



The Fountain

Cape Haze Community Newsletter

Volume 8, Issue 1

January 2004

Presidents Column A Community of Volunteers

Those of us at the general meeting of the CHPOA membership this past Saturday (January 17th) will remember Mike Bonakoske, the Englewood Fire Chief. Mike presented us with an overview of his district's operation and an argument in favor of the proposed mill levy increase on the March ballot.

It isn't Mike's presentation that makes me mention him here. It's something he said later, after everyone had left and I was helping Mike break down his equipment and carry it to his car.

Mike told me that a large part of his job involved meeting with community groups such as ours. He jokingly said he spends a good deal of time talking to the "animal clubs" (the Elks, the Moose, the Lions...).

He then went on to compliment us. Mike sat through our whole meeting, and he said that he observed within CHPOA a community spirit and sense of volunteerism that he rarely sees

elsewhere. He thinks we're unique in our willingness to work together for our common benefit.

I think he's right. And I notice a very positive trend in our willingness to help. More hands are being raised. Instead of asking a relative few to carry most of the load, more and more people are coming forward and offering to do what they can. That's a wonderfully positive sign that bodes well for the health and stability of our community.

The volunteers of this community make all our lives better, in large and small ways alike, on a daily basis. As we go about our busy lives, we might not notice all those contributions, but we would most surely notice them if they were missing. My grandfather used to say that "many people enjoy the shade of the oak, but few bother to rake its leaves". I, for one, am heartened to see so many of my neighbors not content to simply rest in the shade.

Homer Hoe
CHPOA President

New CHPOA Board Members

Don Landmann, Pam Neer, and Paul Wunsch were unanimously elected to three year terms expiring in 2007.

Marty Rosen was elected by the Board to complete a vacant position expiring in 2006.

Congratulations on your election, we appreciate your commitment and offer you our gratitude and support.

Don Landmann has graciously offered to manage CAM. As a fulltime resident of Cape Haze, Don

plans maintenance activities in the summer as well as during "season".

2004 Board Officers are:

Homer Hoe	President
Don Landmann	Vice President
Pat Bricault	Treasurer
Bill Dahms	Secretary

These neighbors donate countless hours to help maintain and improve Cape Haze and all deserve special recognition and admiration.

We thank all volunteers for their commitment.

Who Knew...?

1. Men are six times more likely to be struck by lightning than women.
2. Every day, more money is printed for the game of Monopoly than for the US Treasury.
3. In Scotland, a new game was invented and entitled Gentlemen Only-Ladies Forbidden and thus the word GOLF entered into the English language.
4. The most popular boat name requested by boat owners is - Obsession.
5. An airline saved \$40,000 by eliminating one olive from each salad served in first-class.
6. If you spell out numbers, how far do you have to go to find the letter "A"? One thousand.



Red Dot Emergency Information Program

You're at home when illness or an accident occurs and you CALL 911. The Firefighters and Paramedics arrive and begin medical care for you. They also start asking you and/or your family members what seems to be a tremendous amount of questions. (What is your Medical History? What Medications do you take? How much? When? Do you have any Allergies?)

Emergency workers need this important information in order to treat you as quickly and effectively as possible. But can you remember everything during an emergency? What can you do?

Charlotte County Fire & EMS and Englewood Fire Department recognize this problem and that's why the Red Dot Program was created. This information is extremely helpful in medical emergencies and also when a call for assistance is made to law enforcement agencies.

This quick and easy Red Dot Medical Information Form is filled out before an emergency occurs. The top page of the form is then placed in a magnetic

pouch on the front of your refrigerator. The second page is mailed to 911 Dispatch for data entry.

At the time of an emergency, responders are alerted to this important information even before they arrive on the scene.

A 2-inch self-adhesive Reflective RED DOT is placed on your entry door, just above the door knob. The Red Dot and dispatchers will alert emergency workers that the Red Dot Medical Information Sheet is in the home on the front of the refrigerator.

The information sheet is transported with you to the hospital and copies are provided for the emergency room staff as well.

Englewood Community Hospital participates in this program and there is no charge for the Red Dot package.

Call or pick up your free Red Dot package at the Rotonda Fire Station, 403 Boundary Blvd. (697-6644) or the Englewood Headquarters, 599 S. Indiana Ave. (474-3311).

Englewood Fire Chief Visits Cape Haze

Chief Mike Bonakoske made a presentation at the January CHPOA meeting explaining an upcoming ballot question. The Englewood Area Fire Control District Board of Commissioners have placed the following referendum question on the March 9, 2004 ballot.

FIRE/RESCUE IMPROVEMENTS FOR ENGLEWOOD AREA FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

“Shall the Englewood Area Fire Control District levy a one-half mill ad valorem tax for fiscal year 2004/2005 as authorized by Chapter 191, Florida Statutes, the Independent Special Fire Control Districts Act, in order to increase the level of life, safety and property protection for the citizens of the District and that the millage rate will not be more than one mill thereafter?”

Yes (For) _____

No (Against) _____

Chief Bonakoske explained the millage would fund the following improvements to the fire department within five years:

- Increased training and equipment to handle bio-terrorism and hazardous material incidents
- Significantly reduce response times
- Double the number of firefighters on duty
- Build and staff three additional fire stations
- Improve ISO rating from 5/9 to 4 (Reduce fire insurance rates)

A commonly asked question is “what will it cost me?”.

On a home assessed at \$100,000 with a \$25,000 Homestead Property Tax Exemption, a 1/2 mil would cost an additional \$37.50 per year.

For additional information, please check the Englewood Fire District website at www.englewood-fire.com or call their business office (474-3311) Monday through Friday.

Become informed on this issue and be sure to vote on March 9.

Stump Pass – Let’s Not Panic!

Stump Pass is not half closed already, even though a sandbar has formed on the south, inside of the pass. Changes in the recently dredged Pass are either a natural phenomenon or a sure sign that a lot of money was wasted on dredging – depends on who you talk to.

Local mariners say:

1. Years ago, when Stump Pass ran straight out, there was a lake on the south side and a sandy beach in the same place this sandbar is forming.

2. This is a natural deposit of sand brought on by the “flushing” of Lemon Bay.

3. Up and down the southwest coast of Florida all sandbars form on the southwest corners of the outlets.

Fishermen say the catches are better and that Lemon Bay is being revitalized by better flow with the Gulf. Beach-goers are enjoying the protected beach area. Navigation has not been effected by the changes.

Sounds good so far, so don’t panic, just relax and enjoy it!

Cape Haze Women's Club

Report

We had a wonderful attendance at the Welcome Back party in November. The fact that it was held nearly a month later than in recent years may have helped, but we like to think our neighborhood is becoming a more cohesive, caring community, too.

Thanks to all the women and men who worked to make our Tag Sale a success. Donations were good quality and we made about \$700 on the event. Some of the money was used to buy shelving for the men's room closet to increase our storage space. Thank you Bob Glau, Don Landmann and Shell Rieley for a job well done!

As promised, the Yankee Swap at the December Women's Club meeting was a "blast". Thirty-one women attended and the swapping was heated. Several coveted gifts changed hands many times. Thanks to those who brought holiday cookies to tempt us all.

Our Holiday Dinner Dance was another event that attracted a large crowd. We held it at the Rotonda Hills Club, and feedback has been very favorable concerning the proximity of site. The meal received mixed reviews, some of which was probably due to the kitchen having just started up under new management. Thanks to the efforts of the door prize seekers, a lot of attendees went home with a goody. Thanks, ladies!

New Year's Day brunch wasn't as well attended as in previous years. Was it a gala party the night before?! Those who did attend attest to good food and company. Don and Claire Landmann and Shell Rieley had rebuilt our heavy, rolling bar in advance of this event. A new coat of paint and it'll be great for years to come.

Our trip to learn the history of Punta Gorda drew 18 members. We enjoyed one-hour tours of three different sites and ended up at a fourth for lunch. Our guide was very knowledgeable and enthusiastic. She also provides a historic tour of Arcadia, and we just might schedule that trip for next year. Antiques, anyone?

Penny Rieley, President
697-9811

Up-Coming Events

(look for flyers in the mail for details on each event)

Wine Tasting – Saturday, February 20, 6:00 pm, at the Clubhouse.

We'll have a California vintner teach us what to look for when enjoying a glass of wine. Bring an hors d'oeuvre to share after the tasting and supper won't be necessary when you get home. There will be a fee to cover the cost of the wines we taste.

Emergency Preparedness – Monday, March 15, 9:30 am, at the Clubhouse.

This is a regular club meeting, at which a speaker will give us information about preparing for such events as hurricanes, fires, community disasters, etc. This is information we all should have at hand. We'll also be nominating officers for next year.

Spring Fling – Saturday, March 20, 6:00 pm, at the Clubhouse.

We've got the band, we'll serve that fabulous roast beef from Lock and Key Restaurant and we'll have you bring a potluck dish to complete the meal. After dinner there'll be dancing. There will be a charge to cover the band and beef.

Potluck Luncheon & Election/Installation of Officers – Monday, April 12, 11:30 am at the Clubhouse.

Bring a potluck dish; we'll add a glass of wine at this last regular meeting of the year.

Boat Rendezvous – Wednesday, April 28, 10:00 am.

The destination is to be determined, but you'll get an announcement closer to the date. Are people up for a trip to Venice or, even, Sarasota? Sandy Johnson and Jean Libby are the decision-makers this year. Give them a call if you've got a great place you'd love us to visit.

Penny Rieley, President
697-9811

Up-Coming Events

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| February 9 | CHPOA Board Meeting
9:00 AM—Clubhouse |
| February 20 | Wine Tasting
6:00 PM—Clubhouse |
| March 8 | CHPOA Board Meeting
9:00 AM—Clubhouse |
| March 15 | Women's Club Meeting
Emergency Preparedness
9:30 AM—Clubhouse |
| March 20 | Spring Fling
6:00 PM—Clubhouse |



Roadside Clean-up Crew

Sitting: Pat Bricault, Julie Hoe, Claire Landmann, Martie Stackowiak, Jan Hayes

Middle: Marilyn Friedenber, Linda Wilhelm, Barbara Lynch, Janet Baker, Phyllis Schofield

Back: Arlene Black, Zita Bartoletta, Penny Rieley, Pam Neer, Hilary Dahms

Behind the camera: Debbie Armitage

Outgoing Board Members

Sandy Johnson and Liz Vaughn have completed their terms on the CHPOA Board. Both have served our Community for many years and through some difficult times.

Bob Glau completed his Board term a few years ago, but continued managing the CAM (Common Area Maintenance) effort. Even though Bob is now passing that responsibility along to Don Landmann, we know Bob will continue to be an active participant in Community affairs.

(Notice the new curbing and attractive rock in the planting beds – especially at our entrances – it's great!)

We are truly grateful for all the years these neighbors and the many, many other volunteers, have donated their time and efforts on our behalf.

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is published January, March, May, and November.

All articles and letters received by deadline will be considered for publication.

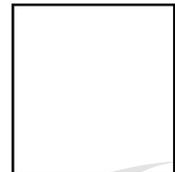
Submissions should be Microsoft Word files attached to e-mail and forwarded to NancyBue@aol.com.

Hard copy submissions will also be considered.

**March Deadline is
March 7, 2004**

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Cape Haze Property Owners Association
P. O. Box 690 Placida, FL 33946



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The Fountain is produced by Nancy Buechler Cape Haze Florida