



Views From the Bluffs

A Senior Community

December, 2023

Bonnie Lennox, Editor, V3B

bslgolf54@aol.com

410-299-0444



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We have fully enjoyed Thanksgiving here at the Bluffs. If you spent Thanksgiving dinner at the clubhouse, you enjoyed a wonderful meal hosted by Carol and John Graham. Thanks also to our Canadian neighbors for a great gathering as they made up the Committee.



December here at the Bluffs is a very enjoyable month. The weather is mild and the oppressive humidity is gone. This time of year, there are many activities going on, so please join in. There is a new group of volunteers to do small projects around the Bluffs--see Jackie Ross if interested. Since we are well into the fall season, I hope all have checked their smoke detectors to be sure

they are fully functional. If the manufactured date on it is ten years or more, the detector needs to be replaced. While we are speaking on fire safety, please consider using battery candles rather than real ones, thank you. As I mentioned at the Board meeting, the County will be sending out letters with our new addresses. This is necessary so our buildings can be easily found by fire, ambulance and police in an emergency. We have had a number of instances where an ambulance was delayed, as they could not find the right unit. Each of the twelve condo unit buildings will have one four digit

street address and the apt./condo number will stay the same such as A1, B2 and so on. All villas will have its' own four digit address. The post office will deliver mail to the old address for up to twelve months. If you have a Florida drivers license with our current address, you will be able to update it. Staff and I will be meeting with the fire department to get their input on where to place the address numbers on the buildings. The Bluffs staff will be placing the numbers on the buildings in a uniform manner.

I hope all of you have a safe and joyful holiday season, Merry Christmas!

*Ken Moran,
President*



VI'S CORNER



*Vi Oliver,
Activities Chair*

November Activities



On **Saturday, November 11th** we held a **Veterans Day Breakfast** paying tribute to our Veterans. Jim Cole and Ernie Chalfant chaired this event. The committee did an outstanding job. After breakfast Wanda Reeves put on a program interviewing a few of our own veterans. It was very interesting and informative.

On **Wednesday, November 15th** we had **Ladies Day Out** hosted by Lynn Kern. A large group of us enjoyed a lovely luncheon and the beautiful Christmas decorations at the Jacaranda.

The **Men's Day Out** was hosted by Bill Muckler on the same day and was held at The Three Gens Restaurant. The guys caught up and enjoyed their meal together.

On **Friday, November 17th** at 4:30 PM we had our monthly **Meet N' Greet**. It is so good to see so many people attending this function.



On **Thursday, November 23rd** we had our annual **Thanksgiving Day Dinner** hosted by Carol & John Graham and their Canadian committee. They served a complete traditional Thanksgiving Dinner complete with delicious dessert. Due to your

generous donations, and the profit from the dinner we are able to donate \$1,000.00 to the Avon Park Church Services to assist the less fortunate in our area. Thank you all for opening your heart and your wallets for a very worthy organization.



On **Saturday, November 25th** we had our **Welcome Back Party** hosted this year by Horst & Brigitte Eberle. We had an abundance of food, as everyone brought a dish to pass. We danced the night away to music played by George Durham & Co. Anyone that attended will agree that Gwen has a beautiful voice and George is so talented and plays 27 different instruments. Thanks again to Barb & John Miller for scouting the area and finding this band for us. They were great.

On **Wednesday, November 29th** we had our annual

Hanging of the Greens. As the Bluffs elves gather together and decorate the clubhouse and the outside grounds for the Christmas Season.



December Activities



On **Saturday, December 16th at 5:00 PM** we are having our second **Ugly Sweater / Tee Shirt Pizza Party** hosted by Renae & David Marten and Jeri & Steve Slaybaugh. Come join the fun of the holidays and show us your creativity. There will be pizza and dessert. Team games, prizes and a raffle basket. Tickets this year are \$7.00 per person. Tickets can be purchased from Renae Marten – Villa 16A or

Vi Oliver – Villa 13A. They

will also be sold at Bingo and Game Night. A poster with all the details and sign-up sheet will be on the walkway by the end of the weekend.

On **Wednesday, December 20th** we will be having **Ladies Day Out** at the **Outback Restaurant** hosted by Brigitte Eberle. Sign-up sheet will be on the walkway shortly. Come and join us for this fun get together.

On the same day Bill Muckler will be hosting **Men's Day Out** at The Caddy Shack. The sign-up sheet will be on the walkway shortly.

On **Friday, December 22nd at 4:30 PM** we are having our monthly **Meet N' Greet**. We ask you byo beverage and a snack to share. Come and get together with your friends and neighbors.



On **Sunday, December 24th Christmas Eve** at dusk we

will be lighting the **Lake Luminaires**. This is such a serene sight at the Bluff's. We are always looking for volunteers to assist. If you would like to help, please see me or call me at 585-746-3547.



On Monday, December 25th at 5:00 we are having our 6th Annual Christmas Pot Luck. There is no charge for this event. The Activities Committee supplies all the meat for this meal. We will be posting a sign-up sheet on the walkway and just ask you bring a dish to pass. So if you are not doing anything special, we would be honored if you would join us as we all gather together for some holiday cheer.



On Sunday, December 31st at 8:00 PM we will have our own **New Year's Eve Party** to ring in 2024. Tickets for this event will be \$7.00. We ask you BYO beverage and an appetizer and/or dessert to share. Soda will be provided. I'm sure we will have a great time, so come and join us. We are putting together some nice music and will be together to ring in the New Year. The sign-up sheet will be on the walkway with ticket sales following.

Reminder:

Mark your calendars for January:

January 6th – Men's Breakfast at the Bluffs

January 13th- The Western Dinner Dance chaired by Bruce & Gale Parke

January 20th – The Annual Treasure Sale

As most of you know this event is used to raise funds for the Activities for the Bluffs.

Anyone having anything they want to donate for the raffle, please contact Brigitte Eberle – Villa 14A or Renae Marten – Villa 16A.

January 27th – The Tour of Homes. This is new event this year and is being chaired by Jackie Ross and Renae Marten.

January 28 – The Ice Cream Social chaired by Steve & Ginny Drew.

At this time of the year, we always take a few moments to count our blessings. The generosity of our Bluffs community never ceases to amaze me. I, for one am so grateful to be part of such a special community that gives of their time and talent to benefit our residents. We have so many caring and giving people that always volunteer to assist whenever they are needed. It takes so many hands and hearts coming together to make this the wonderful active community it is.

Thank you so much for your special part in making everything you do add to the magic of the Bluffs.

If you need me I can be reached at: Villa 13A
violiver48@gmail.com
Or cell# 585-746-3547
Merry Christmas and a Happy & Healthy New Year to all!



Santa & I are now going to have a well-deserved little rest, see you next year.

*Vi Oliver,
Activities Chair*



NEW OWNERS

**Ralph & Sally Benavides
D-21**

**Jerry & Jane McGill
Villa 10-B**

DO YOU WANT TO GET INVOLVED???

A new Committee has formed to help out around the Bluffs. It is being chaired by Jackie Ross.

The volunteers are off to a great start! They are in the process of their first task of cleaning the lampposts and bulbs around the lake. I think we all agree that they look great! I know I'm excited about what comes next. If you would like to be a part of this great new adventure, our next meeting is at 9:00 a.m. on December 2nd at the

Clubhouse. Come and join us!



EDITORS NOTES

The snowbirds are slowly returning to what, I guess, we will be calling Casablanca Circle before too long. It sounds exotic, doesn't it. I guess after all the hassle of changing addresses: bank accounts, licenses, credit card companies, utilities, doctor offices, and so forth, it might be nice. At least, maybe our mail will be delivered to the correct address and not Condo building B-3....I've had to track down many deliveries, including fresh

flowers that were placed at the doorstep of B-3. Oh well, we'll see how this all works out! After 38 years at the same address, you'd think they could get it right and find who they're looking for.....just my opinion!

Speaking of things that cause anxiety, the holidays certainly do not make everyone happy. I'm very blessed that I am not in that category, but for those that are, it is very stressful and uncontrollable. Here are some mental health quotes that may help those that suffer.

"Your present circumstances don't determine where you go; they merely determine where you start." Nido Qubein

"Slow breathing is like an anchor in the midst of an emotional storm; the anchor won't make the storm go away, but it will hold you steady until it passes." Russ Harris

"And still I rise." Maya Angelou

"Be dedicated to change the way in which people see mental illness at all levels of society. If not for yourself, advocate for those who are struggling in silence." Germany Kent

"You don't have to control your thoughts. You just have to stop letting them control you." Dan Millman

"There is a crack in everything, that's how the light gets in." Leonard Cohen (my personal favorite!)

"Deep breathing is our nervous system's love language." Dr. Lauren Fogel Mersy

"I think it's really important to take the stigma away from mental health....My brain and my heart are really important to me. I don't know why I wouldn't seek help to have those things be as healthy as my teeth." Kerry Washington from HuffPost

"It is not the bruises on the body that hurt. It is the wounds of the heart and the scars on the mind." Aisha Mirza

"Anyone can be affected, despite their level of success or their place on the food chain. In fact, there is a good chance you know someone who is struggling with it since nearly 20% of American adults face some form of mental illness in their lifetime. So why aren't we talking about it?" Kristen Bell

Remember, be kind because we never know what someone else is going through!

For all of those traveling for the holidays...safe travels! I wish for you and your family the best Blessed Christmas season and Happy New Year!

*Bonnie Lennox,
Editor*

