

Villadom

Volume 45, Issue 3

The Villas de Golf Monthly Newsletter

January 2024

VIBE

Carol Jordan

Wishing everyone a Happy New Year .

We are looking for individuals to organize events, activities and fundraisers for the upcoming season. Please contact me with your plans and I will present them to the board for approval.

We are looking for individuals or buildings to prepare breakfast for March and April. Sign up at the clubhouse.

We need volunteers to help take down the Christmas decorations on January 6th after the monthly breakfast.

Call Carol 260-710-1752

Community Puzzle 

Need to fill some time? We have setup a puzzle in the clubhouse. Stop by and add a few pieces.

Shuffleboard will be starting on Wednesday January 24. We are looking for both teams and individuals. We also will need subs. We are hoping to have 3 flights this year, 9 AM, 10:30 and 12:30. \$7.00 per person.

We will be having sign up at the monthly breakfast on January 6. If you can't make it on the 6th please give me a call.

Sam and Carol will be at the courts on Sunday 12/31 & 1/7 at 1pm. (Weather permitting) for anyone who would like to join them. Beginners are encouraged to join.

News from the Board

Tamara Smigels

Happy New Year!!! I wish everyone Health and Happiness in 2024!!!

I want to thank all the volunteers who participated in various projects over this past year!!! The volunteers are important and appreciated!!! It has been amazing to see all the TEAMWORK!!!

In the wake of the tragic 2021 building collapse in Surfside, state lawmakers took swift action to strengthen condominium safety regulations. The result was the amendment to Florida's Mandatory Milestone Inspection requirements for condominium associations.

The state requires condominium buildings three stories or taller to have structural inspections called "Milestone Inspections" once they have reach 30 years of age and every 10 years after that. The Milestone Inspection must be completed by December 31, 2024. The board is happy to report that the Milestone Inspection for buildings 4/5 and 6/7 was completed and passed in August 2023. The inspection has identified areas that need to be addressed to ensure we maintain the structural integrity of the buildings. We will be planning these projects in the near future.

The 2023 Florida Legislative session made changes to the Senate Bill 4D which brought sweeping changes to how condominiums that are three stories or taller must fund their reserves. The Structural Integrity Reserve Studies (SIRS) is a crucial element in ensuring the safety and long-term maintenance of condominium buildings across the state. The SIRS must be performed for each building every 10 years, and the first one must be completed by December, 31, 2024. The board has selected Reserve Advisors, and will work closely with their team to complete the SIRS.

The SIRS means a study of the reserve funds required for future major repairs and replacement of condominium property.

Happy New Year!

Each evening of the year we close out the day and prepare for a good night's sleep. The transition, usually of no special significance, from 11:59 pm to 12:00 am is effortless. Perhaps before we slip into sleep, we may recall the good moments of the day; at other times, phew I wish I had handled that differently. It's the rhythm of life. And then along comes December 31st, New Year's Eve. Just one single strike of the clock and it will be a New Year! It's not the usual tick of the clock, it's a New Year! Celebrate! Clean the Slate, an opportunity for Resolutions. What a wonderful time; an opportunity for a fresh start as we welcome the New Year and anticipate our next 365-day journey.

How Do We Celebrate?

Good-luck rituals in celebration is a universal trait. The Dutch, believe the circle is a symbol of success, eat donuts. Greeks bake special Vasasilopitta cake with a coin inside bestowing luck on whoever finds it. Fireworks started in China to chase off evil spirits. The Japanese hold "forget the year parties" to bid farewell to problems. In New York, the ball dropping at midnight goes back to a time when watches were only owned by the very rich and signaled to crowds that gathered that it was a New Year.

We celebrate life each year, we make resolution to improve. Do we keep our resolutions, for the most part 88% do not; but isn't it fun and a symbol of our optimism to consider the future in a positive way.

Bernadette Moriarty

Fun Activities

We, the Water Aerobics girls (and guys?) invite you to join us for stretches, (OH! I have a muscle there!) to jump, (not very high) and run in place.(in the water at the pool).

We do dance steps frontwards and backwards, we bench press water up and down. After jogging in a circle, the current is strong when we turn around and go the other way.

We hang onto the side of the pool to do crunches and smile as we huff and puff. The instructor has a hic-up at the same time, every time.

We have fun, enjoy the fresh air, meet new people, and feel great afterwards.

Come join the uncoordinated synchronized swimmers on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 9:30 am.

Garden Club

Bonnie Boak

There will be a signup sheet on the bulletin board outside the clubhouse for anyone that wants to help in the maintenance of the annuals.

Eucher

There will be a signup sheet at the clubhouse for those who would like to play on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

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



Villas Profiles

Because the last mystery profile was so much fun, the first profile of 2024 will again be a mystery person. This time I'll give you a hint. (It's a man). I will also have his name somewhere in the Villadom. This is going to be a memoir.

In about 1976, our mystery person remembers coming to Villas de Golf to visit his grandparents. He was about 10 years old. For him it was always memorable. He remembers watching the steam rise from the pool like a fog. He remembers it was cold and seeing the ladies at the pool for a party in their fur coats. As a pre-teen watching the dancing and music around the pool until midnight was exciting and magical. He remembers how fancy everyone looked, even the men in their formal attire. His grandpa had barber skills so once a month he would put up his barber pole (gifted to him by the male resident of Villas de Golf) outside the club house and would cut the men's hair. Besides the Christmas visits, August was often the vacation month to come to Florida. His parents figured that with the local kids still in school, the "snowbirds" not yet arrived, the pool could be their playground without bothering anyone. Our mystery man remembers the "baby pool" at the north end of the pool deck. The water was only about 2 feet deep and was always very warm. There is a picture of our mystery man as a young boy standing by the King Palm outside building 3. The palm tree was only as tall as he was. The live oaks surrounding the Social Center were only as tall as the hedges. "Almost 60 years later, Villas de Golf is more beautiful than it was when I thought it was magical," he said.

As with many 2nd and 3rd generation residents, when his mom took over the condo, Villas de Golf became his second home. 8 years ago, his mom sold her home up north and became a permanent resident. Our mystery man also came to Florida to be near her and see to her needs and comfort. Even though he was working full time and living off campus, he came daily to spend time with her, often at the pool. Finally he was old enough to purchase his own condo. At age 56, he is the proud owner of a condo with a great view, the best neighbors, and all surrounded by a beautiful environment.

Memories have a way of rushing back when a person has to empty his grandparent's / mother's condo and put it up for sale. Sadness of the task becomes mixed with happiness of the memories. It is time to make new memories. I think "The Pool" will be an important part to these new memories.

Guys and Dolls

Reenie Schauf

Guys and Dolls golf scramble will be on Saturday, January 13th. Golfers of all abilities are encouraged to join in this Villas de Golf event. The course is in great shape, it's short, and it's in our backyard. Look for the signup sheet on the club house board. Pizza is planned for dinner. Come and join us. Please bring your own beverages. Sign up at the clubhouse or call Reenie at (608) 633-0712. Hope you'll join us.

Men's Golf League

Jim Schauf

The golf league participation has been a little slim the last couple weeks due to the holidays. Some people had to go back for a quick reminder of why we come here for winter. Last week's winner was Dale Barnhart with a net score of 59. He's pretty new, so I'm guessing the handicap system hasn't caught up to him yet. Jeff Spriegel and Jim Schauf tied at 61. We will have our first scramble on January 18th.



Voices of the Community OP/ED

Having recently received notice for the election of board members, caused me to think about **OUR** board. I am of the opinion that what we have is pretty darn good. These folks are selfless volunteers who donate their time and efforts protecting our shared community (both physical and financial). Through the daily operations of the community, numerous things happen that these people are taking care of, most often, without notice by us. Whether it is a complaint or request by a resident, maintenance of the shared space, determining where, how and why monies are spent, giving notices, conducting meetings, and events, of this multi-million-dollar operation.

Yes, I know they occasionally give you news you do not want to hear, (more money required for this, that and whatever), but realize they hate delivering it (as fellow residents, they have the same cost as you). Just like anything else, the long-term success of the community requires investments: the bylaws, insurance considerations and the State of Florida require these expenditures, they are not elective. An honest evaluation of our board reveals a well-functioning credible operation, perhaps it should be recognized as such.

Anonymous

Buildings and Grounds

Kevin Duross

Hey folks, welcome to the New Year. It has been a chilly start to the season. Starting on Monday 1/8/24, our volunteer Mondays will be focused on sanding and painting the railings including the pool fencing. We will start on Building 1 and get to as many as possible while our snowbirds are here to help. This is a project we are able to do ourselves. It would be very expensive to hire painters. Please give a couple hours every Monday to help out. Thank you in advance.

Board from page 1

The major structural items consist of the following:

1. Roof
2. Structure, including load-bearing walls and other primary structural members
3. Fireproofing and fire protection systems
4. Plumbing
5. Electrical systems
6. Waterproofing and exterior painting
7. Window and exterior doors
8. Any other item that has a deferred maintenance expense or replacement cost that exceeds \$10,000.00

There is an opportunity to use a special assessment for the eight structural items. The project(s) would be funded by a special assessment, and not through increased monthly HOA fees. If we do not use a special assessment for the major projects, the funds would come directly from the monthly HOA fees which would increase dramatically. The Board is trying to do everything we can to keep the HOA fees down. The goal is to pay for the project with a special assessment and not impact the monthly HOA fees.

Our insurance provider has requirements for both the mansards and electrical equipment; therefore the Board will focus on these two projects so we can maintain our current insurance provider.

The Board is working hard to do the right thing for our community and most importantly to ensure we maintain the structural integrity of our buildings for everyone's safety.

The Board appreciates all your support!

Shuffle Board

The season is approaching. Please sign-up in the Clubhouse on January 6th

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

Mon - Tai Chi 10:00, Bridge 7:00

Tues - Water Exercises 9:30,

Wed - Chair Yoga 10:00, Poker 6:30, Euchre 7:00

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

Fri - Water Exercises 9:30

Sat - Tai Chi 10:00

Villas de Golf January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 Casual Shuffleboard 1 PM New Years Eve	1 New Years Day	2	3 Euchre 7 pm	4	5	6 Monthly Breakfast 9 AM Shuffleboard Signup
7 Casual Shuffleboard 1 PM	8 Volunteer Day 9 AM Bridge 7 pm	9 Special Members Meeting 7 pm	10 Euchre 7 pm	11 Bingo 7 pm	12	13 Guys and Dolls
14	15 Volunteer Day 9 AM Bridge 7 pm	16 Captain's Cookout 12 PM	17 Euchre 7 pm	18 Men's Golf Scramble Bingo 7 pm	19	20
21	22 Volunteer Day 9 AM Bridge 7 pm	23	24 Shuffleboard Starts Euchre 7 pm	25 Bingo 7 pm	26 Men's Stag	27
28	29 Volunteer Day 9 AM Bridge 7 pm	30	31 Shuffleboard Euchre 7 pm		The Mystery Person →	James Horton 