



Turtle Talk

March 2026



Photo by
Ginny Cheatham

President's Message: Grace Boehm, Board President



February 26, 2026 was a full evening at the Turtle Rock Community Center, with a Regular Board Meeting at 5:00 p.m., the Annual Members Meeting at 6:30 p.m., and the Organizational Meeting immediately following.

At the Regular Board Meeting, the Board considered three funding requests. Two time-sensitive proposals were approved, and one was tabled. New sod was recently installed around Pond 18 to cover the geotubes placed as part of the shoreline restoration project. Due to unusually dry conditions, the sod is at risk of permanent damage. The Board approved up to eight supplemental waterings over four weeks, at a maximum cost of \$3,600, to protect that investment.

The Board also approved updates to irrigation heads along Turtle Rock Boulevard to improve coverage and prevent turf and shrubs from declining due to insufficient water. This work will be completed at a cost of \$1,086. The funding request related to formatting the TROM rewrite was tabled pending completion of the rewrite.

The Annual Members Meeting was well attended both in person and via Zoom. The Board election results were announced after five ballot counts, and Michelle Robles and Ehren McGeehan were elected to serve on the 2026 Turtle Rock Board of Governors. Continued on next page

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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.

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Next Meeting March 26

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Thank you to all residents who nominated themselves and were willing to serve. Strong engagement reflects a community that cares deeply about its governance and future.

At the Organizational Meeting that followed, the Board elected officers and appointed two standing committees required by our governing documents. The 2026 officers are:

- Grace Boehm, President
- Curt Gilroy, Vice President
- Karen Howe, Secretary
- Rick Myerburg, Treasurer

The Hearing Panel and Architectural Review Committee (ARC) members were also appointed.

Thank you to the Hearing Panel members (Tom Borrows, Chair; Dave Alcala; Chuck Barackman; Jean-Claude Laurent; and Steve Matthews) and the ARC members (Roberta Maloney, Chair; Allyn Violet, Secretary; Karen Hewitt; James Vaughan; and Helene Horrell) for volunteering to serve.

During the Annual Meeting, a resident observed that the emotional climate within the community has, at times, felt negative. That observation deserves acknowledgment. Passion about our neighborhood is a strength — but it must be paired

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with the qualities of professionalism, fairness, and mutual respect. As we move forward, the Board will take special note of these qualities as it continues to prioritize clarity of process and disciplined stewardship of Association responsibilities.

Healthy governance requires rigorous oversight, as well as civility, transparency, and respect for differing viewpoints. Disagreement can be constructive when it is grounded in facts and conducted professionally.

Our focus this year will include strengthening financial oversight, reinforcing internal controls, and ensuring our governance practices are clear, compliant, and consistently applied. Stability, accountability, and thoughtful decision-making will guide our work.

Turtle Rock is a strong community. With professionalism and shared purpose, it will remain so.

Cam Corner

I am receiving complaints regarding owners not cleaning up after their dogs. Turtle Rock provides waste bags and receptacles for owners to use, please do so. Please also note that this is a rule in the TROM owner responsibility. We also have had 2 recent dog attack issues. Dogs should be properly leashed when outside of your home and under control. Please see below, the rules per the Pets.

Pets are considered a nuisance when any of the following occur:

- *The pet is unleashed or is unconstrained upon the lot of the homeowner.*
- *The pet can be heard by neighboring residents with persistent, continuous barking.*
- *Solid pet waste is left on homeowner lawns or public property, sidewalks, or streets, and is not disposed of properly.*
- *The pet displays unruly, vicious, or threatening behavior.*

Please see Section II, D, Item 9 (Pets in Common Areas) and Section III, B, Item 4 (Pets at Residences) for additional regulations and guidance on pets. Thank you.

**TROM -Violations of the rules
can lead to a fine.**



Nanette Thomas, LCAM
Turtle Rock Community
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Sarasota, FL 34238
Turtle Rock Office.
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Treasurer's Report

By Susan Birkenmaier, Ed.D. (Treasurer (1/26))

Year-to-Date Ending *(Unaudited)*

January, 2026

actual	January YTD spent	Annual Budget Total	Percent collected/ of annual budget
Income: Assessments and other	\$ 213,326	\$2,525,141	8.45%
Expenses:			
Access Control/Gatehouse	\$ 32,569	453,028	7.19%
Common Grounds	25,910	309,680	8.37%
Natural Assets Maintenance	5,385	112,960	4.77%
Facilities Maintenance	19,091	182,120	10.48%
General and Administrative	26,995	403,832	6.68%
Utilities	15,806	109,880	14.38%
Palmer Ranch Master Assn Dues	11,054	132,650	8.33%
Other-misc. acct corrections	5,775	0	
<u>Reserves Contributions</u>	<u>68,417</u>	<u>821,000</u>	<u>8.33%</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 211,002	\$2,525,150	8.36%

Expense in excess of income y-t-d \$ 2,324

Percent of fiscal year lapsed 8.33%

This report reflects financial transactions as recorded under the accrual method of accounting.

For more detailed monthly and annual financial information, dating back to 2015, please visit our website-Myturtlerock.com Resident Only tab.

This is a password protected section; please email :trcommunications@myturtlerock.com, and request the password by providing your name and TR address.

Accounts Receivable

As of January 31, 2026, 103 homeowners dues payment accounts were unsettled and under review.

GARAGE SALE WRAP UP...

by Kim Weiser, Communications Chair



**The rain held off for most of the day on Saturday, Feb 28th,
for our Annual Turtle Rock Garage Sale!**

At around 7:45am both gates had cars lined up to come in as far as the eye could see! Some attendees said that they heard about the sale through the multiple social media outlets that our garage sale coordinator, Penny Lind, advertised. Her advertising appears to have paid off! We hope our residents got rid of a few things, and buyers got things they didn't know they needed!



Many Thanks To Our Election Committee

A great big THANK YOU is due to the Election committee for all the time and effort they put into our recent election for two members of our Board of Governors.

Curt Gilroy, Board Liaison

Patty Fleming, Co-Chair

Dodie Neuhauser, Co-Chair

Karen Hewitt, Member

Barbara Livingston, Member

Judy Molnar, Member



Photos by Kim Weiser

TROM Trivia March, 2026

1. The T.R. Owner's Manual was amended, restated and adopted by the Board of Governors on what year and month?
2. Replacement trees shall be a minimum of _____? _____ feet high and have a trunk diameter of at least _____? _____ inches. What are the missing dimensions?
3. Much like garage doors and other external home structures, replacing an exterior a/c unit requires ARC approval. True or False?

Answers on last page



New Committee Forming

The Board of Governors has approved the formation of a standing **Community Safety Committee**.

The committee's initial focus will be traffic behavior and shared-space safety within Turtle Rock — including vehicles, cyclists, pedestrians, intersections, and stop sign compliance.

Membership will be limited to seven residents to allow for productive discussion. We are seeking a balanced cross-section of the community, including working households, families, and long-time residents.

Meetings are expected to be held monthly in the early evening.

If you are interested in serving, please email the Turtle Rock office at:
communitymanager@myturtlerock.com
(Please include your name, address, email address and a brief statement of interest.)



Watchdog Report

On BBB Scam Tracker, one person shared the message they received, “Hey, it's Dan from www.myreliefcheck.com. Our records show you may have \$5286 waiting in a relief check that's already been issued in your name, but has not yet been collected. This could be from past relief programs or federal assistance payments. Visit www.myreliefcheck.com. Search your name and collect it before it's returned.”

How the scam works You receive a call, voicemail, or text saying you qualify for an unclaimed relief payment. You're directed to a website that warns you to act quickly before the money is returned. But the site doesn't lead to real government assistance. Instead, it redirects you to a page called, “My Cash Search.”

On that page, you're asked to enter personal details such as your ZIP code, phone number, email, and home address. After that, you're pushed to redeem offers that lead to outside sites. This setup allows scammers to collect your information, flood you with spam, and trick you into signing up for unwanted services or charges. Some sites may also install harmful software on your device.

Now BBB Scam Tracker is reporting a twist to this scam. “Dan” is now representing myreliefclaim.com, telling consumers they have unclaimed checks, and directing them to go to the website to search their name to claim the check. By handing over this data, victims risk identity theft, drained bank accounts, and nonstop contact from scammers. Many reports also mention follow-up calls, texts, or emails trying to get even more money or information.

Beware my fellow Turtle Rockers, much like rust, scammers never sleep.



*Join us for an evening of dining, dancing, and socializing at the
Turtle Rock...*

SPRING Fling!

Friday, April 24, 2026

Turtle Rock Community Center (TRCC)

6-10pm/BYOB

Seating is limited. No Walk-ins.

\$15 per person to reserve your spot(s)

Make checks out to TRMC and drop in TRMC mailbox

ASAP at the TR Community Center by April 20th

6-7pm Dinner

Dinner includes wraps, sandwiches (with a vegetarian option), salads,
dessert and water.

7-10pm Dancing

Music provided by DJ Hinnsone!

Questions should be sent to: **turtlerockmensclub@gmail.com**

Hosted by the Turtle Rock Women's and Men's Clubs

From The West Corner Of...

Steve West, Resident Columnist



Iceland is often called “the land of fire and ice,” a nickname describing two of the nation’s most prominent geological features — volcanoes and glaciers. But in recent years, the world’s 18th-largest island has gotten a new reputation as a destination for readers and book lovers, and it’s because Iceland has more authors per capita than any other country in the world. It’s estimated that on an island with a population around 372,500 people, one in 10 will publish a book. There’s even a phrase in Icelandic that relates to the popularity of writing — “*ad ganga med bok l maganum*,” which roughly translates to “everyone gives birth to a book.” Many writers reside in the island’s capital city of Reykjavik, a major publishing hub that in 2011 was named a UNESCO City of Literature.

Icelanders’ love of reading is culturally ingrained in a country that has a nearly 100% literacy rate. It’s likely that storytelling became a tradition thanks to the family sagas passed from generation to generation; these stories described how the first Icelanders found and adapted to the land from around 930 to 1030 CE. Poetry and story recitation became a popular way for Icelanders to keep the stories alive, and provided an important form of socializing on long, winter nights. Today, sharing stories has spawned a more modern tradition, in which Icelanders give books to friends and family on Christmas Eve. The holiday season strain on publishers is so great, and so many books are gifted, that the tradition has its own name: Jolabokaflođ, aka the Christmas Book Flood.

Turtle Rock Men's Club

By Ken Rosemann

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Tom Wentz.

On behalf of the Men's Club, we extend our heartfelt condolences to his family during this difficult time.

Mark Your Calendars

March 18th – Men's Club Luncheon – Location to be determined
Guest Speaker – **Mark Vengroff**, CEO & Managing Partner One Stop Housing
“Low Income Housing”

April 15th – Men's Club Luncheon – Triple Tail
Guest Speaker – **Joe Neunder**, County Commissioner, Palmer Ranch Government Services & Taxes

“How Our Taxes Are Spent in Sarasota County”

April 18th – Fishing Charter on the Miss Venice
Attendance limited to 17, first-come first-served

April 24th – Spring Fling – See attached flier
Kick off the start of Spring by attending a Spring Fling event.

May 8th – Beach Sunset Happy Hour
May 20th – Men's Club Luncheon – Stoneybrook

Annual Membership

If you haven't already done so, make out a check to Turtle Rock Men's Club for \$20.00 and place it in the mailbox at the Community Center. Those who remain delinquent after March 14th, will be removed from the Turtle Rock Men's Club mailing list.

Turtle Rock Golf Group

The Turtle Rock Golf Group (TRGG), has standing tee times every Tuesday morning at Misty Creek Country Club. If you are a golfer, consider joining your neighbors for a round of golf. Send an email to, TRMCGolf@gmail.com to sign up or for more information.

Birthdays

We wish the following a **Happy March Birthday!** If I have missed anyone, email me and I will update the TRMC Membership List. **Todd Beaudry, Paul Chomicki, Les Gardi, Craig Larson, Dan Paterson, Ken Terpin, Jim Whale**

Welcome to the Men's Club

We are pleased to welcome **Peter Curley, Jeffrey Gaines, Ed Gooltz and Ralph Placzek** to the Men's Club. We are pleased to have you as part of our organization.

Turtle Rock Women's Club

By Lisa Taverna

**Musical Bingo
Sold Out!**

Mixtape				
B	I	N	G	O
The Chronic - Dr. Dre	Blue - Joni Mitchell	M.A.A.D. City - Kendrick Lamar	The Dark Side of the Moon - Pink Floyd	What's Going On - Marvin Gaye
Appetite for Destruction - Guns N' Roses	Son in the U.S.A. - Bruce Springsteen	Back to Black - Amy Winehouse	Abbey Road - The Beatles	Rumours - Fleetwood Mac
Hotel California - Eagles	Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band - The Beatles	Like a Virgin - Madonna	Thriller - Michael Jackson	Graceland - Paul Simon
A Night at the Opera - Queen	Nevermind - Nirvana	The Joshua Tree - U2	Good Kid	The Misadventures of Lauren Hill - Lauryn Hill
Pet Sounds - The Beach Boys	The Blue and Gold of Foggy Starliner and the Sunnies - Ben Mink - David Byrne	Legend - Bob Marley	London Calling - The Clash	Purple Rain - Prince

The Turtle Rock Women's & Men's club sponsored a night of musical bingo this month. It was a lively and entertaining event that brought over 60 people together for an evening of music, laughter, and friendly competition. Instead of numbers, bingo cards featured song titles, and participants marked off squares as clips of popular songs were played. The playlist spanned multiple genres and decades, keeping everyone engaged and singing along.

The atmosphere was energetic, with teams cheering each other on and celebrating every win. Between rounds, there was plenty of socializing, dancing, and reminiscing about favorite songs. Small prizes added excitement, but the real highlight was the shared experience of music and community. Overall, Musical Bingo Night was a fun, interactive event that left everyone smiling.

Hope you can join us next time! Contact us for more information @ turtlerock-womensclub@gmail.com.





Natural Assets Committee

Michelle van Schouwen, Secretary



Coyotes in and around Turtle Rock: FAQ



Are coyotes common in our area?

Coyotes are well established throughout Sarasota County, including Turtle Rock. Coyotes are adaptable and can thrive in suburban and urban areas. According to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, coyotes are considered an established, not invasive, species in Florida.

What do coyotes eat?

Coyotes are omnivores. They hunt small prey including rodents and rabbits, and sometimes bigger animals such as raccoons and white-tailed deer. They also eat fruit and other plants. They are scavengers and will eat animal remains or wildlife eggs when they find them. In our area, easily attainable coyote food is plentiful, so coyotes do not generally attack larger animals.

When are coyotes most active?

Coyotes are most likely to be seen around dawn and dusk but are active day and night.

Are coyotes dangerous to people and pets?

Coyotes rarely attack people. However, babies and toddlers should always be supervised when outdoors. Coyotes may see small pets as prey. It is important to keep small dogs on leash or secured, and not to let cats roam freely.

Biting incidents are generally associated with coyotes that have lost their natural fear of humans, for example because people have intentionally fed them. But these incidents are rare. According to University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, (UF/IFAS), "A study investigating instances of coyotes biting people in the United States and Canada from 1960 to 2006 documented 142 instances where coyotes bit or attacked people, which equates to three attacks per year over a 46-year timeframe. To place this in perspective, the website DogsBite.org reports that in the United States, roughly 1,000 people require emergency care treatment for

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serious dog bites every day, more than 12,000 people are hospitalized due to dog bite injuries every year.”

What safety precautions should residents observe?

- Don't ever feed coyotes or other wildlife. Secure trash and pet food.
- ◆ Be mindful of small children and pets when outdoors.
- ◆ If a coyote approaches, it will likely be timid. However, hazing a coyote (yelling, banging pans, blowing whistles, or making other loud noises; looking big; and waving arms) is effective when needed. The coyote may retreat and then stop and look at you, so keep making a variety of loud noises and “big” physical stances until the animal is gone. Don't run away from a coyote.

How can I report an aggressive or sick coyote?

Report unusual coyote behavior to the Community Association Manager at 941-870-4920. For immediate needs, contact the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office Animal Services at 941-316-1201. Remember, seeing a coyote during the day is not an indication that it is ill or aggressive.

Where can I learn more? Coyotes in Florida:

<https://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/profiles/mammals/land/coyote>

Safety and hazing:

<https://www.humaneworld.org/en/resources/coyote-hazing>

<https://urbancoyoteresearch.com/coyote-info/how-avoid-conflicts-coyotes>



Turtle Trail Walk

NAC conducted a Turtle Trail (nature trail) walk on Saturday, February 14. Thanks to all the residents who attended. It was a pleasant outdoor, social, and learning experience for all. Please watch for future Turtle Trail group walks.

Article by Michelle van Schouwen, Secretary, Natural Assets Committee. Coyote photo courtesy Hance Ellington, UF/IFAS. Hiking group photo courtesy Ginny Cheatham. Logo by Barry Domenick.



Let's Think About Artificial Light

March brings the northern migration of birds through Florida. It also signals the beginning of spring when creatures seek out mates and procreate. How does our increasing artificial lighting affect all of us?

Light is the primary driver for an animal's internal clock, known as its circadian rhythm. Light exposure regulates the production of melatonin, which governs sleep-wake cycles and reproductive timing. Many species rely on day length to trigger seasonal breeding behaviors. Proper lighting stimulates feed intake and metabolic efficiency.

Misdirected or excessive artificial light disrupts natural predator-prey dynamics and navigation. Floridians protect hatchling turtles by using only red light along beaches. Some people don't. Millions of birds die annually from colliding with illuminated buildings after being disoriented during nocturnal migrations. Nocturnal predators like bats and owls rely on darkness to feed.

Animal health can also be affected by artificial lighting. Many birds and reptiles require ultraviolet light for vitamin D synthesis. This can lead to rickets or metabolic bone disease.

Birds may perceive standard artificial lights as constant stressful strobing. Who wants to live in a world like that?

Dark Sky lighting practices are becoming recognized as a way to mitigate artificial light overload. These include:

Using shielded fixtures to point light downward, preventing spill into natural habitats.

Switch to warmer hues (2700K LED) and reduce blue-rich light which is the most disrupting to circadian rhythms

Implement motion sensors, timers, and dimmers to ensure light is only present when and where it is strictly necessary.

Close blinds and curtains at night.

Promote Audubon's "Lights Out Programs" where cities and towns encourage homes and businesses to turn off unnecessary lighting, especially during bird migrations.

By Janet Smith

TROM Answers

1. March 1, 2022. Page 1 of the manual
2. 8 feet high, 2 inch diameter. (TROM III, 8, a)
3. False. ARC approval is not required. (TROM III, 10, a)



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:

trcommunications@myturtlerock.com

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

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