




Turtle Talk

May 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.

At the April 27 Board of Governors' meeting, the board approved:

- Upgrading/replacing aging fixtures in the pool bathrooms.
- Replacing four trees destroyed by hurricane Ian.
- Adding equipment to the tennis courts.
- Increasing the planned and contracted shoreline restoration to include all residential properties on pond 31.

In 2021, the Board of Governors approved a plan to start the restoration of the shorelines for Turtle Rock Ponds. The shoreline restoration is done only behind homes, and no shoreline restoration is performed to the parts of ponds along streets or preserves. Part of the plan established the Low Maintenance Zone - LMZ (i.e. the area close to the ponds not mowed) to preserve the shoreline by eliminating heavy mowers from damaging the pond banks. Additionally, Turtle Rock contracted with

Crosscreek Environmental to restore the existing shorelines in various ponds depending on how badly the shoreline had eroded. The approved plan has four phases, and the restorations began with the ponds having the worst erosion. The completed phases restored the shoreline along six ponds. Those ponds are located on the east and west sides of Nice Way (designated as ponds 9, 10 and 11); the ponds on the east and west loops of Sable Lake Circle (designated as ponds 12 and 13) and the pond along Great Meadow Drive (designated as pond 18). This year we will execute the fourth phase of that plan. There are three ponds scheduled for shoreline restoration. These ponds are:

- (1) the pond on the east side of the west loop of Sweetmeadow Circle (designated as pond 5);
- (2) shoreline on the Nice Way side of the pond between Nice

Continued on page 2

2023 Board and Committee Liaisons



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Gate Access TF liaison



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Honore Border TF liaison

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

President's Message, Continued

Way and Ridgelake Place (pond 27); and (3) the pond between Little Brook Court and Wild Flower Court (pond 31).

Speeding continues to be an issue, but mostly with your guests. **Please** remind your guests to slow down and drive at the speed limit — for *everyone's* safety.

The BOGs approved the fining of two households. One household needs to have their driveway cleaned, and the other needs to have their roof cleaned.

On April 28, Turtle Rock began an experiment: we invited a food truck to the community center so neighbors can gather and meet each other. When I was there, a steady stream of residents lined up to get a taste of the German food. I participated, and enjoyed a nice meal — the strudel was delicious. We will schedule another date to determine the viability of such an endeavor. If you attended and enjoyed yourself, please invite your neighbors for the next event.



German Cuisine's food truck delivered an amazing selection of traditional German dishes such as this pork roast with red cabbage and "Spaetzle," a noodle-style dumpling. For dessert, the apple strudel did not disappoint.



CAM CORNER

By: Nanette Thomas, Community Association Manager



Nanette Thomas
Sunstate Management
Communitymanager
@myturtlerock.com
941-870-9855
941-921-3808 fax

Happy Spring Everyone! I hope that you enjoyed the first Turtle Rock Food Truck on April 28 – the vendor apologizes regarding running out of food but has assured me that it will not happen the next time. Watch for more trucks to come, including “The Maine Line,” which was voted Sarasota’s #1 Truck for 2023! If you have a favorite food truck, let the office know and I will see if they are interested in coming to Turtle Rock.

Last week we had an incident of theft at the bike rack near the Tennis Courts. I can not stress enough, please be sure to bring a lock to secure your item(s). Thankfully, with the help of the surveillance cameras, the item has been recovered and returned to the owner.



Treasurer’s Report

By: Kathrin Harris



Year-To-Date Ending:

Mach 31, 2023

	Actual	Budget	Diff
Income: Assessments and other	\$ 435,069	\$ 426,189	\$ 8,880
Expenses:			
General and Administrative	\$ 107,057	\$ 112,644	(\$ 5,587)
Common Grounds	57,233	61,062	(\$ 3,829)
Access Control/Gatehouse	96,595	90,000*	\$ 6,595
Facilities Maintenance	38,474	38,906	(\$ 432)
Utilities	20,826	22,283	(\$ 1,457)
Reserves Contribution **	101,294	101,294	
Totals	\$ 421,479	\$ 426,189	(\$ 4,710)
Net Income for month			\$ 13,590

* Last month’s issue incorrectly showed a \$30,000 y-t-d budget amount; this should have been \$60,000.

** Reserve expenses: \$ 11,925 — Deposit for sidewalk repair and 3 additional concrete bench pads

Assessments: Outstanding HOA Fees—

(0-90 days) \$ 4,541 — \$8567 less than prior month; only 8 outstanding January payments due
 (91+ days) \$ 7,768 — these funds owing are with the attorney for collection
 Total \$ 12,308 — \$7775 less than prior month total

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.

Turtle Trail

By: Melody & Chuck Barackman



EXPLORE THE IMPROVED TURTLE ROCK NATURE TRAIL!

Join members of Turtle Rock's Natural Assets Committee (NAC) to explore the 1.5-mile-long Turtle Trail that runs through beautiful (and mostly shaded) preserve areas. You will see Turtle Rock through a new perspective – ponds and treed areas supporting a variety of wildlife, as well as the solitude of being surrounded by nature.

Turtle Trail has recently been significantly improved by the addition of a new trailhead sign (designed by Turtle Rock resident Barry Domenick), the refurbishment of all three bridges on the trail, and volunteers having “bushwacked” a few overgrown areas. The result is a level, easy to walk trek.

NAC-led walks will be held the first three Saturdays in May, starting at 9am. Residents interested in participating should reserve a spot – limited to a maximum of 20 per walk – by signing up at the Community Center (see Alvina). Nature walks will begin at the new trailhead sign behind the Community Center, across the bridge and end at the north trailhead – near the intersection of Palmer Ranch Parkway and McIntosh Road. Participants may then choose to return to the Community Center riding in a car parked near the North Gate, calling a family member or friend for a ride, or by walking back to the Community Center (either by returning on the Nature Trail or Turtle Rock Boulevard).

Participants are advised to wear close-toed comfortable walking shoes and bring water. As with other amenities in Turtle Rock, enjoying the Nature Trail is at your own risk. Join us for a fun morning of exercise and discovery!

MAY 6, 13, and 20 – 9am



Honore Border Task Force

By: Pat Rotondo, Chairperson



The Honore Border Task Force was formally approved and its Charter adopted at the March 30th Board of Governors meeting. As mandated in our charter, the 9 members currently serving on the task force are an equal representation of “border/non-border” residents. It is important that both those 108 -115 residences directly impacted by the development along Honore Avenue as well as those homeowners who are considered to be non-border residents are represented.

The Board-approved Task Force Charter states that the purpose is “To assess the impact of the increased traffic along Honore due, in part, to residential and commercial development as well as the county’s efforts to divert traffic away from I-75.”



The Task Force will research any and all possible options to mitigate the sight, sound, safety, and security within the Turtle Rock community.

Options to accomplish the task, such as those in neighboring Palmer Ranch communities, will be thoroughly explored, including:

- dense vegetation such as shrubs and trees
- a berm in areas that are currently wide open to Honore
- solid wall and/or fencing
- any combination of the above

The Task Force will also research any funding options such as:

- possible grants available at the county or state level
- working with Palmer Ranch for assistance

- working with the University of South Florida for any research grants along with horticulture guidance.

The Task Force’s main goal is to work on behalf of the Turtle Rock community to research and explore all aspects of the Honore border. This will include both as it exists today and into the future as the caretaker of this special community, with no preconceived ideas or opinions.

When completed, all options will be presented to the Board through the Board Liaison. ♦

**PLEASE
ADHERE
TO OUR
SPEED
LIMITS**





Turtle Rock Academy Lectures

By: Bette Blitzer Mills, Chair

Final Program of 2023 SPRING SEASON



May 18, 2 pm

*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.



April’s Program:

Addressing an audience that filled all available seats in the Community Center, Howard Mitchell — CEO of the Elling Eide Center — spoke of the charitable organization, concentrating on founder Eide’s family history and his love for and devotion to Asian arts.

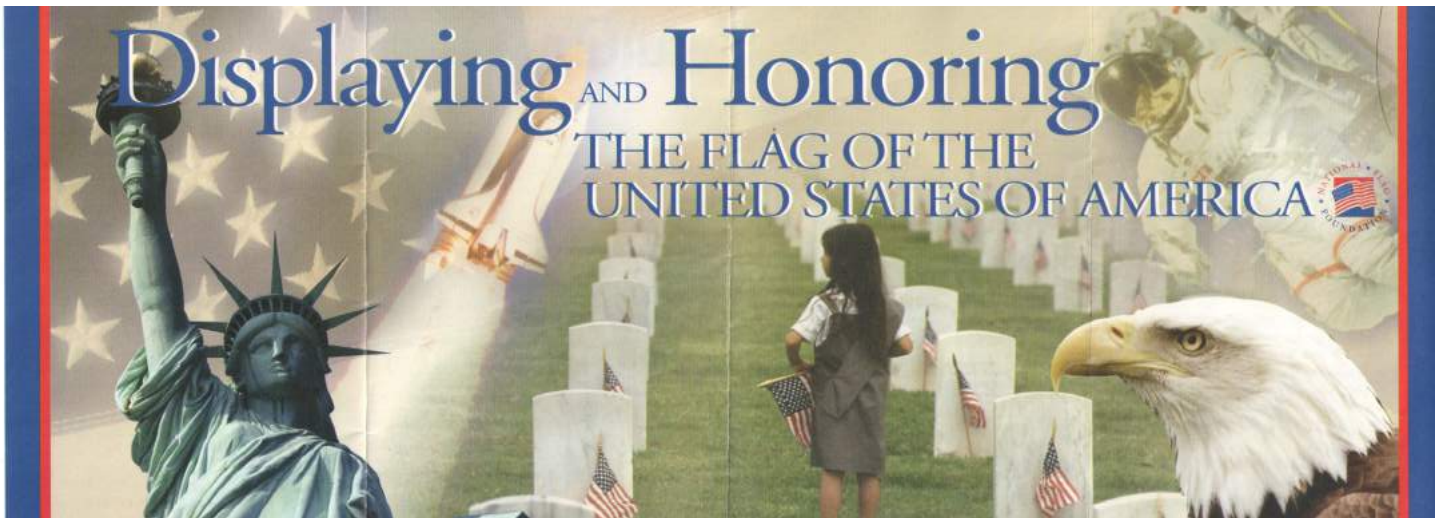
CLASSIFIEDS

WANT—SELL—BORROW—RECYCLE



Landline disconnected, no longer need these Panasonic cordless phones, including base with voicemail. FREE for the asking: 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 to place ad.



HOORAY FOR THE RED, WHITE AND BLUE!

We are all proud to fly our country's flag, especially on holidays. But what happens when our flag is tattered, torn or faded? How do we respectfully retire it? Good question! We know we should not just throw it in the garbage. **We have a solution!** During the month of May, a flag retirement box will be in the Turtle Rock Community Center for convenient drop-off of your old, tired flags. You can be assured that your flag will be properly disposed of. The flags will be taken to local American Legion Posts here in Sarasota.

FLAG HOLIDAYS

The flag should be displayed from sunrise to sunset on all days, but especially on the following national and state holidays.

NEW YEARS	January 1
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY	Third Monday in January
INAUGURATION DAY	January 20
LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY	February 12
WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY	Third Monday in February
EASTER SUNDAY	Varies
MOTHER'S DAY	Second Sunday in May
PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY	May 15
ARMED FORCES DAY	Third Saturday in May
MEMORIAL DAY	Last Monday in May
FLAG DAY	June 14
FATHER'S DAY	Third Sunday in June
INDEPENDENCE DAY	July 4
KOREAN WAR VETERANS DAY	July 27
LABOR DAY	First Monday in September
PATRIOT DAY	September 11
CONSTITUTION DAY	September 17
GOLD STAR MOTHER'S DAY	Last Sunday in September
FIRE FIGHTERS MEMORIAL DAY	Sunday before or on October 9
COLUMBUS DAY	Second Sunday in October
NAVY DAY	October 27
VETERANS DAY	November 11
THANKSGIVING DAY	Fourth Thursday in November
PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY	December 7 — Flag is flown half-staff
CHRISTMAS DAY	December 25



Natural Assets Committee

By: Michelle van Schouwen, Secretary NAC



Natural Assets Committee 2023 activities for Turtle Rock

Natural Assets Committee (NAC) work for 2023 is well underway.

The committee found the start of 2023 very busy, continuing clean-up and repair from Hurricane Ian's many impacts, including fallen trees and branches, blocked portions of the nature trail, high-water plant residue along shorelines, and much more.

Hurricane Ian's aftermath also prompted NAC to formalize a monthly "field trip" (typically on the last Saturday morning of each month) to check out specific ponds, water inflow and outflow systems, LMZs behind homes, preserves, buffers, wetlands, and the nature trail. This allows NAC to better communicate needs to vendors and management, and to keep an eye out for new or unresolved problems.

NAC's "bread-and-butter" work includes oversight of pond management, with a focus on flood control, management of invasive plants or algae, erosion reduction, native plantings in littoral zones, and – lucky for us – preserving habitat for Turtle Rock's extensive array of bird species and other wildlife. In addition, NAC is charged with keeping invasives in the 30-foot buffer zone around preserves to a minimum and working to keep the preserves intact.

Phase 4 of shoreline restoration is in the planning stages as this article goes to press, pending Board approval. NAC is focusing on ponds

with severe erosion along shorelines behind resident homes. The team continues the process of assessing shorelines in question, measuring erosion with a yardstick!

The committee is making significant improvements to the nature trail, including newly repaired bridges with ramps for easier navigation, repairs to the west-side barbed wire fence, a new trail map sign and additional informational sign, plus, if the budget allows, navigational marker signs along the trail itself. NAC continually seeks cost-effective ways to maximize year-long trail usability.

NAC has started an initiative to name Turtle Rock's 31 stormwater ponds. Homeowners have already offered some great names, and the committee is collecting more. (Pond numbers will also continue to be used for some formal purposes, but the names will offer a lot more personality to Turtle Rock ponds.)

NAC will continue to add native plants to pond shorelines this year, and to monitor those that have been planted in past seasons. (Sometimes, the vendor must replace plants that don't make it.)

The committee is slated, later this year, to re-inspect water inflow/outflow structures and to address new repair or replacement needs to protect Turtle Rock's strong flood control system.

NAC meets monthly, and communicates frequently



Foot Bridge #1 (west of Watermark Lane) along the TR Nature Trail is fully restored!

Continued on page 9

Natural Assets Committee, continued

between meetings, to help manage and enhance the community's ponds, preserves, wetlands, buffers, and nature trail. We meet with our main vendor and with management regularly as well, to track progress and to support the best results possible from any natural assets endeavor. In all efforts, we report to the Turtle Rock Board of Governors, with monthly meeting minutes, proposals for projects, and input on any relevant issues. We also seek to ensure Turtle Rock adheres to county guidelines in all natural assets matters.

Finally, NAC continues its commitment to researching smart strategies for the management of Turtle Rock natural assets, and to communicating activities, findings, opportunities, and policies to the Turtle Rock community. The committee contributes frequently to both the Turtle Talk newsletter and the Resources area of the website. NAC recognizes residents' interest in our wildlife, and periodically shares research and best practices for living with southwest Florida's diverse fauna.

The committee appreciates residents' commitment to making ours an outstanding community.



Article and photo of nature trail bridge 1 by Michelle van Schouwen, Secretary, Natural Assets Committee

Photo of roseate spoonbill by Wayne Harris, son of Kathrin Harris and former resident, taken along Turtle Trail 2021

Logo created by Barry Domenick, Turtle Rock Resident



A pipe constantly under pressure burst, draining thousands of gallons before being shut off.

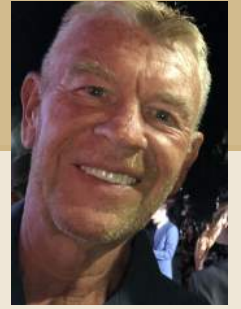
IRRIGATION — What's YOUR responsibility?

More and more aging irrigation lines are bursting or getting hairline cracks. Anything that starts at the individual homesites' shut-off valve and beyond is on private property, and therefore a homeowner's issue to deal with if it becomes problematic. Please do not call management expecting assistance when pipe breaks or stuck solenoids happen— call a plumber or irrigation company if you are unable to shut off the water yourself.

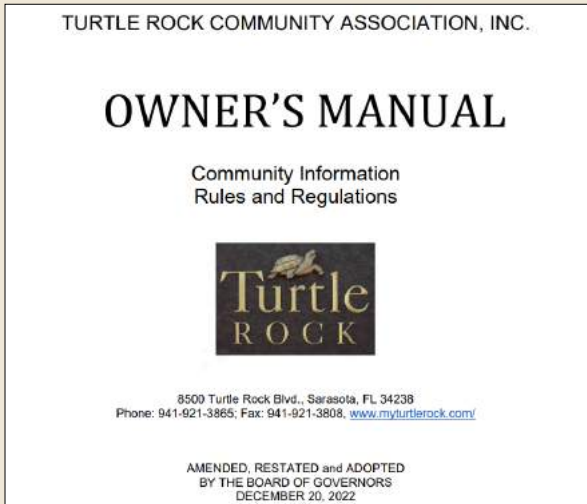
There is an underground shut-off valve on **every** lot in Turtle Rock, the location marked by the "R" in the concrete gutter. If the valve box has been covered by sod or roots (like this one had), find it *now* so you know where to go if this ever happens to you!

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. To be a member of the Board of Governors, there are a several qualifications that must be met, including, of course, homeownership. You must also be a full or part-time resident of Turtle Rock. True or False?
2. TROM rules require that your pet dog and/or cat over the age of four months must obtain a License Certificate and License Tag. True or False?
3. What is the maximum number of storage cabinets we can have on our property and, are there any additional requirements other than they not be visible from the street or neighbors' view?

If you want to investigate before cheating and looking on pg 13, 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!



Landscape & Grounds

By Curt Gilroy, Committee Co-Chair



Annual Plan 2023

Each Quarter:

- ◇ Change out annuals at entrance bullnoses, CC sign and entrance to CC per planting schedule of Palmer Ranch, thus receiving the volume discount.



Quarters 1 and 2:

- ◇ Continue Hurricane Ian cleanup of tree trimming, debris removal, stump grinding, and tree replacement.

Quarters 1 through 4:

- ◇ Continue to replace dead and dying shrubs at intersections along Turtle Rock Blvd. at street intersections.

Quarter 2:

- ◇ Complete the renovation of the old Butterfly Garden (now Serenity Garden and Pond) with boulders, plantings, and mulch.
- ◇ Install concrete pads for three benches, two



of which are new and are dedicated.

- ◇ Move a bench from Sabal Lake bridge to basketball courts.
- ◇ Develop a plan for new tree installation along Turtle Rock Blvd.

Quarters 2 and 3:

- ◇ Develop a plan, approve design, and re-install pavers in the picnic area.
- ◇ Determine the issue of peeling paint along sections of perimeter walls and repair.
- ◇ Repair concrete sidewalks throughout Turtle Rock to remove trip hazards.



Quarter 3:

- ◇ Level, powerwash, and seal pavers on North and South entrances and exits.
- ◇ Replace dead or weed-overgrown sections of turf along Turtle Rock Blvd.

Quarter 4:

- ◇ Develop a plan and trim Oak Trees along Turtle Rock Blvd.
- ◇ Trim all cabbage palms on common property (approximately 600).
- ◇ Annual mulching of all beds to occur after palm trimming.
- ◇ Coordinate holiday lighting and décor.



Communications Committee

By Kim Weiser, Committee Chair



Our communications committee has been around for a long time but has only had a charter in place since April 2018. Within this charter are the defined goals of the communications committee. Our annual plan follows this charter and includes:

~Along with management, we welcome new residents by holding Meet and Greets that allow new residents to obtain information about our community. At this event they can obtain: a copy of our TROM (if necessary), Sarasota County Information, Palmer Ranch Master Association information, as well as information on our Turtle Rock Women's Club, Men's Club, and Young Families' Clubs. We also help maintain a "welcome basket" tab on our TR website for new residents.

~We have a newly formed sub-committee to help better facilitate an emergency communications plan for Turtle Rock. This plan deals solely with communications within Turtle Rock, supplementing what the county already has in place. So, stay tuned as this sub-committee plans to present its findings and make recommendations at an upcoming Board of Governors

meeting.

~The committee also realizes that the zoom part of the Board of Governors meetings could be improved. We are working with management to make improvements and help facilitate the Zoom process for BOG meetings to ensure its smooth operation for any resident who participates via Zoom.

~Our group also maintains gate signs to help keep the community informed. These signs are used for community wide purposes and remind residents of BOG meetings, club events that are open to all residents, and various other topics, such as traffic camera usage, trash to treasure, chemical collections date, to name a few.

~Lastly, another important task is our monthly Turtle Talk newsletter. Through this publication, we pass along information to the community. Articles are due by the last Sunday of each month, so keep those articles coming!

Our committee meets the first Thursday of each month in the Community Center at 1:30pm and we welcome anyone who would like to participate as an observer.



Turtle Rock Women's Club

Women Welcoming Women Group

The TRWC offers a program to support new members called ***Women Welcoming Women (WWW)***. New members are paired with a current member of the TRWC to welcome the new member, provide support in meeting other members, attending TRWC events, and provide information about the TRWC's many events and ongoing activities. To date, we've had great success with our partnerships and we look forward to welcoming any new or returning member. If you are interested in joining the TRWC please click on the following link [TRWC New Member Sign Up – Turtle Rock on Palmer Ranch \(myturtlerock.com\)](https://myturtlerock.com) or email turtlerock-womensclub@gmail.com for more information.



Turtle Rock Men's Club

Generosity is Contagious!



A year ago, The Men's Club raised \$1,325.00 for the All Faiths Food Bank Campaign Against Summer Hunger. That program specifically focuses on providing meals for some 40,000 children during the summer months when they are not provided meals in school. This year's campaign raised \$3,200, far exceeding the goal of doubling last year's total. Because this donation is eligible for a corporate match, the campaign has thus far resulted in a wonderful gift for the children of Sarasota of **\$6,400 !!**

Gentlemen, thank you for demonstrating what a great organization and community we are all a part of.

Upcoming Luncheons



May 17th
The New Italian Grill.
Details & menu being finalized.



June 21st
Hob Nob, then on to the Siesta Key Rum Distillery for a tour.
Details and directions will be sent out in early June.

Summer is upon us, and many of you have or will be heading North for the summer. As in the past, we will be taking a hiatus from monthly luncheons beginning in July. We hope everyone enjoys their summer and we will announce future luncheon meetings as the schedule is complete.



SERENOA GOLF CLUB
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 to sign up or for more information.



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

**Jim Cerny, Al Guaspari, David Riccio,
Joe Thilman, Bill Tiffan, Tom Wentz**

If you know of someone who may be interested in joining the Men's Club, please have them call or text Bill Kozlowski at 630-373-7829 or turtlerockmensclub@gmail.com.

TROM Trivia Answers from Quiz:

1. False. Item 4, page 9. Residency is not listed as a requirement.
2. False. It is Sarasota County that enforces

- this requirement; however, registering pets with management is required (III, 4, bullet 4)
3. No more than two. They must be within your screened area of the lanai and color compatible with the home. (III, 10, b, bullet 3)

From The West Corner Of...

By: Steve West, Resident Columnist



Well, here's an update on my new toy, my electric fly swatter. As luck would have it, the sun hasn't shown itself since the day it arrived. Hence the bug population has been characteristically lying low. But it hasn't stopped me in my quest. So I've been faithfully setting up in my back yard with my Sudoku puzzle book and swatter in hand. You think a fly would show himself? Wrong. I've resisted testing it on myself since my last encounter of self-testing with the "dog bark collar" proved such a painful lesson. I did, however, capture a misguided snail that slid into the wrong place at the wrong time. A touch of the red button reassured me the swatter worked, but snail's reaction was a little disappointing. I mean some steam and ... well never mind. Anyway a fly was still my target.



My wife Sue and I were sitting at the patio table out back, with—of course—my swatter lying close by, but still nothing. I mean to tell you, I was getting hungry for my first kill. Suddenly, a bug buzzed by and I took a wild swat at it, but missed. Sue immediately started in on me for swinging at a butterfly, but I countered that it was a bee, a killer bee at that. She wasn't buying, and continued "bugging" me about my lack of discretion in targets. Man, did I want to try that swatter. As she continued to rant, I began to feel like one of two surviving castaways on an island; you know, where there's nothing to eat and you look over and the other person turns into a pork chop or something. I gave one warning, because the consequences of making her my first victim were set-

ting in, but I secretly hoped that she would ignore my admonition. Unfortunately, it was one of the few times she listened, probably saw that "pork chop look" in my eyes.

In desperation, I've been leaving the doors and windows open in hopes that some hapless fly would fall for the aromas of dinner one day. *Then I heard him.* Unmistakable, that buzzing sound! I quickly closed all the windows and doors and began the hunt. And then there he was, crawling on the bay window with only minimal things to knock over if I decided to swing. I closed in, anticipating my first real strike. Sure enough, as I closed in, he flew right into the waiting swatter. I was anticipating the ultimate. You know, like when they electrocute a prisoner and they forget to soak the sponge in water that they put on top his head. Like sparks and smoke and maybe even a small explosion, something to rival "Old Sparky" in that Florida penitentiary. I'm sorry to say the swatter was as effective as it was disappointing. He just died. I mean, it might as well have been a gas chamber or something. Not even a jump-up like he'd stepped on a hot plate. I even shook it around a little in hopes he was just in shock, but nothing. I unceremoniously tipped him into the trash and that was that.

So my first hunt was successful but unfulfilling. But I'm not giving up, I want sparks and fire. So I've got to go; I hear a voice calling me to do some kind of chore around the house; I think it's coming from my little pork chop, err, I mean my wife.

PALMER RANCH

PALMER RANCH MASTER PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION
5589 MARQUESAS CIRCLE, SUITE 201, SARASOTA, FL 34233 (941) 922-3866

WWW.PALMERRANCH.NET



It's All In The Planning

Intelligent planning—its how Palmer Ranch was created and how it progresses today. A peaceful, desirable community of opportunity. A careful blend of the natural environment with unique and diversified land uses.

Palmer Ranch spent years in planning and became the first development in Florida to be granted a Master Development Order from local, regional and state planners.

Today, the 7,002-acre master planned development includes a mix of residential units, industrial uses, commercial and office uses and recreational areas. With over 90 associations, Palmer Ranch is home to over 20,000 residents.

Why Do Members Have to Pay An Annual Assessment to Palmer Ranch Master Association?

Beautification ...More than two-thirds of the nominal \$167 annual Master Association assessment goes towards upkeep and ongoing beautification of Palmer Ranch; for example:

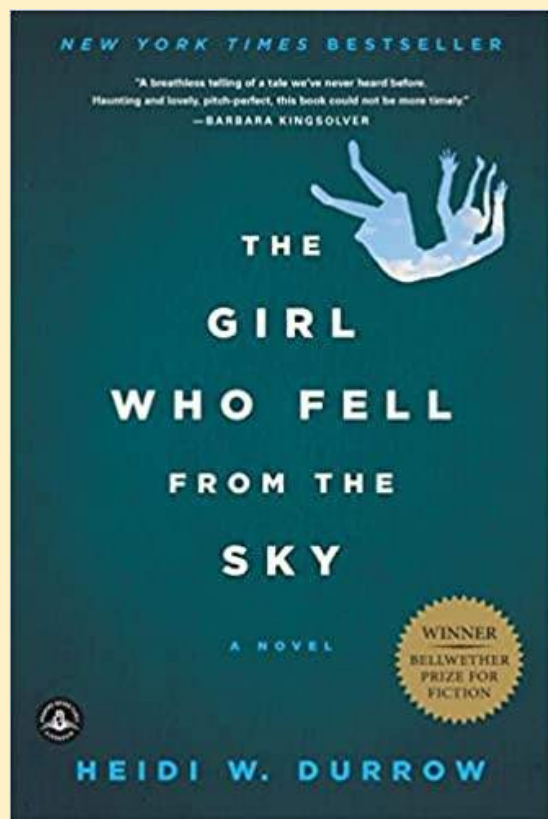
- ◇ 16 miles of grassy rights-of-way, trimmed on a schedule
- ◇ 7 entry features (community signs, flagpole, lush landscape & lighting)
- ◇ 24 directional signs, each beautifully landscaped
- ◇ 15 tons of winter rye seed and 6,000 bags of mulch spread annually
- ◇ 1,212 Cabbage Palms trimmed throughout the ranch, on an annual basis
- ◇ 180+ Crape Myrtle Trees trimmed and shaped each winter
- ◇ 3,500 annuals at 7 entrances and 24 directional signs, changed out at least 3 times a year
- ◇ 14 park benches throughout the property, providing for pleasant places for pedestrians to rest
- ◇ Substantial funds are budgeted each year, for further beautifications

Palmer Ranch is widely recognized as a model of contemporary planning. It has earned an impeccable reputation and has become a strong brand. Annual Master Association assessments allow it to remain a leader in beautification!

Do you want to hear about the news on Palmer Ranch first hand? If so, simply visit our website: www.PalmerRanch.net. At the bottom of the home page, simply click on 'Sign Up For Our Newsletter.' You'll then be asked to provide your email address and first name.

It's that easy!

Turtle Rock Library Feature Book of the Month



The Girl Who Fell From the Sky

By Heidi W. Durrow (novel) 304 pp

Bi-racial pre-teen Rachel, the daughter of a Danish mother and a black G.I., becomes the sole survivor of a family tragedy after a fateful morning in 1982 on their Chicago rooftop. Afterwards, she moves from Chicago to live with her strict African American grandmother in Portland, OR, where she is thrust for the first time into a mostly black community. Her light brown skin, blue eyes, and beauty bring a constant stream of attention her way. It's there, as she grows up and tries to swallow her grief, that she comes to understand how the mystery and tragedy of her mother might be connected to her own uncertain identity. Inspired by a real event, the story is less about the tragedy than how one can continue on and make sense of the rest of life. It is also a coming-of-age story for Rachel, struggling with her identity and race, and her young friends growing up in 1980's America. The novel was awarded the Bellwether Price for best fiction addressing social justice.

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

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

Committee Members and Newsletter Staff

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Penny Lind & Judy Bentz, Special Projects

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