



*Your  
Community Resource*

# The Woodlands Word @ Rivendell

*JULY 2014*



## **Highlights of June 2 Board of Directors Meeting By Carol Heckert;**

**Reviewed by Bobby Merrill**

Attending: Gwen Stepien, Vinny Barone, Joe Se-  
fack, Walter Perkowski, Bobby Merrill

Property Manager Report:

Shannon Banks reported 5 streetlights repaired, pool bathrooms to be upgraded and water fountain installed shortly, new swing in Crescent Park, 44 compliance letters mailed.

Treasurer's Report:

We are still \$14,600 under budget, but excess will be spent on landscape items.

ARC Report:

There were 19 applications, with 14 approved, 3 on hold, and 2 denied.

Maintenance Committee Report:

- The Maintenance Committee reviewed 4 bids for the landscape contract. The committee recommends that the low bidder, West Bay, be hired. West Bay already landscapes the Patio Homes. A motion to hire West Bay was approved. Director Barone wants to meet with West Bay about irrigation inspections before they begin work.
- The littoral zones will be planted with aquatic plants shortly.
- The committee recommends that a company be hired for ongoing maintenance of trees over 15 feet.

(Continued on Pg.2)

## **Message From the President**

Four months have gone by since I became President of Rivendell's Homeowners Association. I would like to give a BIG "Thank You" to all the homeowners who keep their property well maintained and looking prestigious, making Rivendell a lovely place to live.

It seems that most everything is running quite well. We have a few problems pop up now and again, with broken pipes at the pool and sprinkler problems. There were problems with the pool being too cold and now it's too hot; it's a hard decision to keep everyone happy. I have noticed that some homeowners are letting their dogs do their business on common land and not picking up behind their dogs; this seems to be getting worse. Really, no one should have to be told to PICK UP behind his/her dog. So please, please, be courteous to your neighbors and pick up after your dog. Another problem is that our sidewalks have started to lift from the oak tree roots; this is occurring all around the neighborhood. Many people have had nasty falls, including myself. If anyone comes across any of these, please report the location to Lighthouse so they can call the County to come fix the problem.

I was a committee member and chair of the Architectural Review Committee (ARC) for many years and I notice that some homeowners are forgetting to get approval from the ARC when making changes to their homes. I am sorry, but this is a MUST

(Continued on Pg.5)

(Highlights continued from Pg.1)

Communications Committee Report:

The committee has developed a plan whereby Lighthouse Property Mgt. will add the Community Directory database to its main database. Updated information will be sent by homeowners directly to Lighthouse on a form to be developed. Lighthouse will update the Community Directory database and send it to our webmaster, Gary Mruz, monthly. He will then post the updated version on our website.

A 2013 statute forbids the publishing of homeowner email addresses without the homeowner's consent. Therefore, phone numbers will continue to be published unless a deletion is requested, but email addresses will not be published unless permission is given.

The Communications Committee will compile and proof read the Community Directory annually as a group.

Old Business:

- A motion was made by Director Sefack to form a committee to upgrade our documents. The motion was not seconded.
- Director Barone proposed a change to our standing rule on trucks parked overnight in driveways. His proposal would replace the ban on all trucks with a ban on commercial vehicles. The proposal was tabled pending further review.
- The Maintenance Committee chair and Director Barone will meet with Aquatic Systems about the midge problem at homes abutting Scherer Lake.

Homeowner Comments:

- Dave Gill wants new trees planted before the rainy season. There is already \$8,000 in the budget for this item. A motion was approved to plant the trees following a discussion with the County to try to get credit for some trees in meeting the County's demand that plants funded by a grant in 2005 be replaced.
- Paul Sarno inquired about the replacement of the water fountain at the pool.

Next Meeting:

No Board meetings are scheduled for July or August. The next Board meeting is scheduled for September 8.

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**Next Maintenance  
Committee Meeting  
The Maintenance Committee  
meets the last Wednesday  
of each month at 7pm  
in the Cottages Clubhouse**

**Next Rivendell Board Meeting  
Sep 8th, 2014 6PM  
at Historic Spanish Point  
in Osprey  
Any changes to this date  
will be posted on the website  
[www.rivendellcommunity.com](http://www.rivendellcommunity.com)**



## Maintenance Committee Report

Jim Stepien, Chair  
May 28, 2014

Committee Members attending - **Bill Bloom, Dave Gill, Sallie Hawkins, Carol Heckert, Carole Myles, Jim Stepien (Chair), Walter Perkowski (Board liaison) and guests Mike Bergman and Frank Freestone.**

At our meeting we discussed the following new items and ongoing projects:

- We are moving forward on the irrigation/electric project. Permits are being requested and actual work may begin within the next couple of weeks.
- We will be obtaining bids from at least 3 tree service contractors to maintain the community trees (Oaks, Palms, Pines, etc.) that are over 15 feet tall (trees under 15 feet are covered in our landscape maintenance contract) on an annual basis. We anticipate that maintenance would be done quarterly.

### Landscape Status:

1. We have received bids from Artistree Landscape, Performance Direct Landscape, Sun State Landscape and West Bay Landscape for our landscape maintenance contract. We reviewed the bids and, after discussion, we selected the West Bay Landscape proposal as the best for our community. Our recommendation will be made to the Board at the June 2 meeting.

### Pool Status:

1. The restroom upgrades and the water fountain are scheduled to be installed the week of June 9.
2. We have been receiving positive comments on the new pool contractor. The pool is looking very clean.

### Lakes/Pond Status:

1. The main well pump that replenishes Rivendell and Gator Lakes has been shut off until after the littoral plantings
2. Littoral planting will be done the week of June 9.
3. The lake contractor will be asked to provide a briefing to Board Member Barone regarding the continued midge problem on Scherer Lake and other lakes within the community.

### Preserve/Wetlands Status:

No issues

### Other Status:

1. New signs for the community parks and lakes are being installed by MC member Dave Gill. If you see Dave or any MC member working in the community, please stop and give them a word of thanks for their efforts. Homeowner acknowledgement and thanks are always appreciated by the MC volunteers.
2. I would encourage all homeowners to attend our monthly meetings for accurate information on any of our ongoing projects. We would also welcome new members to help with the MC's volunteer efforts to manage the many needs of our community.
3. Please report any problems you notice to Lighthouse Property Management.
4. Next MC meeting will be July 30, 2014 at 7pm in the Cottages Clubhouse.

## GOT MEDICARE?

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## Places To Go: Bay Preserve at Osprey By Marilyn Probert



The *Woodlands Word* staff recently received a note from Rivendell resident Kathy Dewey suggesting that we inform our readers about the attractions at Bay Preserve at Osprey. Having attended a wedding there, she was impressed by its serenity and beauty, so my husband and I went to see for ourselves.

The Preserve is administered by the Conservation Foundation of the Gulf Coast; their mission is to protect the land so that humans can enjoy its natural environment and wildlife without harming either. Sitting on 4.3 acres on Little Sarasota Bay, the Preserve offers striking views along with a place to launch your kayak or canoe. Jutting out into the bay, the Honore T. Walmsler Wildlife Observation Platform presents scenes of the water and the shoreline and their denizens.

Other attractions include a nature trail, a bocce court set up and ready for play, outdoor game and picnic tables, the Burrows-Matson neo-classical home, and more. The original owners of the house, Dr. Waters Field Burrows and his wife Elsa Scherer

Burrows, bought the property in 1929. Mrs. Burrows later donated land that became Oscar Scherer State Park; this was named after her father. Richard and Cornelia Matson were the final owners, and they sold the house and land to the Conservation Foundation in 2006. The first floor of the house is open to visitors from 9 to 5. If the door is locked, just ring the bell. Someone from the Foundation, whose offices occupy the second floor, will welcome you.

The Preserve is home to Sarasota Crew, and you may be lucky enough to be there some afternoon when they launch their sculls and practice.

Only around 10 minutes from Rivendell, the directions to Bay Preserve at 400 Palmetto Dr. are simple: from US 41 turn west onto Oak Street. Turn right on Palmetto Drive to the Preserve. Don't be intimidated if you see a sign that tells you there's a dead end with no place to turn around. The dirt road is a bit bumpy, though, so do go slowly. Admission is free. Thank you, Kathy, for letting us know about this unique spot! For more information telephone 941-918-2100 or email [conservationfoundation.com](http://conservationfoundation.com)



## Campaign Against Summer Hunger Excerpted from *Food for Families* by Harriet Sokmensuer, *Sarasota Observer*, 5/22/14.

Over 50 percent of Sarasota County Students (approximately 21,000 students) receive free or reduced meals during the school year. During the summer months, these students are more likely to experience hunger than any other time of the year.

The *Campaign Against Summer Hunger* started in April and by May 10th had raised \$1.1 million dollars and collected 766,253 pounds of food. This illustrates how a strong and caring community can unit against hunger.

With the support of hundreds of generous donors, All Faiths Food Bank and Sarasota County Schools will be able to feed more kids and families this summer by doing the following:

- Providing a served lunch at 45+ sites
- Adding 10 mobile food pantries throughout Sarasota and DeSoto Counties
- Launching BackPack Kids summer program at 10 more sites

### But there's still work to be done!

1. You can still help feed children this summer. Be assured, All Faiths Food Bank is glad to have your participation, year-round.

Make a secure online donation to All Faiths Food Bank: <http://www.allfaithsfoodbank.org/>

Volunteer at one of the meal sites: [volunteer@allfaithsfoodbank.org](mailto:volunteer@allfaithsfoodbank.org)

2. Please drop your nonperishable food donations at any **Sarasota County Goodwill Location**.

Thank you for caring!



(Message from the President continued from Pg.1) according to the covenants. Applications can be obtained from Lighthouse.

As I have been walking around the neighborhood with my little dog Nikki, I have not noticed many violations now, mostly dirty roofs or lawn/garden problems. I have noticed that a few homes are being painted in colorful paint. Our covenants state that homes should be painted the same as the original color or a subtle earth tone. So please choose a lighter color rather than a bright loud color.

I hope every one reads *The Woodlands Word* each month; there are always lots of information and lovely pictures of the animals and birds around us. If you have a photo of something here that is special, please send it to *The Woodlands Word* ([judydysokal@gmail.com](mailto:judydysokal@gmail.com)).

It would be nice to see more homeowners come to the Board Meetings, usually held once a month, to give us your comments good or bad... although GOOD comments are preferred! We also encourage homeowners to join our committees to help us keep Rivendell beautiful.

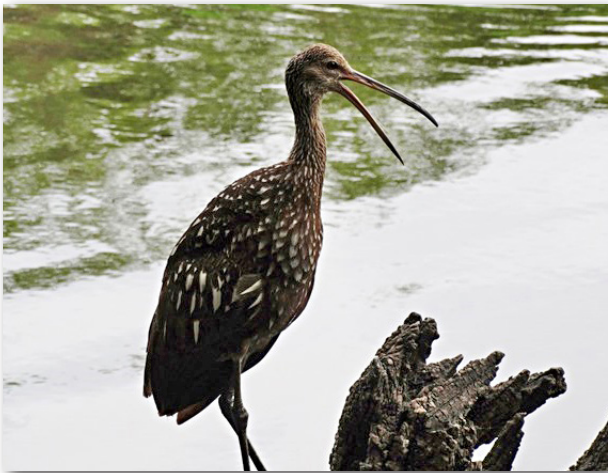
The entire Board and I thank you all for your support. Have a wonderful summer.

Gwenda Stepien  
President

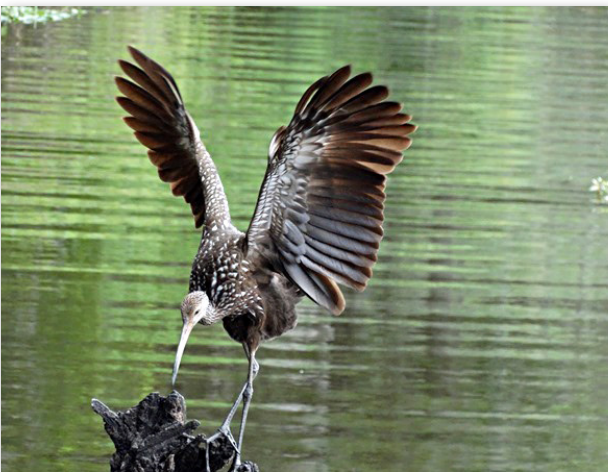


## A Visit to Myakka River State Park By Nancy Dobias; Photos by Nancy Dobias

Recently it was supposed to rain, so I decided it would be a good day to go to Myakka River State Park to get some pictures of the alligators. I wanted to beat the rains before the bridge area flooded too much and the alligators found somewhere else to hang out. Well, to my surprise they weren't even there, but my back-up plan was to hike the path along the river. What I didn't take into account was that I might not recognize an alligator that was *stationary* in the river. I was down by the water's edge taking pictures of some neat birds as well as a beautiful tree trunk that had decayed and was lying in the river. The birds were being very cooperative, chatting away telling me about their families, their dreams, and how much they liked fishing in the river as I snapped away.



One Limpkin couldn't decide how he wanted to pose. His dream was to be a dancer and I guess he wanted to present a more artistic pose for the camera to capture.



Of all the birds that I saw, this Anhinga was the most pensive. (*He worried that his habitat would be disrupted by those who want to make the Gulf coast a mirror image of Florida's east coast.*)

While I was talking with him, I happened to notice a part of a tree branch in the river that I thought resembled an alligator's head. It wasn't moving; it was just lying there right next to this bird. I was trying to decide whether it was an alligator or not. I was only about 10 ft. away from it, so you would think I could tell, but I couldn't. I studied it, but it never moved. I decided it was just a neat branch, and because I like driftwood, I took a picture of it. I figured I could get a better look at it when I got home...



I guess some things are what they seem!

Maybe I should have listened to this guy's warning earlier.



He had been screeching and I wondered what's up with that Hawk??!!!

### Please Remember:

The wonderful photos in the newsletter may be viewed in living color:

[www.rivendellcommunity.com](http://www.rivendellcommunity.com)

## Spirit Tree at Pine View

By Nancy Dobias

For all of you who live in Rivendell and enjoy walking on the path through the preserve past the Pine View School, chances are you might recognize this tree. I personally can't walk by it without a sense of wonder....



Photo ~ Nancy Dobias

For me, it's a wonder as to what **happened** to that ancient Indian whose spirit became entrapped in that tree? It must have been something terrible because when I look at him, I see his arms outstretched towards the heavens beseeching his gods, imploring them for help.... Could the tribe have suffered through an arid spell in which food and water supply were threatened? Was the tribe facing extinction unless the gods would intervene? What caused him to raise his arms in despair crying out to his gods? I don't see a jubilant positioning of the arms.... I see someone reaching up to the heavens...surrounded by a canopy of trees that must have made him think he was invisible to his gods.... How long could he stand there awaiting their help? How trusting is his faith that his pleas will be heard? I wonder what his story is.... How did he come to be entrapped in that tree? Did his audacity in expecting the gods to listen to a mere mortal anger them and this is the result? I don't know, but I do wonder.... What do you think?

## 2014 Hurricane Names

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/aboutnames>

This is a pre-approved list of names for Atlantic tropical storms and hurricanes. The list is generated by the National Hurricane Center and the names on each list alternate between male and female. There are six lists that continue to rotate. The lists only change when there is a hurricane that is so devastating, the name is retired and another name replaces it.

Hurricanes are named alphabetically from the list in chronological order. Thus the first tropical storm or hurricane of the year has a name that begins with "A" and the second is given the name that begins with "B." The lists contain names that begin from A to W, but exclude names that begin with a "Q" or "U." In the event that all the names are used, additional storms will take their names from the Greek alphabet.

The **2014 Hurricane Name List** is the same as the 2008 hurricane name list with the exception of Gustav, Ike, and Paloma that were devastating hurricanes in 2008 and thus retired.

### 2014 Hurricane Names

Arthur	Laura
Bertha	Marco
Cristobal	Nana
Dolly	Omar
Edouard	Paulette
Fay	Rene
Gonzalo	Sally
Hanna	Teddy
Isaias	Vicky
Josephine	Wilfred
Kyle	



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## Driving in the Philippines Mountains

By Paul Sarno

*Paul Sarno will also be teaching classes on the history, politics and the arts of South East Asia (Myanmar to the Philippines) starting in early January at Lifelong Learning Academy and adult Continuing Education in Sarasota.*

I was fortunate to obtain the loan of a four-wheel car and driver from a Philippine friend in October 2013, so I then scheduled a ten-day excursion to the mountainous part of northern Luzon, that country's largest island.

After a ten-hour drive from Manila over a short expressway, (followed by crowded two lane roads undergoing widening construction,) my benefactor's cousin and I started at the city of Vigan near the northwestern coast. There, we spent three days visiting eighteenth century colonial Spanish South American churches, mansions and museums. Together with many Philippine tourists we walked cobblestone streets, ate local delicacies (often pork) and finished one meal with halo-halo, a tasty intricate ten ingredient ice cream and ice concoction interspersed with sweet beans, sweet Caro, coconut jam, purple yam, jackfruit and what looked like Rice Krispies. Delicious!

We spent the rest of the journey traversing five thousand foot mountains on curving two lane roads into the Cordillera region of northeastern central Luzon, as I wished to see the local dress, rice terraces, huts and descendants of the early inhabitants of that island who preceded the people commonly known as Filipinos.

To that end, we traveled to Bontac, Sagada, Batad and Banaue. I learned that since the 1970s, the ladies wear tops, and all indigenous residents don their native clothing only at funerals and during about three yearly festivals. Fortunately their native dress, sculpture, huts, and photographs of their rituals are on elaborate display at four local museums. I was also able to walk to extensive and astoundingly beautiful rice terraces still very much in cultivation, and observe coffins of their deceased at burial sites



**Rice terraces at Batad ~ photo by Paul Sarno**

in caves and high on small mountains.

The trip terminated in Baguio, the warm season residence of American Governor-Generals in later colonial times and Philippine Presidents. This was a cool three thousand feet above steamy sea level. I was studying the oil paintings of Benedicto

Reyes Cabrera, a/k/a BenCab and other contemporary Filipino artists when my driver Danny casually advised me that Typhoon Santi was approaching. My benefactor advised a rapid retreat to Manila; so, after a Korean dinner, we experienced a six-hour drive past multiple trucks on the same roads on which we had driven to Vigan. But now, we were frequently reduced to one lane as the construction had ceased for the night. As the wind howled, the rain pelted down, and trees fell, and I tried to follow the journey by map in the back seat, my capable driver maneuvered the four-wheel Land Cruiser to my Manila hotel. All the while, he assured me that this was only a category three storm and that the Island experiences about twenty typhoons a year.



**Coffins on a mountain in Sagada  
photo by Paul Sarno**



## RESIDENTS HELPING RESIDENTS

**CAT SITTER:** **Kay Adams**, a longtime resident of Rivendell and a stay-at-home mom, offers cat sitting service to Rivendell residents. Kay is very responsible and loves cats. Reasonable rate. Call **941-966-2939** or email [kayadamsart@gmail.com](mailto:kayadamsart@gmail.com).

**BABYSITTER:** 13 year-old Rivendell Pine View student has certified American Red Cross Babysitter's Training with Pediatric First Aid and CPR. I absolutely love kids! Call **Zoe Gavette** at **941-918-8200**.

**BABYSITTER:** **Natasha Nielsen**, Pine View School sophomore, can watch your children while you go out. I can also help with homework. I am polite and responsible and am CPR certified through the American Red Cross. Call **941-966-1419**.

**GUITAR LESSONS:** **Daniel Yohann**, a Pine View senior, is offering private guitar lessons. Daniel is an accomplished guitarist and experienced teacher. One-half hour or one hour lessons are available. Reasonable rates. Call **941-375-1242**.

**LAMPPOST REPAIR:** Rivendell Resident **Bill Bloom** is offering lamppost repair services. Is your lamppost light staying on? Charge is \$40 for parts, labor and cleaning. Replacing a burned out bulb is \$15, and this includes new bulb and cleaning. Call **941-918-8386**.

**MOTHER'S HELPER/BABYSITTER:** **Sivan Yohann**, **941-966-7766**, a Pine View sophomore, would love to play with your toddlers after school while you're trying to get dinner ready, or babysit your kids so you can have a well-deserved evening out! I am extremely friendly and responsible!

**BIKE REPAIRS, KAYAK AND BIKE RENTALS:** **Mike** and **Sheila Lewis** offer free delivery and pick-up to Rivendell residents for bike and kayak rentals, bike repairs and maintenance. Call **941-346-1797** or email [ssrentals@aol.com](mailto:ssrentals@aol.com) or visit their web site at [www.siestasportsrentals.com](http://www.siestasportsrentals.com)

**COMPUTER REPAIR AND INSTRUCTION PLUS ALL HOME ELECTRONICS (TABLETS, SMART PHONES, TV's, DVD's, NETFLIX and MORE):** For Rivendell & Willowbend residents I charge a very reasonable \$20 an hour rate. I also offer flat charges such as \$40 max for any computer virus repair taking over one hour. I am a Rivendell resident with thirty years computer and home automation experience. Call **Gary Mruz 941-786-6019** or email [gary.mruz@gmail.com](mailto:gary.mruz@gmail.com)

**WANTED: CAVALIER KING CHARLES OWNERS!** Do you have a well mannered, potty trained Cavalier and would like to reciprocate sitting services with me while you or I are away, or use as back-up in case of emergency? Must be up to date on all shots and flea/heartworm protected. No monies involved, just assurance that our babies are being well taken care of and loved while we are on vacation. Apollo would love to have a new friend. Call **Anita @ 941-321-0452** if interested.

**BABYSITTER, PET SITTER:** **Nathalie Michalowski**, resident of Rivendell, 25 years old, and certified babysitter/nanny, offers baby-sitting service. I'm very responsible, I love kids, and have 9 years experience. I also offer pet sitting service. References are available upon request. Please call at **941-726-5958**.

**Rivendell Residents**  
Please send your name, phone number,  
and a description of the service you can  
provide to other Rivendell residents.  
**Email your information to:**  
**Marilyn at [marilynprobert@gmail.com](mailto:marilynprobert@gmail.com)**

## Architectural Review Committee Report 05/27/2014

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

**Committee Members present:** Committee Chair, Cindy Caria, Members: Jim Stepien, Jessica Fenton, John Martin and Board Liaison: Joe Sefack

**Guests:** Meng Yin & Dedng Jo. Also Magie Verhagen and Beverly Aller from The Cottages.

The following applications were reviewed and decided upon for action.

ITEM	ADDRESS	WORKPLAN	RESOLUTION
1.	581 Meadow Sweet	Move fence (existing) back approximately 6'; plant Podocarpus along fence.	Resolved: Approved Motion: Jim Stepien 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Jessica Fenton Vote: Unanimously
2.	1073 Mallard Marsh	Paint house & garage doors Celery Salt, trim & columns Silent White	Resolved: Approved Motion: Cindy Caria 2 <sup>nd</sup> : John Martin Vote: Unanimously
3.	925 Eagle Isle Ct.	Trampoline	Resolved: Denied Motion: Jim Stepien 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Jessica Fenton Vote: Unanimously
4.	900 Scherer Way	Install aluminum gutters around entire house.	Resolved: Approved Motion: Jessica Fenton 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Cindy Caria Vote: Unanimously
5.	900 Scherer Way	Frame the two Royal Palms with red mulch/ White River Rock. Both sides of house White River Rock. Frame two flowerbeds with 12" white edging stone, fill with red mulch.	Resolved: Denied Motion: Cindy Caria 2 <sup>nd</sup> : John Martin Vote: Unanimously
6.	767 Fordingbridge Way	Landscaping.	Resolved: Approved Motion: Jessica Fenton 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Cindy Caria Vote: Unanimously
7.	698 Clear Creek Dr.	3 Washington Palms too big and dangerous. Live Oak trees need thinning out.	Resolved: Approved Motion: Jim Stepien 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Cindy Caria Vote: Unanimously
8.	747 Fordingbridge Way	Landscaping	Resolved: Approved Motion: Jessica Fenton 2 <sup>nd</sup> : John Martin Vote: Unanimously
9.	1069 Mallard Marsh	Replace screens	Resolved: Approved Motion: Jim Stepien 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Jessica Fenton Vote: Unanimously
10.	804 Placid Lake	Repaint house original color	Resolved: Approved Motion: John Martin 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Jim Stepien Vote: Unanimously

11.	587 Meadow Sweet	Landscaping	Resolved: Approved Motion: Cindy Caria 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Jessica Fenton Vote: Unanimously
12.	562 Meadow Sweet	Fence	Resolved: Approved Motion: Cindy Caria 2 <sup>nd</sup> : John Martin Vote: Unanimously
13.	747 Fordingbridge Way	Replace cage around pool	Resolved: Approved Motion: John Martin 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Jessica Fenton Vote: Unanimously
14.	1046 Scherer Way	Repaint house & trim same color	Resolved: On hold Motion: 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Vote: Unanimously
15.	874 Placid Lake	Repaint house door Hazelnut Coffee, trim Toffee Cream, and house Buttered Hazelnut.	Resolved: Approved Motion: Cindy Caria 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Jessica Fenton Vote: Unanimously
16.	701 Fordingbridge Way	Landscaping	Resolved: Approved Motion: Jim Stepien 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Cindy Caria Vote: Unanimously
17.	827 Golden Pond	Addition to house	Resolved: On hold Motion: needs to be checked by the ARC 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Vote: Unanimously
18.	526 Meadow Sweet	Add pool cage	Resolved: Approved Motion: Jim Stepien 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Jessica Fenton Vote: Unanimously
19.	583 Meadow Sweet	Landscaping	Resolved: Hold Motion: Need plat 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Vote: Unanimously

**ARC meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm - Next meeting July 29, 2014**

**Next Architectural Review Committee (ARC) Meeting**

**The ARC Meets the last Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm**

**Location: 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. Applications received after the monthly date will have to wait until following month.

**REMINDER:** If you are submitting an ARC Application Form for landscape changes, you must attach a copy of your Site Plan (also called a Survey of Lot or Plot Plan or Plat). Your application will NOT be reviewed without a copy and this would delay your work. The Site Plan should show names of specific plants and locations for proposed landscaping or fencing.

*Dates, times, and locations of meetings are based on the information available at the time of publication.*

**RIVENDELL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.**

A Corporation Not for Profit

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING****May 5, 2014**

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

A **REGULAR MEETING** of the Board of Directors was scheduled to be held at 6:00 P.M., at the Historic Spanish Point at 337 N. Tamiami Trail, Osprey, Florida.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M., by Shannon Banks of Lighthouse Property Management.

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:

Vincent Barone      Bobby Merrill      Joe Sefack      Gwen Stepien

Walter Perkowski was absent.

A quorum was declared to be present.

On Matters relating to adopting the agenda, Mr. Sefack commented of his concerns that the Board president has final say over the agenda. He feels the Board should be able to suggest item for discussion. Mr. Barone reminded Mr. Sefack that a proposed process for the Board members requesting to add agenda items was sent out by Ms. Stepien on April 5, 2014. The Board agreed this presented process was fair and it will be followed in the future.

On matters relating to the minutes of the previous meeting a motion was made by Ms. Stepien and seconded by Mr. Sefack to approve the Regular Board of Directors meeting minutes of April 7, 2014. The motion was passed.

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS,**

**Manager's Report,** Ms. Banks provided a report (see attachment #1).

**Treasurer's Report,** , Mr. Merrill provided a report of the most recent financials stating that the pool repair expenses, Administrative expenses and maintenance expenses are over budget. But overall the year to date is in good standing, showing under budget by approx. \$4000.00.

**Committee Reports,**

**ARC,** Ms. Caria reported there were seven (10) applications processed at the last meeting; nine (9) were approved and one (1) was pending approval due to the need of the current owners signature on the application. Next meeting is scheduled for May 27, 2014.

Ms. Caria advised the Board that two (2) residents, Mr. John Martin and Ms. Janet Lori, have submitted their intent to serve on the Architectural Review Committee.

A motion was made by Ms. Stepien and seconded by Mr. Barone:

**MOTION 14-15:** to appoint Mr. John Martin of the cottages to the committee. Motion passed.

**Maintenance Committee,** Mr. Stepien reported the following:

- Permits/ Bonds requested to continue progress on the irrigation/ lighting project.
- Bid requested in regards to landscape services (3 of the 4 proposals requested have been received. A summary will be provided to the Board.)
- Electrical outlets in the pump room scheduled to be repaired
- Restroom upgrades are on order
- Meeting with Aquatic Systems scheduled on 5/8/2014
- Preserves and wetlands - no issues.

Communications, Ms. Heckert reported they are working to confirm a date to meet Lighthouse to discuss how management can get involved the updating of the website database. The directory will still be handled by the committee.

**Old Business,**

Matters relating to Association documents, a motion was made by Mr. Sefack to appoint a committee to review the current set of association documents and provide a report to the Board in regards to proposed amendments. No one seconded the motion and the Board tabled it until the next meeting.

The Board scheduled their next meeting for June 2, 2014 at 6:00 pm.

**Owner Comments,**

Barbara Valdahl of Eagle Isle Ct. asked for clarification on the violation letter process and the time frame in between correspondences. It advised that each letter allows for a 14-day resolution period, but compliance inspection are conducted monthly, with periodic re-inspections.

Davis Gill of Shadow Bay Way advised there are two (2) lights out in Crescent Park and that they are coming on around 5 pm while it is still light out. It was advised that a work order had already been issued for repair.

Frank Freestone of Mallard Marsh advised the Board and Maintenance committee of his continued midge problems and ask what could be done. Resolution options will be discussed with the lake management company during their on 5/8/2014.

Rosanne Beatty of Millpond Ct. requested an update on the approved restoration of the littoral shelf for the two (2) front lakes and asked what caused the overage for the maintenance budget. It was discussed that Mr. Stepien will discuss the restoration time frame when he meets with the vendor and an immediate explanation was not provided for the budget question. Lighthouse will research and advise the resident.

Nancy Dobias of Anna Hope Lane inquired if any of the violation notices were sent via certified mail, due to concerns that maybe residents are not receiving them. She expressed concerns that Lighthouse may not have the addresses correct in their system and that could cause residents not to get their mail. It was advised that all final notices do go certified return receipt and it falls upon the homeowner to provide current/ correct mailing information to the management company. She also inquired about an item she read in the Woodland Word newsletter, which indicated the Association settled for \$5000.00 in regards to a dirty roof violation. She was informed that that did not seem correct as violation can only be fined \$100 per day for up to 10 days. She would contact Lighthouse to provide more details so they can look into this.

Ken Alarie of Meadow Sweet Cir. provided the Board with a summary as to how the Cottages Board accumulate topics for discussion for each meeting. He also asked if the maintenance committee had received any bids for the trimming of the Areca Palms along Old Venice Ave. It was advised we had not.

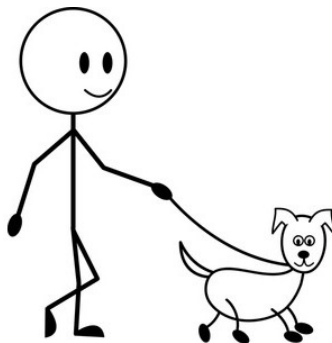
Paul Sarno of Fordingbridge Way requested clarification as to the \$500.00 expenditure noted for the pool repairs. He was informed that it was due to the need to replace the chemical stenner pump. He also asked for a summary of the heater/ solar panels operation schedule. He was advised that both heaters a fully operational, but only one stays on full time while one is cycled on & off manually considering the current temperature.

With no further business before the Board, a motion made by Mr. Merrill and seconded by Mr. Sefack, the meeting adjourned at 6:57 P.M.

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Shannon Banks, CAM  
Lighthouse Property Management

Dated: This 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2014.



### Dog Leash Reminder

**Sarasota county law requires dogs to be on a leash at ALL TIMES. Please be respectful of your neighbors and keep your dog safe by using a leash at all times!**

**RIVENDELL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
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Manager's Report

On Site/Maintenance-

- Compliance drives through community (4.7.14)
- Requested street light repairs as needed
- Requested the cleaning of the street lights

Administrative-

- Forwarded financials to Board for review.
- Forwarded draft agenda to board for review.
- Forwarded draft minutes for review.
- Forwarded ARC requests to committee.
- Approved minutes posted to website.
- Forwarded approved minutes to Ms. Babbitt for publishing in the newsletter.
- Posted newsletter to website.
- Send out email blast in regards to BOD meeting.
- Confirmed the DS Franks SWFWMD inspection reports were provided to the county
- Contacted the owner at 901 Scherer Way regarding trimming into the preserves

Correspondence-

- Letters sent to homeowners regarding submitted ARC forms.
- Letters sent to homeowners with compliance violations.
- Email Correspondences.

Compliance-

- Compliance letters mailed to homeowners since last meeting.
- Letters mailed: 47

Shannon Banks, CAM  
Managing Agent

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[www.rivendellcommunity.com](http://www.rivendellcommunity.com)

Between May 2nd and June 1<sup>st</sup> the Rivendell website had 264 visitors who viewed a combined 665 pages. There were 178 returning visitors and 86 new visitors for the month period. Users came from the United States, Brazil, Argentina and the Philippines. U.S. visitors were from 14 states including Florida, Illinois, New York, Delaware, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas, Virginia, California, Kentucky, Maine, Michigan, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

We continue to receive service provider recommendations and classifieds items for the website.

**REMEMBER: The PASSWORD to access all resident sections on the website is osprey typed in lowercase!**

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## **RCA Committees 2014**

### **Communications**

**Board Liaison:** Bobby Merrill

**Chair:** Carol Heckert (carolheckert@verizon.net)

**Database Liaison:** Barb Gahry

**Block Captains:** Cindy Schmidl

**Newsletter:** Linda Pearlstein, Judy Sokal, Kay Mruz, Marilyn Probert

**Reporters:** Mary Kennedy, Ed Lin, Pam Babbitt, Catherine Middleton, Norma Lee Rhines, Nancy Dobias

**Reporter Representative:** Mike Bergman

**Webmaster:** Gary Mruz

### **Architectural Review (ARC)**

**Board Liaison:** Joe Sefack

**Chair:** Cindy Caria (cindyarc14@gmail.com)

**Committee Members:** Mary Marryott, Jim Stepien, Jessica Fenton, Bruce Lorie

### **Maintenance Committee (combining Landscape/Environmental & Pool)**

**Board Liaison:** Walter Perkowski

**Chair:** Jim Stepien (jimstepien@gmail.com)

**Committee Members:** Bill Bloom, Dave Gill, Sallie Hawkins, Carol Heckert, Carole Myles, Curt Kennedy, Joe Lucente

**Access the Rivendell website at:** <http://www.rivendellcommunity.com>

**Your input and feedback are always encouraged and welcomed.**

**Deadline:** Submit articles and information to **Judy Sokal (judysokal@gmail.com)** by the tenth of the month.

## **Sarasota County Sheriff**

**Non-emergency Contact number for our area is: 316-1201**

Please use this number for non-emergencies

## **Rivendell Board of Directors**

**Gwen Stepien, president**  
(gweninthesun@msn.com)

**Vinny Barone, first vice-president**  
(vabarone5@gmail.com)

**Joe Sefack, second vice-president**  
(jr.sefack@gmail.com)  
Liaison to Architectural Review (ARC)

**Walter Perkowski, secretary**  
(walter@SRQmoves.com)  
Liaison to Maintenance

**Bobby Merrill, treasurer**  
(bobbymerrill3@aol.com)  
Liaison to Communications

## **Sub-Association Officers**

### **The Cottages Board of Directors**

RU1NA = Rivendell Unit 1 Neighborhood Association

Ken Alarie, President  
Steve Bragg, 1st Vice President  
Bill Vanik, 2nd Vice President  
Margery Arendt, Treasurer  
Carol Costa, Secretary

### **Patio Homes Board of Directors**

Edward Diggs, President  
Jayne Irene, Secretary  
Bruce Whalen, Treasurer

### **The Villas Board of Directors**

Dianne Enger, President  
Ruth Sellick, Vice-President  
Fred Hawkins, Secretary-Treasurer

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## **Question? Complaint? Concern?**

**Lighthouse Property Management: 966-6844**  
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Assistant: Tina Beaver, tinabeaver@mgmt.tv

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