

Turtle Rock Newsletter

The Best Place on Palmer Ranch
February, 2020 ❤️

INSIDE this ISSUE... Pg

President's Letter	2
Treasurer's Report	3
Manager's Report	4
All Residents Meeting	5
ARC Report	6
Pond Retention	7-8
Mailbox Report	9
TR Academy	10-11
Families Report	12
TR Men's Club	13
TR Women's Club	14
Class Offered	15
Trip Tips	16-17
Events Calendar	18
Letters To the Editor	19
Contest Rules	20

The Turtle Rock Newsletter
proof readers check
articles for errors in
spelling, punctuation,
grammar, and sentence
structure.

The author of each article
is responsible for the
factual accuracy of his or
her article.

Congratulations to our winner!

Jean-Claude Laurent



Jean-Claude found the word “erinaceous” in the treasurer’s report and his name was drawn to receive a \$25 gift card to Publix, donated by:

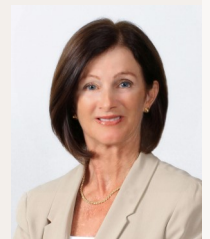
Jodi Cunnison.

LLB, JD Sales Associate

Coldwell Banker Residential Real Estate

(941)320-6314 Cell

Jodi@JodiCunnison.com





A Letter from the President

This will be my last letter as President of the Turtle Rock Homeowners Association. I have enjoyed my three years as a Board member and this past year as President. As I've said in prior letters, I've developed a real appreciation for all the volunteers that serve on the Board, committees and task forces.

2019 was a very busy year for the Board and 2020 promises to be the same. In 2019 we got the new bridge installed by the clubhouse and, had our new street signs installed along with some additional stop signs. My own personal disappointment was we were unable to do more to reduce speeding and the running of stop signs.

At the January meeting we had updates and presentations from the mailbox task force, the retention ponds task force and the access control/traffic surveillance task force. You should have received a copy of the recommendations from the retention ponds task force and an announcement of a town hall meeting from the AC/TSTF for a presentation by Envera.

February 4th is the annual meeting and the Board will not be conducting any official business. The new Board members will be installed and the new officers for 2020 picked. Please make an effort to attend.

Best of luck to everyone.

Robert N. Oram
8194 Deerbrook Circle
941-924-5170
203-856-1850 (cell)



...for your service to
Turtle Rock!



Report From The Treasurer



For the period ending December 2019:

	Actual	Budget
Total Receipts	\$106,653	\$106,566
Expenses		
General and Admin	\$ 34,375	\$ 32,966
Common Grounds	\$ 15,456	\$ 15,232
Access Control	\$ 20,950	\$ 20,725
Facilities Maintenance	\$ 33,850 *	\$ 13,325
Utilities	\$ 6,778	\$ 7,325

*One-time \$27,500 expense for additional Wetlands Invasive Removal

Reserve Contribution \$16,992

Reserve Expenses:

American Gas Lamp Works balance for 3 lamps and posts \$2,109

Deposit for new pool furniture \$5,000

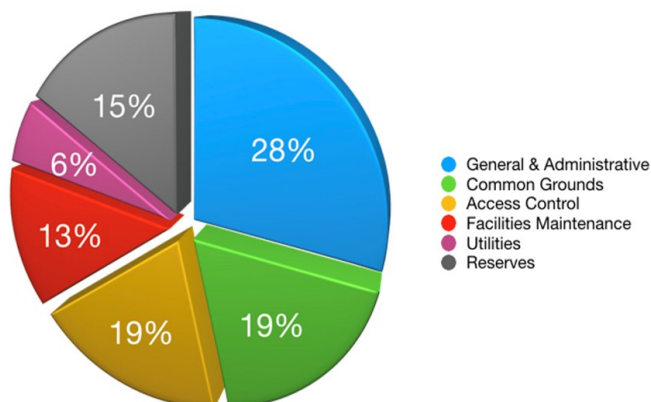
Total Assessments Collected \$101,067

Total Assessments Outstanding \$21,598 (previous month was \$26,334)

The

ex-

Turtle Rock YTD Expenses



pie chart below shows the breakdown of all penses by category as of December 31, 2019.

Submitted by David Tarlton

Manager's Message



With football season almost over and only Kansas City and San Francisco fans still happy, I wanted to keep you updated on things that are coming up at Turtle Rock.

The Annual Members Meeting notice has been mailed out and the flocculent meeting is Tuesday at 6:30. Please bring your proxy to the Community Center, even if you plan on attending. This will ensure that a quorum will be reached, and the association can hold the meeting.

You should have received your new coupon book for the 2020 assessments. If not, please call the management office so we can reorder one for you. Don't forget the first quarter payment was due January 1st.

Remember the Turtle Rock Owners' Manual is there to answer almost any question you can think of about the do's and don'ts here at Turtle Rock. You can find this and other information at www.myturtlerock.com.



Trash to Treasure Garage Sale February 15



Chemical Collection February 25

We are still looking for a couple of volunteers to help with the organization of these two popular events.

Please e-mail or call me with any questions or concerns. Thank you,

Ed Olson –Vice President / LCAM Sunstate Management
941-870-9855

Edward@sunstatemanagement.com

ACCESS CONTROL TASK FORCE

Informational Meeting for all Residents

The Task Force has completed its work regarding the monitoring of non-resident vehicular access at the North and South gates. It has made a recommendation to the Board of Governors on the direction it thinks will better serve our Community. Residents are invited to come and hear what improvements have been recommended and how they will affect homeowners and their guests.

A presentation by **Envera Systems**,
a **Security Service Company**, will be held on
February 20th, at 6:00 PM,
at the Community Center.

Envera will show how community security can be more effective and efficient with their technology-based solutions.

Please Plan on Attending This Important Meeting!

Submitted by Ken Rose-

Architectural Review Committee (ARC)



The ARC experienced a relatively heavy workload over the holidays as we had 14 new applications for exterior improvements to homes and landscapes and 12 final applications to approve. This was a particularly challenging month as a relatively large number of homeowners asked for an expedited approval of projects – some of which had already begun.

ARC members are happy to expedite projects that are true emergencies such as leaking roofs, but are less pleased when we are asked to approve a project either because the homeowner has scheduled the contractor to begin in a day or two, or the roof tiles (without ARC approval) are being delivered and installed. **This is a reminder that no work should begin without ARC approval.**

It is also important that ARC applications be complete. For example, if there is an exterior house painting, the ARC needs to see the paint colors painted on the house. This includes the color of the main house as well as the trim and doors. Copies of color samples are unacceptable, as are paint sample chips. There is no substitute for seeing the actual color samples on the house. **This is a requirement.**

As you know, the ARC members are volunteers and we have set times for when applications are due, for visiting homes, and for monthly meetings. The ARC schedule is posted on the Community Center bulletin board. This past month ARC members spent an inordinate amount of time revisiting homes which had submitted incomplete applications or requested an expedited approval for non-emergency work. Some visits involved weekends and evenings.

The ARC applauds the community for wanting to renovate, repair, and beautify their homes and landscapes. We always stand by to assist homeowners as they contemplate new projects. But we ask that homeowners follow the rules on the ARC application form and the Turtle Rock Owners' Manual so that we can best serve the community as a whole.

Submitted by Curt Gilroy

Turtle Rock Retention Pond Task Force

The Turtle Rock Retention Pond Task Force recently submitted its findings and recommendations to the Board of Governors. The Task Force, formed last spring to study the issue of shoreline erosion, its impact to our ponds, and to recommend a course of action, learned there were additional challenges facing our community ponds. These included the presence of chemicals, lawn clippings, fertilizers/ other nutrients, pet waste, invasive tilapia, plus the need for improved maintenance of drainage structures to promote healthy water flow. Our Task Force had minimal knowledge at the outset of this project and we realized educating homeowners and residents on best practices for pond and wetland management is essential.

To get educated, the Task Force met with a number of experts from Sarasota County, University of Florida, Sarasota Bay Estuary, Palmer Ranch Natural Assets Committee, and Turtle Rock's contractors who currently perform certain services for our ponds and preserves: Stantec and Aquagenix. Plus our members made site visits to neighboring Palmer Ranch communities who already have a program in place to improve their ponds and wetlands management.

These experts, many of whom inspected samples of our community's 31 ponds, uniformly recommended the course of action described in the final report.

It includes:

Establishing a minimum three-foot wide, 12-inch tall grass or vegetative buffer on property immediately surrounding the ponds.

Installing an aquatic plant buffer established in the shallow waters in ponds where there is currently little or no aquatic vegetation.

Creating a 6-inch channel or trough separating the two buffers to ensure the effectiveness of each.

Continued on page 7

Retention Pond Task Force cont'd...

This combination of buffer zones has been shown to be effective in retarding shoreline erosion. It has also been shown to improve the habitat for wildlife and birds and water quality and filtration plus reduce the need for and impact of chemicals and other hazardous wastes.

The financial and ecological trajectory of not taking a proactive approach to preserve our ponds and wetlands can be extremely costly in the future as shorelines continue to erode, pollutant levels become saturated and drainage structures and water flow become obstructed.

Fortunately, the cost to implement this plan is minimal, with the largest expenditure of \$25,000 going toward planting aquatic plants in ponds where they are needed.

The cost to maintain this plan is also considered minimal, roughly \$25,000 annually, for the HOA to engage contractors to periodically trim the property buffer zones all around our community, and to maintain or control aquatic plants, removing those that become invasive without the use of pesticides and herbicides.

Other recommended actions that will not incur costs, yet are needed to ensure a complete and successful ponds program include engaging contractors that remove invasive tilapia (which they keep and take to market), and enlisting our regional experts to help inform and educate our residents on our pond conditions and these initiatives to improve them and the shorelines.

The Task Force, which consisted of Becky Cox, Deirdre Cronin, Kathryn Harris, Doug Smith, Michelle van Shouwen, David Bryan as Board liaison, Ed Olson as property management resource, and myself, has been enthusiastically committed to this study from start to finish. We are equally enthusiastic about the feasibility, cost-effectiveness and benefits of the recommendations in the report, which can be read in its entirety on the Turtle Rock website. All residents are encouraged to read the report and help support these recommendations as yet another avenue for maintaining the appeal and desirability of the Turtle Rock community that our residents so richly enjoy.

Submitted by Melody Barackman, Chair

Mailbox Task Force



The mailbox task force met again on January 9. At that meeting, a representative of our second vendor, ASAP Mailbox Installations and Repairs, showed samples of the mailboxes they would install. They are manufactured by the same company that Forsite proposed to use. The mailboxes are on “display” inside the Community Center for you to look at. The black box would be used in all of Turtle Rock and the white double box post used in Savannah.

The option of including a flag pole holder on the post was discussed and it was decided that this would be the choice of the homeowner and at their expense. Also the possibility of enlarging the house number plaque under the box was suggested. The task force also discussed how to proceed with the removal of the existing boxes and installing the new boxes, and any legal implications that might arise. We will consult our attorney for an opinion. Once all the details are worked out, we will present our findings and recommendations to the Board of Governors.

Stay tuned.

Submitted by Roberta Maloney

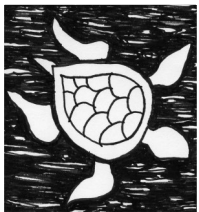


OH SO SAD!

We don't have an article to print this month for our “Turtle Rock Stories” column. Paula Griffin, our reporter, would love to interview anyone who could share a story about TR. She is happy to write the article so all you have to do is the talking. Please text us at:

communications@myturtlerock.com

and Paula will be happy to get in touch with you.



Turtle Rock Academy Lecture Series

*Serving the TR Community through education,
information and entertainment*



Life is better with bees! The Sarasota Honey Company



Alma Johnson's passions are many. She loves working with young adults with special needs. She loves growing and eating produce from her own gardens. She loves spreading the word about the valuable products of bees. She has combined all of these passions into the

Sarasota Honey Company which has 600 hives and counting in urban areas in Manasota and Sarasota counties.

Her bees come from capturing unwanted bees and breeding bees. You might remember from biology class that there are three types of bees in a hive. The Queen bee is the center of the hive. Her job is to produce the next Queen bee. The worker bees are only female. They have stingers and 3 million hairs on their legs and bodies which collect pollen from flowers. They also collect water. Drones are males and have no stinger. They depend on females to feed them. Their only job is to mate. Once the air temperature is a 65 degrees, females herd the males to one spot and decapitate them and kick them out of the hive.

Prior to WWII farms had mixed crops and did not use chemicals, but afterward motor driven machinery made it possible to farm larger tracts of land. Farms became a monoculture which is a food desert to bees. This led to a deep decline in bee populations. There are now companies that transport bees on flatbeds to farms to pollinate the crop. California's largest monoculture crop is almonds. This migratory bee service helps the farmers, but it also can spread disease as it moves from place to place. More chemicals on crops have also contributed to the decline in the number of bees.

Alma encourages everyone to help bees by planting wildflowers. She sells seeds at her store. Provide a water dish with rocks that bees can land on. Support your local beekeeper.

Sarasota Honey Company's honey is raw honey. It contains a spectrum of vitamins, 22 amino acids and 27 minerals. When honey is collected, bees are brushed off the frames and the honey is cut off using cold blades to prevent burns to her staff. The honey goes through a hand cranked spinner, again for safety, and is then bottled and labeled. The company store is located at 2227 University Parkway. It features soaps, candles, bee-themed towels, stickers, jewelry and clothing as well as many honey varieties such as Manasota and Sarasota Blend Raw Wildflower and Blueberry Orange Blossom. On Saturday morning Alma gives tours of her store garden and hives.

Check the calendar on the website for dates and times: sarasotahoneycompany.com.

Submitted by Janet Smith

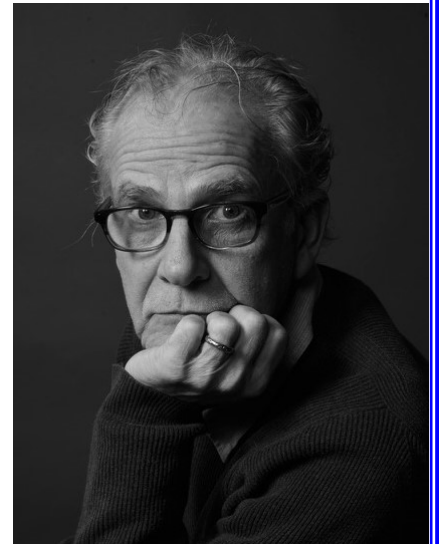
Turtle Rock Academy Lecture Series...cont'd



Upcoming Programs:

February 13, Making Films

Laurence Siegel, producer of narrative, short and documentary films which use dance as a theme, will share how he develops and produces his films. Laurence is a member of Gallery 44, a Centre for Contemporary Photography and serves on the board of directors of Tarragon Theatre in Toronto.



March 12

The Architecture of Guy Peterson

This well-known Sarasota architect will share some of his designs and talk about his contemporary style. Peterson has designed over 200 structures in SW Florida.

**Programs are presented at 2:00 in
The Community Center**

Submitted by Janet Smith



Turtle Rock Families Group

It's hard to believe February is upon us... What a great year 2019 was in Turtle Rock! Our families group is really growing! If you know anyone who is new to our neighborhood or has been left off the emails, please let me know. You can email me at cortny1996@aol.com or text me at 904-305-8243. Please be sure to include their email address.



NEW Valentine's Super Surprise

We're excited to invite you to a NEW event! Bring your children to the Turtle Rock Clubhouse for a few minutes on Friday, February 14th anytime between 3-5pm to grab a special gift. Please send the kiddos in while you hang out front (spoiler alert: they're picking up a surprise FOR YOU!!!)

This event sponsored by Turtle Rock resident, Carol Scott of Scott Silver Concierge Reality.



SCOTT SILVER
CONCIERGE REALTY

Carol@ScottSilverRealty.com

CAROL SCOTT • 941-313-3439

*****See You Soon!*****

Have a great week and a wonderful Valentine's Day!

Courtney Knowles

Courtney Knowles

8576 Great Meadow Dr.

904-305-8243

Cortny1996@aol.com



Turtle Rock Men's Club



Turtle Rock Men's Club

The Turtle Rock Men's Club will meet for lunch at 12:00 noon on Wednesday 19th of February 2020 in a private room at the Stonybrook Golf and Country Club,

8801 Stonybrook Blvd., Sarasota, FL 34238.

Stoneybrook is a gated community, south off Central Sarasota Parkway and just west of the Legacy Trail. The guard shack at the entrance is usually not manned but pressing the service button connects you to a remote guard who will ask you who you are going to see. Simply say that you are attending the Turtle Rock Men's Club lunch in the clubhouse. The gate will be raised and, as you enter on Stonybrook Blvd., the clubhouse is the first big building on your left. It is about a quarter of a mile beyond the gate.

We are pleased to announce that our Guest Speaker at the February meeting will be Marc Wolff, President of Southern Trust Financial Planning. Marc has been a very popular highlight of our Club lunches for the last several years. He is an engaging and informative speaker who reviews a wide range of topics, including international events, economic trends and stock market prospects, as a backdrop to financial planning. Marc also, very generously, sponsors the lunch, so it is free to all current TRMC members. Club Secretary Ken Rosemann will contact current Club members shortly to provide the range of menu options and to ascertain attendance.

Club members are encouraged to bring guests, and Turtle Rock men who are not yet Club members are also welcome to come and hear this dynamic speaker. However, all guests and non-members must pay for their lunches and we do require that they should phone Ken Rosemann in advance to let him know they are coming and to make their menu selections. Ken's number is (314) 482-3649.

Submitted by Keith Jones

TR Men's club is looking for anyone interested in joining them for golf. For more information contact them at trmc.golf@gmail.com.



Turtle Rock Women's Club

Are you curious about the Turtle Rock Women's Club but not sure you're ready to join? Perhaps you'll consider these upcoming events in February that are open to all. They are the perfect opportunity to meet some of your neighbors AND have fun! On February 8 we'll have our first Mix and Mingle social event at the Community Center. This is a quarterly event, hosted by our members and guaranteed a good time.



February 20 we'll take a trip to Big Cat Habitat, a local sanctuary that provides assistance and placement for exotic animals and education about them. This event will also be open to members of the Turtle Rock Men's Club.



Love, Respect, and Sanctuary for Life!
501c3 Corporation

The Turtle Rock Women's Club is a welcoming group open to all women residing in our lovely Turtle Rock Community. We offer a variety of programs and events designed to build friendships, educate and engage our members. We would love to have you join us, call Angela Pierre at 321-3994 or email:

turtlerockwomensclub@gmail.com

Submitted by Susan Neisler



Egg Decorating Class

In The Ukrainian Tradition

Learn how to create these beautiful works of art and carry on this tradition.

Class forming:

Saturday, MARCH 14

1:00 until 3:00-Community Center

The class is free but supplies are \$15.00.

(You will have supplies to decorate several dozen eggs)



Pre-registration is required.

To register or for questions call or text :

Judy at 412 848-0950

Registration closes Feb. 29

Register soon as class size is limited!



No previous art experience necessary!

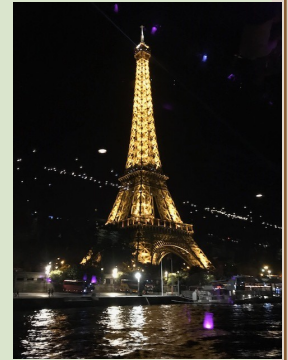
Submitted by Judy Bentz

Trip Tips, if you travel to ...

Karen Howe -Three weeks in France

Fred and I worked with a travel consultant to arrange an early fall trip to France. We started out in Champagne, where we stayed in a chateau hotel with a three-star Michelin restaurant—the hotel and the restaurant are owned by the chef. We hired a private tour company to take us to some of the wineries, and we also visited others on our own.

Tip: We used Frommer's and Rick Steves guides to plan our trip. Both were extremely helpful, but we especially liked Rick Steves, who is less formal and had tips on the type of out-of-the-way places we love to explore. Following a tip from a friend, removed the pages dealing with the places we were visiting and packed just those instead of the two books.



From Champagne, we went to Paris. Our hotel was the Edouard



VII on Ave. de l'Opera, centrally located and lovely. We celebrated our anniversary with dinner at the Jules Verne Restaurant in the Eiffel Tower. Another evening we took the dinner cruise on the Seine. How beautiful Paris is at night!

A favorite memory is visiting Giverny and seeing Monet's gardens—and then going to the Musee de L'Orangerie (in Paris) and viewing the two circular rooms paneled with Monet's water lilies paintings.



We took the TGV (high speed) train from Paris to Bordeaux, and stayed at the Intercontinental, with its two-star Michelin restaurant. (We ate very well on this trip!) We joined a small group tour and visited vineyards in St. Emilion and Medoc, of course, sampling wine everywhere we went. From there, we rented a car and drove to the Dordogne region, where we stayed for four days—our favorite part of the trip.

Trip Tips contd...

Some of our favorite memories from Dordogne include:

The village of Oradour-sur Glane, now a permanent memorial and museum dedicated to the 642 inhabitants, including women and children, who were massacred there during WWII

A truffle farm, where we learned about the harvesting of truffles

A goose farm

Font de Gaume: A cave with prehistoric drawings

Food, food, food: fabulous local restaurants, some of them Michelin-starred, but without the hoopla of bigger city Michelin-starred restaurants; every single restaurant, a celebration of local, delicious food

Tip: The caves with prehistoric drawings are closing to tourists. We were able to see one of the last ones that is still open. Local tour guides are able to get a number of tickets in advance, but they are often booked a year ahead; the remaining tickets are for visitors who must line up hours before the caves open and hope to be able to get a ticket. It seems likely that this cave will close, too, and visitors will only be able to see the drawings as they are replicated in museums.

Leaving lovely Dordogne, we drove to Avignon, a historic walled city where we stayed three nights. There we toured the Palais du Papes and the Saint- Benezet Bridge made famous in a children's song: "Sur le Pont d'Avignon". Besides sightseeing (we were able to walk everywhere we wanted to go), we had a cooking class. We made fish soup :several whole fish cooked in a highly seasoned broth and then put through a food mill...served with a small boney fish in the center of the soup bowl. It was interesting, but not one of our favorite meals!



Tip: Don't use Uber in historic cities in France. Uber doesn't have the same rights as taxi drivers. For example, in Avignon, our Uber driver had to drop us off outside the walls, and pointed us to a narrow cobblestoned road up a hill that took us, dragging our suitcases, to our hotel. The taxis, we learned later, have remote controls to lower the barriers that restrict traffic and could have dropped us off at the hotel entrance.

From Avignon, we went to Marseilles, staying in the multi-cultural port city one night before heading back home to Sarasota. We loved everything, but particularly recommend Dordogne.

Diane Glynn—Reporter

Turtle Rock February **Events**

February 1-New Newsletter

**February 4–
HOA Meeting for all
Residents**

**February 13-”Making Films”
TR Academy**

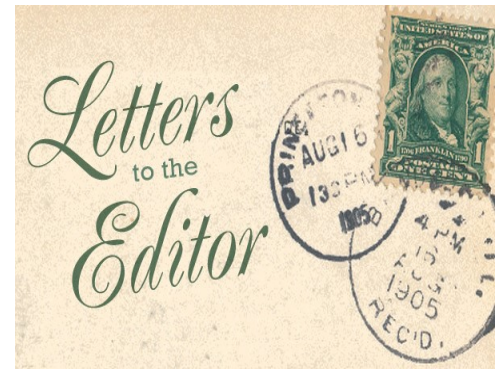
**February 14 -Children’s Valentine
Surprise 3:00-5:00**

February 15– Garage Sale

February 25– Chemical Collection

**February-29 Last Day to Register for
Egg Decorating Class**

Many thanks to everyone who entered the “Hidden Word” contest...please remember this will not be a miss spelled word, or a grammatical error. We try our best to eliminate those in proofreading. You need to look for a WORD that doesn’t make sense in the article or in the sentence. The word for last month “erinaceous”, means “like a hedgehog” and did not belong in the Treasurer’s Report. Good Luck, Judy



2020 A year of reflection

Congratulations to Jean-Claude who was last month's winner.

Would you like to win a \$25.00 gift card to Publix???

What's the catch??? No catch!

Just locate the secret word hidden somewhere in this Newsletter, then send the word and the page and article you found it in to : **Communications@myturtlerock.com.**

Your name will be entered into a drawing to receive
the \$25.00 gift card,

Sponsored this month by Mira Mar Pool Care.

Winner will be announced in the next Newsletter issue.

To find the secret word simply read each page carefully and when you notice an entirely inappropriate word, that doesn't belong in the article, then you've located the answer.

One entry per email please.

Good luck!

The Communication Committee

The committee is looking for staff writers and photographers. If you have a knack for writing, have ideas for a monthly column or are willing to take photos of interest to the community, please contact us at communications@myturtlerock.com.

THANKS for getting involved!

Committee Members and Newsletter Staff

Jim Cerny, Patricia Tarlton, Judy Bentz and Ed Olson of Sunstate Management.

Staff Writers: 3~4 Places to Visit—Paula Griffin, Trips Tips— Diane Glynn

Board Liaison: David Tarlton

Proofreader: Charlotte Jones

Send comments, suggestions and articles for consideration to:

communications@myturtlerock.com

(Text must be in Word, Photos as JPEG.)