



The Fountain

Cape Haze Community Newsletter

Volume 10, Issue 1

January 2006

CHPOA President's Column - Salute to Volunteers

I'd like to use this letter to recognize and thank all our residents who have worked so hard, often without the recognition they deserve, in our quest to make Cape Haze a better place to live.

As I've indicated in the past, nothing happens here without it being done by a volunteer. Even many activities which are performed by the state or the county are the result of initiatives set forth by volunteers in our Community.

While time and space don't permit me to mention everyone who has stepped up to help our Community, I'd like to cite a few who've made a difference.

Kurt Schramm has just "retired" after eight years of service as our representative to the Municipal Services Benefit Unit (MSBU). As I've worked with Kurt in the past months in the transition, it was remarkable to see how much time and care he has put into this job representing Cape Haze. He's taken advantage of his engineering background to make the county work for us. He will be sorely missed in this role.

Peter Hayes got the pool up and running again in a safe and cost effective manner, and has now taken on the task of rebuilding the Cape Haze Community Bulletin Board. Karen Irvine, with the help of Ginger Bergeron and Mary Kupersmith, spearheaded the drive to launch the Cape Haze merchandise program.

Gil Bricault found time between being Treasurer of our association and a budding professional musician to lead the committee to rebuild the fountain. Next, he'll be turning his talents to improving the entryway signage.

Pam Neer and Eva Furner have been working diligently on plans to re-do our Clubhouse.

Clare Landmann, our version of the 'Energizer Bunny', oversees the mowing program and is always the first to help get things done around the Community. In the same vein, Bob Glau worked for five years as our Common Area Maintenance guru. He and Joyce could often be found with tools in hand digging, planting or repairing.

All the administration of CHPOA is done by volunteers. Bill Snyder is our go-to guy with anything having to do with our very extensive and well-run database. I always marvel at how well this function is handled as well as how much care Bill puts into this job.

Nancy Buechler, our editor of the *Fountain*, gives generously of her time and talent in getting this publication out. In this same context, I must express my appreciation to Homer Hoe for being the Webmaster of our internet site. It's very good. Check it out at www.capehaze.org.

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President's Letter—Salute to Volunteers - Continued from Page 1

Our social life is the purview of the volunteers of the Cape Haze Women's Club. We come to the parties and enjoy ourselves, but forget that a few ladies of the Club plan, schedule, and execute all our social events and clean up afterward. The very successful (and impromptu) New Years Eve Party and New Years Brunch are great examples of this.

What has characterized the activities has been the caring, the initiative, and the follow-through that all of our Community volunteers have shown. They do it without compensation and often without even reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses.

So, to all chairpersons, committee members, CHPOA board members and CHPOA supporters, I give my sincerest thanks. The Community and I do truly value your contributions. In addition, I urge everyone to come out, get involved and don't be afraid to volunteer. It can sometimes be a bit of a challenge, but at the end of the day, we can take great satisfaction in knowing that our efforts have helped to preserve the unique character of the special Community we enjoy today.

I close with best wishes to all for a great 2006.

On behalf of your Board of Directors, I am

Respectfully,

Bill Dahms
CHPOA President

Editor's note: On behalf of the Cape Haze Community, I'd like to add two very special volunteers who devote countless hours on our behalf. Thank you Bill and Hilary Dahms! Nothing could get done without your leadership and dedication.



Cape Haze Logo Merchandise

Don't forget! Cape Haze logo merchandise can be ordered through Ginger Bergeron 828-0459 and Mary Kupersmith 698-0595.

Great looking, high quality hats, golf shirts, T-shirts, sweatshirts, sweatpants and tote bags are available. Samples will be on display and order forms will be at the CHPOA Annual

Meeting, Saturday, January 21st and at the Super Bowl party Sunday, February 5th.

We thank all who submitted art work for our logo. There were some fabulous entries and the final decision was difficult. A composite entry appropriate for embroidery was selected.



Cape Haze on the Internet

www.capehaze.org

Check it out!



Sanitary Sewers: Is it Time?

One of the items to be discussed at the annual meeting on Saturday January 21, will be whether or not it is now time for Cape Haze to petition the county to install sanitary sewers in our Community. It appears that nothing (at the present time) will happen unless and until we ask for it.

The time may have come for us to give serious consideration to this issue.

There are numerous pros and cons on this matter.

The biggest negative is the cost per household for necessary prep work and construction. These are costs which each of us will pay no matter how we slice it. By waiting, we only delay or defer these costs.

On the other hand as our population grows the ecological and hygiene issues will become more

significant. Anecdotally we've heard (and also have received other sensory input) of leakage into the waterways surrounding our Community. This is clearly both highly unsanitary and dangerous to our sensitive ecology.

Since we live in a waterfront community it's hard to accept that we should allow this kind of pollution to continue to occur.

Further, as we experience the development around us, it may be in our best interests to make sure we are able to hook up to a central system now rather than have to wait.

Let us know what you think.

Bill Dahms
President
CHPOA Board of Directors

Signs and County Codes

At the request of the CHOPA board of directors, board member Paul Wunsch was asked to check into the county codes that apply to placement of signs, mainly real estate signs, placed along our roadways.

A call to the county and a conversation with code enforcement department resulted in the following general statement. "Signs are not allowed on any county property including roadway easements. Signs should only be placed on one's privately owned property."

The specific county code is Sec 3-9-95 Signs

"K.
Prohibited Signs, It shall be unlawful for any person to construct, maintain or permit...
(14)
Any sign except those specifically exempted herein, located upon any public property or right-of-way. The zoning official or his designated representative may at any time summarily remove any such sign. Any sign so removed shall be held by the zoning department for a minimum period of five (5) days.

At any time during the five-day holding period the owner of the sign may reclaim the sign after having paid a removal and storage fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00). If, after the fifth day, the sign has not been claimed and the removal and storage fee paid, the sign may be destroyed. "

As a general rule, roadway easements in Cape Haze are, 100 feet for S.R. 775 (Placida Road) and 50 feet for roads within Cape Haze. Most roads in Cape Haze are approximately 20 feet wide. Doing the arithmetic county property extends about 15 feet from the end of the roadway.

The county said one day signs such as garage sales and open houses, although not permitted, are not challenged as long as they are removed by the next day.

A call was placed recently to several realtors who had signs along Placida Road. They were very cooperative and removed the signs.

Paul Wunsch
CHPOA Board of Directors

Not As Safe As We Thought

Sadly, we have to report a major waterfront burglary of a home on Capstan Cut.

Earlier this month thieves stole items conservatively valued at over \$5,000 from boats and docks of a home on the canal. Items stolen include outboard and trolling motors, electronics, propellers, fishing gear and anchors.

At this point it is not known exactly how the thieves gained access. It is most likely that they traveled by boat. Accordingly we are urging all Cape Haze

residents, whether they are on the water or not, to exercise the necessary vigilance and care so as not to become the next victims.

Suggestions include not leaving boat keys in your boat; securing lifts and lockers; removing expensive electronics and other items.

Of course, we should all be vigilant and report any persons who do not seem to belong and any suspicious behavior to the homeowner and/or the police.

Home Wireless Network Users — Be Careful!

Several weeks ago we (the Buechlers) installed a wireless home computer network. To optimize our signal distribution, the installer conducted a survey of our property and detected no fewer than five other home wireless networks in our immediate vicinity. Five! (Man, were we behind!)

What caught our attention, however, was the lack of security attached to these networks. If memory serves, only one is protected with some form of encryption.

The rest have absolutely no protection at all, are easily compromised, and are accessible from our house.

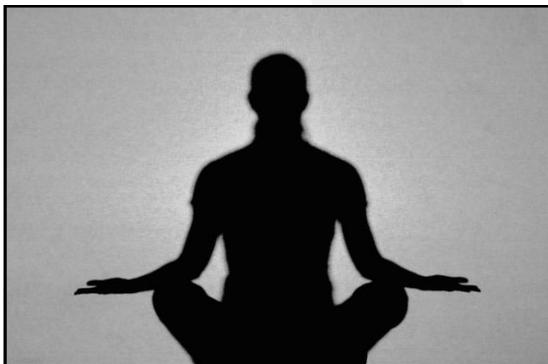
With inexpensive Radio Shack equipment, we could log into these networks any time; and if we

can do it, so can the savvy hacker cruising the streets with a web sniffer.

There is a solution. Wireless encryption, while not a perfect barrier to the determined street hacker, makes it a great deal more difficult to break into a network. And wireless encryption is very easy to implement.

A word to the wise to you home wireless network users – if you don't want your neighbors checking on your internet browsing habits and otherwise cruising through your computer, and – more seriously – if you are concerned about identity theft (and who isn't these days), get your wireless network encrypted.

It doesn't hurt at all!



YOGA

With Ann Lallman

Cape Haze Community Center

TUESDAYS
8:15-10:00 A.M.

Begins January 17th



Super Bowl Party

**Community Center
(formerly known as the Clubhouse)**

Sunday, February 5

5:30 PM

Bring a Potluck Dish and Your Own Drinks

Please call Penny Rieley, 697-9811

Saving Our Memory

Making healthy choices that keep your body in shape will also keep your mind in shape. Follow these guidelines to help prevent memory loss.

Exercise your mind:

Continue to challenge yourself by learning new skills such as: learning to play a musical instrument; playing Scrabble or doing crossword puzzles; interacting with others; switching careers or starting a new one; starting a new hobby, such as crafts, painting, biking, or bird-watching; learning a foreign language; volunteering; keeping up with current events; reading.

Stay physically active:

Pick an activity you enjoy and exercise for at least 30 minutes most days of the week. Start by simply increasing your physical activity level - park your car farther away and walk a little more.

Develop healthy eating habits:

Eat a diet rich in fruits and vegetables such as oranges, berries, broccoli, spinach, carrots, sweet potatoes and tomatoes.

Drink alcohol in moderation, if at all:

For women and anyone 65 or older, that means

no more than one drink daily. For men under 65, no more than two drinks daily.

Manage your stress:

Keep your stress to a minimum. Even if you only have a few minutes, take a break to breathe deeply and relax. Then look for long-term stress solutions, such as simplifying your life, getting some exercise or cutting out some activities.

Protect your head when exercising:

Head trauma can increase the risk of developing Alzheimer's disease. Take precautions such as wearing a helmet when bike riding.

Stop smoking:

Smokers may have twice the risk of getting Alzheimer's disease as those who have never smoked. If you quit now, you can still reduce your risk.

Talk to your doctor:

Discuss your concerns and ask for personal strategies for preventing memory loss.

Information derived from Mayo Clinic Newsletter

Cape Haze Women's Club

Cape Hazers continue to make merry as our social season progresses. Clare and Don Landmann, Ann and Keith Lallman, Grace Simmons and Ellie and George Walthoff hosted a beautiful New Year's Day brunch at the Community Center. It was a lovely start to 2006!

Our next social event will be the **Super Bowl party** to be held on **Sunday, February 5** at the Community Center. Members are asked to bring a potluck dish to share during half-time and their own drinks. Pre-game festivities begin at 5:30.

Please call Penny Rieley, 697-9811 if you plan to attend—it helps our committee to better serve you!

All CHPOA members are invited to spend an **Evening in Margaritaville** on **Saturday, February 25th** ***Please note the change in date***at the Community Center. The fun begins at 6:00 p.m. We will provide the margaritas, beer, festive hors d'oeuvres and music. The cost will be \$10 per person, and checks may be made payable to Cape Haze Women's Club.

Call Debbie Armitage, phone number 698-1936 for reservations by Tuesday, February 14.

Yeee-ha!! Get your cowboy boots and hats ready for our **Spring Fling Hoe Down** on **Saturday, March 18th**. Barbecue, beer and wine will be the order of the night, along with country-western music, dancing and surprise entertainment! Don't miss this one!

Call Hilary Dahms 828-0447 for reservations. **As with all our social events, new members and guests are always welcome.**

At the suggestion of our planning committee, we will be introducing **Cape Haze Happy Hours** at the Community Center. On the first

Friday of each month, the Clubhouse will be open for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres from 5 – 7 p.m. This will be our customary bring-your-own food and drink affair.

We encourage members to gather their friends and neighbors and enjoy a bit of casual socializing by the pool. The first scheduled Happy Hours will be on the following Fridays: **March 3, April 7 and May 5**. We hope to see you there!

Plans are also in the works for a spring golf outing to be held in late April. If you will be in town and are interested in participating, please contact Pat Sabourin 698-5722.

This will be strictly fun golf, followed by dinner at Myakka Pines. Look for further details in the next issue of *The Fountain*.

We thank Karen Irvine for organizing a fun outing on Palm Island for the Cape Haze Women's Club meeting on Monday, January 16. We rode the ferry, went shelling on the beach and enjoyed lunch at Rum Bay.

Our February meeting will be a special **Valentine's Day trip to Venice** on Tuesday, February 14 for a Victorian tea followed by shopping and antiquing in Old Venice. We will meet at the Community Center at 10:00 a.m. to carpool to Venice.

The cost of the luncheon/tea is \$23 per person. Checks may be made payable to Cape Haze Women's Club. Call Jan Hayes 697-4132 for reservations. Hats, gloves and pearls are optional!

Recent news coverage of the ongoing housing development along Placida Road has raised many questions among our members as to how this will affect our Community.

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Up-Coming Events

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|-------------|--|
| January 21 | CHPOA Annual Membership Meeting
10:00 AM—Community Center
Coffee at 9:30 AM |
| February 5 | Super Bowl Party
5:30 PM—Community Center |
| February 14 | Women's Club Victorian Tea
10:00 AM—Meet at Community Center |
| February 14 | Reservation Deadline for Feb 25 Event
Debbie Armitage, 698-1936 |
| February 25 | Evening in Margaritaville
6:00 PM—Community Center |
| March 3 | First Happy Hour
5:00-7:00 PM—Community Center |
| March 13 | Women's Club—County Planning Manager
9:30 AM—Meeting/10:00 AM Program
Community Center |
| March 18 | Spring Fling Hoe Down
6:00 PM—Community Center |

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Mr. Tom Cookingham, the current Charlotte County Planning Services Manager, will make a presentation at our **March 13th Women's Club meeting** to address the issues of this development and future planning.

The program will begin at 10:00 a.m. following a brief business meeting at 9:30 a.m. The program is open to all CHPOA members.

Hopefully all our members will find something of interest among the activities mentioned above. The Women's Club board and the CHPOA board are always open to your ideas and suggestions for events and programs. Let us hear from you!

Hilary Dahms, Women's Club President
828-0447

**CHPOA
Annual Membership Meeting**

Saturday, January 21, 2006

10:00 AM—Community Center

9:30 AM—Coffee

Agenda to Include:

Board of Directors Election

Membership By-Law Change

Sewers in Cape Haze Discussion

The Fountain

is published January, March, May, and
November.

All articles, letters, and “Upcoming Events”
received by deadline
will be considered for publication.

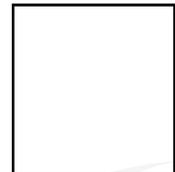
Submissions should be Microsoft Word files
attached to e-mail and forwarded to
NancyBue@aol.com.

Hard copy submissions
will also be considered.

**March Deadline is
March 9, 2006**

The Fountain

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



Inside this Issue:

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- ◆ **Sewers in Cape Haze**
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 - ◆ **Cape Haze Logo Merchandise**
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The Fountain is produced by Nancy Buechler Cape Haze Florida