




# Turtle Talk

## April 2023

### President's Message

By: Russ Gill, Board President



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TURTLE TALK proof readers check articles for errors in spelling, punctuation, grammar, and sentence structure.

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

Photo top left is showing Ukrainian Easter Eggs

The association has scheduled future 2023 Board of Governor (BOG) meetings at 6:30 the last Thursday of each month. By starting the meeting later, the Board hopes more members will be able to attend, either in person or via Zoom. Attending the monthly board meetings provides you with the opportunity to learn more about how the board functions and how your money is being spent.

One of the areas the association board has been working on for many months is methods to reduce speeding within Turtle Rock. Last year, the board approved the installation of two traffic cameras on Turtle Rock Blvd. These cameras have been active since last fall and have captured many people exceeding the speed limit. During the last two months, several people have sped past the cameras significantly over 25 mph every day. The top speed recorded by the cameras was 47 miles per hour. Walkers and bikers are along

our streets and if these speeding cars were to hit one of them, they would be severely injured. You, our residents, have slowed down since the cameras were installed and we thank you, although some of you are still speeding. However, many of your guests have not slowed down and are still speeding through our neighborhood. **Please** remind your guest to drive at the speed limit for everyone's safety.

The association intends to implement the next step of the traffic task force's recommendation, i.e., fining owners of cars traveling over the speed limit. The first time a car is recorded exceeding the speed limit, after the implementation date, they will receive a warning email. The second time they will be fined \$50. Every subsequent recorded speed over the limit will incur a fine of \$100 and a thirty day suspension of their bar code for residential

Continued on page 2

## 2023 Board and Committee Liaisons



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***Board meetings will be held the LAST  
Thursday of each month starting at  
6:30pm during 2023.***

## President's Message, Continued

entry, which will require the resident to enter as a visitor.

At the last two BOG meetings, the board approved:

- Replacing the non-operational pool heater. The order has been placed with the supplier and the heater is expected to be delivered in April.
- Continuing funding of hurricane Ian debris removal, stump grinding and tree branch trimming.
- Repairing/leveling of our sidewalks. The concrete contractor has begun grinding the raised sidewalks throughout the association and will be replacing concrete that cannot be repaired.
- Removing a rubber tree.
- Removing a "floating island" from one of our ponds and clearing of the weir.
- Replacing a portion of the hedge along Turtle Rock Blvd that was destroyed by Ian.
- The Honore Border Task Force charter, Board liaison, and members.
- The fining of 4 households: two need to have their palm trees trimmed and two households continue to park their pickup trucks in their driveway against HOA rules.

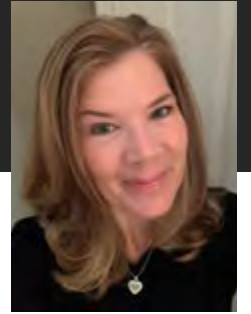
On March 23, the Communication Committee held a "meet and greet" for new residents. The new residents were able to meet with many of the board members and various club members.

On March 25, the Men's and Women's Clubs held a Luau at the community center and a good time was had by all.

The April Board meeting will be held on the 27th starting at 6:30pm.

# CAM CORNER

By: Nanette Thomas, Community Association Manager



**Nanette Thomas**  
Sunstate Management  
Communitymanag-  
er@myturtlerock.com  
941-870-9855  
941-921-3808 fax

Many things have been taking place during March in the Turtle Rock Community. We have a new addition to Maintenance. Please welcome AZ



Contreras. AZ and Larry will each be working three days per week, with an overlap day on Wednesday. Straightening of street signs and streetlamps, clean out and removal of junk items from the maintenance garages, and striping of the parking lot are just some of the projects that have been completed.

For this month's compliance, I have received many complaints from residents regarding pick-up trucks. As a reminder, per the TROM, pick-up trucks are **not allowed to be parked in driveways or on roadways** except for vendors at your home. The TROM states, "No trucks, commercial vans, unlicensed vehicles, boats, campers, trailers, mobile homes, motor homes, or other such vehicles may be

parked at any time upon any portion of a lot unless parked within a garage and totally out of view. This restriction does not prohibit the temporary parking of commercial vehicles making deliveries, or while used in connection with providing services to any residence."

Section IV, D, pg 40 —

<https://www.myturtlerock.com/files/documents/TR%20Owners%20Manual%202022-12-20%20v1.pdf>

If you do not have a copy of the TROM, it is available on the website (click link above), or you can stop by the Community Center to pick up a copy.

## Office Hours Notice:

Tues, 4-04: 8:30 to 4pm

Fri, 4-07: 8:30 to 1pm

Larry and AZ began to tackle the crowded maintenance storage sheds last week. The dumpster in the parking lot was there just for this purpose. They surely unearthed some useful items, but with a bit of organization, it will all be able to be found when needed.





# Treasurer's Report

By: Kathrin Harris



**Year-To-Date Ending:**

February 28, 2023

	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Diff</b>
<b>Income:</b> Assessments and other	\$ 293,538	\$ 284,126	\$ 9,412
<b>Expenses:</b>			
General and Administrative	\$ 71,751	\$ 75,096	(\$ 3,345)
Common Grounds	35,184	40,708	(\$ 5,525)
Access Control/Gatehouse	57,351	30,000	(\$ 2,649)
Facilities Maintenance	12,975	25,937	(\$12,963)
Utilities	12,104	14,855	(\$ 2,751)
Reserves Contribution *	67,529	67,529	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 256,893</b>	<b>\$ 284,126</b>	<b>\$ 36,645 NET income</b>

\* Reserve expenses: \$ 3299 — Deposit for geothermal pool heat/cool unit

**Assessments:** Outstanding HOA Fees—  
 (0-90 days) \$ 13108  
 ( 91+ days) \$ 6,576  
 Total \$20,083

For more detailed monthly and annual financial information, dating back to 2015, please visit our website's Resident Only page: <https://www.myturtlerock.com/community-assoc/residents-only-v2/>  
 This is a password protected section; please email letstalkturtlerock@gmail.com, and request the PW by providing your name and TR address.



**Violators will be fined!**



Thanks to the efforts of several communities and Palmer Ranch, the county decided this was a necessary measure with the continued increase in the overall amount of traffic along Palmer Ranch Pkwy.

**But you NEED TO PUSH THE BUTTON to make it do its job!!**

Just like the flashing lights for the Legacy Trail crossing on Central Sarasota, it will not work until you activate it!



# Turtle Rock Academy Lectures

By: Bette Blitzer Mills, Chair

2023 SEASON — all programs at 2pm



**April 27**

*Harold Mitchell,  
President & CEO*

## **The Elling Eide Center**

A surprise treasure just three miles from Turtle Rock is the 72 acre estate of the late (2012) Elling O. Eide. Mr. Eide, a world class collector of books and art on Chinese and Asian history and culture, turned his



estate into a beautiful, tranquil place for visiting scholars who shared his passion, opening the extensive library only to them.

The Elling Eide Center and Research Library is now open to the public, offering walking tours of the grounds and stunning residence which is also home to the library. Mr. Mitchell will recount the fascinating history of the Eide Center and the Eide Family. Prepare to be engrossed in the amazing story.



**May 18**

*Frederick Piccolo,  
CEO*

## **Sarasota International Airport**

Frederick Piccolo, President and CEO of the Sarasota



Bradenton International Airport, will bring us up to date on all the transformations and improvements constantly taking place at our rapidly growing airport.

Mr. Piccolo has been the President and CEO of our airport since 1995, and has over 49 years of experience in the aviation industry. This will be a chance to hear an insider's view of the many changes at SRQ. A Q & A session will follow his presentation.

# EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

By: Susan Birkenmaier and Jim Cerny, Emergency Communications Subcommittee

Yes, soon it will be hurricane season again! Last season we had hurricane Ian and it was a biggie. We had some pool cages wrecked but our homes stood up well. But there were issues. A good portion of Turtle Rock was without power or internet for several days! Communications with our residents could have been better. So, to improve our Turtle Rock emergency communications the Board of Governors created a subcommittee to see how we can improve the distribution of information throughout the neighborhood.

The group will spend the next several months developing a plan for communicating with TR residents before, during and after an emergency event. The focus will be on communication only (not preparedness). In other words, how do we get information from “the people who know to the people who need to know”.

In the meantime, here are four very important tips about things that you NEED to address NOW, before an emergency happens:

- ◆ Obtain a “Hurricane Emergency” publication on the Sarasota County website, the Turtle Rock Community Center, a library, Publix or somewhere and keep it handy. It is full of all kinds of information including preparations, shelters (do they take pets?), food and water availability, health issues, and emergency services.
- ◆ Sarasota County offers an emergency alert system that will attempt to contact you by landline, cell-phone, text message, email or mobile app push noti-

fication, depending on the contact information you provide. You can sign up for alerts by visiting the Sarasota County website at

[www.alertsarasotacounty.com](http://www.alertsarasotacounty.com) The interactive map will tell you the jurisdiction we live in as well as provide a direct link to sign up for alerts. Considering having a family member or friend sign up for alerts so they too can be informed during an emergency event.

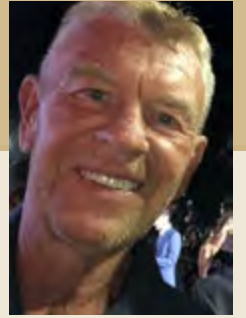
- ◆ If your cell phone is not “turned on” to receive those very important messages, change that now! Cell phones have different levels of capability, and the text or emergency messages may get through even if your phone does not work for regular calls or texts.
- ◆ Know your neighbors. Tell them your plans, (staying or leaving?) Make sure they can enter your house/garage if you need to ask them to do so. Any neighbors living alone? Does a neighbor need assistance or medications? Have pets? Your neighbors are your BEST friends in an emergency. Share your emergency plan with family members and friends.

As our subcommittee moves forward, we will report our progress in another article soon. In the meantime, get prepared!

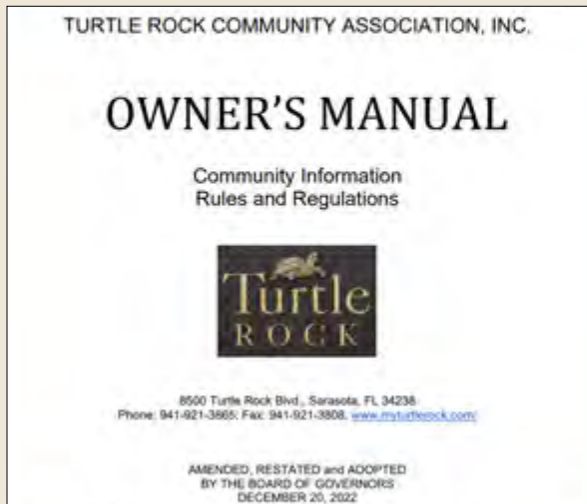


# T.R.O.M. TRIVIA

By: Steve West



Editor's Note: The **Turtle Rock Owner's Manual** provides the rules we choose to live by. Each month, *Turtle Talk* contributor Steve West picks random subjects to quiz readers about. Here are this month's:



1. "Open House" for residents looking to sell their home have specific times they can show their home. Can you name the two circumstances?
2. My five year old has a "motorized Barbie car" that goes about 3 mph. Can she drive it along the sidewalk in T/R? Yes or No
3. A neighbor has blue hued exterior lights to accent their beautiful home. Can you name the acceptable colors for exterior accent lighting?

If you want to investigate before cheating and looking on pg 17, the answers can be found in the online TROM:

<https://www.myturtlerock.com/files/documents/TR%20Owners%20Manual%202022-12-20%20v1.pdf>

## YARD WASTE: New County Regulations

Beginning **May 1**, *plastic bags* will **not** accepted for yard waste at the curb. The County Commission in November eliminated the option to accept yard waste in plastic bags for processing at the county landfill. This helps support Sarasota County's commitment to environmental stewardship.



Alternates include **paper bags, reusable containers, or bundling** (max 3 feet in length, tied into bundles no more than 40 lbs each) for curbside disposal.

Through April 28, yard waste in plastic bags will receive an informational tag with a reminder that plastic bags will no longer be accepted as of May 1.

After May 1, yard waste in plastic bags will be tagged and left at the curb, requiring residents to place the yard waste material in paper bags, reusable containers, or bundles for collection on the next regularly scheduled collection day.



Reusable containers, paper bags, or tied bundles **ONLY** as of May 1 for yard waste!



# Understanding Florida's native bobcats: Frequently asked questions

By: Michelle Van Schouwen, Secretary, Natural Assets Cttee



The United States is home to somewhere between [2.4 and 3.6 million](#) native bobcats. The only one of the lower 48 states in which their population is decreasing is Florida. But even here, bobcats live in deep forest, hammock lands, wetlands, and in suburban and urban areas, including Turtle Rock and surrounding communities.

## What do bobcats look like?

As described by [Smithsonian's National Zoo & Conservation Biology Institute](#), "The bobcat's fur is buff to brown, sometimes with a reddish tinge, and marked with spots or stripes of brown and black. The fur on its undersides is lighter in color. Bobcats have facial ruffs, ear tufts, white spots near the tips of their ears and bobbed tails." Some bobcats don't have either spots or stripes, and rarely, people spot a black bobcat!



*Mother and kitten bobcats, courtesy and copyright Mary Keim, Creative Commons License.*

## How large are bobcats?

Adult bobcats are about twice the size of domestic cats. They weigh anywhere from nine to 33 pounds and are about 18 to 24 inches tall to the shoulder.

## Why might I see a bobcat during the day?

It's not unusual to see a bobcat during the day. Bobcats sleep only two to three hours at a time, and are not completely nocturnal. They are typically most active at dusk and dawn.

## What do bobcats eat?

Bobcats prey mostly on small animals including rodents, rabbits, birds, and occasionally deer. In Florida, bobcats also eat iguanas. They are beneficial for pest control. This flexible diet allows bobcats to live in areas ranging from rural to urban.

## How can I protect my pets?

Follow the regulations Turtle Rock provides for pets, which help ensure their safety. Pets must always be kept on leash when not contained in

your yard. It is always prudent to watch over pets, especially small ones, even in your own yard. Keep pet vaccinations up-to-date.

## Do bobcats attack people?

Bobcat attacks on people are virtually unknown, and on the rare occasions they do occur, are typically because the animal feels trapped and unable to retreat. Of course, as with any wild animal, you should not attempt to touch either an adult bobcat or her kittens.

## What are bobcats' social habits?

Adult bobcats are typically solitary and get together only to mate. According to [Sciencing](#), "When building a den, the bobcat favors hollow logs, tree hollows, caves, rock outcroppings and openings in the ground. It can live close to people and doesn't pose any great threat – it's too small to hunt or eat people and rarely preys on game or domestic creatures – but it is not suitable to keep as a pet."

Bobcats mark their territory with scent. The male typically has a larger territory than the female, since he may seek multiple mates. Bobcats breed from August to March, with the peak period being February and March. Females typically have one to four kittens. Mother bobcats raise their young.

## How can I keep a bobcat out of my yard?

[Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission](#) advises, "Yell, use air horns or throw rocks towards but not at the bobcat to discourage the animal from being in an unwelcome place."

If the bobcat often travels through your yard, you can spray the perimeter with coyote urine, available online and at some pet and hardware stores. Do not leave pet or human food untended outside, and never feed a bobcat or any wild animal.

## What if I am concerned about a specific bobcat?

Please call the management office with questions or for assistance.



# Natural Assets, ARC, Landscape

By: Michelle van Schouwen, Secretary NAC



## Yard trees needed!

*“He who plants a tree, plants a hope.”*

*Lucy Larcom, American teacher,  
poet, and author (1824-1893)*

For Turtle Rock, one of Hurricane Ian’s most devastating impacts was the loss of trees. The Turtle Rock Board of Governors is investing in replacing trees in common areas. But the storm’s toll on trees in resident front and back yards, combined with a gradual attrition of trees at homes, now inspires an urgent call from the Architectural Review (ARC), Landscape, and Natural Assets Committees to residents:



## Plant new trees and retain existing, healthy ones!

*We’re happy to help.*

For starters, it’s important to know how many trees are required for your property. As you’ll see in the accompanying table excerpt (next page) from the Turtle Rock Owner’s Manual, each lot type has specific requirements. Your survey or deed typically names the parcel in which your house is located, allowing you to use the table provided here. Or check with the ARC to learn how many trees your lot requires.

The property-specific requirement for hardwood trees ranges from three to six, depending on the specific address. Note that three palm trees are

considered the equivalent of one hardwood. Are you at least meeting (or better, exceeding) the tree requirement? Properties that do not have the required number of trees are considered non-compliant and will receive a letter from management.

Know that the trees you plant will provide needed shade, habitat for birds and wildlife, and additional environmental benefits. They will enhance your home’s value.

To plan for new trees,

work with the ARC and an arborist, and consider such hardwood trees as a compact ligustrum tree, a live oak if you have the space, a smaller myrtle oak, a black olive (“shady lady”), or a fast-growing gumbo limbo. If you are so inspired, add a flowering tree such as dwarf poinciana, pink trumpet, jacaranda, silver trumpet (“tree of gold”), crape myrtle, or cassia mokie. See Turtle Talk Sept 2021 issue, pg 9, for ideas: <https://www.myturtlerock.com/files/newsletters/2021-09%20TR%20News%20September.pdf>

Alternately, attractive self-cleaning palms including foxtail, royal, Christmas, areca, and more add a sub-tropical feel to Turtle Rock yards. Your arborist or ARC representative can provide additional suggestions that will complement your property.

# Natural Assets, ARC, Landscape, Continued



*Additional notes:*

Required replacement trees should be at least eight feet high when planted and have a trunk diameter of at least two inches (measured at six inches above the ground). They must be a minimum of 25-gallon container size or have a minimum two-foot root ball if field grown.

Trees should be planted so that they will develop freely and, at maturity, will not crowd utility

lines or other structures. (In some cases, wisdom earned via Ian may inspire moving the tree location or picking a different type of tree.)

All tree removal needs ARC approval. The stump of any cut or fallen tree must be removed, or ground below the surface of the lawn or bed, and the area must be leveled and restored, ideally with a new tree.

VII. Appendix

**B. Lot Types, Architectural Setbacks, Building Envelopes, and Tree Requirements**

The following standards and criteria are taken from the publication *TURTLE ROCK: Standards and Criteria for New Construction*, and were adopted by the Building and Planning Board of the Palmer Ranch Master Property Owners Association, Inc.

**Lot Type and Size**

Each lot type for a home has a specific size and setback, building envelope, and a minimum hardwood tree requirement. If you are unsure of your lot type, please check with the management office.

Lot Type	Typical Lot Size	Parcel <sup>1</sup>
Custom	90 ft x 135 ft	B, D, H
Executive	75ft x 120 ft	A, E, I
Villa	58 ft x 130 ft	C Savannah and G Somerset
Club	58 ft x 130 ft	F cul-de-sacs off Sweetmeadow, J east side of Sabal Lake

**Lot Requirements**

Lot Type	Max Bldg Envelope	Min Setbacks <sup>2</sup>			Side Facing Street		# of Trees <sup>3</sup>
		Front	Rear	Side	TR Blvd	Other	
Custom	70 ft x 90 ft	30 ft	15 ft	10 ft	30 ft	30 ft	6
Executive	60 ft x 80 ft	25 ft	15 ft	7.5 ft	25ft	15 ft	4
Villa/Club <sup>4,5</sup>	48 ft x 90 ft	25 ft	10 ft	5 ft	25 ft	10 ft	3

<sup>1</sup> For alphabetical designation of parcels, contact management for a corresponding street map.

<sup>2</sup> A setback establishes the maximum outer boundary within which the residence must be constructed. In addition, there is typically a utility easement that must be adhered to. Most lots in Turtle Rock require an easement of 8' or as indicated on the owner's lot survey (plat). For any proposed construction activity, refer to your plat or, if unavailable, an official survey will be necessary to ensure adherence to setbacks and easements.

<sup>3</sup> One hardwood tree = 3 palm trees

<sup>4</sup> Rear setback is 6 feet for pool cages.

<sup>5</sup> For homes in Somerset, where lots are typically smaller, there is little room in the rear and sides of the property due to utility and drainage easements and county setbacks. For these homes, a minimum of two tree plantings is required, and they must be located in the front yard. Trees can be either hardwood or palms, and requests for tree requirements will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Evaluations, in some cases, may recognize multiple-trunk palms as separate, individual trees.

# Around The Rock

By Kathrin Harris, Declaration Rewrite TF Board Liaison



## A Unique Opportunity to Get to Know Your Neighbors

Last year, the Board created a “Declaration Rewrite Task Force” to come up with a revision to the 29-year-old Declaration of Covenants, which was recorded with the County Clerk by our Developer/Declarant on March 22, 1994 and, along with the Articles of Incorporation, breathed life into the community. The declaration is the overriding document that dictates much of how this community operates and the rules we choose to live by when buying a home here. On its 30th anniversary, the document becomes null and void unless the Board votes to retain it unchanged and records this decision with the county— or the membership approves a revision, which is then recorded.

As members of the Palmer Ranch Master Association, allowing the document to expire is not an option. Renewing it unchanged is not desirable— there are many inconsistencies and inapplicable language that should be overhauled, thus the creation of a task force to address these issues and work with an attorney to modify/improve the language. So where’s the problem...why do we seek volunteers?

The problem is the current language in the Declaration that requires 66.7% of ALL OWNERS (that’s 504!) to vote for approval of any changes made to the document. As indicated earlier, it may be renewed another ten years by a simple Board vote, but this simply delays the needed changes. The goal of the task force is to change two basic things:

- a) remove inapplicable references to the developer and clean up conflicting language regarding ownership and maintenance responsibility of mailboxes and sidewalks, and
- b) change the voting requirement to a majority

of those who provide a vote at a member meeting that has achieved a quorum.

The latter is what’s vital for considering future changes as our community evolves, making it easier to obtain the necessary votes by reducing the overall numbers of votes needed. For instance, the Declaration does not allow trucks to be parked outside. Regardless of how residents or Board members feel about trucks, the Board is powerless to change this rule without changing the Declaration. Still don’t see the need for volunteers...

Once the proposed revisions are accepted by the committee and the Board, it will be circulated to owners, allowing for community input. After that, there will be a Member Meeting organized that will seek a vote of approval for the revised language. Again, 504 YES VOTES must be received in order for the changes to become effective. And this is the hurdle...traditionally, we have rarely gotten more than 250 votes during governor elections. In one year (2009) there were actually 379 votes lodged...but even this is far short of the required 504 votes— that all need to be yes!

And THIS is why we are seeking volunteers.



Once the document has been circulated and a member meeting to count votes has been scheduled, we will need volunteers to go door to door, make phone calls, or whatever is needed to get the votes.

We’ll be aiming for more than 504, of course, since it’s possible not all votes will be “yes.”

The timeframe for this is not yet clear, but there will be updates in future newsletters. THANKS for considering to help!



# Natural Assets Committee

By: Michelle van Schouwen, Secretary NAC



## Natural Assets update —



Pond 24, suggested name “Little Turtle Pond” Photo credit: Michelle van Schouwen

## “Name the ponds” initiative

Natural Assets has received some great recommendations for pond names. We’d like to hear more!

**The Serpentine** (#3 and/or connected ponds)

**The Serenity Pond** (#7)

**Great Blue Heron Pond** -or-  
**Sandhill Crane Pond** (#18)

**Little Turtle Pond** (#24)

**Limpkin Pond** (#25)

Do you have ideas to name a favorite pond? Natural features, wildlife, or native plants may provide inspiration. Please email me at [mmvanschouwen@gmail.com](mailto:mmvanschouwen@gmail.com), or reach out to any member of the Natural Assets Committee with suggested names.

See pg 13 for location of above numbers

## Turtle Trail enhancements

Trail users have noticed that areas of overgrowth has been cleared, trees fallen across the trail cut and moved, border wire fence restored, and three No Trespassing signs added along the west border. Turtle Rock is producing a new trail map sign for the south trailhead behind the community center. Trail bridge restoration should start mid-March. Please visit our unique trail soon!



Trail map and logo created by Barry Domenick, Turtle Rock Resident

# Turtle Rock map showing pond numbers



## Name suggestion

### Pond locations—

#3 between the Legacy Trail and homes on Sweetmeadow and Watermark

#7 small pond west of Blvd just north of Meadow Rush south side. This is where the former butterfly garden was and a revised serenity garden is being created

#18 the largest of our ponds, it is north along homesites on Park Shore and Far Oak

#24 east of Sweetmeadow north of Hanging Moss at the entrance to Savannah subdivision

#25 long lake between Hanging Moss and Timber Chase



# BEACH LUAU PARTY



*This fabulously fun event, sponsored by the Families', Men's and Women's clubs, enjoyed huge attendance and perfect weather! Looking forward to more!!*



# BEACH LU'AU PARTY



To see these and many more photos from the party, click on link to Dropbox, courtesy of Angela Pierre:  
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/7zpgswmfd28miao/AACpAou4WTXfblBZ7Rqbypfma?dl=0>

# Landscape & Grounds

By Jodi Cunnison



March Bloomings updates:

- landscaping corners at the north gate will get cleaned up;
- repair of hedge along Turtle Rock Blvd just north of Benchmark Court to be quoted;
- the Awabuki hedge along Central Sarasota Blvd was trimmed and the irrigation system modified, and plants are on order to fill in the gaps;
- the semi annual clean up down the Boulevard is to be done in April;
- the damaged plants and trees on the islands along Far Oak Circle have been replaced;
- a leaf clean up was performed in March;
- regarding the Serenity Garden, the boots have been removed from the palm trees and the boulders have been repositioned as per the landscape designer's plan. A quote is being prepared to install the plantings;
- there is an irrigation leak in the divider median at the north gate requiring repair. The hedge shrubs have since been pulled and irrigation repaired; we await replanting.

After Shane left the meeting, the Committee discussed additional matters, including:

- the large oak tree at the community center suffered severe hurricane damage; the Board has authorized removal. In addition, several large stumps need to be ground down including one behind Nice Way and one behind Watermark Lane. Quotes will be obtained to have this work done.
- sidewalk leveling/repairs to begin in March.
- two new dedicatory benches will be installed along Turtle Rock Blvd and concrete pads will be poured in these locations to support the benches. Another pad will be poured under the existing backless bench on Sweetmeadow Cir east.
- the pavers at the community center picnic area need to be repaired/leveled, especially where the oak roots were uplifted. The Committee is investigating replacing the pavers at the entrance to the community center, along with the repair of the uneven pavers at both gate houses. Quotes are in the process of being obtained.

Happy Spring Everyone!



A pipe constantly under pressure sprung a leak, draining thousands of gallons before being shut off.

## IRRIGATION 101

More and more aging irrigation lines are bursting or getting hairline cracks. Pictured here it is above ground where a filter was installed (not all owners chose to install these). This is an owner's problem. Do NOT call management expecting assistance when this happens— call a plumber or irrigation company if you are unable to shut off the water yourself.

There is an underground shut-off valve on every lot in Turtle Rock, the location marked by the "R" in the concrete gutter. If the valve box has been covered by sod or roots (like this one had), find it now so you know where to go if this ever happens to you!



A concrete block was used to divert the spray and find the underground valve.



## 2023-24 TRWC Annual Membership Event

It's that time of year again! The Turtle Rock Women's Club is launching the annual dues drive beginning April 3, 2023. TRWC membership is flourishing with 170+ members, and there are plenty of fun times ahead!

The club hosts a variety of activities throughout the year including monthly luncheons with outstanding local speakers, and monthly activities such as water aerobics, tennis, bunc-o, mahjong, duplicate bridge, game night, and book clubs. We also offer special activities such as Mix & Mingles and events coordinated just for TRWC members such as the recent Dillard's Fashion



Show; community-wide events in collaboration with the Young Families and Men's clubs; pop-up events; and the TRWC's Friendship Project for new members. Annual dues are \$20. Year 'round and seasonal residents are invited to join.

Visit our website at [myturtlerock.com/clubs/womens-club](http://myturtlerock.com/clubs/womens-club) for more information and to complete our membership form or contact Karen Lyon, TRWC membership coordinator, at [karenlyon812@gmail.com](mailto:karenlyon812@gmail.com) for further details.

Please deliver your checks, payable to TRWC by May 31st, to the club's mailbox at the Community Center.



## A Warm Welcome...

By: Diane Geramanis and Kim Weiser

The Communications Committee held a Meet and Greet on March 23rd. Forty families who moved into Turtle Rock between January 2022 to March 1, 2023 were invited to meet members of our community, including Turtle Rock BOG members, representatives from the Turtle Rock Women's Club, Turtle Rock Men's Club, Turtle Rock Young Families Club, and the ARC (Architectural Review Committee). While not all 40 families could attend, we did welcome around 22 new residents throughout the evening in an "open house" format.



Pictured above are (left to right) Roberta Maloney (ARC committee), Judy Bentz (Communications Committee), Russ Gill (BOG President), and Bob Arnet and Bill Kozlowski from TRMC.

During the event, the committee also had information available on the Palmer Ranch Master Association, Sarasota County Recycling, Sarasota County Events, and Inclement Weather Preparedness. Light refreshments were served. Many of the attendees came two days later for our neighborhood Luau. Thanks to all our new residents who came out to learn more about our Turtle Rock community! Welcome!



# Turtle Rock Men's Club



## APRIL Luncheon

This month's luncheon will be held at the Suncoast Technical College School of Culinary Arts & Hospitality — **Bistro 502**.

Our guest speaker will be Chef Brian Knecht.

## Beach Luau

Thanks to all who attended the Beach Luau Party at the Community Center. While attendance was not tracked, midway through the event, a rough head count showed at least 120 adults in the center and on the porch. A good time was had by everyone, especially the children. A HUGE thank you

to **Mira Mar Pools** for transporting the grills used to and from the back patio. Thanks also to all those who brought an abundance of side dishes and desserts. This was a very successful community event!

## Weekly Golf Outing

If you are a golfer, consider joining your neighbors for a round at Serenoa Golf Club each Thursday morning. Send an email to [TRMCGolf@gmail.com](mailto:TRMCGolf@gmail.com) to sign up or for more information.



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

**Val Dolorico, Lutz Hoffmann, Jean Claude Laurent**

If you are a new neighbor, or know of someone who may be interested in joining the Men's Club, please have them contact me, Ken Rosemann ([kenrosemann1231@gmail.com](mailto:kenrosemann1231@gmail.com)), and I will be glad to assist them in the process of joining.

TROM Trivia Answer from Quiz on pg 7:

1. Open homes are permitted when specifically advertised, or on Sundays between the hours of noon and 5:00 pm. (TROM V, C, pg41)

- 2. No. It is considered a motorized toy and, therefore, not allowed on any Turtle Rock sidewalk. (TROM IV, C, bullet 5, pg39).
- 3. House and garage lighting must be white in tone. Colored light is only permitted as part of a temporary display. (TROM III, 10d, pg36)



## CLASSIFIEDS WANT—SELL—BORROW—RECYCLE

Slightly used **Caddytec** golf cart.  
\$35.00 or best offer.  
Contact Jack Cox, 573-999-1488.

Residents: this section of Turtle Talk is available to you to place a notice free of charge! PLEASE email [letstalkturtlerock@gmail.com](mailto:letstalkturtlerock@gmail.com) to place an announcement.

# Turtle Rock Library Feature Book of the Month



## Once Upon A River

By Diane Stterfield (novel) 464 pp

*Once Upon a River* is a glorious tapestry of a book that combines folklore and science, magic and myth. Suspenseful, romantic, and richly atmospheric, combining folklore and science, magic and myth. The powerful current of storytelling will transport you through worlds both real and imagined, to the triumphant conclusion whose depths will continue to give up their treasures long after the last page is turned.

On a dark midwinter's night in an ancient inn on the river Thames, an extraordinary event takes place—the door bursts open and a grievously wounded stranger holds the lifeless body of a small child in his arms. Hours later, the girl stirs, takes a breath and returns to life. Is it a miracle? Is it magic? Or can science provide an explanation?

Those who dwell on the river bank apply all their ingenuity to solving the puzzle of the girl who died and lived again, yet as the days pass the mystery only deepens. Mute, the child is unable to answer the essential questions: Who is she? Where did she come from? And to whom does she belong? But answers proliferate nonetheless.

Three families are keen to claim her. But the return of a lost child is not without complications, and no matter how heartbreaking the past losses, no matter how precious the child herself, this girl cannot be everyone's. Each family has mysteries of its own, and many secrets must be revealed before the girl's identity can be known.

## The Newsletter Team

The committee is always interested in input from the community. 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.

Also, if you have a gripe or a word of praise, let's hear it.

**Send comments, suggestions and articles for consideration to:**

**[letstalkturtlerock@gmail.com](mailto:letstalkturtlerock@gmail.com)**

(Text must be in Word, Photos as JPEG.) THANKS for getting involved!

### **Committee Members and Newsletter Staff**

Diane Geramanis & Kim Weiser, Co-Chairs

Kathrin Harris, Turtle Talk Editor

Steve West, Contributing Writer

Donna McCarthy & Pat Rotondo, Welcome Team

Penny Lind & Judy Bentz, Special Projects

Board Liaison: Grace Boehm

Proofreaders: Charlotte Jones and Grace Boehm

## Turtle Rock Data Base & Directory Information Update

Turtle Rock Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Personal Data	Resident 1	Resident 2
Last Name		
First Name		
E-mail		
Best Phone Number		
License Plate Number		
Bar Code Number:		
<b>Emergency Contact</b>		
Name		
Relationship		
Phone Number		

**Additional household vehicles:**

License Plate Number:	License Plate Number:
Bar Code Number:	Bar Code Number:

The purpose of the information listed above is to verify the accuracy of Sunstate Management's data base and to update the information for the upcoming printing of the Turtle Rock resident directory. ***Unless you choose not to be included in the directory, your name, address, phone number, and email address will be included.***

Please initial next to all information you would like to have included in the directory:

\_\_\_\_\_ Name    \_\_\_\_\_ Address    \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number    \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address

\_\_\_\_\_ Please do not include any of my information in the directory

\_\_\_\_\_ Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

**Please return to Turtle Rock Community Center in person or by mail no later than January 20, 2023  
or scan & email to [pflemingcp@hotmail.com](mailto:pflemingcp@hotmail.com)**