



LOJ Newsletter - November 2020

Writer: Judie Gollwitzer

Editor: Barbara O'Brien

PRESIDENT	Judie Gollwitzer
VICE PRESIDENT	Barbara O'Brien
TREASURER	Karen Hnatusko
SECRETARY	Joan High
DIRECTOR AT LARGE	Fred Gossman



Your Lakes of Jacaranda Board of Directors wishes all of you a Happy Thanksgiving. Whether you are blessed to have family nearby, traveling to see family or spending time with friends we wish you all the joy that this holiday can bring.

NOTE: My husband, Bill, and I are far from family. Last year we took advantage of our beautiful area and spent Thanksgiving at the beach. We were not alone. Others had the same idea. As strange as this may sound, it brought us joy. I hope you find your joy during this difficult time.

2020 AT A GLANCE:

No matter what your story of living through a pandemic may be, your LOJ Board's story will be one of being productive. In spite of the pandemic we were able to accomplish a lot. Here are some of the highlights:

1. We hired a new cleaning company to clean to CDC standards. This allowed us to reopen the pool. As you now know, the pool cannot remain open if the bathrooms are not being cleaned. *Leader: Judie Gollwitzer*
2. We changed pool companies because we realized the one we'd had for years was not keeping up with the demands of a pool the size of ours. You may notice that Grosenbacher Pool Service replaced Aqua Doc Pool Service. Grosenbacher came highly recommended. We are pleased to offer great service to our residents. *Leader: Karen Hnatusko*
3. We resurfaced the courts and created three pickleball courts. Pickleball is the new game, and it looks like it is not only popular but here to stay. We did keep one court for tennis. *Leader: Fred Gossman*
4. We upgraded our security system by adding a camera to the interior of the clubhouse and another camera outside where there had been a blind spot. This helps us monitor the entire property remotely when there isn't anyone there. *Leader: Judie Gollwitzer*
5. We hired a handyman, who has been tasked with jobs both large and small.
6. For board member protection during COVID-19 we added a GAP policy to our insurance. This has given us financial protection against any lawsuits that could arise.
7. We set up several board meetings over the summer to communicate with residents. We used Zoom since we could not meet in person. Your Board is committed to keeping you apprised of what is happening in LOJ.
8. Twice we have assessed opening the clubhouse with the promise of opening safely, wearing masks and social distancing. Twice it was voted down. The decision was made to allow residents to meet outside in the pool area. You will need to social distance and bring your own chair. Until there is a vaccine, that is the best the board will do.
9. Our handyman, Eugene Bruno, notice we had a problem causing water damage to the decorative structure at the front entrance to the clubhouse. Fred Gossman took the lead with resident Jim Lundberg and determined that the damage was more extensive than it appeared. Some of it was due to flashing not being replaced, and the old flashing being improperly installed. The roofing company made good on fixing the issues caused by them at no cost to us. However, some of the materials used on the building itself had begun to rot and had to come down. Fred was appointed to the LOJ Board of Directors when there was an opening. He has volunteered to run next term and take on the responsibility of monitoring the clubhouse to prevent potential issues. *Leader: Fred Gossman*
10. As you know redecorating the interior of the clubhouse was completed in February, sadly just before we had to close it due to COVID-19. When it does reopen we think you will be pleased. *Leader: Barbara O'Brien*

11. In May we signed a three-year contract with ArtisTree to continue as our landscaping company. They were the company that installed all the new landscaping in front of the clubhouse and tennis/pickleball courts. Monitoring the new plantings required a dedicated person to be sure all the new shrubs were being properly trimmed. Joan High has been working with them through their Director to be sure the landscaping looks lovely. Joan would like to start a Garden Club to learn about gardening in Florida and to also care for and make recommendations at the clubhouse. Contact Joan if you are interested in joining. *Leader: Joan High*

12. We have some diseased holly trees on the LOJ clubhouse property. We will need to go through ARC to obtain permission to take them down. *Leader: Joan High*

13. Quotes for the geothermal heating of the pool had to be revisited since the previous quotes were only good for thirty days. We now have updated quotes. The Board will be given a chance to compare each quote, and in December the Board will select a company. From there we enter an inclusive set of steps between the Board and the residents. We are not there yet, but we now understand how to proceed. It is premature to give you numbers at this time since we haven't seen them ourselves. *Leader: Barbara O'Brien*

14. You will soon receive the proposed 2021 budget in the mail. Please take a look at it. The Board will be expected to present it at the December Board meeting, discuss it with residents and then approve it either as presented or with changes. Once it is approved, it will be our guide for 2021. *Leader: Karen Hnatusko*

15. We are working with Management to determine how to run the Annual Meeting in February due to COVID-19 restrictions. As soon as we have answers, we will inform the community.

We hope all those who participated in the Community Garage Sale did well. For new residents, we know the value of having the opportunity to sell all the things you thought would look as great in Florida as they did up north. I speak about this from experience. The next Community Garage Sale will be held in the Spring. When a date is chosen, we will advertise it in the newsletter. *Leader: Patti*

Clark



SOCIAL COMMITTEE

As you know our Welcome Back social event scheduled for October had to be canceled. We are as anxious as many of you to be able to resume our way of life. As soon as it is deemed safe to do so, we will plan something special. It may be outdoors in the Spring. We all know Spring time in Florida is the loveliest time of year. In the meantime, be safe; warm, dry and gorgeous days are coming. *Leader: Judie Gollwitzer*

Welcome
to the
neighborhood

Welcome to The Lakes of Jacaranda in Venice, Florida! Once you're settled we hope you take the opportunity to explore this beautiful area. Our white, sandy beaches are perfect for strolling, searching for shells and shark's teeth or just relaxing and soaking up the sun.

To take full advantage of the water, you can rent kayaks, boats and jet skies or join a local boat club. If joining organized clubs floats your boat, there are a wide variety of options right here in our little town of Venice.

As part of our community we highly recommend that you check out our website to better understand our structure. You will discover that Lake of the Woods of Jacaranda (LOWofJ) is the master association. LOWofJ has a five-member Board that oversees everything except The Lakes of Jacaranda (LOJ) property and clubhouse. The LOJ has a five-member Board that oversees the clubhouse, tennis/pickleball courts, the pool and the clubhouse property. You will pay two Home Owner

Association (HOA) fees annually. One will be to LOWofJ HOA and the other is to the LOJ HOA. Fees are collected separately by our Management Company Keys-Caldwell. You can log on to their website and pay your fees on line.

WEBSITES:

www.lowofj.com

www.keys-caldwell.com

AS A NEW RESIDENT AT THE LAKES OF JACARANDA WHAT SHOULD I KNOW?

There are a few things you need to know as you get settled in your new home. Below are a few.

1. The previous owner should have left three things for you: the garage-door opener or code, the community telephone directory and the electronic fob to get you into the recreational. If they did not, please call Keys-Caldwell, our management company at 941-408-8293 and speak to Warren. He will be able to help or direct you to the person who can.
2. To put your own personality into the interior of your new home is natural and fun. To put your personality into anything on the exterior of your home requires Architectural Review Committee (ARC) approval. Forms are located on the www.lowofj.com and the www.keys-caldwell.com websites. You need to fill it out, attach samples of your intended changes and submit it to Key-Caldwell. It will be retrieved by the ARC Chairperson and brought to their committee meeting for discussion and approval. ARC meets twice a month on the 1st and 3rd Mondays at 10:00 AM.
3. Landscaping changes. If the changes in landscaping involve removing a tree, you need ARC approval. If your landscape is to change the design and the cost does not exceed \$1,000, you do not need ARC approval. If your landscape changes are over \$1,000 you will need to get approval from ARC by submitting a plan along with your form requesting the change. *Leader: Carol Thompson arnett2t@me.com*
4. During COVID-19 our clubhouse activities have been literally shut down. The outdoor activities are open and available to all our LOJ residents. We only ask that you maintain social distancing.
5. The LOJ Board of Directors meet via Zoom the first Friday of every month at 8:30 AM. Our meetings typically last until 9:45. At 10:00 AM the LOWofJ Master Association Board begins their Zoom meeting. Our LOJ Board's discussions concern the clubhouse and the property that we oversee. **IMPORTANT: If you wish to attend a Zoom board meeting you must be registered on the www.keys-caldwell.com website.**
6. There is a website that many of our residents use as a resource for hiring service people. They find it helpful because neither LOWofJ or LOJ sponsor services. The website is called NEXTDOOR. It is NOT our website. It's roots are in San Francisco and it has grown from there. It is local and is divided into specific communities. If you click on LOJ you may think you are on an official LOJ site. You are not. That means that we have no control over its content.

If you have any questions or concerns, you can view our covenants on both the Keys-Caldwell website and ours. If you need further help, contact Keys-Caldwell or Carol Thompson, ARC Chairperson at arnett2t@me.com.
