

Turtle Rock Newsletter

The Best Place on Palmer Ranch

January 2021

Congratulations to our winner

Emily Miller



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In 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.



She found the hidden word "acquiesce" on page 7 of the Dec. Newsletter and her name was drawn to receive a \$25 gift card to Publix, donated by:



Full Service Pool Maintenance
Owned and operated by TR Residents



A Letter from the President

December Board of Governors Meeting

Actions approved at the December Board of Governors meeting were:

Approved the **Landscape Committee** recommendations to acquire 3 benches to be placed around the Community Center.

Approved the **Landscape Committee** recommendations to change the TROM concerning what kind of benches are allowed within Turtle Rock. New TROM wording to section 3a, Decorative Benches will be “Only commercially manufactured benches will be permitted. The ARC must approve bench and placement in terms of its consistency with the architecture of the home and landscaping.”

Approved minutes from ARC, Communications, Landscape/Grounds, Ponds and Mailbox Committees/Task Forces.

Approved OnSpot Dermatology to have their mobile dermatology clinic in Turtle Rock, tentatively scheduled for March xx, 2021. As more information becomes available we will communicate specifics as to how to participate in their services.

Approved participating in a tennis ball recycling program. The tennis ball recycling container will be located at the tennis courts. Please dispose of used tennis balls in the recycling container.

Continued on next page...

President's Letter contd...

The Board of Governors discussed the following items at the December meeting:

Putting a top dressing of mulch along Turtle Rock Blvd. Scheduling is to be determined.

Installation of the new mailboxes will begin in the first quarter. All plantings, stones, pavers, brick work, etc. (hardscape and softscape) MUST be removed, for 3-1/2 feet around the existing mailbox post, before the new boxes are installed. The owner will be responsible for removing all materials around their mailboxes. If all materials are not removed prior to the mailboxes installation the association will have the material removed and will bill the owner for the cost of the removal. New mailboxes will be installed in the same location as the old boxes. If an owner wishes to have their new mailbox in a different location, the owner will need to move the existing mailbox to the new location prior to the new mailbox being installed. Owners will be kept informed of the scheduling of the mailbox replacements. Once new mailboxes are installed the owner will be required to keep all plantings or hardscape at least 3-1/2 feet from the mailbox.

Discussed the pros and cons of having residents donate decorative benches. The Board agreed that placing resident donated decorative benches would be beneficial to Turtle Rock. These donated decorative benches would have an inscribed plaque and would be installed on association property. The association would pay for the cement pad and installation, while the resident would pay for the bench and plaque. If you would like to buy and donate a decorative bench please contact Ed Olson.

The Board hopes everyone had a great holiday season and we all hope and expect this year to be much improved over last year.

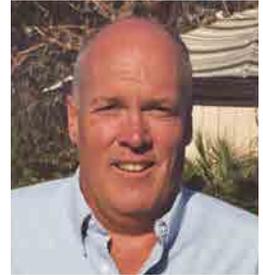
January Board of Governors Meeting, January 5

February Annual Members Meeting, February 2

Russ Gill, Turtle Rock Board President



Report From The Treasurer



Period Ending November 30, 2020

	Actual	Budget
Income		
Total Receipts	\$111,886	\$111,634
Operating Expenses		
General and Administrative	\$31,843	\$32,902
Common Grounds	\$10,815*	\$15,936
Access Control	\$20,942	\$21,617
Facilities Maintenance	\$8,492**	\$13,820
Utilities	\$4,746***	\$7,325

- * No expenses were incurred for Mulch and Tree & Shrub Trimming
- ** Reduced expense was incurred for Wetlands Maintenance
- *** Reduced expense was incurred for Electricity, Street Light Maintenance, and Reclaimed Irrigation Water

Reserve Expenses

Contribution	\$20,035	\$20,035
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No direct expenses were incurred in November 2020

Assessments

Total Collected \$101,067

Total Outstanding \$18,356 (Previous Month \$33,474)

Submitted by John M Burke, Treasurer

Manager's Message



Christmas and New Year's Eve have come and gone, and I wanted to keep you updated on things that are coming up at Turtle Rock. First, I want to say thank you to the Board of Governors, the committees and the task forces. They have all worked extremely hard over the last year and have accomplished a lot.

Thank you!

The **Annual Members Meeting** notice will be mailed out soon. Please send in your proxy right away. This meeting will probably be held remotely. 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 2021 assessments. If not, please call the management office so we can reorder one for you. Don't forget the first quarter payment is due today.

Compliance around the community seems to be improving, however there are still a lot of dirty roofs, sidewalks and driveways. Please be proactive. **I have also been receiving more calls about people not picking up after their pets. This shows a blatant disregard for your community and neighbors. Please don't be that person! Turtle Rock provides bags and waste stations around the community for everyone's convenience.**

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.

The Board of Governors will be discussing the Trash to Treasure garage sale and the Chemical Collection Day at their meeting January 5th. The results of that discussion, whether to hold these events or not, will be sent out after the meeting.

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

Landscape and Grounds Committee



Update for December 2020

The Committee met with Shane from Bloomings and Ed Olson at the Community Center on December 16th. Earlier in the week, Shane and some members of the Committee had taken a walk down Turtle Rock Blvd to assess what needs to be done.

At the meeting on December 16th, Shane reviewed the projects that Bloomings was working on, including:

- a proposal to improve the beds at both the north and south gate entrances by removing old plantings and adding colorful new annuals**
- arranging for the new plantings at the corners of Turtle Rock Blvd and the northern portion of Sabal Lake Circle**
- adding a top dressing of mulch along Turtle Rock Blvd**
- removal of failing bushes and trees and replacing them with new ones**
- clean up debris from beds**



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Landscape and Grounds Committee contd...

Ed Olson reported that the trimming of the oak trees down Turtle Rock Blvd will begin sometime towards the end of December.

The three new community benches have arrived and they will be installed shortly. Two will be located in the vicinity of the Community Center and one will be located just south of the butterfly garden.

Residents from Savannah have requested that the Turtle Rock Homeowners Association pay for the trimming of 30 palm trees that are located on Turtle Rock Association property within Savannah. The Committee will be asking the Board of Governors for their decision on this matter.

Erosion is occurring beneath the sidewalk on Turtle Rock Blvd between Meadow Rush Loop and Timber Chase. The Committee is investigating a solution to this. The Committee is also investigating a solution to the chipping paint at the base of the lamp posts and street signs, which results from the use of weed whackers.

Some issues need to be addressed regarding the condition of the tennis courts and Ed is reaching out to the contractor.

The Landscape Committee is asking for everyone to please remember not to dump debris into the preserve areas!

The meeting date for the Landscape Committee has been changed to the 2nd Wednesday of every month.

The Landscape Committee would like to wish you all a beautiful holiday season! Enjoy the lovely new holiday lights and decorations at both gates and down Turtle Rock Blvd!

Submitted by Jodi Cunnison

Architectural Review Committee (ARC)



The ARC again experienced a very busy month with nearly 30 applications from owners for home and property improvements. Exterior painting continues to dominate home improvements. Choosing color combinations is one of the more difficult tasks for homeowners. Jim Vaughan, a member of the ARC, wrote an article several months ago for the Newsletter on this topic, emphasizing how important it is that all facets of the home – house and trim color, roof, and driveway pavers – should blend together harmoniously. To assist homeowners in their choices, the two communities within Turtle Rock – Savannah and Somerset – have adopted color palettes for homes. These are professionally presented by designers -- Sherwin Williams, for example -- and are available to the rest of the Turtle Rock community for consideration.

The ARC is sometimes asked why a home cannot be one single color. Designers have concluded that a trim color actually enhances the house color, even if it is only one or two shades off from the primary color. The Turtle Rock Owners' Manual (TROM) actually specifies that homes in Turtle Rock have a trim color that is different from the house color which follows designers' recommendations. The TROM has other specifications for paint colors, and I refer you to it if you are planning any house painting. There are homes in Turtle Rock which have one color, although the doors are a different color or shade. However, these homes were painted before the Owners' Manual was updated in February 2019. As always, the ARC members will work with owners to achieve a pleasing color palette.

Speaking of the ARC, let me re-introduce you to the members of the Committee who continually work long and unusual hours on your behalf. All bring unique skills to the Committee and are committed to enhancing the beauty of Turtle Rock.

Continued on next page...

Architectural Review Committee (ARC) Cont'd

Bethany Cox has lived in Turtle Rock for 10 years and has served on the ARC for 5 of those years. She is a member of the Women's Club and the pyrography Turtle Rock Book Club. She has been in the field of education for over 30 years and has Master's Degree in curriculum and instruction. On the ARC she ensures that all applications are accurate and complete.

Chuck Barackman is our Secretary, and he keeps us all organized. He has enjoyed two career paths – an accountant for 20 years and a cabinetmaker for another 20 years. He has also purchased, renovated, and sold about a dozen homes over the years. He has the skills and knowledge of construction issues that he now uses to address ARC questions.

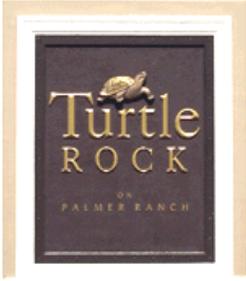
Margaret Borrows is extremely knowledgeable about plants, and brings extensive experience to the ARC in the areas of landscape design. She created an apprentice program for students in New Hampshire before moving to Turtle Rock 8 years ago. She enjoys working with homeowners as they improve and freshen their properties. As a master gardener, she is truly an ARC “natural asset.”

Jim Vaughan has lived in Turtle Rock for 12 years and is a retired Professor and Chairman of the Interior Design Department at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York, having taught for 30 years. Jim ran an interior design firm for many years and continues consulting. He is highly credentialed, has won many awards, and has served on the ARC for 8 years. He is a member of the Turtle Rock Academy and, previously, the Hearing Panel.

I serve as Chairman of the ARC and it is a joy and privilege to work with each of the Committee members, and to meet and work with so many of you. I have lived in Turtle Rock for 8 years. I retired as a Senior Official with the Department of Defense and hold a PhD in economics. I have served for 3 years on the Turtle Rock Board. In addition, I serve as co-chair of the Landscape Committee and am a member of the Ponds Committee.

The ARC works closely with our Manager, Ed Olson. When we need an historical perspective or advice on a particular issue, we turn to Christa Friedlander who served for many years as Chairperson of the ARC. **On behalf of each of us on the ARC, have a safe, healthy, and happy New Year.**

Submitted by Curt Gilroy



Turtle Rock Women's Club

The Turtle Rock Women's Club is finding innovative ways to remain connected with our neighbors and friends while maintaining safe distancing practices. Once again, our Vice President Karen Howe organized a sunset happy hour that was recently held at Nokomis Beach. Our small group gathered at the pavilion near the entrance to the beach. Members arrived in time to secure a good spot to watch the sunset and visit (safely) with friends and neighbors. We will be taking January off from our sunset beach gatherings but plan to resume in February.

Please contact Karen Howe at kmhowe001@yahoo.com or 315-632-2247 for more information.



Some of our special interest activities are ongoing as well. Water aerobics at the Community Center pool, golf and book clubs continue to meet.

Now is a great time to join TRWC! If you'd like more information on membership or activities, please don't hesitate to reach out to us at TurtleRockWomensClub@gmail.com.

Submitted by Jean Contillo

Turtle Rock Men's Club



Hooray, 2020 is over! While the past year cannot be labeled, the “worst year ever”, its events probably personally affected more individuals than any other year. As the “year of the vaccination” begins, most are predicting that it will be another year before any sort of normalcy exists. What that normalcy will look like is anyone’s guess.

While we don’t know when we will again be able to hold our luncheons, we are hopeful that 2021 will be a year of positive change.

Prediction: There will be a minor baby boom in 9 months and then one day in 2033, we shall witness the rise of the QUARANTEENS.

Bill Kozlowski



We wish the following a **Happy January Birthday!** If I have missed anyone, email me and I will update the TRMC website.

Ray Broth, Terry Cooney, Jack DeLong, Fred Howe, Keith Jones, Mike Laurenno, Tore Nordal, Paul Ratzlaff, Josef Sedlacek

Wishing you health and happiness in 2021!

If you know of someone who may be interested in joining the Men’s Club, please have them contact me and I will be glad to assist them in the process of joining.

During these trying times, that process can be accomplished virtually.

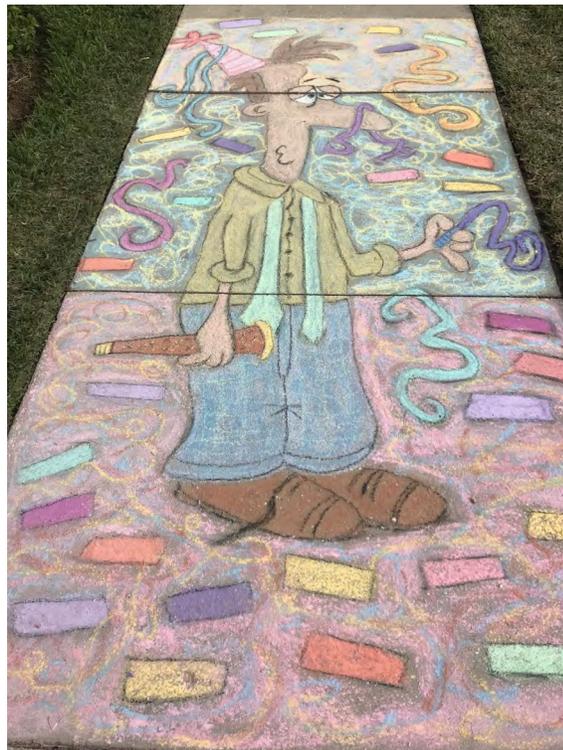
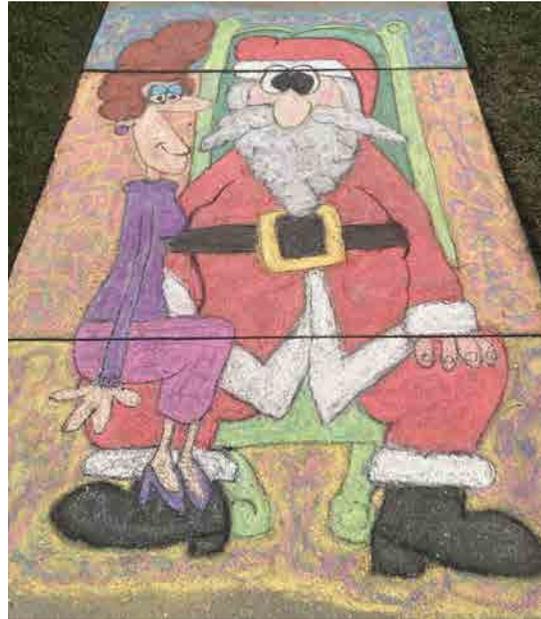
Stay safe and help one another!

Submitted by:

Ken Rosemann

Donna Wolfson...

Happy New Year!



Mailbox Task Force Report



The Mailboxes are coming!!

The Mailboxes are coming!!

The Mailbox Task Force has presented its proposal to the Board of Directors and the project has been approved for next year. 100% funding of the project is in the 2021 Budget. The proposed update to the Turtle Rock Owners Manual (TROM) concerning the new mailboxes is to be voted on at the January 5th BOG meeting. It concerns the required clearance around the post and the elimination of plantings, etc. in the area around the mailbox. And it relieves you of the responsibility of maintenance of your mailbox!

We hope you are all looking forward to this beautification of our neighborhood. The task force is now involved in keeping the residents informed and up-to-date on the progress, and the responsibilities of the individual homeowner. Site preparation by the homeowner and awareness of the installation schedule will require your cooperation.

The Board and the task force will be making sure the community is informed about the roll-out and progress of the project. Please check out the information listed in the following:

The Turtle Rock website homepage will contain updates on a regular basis. To access, go to <http://www.myturtlerock.com>. Under the “Community Association” tab, click on “Mailbox Task Force” to see the latest information about the project.

The Turtle Rock Newsletter

will have a monthly article to report the status and any issues.

Community Notice Boards

located around Turtle Rock will be used.

Email Blasts

from our Association Manager and BOG.

Continued on next page...

Mailbox Task Force Report contd...



An Information Session will be held at the Community Center on Saturday, January 16 from 9:00am to 11:00am

Task force members will be available to answer questions and provide current information. And you are always welcome to contact a Mailbox Task Force member with your questions: **David Bryan, Jodi Cunnison, Curt Gilroy, Kathrin Harris, Patti Fleming, Harry Hopes, Roberta Maloney, Bob Oram, and Kathy Wells.**

Reminder:

In preparation for the installation, it will be the responsibility of homeowners to **remove all landscaping and hardscaping** surrounding their post. You will be given ample lead time to do this. The new posts will be surrounded by a concrete donut, and new sod will be put down by the Association. No plantings will be allowed around the new posts; this will make maintenance easier and provide a uniform appearance.

Please send any comments or questions to communications@myturtlerock.com.

Submitted by Roberta Maloney



"Protect our Ponds"

Turtle Rock Ponds Report

Coexisting With Alligators



Turtle Rock residents may sometimes see an alligator cruising in a pond or sunbathing on shore. Alligators, which descended from the same common ancestor as dinosaurs, are technically reptiles but are in fact more closely related to birds, according to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission. Alligators have existed for approximately 85 million years. They were here well before us.

Early last century, humans hunted alligators nearly to extinction. They are now federally protected by the Endangered Species Act as a Threatened species and as a Federally-designated Threatened species by Florida's Endangered and Threatened Species Rule.

We now share our state with about 1.3 million alligators. In Florida, serious injuries from alligators are rare. Nevertheless, living safely with our ancient alligator neighbors relies on taking common-sense precautions:

-Don't feed them. In fact, it is illegal to do so. Alligators are generally afraid of people, but feeding them can cause them to lose that important fear (and put them in danger of being "removed"; more about that below).

-Don't walk right at the edge of ponds when you can avoid it, and do not bring small children or dogs to ponds' edges. Keep pets on a leash. Watch for alligators relaxing nearby and give them plenty of space.

-Don't swim or wade in the ponds.

-Leave the alligators alone. Know that they are mostly active between dusk and dawn and during mating season typically April-June in Florida.

When a resident asks to have an alligator removed, they are typically asked if the alligator is being aggressive. Generally, a non-aggressive alligator can be left in peace. If the resident still wants the alligator to be "removed," it is in fact killed and then sold for its meat and hide – it is *not* simply relocated.

Please consider Turtle Rock's alligators as wildlife to be admired and respected. If a problem arises, call Ed Olson at the Turtle Rock office.

Logo Created by Barry Domenick, Turtle Rock Resident

Article by Michelle van Schouwen, Secretary, Ponds Committee



Sent in from a friend of a friend....

Wednesday a week ago, I had a phone call from someone saying that he was from some outfit called: "Express Couriers," (The name could be any courier company) He asked if I was going to be home because there was a package for me that required a signature. The caller said that the delivery would arrive at my home in roughly an hour. Sure enough, about an hour later, a uniformed delivery man turned up with a beautiful basket of flowers and a bottle of wine. I was very surprised since there was no special occasion or holiday, and I certainly didn't expect anything like it. Intrigued, I inquired as to who the sender was. The courier replied, "I don't know, I'm only delivering the package. Apparently, a card was being sent separately" the card has never arrived! There was also a consignment note with the gift. He then went on to explain that because the gift contained alcohol, there was a \$3.50 "delivery/ verification charge," providing proof that he had actually delivered the package to an adult of legal drinking age, and not just left it on the doorstep where it could be stolen or taken by anyone, especially a minor.

This sounded logical and I offered to pay him cash. He then said that the delivery company required payment to be by credit or debit card only, so that everything is properly accounted for, and this would help in keeping a legal record of the transaction. He added couriers don't carry cash to avoid loss or likely targets for robbery. My husband, who by this time was standing beside me, pulled out his credit card, and 'John,' the "delivery man," asked him to swipe the card on a small mobile card machine with a small screen and keypad. Frank, my husband, was asked to enter his PIN number and a receipt was printed out. He was given a copy of the transaction. The guy said everything was in order, and wished us good day. To our horrible surprise, between Thursday and the following Monday, \$4,000 was charged/withdrawn from our credit/debit account at various ATM machines. Apparently the "mobile credit card machine," which the deliveryman carried now had all the info necessary to create a "dummy" card with all our card details including the PIN number.

Upon finding out about the illegal transactions on our card, we immediately notified the bank which issued us a new card, and our credit/debit account was closed. We also personally went to the police, where it was confirmed that it is definitely a scam because several households had been similarly hit. **Please beware!**

Dogs & Dog Walkers in Turtle Rock



Morning, afternoon and evening you can almost always spot someone walking their dog(s). My husband and I are among those walking with our own little "Fur Baby." I'm trying to train Sadie not to bark at other dogs. She's a nine pound ball of white fur that sometimes thinks she's a Doberman Pinscher. Lots of residents walk without dogs and some stop to say hello. Others take a wide detour around us. I understand: as cute as I think our dog is, others are fearful or perhaps allergic. That's okay. My dog is always on a leash. Not a retractable leash, a static 5 foot leash and she stays close to me at all times during our walk. Which brings me to something I'm noticing more and more, that is, dogs off leash. It doesn't really matter how well your pooch is trained, they are animals and can be unpredictable in certain circumstances. If a squirrel runs across their path, or a small child rides too close on a bike, a dog can react unexpectedly. In the Turtle Rock documents it refers to this situation...

" Pets shall at all times be leashed or otherwise contained upon the LOT of the respective OWNER...free running pets shall be deemed nuisances."

Please, be a responsible dog owner and always pick up after your pet. Bags are provided for free and several cans where you may dispose of dog wastes are located around Turtle Rock. Please cooperate and keep Turtle Rock clean and safe for us all.

Submitted by Judy Bentz

Turtle Rock Shines...



Turtle Rock Shines...contd.



Many Thanks to:

Michael S. Wentzel
michael@mswimages.com
@msw_images

Congratulations to **Emily Miller,**

she found the word **acquiesce** which means “to accept something reluctantly but without protest.”

Find the outlandishly inappropriate word in one of our many articles in this month’s Newsletter and send your guess 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.

The Winner will be announced in the next Newsletter.

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

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.)