



The Meadow Sweet Circular



NEWSLETTER FOR THE COTTAGES AT RIVENDELL

RIVENDELL UNIT #1 MAY, 2004 EDITION

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TRACY ARENDT - TECHNICAL COORDINATOR

For Newsletter and Community info when you're out of town, visit: www.thecottagesofrivendell.com

Maintenance Committee

Report

Submitted by Terry Sweeney



Clubhouse

Front steps need repainting. The bottom step is too narrow and will be widened. Cost: \$ 450.

A safety rail will be installed. Cost: \$ 600.

A section of the front fence will be removed to allow for a concrete slab to be poured so as to link the sidewalk with the clubhouse ramp. Cost: \$750.

Gutters at the front & rear of the clubhouse would lessen the damage to front & rear steps. Cost: \$ 1,000

All the above are considered priority items and it is requested that the board allocate the necessary funds so that work can begin.

Clubhouse:

The lock on the men's washroom door was forced some while ago and according to Glen Leach (handyman) it cannot be repaired. The warranty covers a new lock which has been ordered at no charge. Glen will install it when received. There will be a labor charge.

Clubhouse:

Although the pool gate at the side of the clubhouse conforms to Sarasota County regulations it is felt that it should be replaced by a taller gate with a more secure catch. This is a task that maintenance committee volunteers could handle.

Soil Tests:

We are still awaiting the results of the soil tests.

Clubhouse Grounds and Irrigation System

We must ask Valley Crest to check the sprinklers which do not appear to be functioning properly.

A mail box is being installed at the clubhouse specifically for maintenance committee requests. All submissions must be in writing and include NAME and ADDRESS. Anonymous will be ignored.



Financial Report

Submitted by Mike Georgopolis

The financial status of the Riv Unit 1 Association continues to be good. The quarter-to-date figures indicate a positive actual compared to budget at the end of the March period. We flowed out ninety-two percent of plan, so we are ahead going into the second quarter.

We anticipate the second quarter will run smoothly as well and are recommending that projects requested by the maintenance committee be approved by the board, as the funds requested for these tasks are well within the budget guidelines. Operating cash-on-hand will accommodate the expenditures, with the forecasted budget-to-actual well in control, through the end of June and the remainder of the fiscal year.

Various clubhouse maintenance & improvement jobs will be carried out to a 'rounded' expense of \$3,000. All firm bids are being accepted now for the exact costs, which are in accord with line item (7210 & 7295) plan numbers.

Our Reserve Account balance has now surpassed the \$20,000 level as we continue to build it to an acceptable 'safety point' going forward.

Timely payment of membership dues is appreciated. This allows the committee, the board and the management company to concentrate on operations of your Association.

The business of the MSC community is solid at this time.



Architectural Review Committee Report

Submitted by Ed Kearns

MEETING MAY 11TH AT 7 PM AT THE CLUBHOUSE.
HOMEOWNERS ARE WELCOME.

We would remind all of the following in our documents:
Article IX-A-2.2A "The Committee shall have the following responsibilities...Develop and make available to homeowners an application form to use when applying for approval to undertake changes or modification to existing structures and landscaping"

Application forms are available from any Committee Member:
Marge Chandler, Jim Parker, Bob Axiom, Diane Fitzgerald or Ed Kearns. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Activities Fund Report



Below you will find the current monthly Activities Fund report for APRIL, 2004:

BEGINNING BALANCE:			\$541.91
Apr 1	Donation (Anonymous)	\$10.00	\$551.95
Apr 1	Oscar Scherer Park Deposit for Memorial Day Picnic	-\$64.00	\$487.95
Apr 11	Purchase of 4 Card Tables	-\$111.26	\$ 376.69
Apr 26	Donation (Anonymous)	\$13.00	\$389.69
Apr 26	Coffee	\$12.00	\$401.69
ENDING BALANCE:			\$401.69

Ad-Hoc Committee, Irrigation Pump

4/20/04 - Submitted by Chuck Bly

After a few conversations and checking on the operation of the pump, our recommendations so far are.

1. To have a rain sensor installed. The existing one is installed inside the pumphouse and is not wired into the system
2. To have Valley Crest continue to set the watering schedules per the list that was developed. This should minimize any short cycling that is occurring.
3. Install a time clock on system so that it will only run on the days and the length of time that is allowed by Sarasota County.

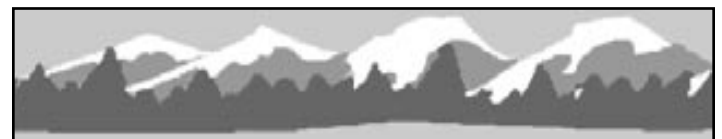
We would ask that if any one is walking by the pump house and hears the pump short cycling that they note the time and date and call me. Also if you see irrigation running other than the set schedule let me know.

Houses on the inner circle: Sunday's 12:00 AM - 7:00AM

Houses on the outer circle: Tuesday's 12:00 AM - 7:00 AM

Rivendell Blvd: Saturdays in the AM

I can be reached at 966-4391. If no answer please leave a message.



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Landscaping News



On May 6 @ 8:00 A.M. John B. from Valley Crest will be available to discuss individual lawn problems with homeowners for 10 minutes each. A sign up sheet has been posted at the clubhouse and folks must SIGN UP.

VALLEY CREST MAINTENANCE REPORT

Provided by John B.

The following contract items were completed in the month of MARCH:

1. Mow Turf/Hard Edge - 3 times
2. Bed Edge - 2 times
3. Round-up - 3 times
4. Shrub trimming - 1 time
5. Irrigation inspection 1 time
6. Turf Fertilizer w/Herbicide - 1 time

The following contract items were completed in the month of APRIL:

1. Mow Turf/Hard Edge - 4 times
2. Bed Edge - 2 times
3. Round-up - 4 times
4. Shrub trimming - 1 time
5. Irrigation inspection 1 time
6. Ornamental Fertilizer w/Insecticide - 1 time
7. Turf Fertilizer w/Herbicide - 1 time

The following contract items are pending for the month of MAY:

1. Spray Weeds in Turf.

Anonymous Gardening Tip:

Effective, non-poisonous spray for bugs or scale on outdoor plants and flowering shrubs. In a small spray bottle...1 capful Murphy's Oil Soap, 1 teaspoon baking soda, fill with water. Spray lightly and observe plant for a couple of days. Repeat if necessary.



Comcast is in the process of doing a feasibility study on the package rate program we are requesting from them. Hopefully, they will have some firm answers for us by June. We will keep you informed as to progress.

Anyone interested in being a part of the group who has not already turned in their names can call Margery Arendt at 918-0953.

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Chiropractic Physician

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(2225)

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- Change Smoke Alarm Batteries
- Walkway Pavers Installed Over Concrete
- Single Room Painting
- Clean Patios & Patio Furniture
- House/Plant/Pet Sitting
- Installing Shelves
- Installing Faucets, Deadbolts
- Spread Mulch
- Lights Changed/Dimmers Installed



BY THE HOUR
OR BY QUOTE

CALL ALLEN: 966-2325

Cottage Comments:

LETTERS TO
THE EDITOR



Dear Neighbors,

This column is for your voice to be heard in our community. All points of view are welcome, but we can't include in print what we never receive. So send in comments, ideas, critiques and compliments UNDER 200 WORDS to MargArendt@aol.com, or type them up and deliver to 516.

Your Editor,

Margery Arendt

To our Friends and Neighbors:

I would like to take this means of thanking our many good friends and neighbors for their many expressions of love and friendship during my recent stints in the hospital. None of us can know what lies ahead but we do know that we are part of a wonderful little community filled with steadfast friends and neighbors who genuinely care for each other. That is a priceless gift that helps and sustains us all.

With deep appreciation:

Howard Propst, 555 Meadow Sweet Circle

Dear Neighbors,

I would like to thank Joanne Segar for putting together the "Notebook" for our fine community. I find it a handy reference for frequently needed information. I also appreciate her recently completed service on the Board of Directors for Rivendell Unit 1; and know she will serve in the same manner in her newly elected position on the Board of Directors for the Woodlands. Joanne's efforts are just one fine example of what's right in Rivendell!

Sincerely,

Rosemary Haley 565 MSC

Cottages Activities Committee Report

Submitted by Mike & Carolyn Georgopolis

The brunch at Stoneybrook Golf & CC on April 18th was a success. Twenty-four Cottages' neighbors enjoyed good food and fun conversation. There were several requests for a repeat, so another brunch date will be scheduled for the Fall.

On Saturday, May 8th there will be a Happy Hour at the clubhouse. This is always a nice time for a relaxing evening visit.

Please mark Monday, May 31st on your calendars for the Memorial Day picnic at Oscar Scherer State Park. Our Big Rivendell neighbors will join us for this event.

Plans are being made for a Le Barge sunset cruise on Wednesday, June 16th. The boat leaves from downtown Sarasota at 6:00 PM. The cost is \$15.00 or \$13.00 depending on the number of people in our group. We do need to make the reservation early. Please let us know by Thursday, May 6th if you are interested in this fun, casual cruise around Sarasota's waters. Call Carolyn G. 966-5747 or Audrey S. 918-0550 to reserve.

Saturday, July 3rd is our annual Summer Picnic at the clubhouse - a great time for hot dogs, hamburgers and goodies!

There is a date change to note: the Holiday party will be Sunday, December 5th (not Sat, 4th)

We're looking forward to seeing you all at these neighborhood events.

Sincerely, the Activities Committee.

Western Union - Money Orders - Keys - Notary

MAIL/PAC "N" FAX

THE PLAZA AT PALMER RANCH

8499 South Tamiami Trail
Sarasota, Florida 34238

Tel: 941-923-5484
Fax: 941-925-2946

Rob Schloss

Big Rivendell Activities Report

Submitted by Marge Chandler

Rivendell Community Association Cocktail Party

Tuesday, May 11, 5 to 7 PM

Judy and Ben Adams

1168 Mallard Marsh Drive

Bring an appetizer to share & your own drinks (no red wine please). RSVP to Judy or Ben at 918-1318. Limited to 40 people, so call soon for your reservation. \$1 donation, please.

Memorial Day Picnic

at Oscar Scherer State Park

Monday, May 31, 2004, 11am to 3pm

The pavilion close to the lake has been reserved (look for the Rivendell sign), bring your own meat to grill, side dish to share with 6 to 8, drinks, utensils and chairs. Grills are provided. Activities to enjoy besides eating too much good food are hiking, swimming, fishing, canoe rentals, biking (bring your own bikes) and good conversation. There is a fee for each car entering the park and those attending will be asked for a donation to offset the rental cost of the pavilion.

Questions? Call Allen at 966-2325 or Maury 966-6291

SUNSET PICNIC AT THE NORTH JETTY

Sunday June 13, 2004 from 4:30-8:30

We will gather for a picnic at the North Jetty/Casey Key-Nokomis. It is for all ages and everyone is welcome but we will limit it to the first 100 people due to the space of the pavilion. Bring you own entire picnic basket. Cost is \$1 per person to cover the cost of the pavilion. Please wear a name tag. Also, anyone that has a talent they would like to share to entertain us, it would be appreciated. For example, if you play a musical instrument and would like to play something that would be wonderful. A final note, no glass is allowed at the Jetty. You can e-mail your reservations to nsshubert@comcast.net

POOL RULES

The Sign posted on the fence in the pool area lists the following rules...rules set not by our association, but by Sarasota County:

SHOWER BEFORE ENTERING.

**NO FOOD, DRINK OR GLASS IN POOL
OR ON POOL DECK.**

NO ANIMALS IN POOL OR ON POOL DECK.

MAXIMUM WATER TEMP IS 104° F.

BATHING LOAD 20 PERSONS.

CURRENT POOL HOURS:

DAWN TO DUSK

NO DIVING – NO CANON BALLS

No one is trying to spoil anyone's fun, but it is necessary to outline and enforce these few guidelines. We have tried to make the general appearance of the area as inviting as possible through our recent cleaning and landscape efforts. All we ask is that you return the chairs to an upright position as you leave and help us maintain a neat and orderly common area for the enjoyment of all. There is no paid help to do this for us.

Laughter and frolicking are an understandable and acceptable noise for a pool area. Screaming is an abrasive sound, especially to the homes surrounding the pool. Your courtesy and cooperation in keeping this sort of behavior in check is greatly appreciated.

Many of our residents (and their guests) thoroughly enjoy the Cottage's pool. Let's all help to keep it safe and looking good!

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Florida Homestead Exemption increase from \$25,000 to \$50,000.

Submitted by Joanne Segar

For those of us who own homes, and those of us who eventually will, this is a crucial improvement for real estate tax payers in Florida...

They're working to raise the Florida Homestead Exemption from \$25,000 to \$50,000. Who can argue with that? Go to the link, sign up.

They need over 488,000 Florida voters to sign the petition to put Jeff Saull's amendment on the ballot. Please sign and return your and get your friends and family to sign a petition too! Thank you for your support.

<http://mypropertytaxcut.com/>

Sandhill Cranes on MSC



New Residents, Mr. & Mrs Sandhill Crane, stroll along the circle with their newest addition.

Sandhill Cranes are found in inland shallow freshwater marshes, prairies, pastures, farmlands, and lawns. Florida has both resident and migratory populations. The Florida subspecies is slightly smaller and darker than the visiting birds. Many of the migratory birds winter at Paynes Prairie. Large, bulky nests are usually built over water or on floating vegetation. Usually two eggs are laid. After about 30 days of incubation, the eggs hatch, and within 24 hours, the young leave the nest to follow their parents. They will be able to fly within 2.5 months but won't be on their own until they're about 10 months old.

Sandhill Cranes may feed on cracked corn scattered on the ground. Peanuts may also be taken as they feed on peanut crops.



PLANNED

Submitted by Jackie Axiom

Pending approval by the Board, our neighborhood will again have a one day garage sale on October 16. As you do your spring, summer, and fall cleaning, save those discarded items for the sale. Details will appear in the September issue of this paper.

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Jan & John Huwiler
Hostess & Host of the April 25th Coffee



at the Clubhouse

Sunday, May 16th,
10:00 AM to Noon.

Hosted by Joan & Wally Basset

Meet with your friends and neighbors and enjoy some sweets and treats and relaxed conversation. Donation \$1.00 appreciated. We also need volunteers to Host the upcoming Sunday coffees. Please call Barbara or Maury Tragar to sign up: 966-6291.

Meadow Sweet Cuisine...



Recipes Contributed by your neighbors.

PUPPY CHOW

Compliments of Kira Axiom

Snack

- 1 1/2 cup chocolate chips
- 1 cup peanut butter
- 1 stick butter
- 1 box Crispix cereal
- 3 cups powdered sugar
- 1 brown paper bag


Melt together chips, peanut butter and butter. Pour over bowl of Crispix. Mix together. Put half the powdered sugar in the paper bag. Dump in Crispix mix and then the remaining powdered sugar. Shake well. Pour into bowl and serve. Children love eating "Puppy Chow".



Monthly Bridge

Submitted by Ed Kearns

Bridge will be Hosted by Allen Terman at 578 MSC, this month, on Thursday, May 20th at 7 PM. New-comers welcome. Call Allen Terman 966-2325 to join in the fun!

Nathan Dewey

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COLDWELL BANKER


MAY, 2004

Calendar of Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 Happy Hour 5 PM at the clubhouse
 9	10 Big Riv Assoc. Mtg 9 AM at clubhouse	11 Big Rivendell Cocktail Party 5-7PM RSVP	12	13	14	15
16 Coffee at the clubhouse 10AM-Noon	17	18 Cottages Board Mtg 7 PM at clubhouse	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ITEMS FOR CIRCULAR
30	31 Picnic at Oscar Scherer 11 AM - 3 PM					

Remembering Those Who Were Lost

*They answered their country's call to arms,
Into battle they did go,
Where their final destination was,
No one will ever know.*

*May their final resting place,
Under some unknown sod,
Be forever hallowed,
For it is known only unto God.*

