



President's Message - Charlie Sell

The following is a Q&A with the Editor and the DCPOA President.

Editor: After the election at the annual meeting, the new board put you at the helm again for another year. Congratulations Charlie.

Not everyone has been eligible to receive their vaccine yet. How will this affect our community's COVID restrictions, which have been successful so far?

Charlie: *The Board will review our guidelines concerning COVID restrictions next month. At the last meeting, the consensus was to keep everything in effect as Pinellas County dictates. Pretty soon most of our residents will have had the opportunity to get their shots. Our concern will again be contractors and guests coming on to the property.*

I do know the Social Committee has planned our first outdoor event at the Casino. The date has been announced, and as a reminder to attendees, please adhere to the CDC COVID safety guidelines.

Editor: It was reported that about 50 residents Zoomed in to the Annual Meeting. Please elaborate on what the rest of us missed out on this year.

Charlie: *I think one question which is on everyone's mind is, what's going on with our grassy areas?? I, too, am disappointed with the way our lawn looks every day when I walk the property. There are a number of issues affecting the grass and these are the challenges we are actively working on for the community:*

** Weather: temperatures and rainfall. Every year seems to be hotter and drier.*

** Intermittent seeding: The rye grass seed added this winter for color will not survive the hot weather.*

** Water source: We use reclaimed water from the city. When these water levels are low, the pressure is low and water rationed and sprinkler coverage reduced. We plan to add more sprinkler zones to get stronger sprinkler coverage during these times.*

** Weeds: We have been hit with dollar weed and other weeds that obviously thrive in hot weather. Although Pro Care has increased their spraying, they can't spray when there is wind, the lawn is wet, or when threat of rain exists.*

** Virus: The mosaic virus also kills the St. Augustine grass, so we are replanting the worst areas with the Bitterblue variety sod, which is claimed to be more resistant to the virus.*

Editor: Our retention ponds, to include Spoonbill Lake, appear in healthy shape. What exactly is the function of the retention ponds?

Charlie: *A retention pond looks like a regular pond but beyond the attractiveness to our landscape, it plays an important role in controlling storm water runoff. The basins store and slow storm*



water runoff from nearby areas, especially with areas of concrete or asphalt roadways. This diversion helps to control flooding of our roadways while releasing it more naturally into our preserve. A second benefit is pollutant removal through settling and filtering before eventually running into the mangroves.

We have five ponds on the property, and they are regularly inspected by Southwest Florida Water Management District (SFWMD – pronounced “swift-mud”). They ensure we are compliant with their regulations since one of the areas they manage is surface water.

Editor: The Board has been working to find a solution to expand kayak storage and formed an official committee to study the options. Would you give us a progress report?

Charlie: *The number of residents in Dolphin Cay requesting kayak storage has continued to increase tremendously over the past several years. With this in mind, the Master Board approved the formation of a Kayak Committee earlier this year. It consists of seven members. Each Association President nominated representatives from their Association to be members. Van Williams is the Board representative, and I am also working with the group to keep things moving along. The committee is investigating several factors including permitting, fees, rules, liability, locations, storage options and size.*

We were stalled moving forward until the city and county reviewed and approved some of the most desirable areas deemed suitable for kayak racks. I am happy to report that with the help of Robin Davidov, Henry Gale, Van Williams and our Manager, Sue Ortiz, several areas have gained approval.

The committee will now draft their recommendations for the ARC and Board of Directors to review and approve.

Editor: The three mandated pool fences have been completed. Were the desired results achieved?

Charlie: *The fencing has been approved by both our insurance and the city pool inspectors. I am happy to say that resident comments have been overwhelmingly positive. The color blends in with the landscape and the surrounding areas and views have not been spoiled. Thanks for the Board’s help in guiding me to make the right decisions.*



Editor: Residents have been competing for places to enjoy the outdoors, sit, chat, and read during the pandemic. Some of the benches have plaques honoring someone, as do trees here and there. How does this process work?

Charlie: *If there is a special person you would like to honor or pay tribute to, consider a monetary donation to be used to enhance the natural beauty of Dolphin Cay and increase the opportunity for residents to enjoy the activities and natural setting here, within the community's boundaries.*

A donation request can be submitted to the Office expressing the Resident's desire to contribute to the Memorial and Honorarium program. They will then meet with a DCPOA representative to discuss the type of memorial they would like the donation to fund. The plaque is recognition for the gift.

Community Association Manager

- Susan Ortiz, LCAM



I wanted to thank everyone who participated in our Annual Meetings and Elections in March! Even

though Zoom can present its own challenges, participation by proxy was extremely successful and the elections went off without a hitch.

We had two elections this year, which were run according to Florida Statute 718. Very few owners understand all the work that goes on behind-the-scenes prior to an election. A ballot is considered secret and must be placed in an unmarked, sealed inner envelope. The inner envelope must then be placed in an outer envelope. There must be a signature and *unit* address on the outer ballot envelope, and it must be verified against the voting certificate on file. Signatures must be those of the designated voting representatives. Ballots are considered invalid if all of these requirements are not met.

Prior to an annual meeting, we receive and validate all voting certificates, proxies, and outer ballot envelopes. We also tally all votes on the proxy forms. If you turn in your voting materials early, it really helps make for better preparation and avoids delays once a meeting starts. That being said, all associations in Dolphin Cay had established a quorum by proxy prior to the start of their annual meeting this year. We appreciate everyone's cooperation so much!

I would like to thank my co-workers at *Condominium Associates* who helped monitor the elections and host the Zoom meetings. The support we received from them was tremendous! And a big shout out to Andrea Fitzpatrick who assisted in every single aspect of the meetings and elections! I am sure she assisted many of you with filling out your proxies and ballot envelopes correctly. And not to forget, special thanks to the resident volunteers that helped count the votes and make the results official!

Remember, we are always here to help and answer your questions. Now that we can actually see the light at the end of the tunnel, I hope to meet more of our Dolphin Cay residents soon! Sue

From the Front Office

- Andrea Fitzpatrick

The Dolphin Cay Directory is now updated and published annually. The 2021 version was distributed to residents in January, but if you weren't here then or haven't received a copy yet, please stop by to pick one up.



Office hours are Monday through Friday: 8:30-4:00, closed for lunch 12:00-1:00.

Please contact the office with a question or concern about something in the community. We may be able to answer your question, or we'll investigate further as appropriate.



Comings and Goings

Departing	Unit/Lot	New Residents
Jobe	A-102	Shortino
Eagan/Breadon	A-108	Frey/Thompson
Simpson	A-209	Gilner
Donovon	A-508	Davidson
Felsner/Shaver	A-603	Peters
Kuehn	C-108	Ploeger
Watson	C-404	Felsner/Shaver
Leamy	C-502	Tobias
Nickerson	D-309	Glassman
DeFoe	D-602	Clapp/Perry
Ji-man	E-107	O'Brien
von Spiegelfeld	E-310	Ellis
White	F-101	Eagan/Breadon
Davidov	F-206	Leach
Plummer/Brewer	F-502	Lockwood/Zusman
Lemmink	G103	Tumbusch
Vanek	G106	Gault
Frey/Thompson	G402	Nist

**EXPECTING A DELIVERY TO YOUR CONDO
ON A SATURDAY ??**

**ELEVATOR PADS are made AVAILABLE from
8 to 12 ONLY !**

Now... About Our Mangrove Neighbors ...

....the Mockingbirds

If you've been fascinated by a wonderfully complex bird song this spring, you're hearing our Florida State Bird, the Northern Mockingbird. John James Audubon paid tribute to the Mockingbird's talents, remarking: "There is probably no bird in the world that possesses all the musical qualifications of this king of song, who has derived all from Nature's self." This bird's famous song, with its varied repetitions and artful imitations, is heard all day during nesting season (and often all night as well).

These slender-bodied gray birds apparently pour all their color into their vocal personalities and sing almost endlessly. They often mimic the sounds of birds around them and go on learning new sounds throughout their lives. The song is a long series of phrases, with each phrase repeated 2-6 times before shifting to a new sound. Click below to listen:



180318-Mockingbird-
A-Virtuoso-of-Variety



... and the migrating Tree Swallows



Spring is the migration time of the Tree Swallow from Cuba, the Bahamas and southern Florida back to the 'mainland' of the US and southern Canada. The condo residents have had a 'bird's eye' view from their balconies of the swallow swarms swooping quickly in the lee side of the wind catching insects.

Handsome aerialists with deep-blue iridescent backs and clean white fronts, they chase after flying insects with acrobatic twists and turns, their steely blue-green feathers flashing in the sunlight. Because they are such skillful fliers Tree Swallows are able to drink and bathe on the wing. Tree Swallows nest in tree cavities and readily take up residence in nest boxes. But, because they are just passing through, they do not take up residence here.

Take 8 minutes to watch in slow motion more on swallows and their lifestyle:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JpCNvMuIIIk>

Committee & Organization Reports

Architectural Review Committee

- Cliff Allen

The Architectural Review Committee (ARC) is fundamental to assessing proposed renovations to Dolphin Cay properties in order to uphold standards of safety, structural integrity, appearance, and conformity.

Condominium and single family home residents must submit a Request for Improvements before a project starts. Forms are obtained from the office.

To expedite the ARC assessment, please provide as much detail as possible on changes, their location, engineering, and brochure specifics about materials. For condominium floor coverings, a sample of the covering and underlayment must be provided to the Office.

The ARC works with management to keep up to date on materials and techniques contractors may use for renovations.

Request forms are updated as needed. **For example, there is a new requirement for waterproofing membranes to be laid down on deck and balcony flooring.**

You can obtain the most current Request Forms from the Office and they can also be seen in the Resident Information Packet **updated online** at www.dolphincay.com.

The ARC and the Management Office do not like to recommend a person, a company or a product, although if we are aware of a problem, we will pass that information to you. The best recommendations come from your neighbors.

Library Report

- Teresa Johnson

As I always report, we do have a small budget to buy books and our patrons clearly enjoy checking them out; this is well documented in the tracking system we maintain. However, when the sign-out procedure is bypassed, books aren't traceable. Those working to maintain the library for everyone's enjoyment recognize that too often books just vanish never to return.

Spring Cleaning is upon us! **So let's take the time to search our shelves and nightstands for any library books in our homes.** Please help us out and drop off anything stamped "Dolphin Cay Library" in the basket marked Returns!



Our shelves have been even better arranged and the organization of the library fine-tuned. We now boast larger History and Biography sections, located next the Narrative Nonfiction.

The Fiction selection is constantly expanding and includes even more from the Bestsellers' List including Pulitzer Prize winners. Check out the latest on the book truck!

Should you have interest in donating a larger number of books than our 5 per day policy allows, please make an appointment with one of the library staff to discuss this to possibly make a home visit. We tailor the accepted donations to specific community interest and this personal approach streamlines the process.

Thank you for using the library!

Social Committee

- Mary Pat Byrne and Karen Hardwick

PAST: We held another successful Shoreline Cleanup on a low tide Saturday morning in February. This is rewarding for the residents who participate, and we're always looking for more volunteers. However, the cleanup goes beyond just the shoreline, since storms and tidal surges bring trash deep into the entire tidal area of Dolphin Cay, along the boardwalk, and to roadside areas where flotsam accumulates. This is an opportunity to get a bit of exercise while keeping our property clean! And in normal times, volunteers are enticed with a coffee and donut social before the labor begins!

UPCOMING: The Casino Concert on the Lake will be held outdoors on Sunday, April 25th from 4 pm - 6 pm featuring the duo band RUKKUS. Bring your favorite beverage, snacks, and a chair. Reminder, per Management and Board instruction, keep CDC social distancing safety guidelines in mind when attending this event.

Dolphin Cay Golfers

- John Kall

Open to all Residents! You're invited to a golf gathering every Thursday at Links at Greenfield Plantation, an 18-hole public course in Bradenton. We have an early start of 8 am and keep in mind it is a good 30 minute drive. Please contact me for more information and ride sharing options at (727) 867-9628.



Health & Fitness Committee

- Raoul Baumel

Residents continue to enjoy our well-equipped fitness center despite significant restrictions. Make sure to sign up on the list on the wall in the hall opposite the main entrance.

Remember, only two-at-a-time in the cardio room and only one in the workout room. And, please, please remember to close the blinds when you leave, per the sign below the clocks in both rooms. Even with these restrictions, our Fitness Center is a great place to help you stay healthy and in shape.

Tennis Committee

- Marc Weintraub

We have three gorgeous Har-Tru tennis courts here at Dolphin Cay for the use of residents together with their guests. We also have a thriving and growing group of fun-loving players of all levels that reside here at Dolphin Cay. As activity at the tennis courts is growing, you can (and should) sign-up for courts on the bulletin board located between courts 2 and 3. You can sign up as early as 5 pm two days before the day you want to play. For example, if you want a court on Saturday morning, sign up on Thursday at 5 pm or any time after.



There is also a list of residents posted on the bulletin board who like to play if you are looking for some tennis buddies. Please contact anyone on that list or just give me a call at (304) 549-7488 and I'll be happy to match you up with someone.

Recently we have started the following activities:

Weekly Clinic for intermediate players with coach Motez Robinson at Dolphin Cay on

Sundays at 4 pm – cost \$20.

Open intermediate **Mixed Doubles** on

Wednesdays at 5:30 pm

Both of these events are open to all residents, and a guest or two (total) for the whole group, but please pre-clear any guests with Marc Weintraub. No sign up required, just show up and play. Hope to see you on the courts soon!

Beach Committee

- Laura Bivona



This volunteer beach committee is helping to maintain the beach in between the contracted machine rakings. If you would like to help out getting a bit of exercise doing so, contact Laura Bivona at LauraBivona56@gmail.com and you will be informed of the scheduled events.

From the Editor's Desk

- Ron Johnson

If you were sent this issue by another resident or had to be told where to go to find it, you need to have your email address added to the Management

mailing list. You will also be informed about critical official announcements from the Office and the Master Board.

At our website www.dolphincay.com, all residents can find the latest version of the Resident Information Packet, current and past the Calendar of Events, and the DCPOA Contractor Rules. No login required. Owners may select Homeowners Login to find your profile, account information, guest registration form, and payment history. You will also see your Association data, agendas, financials, property related and governing documents, minutes, etc.

Special thanks to our eagle-eyed proofreader, Judy Ebert and committee colleague Steve McAuliffe.

Has your creative outlet been stifled over the last year? Here is the opportunity for your creativity to shine! Volunteers are needed to help publish the Fall issue. Please contact me to join the *Currents By The Cay* editorial team.

ronjohnstpete@gmail.com

NEW: SCHEDULE FOR DAILY POOL MAINTENANCE

Due to health and safety regulations, as well as time management for Mike and Tom, each pool is now briefly closed for regular cleaning and chemical maintenance. Because of Dolphin Cay's high standards, we have maintained an excellent record with the Pinellas County Health Department, and we strive to keep it that way.



MONDAY-SATURDAY POOLS CLOSED:

- Beach Pool 8 - 9 am
- Osprey Pool 9 - 10 am
- Casino Pool 9 - 10 am

The Recycling Corner



Are you following these guidelines? Please **READ the poster** mounted above the bins in Condo buildings.

NEVER Publix grocery bags or plastic bags

ONLY loose, dry, clean, eligible items

NOTHING smaller than “a fist”

WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT!

Single Family Home guidelines:

http://www.pinellascounty.org/solidwaste/recycle-guide/pdf/recycle_guide.pdf

Disposal of Oversized Items



St Petersburg Sanitation Special Pickup is a **FREE** service offered for those oversized items that do not fit in the bins intended for garbage collection. **But don't just leave these items outside on your curb or outside of the dumpster room – they will not be collected during the normal pickup.**

The city's Large and Bulk Item Pickup service must be scheduled by calling (727) 893-7398 and providing the **Dolphin Cay ID # 226531**. Specify your address and place your items out just before the scheduled date you are given.

For more detail, first see: https://www.stpete.org/sanitation/residential/special_pickup.php

Currently *Beyond the Cay* Open Air Activities

Boyd Hill Nature Preserve



Nearby Boyd Hill is 245 acres of pristine Florida wilderness. The park is one of the region's least discovered yet most remarkable natural habitats, with its five distinct eco-systems situated in the state's most densely populated county. Miles of trails meander through hardwood hammocks, sand pine scrub, pine flatwoods, willow marsh and the Lake Maggiore shoreline. Informative tram tours are also available.

Boyd Hill also provides a safe, healthy environment for permanently injured, non-releasable birds of prey. These birds are cared for at the preserve as Wild Avian Ambassadors for environmental education programs.

<http://www.stpeteparksrec.org/boydhillpreserve/>

Sawgrass Lake Park



Sawgrass Lake Park, 400 acres in size, allows people to walk through one of the largest maple swamps on the Gulf Coast of Florida. The park's mile-long boardwalk and half-mile dirt trail provide opportunities to see birds, butterflies, plants and animals in their natural settings within the most densely populated county in Florida.

Heron, egrets, ibis, wood storks, alligators and turtles can be seen along the canals and lakes. Thousands of birds migrate through the park during the fall and spring, attracting birders and eco-tourists from all over the country. Spring is the best time to spot mother alligators with their babies, well worth the visit!

http://www.pinellascounty.org/park/16_Sawgrass.htm

Weedon Island Preserve

Weedon Island Preserve is an expansive [3,190-acre natural area](#) located on Tampa Bay. This coastal system, comprised of aquatic and upland ecosystems, is home to numerous species of native plants and animals, an educational facility and a rich cultural history. Indigenous peoples occupied this site for thousands of years.



Weedon Island Preserve combines a wonderful nature experience with fascinating historical significance. The Cultural and Natural History Center features exhibit areas designed by anthropologists, historians and Native Americans. The history goes back thousands of years when early peoples such as the Timucuan and

Manasotas made the island their home. The preserve also includes a four-mile canoe trail and three-mile hiking trail.

Upcoming programs hosted by the Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center can be seen at: <http://www.weedonislandpreserve.org/>

Florida Botanical Gardens, Largo



Visitors to the gardens relish the natural wonder. This destination has pathways leading to areas spotlighting local flora, as well as designated natural areas showcasing some of the rarest natural habitats. Learn how Florida grows. Take a refreshing pause in nature and enjoy a pleasant walk through 150-acres of formal gardens, scenic landscapes and native habitats. The Garden has a number of unique demonstration gardens where visitors can relax and learn.

Free admission. Gardens open daily from 7 am to 5 pm except for the day after Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. Leashed pets welcome. Entrances located at 12520 Ulmerton Road and 12211 Walsingham Road. Tours are excellent! www.flbgfoundation.org

Sunken Gardens, St Petersburg

Sunken Gardens is a botanical paradise in the midst of a bustling city. As St. Pete's oldest living museum, this 100-year-old garden is home to some of the oldest tropical plants in the region.

Unwind as you stroll through meandering paths, lush with exotic plants from around the world. Explore cascading waterfalls, beautiful demonstration gardens, more than 50,000 tropical plants, and flowers. Sunken Gardens provides garden tours, horticultural programs, special events, field trips, weddings, private and corporate rentals. Gardens may be closed due to inclement weather.

Sunken Gardens is different from a typical public park. The plants, trees, animals, and structures are delicate and part of the Sunken Gardens' living collection. Some of these plants and structures are over 100 years old! One of the last remaining Florida roadside attractions! Admission charged.



Leaving Your Condo for an Extended Time?

- **Remove all items from the balconies, decks and courtyards in case of high wind or hurricane.**
- **Turn off the water supply** to reduce the chance of flooding (the primary and hot water valves are located above the water heater).
- **Set your AC temperature to the conditions of your unit.** For example, do you have full sun in the summer, old single pane glass vs new high-impact doors and windows? Those factors will influence the temperature you choose, but **maintaining a humidity level between 50-55% is key to inhibiting mold.**
- Constant air movement is also critical **so keep the ceiling fans on for circulation.**
- Ensure the A/C drain line is clear, pour a capful of vinegar into the line. Have the air conditioning unit serviced to avoid an unexpected shutdown and subsequent mold damage.
- Add water to the dishwasher to keep the pump moist. Run the garbage disposal to ensure it is empty and cover its drain.
- Cover the toilet bowl and tank with plastic wrap to keep water from evaporating and drying out the tank parts.
- Turn off circuit breaker for the electric water heater.
- Disconnect TV, stereo, and computer from the electric outlets or switch off power bars since lightning can cause damage through these connections. Leave the cable box connected for Spectrum updates.
- Close and lock your sliding glass doors. Close your drapes and shutters to prevent sunlight from fading items and to maintain a more constant temperature.
- Leave closet doors and kitchen cabinets open to allow air to circulate.
- **Ensure that a unit key is made accessible to board members via the Association lockbox in case of emergency.**
- **Ensure that the Office has your forwarding address and a current emergency contact name and telephone number.**
- If you leave your car in your assigned parking space, **leave a car key in the Association lockbox or on your kitchen counter.**

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*All the best to Dolphin Cay in 2021
As always, we appreciate the
relationship, value the partnership
and thank you for your support and
business! The Everhart Team*



Disclaimer: The DCPOA does not endorse any vendor or service provider



Currents by the Cay is published by the Public Communications Committee of the Dolphin Cay Property Owner's Association.

Past and current editions of this newsletter may be found at www.DolphinCay.com