



2017 LOWofJ November / December Newsletter

Editor: Judie Gollwitzer

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:	Jerri DeKriek
Vice President:	Colleen Najm
Treasurer:	Dave Smith
Secretary:	Barbara O'Brien
Director at Large:	Patrick Kopfle

The NEXT BOARD MEETING FOR LOWofJ will be held at 9:30 AM on

December 1st at the LOJ clubhouse.

Agendas are posted on bulletin boards and the www.lowofj.com website two days before each meeting.

BOARD BUSINESS

1. **2018 Budget:** The Board reviewed the new budget and a copy will be sent out to residents for their review.

2. **Concrete Slab at LOW Mailboxes:** The slab still needs to be coated to eliminate potential rust and to be aesthetically pleasing.

3. **Plan for around the Mailboxes:**

- Refresh landscaping
- Repair or replace bulletin boards
- Replace wooden post and rail fence

4. **Fire in the forest:** There have been two fires over near the mailboxes. The second was determined to be from a cigarette. The Board has begun to remove fallen trees in the area, but annual maintenance needs to be addressed.

5. **Status of DPP:** DPP is our **Disaster Preparedness Program**. Once this active committee of trained volunteers was recognized by the County as a cohesive group, prepared for any emergency. Unfortunately, without a leader this committee has all but faded away. What we have left is an enormous amount of equipment sitting in a storage unit. After experiencing Hurricane Irma, we are no longer complacent about the damage hurricanes can

do. DPP's motto was always "**Should I stay, or Should I go,**" and this is a question that could very well come up again. DPP through its leaders put emergency processes in place that gave us the knowledge needed to help each other. A disaster could be a tornado, a fire, a plane crash. Those disasters are not in the same category as a hurricane because you don't have a warning of several days. The Board will continue to explore DPP's value.

6. **Social Functions:** All activities in our community that fall under the category of SOCIAL, must be privately funded through community fund raisers. That would include the Volunteers' Luncheon, the Holiday Dinner Dance and any other social event. Under Florida Law, a community cannot contribute HOA funding to any event deemed social.

Your Board of Directors is asking for volunteers to chair a fundraiser or two so that our community can come together for both fun and recognition. Please contact the Board if you wish to either chair this committee or help. Thank you.

7. **Roads:** The roads identified for recoating and crack resealing are: Silk Oak (South Section), Cedarwood Lane, Rosewood Court, Woodvale Drive and Vista Wood Drive. Asphalt Maintenance Specialists is the company selected for this job. Work is expected to begin after the new year. Those affected will be notified in advance.

8. **Hurricane Shutters:** The hurricane season is officially over at the end of November. All hurricane shutters need to be taken down by December 1st.

9. **Personal Holiday Decorations:** The Board has reviewed holiday decorations for each season and the following is the expectation for all residents. Exterior decorations (other than Christmas) can be displayed for one

week prior to the holiday and one week after the holiday. Christmas decorations may be exhibited from Thanksgiving to January 15th.

10. ***The Pump House:*** The repairs have been completed.

COMMITTEE NEWS

ARC: A Friendly Reminder: If you plan to make any changes to the exterior of your home you need to first go through the Architectural Review Committee. That includes painting your home, changing your landscaping and adding anything permanent to your exterior (to name a few.) There is a handbook that was put together by Sarasota County on Florida landscaping that you may want to look at before you plant anything that will disappoint you later. This guide will discuss how things grow in Florida, which trees and shrubs will thrive as a Florida-friendly planting along with which are native to Florida. We recommend that you check it out and save it in your "favorites." ***Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Handbook***, https://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/materials/FYN_Handbook_2015_web.pdf.

Communications: No updates.

Lakes and Wetlands: A possible issue that comes as the temperatures drop in Florida, is fish kills as the cold fronts move through our area. Blue tilapia are the dominant fish in the lakes in our community and they have a tremendous impact as they tend to over populate. They spawn 3 times a year and produce 1,500 to 4,000 eggs per spawn. With little or no predation these fish rapidly over populate our lakes, which contributes to the fish kill when oxygen levels

drop. They are also sensitive to cold water and stop feeding when the water temperature drops to 60 degrees and begin dying as the temperature falls below 60 degrees.

Obviously, we don't want to experience fish kills and the resulting smell and mess that go with it. The Lakes and Wetlands Committee continues to work with Hart Harvesting to remove tilapia from our lakes by netting them to prevent over population. This is an effective approach and if you see 2 men in a boat netting fish in our lakes, be aware that the BOD has authorized them to do so.

Another important item in the prevention of fish kills is to restrict fertilizer from getting in the lakes. Residents should not blow grass clippings into the street gutters or fertilize within a few feet of the lakes. This will restrict nutrients getting into the water and ultimately reduce the growth and impact of algae when the oxygen level in our lakes drops

If you have any questions or see anything wrong with the lakes please contact Art and Barbara Bradley by e-mail at suniparadise42@msn.com.

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Lectures:

The Rise and Fall of Russia, and What They Want, by Dr. Tom Boeke

TIME CHANGE: This lecture is scheduled for **Wednesday, December 13th at 10:00 AM** at the LOJ Clubhouse. Please **NOTE the TIME CHANGE**. With Russia dominating the news, you don't want to miss this lecture.

Weaving, by Donna McGinnis

NEW: Donna is a weaver and will give us a demonstration on the art of weaving. Please join Donna on **Wednesday, January 10th at 1:00 PM at the LOJ Clubhouse.**

Color Your World, by Barbara O'Brien

RESCHEDULED: Due to the clubhouse mandatory closing, Barbara's lecture had to be changed. It has been rescheduled for **Thursday, February 15th beginning at 1:00 PM at the LOJ clubhouse.**

Brief Introduction: Barbara O'Brien is an Interior Designer and taught interior design for several years at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, CT. She owned Interior Design Associates in Connecticut and as a professional member of ASID, she has designed interiors for hotels, medical facilities, restaurants and yachts in addition to residential projects in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York and Florida and has had her work published in trade magazines. Barbara will teach us how to understand and apply color effectively in our own homes. She will explain color schemes and harmony, the use of tints, tones and shades. She will guide us on whether to choose a neutral or colorful palette, and determine if it should be warm, cool or both. Also to be discussed is the psychological impact of color.

Getting Your Home Organized, by Nancy Scott

NEW: Resident Nancy Scott has offered to do a lecture and give us tips on **How of Organize Your Belongings in a Florida Home.** She is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 7th at 1:00 PM at the LOJ Clubhouse.**

Mold Remediation Without Using Harsh chemicals

NEW: Richard LaPierre, from Bio-Science, an environmental services company gives lectures all over the country to both air-conditioning service

companies and physicians His message is for safe and effective mold remediation. His method has been proven to eliminate mold and leave the property safe to occupy after remediation. **We are looking at April** to invite Richard to speak to us. Watch for more information in the January / February Newsletter.

Floral Design:

THANK YOU to all who attended the lecture on designing flowers for your home. I hope you enjoyed the demonstration and learned something valuable from the slide presentation.

Judie Gollwitzer

Social:

GAME NIGHT will change to Tuesday evenings at 7:00 PM. We will meet at the LOJ clubhouse a little before 7:00 PM and begin to play Mexican Train at 7:00. BYOB, but we have decided not to serve food. It's all about the GAME! Hope you can join us. *Judie Gollwitzer 941-497-6368*

THE HISTORY BENEATH OUR FEET



In the September / October Newsletter we discussed the Paleo and Archaic People. The Paleo began to populate Florida as far back as 8200 B.C. during the Pleistocene period. The Archaic were named after the Archaic period dating from 6,500 to 1,200 B.C.

Fast forward from B.C. to about 300 A.D. where archaeologists discovered refuse and burial mounds in villages along the Gulf coast.

The MANASOTA Peoples:

During the periods archaeologists called Manasota and Weeden Island, approximately from A.D. 300 to 1000, dome-shaped burial mounds began to appear. Early skeletons were buried in the fetal position, others in groups and some with only their skulls. Treasures such as jewelry, spear points or a "killed" cup were occasionally packed into the mounds. This cup had a hole in it indicating that its owner could no longer benefit from its contents.

The tools of the Manasota people changed from the stone tools of their predecessors, to manufactured tools of bone and wood. Other tools such as hammers from shells, plummets, scrapers, hoes, points, picks and dippers began to appear. Sharp daggers and jewelry were made from nature's bounty. Pottery, if you remember from the last newsletter, began to change and those found in the refuse heaps and burial mounds, began to tell of the progression of the people who made them. Where once there were large deep pots, now archaeologists found shallow bowls, cups and decorated water bottles. It was the Spaniards who would record their names as the Tocobagas and the Calusas. The Tocobagas occupied the coastal region lying somewhere between Tarpon Springs and Sarasota County. The Calusa authority lived near the present Calooshattee River and as far south as the Keys and the Bahama Channel. Venice bordered both peoples and there is evidence in Venice of

both cultures.

Resource: (Janet Snyder Matthews book, Venice Journey From Horse and Chaise, published by Pine Level Press, Inc., Sarasota, Florida, 1989.)

Look for the NEXT HISTORICAL ARTICLE in the January / February Newsletter. Together we'll discover the land beneath our feet.



CONCERT IN THE PARK - with Kraig Kenning

DATE: November 24th
TIME: 7:00 PM- 10:00 PM
LOCATION: Centennial Park, 200 W Venice Ave

CONCERT IN THE PARK - with The Velvet Hammer Band

DATE: Friday, December 8th
TIME: 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
PLACE: Centennial Park, 200 W Venice Ave

CONCERT IN THE PARK - with Mindy Simmons Christmas

DATES: December 22nd
TIME: 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
PLACE: Centennial Park, 200 W Venice Ave

ORCHID SHOW & SALE

DATES: February 3rd & 4th
TIME: Saturday, 10 AM - 5 PM & Sunday, 10 AM - 4 PM
PLACE: Venice Community Center (Admission \$5.00)



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