

MARCH



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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.



Turtle Talk

March 2024

The 2024 Board of Governors

At the conclusion of the Annual Member Meeting, the 2024 Board was seated and held their Organizational Meeting. The first order of business was election of Officers, resulting in the following:

**We welcome newly elected
Board Members: Susan Birkenmaier, Rick Myerburg and re-elected Curt Gilroy**

Officers for 2024 are as follows:

PRESIDENT— Russ Gill

VICE PRESIDENT— Kathrin Harris

SECRETARY— Grace Boehm

TREASURER— Susan Birkenmaier

GOVENOR—Curt Gilroy

GOVENOR — Rick Myerburg

GOVENOR —Phil Grayton

The Board shall meet on March 14 to continue the business agenda.

President's Message

By: Russ Gill, Board President



On February 5 we held a Town Hall meeting to bring everyone up to date on pickup truck parking within the association.

The meeting was well attended with well over 100 people in attendance. There was a lively discussion with opinions from all points of view.

To address the issues raised during the meeting a group of people have volunteered to be part of a task force that, once approved by the Board, will write an addendum to the Declaration of Protective Covenants to better define what “truck” will mean in Turtle Rock.

Once this is completed there will be a special members’ meeting to vote on whether to accept the new addendum.

The first session of this group was held on February 27. They will be writing a charter, selecting a chairperson and determining their meeting schedule.

As this task force continues there will be updates in the newsletter.

The annual members’ meeting was held on February 29 to elect new board members.

There were 3 open governor positions and Curt Gilroy, Sue Birkenmaier and Rick Myerburg were elected to fill those positions. While the ballots were being counted committee and task force representatives provide updates on their 2023 accomplishments and their plans for 2024.

Immediately after the annual meeting the new board held an organizational meeting and elected the new offices for 2024/25. The new board composition is Russ Gill – President; Kathrin Harris – Vice President; Sue Birkenmaier – Treasurer; Grace Boehm – Secretary; Curt Gilroy – Governor; Phil Grayson – Governor, Rick Myerburg – Governor.

The Board decided to continue meeting the last Thursday of each month at 6:30 in the community center with zoom available.

There will also be a extra board meeting to conduct business missed in February, and is scheduled for March 14 at 6:30.

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

Have you been able to check out the Homeowner Portal through AppFolio/Civix Property Management? You can review and edit your contact information, submit ARC requests and view your account. We have also added the Community Calendar where you can review events and meetings being held. If you edit your contact information, please email me your changes so that I can update our Constant Contact email system as well.

If you have not signed up and would like access, please email your Name, Address, Email address and phone number to me at mycommunitymanager@turtlerock.com and I will have the portal invitation sent to



Treasurer's Report

By: Kathrin Harris



Year-to-Date Ending

January 2024

	Actual	Budget	Diff
Income: Assessments and other	\$ 119,736	\$ 157,209	(\$ 37,472)
Expenses:			
Access Control/Gatehouse	\$ 28,433	\$ 32,586	(\$ 4,153)
Common Grounds	\$ 20,501	\$ 23,162	(\$ 2,662)
Facilities Maintenance	\$ 4,748	\$ 13,106	(\$ 8,358)
General and Administrative	\$ 39,769	\$ 43,021	(\$ 3,252)
Utilities	\$ 7,001	\$ 7,342	(\$ 341)
Reserves Contributions *	\$ 38,825	\$ 38,825	\$ 0
Total Expenses	\$ 139,277	\$ 158,042	(\$ 18,765)
Net Income (loss) y-t-d	(\$ 18,707)		

* Reserves expenses: total paid y-t-d \$ 2400
 \$ 750 deposit asphalt repair at gates
 \$1650 pool skimmer repair

Assessments: Outstanding HOA Fees— (1st Qtr dues of \$615 became payable on January 1)
 (0-30 days) \$ 24,101 — \$12,143 more than prior month
 (91+ days) \$ 16,584 — \$ 8,364 more than prior month
 Total \$ 40,685 — \$20,507 more 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.

Communications Committee

by Kim Weiser, Chair

Garage Sale Update...



February 10th was a beautiful day for a garage sale! We had 67 participants, and at times, one could hardly get down some of our streets, as was the case on Meadow Rush Loop at approximately 9am!

The gate attendants passed out 100 two-page sheets at each gate entrance. One sheet had the participants addresses and the other sheet was a map of Turtle Rock. Our very own Penny Lind took the map and shaded in where each participant was located! Very time consuming! Penny also did all of our advertising on social media, and we appreciate her efforts!

Also, many thanks to our board liaison, Grace Boehm, for her help with this special project and for maintaining the list of participants from November, when it was first announced, until February 5th.

**Thanks to all who participated!
Hope every one got rid of some
unnneeded items and others
found some treasures!**





BEACH LUAU PARTY
Saturday March 23rd
4-7 pm
TR Community Center

Hamburgers, hot dogs and baked beans provided.

Beer and water will be supplied.

***BYOB if you prefer something other than
beer or water.***

If you wish, bring a dish to share.

**A \$5+ donation per adult is requested,
kids eat free**

Wear your favorite Hawaiian attire and bring a beach chair

**Co-sponsored by the TR Women's and Men's Club and the TR
Young Families Group**



Pond Visitor In Trouble

reported by Diane Glynn

Mary Ann and Tore Nordal were, at first, happy to see the large pelican at the edge of the pond behind their house on Great Meadow Drive at the end of January. One or two pelican visitors are common at this time of year—the Gulf waters are cool at that time of year, the fish go deeper, and pelicans visit the inland ponds where fish are more readily available. But this bird was clearly in distress. It stretched its long neck, the muscle visibly pulsating; its beak opening and closing; its wings flapping. Then it sat. Looking toward Mary Ann and Tore’s house. Until it stretched its neck again, struggling to swallow.

After an hour, the bird was definitely in trouble. Was a fish caught in the pelican’s throat? Mary Ann and Tore googled, looking for help. They made phone calls to possible rescue places. Their third call was to the Wildlife Center of Southwest Florida in Venice. This rescue organization immediately jumped into action. They had someone in Osprey who could be at the Nordal house in minutes. Indeed, fifteen minutes later Abby was in the driveway, then the backyard. She had a large net, a blanket and a small live fish. She dropped the net and blanket a distance away from the pelican and slowly approached the struggling bird, dangling the fish—see it? see it?



Minutes later it turned away from the shore and started to move across the pond...then it took off in a low flight, skimming the water. Mary Ann and Tore sighed, thinking the rescue had failed. But Abby grabbed her net and blanket and took off, running through the backyards alongside the pond. The Nordals lost sight of her.

Minutes later, they spotted her again. She was holding the pelican! It was wrapped in the blanket which she explained helps calm the animal. She gently placed the pelican in a container in the back of her SUV. Abby said she had found the pelican on the shore, exhausted and resting in a backyard garden (she had feared an alligator might find it before she did). She explained pelicans can have trouble when they come to retention ponds for food—the plentiful fish are often too large for a pelican’s throat. She transported the pelican, which the Nordals were told was “in bad shape,” to the Wildlife Center Hospital in Venice, which said they would call if the bird survived; no call has

come in.

Our neighborhood is grateful to the Wildlife Center of Southwest Florida which depends on volunteers and contributions to continue its work. Please keep their contact information for future reference.

The Wildlife Center of Southwest Florida, www.Wildlifeswfl.org

**941-484-9657 between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.;
941-416-4967 for a true emergency**

Turtle Rock Women's Club

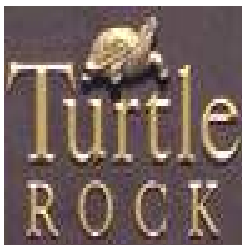
Turtle Rock Women's Club Game Night

All **women and men** are invited to attend our game night. Join others who enjoy playing cards, or games such as the Mexican Train domino game.

We meet monthly on the 2nd Tuesday, 7-9pm, at the Community Center.

Contact: Joan Miller at 630-258-1821 or joanmiller272@gmail.com.

“Be yourself; everyone else is
already taken.”
— Oscar Wilde



Turtle Rock Men's Club

Ken Rosemann

We had a wonderful turnout at the February luncheon and a very informative talk by Deputy Sheriff Brian Keane on fraud and scams

Luncheon Meetings

March 20th – Tour of the Mote Research Center (not the Aquarium). Details and directions will be forthcoming. Following the tour, lunch will be held 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

If you haven't already done so, send or deliver your \$20.00 annual 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 March Birthday!** If I have missed anyone, email me and I will update the TRMC website.



**Geoff Copeland, Les Gardi, Craig Larson,
Dan Paterson, Ken Terpin, Jim Whalen**

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 turtlerockmensclub@gmail.com.

Beach Luau

The Men's and Women's Clubs and Young Families' Group will sponsor a **Spring Luau event on March 23rd** at the Community Center.

INFORMATION ON PAGE 7



Scam Warning

by Steve West

I bank with Chase. So yesterday I needed to take care of some business with Chase bank. It wasn't necessary to go to my local branch, it was something I could do online. So I google the site: Chase.com and I log on.

It asked me for my email address, ok. It asked for my phone number, ok. Reasonable requests, I thought. So next the site reads, "We will send you a one time code to your phone so you can log on. I get the call (855#) and am told my account has been temporarily locked out do to suspicious behavior. The caller verifies my e-mail address and phone number and asks if this about my Chase account and did I make any withdraws yesterday. I said, "No", and he tells me \$349.00 was withdrawn yesterday, but he can help me stop any further withdraws. He next asks if I am on my computer. "Yes I am." He then asks what operating system I am using.

What does my operating system have to do with anything. He has only given me information that I entered on the "Chase.com" website, i.e. email address, phone number and the site name, Chase.

I hung up. I get an immediate call back that I did not answer.

I drive to my local branch and relate the story to the bank manager. He pulls up my account and tells me there are no issues. Scam.

Now the really scary part of this scam was the fact that I logged into Chase.com.

The scammers are so sophisticated in these times, they are able to set up a fake site in google and you are totally unaware.

I asked the bank manager and he sadly shook his head and said, "It happens everyday." No recourse for the scammed, no protection with the bank and no way of seeking retribution with the scammers who are half a world away.

He would have gone on to cleverly extract information requesting my account number, possibly bank routing number, maybe driver's license, any and all information to help "prevent" me from further damage to my account.

**It is sometimes a very sad
world and times we live in.
People beware.**

From The West Corner Of...

By: Steve West, Resident Columnist

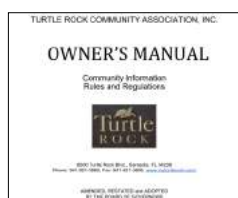


The Leaning Tower of Pisa

Was the Leaning Tower of Pisa ever straight? Italy's Leaning Tower of Pisa lived up to its name right from the start, as it began to tilt early on in the construction process. The foundations were laid on August 9, 1173, but work came to a halt as builders reached the fourth floor in 1178.

This was in part because the iconic landmark began leaning slightly atop the muddy soil — which was too soft to begin with and settled unevenly under the tower's weight — and in part due to an ongoing war between Pisa and nearby city-states.

The construction re-commenced in 1272, the tower was tipped at a roughly 0.2-degree angle, though the soft ground had compacted enough that work could continue. In order to compensate for the lean, new floors were built with one side taller than the other, thus giving the tower a unique curve, though the structure continued to slowly tilt even further.



TROM Trivia March 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. When I pull into Turtle Rock, there's this sign that says, "Turtle Rock is a Deed Restricted Community." What does that mean anyway?
2. Drones are considered a nuisance and strictly prohibited in T/R regardless of their use on public or private property. True or False?
3. There are just a few homes with detached garages here in T/R. They are part of the original building plan and are "grandfathered" in therefore circumventing any new rules preventing detached garages. True or False?

Answers on last page



Natural Assets Committee

By: Michelle van Schouwen, Secretary NAC



New ponds map and an invitation to share your pond photos

Thanks to resident Barry Domenick for developing a new, much easier-to-read map of all Turtle Rock ponds, complete with their names. And thanks again to the many residents who contributed name suggestions.

The Natural Assets Committee (NAC) will publish the new map on the website and create a poster-sized sign for the community center entrance area.

Next, NAC wants to publish some of your most inspiring photos of Turtle Rock ponds over the next several months. Share an image of wildlife, peaceful or stormy waters, sunset, or other appealing scene. If you'd like to participate, please email a favorite image (under 5 mb) to mmvanschouwen@gmail.com (or email a link to your photo in Google Photos with permissions set to include "edit" so that NAC can download and publish). Include both your name and the name of the pond, plus an image title if you wish.

NAC looks forward to celebrating Turtle Rock ponds with you throughout the year.

Article by Michelle van Schouwen, Secretary, Natural Assets Committee

Logo and ponds map created by Barry Domenick, Turtle Rock Resident

New map on following page...



Turtle Rock Ponds



Answers to TROM TRIVIA

- 1.Homeowners and tenants are responsible for adhering to the guidelines, rules, and regulations in place for the community common areas and private property.
(T.R.O.M. 1, C, 2).
- 2.False. There are several exceptions to this rule found in T.R.O.M II, E, 11, page 21.
- 3.False. There are no homes in T/R with detached garages nor will there be.
(T.R.O.M. III, B, 1).



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.

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
Diane Geramanis, Recording Secretary
Penny Lind & Judy Bentz, Special Projects
Cean Cerny, Tech Support
Board Liaison: Grace Boehm

Newsletter Staff

Judy Bentz, Turtle Talk Editor
Steve West Contributing Writer
Proofreaders: Charlotte Jones and Grace Boehm