



# The Woodlands Word @ Rivendell

April 2011

## Board Vacancy Announced

**To: Rivendell Homeowners (notice sent via email on 3-7-2011)**

**From: RCA Board of Directors**

We are seeking candidates to fill a vacancy on the RCA Board of Directors. Director Mark Adler has moved out of Rivendell and resigned from the Board.

The term of the Director to be appointed will expire at our next annual membership meeting in February 2012.

Interested Association members are invited to submit their information and qualifications for the consideration of the Board,

c/o Kyanne Merrill, Lighthouse Property Management,  
16 Church Street, Osprey, FL 34229.

Submissions may also be emailed to [kyannemerrill@mgmt.tv](mailto:kyannemerrill@mgmt.tv)

## Freeze-Damaged Plant Replacement

During the period from 14 March 2011 through 30 June 2011, ARC review and approval will not be required for the replacement of freeze damaged plants and grass -- provided that the new plantings are of a size which does not grow to a height or spread greater than the plants being replaced. Additionally, the replacement plants must not have aggressive root systems or seed products, or be listed as not recommended by the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council.

## Highlights of March 2011

### Board Meeting

**By Carol Heckert**

At its March meeting, the Board:

- Accepted the resignation of Director Mark Adler, who has moved out of the community, thus creating a vacancy on the Board;
- Approved more than \$21,000 worth of landscape improvements and renovations;
- Agreed that no ARC approval is needed to replace frostbitten plants if the replacement is of no greater size or height, and
- Agreed to re-install a \$1400 fence between Rivendell and Park Trace, our neighbor to the north.

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Cavities, Dry Mouth, Diabetic, overweight?

# Eat More Candy!

Dr. Greenspan has been a proponent of a naturally occurring sugar substitute Xylitol and has found that using Xylitol gum and candies helps to keep the mouth moist, sugar levels down, reduces appetite and has an anti microbial effect.

Xylitol has very low glycolic index so it's diabetic friendly and tolerated very well by almost everyone.

Richard J. Greenspan, a Sarasota dentist for over 18 years, knows the importance of good nutrition and true mind body awareness. For years he has been informing and educating patients about the importance of a healthy life style and good oral hygiene practices.

We welcome you to visit us at Palmer Ranch Dental for free samples of Xylitol gum and candy.

**Palmer Ranch Dental**  
8800 South Tamiami Trail,  
Sarasota, FL 34238  
941•966•5603

[sarasotadental.blogspot.com](http://sarasotadental.blogspot.com)  
[www.palmerranchdental.com](http://www.palmerranchdental.com)  
[office@palmerranchdental.com](mailto:office@palmerranchdental.com)



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*Rivendell*  
**RESIDENT & AGENT**

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**New Business**

Park Trace

- Motion approved to reinstall a fence between Rivendell and Park Trace. Fence will be 4 feet high, of woven hog wire, and will extend 200 feet from Scherer Way. It will cost \$1400.
- Motion approved to add Florida native plants, in concert with Landscape/Environmental Committee, once fence is installed.

Committee Members for 2011

- **ARC:** Committee has 2-year terms. Two committee members' terms have expired. Allen Roeter will serve another term; Gwen Stepien's term has expired; she will be replaced by John Beatty. Other members: Barry McClure, chair, Frank Pafumi, John Greco, Board Liaison.
- **Pool:** Tom Faessler, chair, Bo Potter, Carol Heckert, Lori Yohann, John Greco, Board liaison.
- **Communications:** Norma Lee Rhines, chair, Linda Pearlstein, Barbara Gahry, Pam Babbitt, Mike Bergman, Cindy Schmidl, Judy Sokal, Board liaison.
- **Landscape/Environmental:** Dave Gill will be the new chair. Other members are Ken Heckert, Denny Pavlov, Frank Freestone, Carl Schubert, Charles Kiblinger, Carol Heckert, and John Critser, Board liaison. Dave Gill wants open membership on committee. The Board explained that all committee members would continue to be appointed as prescribed by our By-Laws and Standing Rules.

**Landscape improvement & renovation proposals**

Motion approved to:

- Clean up butterfly gardens \$1,188
- Mulch common areas \$11,120
- Landscape, clean up, replant pool area and Rivendell Blvd. near entry \$7,427

Motion approved to:

- Replace irrigation pump isolation valve \$500
- Contract for maintenance of main pump, not to exceed \$1,500 a year

**Seeking new Board member**

Motion approved to accept Mark Adler's resignation from the Board, as Mark has moved to another community. A new Board member will be sought through a newsflash and the April edition of *The Woodlands Word*.

**Committee Reports**

Communications Committee: Directory out in April; photos of pets wanted for directory. Please send to Barbara Gahry.

ARC: Motion approved that ARC approval will not be needed to replace frostbitten plants, provided new plants are not of greater height or spread than those being replaced.

Pool Committee: Landscaping needed around pool; one clock face needs repairs.

Landscape/Environmental Committee: Two meetings held with Valley Crest to review work needed that is not in contract.

- VC will clean up butterfly gardens and pool area, repair irrigation and replant where needed.
- Irrigation will be restored to ponds that

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had solar irrigation, with electric power where feasible and solar where not.

- Need to define for VC which common areas need mowing.

Document Review: Homeowners volunteered to work on review of bylaws and covenants: Dave Gill, Joe Sefack, and Barry Portugal. This is a preliminary working group to make recommendations to the board prior to appointing a formal committee. The group will add a provision to enable RCA to go onto foreclosed properties to maintain their yards. It may also choose to eliminate obsolete sections of bylaws that pertain to the builder. All changes must be approved by 2/3 of homeowners.

Manager's Report: Motion approved to fine 3 houses that received final notices about unlit mailbox lights.

#### **Owners' Comments**

- Question about 2011 legal fees
- Suggestion that L/E Committee develop a map indicating which common areas should be mowed.
- Guideline requested for standard light bulb to be used on mailboxes
- Warning that 2 males and a female in an old blue truck have taken UPS packages off doorsteps and broken into unlocked cars; this has been occurring in Park Trace, our neighbors to the north.

**Next Board Meeting** will be held on June 2, 6PM, First Baptist Church.

## **Robert's Rules for Unfinished Business Items**

**By John Greco**

Here is what Robert's Rules say regarding agenda items:

#### **Re: Old Business**

*In a properly conducted meeting, there is no type or class of business called "old business." It is a common mistake for the chair to call for "old business" and under that incorrect category to allow members to bring up again matters that were considered at earlier meetings or matters for which there was merely an informal suggestion that they should be brought up at the present meeting.*

#### **Re: Unfinished Business**

*What properly come up under the correct category, "unfinished business," are:*

- 1. Any motion that was pending at the last meeting. Pending means that the motion was not voted on but was being discussed when the meeting was adjourned.*
- 2. Any item that was on the agenda of the previous meeting that the members did not have the time to take up before adjournment.*
- 3. Any motions that were postponed to the previous meeting but the members did not have time to discuss.*
- 4. Any motions that were postponed to the present meeting.*

I hope this helps to respond to homeowners' questions about the way board meetings are conducted.

## **Rivendell Board Meeting**

**NEXT BOARD MEETING**

**WILL BE**

**Thursday,**

**June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011**

**at 6:00 pm at the First Baptist Church of Osprey**

**Address: 265 North Tamiami Trail, Osprey**

**(just north of Bay Street traffic signal and on the west side of the street).**

## Landscape/Environmental Committee Report

By David Gill

At the March Board meeting I was asked to take over the chair of the combined Landscape/Environmental Committee (L/E). After two years as chairman, Ken Heckert stepped down to take a rest, but will continue as a committee member.

I have been a member of the Environmental Committee since 2007 and was a member of the Board part of 2008 and 2009. I view the L/E Committee as a forum for Rivendell residents to meet and discuss matters that pertain to our common lands. These include about 250 acres of lawns and landscaping at entrances, along boulevards, medians, parks and other grassy areas, plus the lakes and ponds and the wetland preserves, uplands and buffers. The natural beauty of these areas is one of the reasons we all live in Rivendell, and their continued proper care greatly contributes to the value of our homes. The annual maintenance and reserves for these lands consumes about 55 percent of our annual budget.

The committee members meet about once a month to review our progress on maintenance of these areas, discuss ideas, suggestions and concerns of residents and report recommendations to our Board of Directors. It is my view that these committee meetings allow more extended discussions, debate and suggested solutions that would otherwise disrupt or extend our board meetings. The chair conducts the meetings, and along with selected committee members and a board liaison, works directly with our Landscape, Lakes and Environmental contractors to go over details and problems as they arise.

All Rivendell resident/owners are welcome to attend L/E Committee Meetings. A willing few are assigned tasks and asked to make reports on specific issues.

If you have questions do not hesitate to contact me: [davidgill@verizon.net](mailto:davidgill@verizon.net), 941-266-4474.

## Landscape/Environmental Update by Ken Heckert

John Breitenstein of Valley Crest (VC) emailed the following information: 1) Our next detailed pruning on the property is a few weeks away. 2) The plan at the pool is to cut a separation between the viburnums and the fence so the Valley Crest workers can fit between the plants and the fence. At that time VC will be able to clean the leaf debris thoroughly. 3) The aphid situation seems to be well controlled by the ladybugs. We have every stage of the ladybug's life cycle at work and after they prune, all evidence of the aphids should be gone. 4) The pool area is a mess with leaf debris. There are some viburnum leaves in the mix but most are oak leaves. The leaf drop will be over soon, but we will be dealing with the oak pollen mess for a while.

Valley Crest is going to cut back all plants in the butterfly gardens and remove dead plant material from these areas. They are going to drastically cut back the Indian Hawthorne in the islands of Rainbow Point Way and at the community pool. They will be replacing dead grass at the front of the community on the center islands and beside the sidewalks next to the Cottages.

### Nuisance Alligators Notice



Please contact Lighthouse Management if you are concerned about an alligator in the development.

The management company will assess the possible danger, liability, homeowner sentiment, previous calls, etc. and contact the appropriate authorities.

**Call Kyanne or Hope at Lighthouse  
Property Management, 966-6844**



***Great Blue Heron ~ photo by Kay Mruz***

## **Through The Lens: The Great Blue Heron By Kay Mruz**

In the February issue of *The Woodlands Word*, I had focused my camera lens on the cormorant and anhinga as they perched on the back of the plastic goose in our ponds. Apparently, they aren't the only birds that like a perch with a pond view!

I had to laugh when I found a great blue heron standing on the back of a plastic goose. Growing to a height of 4 ½ feet and with a wingspan reaching 6 feet, great blue herons are the largest and most common heron in the U.S. They can be found in both salt and freshwater environments. Mainly solitary foragers, herons hunt either by wading slowly through the water to drive fish out of hiding, or by standing motionless and waiting for prey to come within striking distance. They eat fish, frogs, snakes, small mammals and insects.

In Florida, herons form pair-bonds in March and April. They nest in large groups called heronries, where the male brings material (usually reeds, mosses and grasses) to the

female, who, in turn, creates a rather large, bulky nest. Nests are reused each year on a first-come, first-served basis. Two to six eggs are laid. Both parents protect and incubate the eggs with the first egg hatching at around 28 days. From there, eggs will hatch each day or two in the order they were laid. Parents also share feeding duties. Young herons are ready to leave the nest in about 60 days. Mortality rates are high among heron chicks. While a few fall victim to predators a majority of the loss stems from competition within the nest.

When you pass by one of the ponds in Rivendell, take a look at the plastic goose. Who knows what you might see perched on its back!

**Question? Complaint? Concern?  
Contact Lighthouse Property Management  
Lighthouse Property Management  
16 Church Street Osprey, FL 34229  
Tel: (941) 966-6844**

**Property Manager: Kyanne Merrill, CAM [kyannemerrill@mgmt.tv](mailto:kyannemerrill@mgmt.tv)  
Assistant: Hope Korte [hopekorte@mgmt.tv](mailto:hopekorte@mgmt.tv)**

## Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary

If you don't have the time to drive all the way to the Everglades, the next best thing is to visit **The Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary** located northeast of Naples, FL. It is an incredible natural attraction, with its cathedral-like old growth cypress forest. It offers great wildlife, nature viewing, and photographic experiences. A 2.25-mile raised boardwalk takes visitors through several habitats found within the 11,000-acre Sanctuary, including the largest remaining virgin bald cypress forest in North America. The boardwalk goes through four distinct environments: a pine upland, a wet prairie, a cypress forest, and a marsh. Benches and rain shelters are along the trail, and volunteer naturalists are usually on the boardwalk to answer questions. Allow about 2-3 hours to walk the entire boardwalk. Wildlife sightings vary depending on the time of year, the weather, and the time of day. Birds, reptiles, mammals, insects, and a variety of native plants including wild orchids may be seen.



Interpretive signs, a field guide and a Children's Activity Book are available at the admissions desk in the Blair Center to allow for self-guided tours. For those who do not wish to walk the full 2.25 miles, an optional trail shortens the walk to one mile. This natural system is managed by the National Audubon Society to maintain the native plants and animals found here and to preserve the natural processes that have been occurring for thousands of years. Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary is open every day of the year except during violent weather. Adult admission is \$ 10.00; Full-time college student with photo ID: \$ 6.00; National Audubon Society member with ID card: \$ 5.00; Student (6-18 years old): \$ 4.00; Children under 6: free.

Visit [www.corkscrew.audubon.org](http://www.corkscrew.audubon.org) or call (239) 348-9151 for more information and directions.



## Security Spring Tune up for your Computers By Norma Lee Rhines



When my computer began to act sluggishly, I brought it in for a check-up with Noah Windspirit of **H Built Computers**. I had picked up a virus from downloading information from the Internet. Somehow, the bug got through onto Yahoo's server.

Here are some of Noah's suggestions for protecting your computer and keeping it working efficiently:

1. **Install a firewall** that will prevent your computer from being hijacked by a hacker.
2. Make sure you **use anti-virus software** to scan for viruses picked up often by e-mail. Then delete the virus if found.
3. Do you get lots of pop-up ads that slow you down; do you get taken to websites you don't want? **Spyware protection** can help with this issue and is often included in some anti-virus software programs or you can buy it separately. This will protect you from spyware that can record your keystrokes, passwords, and financial information.
4. I learned from Noah how to manage my browser. Check the **security setting of your browser** by clicking on Tools (on top right of browser) and clicking on Internet Options. Under the Security tab, the Internet Zone should be set to Medium High.
5. I hate passwords since I can't remember them and then am forced to "re-set them." I finally started a file called **PASSWORDS** so I can use "**strong passwords**" which are recommended. These are passwords that are hard to guess. I finally stopped using my cat's name. Eight characters with a combination of letters and numbers and even special characters are ideal.
6. Are you using your wireless? I love mine. Choose a **router with encryption**. At Starbucks, or any other public Wi-Fi area, you need to be careful accessing or sending personal information. Mobile broadband cards can be purchased and plugged into your computer, laptop or cell phone; the card uses cell phone signals to access high-speed Internet.
7. I don't shop online much. I'm old fashioned and like to see before I buy, BUT I have been tempted lately by the lower prices. I **check out websites** before I give them my credit-card number or other personal stuff. Also, if I can't return it, I don't buy it. Noah tells me that "**https**" in the address bar or an unbroken padlock icon in the browser window tell me my information will be encrypted or scrambled for my protection.

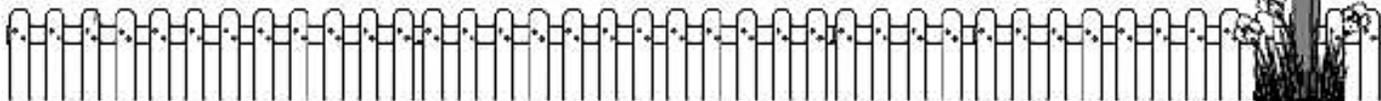
Noah has always tried to repair my computer and return it to me on the same day. He is offering a 5 percent discount on labor if this article is mentioned. You can find Noah at **H Built, 7119 S. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota or call 941-926-2629.**

### *Be Alert*

*It was reported by a Rivendell resident  
that 2 males and a female in an old blue truck  
have taken UPS packages off doorsteps  
and broken into unlocked cars in the Park Trace subdivision.*



# Cottages Postings



## UPDATES

Spring tree-trimming now complete.  
 Grass plugs program scheduled for March  
 County plan for handicap access  
 walkway & curb-cut delayed to April (?)  
 Sarasota County project so it takes time.

## FLAG DAYS

Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup> - Mothers Day  
 Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> - Armed Forces Day  
 Sunday, May 30<sup>th</sup> - Memorial Day

## RU1NA BOARD ACTIONS

February Annual & regular meeting results:  
 New Board Members  
 Skip Kessel #525  
 Dave Perez #506  
 Both resolutions passed by quorum  
 majority.  
 Next Board Meeting - Thursday 4/21/11

## SOCIALS

No events scheduled

## ARTS and EVENTS IN SARASOTA

### Key Chorale at the Municipal Auditorium

By Anita Sarno



On April 30<sup>th</sup>, *The Sarasota Key Chorale* will present Johannes Brahms' beloved "German Requiem". It will be held in the Municipal Auditorium and begins at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$25 for the first ticket and \$20 for the second. Tickets may be purchased by calling Key Chorale at 921-4845 or Anita Sarno at (941) 918-1669 for tickets.

I have sung all of the major chorale works and the Brahms Requiem is my favorite. It is a glorious work.  
<http://www.keychorale.org/>

## Selby Garden Music Series - Spring Performances PUBLIC EVENT

<http://www.selby.org/events/garden-music-series-spring-performances>

Discover the perfect way to spend Sunday afternoons this spring by enjoying the beauty of nature and live music and performances at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens. The Garden Music Concert Series offers a different musical and performance style each week. Food, wine, beer and assorted beverages will be available for purchase from *Local Coffee + Tea* in the historic Selby House.

- **Garden Music Concerts are from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. and are included in regular admission.**
- Adults \$17; Children (6 - 11) \$6; members and children 5 and under enter free; members guest - \$5 (accompanied by member). This is a Special Event - Please no passes or reciprocals.
- Bring your lawn chairs or blankets, no coolers please.
- Cancellation due to rain will be made at noon the day of the event. 941-366-5731 ext. 257
- **Performance Schedule:**
  - April 3 Yesterdaze
  - April 10 Jazz Juvenocracy
  - April 17 West Coast Black Theatre Troupe
  - April 24 TBA
  - May 1 TBA
  - May 8 The Venturas



## Kids Corner by Judy Sokal



The *Woodlands Word* is happy to be bringing back one of its old columns for your pleasure, but in an expanded version. The Kids Corner used to feature stories, poetry, awards, etc. from the children of Rivendell. The editors decided that our many grandparents who reside here would also like to share some of the writings of, and other stories of interest about, their grandchildren. So now parents and grandparents - SEND US STUFF! Below we offer one of our proud grandparents "sharing" their granddaughter's creations. If you'd like to share something too, please send your name, your child or grandchild's name and age, and the item for the newsletter to Norma Lee at [nlrhines@verizon.net](mailto:nlrhines@verizon.net). We think this column will put a smile on your face.

### MY GRANDMA HAS AN ELEPHANT

Sabrina Feldman, age 8

~ submitted by proud grandmother, Judy Sokal

My grandma has an elephant.

It's really big and gray.

And when we sit on top of it

We always scream hooray!

It makes some sort of sound.

It sounds like a loud toot.

It also wears some shoes

Like a great big giant boot.

It likes to eat pink peanuts.

And purple pasta too.

It works as a mailman.

But it should live in a zoo.

It has a long trunk

And two giant ears.

And whenever you're really sad,

It'll wipe away your tears.

It has a giant cage.

And an even bigger bed.

And like us humans,

It even gets bed head!

It has a little tail.

It smells like a garbage can.

And once it even kissed

A really, really hairy man.

It never takes a bath.

Or scrubs behind its ears.

It's afraid of ants.

And lots of other fears.

It listens to our grandma.

And cleans up grandma's room.

Sometimes it uses a mop.

And sometimes it uses a broom.

It has lots of friends.

Like Joey the kangaroo.

We are like those animal friends

'Cause we are best friends, too.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**BABYSITTER Available: Molly Benkaim, 941-961-3385.** 10th grade Pine View female student available for babysitting. Former camp counselor and CPR certified. Please call Molly if you'd like references.

**PET SITTING: Eve Day, 941-780-0821.** Rivendell neighbor who does pet sitting. Will follow all instructions and pricing is very reasonable.

## RESTAURANT REFLECTIONS

Carol and Ken Heckert

*Have you been to a restaurant recently for lunch or dinner that you'd like to tell your neighbors about? Then email Norma Lee Rhines at [nlrhines@verizon.net](mailto:nlrhines@verizon.net)*

**Miguel's Restaurant**, 6631 Midnight Pass Road, Siesta Key. Located in Crescent Plaza (1/4 mile south of Stickney Point Road). 941 - 349-4014 [www.miguelsrestaurant.net](http://www.miguelsrestaurant.net)

We have eaten at Miguel's several times, and each meal was a treat. The food is French and Continental, the atmosphere pleasant, and the service excellent. There is an Early Bird Special from 5:00 – 6:00 PM that includes paté, appetizer, salad, entrée, dessert and coffee. The 16 entrees include several veal dishes, roast duckling, filet mignon and lamb chops. Prices range from \$16 to \$19. After 6:00 PM, there are 20 entrees from which to choose, but only salad and vegetables are included, and some of the additional choices are more expensive. We give this restaurant high marks, and heartily recommend it.



### Send in your Favorites!

Send us the name and phone number of your favorite plumber, electrician, hair stylist, landscaper, you name it- and we'll list it!

If you have a service provider you'd like to recommend, please email Norma Lee at [nlrhines@verizon.net](mailto:nlrhines@verizon.net)

## SERVICE PROVIDER RECOMMENDATIONS

**Bicycles For the Homeless, Inc.** 941-538-1734, [www.BicyclesForTheHomeless.org](http://www.BicyclesForTheHomeless.org)

This company takes old, discarded bicycles and repairs them to donate them to homeless people around this area. We have given them one and we know others who have done the same. They pick-up the bikes at your home for free! The company is located at 8437 Tuttle Ave. #358, Sarasota. Bicycles for the Homeless seek donations of bicycles and bike accessories. Used bikes are reconditioned, safety upgraded, and donated to social services for clients. Your bike will provide homeless adults and children with transportation! *Anella Bredemeyer*

**Brue's Auto Body and Painting Shop**, 941-966-1333. This auto body repair shop, which is located between the House of Lords and Walmart, did a wonderful job repairing a badly mangled rear door of my car. They completed the work in two days, at a very reasonable price, and returned the door to its original appearance. Their address is 701 South Tamiami Trail. This Osprey auto body shop is also highly recommended by Rivendell resident Frank Freestone (1188 Mallard Marsh Drive). *Mike Gruenfeld, 1036 Scherer Way*

**For Tree Removal and Site Clean Up**, we recommend **Russell's Tree Service** (contact Kyle at 941-492-9356 or 429-0223) and **Alligator Stump Grinding** at 941-485-7363 (contact Kevin Twigg – a great name for someone in this business). Both are local outfits, licensed and insured. We have found them prompt to respond to us, and efficient, safe and clean in their work. *Norma Lee and Fred Rhines*

**Handyman - Sam McLeod**, 941-536-6091. I would like to recommend a handyman that we have used for many services, from electrical, to drywall to plumbing, and works by the hour (\$40.00). Sam McLeod is clean, highly skilled, and reliable. Call him at 941-536-6091.

*R. Cascio, Rivendell*

## BOOK GROUP SCHEDULE By Marilyn Probert

The Book Group will meet on Monday, April 11, to review "Half-Broke Horses: A True Life Novel" by Jeannette Walls. Because the author had to imagine her grandmother's actual words and reactions, this is considered a historical novel, but it seems to give an accurate picture of early twentieth century life in the "Wild West." Lily Casey Smith is the narrator of her own life story. Mirinda Roy will be discussion leader at Pat Sobczak's home at 803 Placid Lake Drive. Pat's phone number is 918-4633.

On May 9 we will analyze "Olive Kitteridge" by Elizabeth Strout. This Pulitzer Prize-winning collection of thirteen short stories describes incidents in the lives of residents of a Maine coastal village. In many of these stories Olive plays a pivotal part; in others her role is tangential. I will lead the discussion, and Dori Davis will host at 819 Shadow Bay Way. You may phone her at 918-8995 if you'd like to attend.

The June selection is "The Invisible Wall," a memoir by Harry Bernstein. The author was 93 years old when he started this, his first book; he has since written two more and is now working on his fourth!

All Book Group gatherings are open to Rivendell residents. We meet at 7:30 p.m. on the second Monday of the month; please call the month's hostess if you plan to join in.

## White Chocolate Bark

*Adapted by Pam Babbitt from The Barefoot Contessa by Ina Garten, 2008*

Pam Babbitt's *White Chocolate Bark*, which was served at a recent Book Group meeting, is based on this recipe. Pam's comments are in parentheses.

**Prep Time:** 15 min                      **Cook Time:** 13 min

**Level:** Easy                              **Serves:** 16 pieces

### Ingredients

1/2 cup walnuts (or any type of nut – I used pecans)

16 ounces very good white chocolate, finely chopped (used Ghirardelli White Chocolate Chips; it takes 1 and ½ 11 oz bags.)

1/4 cup dried cranberries (used *Craisin's*)

1/4 cup medium-diced dried apricots or other dried fruit

### Directions

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Place the walnuts or pecans in a single layer on a sheet pan and bake for 8 minutes. Set aside to cool and then chop roughly into large pieces.

Using a pencil, draw an 8 by 10-inch rectangle on a piece of parchment paper placed on a sheet pan. Turn the parchment paper over so the pencil mark doesn't get into the chocolate.

Place 3/4 of the chocolate in a glass bowl and place it in the microwave on high power for 30 seconds. (Don't trust your microwave timer – watch it.) Stir with a rubber spatula. Put it back in the microwave for another 30 seconds and stir again. Continue to heat and stir every 30 seconds until the chocolate is just melted. Immediately, add the remaining chocolate and allow it to sit at room temperature, stirring often, until it's completely smooth. (If you need to heat it a little more, place it in the microwave for another 15 seconds at a time.)

Pour the melted chocolate onto the parchment paper and spread it lightly on the drawn rectangle. Sprinkle the top evenly with the cooled walnuts, the cranberries and apricots. (Gently press the walnuts, cranberries, and apricots into the chocolate – so that it stays in place).

Set aside for at least 2 hours until firm, or refrigerate for 20 minutes. Cut the bark in 16 pieces and serve at room temperature. (It is easier to break the bark with your hands).

## Minutes Architectural Review Committee February 22, 2011

**Attendees:** Barry McClure, (Committee Chair) Frank Pafumi, Allen Roeter, Gwen Stepien, John Greco - Board Liaison

The ARC meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM with a quorum of Committee members present.

The minutes of the prior ARC meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved as written.

**The following applications were reviewed and decided for action.**

**1159 Mallard Marsh Drive:** Plant Shrubs Hibiscus, Schefflera, Crotons and Roses along side of house.  
Unanimously Approved – Motion to Approve Barry McClure, Seconded Gwen Stepien

**492 Meadow Sweet Circle:** Paint House Pastel Blue with White Trim.  
Unanimously Approved – Motion to Approve Frank Pafumi, Seconded Gwen Stepien

**545 Meadow Sweet Circle:** Paint House Lotus Leaf with White Trim.  
Unanimously Approved – Motion to Approve Allen Roeter, Seconded Barry McClure

**728 Anna Hope Lane:** Remove four Pine Trees growing in private hedge.  
Unanimously Approved – Motion to Approve Gwen Stepien, Seconded Barry McClure

**710 Fording Bridge Way:** Remove one Oak Tree in Center of Front Yard.  
Unanimously Approved – Motion to Approve Barry McClure, Seconded Allen Roeter

**819 Golden Pond Court:** Remove 11 Pine Trees rear of property. Trees were determined to be located in a Preserve area.  
Unanimously Rejected – Motion to Reject Frank Pafumi, Seconded John Greco

**558 Meadow Sweet Circle:** Extend existing Viburnum Hedge using Eugenia plants.  
Unanimously Approved – Motion to Approve Allen Rieter, Seconded Barry McClure

**1084 Mallard Marsh Drive:** Paint trim on house Eider White.  
Unanimously Approved – Motion to Approve Gwen Stepien, Seconded Barry McClure

**1159 Mallard Marsh Drive:** Plant Viburnum Bush in corner front yard.  
Unanimously approved – Motion to Approve Barry McClure, Seconded Frank Pafumi.

**688 Stillwater Court:** Paint House Meadowlark  
Unanimously approved – Motion to Approve Frank Pafumi, Seconded Allen Roeter

**749 Placid Lake Drive:** Paint house and Trim same color. Re-

place freeze damaged plants with same type. Add Blue Daze Plants to existing flowerbeds.

Unanimously approved – Motion to Approve Allen Roeter, Seconded Barry McClure.

**576 Meadow Sweet Circle:** Paint House Light Sage, Trim White.

Unanimously approved – Motion to Approve Gwen Stepien, Seconded John Greco

**New Business:** This being Gwen Stepien's last meeting as a member of the ARC, Barry McClure, Committee Chair and John Greco, Board liaison gave the committee's thanks to Gwen for her four years of service. Over the years, Gwen has worked hard to apply the community's deed restrictions in an equitable and transparent manner. Gwen has been a great asset to the ARC and we are sure that she will continue to be a dedicated community volunteer.

ARC meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

**Next Meeting March 29, 2011 6:00 p.m.**

*Editors' Note: The following are the official minutes of the Rivendell Board of Directors. As such, they are published as they were received. The Woodlands Word is not responsible for any errors in spelling, grammar, or content. The official Board Minutes can also be viewed online through the Rivendell website at Lighthouse Management.*

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011

A REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Directors was scheduled to be held at 6:00 P.M., at the 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church, 265 N. Tamiami Trail, Osprey, Florida.

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 P.M., by the President, John Greco.

Notice of the meeting was delivered to each Director and posted on the property prior meeting, in accordance with the requirements of the Association Documents and Florida Statutes.

The following Directors were present: John Greco, Mark Adler, John Critser, Mary Marryott  
Bobby Merrill was absent.

A quorum was declared to be present.

On matters relating to the minutes of the previous meeting of November 3, 2010, Ms. Marryott made a motion to revise the minutes to offer a hearing to the residents of 936 Scherer Way rather than arranging mediation through the attorney. There was no second. Motion did not pass. A motion was made by Mr. Adler and seconded by Mr. Critser to approve the November 3, 2010 minutes as presented. Ms. Marryott was opposed. Motion passed 3-1.

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS,** Treasurer's report, a report was

given summarizing the most recent financials. Mr. Critser indicated there would be a surplus or rollover funds.

#### Committee Reports,

Communication, Judy Sokal reported the Woodlands Word will be sent out this week.

Architectural Review, Mr. Greco reported there were 6 submittals which were all approved.

Pool, Tom Fassler reported a solar panel has a broken sensor that has been replaced. Light bulbs were replaced as well.

Holiday Decorations, Dave Gill reported an owner has volunteered to purchase new holiday decorations and obtain reimbursements. A motion was made by Mr. Critser and seconded by Mr. Adler

**MOTION 11-01:** to authorize \$200 for non denominational/seasonal decorations which will be stored/hung in the pool room. Motion passed.

Landscape/Environmental, Ken Heckert reported they are awaiting contract estimates for the preserve maintenance.

Mr. Greco reported Nanak's landscaping merged with Valleycrest Landscaping. All landscape items were tabled until a meeting has been held with the Valleycrest account manager who will review and provide updated estimates for all outstanding items.

Nominating Committee, Mr. Adler reported there are two openings for the upcoming election. Ballots will be mailed out accordingly and there will not be a meet the candidates night this year as it won't be necessary with only two candidates running.

Documents Modernization and Simplification, Mr. Adler reported this operation will have to be in two phases. After the Annual Meeting a feasibility study will have be done to determine if it is necessary to move forward.

Manager's report, a report was submitted (see attached #1). A motion was made by Mr. Adler and seconded by Mr. Critser

**MOTION 11-02:** to proceed with the fining of 759 Fordingbridge Way for the mailbox light. Motion passed.

The next meeting was scheduled for the Annual Meeting February 10, 2010, at 6:00 P.M.

#### Owner Comments

There was an inquiry about the vote for rollover of surplus. It was confirmed the voting material would be included in the next annual meeting mailing.

A request was made to have the Board provide an update on legal issues. Mr. Greco summarized each item:

- No lawsuits have been filed.
- There were two complaints filed to the FCHA against the association with respondents.
- The respondents replied accordingly.
- The Insurance Company initially denied coverage, but then informally agreed to provide defense.
- The original releases were never signed because the attorney's couldn't agree on the content/terms.

- The claims filed with the FCHA state agency were denied and the Board waits to see if they will be appealed.

Relative to 936 Scherer Way, two notices were sent to the owner and were responded to which included legal reference. The matter was turned over the attorney, in which mediation was offered. The owners have not accepted the offer.

A resident expressed concern regarding an encroachment from a neighboring community at the end of Scherer Way. There was discussion of installing a fence. A motion was made by Mr. Greco and seconded by Mr. Critser

**MOTION 11-03:** to approve Dieter Schmitt to research fence options. Motion passed.

There should be a place for old business. Mr. Greco explained that according to Robert's Rule of Order, in a properly conducted meeting, there is no type or class of business called "old business."

With no further business before the Board, a motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 7:22 P.M.

Kyenne Merrill, CAM

Dated: This 15<sup>th</sup> day of January 2011.

#### Manager's Report

##### 1.4.11

#### On Site/Maintenance-

- Property Inspection- 11.5.10
- Property inspection, spot check several compliance issues-11.15.10
- Property inspection- 11.23.10
- Property inspection- 12.2.10
- Compliance inspection- 12.10.10
- Holiday decorations put up by LHM maintenance 12-14-10
- Property inspection- 12.17.10
- Compliance follow up- 12.21.10
- Property inspection, posted agendas-12.30.10

#### Administrative-

- Forwarded financials to Board for review
- Forwarded draft agenda to board for review
- Forwarded draft minutes for review
- Forwarded ARC requests to committee- weekly
- Approved minutes posted to website
- Newsletter posted to website
- Forwarded approved minutes to Ms. Babbitt for publishing in the newsletter
- Contacted Nanak's regarding work orders- as needed
- Insurance Policies renewed

#### Correspondence-

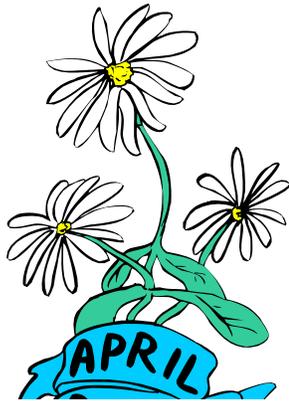
- Letters sent to homeowners regarding submitted ARC forms

#### Compliance-

- Board needs to decide on fines for 759 Fording Bridge, already been sent final notice regarding non-working mailbox lights.
- Compliance letters mailed to homeowners. 14 Total.

Kyenne Merrill, CAM  
Managing Agent

Roof/Fence	2
Maintenance of structure/ Mailbox	2
Dogs-barking	
Yard Condition	1
For Sale signs	1
Garbage Cans	
Trucks	
Basket ball hoop/play equip.	
Light out	8



**The Architectural  
Review  
Committee  
(ARC)**

meets the **last Tuesday** of each month  
at the Cottages Clubhouse.  
Applications are due to  
Lighthouse Management  
by the **third Tuesday** of each month.

**NOTE:** The ARC recommends that applications be received one week before the next meeting. Therefore, any applications received after the monthly date will have to wait until following month.

**MINUTES OF THE  
SPECIAL  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING  
February 10, 2011**

A *SPECIAL MEETING* of the Board was scheduled to immediately follow the Membership meeting, at Bentley's Resort located at 1660 S. Tamiami Trail, Osprey, Florida.

The meeting was called to order at 6:48 P.M.

Notice of the meeting was sent to each Director and posted on the property prior to the meeting in accordance with the Bylaws of the Association and the requirements of the Florida Statutes.

The following Directors were present:

Mark Adler, John Critser, John Greco, Judy Sokal. Bobby Merrill

A quorum was declared to be present.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Adler and seconded by Mr. Merrill, it was voted unanimously

**VOTED 11-04:** To motion, John Critser to be elected as President, Motion passed.

Upon a motion was made by Mr. Adler, and duly seconded by Mr. Critser, and it was voted unanimously

**VOTED 11-05:** To motion, John Greco to be elected as Vice President. Motion passed.

Upon a motion was made by Mr. Adler, and duly seconded by Mr. Greco, and it was unanimously:

**VOTED 11-06:** To motion, Bobby Merrill be elected as Treasurer. Motion passed.

Upon a motion was made by Mr. Adler, and duly seconded by Mr. Greco, and it was voted unanimously:

**VOTED 11-07:** To motion, Judy Sokal be elected as Secretary. Motion passed.

There was discussion of designation of board liaisons assignments to committees. Upon a motion made by Mr. Greco and seconded by Mr. Adler it was voted:

**VOTED 11-09:** To motion, we appoint and elect the following

- Landscape/Environmental: John Critser
- ARC: John Greco
- Communications: Judy Sokal
- Document Modification: Mark Adler
- Pool: John Greco

The next regular Board meeting was scheduled for March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011.

With no further business before the Board, upon a motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 7:01 P.M.

*Kyanne Merrill  
Managing Agent*

## WHO WE ARE

### RCA Committees 4/2011

#### Communications

(nlrhines@verizon.net)

**Board Liaison, Judy Sokal**

**Chair, Norma Lee Rhines**

**Directory, Barb Gahry**

**Block Captains, Cindy Schmidl**

**Newsletter, Norma Lee Rhines, Linda Pearlstein, Editors; Marilyn Probert, Copy; Pam Babbitt, Reporter Assignments; Mike Bergman, Reporter Representative**

**Reporters: Anna Beatty, Barb Gahry, Carol Heckert, Mary Kennedy, Charles Kiblinger, Jane Lettich, Ed Lin, Kay Mruz, Meredith Pike**

#### Architectural Review (ARC)

(ARC.BMc@gmail.com)

**Board Liaison, John Greco**

**Chair, Barry McClure**

Frank Pafumi, Allen Roeter, John Beatty

#### Landscape/Environmental

(davidgill@verizon.net)

**Board Liaison, John Critser**

**Chair, Dave Gill**

Mike Bergman, Frank Freestone, Ken Heckert, Mike Gruenfeld, Carol Heckert, Charles Kiblinger, Denny Pavlock, Carl Schubert, Alexis Spalding

#### Swimming Pool

(Tom.Faessler@nielsen.com)

**Board Liaison, John Greco**

**Chair, Tom Faessler**

Carol Heckert, Bo Potter, Lori Yohann

**Access the Rivendell website at:** [http://www.lighthousepropertymanagement.net/portal\\_login.html](http://www.lighthousepropertymanagement.net/portal_login.html)

### Rivendell Board of Directors

**John Critser, president**

(jdc@mollycat.net)

Liaison to Landscape/Environmental

**John Greco, vice president**

(jgreco8054@aol.com)

Liaison to ARC and Pool

**Bobby Merrill, treasurer**

(bobbymerrill3@aol.com)

**Judy Sokal, secretary**

(judysokal@gmail.com)

Liaison to Communications

**Vacant, director**

### Subassociation Officers

#### The Cottages Board of Directors

Jane Lettich, President

Dave Perez, 1st Vice President

Skip Kessel, 2nd Vice President

Carole Myles, Treasurer

Mike Georgopolis, Secretary

#### Patio Homes Board of Directors

Edward Diggs, President;

Jayne Irene, Secretary

Bruce Whalen, Treasurer

#### The Villas Board of Directors

Dianne Enger, President;

Sherry Sholtis, Vice President, Secretary

Lory Turner, Treasurer

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### VISIT RIVENDELL'S WEB SITE

- Stay informed about community activities.
- Access and submit ARC and other forms electronically.
- Read current and back issues of the Woodlands Word.
- Look at Woodlands Word photos in color.
- Find service provider recommendations.

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Access the Rivendell website at:

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To begin, click on *Association Members Login*. Your new Login ID is your 6-digit **Lighthouse Management account number** (including leading zeros) followed by your last name, for example "001234Smith." Don't know your account number? Call Lighthouse at 966-6844.

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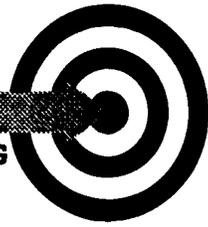


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