



The Fountain

Cape Haze Community Newsletter

Volume 14, Issue 2

March 2010



CHPOA President's Letter

We had a successful CHPOA Annual Meeting on January 23rd. Thank you to those who participated. The highlight was the approval of improvements to the Community Center. Homer Hoe and his committee have done a great job, and I anticipate the initiation of the project in the near future. I know they are planning to avoid disruptions to all scheduled activities. We will be expanding the useable space inside the building, remodeling the restrooms and adding some additional landscaping outside.

Additionally, Susan Butler, Stanley Friedenber, and Shell Reiley were elected to the Board for three-year terms beginning January 2010. Following the Annual Meeting, the Board met and elected officers for the next year. Ross Witschonke is President, Susan Butler is Vice-President, Mary Lou Fitzgerald is Secretary, Shell Reiley is Treasurer and Ralph Bond is responsible for Common Area Maintenance (CAM). We thank them for their continued service to our Community.

Don't forget the Spring Member's Meeting on April 17th at 4 PM. Similar to our Autumn meeting we will start at 4 PM and begin a Community-wide social event immediately following organized by the Cape Haze Women's Club. Please save the date and join us.

We're doing our best to keep an eye on the widening project for Placida Road. The County has appointed a project manager but has restricted the engineering firm from discussing the project. The County project manager has stated that there will be at least two public meetings to review details, but they have not been scheduled.

The CHPOA Board is meeting on the second Thursday of each month at 10 AM in the Community Center. These are open meetings where we cover issues relating to our neighborhood. Please feel free to join us.

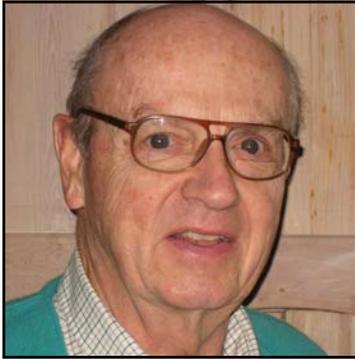
Thank you again to the many volunteers who are making Cape Haze a great Community.

Ross Witschonke
CHPOA President

Support Your Community and Have Fun!!

Join the fun events happening in your own neighborhood. Read the Women's Club Report and Upcoming Events Section on pages 6 and 7 and find a way to participate. Protect your property investment by contributing to the Common Area Maintenance Fund. Join your Cape Haze Property Owners Association and the Women's Club Today!

Meet Your CHPOA Board Member



Shell Rieley is beginning his second term on the CHPOA Board and his fourth year as its Treasurer. He comes to us with experience from many years of service on the Board of the Lake Champlain Yacht Club and other community

associations, as well as the family real estate business.

Shell grew up in Elyria, Ohio, a small town west of Cleveland, and spent his summers on the Lake Erie shore. This early introduction to lake living began a life-long love of boating. Shell attended Western Reserve Academy in Ohio and received both his Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Mechanical Engineering from Cornell University in New York (where he met his wife, Penny).

After graduation Shell worked for DuPont in Charleston, West Virginia. Although he enjoyed the work, both Shell and Penny missed living where they could enjoy their passions for sailing and snow skiing. Since location was a priority for the Rieleys, they decided they had to live in either Michigan or New England. So Shell looked for employment in one of those areas and joined IBM in Burlington, Vermont, where they raised their family.

Shell and Penny have one son and two daughters. Shell and his son, Scott, own and manage several apartment buildings in Burlington. Scott also has a retail ski business and professionally manages the real estate investments. Daughter Erin and family live in Washington State and Erin works for a software management company in Seattle. Daughter Paige and husband live in Cape Coral, Florida, where she is in real estate. The Rieley's have three grandsons and three granddaughters ranging in age from five to eleven years. Shell is very proud of his children and their success. He says one of the highlights of his life is the year they took their children out of school to sail the Caribbean.

Soon after Shell's 1992 retirement from engineering and management at the IBM microchip plant in Burlington, Penny, a Nutritionist, took a position in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands continuing her employment with WIC (an agency of the US

Department of Agriculture providing food, nutrition counseling and access to health services for Women, Infants, and Children).

Enjoying his love of sailing, Shell captained their 44' sailboat from Lake Champlain to St. Thomas and both the Rieleys enjoyed four years exploring the Caribbean. Then in 1995, Hurricane Marilyn hit. While Penny stayed in their apartment, Shell rode out the storm in a safe harbor on St. John Island - on the sailboat! After surviving howling winds and the complete loss of their home's roof, they endured nine weeks on an island with no electricity anywhere. The next spring they decided to return to Burlington!

When asked how they found Cape Haze, Shell said they had visited friends on Palm Island and then spent a few winters there. During that time, they decided they didn't like island living or dealing with the ferry, but they did like the area. They explored the vicinity and chose Cape Haze for its location and lot sizes and in 2000 bought their home here.

Shell also remembers, as a child, visiting his grandparents who lived on New Point Comfort Road behind what is now Merchants Crossing. The house is still there, built by his grandfather in the 1920's, and is the only one that looks like it came right from East Cleveland. Which it did!

The Rieleys continue to be active boaters, but have switched to power boats. They often spend a month on board cruising from their home on Lake Champlain to Cape Haze. This summer they're planning on completing the Great Loop, a boat trip around the eastern half of the U.S. The cruise begins in Florida, goes up the coast to New York State, through the Great Lakes to Chicago, and south down the Mississippi River basin to the Gulf of Mexico and back to Florida. Currently their boat is in Michigan for the winter and the Rieleys plan to complete the loop back to Florida next season.

Shell is active in his church in Vermont and recently joined the Port Charlotte Yacht Club planning to join several cruises in local waters. When asked why he volunteers for the CHPOA Board, Shell says, "I feel serving the Community is a responsibility of living here and that I should contribute in some way." He also says he "wishes more people get involved and hopes Association membership will increase".

We take this opportunity to thank Shell for his contributions to our Community.

Meet Your CHPOA Board Member

Stanley Friedenberg gladly accepted the challenge of completing a vacant position on the CHPOA Board and then in January 2010, he was elected to an additional three-year term. When asked why he volunteered, Stanley said he had “always been interested in community affairs, had observed the CHPOA Board and found it a worthwhile group.” He goes on to say the meetings are well planned, well executed and all opinions are heard and discussed until a consensus can be reached.

Stanley grew up in Manhattan, New York and in 1942 graduated from City College of New York with a Bachelors Degree in Business. Immediately after graduation, Stanley went into the Army where he was a counter intelligence officer in France, Germany and Austria. He has VERY interesting stories about those times. Next time you see him, ask Stanley about the time a German officer came into the room and gave him a “Hiel Hitler”. Stanley ordered the officer to leave the room and come back with a proper military salute - and he did! Stanley was also one of the first at the opening of some Holocaust Camps and some recollections of his experience are sited in a Michael Hirsh book coming out this spring.

After four years military service, Stanley returned to New York City where he enrolled in the NYU law school. Following graduation Stanley was both a CPA and a practicing attorney with two Manhattan partnerships, “Kurz and Kurz”, and “Kurz, Dick and Friedenberg”.

Both Stanley and his wife, Marilyn, attended the NYU law school at the same time, but since Stanley attended at night and Marilyn was a day student, they never met. Eventually they met on a blind date and talked into the wee hours of the night. Four weeks later they were engaged and six weeks after that they were married – and that was almost 59 years ago!

The Friedenbergs raised their son and daughter in Forest Hills and East Meadow, Long Island, New York. Their son, Robert, lives in Rock Hills, Virginia where he is a management consultant and their daughter, Ellen, lives in Manhattan where she is an asset manager. They have three grandsons and two granddaughters. Two grandsons are teenagers living in Manhattan and the other grandson lives and works in Tokyo. One granddaughter recently finished studies at Temple

University and continues to live in Philadelphia. Stanley’s other granddaughter attends Pratt Institute in Brooklyn.



In 1974 the Friedenbergs moved to Old Westbury, Long Island, New York and now split their time between that home and Cape Haze. Stanley was the Village Justice for nine years and sits on special boards for specific legal questions. Even though he retired a little over a year ago Stanley still prepares tax returns for some special clients.

Stanley and Marilyn have always loved traveling and have visited five continents including all the countries in Europe, several Asian countries, and almost all of South America and Australia. They have also toured all the islands of the Caribbean. In short, they’ve been almost everywhere in the world – except Chicago. They plan to remedy that situation soon. In addition to traveling, Stanley enjoys fishing, swimming and reading. Recent books he particularly recommends are *The Nine: Inside the Secret World of the Supreme Court* by Jeffrey Toobin and *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* by Stieg Larsson and Reg Keeland.

When asked how they found Cape Haze, Stanley said they had been spending time in the Florida Keys for 40-45 years when they decided Key West was getting too crowded. That’s when they started seriously exploring Charlotte and Sarasota Counties. The Friedenbergs had always liked our Community and its lot sizes - and the fact that it wasn’t crowded - so when friends from Windward told them about the house in Cape Haze, they bought it in 2001.

Stanley has high expectations for the future of Cape Haze and says he “hopes for enforceable rules on deed restrictions so people will keep their places nice.” He goes on to say he “doesn’t understand why so many residents don’t belong to the Association and why it’s such a small core group who take on everything.”

Many neighbors agree with Stanley and want him to know we appreciate his service to Cape Haze.

Road Construction Update

Several road and bridge improvement projects are underway in our area while others are in early planning stages. The following information is current as of March 1, 2010.

The Coral Creek Bridge Replacement project will eliminate the sharp curve at the junction of County Roads 775 and 771. The new bridge will enhance recreational access by increasing the span between bridge supports and adding about one foot additional clearance for boaters. Charlotte County Project Manager Barry Cohen says "There will be sidewalks on both sides of the bridge but they will not continue beyond the new construction. There will be a turn lane off the bridge for easy access to The Fishery and other businesses at Placida Point. The new road should open to traffic in May or June this year after which the old bridge will be removed and barged out to the Gulf of Mexico to become an artificial reef."

The entire project is scheduled for completion in October 2010 and there are no plans for additional traffic lights. This project is funded through the gas tax.

The Cape Haze Bridge Replacement project, originally to be funded through MSBU funds, is now a Florida State project funded with federal stimulus money. Because existing decks and abutments needed repair it became more cost

effective to replace rather than repair the bridge which is also being widened to conform to current standards for lane width. According to Kris Cella of Cella, Molnar and Associates, a public information company hired by the State, the bridge will open to traffic in early May 2010.

The surveying along Placida Road (CR 775) is preliminary for design purposes for widening the two lane road to four divided lanes. The design process takes about a year; then the County must obtain necessary rights of way which should take about another year. The bottom line is construction probably won't start for at least two more years on this section from Rotonda West Boulevard to Cape Haze Drive.

Gary Grossman, Charlotte County Assistant Transportation Manager and Manager of this project, says, "The construction will take 18 to 24 months. The plan is to install a median and sidewalks on both sides of the new road." Funding is through the sales tax extension.

The Winchester Boulevard South project to construct a four-lane roadway from CR 775 (near Buck Creek) to SR 776 would complete the missing link of a proposed hurricane evacuation route from CR 775 to River Road in Sarasota County. This project is on hold per Charlotte County Board of Commissioners action.

Coyotes and Panthers and Dogs - Oh My!!

Some neighbors have reported being accosted by dogs with no guardian nearby. When someone doesn't know a dog it can be frightening to have one run up to you - whether it's friendly or not. There have also been reports of coyotes and a small Florida panther (an endangered species) within Cape Haze.

All these incidents are concerning. Running dogs can trip walkers or joggers and actually cause bicycles to tip over. Coyotes hunt cooperatively targeting small animals and the panther was observed tracking a small dog. Even though human movement scared the panther away, small pets are vulnerable.

The best solution to all these problems is simply keeping pets under control at all times. Charlotte County requires that pets be under the direct control of owner or assigned person and defines *Direct Control* as "immediate and continuous physical control...by means of a fence, leash, cord or chain..." For more information on the County Ordinance, please check the Animal Control Department on the County website.

So, please remember to be good neighbors and follow the County ordinance to protect our pets and help all our neighbors feel secure.

Thank you for your help in this regard.

Community Center Renovation Fund Raiser

A new and exciting project is about to take place at the Community Center. The much-anticipated and much-needed renovation work will begin in May. The Cape Haze Women's Club Board has committed to raise funds to go toward refurbishing items not included in the renovation budget.

To this end, we are offering a new collection of Cape Haze logo merchandise for sale. Items include polo shirts, T-shirts and hats available in a full range of sizes and great new colors!

Priced at \$38, the women's polo shirts are organic cotton and are very breathable and soft to the touch. Sizes come in S, M, L and XL. The new colors are blueberry (periwinkle), white and apple green. Also priced at \$38, men's polo shirts are cotton/poly fabric in sizes M, L, XL and XXL. Colors are cool gray, ultramarine blue, yellow and white.

Casual T-shirts are priced at \$22. Women's colors are daffodil yellow, pistachio, sangria (rose) and Carolina blue. Women's sizes are S, M, L, and XL. Men's T-shirt colors are stonewash green, stonewash blue and medium gray. Men's sizes are M, L, XL, and XXL (add \$2).

Cape Haze hats, priced at \$19, are comfortable, low-profile caps available in this season's colors: Red rock (Nantucket red), taupe, and tangerine.

Sample shirts and color charts will be on display at the Community Center and available to try on Monday and Wednesday mornings at 9:30 March 15 and 17, and March 22 and 24 or by appointment.

ALL ORDERS MUST BE PREPAID BY MARCH 26. Checks should be made payable to "Cape Haze Women's Club". Committee members are available to take your order and answer questions anytime until March 26. Please call: Pat Sabourin 698-5722, Jan Hayes 698-4132, or Karen Irvine 697-8883. Orders will be available for pick-up at the April 17 CHPOA meeting and dinner at the Community Center.

We hope all Cape Hazers will join in our efforts. You can spruce up your wardrobe with these great new items while helping to spruce up the Community Center!

We thank you in advance for your support.

Boating Safety and Carbon Monoxide

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless, and tasteless gas. It is produced when a carbon-based fuel such as gasoline, propane, charcoal, or oil, burns. Sources on a boat may include engines, gas generators, cooking ranges, space and water heaters.

CO is extremely dangerous. It enters the blood through the lungs, blocking the oxygen your body needs. Prolonged exposure to low or quick exposure to high concentrations can kill you.

Early symptoms of CO poisoning include irritated eyes, headache, nausea, weakness, and dizziness. The symptoms are often confused with seasickness or intoxication so those affected may not receive necessary medical attention.

CO can collect anywhere in or around your boat. It accumulates due to inadequately ventilated canvas enclosures, exhaust gas trapped in

enclosed places, blocked exhaust outlets, exhaust from another vessel positioned next to you and while at slow speeds, idling or stopped. Be aware that CO can remain in or around your boat at dangerous levels even if your engine or the other boat's engine is no longer running.

CO poisonings are preventable! Stay off swim platforms and back deck while engines are running, maintain your engine, and install and maintain marine grade approved CO detectors. Follow warnings and instructions for canvas enclosures and engine operations and maintain fresh air circulation throughout the boat at all times. This is especially important to keep in mind when tempted to close everything while operating your boat during cold temperatures.

For further peace of mind, contact your marine mechanic or the Coast Guard Auxiliary and request a Vessel Safety Check.

Cape Haze Women's Club

In spite of chilly temperatures, our Cape Haze women have been on the move! We enjoyed a brisk outing on the beach at Palm Island in January and a trip to Venice Theater in February. Next week takes us to the **Sarasota Orchestra Association's luncheon and fashion show at the Venice Yacht Club.**

On February 6, we sponsored a much-needed roadside clean-up. We thank the 23 Cape Hazers who volunteered their time to help keep our neighborhood stretch of SR 775 looking good.

Saturday, March 6 was Keep Charlotte Beautiful Day and our clean-up volunteers received a T-shirt and our sincere appreciation for their efforts!

With spring clean-up season approaching, we are reminded that Charlotte County has posted **helpful recycling information** on its website. Did you know that Charlotte County residents are entitled to two no-charge curbside collections of unbundled yard trimmings, refuse or bulky items (no construction or demolition debris) from residential units per year? Residents should notify Waste Management at 941-629-1106 or 1-877-567-2974 to request this service. Each pick-up should not exceed ten (10) cubic yards.

Furniture, appliances, and electronic equipment (televisions, computers, monitors, and microwaves) will be picked up four times per year at no charge, and no phone call to Waste Management is necessary. Residents must remove the doors from refrigerators and dishwashers before placing them at the curb and they should be placed near the garbage cans and recycling bins. For further information, please check with Charlotte County website at charlottecountyfl.com/EnvironmentalServices/SolidWaste/Recycling/.

In other news, the **Book Review Club will meet on Tuesday, March 9** to discuss *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle*, by David Wroblewski. The April selection is *Love in the Time of Cholera*, by

Gabriel Garcia Marquez. All residents are invited to participate in our lively reviews on the second Tuesday of the month, at 10:00 a.m. at the Community Center. All Book Club selections are posted on our website www.capehaze.org.

The **Friday Night Socials** continue on **March 12, 5-7 p.m.** at the Community Center. Our hosts will be Barbara and Art Hanson. The April Social will be **Friday, April 9** and will be hosted by Bill and Hilary Dahms. As always, please bring an hors d'oeuvre to share and your beverage of choice.

Monday, March 22 at 10:00 a.m. the Women's Club will have a business meeting and brainstorming session at the Community Center. Please come with ideas and suggestions for next season's activities.

Just a reminder: The Cape Haze Women's Club is now on a January-December dues schedule. Anyone who has not yet paid her \$20 for 2010 is urged to contact our Treasurer, Sharon Blasdell at 697-4130.

The April CHPOA meeting will take place on **Saturday, April 17 at 4:00 p.m.** at the Community Center. Following the meeting, all members are invited to stay for the **Funny Bone Frolic**, dinner and amusements organized by Mary Lou Fitzgerald and committee. April is National Humor Month, and this promises to be a fun evening of surprises and a great way to start the spring season! Call Barbara Hanson, 828-7447, or Mary Lou Fitzgerald, 697-6228, for details and reservations.

Finally, the Cape Haze Women's Club will hold their **annual luncheon and installation of officers on Monday, April 19 at 11:30 a.m. at the Gasparilla Inn at Boca Grande.** The cost will be \$25 per person. Checks may be made payable to the Cape Haze Women's Club. Reservations due by April 12 to Hilary Dahms, 828-0447. We hope you will join us for an elegant closing of our official season.

Hilary Dahms, Women's Club President

Upcoming Events

- March 9 **Book Club - *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle***
10:00 AM - Community Center
- March 12 **Sarasota Symphony Fashion Show & Lunch**
11:00 AM - Venice Yacht Club
- March 12 **Friday Night Social**
5:00 - 7:00 PM - Community Center
- March 22 **Women's Club Business/Brainstorming**
10:00 AM - Community Center
- April 9 **Friday Night Social**
5:00 - 7:00 PM - Community Center
- April 13 **Book Club - *Love in the Time of Cholera***
10:00 AM - Community Center
- April 17 **CHPOA Meeting - *Note Special Time***
4:00 PM - Community Center
- April 17 **Community-wide Funny Bone Frolic Party**
After CHPOA meeting - Community Center
- April 19 **Women's Club Luncheon/Officer Installation**
11:30 AM - Gasparilla Inn, Boca Grande
- May 11 **Book Club - *Still Alice***
10:00 AM - Community Center

Stay informed, check our website - www.capehaze.org

****Cape Haze Merchandise Available****

Proudly wear hats and shirts letting everyone know where you live. High quality items are now available. See Community Center Renovation article on page 5 for more details.

You Thought You Knew It All

- A dime has 118 ridges around the edge.
- A cat has 32 muscles in each ear.
- A crocodile cannot stick out its tongue.
- A dragonfly has a life span of 24 hours.
- A goldfish has a memory span of three seconds.
- A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes.
- Al Capone's business card said he was a used furniture dealer.
- All 50 states are listed across the top of the Lincoln Memorial on the back of the \$5 bill.
- Almonds are a member of the peach family.
- Cats have over one hundred vocal sounds. Dogs only have about ten.

Now you really do know everything!!!

The Fountain

is published January, March, May, 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 NancyBue@aol.com.

Hard copy submissions may also be considered.

**May Deadline is
May 4, 2010**

The Fountain

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

**Join Cape Haze Property Owners
Association and Women's Club
Now!**

Inside this Issue:

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- **Cape Haze Merchandise Available**

The Fountain is produced by Nancy Buechler Cape Haze Florida