

HELLO
February

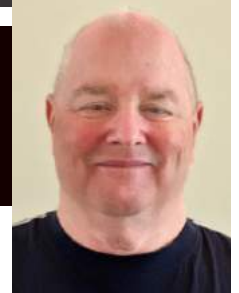


Turtle Talk

February 2024

President's Message

By: Russ Gill, Board President



INSIDE this ISSUE...

	Page
President's Message	1-2
2023 Board Members	2
CAM Corner	3
Treasurer's Report	4
Town Hall Info	5
Meet the Candidates Nite	6
Voting information	7
Candidates Bios	8-9
TR Garage Sale	10
Chemical collections	11
Men's Club	12
From the West Corner	13
TROM Trivia	13
Save the Date Luau	14
Natural Assets Committee	15
Landscape Committee	16
Larry's Retirement	17
Trom Trivia Answers	18

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 January 25 Board meeting the Board approved an expenditure of \$12,275 for the trimming of the oak trees along Turtle Rock Blvd and \$600 for replacement trees. The Board also approved a new law firm, Persson, Cohen, Mooney, Fernandez and Jackson, to be our attorneys to perform collection for outstanding dues and fines.

Turtle Rock's transition to our new property management company, Civix, is complete. You should have received an invitation to join AppFolio. If there is more than one email address associated with your unit, you may request the second email also receive an invitation to join AppFolio.

That request can be made at the community center with either Nanette or Nan. Civix will conduct training sessions for owners and residents on the use of AppFolio once we have had a sufficient number of people who have set up their accounts. This training will show you how to use AppFolio and access your property's records, ARC forms, documents associated with your unit and common association documents. Three Board members will have completed their three-year term, and there are four residents who self-nominated to replace them:

Susan Birkenmaier

Curt Gilroy

Ehren McGeehan

Rick Myerburg

Continued on page 2

2023 Board and Committee Liaisons



Russ Gill 941-928-9833
President
president@myturtlerock.com
Gate Access TF liaison



Kathrin Harris 941-228-4588
Vice President, Treasurer
treasurer@myturtlerock.com
Landscape/Grounds liaison
Declaration Rewrite liaison



Grace Boehm 908-415-2051
Secretary
secretary@myturtlerock.com
FIRRM liaison
Communications liaison



Curt Gilroy 703-577-4841
Assistant Treasurer
assistanttreasurer@myturtlerock.com
ARC liaison
Natural Assets liaison



Patrick Murphy 215-570-5717
Governor
governor1@myturtlerock.com



Ryan Ginter 941-724-3373
Governor
governor2@myturtlerock.com



Phil Grayton 978-828-2781
Governor
Governor3@myturtlerock.com
Honore Border TF liaison

***Board meetings will be held the LAST
Thursday of each month starting at
6:30pm during 2024.***

President's Message, Continued

**Meet the Candidates
on February 8 at
6:30 in the
Community Center**

*Also please mark your
calendar for;*

**Turtle Rock will be holding
a Town Hall Meeting
on February 5
from 5-7 at Covenant Life
Presbyterian Church
located at
8490 McIntosh Rd
Sarasota.**

We will be discussing what
direction Turtle Rock should
take concerning truck park-
ing within Turtle Rock.

I know there are strong opin-
ions on both sides and this
input will determine Turtle
Rock's direction.

Russ Gill

Cam Corner

by Nanette Thomas, Community Association Manager



Nanette Thomas, LCAM
Turtle Rock Community Association
Civix Property Manager
8500 Turtle Rock Boulevard
Sarasota, FL 34238
Turtle Rock Office.: 941-921-3865

As a reminder, all of your Christmas lights and decorations should be removed from the exterior of your home and property. I have had some complaints in regards to pedestrian's walking in the bike path, thus putting the bikers in harms way when they need to maneuver around pedestrians. Please be aware and stay safe out there.

We have recently had many complaints regarding dogs. Some of the complaints are regarding residents not picking up dog waste, dogs off their leashes and more serious, dog bites.

Please see below what is stated in the TROM....

Pets in Common Areas: For your convenience, pet waste disposal stations are located throughout the community. Pet owners are required to promptly remove and dispose of their pet's solid waste. Pets must be leashed when outside the home. The exception is a pet restrained by an electronic fence on a homeowner's lot.

Thank you for your attention, as we strive to make Turtle Rock a great place to live for all of our Residents!



Photo taken by Ginny Cheatham by
the Serenity Pond
on Turtle Rock Boulevard.



Treasurer's Report

By: Kathrin Harris



Year-to-Date Ending

December 2023

	Actual	Budget	Diff
Income: Assessments and other	\$ 1,709,642	\$ 1,704,755	\$ 4,887
Expenses:			
General and Administrative	\$ 420,404	\$ 450,576	(\$ 30,172)
Common Grounds	235,696	244,249	(\$ 8,553)
Access Control/Gatehouse	371,393	360,000	\$ 11,393
Facilities Maintenance	176,931	155,624	\$ 21,307
Utilities	96,072	89,131	\$ 6,941
Reserves Contributions *	405,175	405,175	\$ 0
Total Expenses	\$ 1,705,671	\$ 1,704,755	\$ 916
Net Income (loss) y-t-d	\$ 3,971		

* Reserves expenses: total paid y-t-d \$215,428

Assessments: Outstanding HOA Fees— (4th Qtr dues became payable in October)

(0-90 days) \$ 11,958 — \$10,353 less than prior month

(91+ days) \$ 8,220 — \$ 7,015 less than prior month

Total \$ 20,178 — \$15,240 less than prior month total

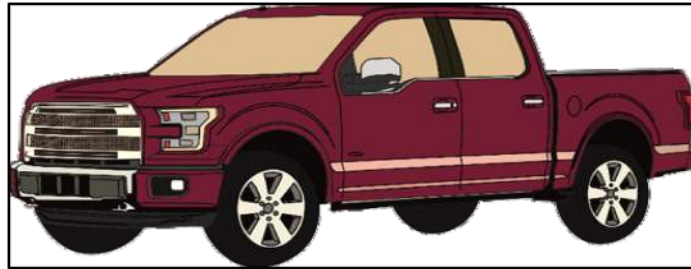
For more detailed monthly and annual financial information, dating back to 2015, please visit our website's Resident Only page: <https://www.myturtlerock.com/community-assoc/residents-only-v2/>
This is a password protected section; please email letstalkturtlerock@gmail.com, and request the PW by providing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

“Each generation imagines itself to be more intelligent than the one that went before it and wiser than the one that comes after it.” — George Orwell

Turtle Rock Community Event

Town Hall Meeting

**Topic: Truck parking in Turtle
Rock**



Monday, Feb 5th 5-7pm



COVENANT LIFE CHURCH



For the
Turtle Rock
Board of Governors

Thursday, February 8th

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

TR Community Center

Nominating News:

Four owners self-nominated for the three upcoming Board vacancies. The are:

Susan Birkenmaier

Curt Gilroy

Ehren McGeehan

Rick Myerburg

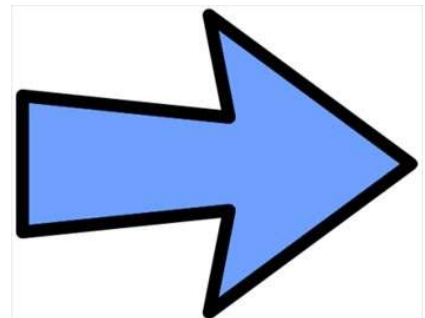
In order to get to know your candidates better, please attend the Meet the Candidates event held February 8 starting at 6:30pm in the Community Center. Like the monthly Board meetings, this will be both in person and via ZOOM

The vote will take place during the Annual Member Meeting on February 29, 2024, also held at the Community Center and available via Zoom.

In order for the Member Meeting to be able to take place, we must achieve a quorum of the members, which is 190! When you receive the annual meeting mailer in mid February, PLEASE send in not just your ballot for the candidates, but also your proxy.

Even if you plan to attend the meeting in person, it is best to send in the proxy to ensure the quorum requirement is met. If it is not, the meeting must be rescheduled and another mailing sent out.

Each of the candidates sent a short introduction of themselves which you can read on the next two pages.



Board of Governors Candidates



Susan Burkenmier

My husband J.R. and I relocated to Sarasota in 2020. My commitment to public service began when I spent my early career in city management in Iowa and Illinois.

As a public servant I learned the value of community building, transparency and ethics. These positions allowed me to develop a deep understanding of public services such as public works, public safety, economic development and risk management, bidding and purchasing. I transitioned to education administration where I served as a finance officer/Director of Operations. Through this work I honed my skills in financial planning, budgeting and cash management; buildings and grounds maintenance, grant writing, capital asset replacement plans and financial reporting. During this time, I also earned a Doctorate in Education (Ed.D.) and later assumed a position as an elementary school superintendent serving a community of 2,500 students, parents, residents and business owners. Along with developing a Board led district strategic plan, I also worked with staff to develop a plan to address the district's financial distress. As superintendent, I also served as the district's inter-agency liaison with all other local agencies. Finally, I served as a school treasurer for 11 public school districts managing over \$500 million annually. In retirement, I continued my public service as a Board of Governors member for the Palmer Ranch Hampton's subdivision. I have served as the chair of the TR Emergency Communications Task Force, Turtle Rock Women's Club secretary and current Co-President, and was recently appointed as a member of the Honore Border Task Force. My priorities as a TR Board member will be addressing our aging infrastructure and landscape; financial responsibility; and transparency through openness.



Curt Gilroy

I along with my wife Grace Sammon, have been residents in Turtle Rock for twelve years, residing on Park Shore Lane. Our deep

investment in the community reflects our love for its natural beauty, strong friendships, diverse activities, consistent home and grounds maintenance standards, deed restrictions, and reasonable HOA dues. Since our move, Turtle Rock has become our cherished home. Actively engaged in community affairs, I've served on the Architectural Review Committee (ARC) for 9 years, Landscape Committee for 7 years, Natural Asset Committee for 4 years, Finance Committee (FIRRM), and twice as a Board member (Secretary and Assistant Treasurer). Currently, I'm a liaison to the ARC and Natural Assets Committees, and a member of the Landscape Committee. I have been active as a member of Task Forces for mailbox and street sign replacements, and the writing of the Turtle Rock Owners' Manual. I hold an MBA and an MA and PhD in economics, with experience in teaching at the college level and consulting for organizations like the RAND Corporation. I have engaged in economic research on a variety of topics. I retired as a senior official with the Department of Defense, having oversight for recruiting the entire enlisted force and officers for the Nation's volunteer military. Our community's charm lies in its natural beauty, high standards, and increased homeowner involvement. Collective efforts elevate our quality of life. As our community gracefully ages, preserving its beauty and adapting to evolving demographics is crucial. I look forward to the Meet the Candidates evening, eager to connect, share ideas, and contribute to shaping our community's future. Your support is vital, and I am hopeful to serve Turtle Rock for three more years as a dedicated and active Governor.

Canidates continued...



Rick Myerburg

In 2007, my wife and I rented a home in Turtle Rock while we were searching for a property in the Sarasota area. After exploring various neighborhoods, we decided on Turtle Rock

and ultimately purchased our home on Benchmark Court in 2008—time really does fly, and it's hard to believe it has been 16 years.

Since 2009, I have been an active participant in our community, contributing my time and efforts to various committees and initiatives. I have served as a member of the Turtle Rock Infrastructure Committee, a member of The Invasive Task Force, a member of the Paving Task Force Committee, and a member of the resurfacing of tennis and basketball courts committee.

Additionally, I have provided advisory input on lighting and replacement fencing for our community's tennis and basketball courts, and for the past 8 years I have served on the Hearing Panel. Beyond our local community, I have been involved in broader initiatives in Sarasota, serving as a Guardian ad litem (GAL) from 2013 through 2016. My personal journey includes marrying my wife of 55 years, the same year I graduated from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA, with a degree in psychology. Together, we have a son named Michael and his wife, Becca, as well as two college-age grandchildren, Maddie and Ben. Reflecting on these experiences, I am grateful for the diverse opportunities and roles that have shaped my life.



Ehren McGeehan

I am excited to share my extensive professional background in community leadership and financial services, as I aspire to

join our neighborhood community board. My wife, daughter, son, and I moved to Turtle Rock in 2023. Currently, I proudly serve as the Senior Vice President of Commercial Banking at Sunwest Bank. In my professional career, I have played a pivotal part in building and leading dynamic sales teams for various financial institutions including US Bank, BMO, UMB and most recently Sunwest Bank.

In addition to my corporate experience, I bring a wealth of community board experience to the table. I most recently served 4 years, from 2018 to 2022, as both a Member and Treasurer on the board of the Lakes of Radisson Homeowners Association, overseeing 1800 units. Additionally, I actively contributed to two Architectural Review Committee (ARC) subcommittees, demonstrating my commitment to maintaining the aesthetic integrity of our neighborhood. My dedication to community service extends to multiple non-profit board positions, including the role of Vice President for a \$1.4 million organization. I look forward to leveraging my financial expertise, leadership skills, and community board experience to make a meaningful contribution to the growth and wellbeing of our great neighborhood.

TURTLE ROCK'S ANNUAL



**February 10
8-11:30am
at
individual
homes**



NO fee required to participate! To include your address on the community maps handed to shoppers at the gate showing participant sellers' addresses, simply email your name, phone # and address to letstalkturtlerock@gmail.com
no later than Feb.5

**For a successful sale we need...Dedicated
sellers, eager buyers, and a nice sunny day
The more sellers the better, so join in.**

If you'd like to be included as a seller, don't forget to submit your name and address to letstalkturtlerock@gmail.com

Extended to Feb. 5

If you'd also like to list items you will be selling to help buyers find items of interest (**electronics, children's items, antiques, etc**), we can include this info next to your address.

This year we will be promoting the sale via many avenues, including social media outlets...So clean out those garages and be sure to email your address to be included in this year's sale.

Submitted by Kim Weiser, Communications Committee Chair

Sarasota County-sponsored Hazardous Waste Pick-up February 20, 2024 10-12 am

Volunteers are needed to help with traffic flow,
greeting, and unloading.

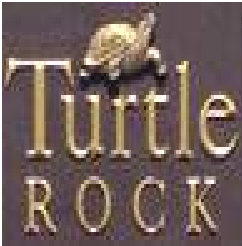
Write to letstalkturtlerock@gmail.com

**This Program gives all residents the opportunity
to safely discard items that **can't** go in weekly
garbage pickups.**



Types of items accepted

- Adhesives and glue
- Aerosols
- Antifreeze
- Automotive products
- Cleaners
- Electronics
- Fertilizers
- Fluorescent lamps
- Gasoline
- Household fire extinguishers
- Mercury
- Motor oil
- Oil filters
- Paint
- Pesticides
- Pool chemicals
- Propane cylinders
- Rechargeable batteries
- Solvents and thinners
- Vehicle batteries



Turtle Rock Men's Club

Ken Rosemann

Luncheon Meetings, Mark Your Calendars

February 21st – Mellow Mushroom – A guest speaker from the Sarasota Sheriff's Dept. will speak about frauds and scams.

March 20th – Tour of the Mote Research Center (not the Aquarium)
Lunch will follow at Stottlemeyer's Smokehouse.

April 17th – The New Italian Grill – Our annual collection for the All Faith's Food Bank's Campaign Against Summer Hunger will take place. Donations help provide children in need with healthy meals when schools close for the summer.

Annual Membership

The 2024 annual dues are due. If you haven't already done so, send or deliver your \$20.00 dues to John Adams, 8247 Nice Way.

Weekly Golf Outing

If you are an avid 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 February Birthday!** If I have missed anyone, email me and I will update the TRMC website, **Len Friedlander, Bob Lingard, Larry Nelson,**

Michael Pitoniak, Ken Rosemann

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

Check out page 15 to hear about the upcoming Luau!

From The West Corner Of...

By: Steve West, Resident Columnist



Chameleons

Although many people tend to focus on the chameleon's ability to change its color (both for camouflage and to attract — or warn — potential mates), this amazing lizard's tongue is an often-overlooked wonder. First, it's the **fastest** "gun" in the animal kingdom: It can go from zero to 60 mph in one-hundredth of a second!

But another surprising attribute of this incredible muscle is **that it's twice as long as a chameleon's body** on average — a handy feature when sneaking up on unsuspecting prey. Translated into human biological terms, that's the same as a person having a 10- to 12-foot-long tongue.

So how do chameleons, which are not particularly large lizards, keep this long tongue in such a small mouth? Well, scientists have discovered that a chameleon's tongue contains elastic tissue that allows them to effectively store this secret weapon "folded up like an accordion," **in the words of National Geographic**. When hunting prey, muscles contract in the mouth, similar to pulling back the string of a bow, and once that tension is released, simple physics takes over. The chameleon's tongue propels forward with blink-and-you'll-miss-it speed in a process scientists call "elastic recoil." Then, **a super-sticky, viscous fluid at the tongue's tip** ensnares the whiplashed insect, and the recoil returns the freshly caught meal to the chameleon's mouth. Yum.



TROM Trivia February 2024

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. Can you guess within ten persons, give or take, the maximum capacity in the community center set by the Fire Marshall?
2. Normal landscaping duties such as lawn mowing, leaf blowing, trimming, cutting, etc. are determined by the sunrise and sunset so the hours of activity obviously change somewhat from winter to summer. True or False?
3. The ubiquitous satellite dishes throughout Turtle Rock are still part of the blanket rule that "all changes to the exterior of a dwelling require ARC approval." So it is a simple matter of getting approval after an application is submitted, and, if false, why? True or False?

Answers on page 19



Saturday, March 23

4-7 pm

**TR Community
Center**

Children's activities

\$5 + donation per adult suggested

Co-sponsored by the TRWC, TRMC & TR Young Families



Natural Assets Committee

By: Michelle van Schouwen, Secretary NAC



February's Guided Nature Trail Walks

The Natural Assets Committee (NAC) will conduct two nature trail walks in February. We hope the weather will be better than much of January's!

Turtle Trail is 1.5 miles long one way. Walks will begin at the Community Center and end at Palmer Ranch Parkway. Walkers will then have the option of returning on the trail or on Turtle Rock Boulevard. The NAC host will show walkers the new trail directional markers; native plants, birds and other wildlife; and important pond water flow structures. Please plan to bring drinking water, wear sneakers or other closed toes walking shoes, and consider a sun hat or sunscreen and insect repellent. Allow approximately 2 hours for the complete circuit.

Sign up at the community center. As currently planned, NAC guides will be:

Michelle van Schouwen, Saturday February 10, 9 a.m.

Melody Barackman, Saturday February 17, 9 a.m.



Article and "Companions: Egret and wood stork" photo by Michelle van Schouwen, Secretary, Natural Assets Committee

Logo created by Barry Domenick, Turtle Rock Resident

Landscape & Grounds

By Jodi Cunnison



Happy New Year to All!

The Committee met on January 10th at the Community Center. In attendance were co-chairs Joan Howe and Curt Gilroy, members Kathrin Harris, Diane Geramanis, Deirdre Cronin, Emily Miller and Jodi Cunnison along with Shane Battle from Bloomings and Nanette Thomas from Civix Property Management.

The Committee reviewed the work that needed to be done by Bloomings. Shane confirmed that the following was either done or would be completed within the week:

- dead plants replaced in the Awabuki hedge along Central Sarasota Parkway
- the dying and missing podocarpus in both medians at the north and south gate will be replaced
- the dead Shady Lady tree at the faux bridge along Turtle Rock Blvd will be replaced and irrigation will be added
- the dying tree on one of the islands on Far Oak Circle will be removed. Regarding a second island further along Far Oak Circle, the hibiscus on that island will be trimmed back
- a Shady Lady tree was planted along the pond just south of the Community Center
- the dead palm tree on the east side of Turtle Rock Blvd bordering the hammock was removed
- the dead plants on the intersection corners along Turtle Rock Blvd have been replaced
- clean up will begin along the edge of the preserve

Regarding other matters, Nanette confirmed that she was obtaining a quote to have the community pool tile repair work done. In addition, she will be reaching out to a stone mason to assess the water infiltration that is occurring in the perimeter walls of our Turtle Rock community.

After the meeting several members of the Committee drove through Turtle Rock to look at various trees, on community property, that need attending to.

Congratulations Larry on your Retirement!



The Turtle Rock Community threw a party on January 17 for our beloved, now retired, maintenance supervisor.

In an Open House format from 2-5pm, a continuous stream of well-wishing residents came to bid a fond farewell to the man who has served us for over two decades!

Each attendee added words to a “Happy Retirement” book that included favorite memories or anecdotes, hoping that Larry will look upon his time in Turtle Rock as the best years of his life well spent!



Answers to TROM TRIVIA

1. 99. (TROM II, D, 7)
2. False. Such activities should take place from 07:30 am to 06:30 pm regardless of the season. (TROM II, E, 4)
3. False. No application is necessary. (TROM III, B, 5, d)



The Newsletter Team

The Communications 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

Kim Weiser, Chair

Donna McCarthy & Pat Rotondo, Welcome Team

Penny Lind & Judy Bentz, Special Projects

Board Liaison: Grace Boehm

Newsletter Staff

Judy Bentz, Turtle Talk Editor

Steve West & Diane Geramanis, Contributing Writers

Proofreaders: Charlotte Jones and Grace Boehm