dec. 7; as of Dec. 15, 10 biographies had been submitted].
- The ballots will be sent out December 30 in the Annual Meeting packet. They will be counted at the Feb. 1 Annual Meeting by the Nominating Committee with the help of Lighthouse staff. Mary Marryott's term of office will extend another year, as her appointment preceded the October, 2009 law requiring appointed Board member to run for re-election at the time of the next election. Four Board members will be elected; three for a 2 year and one for a 1 year term of office.
- The Jurczak mediation has ended. The fence will be moved onto the property line and the irrigation pump moved. A five-foot wrought iron fence was approved. There was no discussion as to legal fees.
- Russ Hoffman has submitted a 29-page report to Sarasota County about what will have to be done to restore the areas of incursion by homeowners.

New Business

- The Board requests community input about landscaping.
- Emailing around the community should end. Homeowners should make phone calls to Board members rather than writing Letters to the Editor of *The Woodlands Word*. ■

NEXT ANNUAL MEETING

Feb 1, 2010

7 PM at THE OSPREY INN

Mark Your Calendars Now

Rivendell Directory Slated for April 2010 Publication

Sundown Publishing will be producing
The Rivendell Directory for 2010.

If you wish to advertise, please call
Craig Tirgrath at 941-485-8800.
Rivendell residents will be given
priority for ads submitted.

*Please contact Barb Gahry if you would like
to change or remove your phone number or
email address, or if you would like to make
any other changes to the Directory.*

Barb Gahry can be reached at 941-586-3936
or bgahry@aol.com

REAL ESTATE CORNER

by Barb Gahry

Have you ever wondered about Homesteading and Portability? Florida law states that in order for you to be eligible for a Homestead Exemption, you must meet 3 basic requirements:

1. You intend to make the property your permanent residence.
2. You have legal ownership of the property as of January 1.
3. You reside on the property on January 1 and make it your permanent residence.

If the applicant is NOT a US citizen, he/she must have permanent residence status (green card) by Jan. 1.

You need not physically occupy the property on January 1 to be eligible for a Homestead Exemption during the current tax year, as long as the other residency factors are met. If you have a 2nd residence where you vacation, or your travel a lot, or you are hospitalized or in a convalescence facility, you do not rent the property AND are not physically occupying your home on January 1st, you may continue to be eligible for a homestead exemption as long as 1) you own the property, 2) your intent is to return to this property and 3) you continue to meet residency requirements. The law does not require you to reside at your property a minimum number of days every year in order to be considered a permanent resident. Keep in mind, however, that renting a Homestead property may cost you your exemption.

If you want to sell your home and move up or down, you may be eligible to carry your Homestead Exemption with you. Call the Tax Appraiser's office at 941-861-8200 for more information. ■

Russ Hoffman and SWIFTMUD say "Skip a Week!"

During cooler months in fall and winter, your lawn doesn't need watering every week ... It's the best time to train your yard to need less water! So only water your lawn every other week and only if it needs it.

Too much irrigation:

- Makes your lawn less able to survive droughts
- Encourages pests and disease
- Wastes water

How much is enough?

- Grass doesn't need as much water in the cooler months
- Apply 1/2" to 3/4" of water
- Water only every 10-14 days in the winter

Your lawn needs watering when:

- Grass blades are folded in half
- Grass blades are blue-gray
- Your footprint remains on the lawn

*From Southwest Florida Water Management District,
at Watermatters.org/skipaweek*

Rivendell Lakes Management

Please contact Russ Hoffman,
Rivendell Lakes Manager,

if you have questions about:

- Rivendell lakes or shorelines,
- Florida Friendly Yards project, or
- FireWise Community practices.

Email: russ@beautifulponds.com

Phone: 488-1942

NATURE'S NOTEBOOK

by Debbie McMurry

The months of November and December have been busy with the creatures we have all come to love. Sometime around the middle of November, I noticed that the pair of eagles had moved their nesting site back to the first nest. I was sitting on the patio having lunch with Vic, when I saw one of the eagles flying toward us. I kept an eye on him; he landed on the first nest, the preserve between Mallard Marsh and Foothill Court. In October, one of the neighbors on Eagle Isle Court noticed a horned owl on the nest located in the woods near Oscar Scherer Park. "John" was concerned this would cause the eagles to move; obviously, they did. Fortunately they didn't go far. The entire neighborhood of Rivendell can now see the eagles. If you go to Scherer Way and stand on the sidewalk near the land bridge (bring your binoculars), you'll get a glimpse of the eagles.

Vic and I have volunteered to have one of the Florida Friendly Yards. As part of that program we were asked to keep a data sheet for Wildlife Monitoring in Rivendell Yards. Since October, we have documented deer, sandhill cranes, alligators, mud hens, red shouldered hawk, eagles, ospreys, blue herons, white herons, mocking birds, black belly whistlers, and swallows (hundreds). The swallows returned on November 22. I'm still waiting to see the thousands that came last year. What a thrill it is to witness these tiny birds.

Our daughter Krystie was walking Mac one evening last week. She heard a noise coming from the Butterfly Park. There were at least two deer. One of which was a buck with a large rack. Many of our neighbors who live around Butterfly Park have seen deer – such a thrill each time. ■

SERVICE PROVIDER RECOMMENDATIONS

Kurtz Plumbing – I had my house repiped recently because of leaking copper pipes and would like to recommend the plumbing company that did the work. Kurtz Plumbing gave me a price that was about half that of a second plumbing company. They completely repiped my house in one day and did excellent work. All materials and workmanship are fully covered by the standard guarantee given by all companies. They were also very neat and resourceful in bringing the new pipes into the house.

Dave Swanson also had Kurtz Plumbing Company re-pipe his house and found that their bid to perform the work was the lowest of five bids. He was completely satisfied with their work.

I recommend that any homeowners planning to re-pipe their homes include Kurtz Plumbing on their list for bidding. *Richard (Digger) Vogt*

Pet Sitting – Eve Day provided pet sitting services for our two cats. We were very pleased and highly recommend her as she provided excellent care during our extended absence. Eve completed all the tasks we requested and called us if necessary.

Eve provided professional quality care for our pets and we plan on using her for pet sitting again on our next trip away from home.

Bob and Barbara Thierfelder

CLASSIFIED AD

FOR SALE: Microwave oven and compact dorm-sized fridge. \$35 each. 586-6690

BOOK GROUP SCHEDULE

by Marilyn Probert

Happy New Year to all!

We're starting off the New Year with "*The Story of Edgar Sawtelle*" by David Wobliwski. This tale echoes "Hamlet" in that it features the marriage of Trudy Sawtelle (think Gertrude) to Uncle Claude (Claudius) soon after the untimely death of her husband. The impact of this union is as devastating to Edgar as it was to Hamlet. The discussion leader is Elaine Roeter. Barb Gahry, 699 Rivendell Blvd., is hosting. If you would like to attend this meeting, which is on Monday, January 11th, please call Barb at 966-5828.

"*Infidel*," by Ayaan Hirsi Ali, will be examined at the February 8th meeting. This autobiographical account describes the author's path, which led her to become a vocal critic of Islam and its beliefs about the treatment of women. After seeking and receiving asylum in the Netherlands, she eventually was elected to Parliament, and controversy over her citizenship helped to bring down the Dutch government.

Roz Bergman will lead the discussion to be held at my home at 775 Fordingbridge Way. My phone number is 845-536-7269. To avoid long distance charges you may prefer to e-mail me at tpro38@yahoo.com if you wish to attend.

The selection for March is "*In Sunlight in a Beautiful Garden*" by Kathleen Cambor. This historical novel describes the clash of classes after the Johnstown Flood of 1889 shattered many lives.

Book Group meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month. All Rivendell residents are welcome; just call that month's hostess if you'd like to join us.

WANT TO HOLD A GARAGE SALE?

Here is Rivendell's standing rule governing garage sales:

Garage Sales (Standing Rule dated April 18, 2006) Garage sales shall be allowed with the following guidelines:

- Garage sales can only be held between 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM
- Only one sign advertising the garage sale is permissible and must be located in front of the home. The sign must be removed the same day.
- Only one garage sale is permitted per year, per home.
- The garage sale can only be a one-day event.

Lighthouse Property Management

Lighthouse Property Management
16 Church St.
Osprey, FL 34229

Phone: (941) 966-6844
Fax: (941) 966-7158

Office Hours: M-F 9 am – 4 pm
24 hour Telephone Coverage

Website: www.lhmrealty.com

Owner: Lloyd Keith

Rivendell's Property Manager:
Kyanne Merrill (kyannemerrill@mgmt.tv)

Rivendell's Assistant Property Manager:
Hope Korte (hopekorte@mgmt.tv)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES FOR OCT. 19, 2009

A REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Directors was scheduled at 6:00 P.M. at the First Baptist Church 265 N Tamiami Trail, Osprey, FL.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Straw at 6:02 P.M.

Notice of the meeting was posted in accordance with the Bylaws of the Association and the requirements of Florida statutes.

The following Directors were present:

David Gill	Ralf Jurczyk	Bill Straw
Mary Marryott	Jim Stepien	

A quorum was present.

Approval of meeting minutes, the Board reviewed the minutes from the September 21st Board of Directors meeting and agreed to defer approval until revisions have been made. Mr. Gill made a motion and Ms. Marryott seconded to approve the Minutes of the October 1, 2009 Board Meeting. Mr. Jurczyk abstained. Motion passed.

Owner's comments on agenda items,

Mike Gruenfeld, 1036 Scherer, stated there is a shoreline appearance on the lakes and there is a need for a good esthetic appearance which is not satisfactory at this point. His recommendation was to hire a professional landscaping company to determine what types of plants are needed and design a plan for a multi-year plan and have the committees review the plan developed by qualified landscaping professionals. This could be done after Board approval and sufficient funds could be budgeted to have this done.

Nicole Jurczyk, 638 Rivendell Blvd, alleged that a number of documents and minutes from prior years were not available and gave a list of supposedly missing documents. She questioned why there were only 19 boxes of materials available and claimed that these represented primarily the years since 2007.

Ellie Hartle, 1084 Mallard Marsh, addressed a correspondence to Attorney Dan Lobeck and requested that he be consulted about documented writing that could result in possible solutions to some deviations in the community documents.



Carl Schubert, 936 Scherer Way, provided a written statement. (see attachment #1).

Dave Valdahl, 913 Eagle Isle Court, expressed his concerns about the appearance of the lakes and common area. A shoreline is needed that can adapt to lack of rain. Mr. Valdahl displayed pictures of the condition of the shoreline over a period of years.

Mrs. Shola, 1016 Scherer Way, inquired about the status of the independent review by a CPA and as to why it hasn't been done accordingly to State Statute. Mr. Straw explained that a full audit for 2007 and 2008 is currently underway.

Bob Merrill, 634 Rivendell, stated he is a neighbor to 638 Rivendell and doesn't understand why funds are being spent on the fence matter. Granting an easement should be a solution. Mr. Merrill submitted a petition (see attachment #2) signed by residents who agree an easement should be granted.

Carol Heckert, 808 Placid Lake, Ms. Heckert explained that there are plantings that currently extend over their property line, but are being corrected. Ms. Heckert inquired as to what authority was the county called by Mr. Stepien. Mr. Straw provided a clarification that it was verified that Mr. Stepien made no such report. Ms. Heckert was thankful for the clarification and apologized for the miscommunication.

Margaret Nardi, 681 Clear Creek, expressed her concerns about the expenses to have the attorney present at meetings.

Byron Chandler, 731 Fordingbridge, is concerned that residents are resigning from the committees because it is too difficult to work with the Board.

Lesley Irmisch, 541 Meadow Sweet Circle, suggested residents provide their e-mail addresses so communications are broadened, and in addition, notification should be mailed to owners.

Dave Tomer, 1004 Oak Meadow Lane, urged that the tone of the Board change because residents will not volunteer when there are adversarial situations.

Dr. William Siff, 672 Shadow Bay Way, expressed his concerns that he was fined for previous violations even though he followed due process. Mr. Straw clarified that he was notified consistently over several months before the violations resulted in a fine that was imposed in 2007.

Frank Pafumi, 541 Meadow Sweet Circle, suggested the entire Rivendell Community be more neighborly towards one another as the Cottages is and has been.

Mike Gruenfeld, 1036 Scherer Way, commended the Board (previous Boards and current Boards) for adhering to the covenants and enforcing them accordingly.

Dave Valdahl, 913 Eagle Isle Court, is concerned because there are people fishing in the lakes behind the homes. Signs should be posted prohibiting fishing and if residents notice this they should use their judgment to contact authorities so they can be identified.

Mr. Straw announced that certain Unfinished Business would be discussed while Attorney Dan Lobeck was present to clarify points related to the fence on common property.

Unfinished Business,

Jurczyk's Law Suit against the Association and judge's recent ruling against them, Mr. Lobeck referred to a survey dated May 11, 2007 (copies were made available to residents see attachment 1), which shows the fence is as much as 15 feet into the common area. Mr. Lobeck also provided clarification on several myths on various matters. (copies were made available to residents, see attachment #1). Mr. Lobeck clarified that the Board has offered to waive the fine for the fence violation if it was moved to the Jurczyk's property as originally approved. The offer also provided a final opportunity to move the fence so the association is not forced to remove it from the common property. Ms. Marryott made a motion and Mr. Stepien seconded,

MOTION 09-11: that Dr. and Mrs. Jurczyk provide the association with a written commitment by the upcoming Wednesday (October 21st) at 5pm to remove the fence from Common Area to their own property within two weeks. If they fail to do so, the Association will contract to remove the fence from the Common Area as soon as practical after Wednesday at an expense not to exceed \$2500, based on two bids and accepting the lowest bid.

Dr. Jurczyk abstained. Motion passed with four yes votes. ►

TREASURERS REPORT: Mr. Gill submitted his report (attachment #2). The Board accepted the report as given.

There being no further business to come before the Board, upon a motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

*Kyanne Merrill
Managing Agent
October 30, 2009.*

Communications, there will be a meeting on Oct. 28th at the home of Cindy Schmidl at 7 pm.

Web Master Report, no report. – follow up note, the page is being updated for the new Apple and Mac software so all exhibits will be readable.

Safety Advisory, no report.

Architectural Review, Mr. Warner reported ten applications were received. Two Florida friendly applications were put on hold, but will be approved at the next meeting.

Pool Committee, the Solar Panels will be turned tomorrow.

Landscape, no report.

Finance & Procurement, Mr. Gill reported five landscaping bids have been received and are being reviewed.

Environmental, the Committee provided a report. (see attachment 3).

Maintenance, no report.

Manager’s Report, Ms. Merrill provided her report (see attachment 4) and provided clarification on the compliance procedures and cost for mailings.

NEW BUSINESS,

Lakes and Preserve areas, It was noted that a special presentation and session on lakes would be held this evening and Mr. Hoffman gave a presentation on the Lakes, Preserves and Common areas and the status of the reports and reviews by the County, forest Service, Park Service and SWFMD. Questions and answers relating to these matters were discussed.

Scheduling of Next Meeting, the next meeting was scheduled for Monday, November 2, 2009 at 6:00 PM.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
BUDGET MEETING
MINUTES FOR NOV. 2, 2009**

A BUDGET MEETING of the Board of Directors was scheduled at 6:00 P.M. at the Covenant Life Presbyterian Church Auditorium, located at 8490 McIntosh Road, Sarasota, Florida.

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 P.M., by the President, Bill Straw

Notice of the meeting was delivered to each Director, posted on the property prior meeting, and mailed to each owner in accordance with the requirements of the Association Documents and Florida Statutes.

The following Directors were present:

Bill Straw Dave Gill Jim Stepien
Mary Marryott

Ralf Jurczyk was absent.

New Business, Approval of the 2010 Budget and Reserves.

The Board deferred to owner comments regarding the proposed budget.

Joe Sefack reminded the Board to consider budgeting for document revisions. The main purposes of the revisions are to provide clarification and remove developer references.



Vic McMurray, 1204 Mallard Marsh, addressed the reserve portion of the budget. His concerns were if the reserves are reduced it should be voted on by the community according to Statute. Mr. Gill reported the reserve item for dredging the lakes has been increased and a survey is due next year for the lakes, in which the Board will assess then and budget accordingly.

Mary Weldon, 828 Placid Lake Drive, requested to review a report that shows the expenditures year to date. The Board explained that it was provided in the handout that was distributed.

1073 Scherer Way, inquired about the attorney fees and if they are budgeted adequately. Mr. Straw explained that a portion of the legal fees from 2009 will be recovered because the association is entitled to according to the documents. The Board does not expect to incur as many legal fees as 2009.

The Board summarized some detail regarding the proposed budget and discussed the lake work that needs to be done.

A motion was made by Mr. Stepian and seconded by Ms. Marryott,

MOTON 09-12: To recess the meeting until November 24th at 1pm in order to obtain bids for Landscaping around the lake areas and adjust the proposed budget figures accordingly. Motion passed.

With no further business before the Board, a motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 6:35pm.

Kyanne Merrill
November 18, 2009

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES FOR NOV. 2, 2009

A REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Directors was scheduled directly after the Budget Meeting at 6:00 P.M. at the Covenant Life Presbyterian Church Auditorium, located at 8490 McIntosh Road, Sarasota, Florida.

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 P.M., by the President, Bill Straw

Notice of the meeting was delivered to each Director and posted on the property prior meeting, in accordance with the requirements of the Association Documents and Florida Statutes.

The following Directors were present:

Bill Straw Dave Gill Jim Stepian
Mary Marryott

Ralf Jurczyk was absent.

On matter relating to the minutes of the previous meeting of September 21, 2009 Mr. Gill made a motion and Ms. Marryott seconded to approve the minutes. The motion was passed.

Owners Comments on Agenda Items,

Frank B. 541 Meadow Sweet Circle, addressed his concerns regarding the e-mails that are being circulated throughout the community, the resignation of several committee members such as Landscaping, Newsletter and Safety Committees and the rumor of missing associations records. Ms. Marryott explained that the Safety Committee disbanded before the current Board. The Landscaping Committee consisted of volunteers and the current Board is making a point to have the Committees account for spending upon request. The committee members who have volunteered on the communications committee have been doing it for over five years and they have decided to move on and it doesn't have anything to do with the Board. Mr. Straw clarified that the association records are intact and readily available for review upon request. There are no missing records.

Mr. Straw also clarified that the Board must issue liens on homes regardless of the amount overdue just as the previous Board had. The Board must adhere to the association documents.

Mary Kennedy, 946 Scherer Way, expressed her concerns regarding the foreclosed home at 990 Scherer Way. Mr. Straw explained that was one of the items to be addressed when amending the documents to permit the association to address the condition of the yard.



COMMITTEE AND OFFICERS,

Communications, Ms. Gahry reported that Nancy Wettlaufer and Linda Pearlstein have resigned, but clarified it has nothing to do with Board. Thanked them for all the efforts and suggests that they be recognized. The last issue will be in December and would like anyone who is interested in taking it over to contact her or the Board. The new committee could consider issuing a quarterly newsletter rather than monthly. The publisher will continue to provide service to Rivendell.

Web Master Report, no report.

Safety Advisory, no report.

Architectural Review, Mr. Warner reported there were eight applications, which were all reviewed and approved.

Management Oversight, Mr. Stepien reported that there have been 53 outstanding letters and provided a summary of the each violation.

Pool Committee, Tom Fassler reported that the timer switch in the restroom has been repaired.

Landscape Committee, no report.

Finance & Procurement, no report.

Environmental, no report.

Manager's report, (see attachment #1).

New Business.

Matters relating to appointing a Nominating Committee, a motion was made by Mr. Gill and seconded by Mr. Stepien

MOTION 09-13: To approve the following Nominating Committee members for 2010. Barbara Gahry, Vic McMurray, Joe Sefack, Ken Heckert, Carl Schubert. The Nominating Committee will interview the candidates and provide a meet the candidates date and time. The committee will count the ballots at the Annual Meeting. All nominations must be submitted to the Board by December 20th. Barb Garhy will Chair the committee and Mrs. Marryott will be Board liaison. Motion passed.

Survey for the burn area, Russ Hoffman reported the Community is required to submit a report to the County for work that has been done. The County has reported they cannot determine where the property lines are and where the preserve lines begin. The lines need to be defined. The association is required by State Law and SWFTMD to remove any exotics. Russ will be working towards coordinating the County, the State, Oscar Scherer Park and the Fire Department to assist with a long overdue burn. The weather must be good at the time of the burn. Russ explained that it could possibly be ten years overdue for a burn and it is necessary in order to reduce burn material. Russ clarified that this has been on the Associations list of projects for over four years. Various burn methods were discussed. A mechanical burn can be done; however, a real burn is more effective and less money. A motion was made by Mr. Stepien and seconded by Mr. Gill

MOTION 09-14: To conduct a survey and establish the rear lot lines and buffers backing up to the preserves and accomplish this with in the next year. Motion passed.

The next regular meeting was scheduled for December 7, 2009, at 6:00 P.M.

With no further business before the Board, a motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

*Kyanne Merrill
November 18, 2009.*

Rivendell at Work and at Play 2005-2009

The Woodlands Word Editors recently enjoyed looking back through our archives as we prepared to step down and decided to put together this photo retrospective. We hope you enjoy reminiscing on the many constructive ways we've come together as a community during the past five years.

June 2005 Issue page 7

More than 70 attend 2nd annual Rivendell Picnic by Nancy Dale



Seventy fun-loving Rivendell residents enjoyed the Second Annual Rivendell Picnic at the North Jetty on Saturday, May 21, 2005. The picnic began at 4:00 p.m. and ended at sunset! The adults had a chance to meet and chat with neighborhood friends while the children had a good time in the nearby play area. Before the picnic dinner began, Nancy Dale, chair of the Social Committee, welcomed the group. Ken Heckert, Environmental Committee Chair, and Russ Hoffman, Environmental Manager, made announcements regarding the addition of new trees to our community.

December 2005 Issue, page 3
Caribbean Social at the Pool

Eighty Rivendell residents attended a Pool Social November 13, 2005 that featured Caribbean music, Caribbean-style food, and door prizes. The Social Committee, chaired by Nancy Dale, organized the event. Volunteers included: Janet Berntsen, Ken Heckert, Kim Conklin, Gary Dale, and Vincent and Valerie Dale.



December 2005 Issue
...Oh, what fun it is to sing...

Rivendell Residents spread the Holiday cheer with song and merriment.



June 2006 Issue, page 8
3rd Annual Rivendell Picnic at the North Jetty on May 6, 2006

Rivendell residents and their guests enjoyed a beautiful evening. Nancy Dale, Social Committee Chair, estimates that 30 people attended this year's picnic.



Mark Adler, left, and Ed Lin, community leaders, enjoy chatting at picnic

February 2007 Issue, page 17 (Reprinted from the December 22, 2006 Osprey Observer)

Jolly trolley tour by Dora Walters

A trolley ride through Rivendell to view the Christmas decorations highlighted the neighborhood's holiday party Dec. 17, 2006. Nearly 100 residents rode the trolley, starting at the home of Lynda and Terry Leopold, Community Social Committee chairs. Trolley riders "oohed" as the trolley wound its way through the community. All agreed it was great fun and a perfect way to get into the holiday spirit.



Rivendell residents show their delight at the views out the windows of the holiday trolley, which drove through Rivendell to spotlight the holiday lights during the holiday event held Dec. 17, 2006.

June 2008 Issue, page 5

Wanted: Anyone to Serve



WANTED: Smart, energetic, fun loving, people person to join the Board of Directors. No physical labor required. Please call any board member for information. Looking forward to hearing from you. Ellie Hartle, 918-2114.

March 2007 Issue, page 15

Rivendell Recognition Dinner --

Some 70 people attended Rivendell's first annual volunteer recognition dinner at the Ramada Inn February 16th, 2007. Board members David Sears (with Lori) and Mark Adler (with Maggie) were among those enjoying an evening of fine food, company, and music. *Photos by George Wettlaufer*



May 2008 Issue, page 12

If You Plant Your Garden in Sand By Charles Kiblinger



Master Gardener and Woodlands Word columnist Charles Kiblinger demonstrates a raised-bed flower garden. To appreciate this colorful garden, go to the Newsletter section of our website: www.rivendellassociation.com.

October 2008 Issue, page 7

Jeannette Munger CERTainly Wants to Keep You Safe

by Mike Bergman



From left to right: Ellie Hartle, Board President; Scott Montgomery, Sarasota Emergency Operations; and Jeannette Munger, commander of Disaster Preparedness Program. Photo by Sara Jones.

October 2008 Issue, page 1 and 10

Rivendell Awarded FireWise Designation

Photo by Sara Jones



Russ Hoffman, Lakes Manager, with FireWise plaque awarded by FireWise - Florida Department of Forestry. From left, Scott Montgomery, Sarasota Emergency; Ellie Hartle, Board President; and Russ.

May 2009 Issue, page 7

30 AT FIREWISE EDUCATION March 21, 2009 by Carol Heckert

A FireWise Education Session coordinated by Russ Hoffman is one facet of the FireWise grant he obtained for our community. Tony Clements, Burn Manager for Oscar Scherer State Park, discussed the controlled burns. The coordination of Oscar Scherer State Park and Rivendell will make our community a safer place. After the session, thirty adults and children enjoyed hot dogs, soda, and a Smokey the Bear cake. Everyone found the session to be interesting, informative, and fun. Photos by Sara Jones



May 2008 Issue, page 16

Mark Adler marks milestones



Congratulations to former Board President Mark Adler, shown here on the newly opened Legacy Trail, for biking 1,000 miles in 143 days.

October 2009 Issue, page 9

Tai Chi, Anyone? By Mike Bergman



Rosalind and I, and Sara Jones are at the Nokomis Community Center for a Tai Chi class. We're there for the health benefits and it's fun!

January 2009 Issue, page 5

VOLUNTEER EFFORTS REWARDED by Mike Bergman

Volunteers celebrated a year of hard work and also the fact that the Homeowners Association received a check for \$10,995 from the Sarasota Neighborhood Grant Program. The money was reimbursement for the costs of planting native shrubbery around some of our retention ponds. Dozens of residents gave hundreds of hours to planting, mulching, and watering the new plants. Russ Hoffman and Ken Heckert guided them. The Sarasota County Commissioners challenged neighborhoods to improve the quality of the runoff water that goes into our bays. They proposed a no-mow, or low maintenance zone around ponds to buffer out fertilizers, herbicides, insecticides, and grass. Rivendell embraced this opportunity to beautify our ponds while cleaning up our water effluent.



Volunteers have more fun! Happy New Year from the Communications Committee and Volunteers!

Lighthouse Manager's Report, Nov. 2, 2009

On Site/Maintenance-

- Property inspection -9.25.09
- Property inspection – 10.2.09
- Compliance inspection- 10.13.09
- Met onsite with fence companies regarding removal of fence from common area - 10.15.09
- Property inspection, compliance spot check- 10.23.09
- Property inspection -10.30.09

Administrative-

- Contacted Smith's Electric regarding electricity problem with breakers for the irrigation at the front of the community, Smith's did repair on 9.24.09
- Provided ARC records for owner's review- 10.2.09
- Budget workshop -10.07.09

- Contacted the Insurance agent to inquire if damage to the electrical system of the irrigation pump was covered- informed that the pumps are not covered.-10.9.09
- Bank/check signer information updated
- Draft agenda forwarded to Board for review- 10.12.09 & 10.29.09
- Forwarded September Financials to Board for review- 10.13.09
- Forwarded compliance report to Mr. Stepien – 10.28.09
- Contacted Russ Hoffman regarding plant growth and algae in pond- scheduled to be treated on next sunny day

Correspondence-

- Compliance letters mailed to homeowners
- Letters sent to homeowners regarding submitted ARC forms
- Budget Membership meeting notice mailed to all owners
- Letter sent to previous owner regarding current use of pool

*Kyanne Merrill, CAM
Managing Agent*

The Architectural Review Committee (ARC)

meets the **last Tuesday** of each month;

applications are due to Lighthouse Management

by the **third Tuesday** of each month.

More information can be found at rivendellassociation.com,
under Architectural Review Committee.

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Community Newsletters

Call 941-485-2644



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Quorum Present

Ken Alarie	X	Gwen Stepien	X
Joe Sefack	X	Greg Warner	X
Elizabeth Straw	X	Bill Straw	X

Minutes approved from Last meeting

Motion	GS
Seconded	ES
Approved	X

ARC Rivendell Oct 09

27-Oct-09

Name	Address	Painting	Landscaping New	Fence	Pavers	Pool / Lanai New	Other	Request	Motion	Seconded	Comment	Auto Approved	Approved	Hold	Rejected	Follow up
UNIT 1																
Imisch	504 MSC		X					install 3 gardenia plants	ES	JS	Please submit a plot pain showing the location of the 3 gardenias on your property		X			
Imisch	504 MSC	X						repaint house same colors and/or repaint house SW color 6255 "Morning Fog"				X				
Konner	549 MSC						X	Owner would like to take out some bougainvilla			Owner should speak with the Cottages Board			X		
Chiappuri	579 MSC	X						Paint house color SW-6255	GW	JS	The house color SW-6255 has been approved					
UNIT 2																
Saake	733 Crane Prairie		X					Install Florida friendly yard	GW	ES	With Stipulations (see below)		X			
UNIT 3																
Christopher	1011 Oak Meadow		X					Install Florida friendly yard	GW	ES	With Stipulations (see below)		X			
Campisi	739 SBW							Painting outside of house, with same colors. Sherman William Exterior Paint	GW	ES		X				
Faessler	309 Scherer	X						Paint house - Mission Stone and Trim - Adobe White	GW	ES			X			
Wheeler	749 Placid Lake		X					Add landscaping			Approved to add plants in existing beds		X			
Wheeler	749 Placid Lake						X	Install solar collector	ES	KA			X			
Wheeler	749 Placid Lake						X	Install windowtint to front & side windows	KA	GS			X			
Other																
								Approve Florida Friendly Yards Guidelines	GS	GW	Florida Friendly Yards in The Woodlands of Rivendell		X			

Homeowners are permitted Florida Friendly Yards in The Woodlands of Rivendell with the following rules and guidelines:

- o The homeowner is responsible for all association fees whether in a maintenance free community(Cottages, Villas or Patio Homes) or not. No reduction in fees is permitted.
- o If the homeowner has a sidewalk immediately in front of the house a setback of two feet(minimum) is to be established from the inside edge of the sidewalk
- o The homeowners association(s) is/are not responsible for any costs relative to the installation, maintenance, or removal of Florida Friendly Yards
- o If no sidewalk exists immediately in front of the house a setback is to be established equal to the total of the width of the common grass area between the street and sidewalk plus the width of the sidewalk plus the two foot minimum(as established across the street).
- o Should the current homeowner or any future homeowners elect to remove or replace the Florida Friendly Yard, it is at their expense solely.

Quorum Present

Ken Alarie	X	Gwen Stepien	X
Joe Sefack	X	Greg Warner	X
Elizabeth Straw	X		

Minutes approved from Last meeting

Motion	ES
Seconded	KA
Approved	Yes

ARC Rivendell Nov 09

11/24/2009

Name	Address	Painting	Landscaping New	Fence	Pavers	Pool / Lanai New	Other	Request	Motion	Seconded	Comment	Auto Approved	Approved	Hold	Rejected	Follow up
UNIT 1																
Cottages Club	MSC			X				install white viny fence around pool heater as required by new State Law(see attached)	KA	ES	Approved		X			
Terry	578 MSC							Replace dead Pineapple palm with foxtail palm	GS	ES	Replace at owners expense and upon ARC receiving a plot plan showing the location of the palm of the plot plan.		X			
UNIT 2																
Vogt	717 Crane Praire		X					Move privacy hedge to property line			Hedge must be planted inside of property line so that the hedge does not extend outside of the property		X			
UNIT 3																
Swencki	689 Rivendell		X					Plant 2 or 3 shady lady black olive trees			Homeowner needs to get County approval first			X		
Gahry	699 Rivendell	X						Paint trim on front door with same color that is already there.				X				
Swencki	689 Rivendell	X						chosen a SherwinWilliams product (SW6115) This product may be viewed by going to the following web site https://www.sherwin-williams.com/visualizer/			SW paint 6115 has been approved		X			
Nardi	681 Clear creek	X						Repaint house- Scott paint #7785 for body, #7788 for trim			Color 7785 and 7788 approved		X			
Perkowski	1341 New Forrest						X	Install Well			Well equipment must be landscaped		X			
Sweitzer	735 SBW	X						Repaint house- Body: SW 6093, Trim: SW 7002, Door & Shutters: SW 6866			Repaint house- Body: SW 6093, Trim: SW 7002, Door & Shutters: 6186 Dried Thyme		X			
Weisbort	680 SBW	X						Paint house- Porter Paints 314-2 Heavy Cream (body) 314-4 Spiced Vinegar (trim) -			The Porter Paints 314-2 and 314-4 have been approved		X			
Mruz	695 Rivendell						X	Install Concrete Curbing			Request that the homeowner supply plot plan			X		

Who WE are

Communications Committee

Chair: Barb Gahry
communications@rivendellassociation.com

Newsletter, Linda Pearlstein, Nancy Wettlaufer,
and Pam Babbitt, Co-editors

Directory, Barb Gahry;

Documents, Carol Heckert;

Block Captains, Cindy Schmidl.

Newsletter Columnists: Mark Adler, Mike Bergman,
Barb Gahry, Russ Hoffman, Sara Jones, Charles
Kiblinger, Ed Lin, Debbie McMurry, and Marilyn Probert.

Rivendell Committee Chairs

Architectural Review

Chair, Greg Warner
ARC@rivendellassociation.com

Communications: Barb Gahry
communications@rivendellassociation.com

Emergency Response: Vacant
ERG@rivendellassociation.com

Environmental: Ken Heckert
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Finance/Procurement: Vacant
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Landscape: Vacant
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Management Oversight: Vacant
management@rivendellassociation.com

Swimming Pool: Tom Faessler
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Webmaster: Greg Warner
webmaster@rivendellassociation.com

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Property Management Information

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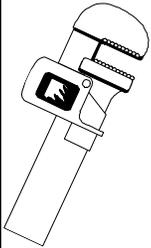
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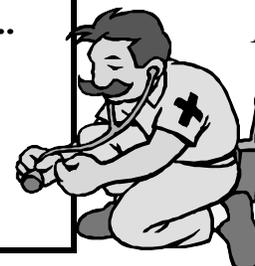
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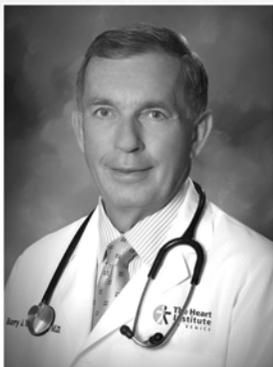


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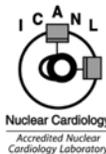
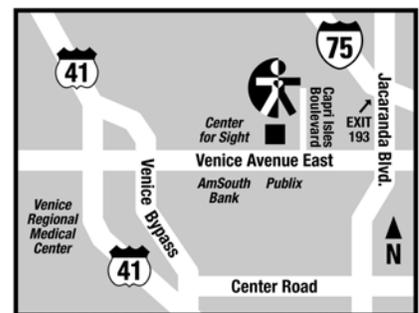
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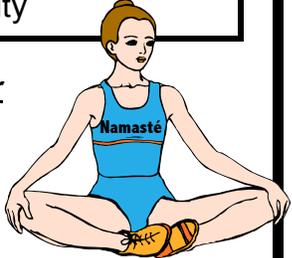
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