



# The Fountain

## Cape Haze Community Newsletter

Volume 18, Issue 1

January 2014



### CHPOA President's Letter

I am honored to have been asked to again serve as your President. Cape Haze is a unique and special community. I see my role as working with and guiding a great group of volunteers in maintaining or improving the quality of life and property values in Cape Haze.

I would be remiss if I did not thank two of our Board members who have finished their terms of office. Bill Blasdell served as our Common Area Maintenance director. This past year he oversaw the re-roofing of the Community Center and, working with the Women's Club, the rebuilding of our kitchen. Mary Lou Fitzgerald served for five years as our organization's Secretary. She attacked this job with a

vigor and dedication rarely found in others. Many thanks Mary Lou, we are the better for your efforts.

Art Hanson continues on the Board of Directors but will relinquish his role as President. He was the point person in the implementation of our Deed Restriction program. The results of his efforts are very noticeable and I hope you will join me in thanking him for his service as President. He also will continue to chair the Placida MSBU. Our MSBU seems unique as a government organization since we have not had a tax rise for over five years.

Going forward we will focus on intelligently managing the Deed Restriction program and building the membership in CHPOA. As a voluntary organization we can only exist if we deliver value to our residents. All of us believe that we have done that. However, there is always room for improvement. This will be our mission.

To all our residents I say: "If you are a member, thank you for looking out for your own interests. If you are not a member, please help the rest of the Community carry the burden of maintaining the quality of life here in Cape Haze."

Thank you,

*Bill Dahms*

Bill Dahms, President  
Cape Haze Property Owners' Association

*(See Bill's bio on next page)*

### Need Cape Haze Information?

Just about everything you need to know about our Community is readily available either in the *Cape Haze Residents' Directory*, distributed to every resident, or on the Cape Haze website, [www.capehaze.org](http://www.capehaze.org).

*Cape Haze Happenings*, a brief update of CHPOA Board actions, and any new important information that pops up,

are emailed to everyone on the Cape Haze email list. The intent is to keep this list confidential, to not share it with anyone, and to not use it frivolously.

If you'd like to be added to the Cape Haze Resident email distribution list, please contact Mary Lou Fitzgerald at [MLZIGFITZ55@COMCAST.NET](mailto:MLZIGFITZ55@COMCAST.NET).

## Meet Your Board Member

**Bill Dahms** has been selected by his fellow Cape Haze Property Owners' Association Directors to serve as President of the Board. Bill is in the second year of his current term on the governing Board of our Community, but this is not Bill's first time serving in this capacity. He was first elected to the Board in 2003, re-elected in 2006, serving two years as President and four as Secretary. In other words, Bill knew what he was in for and the Community knew we were getting a dedicated neighbor to help manage our affairs.

Bill's happy to help out and support his Community, but he's really a private person and doesn't talk much about his personal life. He will say, "Coming to Cape Haze was the second smartest decision he ever made, the first being marrying Hilary." However, we were able to learn a little more about the man himself.

Bill grew up in New York City and received his BS and MBA from two prominent eastern universities. He spent three years in the Army as an intelligence officer in Vietnam and 31 years as a Sr. Officer with JP Morgan in NYC and London before joining a group to acquire a large New Jersey/Pennsylvania bank. They subsequently sold the bank to Wachovia Corp. allowing Bill to retire from the investment banking industry.

In 'retirement' Bill became a novelist whose first book Blood on the Ballot was published in 2007 and was a Cape Haze Book Club selection favorite in 2009. Subsequently Bill has written four additional books and is currently finishing his sixth.

Bill and his wife Hilary have two married sons and five grandchildren, four granddaughters and one grandson. Bill says, "our grandson is brilliant and all our granddaughters are beautiful." Their older son, Dr. Billy Dahms, Jr., is a Nephrologist currently in private practice in Newark, Delaware. Younger son, Peter, followed in his

father's footsteps and is a partner in a private equity firm in New York City.

When asked how they found Cape Haze, Bill replied, "Thanks to Hank and Karen Irvine." The Dahms knew the Irvines 'up north' and when Hank and Karen bought a place in Cape Haze, Bill knew it must be special. The Dahms visited and subsequently bought a lot, built a house, and moved in February 2002. They still have a home in New Jersey where they spend about half the year.

When Bill's not busy with CHPOA, serving on the Board of the Lemon Bay Golf Club, managing our Neighborhood Watch program, working as an MSBU representative, and numerous other special Community committees, he somehow finds time to enjoy golf, boating, writing, and ham radio operation—a hobby since he was 13 years old.

Bill's wife, Hilary, has also contributed greatly to both the Cape Haze and surrounding communities. She was on the Board of the Cape Haze Women's Club for many years serving several as President. She continues to be actively involved in Cape Haze events as well as serving on the Lemon Bay Conservancy Board. In her spare time, Hilary enjoys golf, bridge, and socializing with friends.

When asked why he donates so much time to CHPOA and other civic organizations, Bill replies, "It started as a way to meet people and evolved." He goes on to say that if we don't do it, who will and those who don't help out, can't complain about how things are going. He says, "If you don't get involved, to quote a noted philosopher, Edmund Burke, 'you will get the kind of community you deserve'."

We all take this opportunity to thank Bill, and Hilary, for their willingness to serve our Community. Your dedication to maintaining and improving the Cape Haze quality of life is truly appreciated.

## *Kids' Needs Update*

*Kids' Needs*-Greater Englewood is the 501(c)3 charity adopted by our Community. It is dedicated to keeping local children safe and in school. It is our hope that every time you go to our Community Center, you take a donation to help K-12 students in the greater Englewood area.

Suggested donation items are—New underwear (hipsters for girls, boxer briefs for boys), new low rise socks, new school supplies, backpacks, or toiletries and new or like –

new sneakers, sweatshirts, and other school appropriate clothing. We're also gearing up for prom so are currently collecting boys and girls prom clothing and shoes.

Of course tax-deductible financial donations are always accepted. Checks made payable to *Kids' Needs* may be mailed to 1201 S. McCall Rd., Englewood, FL 34223 . For more information, like them on facebook or check the website, [www.kidsneedsenglewood.org](http://www.kidsneedsenglewood.org).

Thank you for your help.



Mark Your Calendars

## Upcoming Events

*Unless otherwise noted, events take place at the Community Center*

- February 4      Fishing One-on-One - 4:00 PM - All Invited
- February 11      Sarasota Youth Orchestra/Fashion Show/Luncheon  
Contact Jan Hayes, 698-4132
- February 14      Friday Night Social - 5:30 PM - All Invited  
Bring Appetizer to Share & Your Own Beverage
- February 18      Book Club - 10:00 AM - *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn
- February 19      Flood Insurance Info Session - 1:30 PM - All Invited
- February 24      Shelling and Lunch on Palm Island - 9:15 AM  
Contact Karen Irvine, 697-8883
- March 11      Book Club - 10:00 AM - *The Garden of Evening Mists*  
by Tan Twan Eng
- March 14      Friday Night Social - 5:30 PM - All Invited  
Bring Appetizer to Share & Your Own Beverage
- March 24      Women's Club Meeting - 9:00 AM  
Reid Nutrition Program - 9:30 AM - All Invited
- April 5      CHPOA Special Membership Meeting - 4:00 PM  
Picnic - Following CHPOA Meeting, Jan Hayes, 698-4132
- April 7      Trip to Historic Spanish Point - Details TBA - All Invited
- April 8      Book Club - 10:00 AM - *Cutting for Stone*  
by Abraham Verghese
- April 9      Women's Club Officer Installation & Luncheon  
11:00 AM, Contact Elaine Fisk, 214-8231

### On-Going Events

*Aerobics - Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 8:15 AM Sharp*  
*Bridge - Every Monday - 1:00 - 3:00 PM - All Levels Invited*

Check your email and [www.capehaze.org](http://www.capehaze.org) for up-to-date information

# Cape Haze Women's Club

Now that the rush of the holidays has calmed down, we can look forward to our 2014 calendar of events. By the time you receive *The Fountain*, we hope you have attended and enjoyed the BBQ dinner after the CHPOA Annual Meeting and the talk and plant sale opportunity given by Laurel Schiller. She owns the Native Plant Nursery in Sarasota. Laurel is always an interesting speaker (we had at least 40 attendees). The plants she grows and sells are practically care-free since they are native to our area. If you missed Laurel's talk but are interested in plants, take some time and drive up to her nursery, see her plants and ask questions or take pictures of your garden and get advice— you'll be glad you did.

**February** has lots of activities to attend:

Tuesday, February 4, at 4pm at the Community Center join your neighbors to hear Jan Wilhelm, Hank Irvine and Bob Howell present "Fishing One-on-One." Everyone is welcome and the only cost is a donation to our Community's charity, *Kids' Needs*. New underwear or socks, new or like-new sweatshirts and sneakers are particularly needed; all sizes for boys and girls. And tax-deductible financial donations payable to *Kids' Needs* are always accepted.

Tuesday, February 11, the annual Sarasota Youth Orchestra Fashion Show and Luncheon will be held at 11am at the Gasparilla Inn on Boca Grande. Jan Hayes has been our coordinator for many years now and, once again, she will take reservations (made when she receives your \$50 check, payable to SOA) and help with carpools. Thanks in advance, Jan.

Friday, February 14, bring your sweetheart to our Social Hour at the Community Center at 5:30pm. This event is hosted by Lee Ann Tobin and Sharon Blasdell. Bring your drink and an hors d'oeuvre and, if you don't have a sweetie, Lee Ann or Sharon will do her best to warm your heart.

Wednesday, February 19, everyone will want to attend an information session about the new flood insurance laws and the impact they may have on properties in Cape Haze. At 1:30pm David Dignam and Eric Fogo from Key Insurance Agency will speak and then address our questions.

Monday, February 24, the most popular Palm Island Shelling and Luncheon event begins at the Community Center at 9:15am. We'll carpool to the ferry and then go on to the Resort. Karen Irvine has arranged this event since it began years ago- hearty thanks, Karen. Karen and Vickie Keidel will take your reservation when you give them a check for \$25. If you can drive, mention that also.

**In March** we hope you will attend:

Friday, March 14, a Social Hour at the Community Center at 5:30pm. Elaine Fisk and Penny Rieley will host. Brink your drink and an hors d'oeuvre, and keep an eye out for any signs of an early leprechaun.

Monday, March 24, we'll have a Women's Club meeting at 9am at the Community Center. The meeting will be followed at 9:30am by a speaker from Reid Nutrition. This talk has been a long time in the planning- don't miss it. Lee Ann Tobin will answer any questions about this event. If there is to be a charge for it, you will receive an email notice in advance.

**April** is the month when some of our snowbirds begin to fly north. Before they go, we hope they'll attend:

Saturday, April 5, our spring CHPOA meeting will be followed by a picnic at 5:30pm. Jan Hayes will take your reservation along with your check for \$15. Bring your own drink to this event.

Monday, April 7, a field trip to Spanish Point is planned. We'll carpool to Osprey, tour the house and grounds, learn the pre-history of the point and the history of the Palmer family who had a winter home here. There is a continuous-loop tram for those who choose not to walk too far. Penny Rieley will chair this event with help from Caroline Csavas and Gerry Schreiberman. Details are not yet final but all residents are invited. You'll receive an email announcement well before the event including information about what we'll do for lunch. This event will take the place of our monthly Social Hour.

Wednesday, April 9, women will gather at 11am at the Community Center for our last meeting of the season.

*Continues on Bottom Next Page*

## New CHPOA Directors Elected

At the January 18, 2014, CHPOA Annual Meeting, a by-law change was unanimously approved allowing the Board of Directors to expand "to include up to nine members" allowing three Directors' terms to expire each year. To make a transition to this expanded Board, the following new Board of Directors were unanimously elected to serve terms as noted.

Jeanne Corbin	re-elected, 3 year term	Tim Danahy	2 year term
Bob Howell	3 year term	Marty Rosen	1 year term
Gerry Schreibman	3 year term		

Following the Annual Meeting of the general membership, the newly elected Board of Directors met to elect their officers. The following are the CHPOA officers and areas of responsibility for 2014.

President:	Bill Dahms	Community Center Schedule:	Jeanne Corbin
Vice President:	Mary Koppersmith	Roads & Drainage (MSBU Rep):	Art Hanson
Secretary:	Gerry Schreibman	Common Area Maintenance:	Bob Howell
Treasurer:	Lee Buechler	Directors:	Tim Danahy and Marty Rosen

For other areas of responsibility, many additional Cape Haze residents have stepped up to offer assistance. Please refer to the *Residents' Directory* or the website, [www.capehaze.org](http://www.capehaze.org), for a complete listing.

Remember Board meetings are open to all Association members and are held year-round at the Community Center at 4:00 PM on the second Monday of each month. Also, be sure you're on the Cape Haze email list so you're kept up to date on important information, events, or schedule changes. Contact Mary Lou Fitzgerald, [MLZIGFITZ55@comcast.net](mailto:MLZIGFITZ55@comcast.net), to be added.

## Vacant Lot Mowing Report

As some of you know our Vacant Lot Mowing fees have gone from \$160 for six mowings in 2013 to \$170 for the 2014 season – if paid by December 31, 2013. After December 31, the fee is \$180 for six mowings per lot.

At present 33 owners have paid for 57 lots, 14 owners of 17 lots have not paid and five owners will either self-mow or contract to have their lot(s) mowed.

This year looks like a promising mowing season. Cape Haze Property Owners' Association will continue to monitor these lots to keep Cape Haze looking well maintained.

Clare Landmann  
CHPOA Vacant Lot Volunteer



### *Continued from Previous Page* - **Women's Club**

The installation of new officers will be followed by brunch, hosted by this year's board. The cost is \$6. Elaine Fisk will take your money and reservation.

For those residents who stay close to home during the summer, we continue to have monthly Friday night Social Hours. They are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month beginning at 5:30pm at the Community Center. This is always a good time to keep in touch with neighbors. On Friday, May 9, Percy Angelo and Cindy Howell will host the Social Hour.

The Women's Club dues are \$25. CHPOA women should have received a notice about this in the mail. If you have any questions, you can call Co-presidents Cindy Howell or Karen Irvine. Membership is due in February.

The Community Center is in need of outdoor patio furniture and a TV cabinet/credenza for the meeting room. If you have any of these items that you would be willing to donate, please call Cindy or Karen. If you would like to receive a small reimbursement for any item, let them know as well.

Penny Rieley, Women's Club Secretary

## FEMA Flood Insurance

The National Flood Insurance Program, run by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), started in 1968. More than 5 million property owners nation-wide hold flood insurance, and about 20% are subsidized.

After the 2005 storm season – which included Hurricane Katrina – the program became indebted to the US Treasury. As of May 2013, it owed about \$24 billion. (A recent General Accounting Office report gives a full dissection of the program’s shortcomings.)

In an effort to avoid insolvency, lawmakers passed the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act in 2012. The law requires the program to raise rates about 25% a year for certain properties until they reflect true flood risk. This law will impact Cape Haze property owners.

CHPOA and the Cape Haze Women’s Club have jointly arranged for David Dignam and Eric Fogo, Key Agency Inc., Insurance, to speak to us on this issue. They will discuss the laws and insurance impact for Cape Haze and will follow their presentation with a question/answer session.

All residents are invited to attend, Wednesday, February 19, 2014, 1:30 pm, at the Cape Haze Community Center.

## *The Fountain*

is published January, March/April and November.

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

Text submissions should be Microsoft Word files.

Photographs should be .jpg files of at least 400kB in size.

Text and photographs should be attached to e-mail with “Fountain Submission” in the subject box, and forwarded to  
**\*\*\* nancybue1@gmail.com \*\*\***

Hard copy submissions may also be considered.

**April Deadline is  
April 10, 2014**

# *The Fountain*

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

**Flood Insurance Info Session  
Wednesday, February 19 - 1:30 PM**

*Inside this Issue:*

- **CHPOA Elects New Directors**
- **Flood Insurance Session Scheduled**
- **Many Activities Planned**

*The Fountain* is published by Cape Haze Property Owners Association  
Produced by Nancy Buechler Cape Haze Florida