

Villadom

Volume 45, Issue 1

The Villas de Golf Monthly Newsletter

November 2023

VIBE Commitee

Carol Jordan

Welcome home snowbirds and new residents. We are looking forward to an exciting season. We have a few events already planned and looking for more ideas & suggestions for the upcoming season.

Welcome Back Happy Hour: Nov 9 starting @ 4:30 at the Clubhouse. If you would like to bring appetizers to share you are more than welcome to. BYOB (No glass)

Spaghetti Dinner Nov 15, Sign up will be posted at the clubhouse. We will need volunteers for setup and cleanup duty.

We will be decorating for Christmas on Saturday Nov 18. Looking for volunteers to help decorate the clubhouse and tiki hut. We will also need helpers for hanging lights on all the buildings. Meeting at the clubhouse at 10:00am. The lights will not be turned on until after Thanksgiving. Anyone with ideas or suggestions for decorating please let me know.

Shuffleboard doesn't start until after the first of year, but it is never too early to learn to play or improve your skills. Sam & Carol will be at the courts on Sundays (weather permitting) at 1pm starting Nov 5 for anyone who would like to join us.

Everyone is welcome, teams or individuals. Hope to see you there!

**Don't forget to turn your clocks
back an hour on November 5th**

General News and Information

From Bonnie Boak

Anyone interested in playing bridge should sign up at the clubhouse. We will play Monday evenings at 7:00 pm, starting November 13th. If there is enough interest.

Also, Mary Reed and I will sponsor Euchre on Wednesday nights at 7:00 pm at the clubhouse starting November 8th. There will be a signup sheet at the clubhouse.

News from the Board Tamara Smigels

Happy Thanksgiving and Welcome Back to Sunny Florida!!!

I hope everyone is well and staying safe!!! The Board looks forward to seeing everyone and building more wonderful memories.

The Milestone Inspection is a structural inspection of a building including roof, load-bearing walls, floor, foundation, fireproofing, plumbing, electrical systems, waterproofing, exterior painting, and windows. The inspection had to be completed by December 2024 and the new law only applies to condominiums association buildings that are 3-stories or higher. The board is happy to report that the Milestone Inspection for buildings 4/5 and 6/7 was completed in August 2023. Based on the visual survey of the accessible structural elements, BillerReinhart does not believe that the buildings exhibit signs of substantial structural deterioration. The great news is that a Milestone Phase 2 Inspection is not required per Senate Bill No. 154 and 2022 supplement to the 7th Edition (2020) Florida Building Code. The inspection has identified areas that need to be addressed to ensure that we maintain the structural integrity of the buildings. There are several projects that Board is obtaining estimates and planning to complete in the next couple of years. We will focus on the highest priority projects, such as the mansards, so they do not impact our insurance. We are gathering estimates for a mansard replacement project.

The Board is collaborating closely with our suppliers and Resource Property Management to keep costs down; yet as you know everything is going up year after year. Resource Property Management was going to increase their costs by 5%; yet due to the strong relationships we have built, they agreed to not increase their costs.

West Coast informed the Board that there will be cost increase of 7% to 10%; yet once again through stellar communication and negotiations, they agreed to only a 3% increase.

The Board has been working on the 2024 budget. We will present the proposed budget at the November 8th, 2023, meeting and final approval at the December Board

Some Local History

Cheryl Korosa

Here is a little history into the area and why we are considered protected from hurricanes. The Island of Tocobaga appears only on a few maps. The island was named after The Tocobaga Indians who lived in the inlets of Old Tampa Bay. Their capital was at a place now known as Safety Harbor. In Philippe Park in Safety Harbor, there is a shell mound that was constructed by the Tocobaga Indians in the late prehistoric or early historic period. The mound is where the Tocobaga prepared their deceased relatives for burial and where the Chief and their close kin would have lived. The Tocobaga society had many rites, beliefs and legends. One of these legends was of an island to the West, in the sea. The island had a small spring that bubbled with a blue liquid which would grant everlasting life. The Tocobaga Indians crossed over from the mainland to the island to fish along the shore. They chose a narrow spot to cross, where the rocks protruding from the water made it easy for them to walk across to the island. The rocks became known as Indian Rocks. Tocobaga Indians visited Indian Rocks as early

See History on page 3

Men's Golf League

Jim Schauf

Our golf league will officially begin November 16. I have reserved 4 Tee times on 11/2 if anyone wants to get started warming up. Someone will probably have to take care of subsequent Thursdays until the 16th. I will get a signup sheet posted in the pool room about a week ahead for the league. You can also notify me if you want to play. 608-633-0711. We are planning to have the first Guys and Dolls on December 16th. We are wondering if there is enough interest to continue this event. Send comments and opinions to Jim or Reenie?

Laura



Board

meeting.

The pool received a new sump pump, and the club house has a new air conditioner. There were ninety-eight palm trees trimmed, and removal of some palm trees due to the intrusion to the both the roof and buildings.

Four Point Contracting worked on fascia repairs on several buildings.

Thank you for all the volunteers that helped prepare for the Milestone Inspection. We all need to continue to maintain our condominium both inside and outside, which includes painting around the windows/trim and window replacement if necessary.

Volunteers helped get ready for hurricane Idalia and cleaned up afterwards. Thank you to all that helped!

Villas Profiles

Marge Fischer

Laura Van Wingerden

Sitting still has not been part of Laura's first year of retirement. The most significant event of the year was her trip to Israel. Seeing that relationship with Jesus is her daily endeavor, she found walking the earth where He trod an enriching experience. Her deep convictions of helping people, searching for peace, being more engaging, striving to be more selfless were strengthened as she walked the paths of His life. "Jesus is my savior, my hope, my peace and I cannot imagine my life without Him," summarized her deepest convictions. Laura's life choices started long before retirement. While in Michigan she spent many years working for an adoption agency. This led to the adoption of her daughter. Other than the paperwork, improving the lives of mothers and babies was a rewarding career. It was at this time that Laura found Florida. She has two sisters living in Largo. The rest of the family still live in Michigan. When she came south she began work as a Social Worker at Morton Plant Hospital. Through her work and her church, she has many friends and a great support system. Laura and friends can be found at the beach, having lunch, or going to the movies. She is also active on a leadership team. She leads bible studies and helps with drama skits for the children at her church.

Villas de Golf is easy for her to call home because of the beautiful well-kept grounds, the lanai and the pool, the view from her patio but especially because it allows her to be debt free.

Laura has an upbeat attitude for life, is fun, gentle and loving. She laughs a lot and finds humor in the common things of life. Laura describes herself as strong, authentic, firm as well as fun loving and able to laugh with others.

Turning the Page

When my wife Judy and I moved to the Villas in 2004 we were considered the new people on the block, the young ones. With my background in building and construction I got involved with the, what is now known as the building and grounds committee, working on maintenance and odd jobs around the Villas. During those early years, I learned from the Elders who had been here for many years in particular Skip Parminter. I was soon recruited to join the Board of Directors by David Stock who took over as President from Barb Ludden.

Because no one wanted to be Treasurer I volunteered to take it over from Walter Carow as he left the Board. I am so glad that Bonnie Boak is now our treasurer. As we approach the Budget for this year I remember that our total insurance bill back then was some \$35,000. Our present bill is some \$500,000 and will probably continue to rise. I have been on the Board for 16 plus years, holding every officer position including 7 years as President. So now it is time to turn over the reins to the “younger” people coming to the Villas. I will officially leave the Board at the end of the December Owners meeting. It has been a wonderful experience and I have enjoyed being able to serve all of us here at the Villas. I wish all present and future Board members the best for their time on the Board. Judy and I are not planning on going anywhere soon so you will still need to put up with us.

Thanks,
Bob Shafer

Building & Grounds

Kevin Duross

Hi all, welcome back for another season. This summer was extremely hot down here, so we didn't do any major projects. We did get quite a few jobs done however, including;

- Removing 10 palm trees because of disease.
- Repairing the screening on the lanai in Bldg.5 which looks great.
- We repaired a few broken windows
- The Air Conditioner in the Clubhouse was replaced.
- We worked hard on getting the buildings ready for the Milestone inspection, and it paid off as we passed the inspections in the 3 story buildings.

.Looking forward to seeing our northern friends soon.

The VILLADOM is produced monthly from November to April of each season, Tom King is editor and publisher and any information or articles for publication should be given to him or sent to:

tomking46@gmail.com

Board Members and Officers are:

- President..... Tamara Smigels
- Vice President..... Kent Ward
- Secretary..... Debbie Tipton
- Treasurer..... Bonnie Boak
- Director..... Bob Shafer
- Director..... Kevin Duross
- Director..... Sam Kuntz

History

as the 1500s. There was a medicine man who used the local waters to heal his very ill Native American Indian Chief Chic-a-Si. The healing water is said to have come from the natural sulfur springs, believed to have been located in Kolb Park. After the miraculous healing, the Indians returned to the site on a pilgrimage each year to fish and drink the water. A number of springs undoubtedly existed in the area when the first settlers arrived. Of the several that have been identified, only one that is located on private property, is a free-flowing surface water source today. The others became known as nuisances and were capped during the development era when land became regarded as more valuable than water. The famous Kolb Park spring now lies buried in the ball diamond beneath second base. A monument marks the location. Another documented spring exists on the property of the now Sunshine Cozy Cottages on Gulf Boulevard just north of Walsingham Avenue. The spring was capped due to its sulfurous odor. The largest spring in the Indian Rocks area, and the only one known to still flow in its natural state, is located on private property on Pine Drive in what is now part of Largo. The spring, called Indian Spring, is the centerpiece of a beautiful garden. The spring empties approximately 600,000 gallons of water a day into the Intracoastal Waterway. Another spring is said to be located off of Spring Street. There is a brook, perhaps spring-fed, that flows through the area into the Intracoastal. Most springs were capped or diverted as development progressed. Many were no doubt buried to eliminate their “stinky” smell caused by the sulfur content. Others were filled in to create more valuable land for subdivisions during the real estate boom. As Florida progresses and we find water shortages becoming more common and sources of pure fresh water increasingly rare, the interest in springs has been rekindled and their value is rising.

<<<<<< WEEKLY EVENTS >>>>>>

Monday- Tai Chi 10:30, Bridge 7:00

Tuesday - Water Exercises 9:30

Wednesday- Tai Chi 10:30, Poker 6:30, Euchre 7:00

Thursday- Men's Golf, Water Exercises 9:30,
Bingo 7:00

Friday - Water Exercises 9:30

Saturday – Tai Chi 10:30

Villas de Golf November 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4 Monthly Breakfast 9:30
5 Clocks fall back Shuffle Bd practice starts	6 Hard Rock Casino Tampa Volunteer hours 9-11	7 Election Day 	8 Board Mtg 3pm Eucher 7 PM	9 Happy Hour 4:30 BYOB	10	11 Heritage Village Artisan Festival
12	13 Volunteer hours 9-11 Bridge Starts 7 PM	14	15 Spaghetti Dinner	16 Men's Golf Begins	17	18 Christmas Decorating 10 AM
19	20 Volunteer hours 9-11	21	22	23 Thanksgiving 	24	25
26	27 Volunteer hours 9-11	28	29	30	1	2