



President’s Comments

By Craig Holcomb, Sec. 22 HOA

A hearty welcome back to all of our seasonal residents, neighbors and friends, as we kick off another great year in Burnt Store Marina! We are hopeful that 2022 will be much better for all of us than in our past few years.

For you to catch up on all that is going on, please read all the articles in this edition of the Beacon. Also go online and see more specifics as to the happenings at the Burnt Store Marina CC; the Fitness, Racquet & Pool club; the Yacht Club; Safe Harbor Marina, and much more. You will be amazed and pleased about all the things we have available just within our development. So read on, learn what is going on, find something to do, and get out in our great winter weather and enjoy yourselves. That is why we are here!

Of course we want you to be healthy and safe while you enjoy all of the different activities offered. First, please, please obey the traffic laws while you are running around here. Cars must watch for bikers, walkers, runners and golf carts. Please drive slowly and obey the speed limits, and

make sure you are watching out for others at all times. We are here to relax, and slow our pace down. There is no reason to be hurrying anywhere, time is our friend not our enemy.

Golf cart drivers, we must also obey the speed limits and traffic rules. It seems that we are getting more “souped up” golf carts that can travel over the normal 17 miles per hour that older carts can go at full speed. Also, a fair warning to all adults, that when your kids and grandkids are here for a visit, you are responsible for adhering to the age limit for driving a golf cart.

The age limit is 16 years old. This is for your safety, your grandkids safety, and also the safety of everyone else in the community. It is cute to see a little kid, or even a middle/high school young adult getting excited about being able to drive grandpa’s golf cart. However, we have seen too many young people unable to control the golf cart, especially when there is a lot of traffic around. We have already experienced children illegally driving the newer and bigger golf carts on our streets and our golf course, where they should not be driving at all,

either unsupervised or with an adult. So please, do not allow children in your household to drive your golf cart.

As we walk around our streets and stop to talk with others, we ask you to be respectful of those trying to get by. We seem to sometimes have a barrier of people talking at intersections of our major roads, or on our walkways around the marina. That takes up the space needed for others, either walkers, runners, or bike riders, to get past. So if you are stopping to chat, please move off the sidewalk areas so others can move by with safety in mind.

Please make sure that you secure your home and your valuables whether you are home or away. Be vigilant in protecting your property and your possessions. Our community is a desirable destination and place to live. This means that our development is a good target by those evil ones looking to gain by taking something from us.

That’s it. Again read all the articles and surf the web sites of all our amenities and enjoy this New Year. Be safe, be healthy, slow down, have fun and help others.

2021 Golf Cart Parade



Section 22 HOA Committee Reports

Architectural Review Committee

By Barry Groesch, Chair

House need painting? All changes to the exterior of homes in BSM must have ARC approval. This applies to independent homes as well as homes in a condo association. If you do not get ARC approval, and your changes do not meet Section 22 HOA Restrictions, you may be asked to change or remove them. You can get this approval, if your changes meet Section 22 HOA Restrictions, by filling out and submitting an application to ARC.

The following applications were approved last month by the Section 22 HOA ARC:

- Ralph & Joni Tramontana, 1548 Islamorada Blvd., patio extension.
- Rick & Ruth Bodenschatz, 17887 Courtside Landings Cir., roof replacement.
- Dennis & Kathy Smith, 5001 King Tarpon Dr., roof replacement.
- Joseph R. & Lois A. Mouser, 1206 Islamorada Blvd., roof replacement.
- Diane Frank, 904 Islamorada Blvd., roof replacement.
- Vickie & Nick Dragojevic, 505 Islamorada Blvd., lanai update, screen, windows, door.
- Brian Malik & Lori Abay, 208 Big Pine Ln., roof replacement.

- Leroy A. Munster, 3321 Sunset Key Cir. Unit 701, electrical vehicle charging station.
- James Thorne, 229 Islamorada Blvd., roof replacement.
- Ron Porter, 2090 Matecumbe Key Rd., Unit 1701, hurricane screens.
- Robert Turner, 401 Gasper Key Ln., garage door vent installation.

Section 22 restrictions and applications are available for download at **BSM22.org**. Submit your ARC applications to your condo association, if applicable, then to Alliant Association Management, 13831 Vector Ave, Fort Myers, FL 33919.

Community Access Committee

By Pat O’Neill, Chair

The Community Access Committee (CAC) would like to remind you of the duties and responsibilities of the Gate Access Staff:

Access Control Manager: Major Andrew Scott is responsible for the many duties within our community. A few examples are:

- Supervision of all assigned Gate Access Personnel
- Database entry of all new homeowners and renters to the community, including continual updating of resident’s permanent guest list
- Barcode application to all who are eligible

- Vehicle and Gate troubleshooting and coordination of repairs with vendors
- Daily community patrolling, and assisting Alliant with PGI Section 22 code enforcement
- Community liaison with local law enforcement and fire department personnel
- Deployment of community purchased speed control electronic sign
- Client contact and relations liaison for the current security company

This is a small list of items that Major Scott completes on a daily basis for our community.

Gate Access Control Officers: As the gateway to our community, the access officers assigned to the gate houses are responsible for screening our guests and commercial traffic. Each officer is required to determine

Section 22 HOA Committee Reports on page 6

Reminder:

Annual Section 22 HOA Board Meeting
– **Tuesday, January 25, 10 a.m.,**
Watch for location notification.

Directory: Section 22 Homeowners Association				
c/o Alliant Association Management, LLC • 13831 Vector Ave., Ft. Myers, FL 33907 • 239-454-1101, info@alliantproperty.com				
Board of Directors President Craig Holcomb..... 941-505-0204 craigholc@gmail.com Vice President Terry Kelly..... 941-276-2617 Turtlemen2003@yahoo.com Secretary/Treasurer Jim Welch..... 941-575-2545 welchemail@yahoo.com Directors Dorothy Farnham..... 941-916-3572 dafarnham@me.com Jon Ackerson..... 502-777-9833 Jon@ackersonpsc.com Mike McFeeley..... 443-858-8354 mmcfeeley13@gmail.com Mark Mitchell..... 513-314-7322 silverten372@yahoo.com Property Management Alliant Property Management John Strohm..... 239-454-1101 PGI22CAM@alliantproperty.com Front Gate 941-639-8226 24 hours a day burntstoregate@msn.com Standing Committees Finance Committee: Jim Welch, Board Liaison Infrastructure Committee: Mike Lemon, Chair MLemonswfla@comcast.net Craig Holcomb, Board Liaison Community Access Committee (CAC): Patricia O'Neill, Chair Jackpaton@comcast.net Dianne Ardolino, Vice Chair Alan Faber Marv Bergman John Hammond John Weber Andrew Scott Dorothy Farnham, Board Liaison Landscape Committee: Michael Lemon, Chair MLemonswfla@comcast.net Daryl Ann Lemon Maggie Hart Terry Kelly, Board Liaison	Architectural Review Committee: Barry Groesch, Chair blgroesch@gmail.com John Farnham Jim Schinneller Daryl Ann Lemon Mitch Wegrzyn Mark Mitchell, Board Liaison Community Irrigation Committee: Rocky Mansfield, Chair rocky@mansfieldassoc.com Joe Baker Mike Lemon Gayle Shaffer Jon Ackerson, Board Liaison Fitness, Racquet & Pool Club Committee: Bob Honcharski, Chair bobhoncho@gmail.com Jon Ralph Judy Ewing Barbara Berman Kathleen Harrigan Craig Holcomb, Board Liaison Home for the Holidays Committee: Kay Ackerson, Chair kay@ackersonpsc.com Jon Ackerson, Board Liaison BSM Country Club: General Manager John Abbott JAbbott@bsgac.org Administrative Office..... 941-639-4151 Peggy Miller pmiller@bsgac.org Finance: Jim Welch, Mark Mitchell Grounds & Buildings: Terry Kelly Restaurants/Activities: Mike McFeeley Mike McFeeley, Board Liaison Communications Committee: Maggie Hart, Chair downhart@me.com Dorothy Farnham, Board Liaison Resident Directory Daryl Ann Lemon Peg Love Web Page Joan Ross, Webmaster (bsm22.org)	The Beacon Newspaper Editorial Team Linda Weiss, Chair..... 941-639-6409 Lindaweiss91@comcast.net Heidi Chorneyko..... 941-505-7776 heidic904@gmail.com Maggie Hart..... 941-769-3039 downhart@me.com Jennifer LeClair..... 229-349-0180 muckalee250@gmail.com Daryl Lemon..... 941-575-7864 darlemon@comcast.net Masthead Photographer Daryl Ann Lemon..... 941-575-7864 darlemon@comcast.net The Beacon Newspaper Distribution Janie Thornton..... 317-714-6251 Newspaper Distribution List by Association Admiral's Point Sharon Monge..... 505-1264 Joyce Schwanger..... 505-5081 Admiral's Point 2/Sailfish Pass Patty Pluss Admiralty Village Marge Currao..... 204-3399 Big Bend Cir & Big Pine Joe Drips..... 637-7533 Capstan Club Margaret Stidham..... 937-470-5240 Cobia Cay Estates Pam Zalac..... 639-5889 Cobia Cay Villas Bob Ahrens..... 505-6981 Commodore Club Ann Shelly..... 661-1573 Courtside Landings Bonnie Lavorgna..... 410-251-7243 Courtyard Landings I Nancy Kesner..... 845-224-7402 Courtyard Landings II Judy Ewing..... 639-2766 Courtyard Landings III Mary Welch..... 575-2545 Diamond Park Mort and Rhea Fleishman..... 505-1391 Dolphin Cove Steve Honickman..... 575-9931 Egret Pointe Judy Gannaway..... 513-515-0285	Emerald Isles Joe Bigus..... 575-4648 Esplanade Peg Love..... 740-0228 Joyce Punt..... 505-0685 Golf Fox Ruth Moorehouse..... 661-7166 Grande Isles I & 2 Kay Ackerson..... 502-777-9834 Grande Isles 3 & 4 Eleanore Hayek..... 655-8494 Halyard Club David Peterson..... 941-637-0182 Harbor Towers I and II Carla Matviak..... 908-817-4147 Hibiscus Cove Nancy Zimbicki..... 505-2016 Stu Gassner (as needed)..... 505-7950 Keel Club Nancy Bryan..... 502-541-2033 King Tarpon Beth Kohl..... 662-0321 Linkside/Romano & Marianne Key John Jett..... 804-724-4869 Little Pine Circle Jill Burnside..... 231-0954 Marina Towers Steve Maynard..... 765-674-3339 Mariner's Pass Fred & Maggie Hart..... 769-3039 Marlin Run Bob Saladke..... 586-879-5084 Jan Stuart..... 518-534-2720 Marlin Run II Ginny Goudy..... 505-1937 Marlin Run III Donna Wileczka..... 505-2749 Sue Geikie..... 207-781-4331 North Shore Ginny Hammerl..... 847-542-1077 George and Paula Schott..... 717-808-1664 Pelican Way Margaret Fowler..... 637-5762 Redfish Cove Marianne Baker..... 505-8959 The Resorts Jen Tait..... 914-755-9344 Rudder Club Carol Larsen..... 637-6673 Sailfish Pass Patty Pluss..... 916-9349	Soundings John & Eulalia Ralph..... 585-781-0781 South Shore Vince Anderson..... 612-716-6738 Spinnaker Club Delores Bell..... 603-566-3198 Sunset Key I and II Gayle Shaffer..... 639-2138 Nancy Godina..... 575-9516 Tarpon Pass Volunteer needed Dee Butrum..... 575-6477 Topaz Cove Susan Keiffer..... 637-8702 Vista Del Sol Judy Jolicoeur..... 575-6319 Yellowfin Bay Barb Didonato..... 207-208-7748 Yellowfin Cove Pat O'Neill..... 639-6552 Independent Homeowners Cape Cole Teresa Tembreull..... 612-865-8299
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Attention Residents:

We have notified you in the past that when you have a medical emergency, you need to call 911 and identify that you live in Lee County. It is important that the RESIDENT call in the emergency since the front gate cannot answer the questions asked by the 911 dispatcher. In order for the medic not to be delayed in getting to the scene of the emergency the resident must be the one to call 911.

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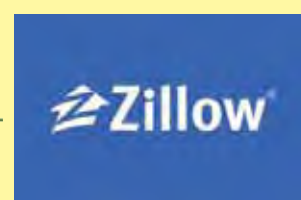


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Mark Your Calendar – Out And About

Inside the Gates Dates

- **Saturday, January 1:** Deadline for the February *Beacon*. Article and picture submissions are welcomed. Become part of the *Beacon* family.
- **Tuesday, January 25:** Section 22 HOA Annual Meeting, to be determined.
- **Every Tuesday:** Bar code installation, front gate, 1 to 3 p.m.
- **Every Thursday:** Bar code installation, front gate, 9 to 11 a.m.
- **Every Friday:** Burnt Store Marina Farmers Market, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Cass Cay Parking Lot.

Outside the Gates Dates

- **Friday, January 7:** Fort Myers River District Art Walk, 1 to 5 p.m. Visit many galleries, exhibitions and performances.
- **Saturday, January 8:** City-Wide Garage Sale. 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. 1133 Bal Harbor Blvd. Punta Gorda
- **Friday, January 14:** Charlotte County Concert Band – Out of This World concert. To celebrate the new Outer Space Force, the band will perform selections featuring sounds and images from the great beyond. 7:30 p.m. Charlotte Performing Arts Center, 701 Carmalita, Port Charlotte. Go to <http://www.charlottecountyconcertband.com>.
- **Friday, January 21:** Fort Myers River District Music Walk, 5 to 9 p.m. Local and regional musicians line the street with music from jazz to blues to rock and roll.
- **Every Tuesday and Friday:** Dance Fusion Class. 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association, 2001 Shreve St. Call Cara Peralta for information, 941-276-1887. \$10 per class.
- **Every Tuesday:** Cape Coral Surfside Sunset Market, from 1 to 6 p.m., Veterans Parkway and Surfside Boulevard, opposite end of Belks Dept. Store.
- **Every Wednesday:** Long Lunch Sightseeing & Culinary Walking Tour. Explore culinary treasures of Punta Gorda and visit historic sites. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. \$39 per person. Go to <https://swfloridawalkingtours.com/tours-2/long-lunch-tour>.
- **Every Saturday:** Haunts & History of Punta Gorda Walking Tour. 1-1/2 mile tour of historic and haunted sites of downtown. 6 to 7:30 p.m. Adults \$29, youth \$19. Go to <https://swfloridawalkingtours.com/tours-2/haunts-and-history-tour>.
- **Every Thursday:** Fort Myers River District Farmers Market, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **Every Saturday:** Punta Gorda Farmers Market, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., downtown. Lots of vendors with fresh fruits and vegetables, live music, crafts and other great buys. Visit nearby murals and enjoy some of the great downtown restaurants.
- **Every Saturday:** Cape Coral Farmers Market, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., SE 14th Ter. and SE 10th Pl., Cape Coral.
- **Every Sunday:** Punta Gorda Historical Society’s Farmers Market, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at History Park, 501 Shreve Street. Shop for veggies, meats, plants and gifts. Most Sundays you will be treated to live music by Dave Heveron. When the market closes at 1 p.m., take a guided tour of the gardens at the park. Walk the grounds with Florida native gardener, Starr Zachritz, and learn about Florida’s flora. A \$5 suggested donation gets you a plant to take home. Call 941-380-6814.



Burnt Store State of Iowa Potluck

If born in Iowa, lived in Iowa for a spell,
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have relatives from Iowa, went to school in Iowa,

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The Annual Burnt Store State of Iowa Potluck
Grand Isle Social Room
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Wednesday, January 26 at 5 p.m.

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Gardener’s Wheelbarrow

By Maggie Hart, Mariners Pass

Growing zones are U.S. Department of Agriculture’s designations to indicate average *minimum* temperatures. We are located in subtropical zone **9b/10a**, a variable area. A true tropical plant shows distress when temperatures fall below 50 degrees. We can have lows that will kill a tropical plant to the ground. All it takes is two consecutive mornings of 32 degrees, for just 15 minutes each, to severely damage tropical foliage. Because we are in a transitional area we can, and do, experience extreme swings in temperatures, sometimes as much as 60 degrees within a month’s time.



The most cold-sensitive areas of BSM are the far eastern (along Burnt Store Road) and northern (Vincent Avenue) sections. Areas closer to the harbor experience the modifying effects of Charlotte Harbor. January 2020 had a low of 41 degrees and daily highs between 62 - 83. There were several days below 50 degrees. Those chilly mornings, especially with dampness, will create fungus on plant leaves, yellowing and some leaves falling.

In 2016, during our typically dry month of January, we had a record 11 inches of rain, whereas in 2021, it was only an inch. So, you can never really predict much about our weather. As of November 24, 2021, we had a little more than 53 inches.

At this point in time, we should be well into the dry season and reliant on irrigation water. Less rain means the impact of TDS (Total Dissolved Solids) in the irrigation water will increase, with damaging effects to leaves and the tiny root hairs. Some plants have adapted to living with dissolved salts (seagrape); some will slowly be

negatively affected (ixora), and some will just curl up and die (camellia). Try to use watering systems with misters or drip methods, which are far less harmful to plants.

Life expectancy for our local shrubs varies from 3 – 7 years. Our growing period is almost year-round.

The maturity of a 5-year-old plant here is equal to about a 10 – 15-year-old-plant grown in zones 4a-5b (Michigan) or 6b-7b (Mid-Atlantic) because their growing period is approximately a third or half the length of ours.

Pruning also takes its toll on our plants. Because of our long growing season, pruning occurs several times a year. It may temporarily reduce the size of the plant, but it also sends a message to *grow*, grow, grow! Producing leaves, flowers and seeds requires large amounts of energy. Our plants are constantly trying to grow, month after month.

As plants age-out, they become stressed, diseased and die. Replace them with plants that can better handle the salt and are better suited site-wise for the location (sun, partial sun or shade?) thereby requiring less pruning. For a list of plants meeting our local requirements, go to **BSM22.org**, and click on Landscape Committee documents and forms.

January’s to do list:

- **Ornamentals** –If you’re going to plant, you must also commit to watering with your **hose** every other day for a couple weeks (then lessening to a couple times a week, then once a week, etc.) Tropical palms will do better when planted during the summer months.
- **Annuals** – Plant, but take the time to prep the soil well. Mound the soil with a substantial amount of annual mix (contains vermiculite, sand and ground mulch), sprinkle with Osmocote (fertilizer) and a fungicide. Then plant your annuals. If you mound the soil, it will elevate

the plants so they are more easily seen and keep them from getting wet “feet” as well as provide adequate good soil to settle their roots into.

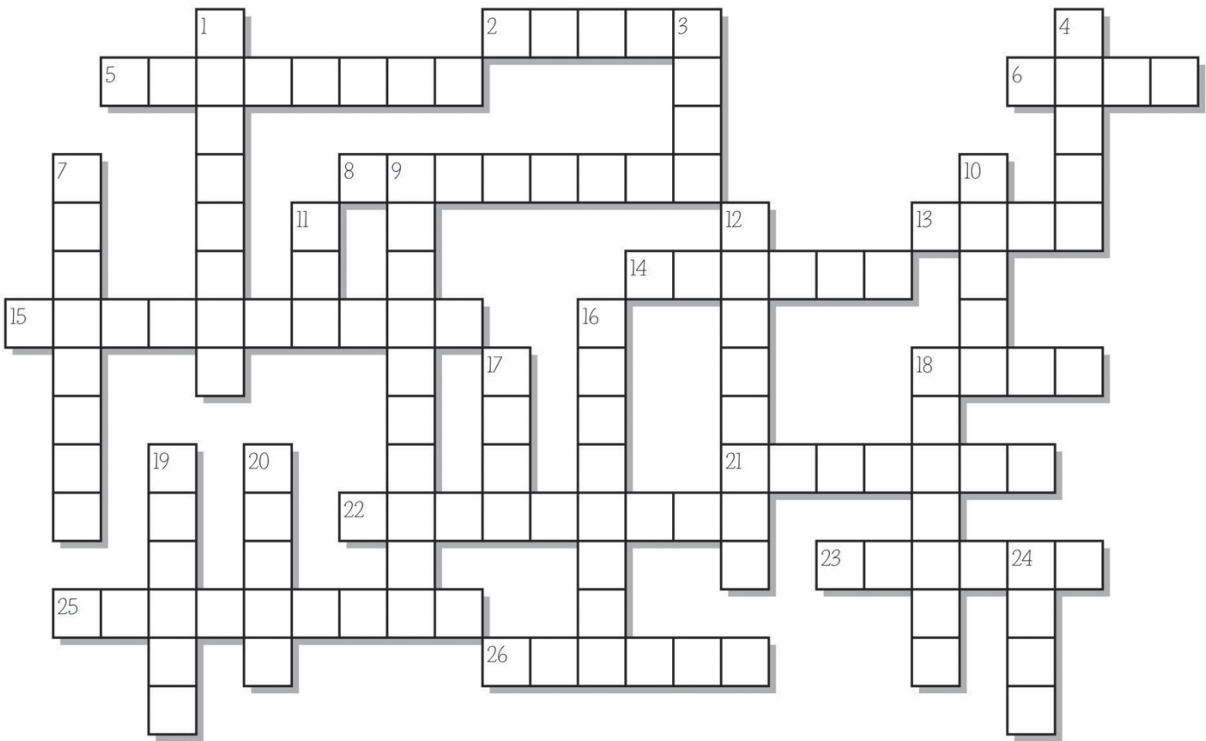
- **Pruning – Don’t!** If you have any plants showing signs of cold damage, do nothing! Brown leaves and branches serve to *protect* emerging green parts from cold spells. Even if a plant looks dead, wait until March before deciding what and where to prune.
- **Fertilizing** – Hold off fertilizing lawns and other cold sensitive plants. Fertilizing them now will encourage new growth, which is easily damaged by low temperatures.

Sheriff’s Report – November

- 24 Warnings:**
- 9 – Speeding, Matecumbe: 4 visitors, 5 residents
 - 4 – Speeding, Islamorada: 2 visitors, 1 resident, 1 contractor
 - 1 – Failure to stop at a stop sign, Matecumbe/Cape Cole: 1 restaurant worker
 - 7 – Failure to stop at a stop sign, Cape Cole/Islamorada: 1 visitor, 6 residents
 - 2 – Failure to stop at a stop sign on Cape Cole/Islamorada while on a golf cart, residents
 - 1 – Failure to carry a drivers license: resident
- 3 Tickets:**
- 1 – Speeding, Matecumbe: worker
 - 1 – Expired tag, more than 6 months: worker
 - 1 – FR suspension: restaurant worker



NEW YEARS



ACROSS

- 2 Dick
- 5 Watch
- 6 Pop the
- 8 Pull
- 13 New Year’s
- 14 Dress up in a
- 15 Accept an
- 18 Old Lang
- 21 ...eating habits
- 22 Set off

- 23 Lose
- 25 Toast with
- 26 Rose Bowl

DOWN

- 1 Throw some
- 3 ... your significant other
- 4 Shake your
- 7 Count down to

- 9 Make a
- 10 Attend a
- 11 Put on a
- 12 ... more
- 16 Avoid a
- 17 Father
- 18 Quit
- 19 Times
- 20 ...New Year
- 24 Blow a

Writers Wanted

Do you have a story about your experiences in Burnt Store Marina to share with our residents? Did you find something in your back yard that you find fascinating? Are you participating in a fundraising event? Do you have an unusual hobby? We have many new residents in the Marina – we would love to hear their stories.

The editors of *The Beacon* are seeking new, informative and entertaining articles for upcoming issues. If you are interested in volunteering your talents, contact any one of the editors listed in the Directory on Page 2 of this issue.



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Fit Happens... 6-Week Weight Loss/Wellness Challenge for 2022

By Cheri Frank,
Certified Nutrition
Coach

New Year! Last year the Fitness, Racquet & Pool Club offered a 6-Week Weight Loss/Wellness Challenge for all club members, in an effort to help us get back into healthy habits after the crazy year of 2020. We had 22 participants and finished with 90% of participants completing the challenge, with a total of 101 pounds lost by the group.

We are offering the challenge again this year, which will



An ARC did you know, moment...

By Barry Groesch,
Architectural Review
Committee Chair

Did you know...If you want to install cement curbing around your landscaping, an ARC application is required. Go to **BSM22.org** to get your application.



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still be free for Fitness, Racquet & Pool Club members, but this year we are also offering it to others in the community, for the bargain price of \$20. If you are looking to develop some healthy habits, with the bonus of weight loss, then this challenge is for you.

The challenge was developed by a clinical nutritionist, with decades of experience and thousands of pounds lost in her care. Each week we will add a new nutrition and movement-based challenge. The challenges are cumulative, and the sequence is intentional. Some of the challenges may seem difficult, but those are probably the ones we need the most, and will make the biggest difference in our weight loss/wellness journey. Every challenge builds upon the week before so, by the end of the program, you will have developed a solid foundation of new eating and movement habits. New habits take time. We are not asking you to strive for perfection, but we will give you the tools to make better decisions more often. We just ask that you complete the challenges to the best of your ability. The challenges will be emailed each Sunday, and will have tips for success, and will explain “why” it is being introduced.

Studies show that social support plays an important role, and can be an effective method for attaining weight loss.

Due to Covid restrictions last year, it was difficult to meet as a group, but this year we are planning weekly meetings on Mondays, to share our successes and struggles, and I, as challenge coach, will share nutritional information geared to the new week’s challenge.

Accountability is the key with weight loss, and loads of research shows that simply the act of recording food and activity helps many people lose weight. We will be using the free platform, MyFitnessPal, to record our food intake and activity. We will have a special Facebook group to cheer each other on, and there will be a special exercise class, videotaped and emailed each week to challenge members. We are spicing things up this year with some fun ideas and weekly prizes.

Our January Wellness Series presentation, Weight Loss and You in 2022, at 5 p.m. on January 3 at the fitness club will be our kickoff meeting for the challenge. If you are interested in participating, you can sign up at the fitness club front desk or email me directly at **cheri.bsm22@gmail.com**. I will contact you to get some preliminary information and give you more details regarding the challenge. Our hope is that you can view the 6-week challenge as an opportunity to focus on yourself and your health.

Section 22 HOA Committee Reports from page 1

the authorization for access into the community, and then provide the appropriate pass, based on the destination. Access officers working the gates are primarily responsible for traffic flow, but can assist with local site phone numbers for entities within the community.

Officers **do not** have the ability to answer questions regarding the service of your individual vendors. This is a homeowner’s responsibility.

Gatehouse Automated Guest System: Commonly referred to as the “Gatekeeper System,” this automated call-in system is the preferred way to call in your guests and services into our community. It is crucial that you provide your phone numbers to the Main Gate so that they may be placed into the database. The Gatekeeper System uses your phone number to know where to leave your voice message, so when your guest or service arrives, the access officer can retrieve the message from your resident profile. The number to the Gatekeeper System is 941-639-0334. We currently have two lines into this system. During season we have a high volume of calls. Please provide time to call in your guests, as the lines will fill up quickly.

Community Access Patrol: The community patrol conducts rounds through the community as a means of deterring theft, assisting with noise complaints, and

looking for issues that may be a safety concern. The patrol is also responsible for responding to emergency issues within the community. We provide assistance when needed by law enforcement, fire and EMS services, and complete reports for the CAC Committee.

As with all of our access control staff, they do not have any police powers or powers to arrest. We also do not have the authority to write traffic citations or tow vehicles from the property.

Any responses that require these types of actions would necessitate a call to the Lee County Sheriff’s Office for assistance. Dispatch telephone number is: 239-477-1200 or 911, depending on the situation, stating you are in Burnt Store Marina.

Lee County Sheriff’s Office Traffic Patrols: Section 22 has signed an agreement with LCSO to provide traffic enforcement patrols within the boundaries. The patrols are conducted randomly, and are performed by Lee County Deputies that are “Off Duty” from their regular assignments. The Officers typically station themselves in areas of high traffic, as a means to deter speeding, and the running of posted stop signs in the community.

Burnt Store Marina Access Control and the local Emergency Services teams, including LCSO, have always maintained a good relationship and work together to assist the whole Burnt Store Community.

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Burnt Store Marina CC News

By John Abbott,
General Manager, BSMCC

Happy New Year Everyone!
On behalf of the entire Burnt Store Marina Country Club staff, I want to wish a safe, happy and healthy 2022 to all of you and your families.



Well, another fantastic holiday season is behind us, but the good news is that the seasonal fun is just beginning here at BSMCC.

Our January calendar is full of events beginning with our annual “Hangover Scramble” on New Year’s Day that includes lots of Bloody Marys, golf, food and fun. Next up on the golf course is the “Shirts and Skirts” tournament, which pits the women against the men in a Ryder Cup style format.

There is a lot going on in the restaurant this month as well. Trivia every Monday, breakfast on Saturdays and Sundays, themed dinners including Mexican night, seafood night, Friday fish fry, and an Italian wine and food pairing near the end of the month that will please

even the most discerning of palates. Wine drinkers... check out our new reserve wine list if you are looking for something a little more upscale or feel free to bring your own bottle to dinner for a \$15 corking fee (\$20 for non-members). We have a variety of food trucks here every Thursday in January, accompanied by live music and cocktails. Everybody is welcome to come out and enjoy the fun, but a couple of things to remember are, no coolers, and please bring cash in small bills for the food and beverages as we are not equipped to handle big bills or credit cards outside.

As with everything in today’s business climate, it’s possible for things to change, so make sure to check out the events calendar on our website for current details.

For those of you who are still considering a golf membership at the club, this is a great time to join on our 3-month flex membership, which gives you unlimited golf and range, 16-day advanced tee times, GHIN handicap service, 15% discount on merchandise in the golf shop, and all food and beverage in the restaurant and more.

Thank you to all who continue to support the club and together let’s make 2022 the best year ever!

Grammar Tips... Oxymorons

By the Editors of The Beacon
An oxymoron is a figure of speech in which two words with opposing meanings are used together for effect. Interestingly, the word oxymoron is a compound of two words: (oxūs - sharp, keen, pointed) and (mōrós - dull, stupid). Translated literally, you get sharp-dull or keen-stupid. In other words, “oxymoron” is itself an oxymoron. The common plural form is oxymorons, but the actual plural is oxymora.

Some examples of oxymorons include:

- jumbo shrimp
- act naturally
- pretty ugly
- open secret
- original copy
- random order
- small crowd
- only choice
- loosely sealed
- conspicuous absence
- minor crisis
- family vacation ;)

There are many more, and we’re sure you can come up with them...just remember, in order to create an oxymoron, you must have at least two words in a phrase and those two words should have opposite meanings.

BSMCC January 2022 Schedule of Events						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Breakfast 8 a.m.-11 a.m. Hangover Scramble 8:30a.m.*** Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Music 5-8 p.m.
2 Breakfast 8-11 a.m. Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.*	3 Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Trivia 5-7 p.m.*** Bar Food Menu Available	4 9 Hole Scramble 3:00 p.m.*** Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Dinner 5-8 p.m.*	5 Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Republican Dinner 5 p.m.*****	6 Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Food Truck/Music 5-8 p.m.	7 Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Fish Fry Dinner 5-8 p.m.* Music 5-8 p.m.	8 Breakfast 8-11 a.m. Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Name That Tune 5 p.m.****
9 Breakfast 8-11 a.m. Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.*	10 Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* No Trivia	11 9 Hole Scramble 3:00 p.m.*** Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Dinner 5-8 p.m.*	12 Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Mexican Dinner 5-8 p.m.*	13 Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Food Truck/Music 5-8 p.m.	14 Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Fish Fry Dinner 5-8 p.m.* Music 5-8 p.m.	15 Breakfast 8-11 a.m. Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Music 5-8 p.m.
16 Breakfast 8-11 a.m. Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.*	17 Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Trivia 5-7 p.m.*** Bar Food Menu Available	18 9 Hole Scramble 3:00 p.m.*** Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Dinner 5-8 p.m.*	19 Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Seafood Dinner 5-8 p.m.*	20 Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Food Truck/Music 5-8 p.m.	21 Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Fish Fry Dinner 5-8 p.m.* Reverse Raffle Kickoff 5 p.m.	22 Breakfast 8-11 a.m. Shirts and Skirts Golf Noon *** Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Bingo 5 p.m.**** Music 5-8 p.m.
23 Breakfast 8-11 a.m. Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.*	24 Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Trivia 5-7 p.m.*** Bar Food Menu Available	25 9 Hole Scramble 3:00 p.m.*** Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Dinner 5-8 p.m.*	26 Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Wine and Food Pairing 5-8 p.m.*	27 Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Golf Shoot Out 1 p.m.*** Food Truck/Music 5-8 p.m. Island Doctor	28 Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Fish Fry Dinner 5-8 p.m.* Music 5-8 p.m.	29 Breakfast 8-11 a.m. Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Music 5-8 p.m.
30 Breakfast 8-11 a.m. Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.*	31 Dine in or Take out Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Trivia 5-7 p.m.*** Bar Food Menu Available					
<div>* Call for your reservation or takeout order 941-637-6405</div> <div>** Call Pro Shop at 941-637-1577</div> <div>*** Sign up in Lobby on Board</div> <div>**** Sign up at Admin Office.</div> <div>***** Reservations for Republican Dinner must be made through the Republican Club.</div> <div>Due to circumstances beyond our control, everything is subject to change.</div>						

Kids on the Golf Course

Many of you may have grandchildren visiting – and they think it’s fun to drive around in Grandpa & Grandma’s golf cart. Please be aware that there are rules for golf cart use.

No one under 14 is allowed to drive on streets within Burnt Store Marina.

No one *not* playing golf is allowed to drive on the golf course.

It’s as easy as that. Please do not allow under-age visitors to use your golf carts, or any other vehicles in Burnt Store Marina, especially on the golf course.

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Golf News and Tips

By Bill Connelly,
Head Golf Professional

There are several fun golfing events coming up this month so be sure to sign up for the Hangover Scramble on Saturday, January 1 at 8:30 a.m., The Shirts and Skirts golf event on Saturday, January 22 at noon, and there is a Golf Shootout on January 27 at 1 p.m. And remember, there is a 9 Hole Scramble every Tuesday at 3 p.m.

Results of the Veterans Day/Wish for our Hero’s Tournament held November 7:

1st Flight Winners

1. Tom Fernandes, John Salvaggio, Mark Van De Kerkhove, Aesun Johnson
2. Ralph Smith, Greg Beaton, Joel Miles, Jim Harding
3. Tom Fitzpatrick, Larry Marks, William Goodson, Dick Brown

2nd Flight Winners

1. MaryAnne San Juan, Bob San Juan, Phyllis Love, Ray Love
2. Kathi McKay, Ping McKay, Deb Hodges, Ralph Hodges
3. Bob Paul, Millie Hierro, Al Weisert, Laura Weisert

3rd Flight Winners

1. Tim Ormsby, Becky Ormsby, Leslie Rose, Steve Hunt
2. Chuck Fonte, Wendy Fonte, Ted Bailey, Eva Bailey
3. Lorraine Fenton, Bob O’Clare, Maryann Sarno, Lou Papolilo

Under Armour Youth Tournament November 21:

We were privileged to be a host course for the Under Armour Youth Tournament held on November 21. The golfers ranged in age from as young as 6 up to 18. Even though the club itself did not have much to do with putting on this event, a fun day was had by all golfers, family and friends.

Results of the Leftover Turkey Scramble held November 27:

The scramble was a great success with over 110 golfers out on the courses.

1st Flight Winners

1. Dennis Schindel, Karen Schindel, Judy Schinneller, Melody Groh
2. Maryanne San Juan, Bob San Juan, Kelly Millar, John Millar

2nd Flight Winners

1. Steve Solem, Julie Solem, Mark Hess, Cindy Hess
2. Ken Pelto, Stan Rogers, Lorian Rogers, Rich Howard

3rd Flight Winners

1. Lance Wilson, Andi Wilson, Barbara Berman, Richard Tolson
2. William Morgan, Beverly Kopecko, Pam Saari

4th Flight Winners

1. Judy Coyne, Lynn Wood, Margaret Hiestand, Jim Welch
2. Al Weisert, Laura Weisert, Millie Hierro, Bob Paul

A Hole-in-One was made by Yolanda Henry on November 11 on Pelican 3

Congratulations to all!

Please follow us @burntstoregolf on Instagram for course updates.

Please stop in for lunch and some shopping, we would love to say hello.



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Blood Donation News

By Ann Singer, Admiral’s Point

Wow! What a wonderful turnout for our November 15 blood drive! It was great to see our “seasoned” donors, and meet several new donors at the Big Red Bus. Thirty volunteers donated 25 units of blood. Each unit can save up to three lives. Seventy-five patients could benefit from the lifesaving efforts of our Burnt Store area donors. You all helped to exceed our goal. Thank you for your dedication and commitment to our lifesaving mission.

Make blood donation a habit. The need for blood is constant. The impact of Covid-19, devastation from storms, and now flu season have compounded blood product shortages. It is vital people donate each time they are eligible. We need YOU. Let’s exceed our goal every blood drive!

**Don’t Miss the Bus on Monday,
January 10 and March 14,
8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

**Cass Cay/Tiki Hut/Trading Post parking lot
Bring photo ID and wear a mask**

It is never too soon to sign up for your donation appointment on the Big Red Bus. Reserve your time now for both January and March. Log on to **oneblood.org**, establish a username and password and follow instructions to schedule. If you have any difficulties, please call Ann Singer at 319-290-5955 or Jo Bucci at 941-445-8260. We are Burnt Store Marina residents/volunteers here to help you.

Walk-ins on donation day are always welcome. However, the bus practices social distancing due to COVID, so there are fewer times that walk-ins may be admitted. It is best to have an appointment. Drink plenty of fluids, and eat before you donate.

The donor incentive gifts for January 10 are a long sleeve t-shirt, a \$20 e-gift card and a Chick-fil-A gift card. A successful donor receives all the gifts.

Don’t be afraid to donate because of Covid. All precautions are being taken to protect you. Masks are required on the bus whether you have been vaccinated or not. If you do not have a mask, one will be provided for you.

Thanks to our 30 November volunteers:

Barbara Honcharski	Claudia Nelson
Clayton Cramer	Dawne Depalo
Denise Cunningham	Elizabeth DeYoung
Gary Palmer	Jacquelyn Hill
James David	James Zachacz
Janet Cheeseman	JoAnn Zimmermann
John Dunker	John Fleming
John Orr	John Osborn
Kevin Dolle	Margaret Blythe
Mary Johnson	Mary Sarno
Michael Cunningham	Richard DeYoung
Ronald Johnson	Roy Howard
Sidney Smith, Jr.	Starlee Smith
Thomas Depalo	Wendy Fonte

What is the value of a pint of blood? Ask someone who needs it.



Enjoying Your Walk

By Jan McLaughlin, Former Beacon Editor

One morning a fellow walker stopped me and asked what the distance was around Prosperity Point, and how far was it from there to the front entry gate. With lots of residents returning and enjoying our pedestrian paths, I offer the following. All distances were measured with a GPS while riding in a golf cart.

- Islamorada Entrance Gate to Cape Cole Blvd. – 0.82 mile
- Cape Cole Blvd., golf clubhouse gate arm to Islamorada Blvd. – 0.60 mile
- Cape Cole Blvd., golf club gate arm to Matecumbe Key entry – 0.72 mile
- Matecumbe Key Blvd., construction entrance to Cape Cole Blvd., 0.72 mile

- Matecumbe Key Blvd., Cape Cole Blvd., to South Shore – 0.55 mile
- Courtside Landings’ Loop, start/stop at entrance – 0.48 mile
- Prosperity Point sidewalk loop, start/stop at Matcumbe Key Blvd, 1.26 mile
- Admiral’s Point loop (includes Key Largo Lane Circle, Sable Key Circle and Key Largo Circle) start/stop at Marathon & Cape Cole Blvd., 1.06 mile
- Tarpon Pass loop, start/stop at Islamorada Blvd., 0.76 mile

Wonderful resources for walkers abound on the Internet. These sites offer a wide selection of audio music apps for beginners to advanced walkers, exercise videos, gear (including shoes), accessories and resource information.

Wildlife Caution Notice

Owners are asked to use caution and be aware of local wildlife such as coyotes, bobcats, and alligators.

Coyotes sightings have increased as it is their mating season, and they are more aggressive and vocal right now. Recently a Burnt Store Lakes resident witnessed a coyote chase a rabbit into their rain gutter downspout and then pull the downspout into the yard trying to get the rabbit out.

Please watch your pets carefully and keep them on a leash when outside, particularly at dusk, nighttime, and dawn.

Smaller pets are especially at risk. Letting them out in a fenced area may not deter a coyote. Make sure pet food, fruit, or other items are stored inside or in tightly shut garbage cans. Ensure your home is not luring small rodents or animals that coyotes like to prey on.

One of the best attributes of living in Burnt Store Marina & The Lakes is the abundant wildlife. However, residents need to be aware of our wildlife and be cautious to ensure their own safety and the safety of their pets.



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Original Supporter of Veterans Weekend Activities: "Wish for Our Heroes Foundation"
Original Partner with Cape Coral Fire Department: "Gifts From Santa" for Needy Children
Sponsor of Burnt Store Marina's Home For The Holidays!


Wow, That Was a Long Summer Away!

By Graham Segger, Independent Home Owner

It certainly is great to be back in Florida this winter after a very long Covid-influenced 19-month absence. My wife and I are Canadians, which caused us to scamper home early in March 2020 before additional border crossing inconveniences were imposed. We drove 22 hours straight through but, sadly, we arrived a mere two hours after a two-week quarantine requirement was imposed. Luckily, we were able to hunker down at home for that period and, like so many others, survived by adopting various home delivery options. You may


Renting Your Home?

Be sure to get your paperwork to the front gate so your renters will be processed quickly and efficiently.



First Ever...

**Burnt Store Marina
Retired (K – 12) Educator
Happy Hour!**



Sunday, January 30
4 – 5:30 p.m.
at the Tiki Hut at the Marina
BYOB, and a *small* snack to share.
Questions?
Call Becky – 260-438-8474, or
Lesley – 941-380-1769

recall that back then the ubiquitous “supply chain” phrase had not yet overtaken our vocabulary, but “hoarding” was certainly the order of the day. A succession of well meaning, but sometimes ill conceived, government mandates on both sides of the border, and some personal commitments, kept us in the north last winter.

Imagine our trepidation when we finally made it back to Burnt Store Marina this fall and opened the door to our home. What would we find? I must confess that images of dead bugs and off-color surfaces had danced through my thoughts. Fortunately, the home survived very well, but not without generating a few surprises, and the need for lots of elbow grease applied to the outside pavers and pool cage.

If there is one word which can best sum up the type of challenges we faced upon our return, it would be “batteries.” Smoke alarm batteries, garage key pad batteries, driveway solar light batteries, golf cart batteries, boat batteries and many more. In fairness, I knew that the boat and golf cart batteries were already on overtime, so I was not really surprised that they did not survive in top condition. I had removed the batteries from most of the electronic gadgets in the house, which at least saved them from meltdown. The ink in our inkjet printer and many of our pens also seemed to have dried up.

We got a big surprise when we tried to use our US cell phones. It had not occurred to us that these minute-purchase phones expired if no additional minutes were acquired within 12 months. By the time we got back and tried to reload them, the phone company had reassigned our numbers to new subscribers. Yet another trip up Burnt Store Road looking for new phones, telephone numbers and plans was required. If you had our old Florida telephone numbers, now would be a good time to delete them! Amazingly, the home Wi-Fi and Internet worked on the first try thanks to a request for a return to normal service the month before arrival. This is the first time in many years a service call was not required, usually due to cut wires (the phone and cable companies only bury them a few inches below the surface). Talking about cut wires, we did have a couple of emergency irrigation system repairs over the last year and a half due to a combination of strangler tree roots and over-zealous yard care workers. The early morning calls from one of our neighbors usually began – you have a new pond in your yard.

Diane thought this next item might be a bit too graphic for

our more sensitive readers, but I am far too proud of my limited handyman feats to not mention it. It turns out that after two successive replacements of our garbage disposal unit over the last eight years I am becoming quite adept at the task. I had tentatively titled the caption of the attached photo “Autopsy of a Garburator” but MS Word spell check does not seem to like that word, that I’ve since learned may be another of the uniquely Canadian words which keep our editors on their toes. No organic material found but lots of rusted metal.

One of the biggest challenges of this return to paradise has been trying to remember where everything in the house is stashed. Perhaps because we sold a home, rented interim accommodation for seven months and built a new home since last visiting BSM, we might be excused for this, or maybe we are just 19 months older and more muddled. The proliferation of TV and sound system remote controls also seemed to require some remedial learning.

It has been wonderful driving around BSM and experiencing the renewal of both the marina and the golf course – what a positive transformation. I was also impressed with the progress Charlotte County has made on their Burnt Store Road expansion projects – Lee County, not so much! All of the palm trees which we have planted on our property have also thrived in our absence, as have Diane’s orchids and bromeliads. Time now, however, for some serious pruning, or perhaps I should say hacking. Each year upon my return I find a few frogs living under the side window fabric hurricane screens when I remove them. This year each screen had a colony of them.

I’ve heard a few horror stories from folks returning to much less pleasant situations than us, usually precipitated by broken-down air conditioning units. For us, our extended absence has just helped us fully appreciate how wonderful a community and environment we have within Burnt Store Marina.



Autopsy of the Garbage Disposal Unit

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*Here are some recent statistics about our Market
Punta Gorda Sales November 2021 vs 2020**

<h3>Listings</h3> <p>Total Volume of Sales + 23%</p> <p>Active Listings For Sale - 47%</p>		<h3>Sales</h3> <p>Average Price + 17%</p> <p>Days On Market - 52%</p>	
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*Data Provided By Stellar MLS for Listings in Punta Gorda as of November 10, 2021

Bocce - That's The Way We Roll! ———

By Kathy Darrell,
Tarpon Pass
BURNT STORE MARINA
COUNTRY CLUB – BOCCE
– Our goal is to introduce the
joy and competition of bocce
to more people.

The excitement continues with new
trex benches, sun umbrellas and a colorful new bocce court sign.
Barbie and Jerry Newman are in first place, with the most
wins for the most games played.

If you are a beginner, we continue with some hints on
playing bocce. Last month we shared information on the
two balls used in play. The bocce ball and the pallino. Quick
note, you *play* bocce and you *throw* the bocce ball. Purists
never play bocce ball!

The game begins with a coin toss to see which team throws
first. Play starts when the pallino is tossed toward the far end
of the court. We usually play with four people and the teams
are split with one person on each end of the court. The team
that threw the pallino bowls first, trying to roll a ball as close



to it as possible. Then the other team tries to roll one of its
own bocci even closer.
From there, the team that *does not* have the ball closest
to the pallino keeps rolling until it does manage to get one
closer, and so on until both teams are out of balls. That marks
the end of one round. Only the team with the ball nearest the
pallino can score, and that team gets a point for each ball
that's closer to the pallino than the opponent's closest ball.
There are additional rules but, within 5 minutes, even a raw
rookie can fully understand. We play to 7 points, but that can
vary with other league play. More next month.
Join us on Tuesday afternoons at 3 p.m. No training or
special equipment is needed. Bring yourself, a lawn chair
and eagerness to play. Great friends, good conversation and
lots of smiles.
If you wish to practice before joining our lively group,
check out a bocce set from the cart barn and have a go.
For more information or to be put on our email list, call
Tom & Kathy Darrell at 330-806-9182.
Stai al sicuro e Dio benedica
(Stay Safe and God Bless)



Sunrise by Bob Singer

Marina Beat

By Jaret Rogers,
General Manager,
Safe Harbor Burnt Store

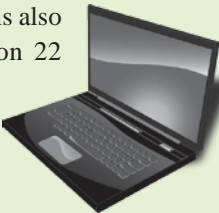


We are off to a great start
so far. This year will be
another productive year
for the marina upgrades.
The continuation of the shoreline improvement
project will carry on. The current plan is to focus on
the north basin seawall. Also, replacement of more
docks is on the agenda, but still not set in stone as I
write this article. If all goes as planned, the three new
commercial buildings will break ground sometime
around the second quarter, and hopefully be completed
by year end. I have said this many times in the past, but
the truth stands tall, I want to thank all of the Members

and Residents for their support and kind words.
It is almost time to start gathering your nautical
treasures again. The Nautical Flea Market is this
month. We are changing this annual event to the last
Saturday in January. So, empty your dock boxes and
clean out your garages. The event will be **Saturday,
January 29**. People usually start setting up around
sunrise and it ends around noon. Come early to
find your treasure, or sell your unwanted boating
accessories.
Mark your calendars. The annual boaters meeting
is on **Wednesday, February 16** at 10 a.m. in the Tiki
Hut. Hans Wilson will be here as usual. Our guest
speaker has yet to be determined. Refreshments will
be provided. I hope to see you all there.

Read *The Beacon* Online!

This edition of *The Beacon* is also
available online at the Section 22
HOA web site...www.bsm22.org. This option is available
in addition to the hard copy
delivered to your door.
As a reminder; if you have not
registered on our website, we strongly
encourage you to do so! In addition to reading this and past
issues of *The Beacon*, it is a wonderful resource for much
more information about the Burnt Store Marina community.



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Pancake Breakfast



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Monday, February 14, 8:00 a.m. to Noon
\$7.00 Prepaid tickets available from
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(941-639-0733)

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Fitness, Friends & Fun...BSM Fitness Center Has Solutions for Your New Year's Resolutions!

By Jennifer Steuber

If one of your New Year's resolutions is to focus on your health and fitness, but you need some professional guidance, or if you don't like being tied to group class schedules, then working with a personal trainer may be your solution. You may not know that the BSM Fitness Center has an in-house Personal Trainer who also leads group classes and works as a regular staff member. Dylan Blackwell has worked at the BSM Fitness Center for almost a year, with increasing responsibilities and is eager to schedule a complimentary consultation, to find out if hiring him as your personal trainer is right for you.

Dylan was born and raised in Liberty, New York, where his entry into the world of physical fitness



Fitness, Friends, & Fun



Dylan Blackwell

began in the 7th grade, when he made the cut at tryouts, and joined the school wrestling team. He continued to wrestle all through high school and added Track and Field to his athletic resume, running the 400 meter and 800-meter events, culminating in placing second in District his sophomore year.

While Dylan enjoyed sports competition in high school, he was not as enamored with the academic side of the equation, so after graduation, he joined the Navy and was stationed at 32nd Street Naval Station in San Diego, the second largest surface ship base in the US. He lived on one of the fleets' Amphibious Assault Ships for two years, keeping it in "ship shape" and ready for deployment. He then transitioned to shore duty working in the administration office. It was during this time that he studied and received his certification as a personal trainer and group fitness instructor, preparing him for a new career path.

After his four-year tenure in the service, Dylan moved to Cape Coral, and is currently studying to be a Physical Therapist Assistant. He also trains for, and has participated in six Spartan Races, and just completed the toughest one yet, the Spartan Ultra, in North Carolina. It was comprised of 30 miles and 60 obstacles. His newest challenge is preparing for a men's "physique" competition that combines diet and exercise and results in a balanced and defined musculature.

When asked what drives him to participate in these ultra-competitive events, his answer was, "I like to be mentally and physically challenged." Ever since I was young, I have always wanted to test my limits in that way."

Dylan wants to concentrate his studies in physical therapy towards injury rehabilitation and senior citizen recovery programs. These are the areas that he enjoys most in his current role as a Personal Trainer. "I get the most satisfaction from a client telling me that he or she is able to do more things, for a longer amount of time around the house or at work. Improving a person's quality of life around physical fitness is my number one goal," Blackwell commented.

While it has been a little less than a year since Dylan has been at BSM Fitness Center, he feels like it is his second home. "From the very beginning, everyone was friendly and welcoming," he said. "The Fitness Center is a great place to work because of the opportunity to be social and interact with people, and I do something different every day."

If you are a BSM Fitness Center member and are interested in learning more about Dylan's personal training program, or if you want to learn more about the BSM Fitness Center membership opportunities that include the gym/group classes, tennis and pickleball, please stop by the front desk or call 941-575-3260.

6-Week Weight Loss Challenge in 2022

Are you looking to develop some healthy habits with the bonus of weight loss in the New Year? Join us for our January Wellness Series Presentation "Weight Loss and You in 2022," on January 3, 5 p.m. at the Fitness Center and on ZOOM. This presentation will also serve as the kickoff meeting for our 6-Week Weight Loss Challenge.


The program is FREE for current BSM Fitness Center members and non-members are welcome to participate for a nominal \$20 fee. The challenge was developed by a registered dietician and a psychologist. It is not a fad diet, rather a change in lifestyle, teaching new and long-lasting eating and exercise habits. Every challenge builds upon the week before, so by the end of the program you will have developed a solid foundation to continue on your own.

Studies show that social support plays an important role in achieving and maintaining weight loss. With that in mind, there are weekly meetings every Monday where participants share successes and struggles, and the Program coach will provide nutritional information geared to the new week's challenge. There is also a private Facebook group to cheer each other on, and an exercise class videotaped and emailed each week exclusive to Weight Loss Challenge members.

Non-members must sign up at the BSM Fitness Center front desk with full payment, and current members can register at the front desk or call 941-575-3260.



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Plant of the Month...Slash Pines

By Maggie Hart, Mariners Pass

If you’ve spent time anywhere in Florida, chances are good that you’ve seen a slash pine. In Florida, slash pines grow in all 67 counties, and are absent from only the wettest parts of the Everglades. A “slash” is another name for the southeastern swampy habitat populated with dense shrubs and palms, favored by the slash pine.

The species *pinus elliottii* is a large, stately, heavily-branched, long-needled conifer with a rapid growth rate, capable of reaching 100 feet in height. The six-inch-long cones appear among the dark green, six to twelve-inch-long needles, and are favored by wildlife. Squirrels are particularly fond of the seeds - they chew open the cones and litter your yard with their debris.

Slash pine grows well on a variety of acidic soils in full sun or partial shade. But it does poorly in basic soil (high pH). Once established, it is more tolerant of wet sites than most other pines, and is moderately salt-tolerant. It is not highly drought-tolerant, but more so than most other pines. The horizontal branches break easily in storms. Shaded lower branches die and drop as the tree grows taller.

Now we come to the “not so good part” - slash pines



drop their needles on a regular basis. This can be really annoying, because if you have a pool with a cage over it, the top gets peppered with needles.

However, slash pines are part of the Lee County endangered tree list, which also includes bald cypress, black mangrove, cabbage palm, live oak, sabal palm and sea grape, among many others.

In a huge stroke of luck, the slash pine habitat dodged hurricanes that the state experienced this year. Commercial development and Mother Nature, especially the devastation wrought by Hurricane Andrew in 1992, killed all but an estimated one percent of the original tree population. The conservation of existing trees and planting of new trees in development areas is required by Lee County Land Development Code. Old growth as well as new trees provide breaks in urban landscape. Their benefits include providing oxygen, filtering water, creating a cooling canopy, absorbing noise, and creating areas for wildlife.

You may want to get rid of the ones in your yard or neighborhood, but Lee County prohibits the removal or “topping” of slash pines without meeting certain standards. Be sure to check the Code before attempting to remove these majestic trees.

Tight Lines...Bluefish: Are They Really Blue?

By Jay Lev, Burnt Store Anglers

Anglers all over the world have experienced catching bluefish. They are tough fish, nasty, and most noted for their mouth full of sharp teeth. Are they blue? Well, yes to an extent, because their body is covered with grayish scales, and when looked at from above give off a blue tint. Marine biologists have noted that younger bluefish have more of a blue tint than the notorious larger Atlantic bluefish, which show more to the gray tint. The sub-tropical version of the bluefish is much smaller than the Atlantic bluefish found all along the northern part of the east coast. A good size bluefish caught in Florida waters ranges from 2 to 5 lbs. Bluefish caught north from Cape Hatteras up to Maine, can range from 10 to 20 lbs. An average northern bluefish caught in schools run about 8 lbs. The current all-tackle record reported by the International Game Fish Association is 31 lbs. 12 oz. That fish must have been one tough fish to bring to the boat.

Besides a mouth full of very sharp teeth, the head of the bluefish has no distinct markings, just a dark gray to silver coloration. The saying “angler beware” is a good description for those fishermen who catch bluefish. A bite from a bluefish can cause very bad wounds, especially when the fish is jumping around on the deck or pier after you have landed it. Swimmers who have strayed into a small school of bluefish frequently have left the water with very bad bites. They basically bite anything. For the fisherman, this gives many good hints as how to catch these fish.

Bluefish generally swim in schools. In Charlotte Harbor, you can see schools of bluefish exploding out of the water chasing small baitfish. They will follow the baitfish schools for some distance, feeding until the baitfish school breaks up and scatters. The blues will then move on to their next prey. The bluefish is not a bottom feeder. They spend most of their time in the middle column of the water. They frequently dive down to the bottom, or go up to the surface for a good meal.

Water temperature plays somewhat of a role in their appearance in different areas. From Montauk, Long

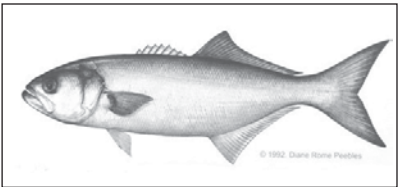


Island down to Cape Hatteras, the really big bluefish will feed right into November before moving south. The big boys, 15 to 20 lbs., can be caught with some regularity in the fall. If you surf fish, Montauk, Long Island beaches and the Outer Banks of North Carolina, are often filled with surf anglers’, side by side, casting into the surf for big bluefish.

Since bluefish are feeding machines, they can be caught here in Florida waters by casting lures, jigging a lure up and down in the water column, fishing with live bait, trolling a silver tin lure or a feathered white lure behind your boat into the third or fourth wake, and a real favorite of anglers is chumming, with frozen blocks of chum which will bring the schools of bluefish into feed.

A fun tactic of many warm water anglers, who fish from a boat, is to locate your boat in about 8 to 10 ft. of water. This is an area that can still attract baitfish on their way to shallow water to feed. Go to your local supermarket and purchase 4 or 5 cans of the cheapest ground fish cat food you can find. You will also probably need a cheap hand operated can opener to assist with opening the cat food if required. Purchase a small amount of “cheese cloth” from an auto detailing store. You will use the cheese cloth by cutting a foot square section into which you can place the open can in the center of the cloth. Using some mono line, draw the cheese cloth closed by weaving some line around the square to form a bag that will hold the can of cat food. Make sure you leave about 8 ft. of line running from the closed bag. Fasten the line to your boat or from a pier and the wave action will release some of the cat food through the cheese cloth into the downwind current. Soon you will see a slick of oil that was in the cat food can surface and drift out away from your location. This chum slick as it is called, is going to bring baitfish and bluefish into the area you are fishing.

Next, attach a size 3/0 circle hook to a small piece of wire leader. Four or five inches of wire leader will do. Now attach a lead split shot about 3 ft. up your line to help keep the baited hook away from the surface. A small weight will do. Now



you have a choice of bait to place on your hook. A 1” slice of either frozen lady fish or freshly caught lady fish usually works really well. You can also use a live pinfish or white bait sardine on the hook. Let the baited line drift freestyle away from the boat into the chum slick you have created. A good distance to let your line out away from the boat or pier is about 30 to 40 yds. out. Remember the can of chum will last about 15 to 20 minutes, especially if you had it in the freezer before using it for your trip. Replace the can when it looks like the chum slick is disappearing. Now hold on, because Mr. Bluefish, a mackerel, or a small shark may decide to try your bait offering. If you hook one of those fish, there are probably many more feeding in your chum. Get a fresh bait out there quickly. Have fun, and be careful of the tooth end of the bluefish.

Tight Lines!



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January Off-Beat Holidays

By Maggie Hart, Mariners Pass

Here we are in 2022 already...seems like only yesterday that we were greeting the new year of 2021. May your new year be full of good health, love, fun and friendships!

January is teaming with holidays, serious and silly: National Hangover Day (1/1), National Trivia Day (1/4), National Houseplant Appreciation Day (1/10), World Logic Day (1/14), Martin Luther King Day (1/17), National Popcorn Day (1/19), and National Florida Day (1/25).

We finally have some great events to attend close-by. Enjoy! **January 7 - 9: Seafood & Music Festival**, Fort Myers, Florida

Join us for the Fort Myers Seafood & Music Festival held on the waterfront in historic downtown. Enjoy foods cooked fresh onsite (seafood, meat, vegetarian). While eating, listen to the captivating sounds of live musical performances on stage by some of Florida’s and the region’s top musical talents from such genres as R&B,

French 75 Cocktail

By Joanne Johnston, Grand Isle

All the rage on bar menus is a gin and champagne martini. It includes a squeeze of lime and a dash of bitters, and is served in a champagne flute.

The *French 75* dates from the early 1920s after WWI when the concoction celebrated the French 75 gun. It was a nimble artillery that could be moved easily to any section of the of the French border, against Germans who were still using cumbersome cannons.


Before the outbreak of WWII, the well-kept secret held, and it was just as lethal against the foe, despite their advances in military might.

All the Allies were in on the secret, never revealing it until late in the conflict when the United States finally entered the war. The Americans embraced this new weapon with eager arms.


So too, the Allied countries embraced the celebratory concoction, the *French 75*, which appeared after WWI and continued through WWII and after, on bar menus in Europe, North America, Australia and New Zealand.

Today, on the many anniversaries of the war, the *French 75* is on bar menus including Cass Cay Restaurant & Bar in Burnt Store Marina. The Sunday bartender, Paul, introduced the *French 75* to Cass Cay’s patrons and the many WWII aficionados frequenting the bar.

For information on the military record of the artillery French 75 go to: <https://warfarehistorynetwork.com/2016/01/23/the-french-75-gun-the-secret-cannon-used-for-over-half-a-century/>.


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**SINGIN' IN THE RAIN**

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Dec. 31 - Feb. 12


**IN THE HEIGHTS**




The Tony-award winning story of a vibrant community in New York's Washington Heights where the coffee from the corner bodega is light and sweet, the windows are always open and the breeze carries the rhythm of three generations of music. When a winning lottery ticket, a power outage, and romantic tension all hit the neighborhood, the long-time friends and neighbors make discoveries about each other, themselves, and the place they all call home.

April 8 - May 14

Dates may be subject to change.

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jazz, rock, reggae and Caribbean sounds. Friday evening 4 – 10 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m. – 10 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. General admission is free. The event is produced by Paragon Festivals, in partnership with the Fort Myers River District Alliance. For information, go to **facebook.com/FtMyersSeafoodandMusicFestival**

January 14 - 16: Seafood & Music Festival, Sarasota, Florida

Come to the Annual Sarasota Seafood & Music Festival, both Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Admission and parking are free. Enjoy downtown Sarasota with friends and family. The event is hosted by the Sarasota Downtown Merchants Association. Select from foods cooked onsite, incorporating the freshest ingredients by local restaurants and food purveyors. Choose from grouper, mahi-mahi, stone crabs, oysters, shrimp and soft-shell crabs, crab cakes and more. Meat entrees include Italian and Polish sausage, steak sandwiches and chicken-on-a-stick. A variety of vegetarian and rice dishes also are offered. Sit back and relax to some of Florida’s top musical groups. Performances are live on-stage in musical genres from Rock n’ Roll, R&B, Blues, Rumba and Flamenco to Reggae, Jazz and Big Band sounds.

There are two manatee festivals in Florida during January: **January 15 - 16: Crystal River Manatee Festival**, Crystal River, Florida

For information, go to **gomanateefest.com**. **January 22 - 23: Orange City Blue Spring Manatee Festival**, Orange City, Florida.

For information, go to **themanateefestival.com**. These manatee festivals are each located near a site where hundreds of manatees gather each winter. Both locations offer a variety of activities, including music, food

12 Popular Facts About The Brain That Aren’t Actually True

Brain Myth No. 1: We Only Use 10 Percent Of Our Brain.

“This is a brain myth you frequently hear, but it’s grossly false,” says Rimas V. Lukas, M.D., neuro-oncologist at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago, Ill. He says the brain’s operating system is complicated, but all its cells are essential – in some capacity – to its functioning. “I view all of the brain as important,” he says.

Brain Myth No. 2: The Size Of Your Brain Dictates Your Intelligence.

Brain size and intelligence are unrelated because all humans have “relatively similar” sized noggins, says Dr. Lukas. It has more to do with the strength of neuron networks and how cells communicate with one another. You can help preserve your cognitive abilities with the food you eat and the lifestyle you lead.

Brain Myth No. 3: We’re Either Left-Brained Or Right-Brained.

“There is no scientific basis for the notion that individuals use one hemisphere of the brain more than the other for cognitive functions,” says Rawan Tarawneh, M.D., a neurologist at Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center in Columbus, Ohio. For example, speaking and comprehending languages is predominantly controlled by the left hemisphere. Still, the right also plays a role in language processing by allowing us to understand the emotional intonations of speech, such as identifying sarcasm or understanding the punch line of a joke, she says.

Brain Myth No. 4: Brain Damage Is Always Permanent.

Recovering from brain damage after an injury or illness can be an uphill battle, but in specific cases, it’s possible. The brain can repair itself, to a given extent, or compensate for certain losses. “If a portion of the brain is injured or removed, it’s not going to regenerate and fill the hole. However, it can, to some degree, rewire itself and in some cases can even grow new cells,” says Dr. Lukas.

Brain Myth No. 5: Memory Works Like A Photocopier.

Your memories aren’t carbon copies of events – your brain recreates them every time you call one up. Memories live in complex networks of nerve cell pathways throughout the brain. So, when you commit something to memory, you are “laying tracks” on a trail that is unique to the memory. And just like a path in the woods, the more you traverse it, the more firmly established it becomes.

Brain Myth No. 6: Alcohol Kills Brain Cells.

If your middle school health teacher tried to scare you away from underage drinking by telling you it would kill your brain cells, he wasn’t telling you the complete



and beverage, as well as opportunities to view manatees.

January 28 - 30: Homestead Rodeo, Homestead, Florida

The Homestead Rodeo celebrates its 72nd year in 2022. It’s one of the first rodeos in the circuit of the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association, and thus draws cowboys from around the country who want to start accumulating points toward the December national finals. Admission is \$25 adults, \$15 for kids (2020 prices). Harris Field, U.S. 1 and Campbell Drive, Homestead, FL. There is a free rodeo parade at 11 a.m. Saturday in downtown Homestead For more information and ticket sales, go to **homesteadrodeo.com**

January 29: Gasparilla Pirate Fest, Tampa, Florida

Colorful, fully-rigged pirate ship Jose Gasparilla magically appears at the south end of Hillsborough Bay, where the invading Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla are met by a flotilla of pleasure craft. The mock sea battle is followed by a Mardi Gras-like parade. For information, go to **gasparillapiratefest.com**

January 29: Kumquat Festival, Dade City, Florida

The historic downtown in Dade City fills with as many as 35,000 people for this free event celebrating the tangy little fruit grown locally. Along with dozens of booths and live entertainment, a highlight is tasting kumquat treats, from kumquat pie to kumquat cookies to kumquat salsa. Free shuttles run from two satellite parking areas – the Pasco County Fairgrounds on State Road 52, and next to Jarrett Ford on US Hwy 301. On the preceding Thursday and Friday, the kumquat growers open their groves and packing houses for tours. For information, go to **dadecitychamber.org/annual-kumquat-festival**

truth. Heavy alcohol use can damage the brain, but it doesn’t kill brain cells. Instead, the damage occurs because neurons responsible for cell communication are damaged, which leads to cognitive problems or disorders.

Brain Myth No. 7: There Are Five Senses.

You may have five *major* senses – sight, smell, hearing, taste, and touch – but there are many other ways of sensing and experiencing the world that are directed by the mind. For example, there’s proprioception (a sense of how your body is positioned), nociception (a sense of pain), balance, and the passage of time.

Brain Myth No. 8: Your Brain Dictates Your Skills.

“There’s not this perfect dichotomy between areas in the brain and what they do to the personality and skills of a specific individual,” says Dr. Lukas. “Some people are just better at some things than others, there’s not some gross neuroanatomical difference.”

Brain Myth No. 9: Your Brain Stays The Same Size Until You Die.

Just as your height, weight, and even foot size can fluctuate over time, so can your brain. “Brains normally shrink in size by about 1 to 2 percent every year after age 40,” says Dr. Tarawneh. “This is due to loss of brain cells and brain cells shrinking in size.”

Brain Myth No. 10: Being In A Coma Is Like Being Asleep.

Television dramas often portray coma patients suddenly waking and feeling fresh as a daisy. Unfortunately, the real experience is nothing like that. Patients awakening from a coma can be disabled and need rehab because the brain and body aren’t getting the activity they would during regular sleep.

Brain Myth No. 11: Memory Automatically Declines With Age.

While a healthy older brain may lose some agility, its capacity stays the same. Yes, remembering a complicated set of directions or a long list of words will require more time and repetition. But if you put in the effort, you’ll retain the information just as well as a younger person, if not better. However, dementia can dramatically reduce your recall.

Brain Myth No. 12: Brain Agility Starts To Fade At Mid-Life.

Mental agility – not capacity – begins to decline at around the age of 24. The older we are, the harder we must work to keep our minds running at a fast clip.

ArtFest Fort Myers 2022

Love Art, See Art, Buy Art!

Spend a few hours, all day or a weekend being surrounded by imagination, inspiration and incredible talent. Join the fun on Feb. 5 and 6 with an opening night on Friday, Feb. 4. ArtFest Fort Myers brings about 200 exceptional professional artists to the heart of downtown Fort Myers, encourages around 300 talented local high school artists to pursue their artistic dreams while providing an opportunity for thousands of children, their parents and grandparents to try their hand at creating a masterpiece.

How do the festival artists get chosen? A jury panel of professional artists determines, from the 900 artists who apply, which 200 artists will exhibit with us – and rest assured that there is plenty of incredible artwork to enjoy! This is your opportunity to meet the stars of the show – the artists! These incredibly creative folks, traveling from 43 states to share their work with us, are sure to make us laugh, learn about ourselves, appreciate our past and wonder about the future—all through their art! Amazing ceramics; a gorgeous array of wearables – jewelry, handbags, clothing; remarkable glass; unique paintings; and decorative metal are just a sampling of the work you will see all weekend long at ArtFest Fort Myers. This free-flowing, family-friendly celebration connects art and artists together with our community in a way that is so much fun – this is an arts experience that delights every sense!

Lace up your sneakers on Sunday morning for the Publix Run to the Arts, a 5K fun run that begins and ends in the heart of ArtFest Fort Myers. Commit now to run/walk/roll or stroll through scenic downtown, over the Edison Bridge and back. Enjoy an artful experience and get healthy with friends and family over festival weekend - check our website for race details – RunToTheArts.com.

Be sure to bring the entire family to this fabulous **free** outdoor fine art festival. Take time to enjoy our talented high school artists’ work at the Art Under 20 High School Exhibit and Competition presented by Suncoast Credit Union and prepare to be astonished as the students create large street paintings at the Chalk Block Street Painting presented by Golisano Children’s



Hospital. Check out the We Are Overflowing exhibit with artwork featuring the message about recycling and what, as a community, we dispose of. Always a crowd pleaser, the Publix Art Yard and Community Stage are full of opportunities for children of all ages to create a masterpiece of their very own, while enjoying a variety of great performances. And be sure to visit the art festival’s dining galleries, where delicious culinary fare from around the world is the norm.

Join our VIP Club and take advantage of reserved weekend parking, admission to the Friday Night Opening VIP Club with delicious food and drinks, plus unlimited access to the VIP Club with breakfast treats, a delightful lunch and beverages throughout the weekend. The elite VIP Experience is \$150 per person for the whole weekend. Ticket options are available for opening night and either Saturday or Sunday. Your support contributes to the year-round art education outreach programs of ArtFest Fort Myers.

For more information visit ArtFestFortMyers.com. Like us on Facebook. Connect with us on LinkedIn. Tag us at #artfestfm.

“We Are Overflowing” – Trash Talking In Artistic Style

“We Are Overflowing” is a collaborative project that kicks off this season with a professional art piece that conveys the importance of conserving our natural resources while making us think about our own trash/recycle habits.

Did you know that the average family generates 25 pounds of recycled material every week and each member of that family produces, in that same week, approximately 30 pounds of trash? As a society, it is time to rethink waste —

As individuals and consumers, it is time to get serious about reusing and upcycling the things we no longer wish to own! Our landfills and incinerators are at capacity and some of our recycling products are becoming more difficult to sell.

Why throw away items that could be recycled through thrift stores, resale shops and donation sites? Why throw away items that could be successfully recycled – paper, glass bottles and jars, aluminum or steel cans, cardboard or plastic containers (No. 1 to No. 7). And remember that list – using your recycling bin as a trash can costs us all time and money to clean up and resort!

St. Pete Sculptor Donald Gialanella will be designing a sculpture titled *Flotsam*. *Flotsam* is 8 to 10 feet tall and 12 to 15 feet long and swims in an “ocean” that surrounds him made from cans and bottles contributed by the visitors at the festival. People will come to see *Flotsam* and add their bottles to the fenced area that encircles the sculpture. Gialanella was just selected to design the cauldron for the 2022 International Special Olympics.

We Are Overflowing will premiere at ArtFest Fort Myers. This creative look at how we deal with recycling will spark your imagination and, perhaps, begin a conversation about rethinking waste!

ArtFest Fort Myers, Southwest Florida’s premier art festival, takes place February 4, 5 and 6 in the Fort Myers River District. Join the experience with 200 professional artists from across the county and around the world; the largest high school art exhibit and competition in south Florida and free interactive art experiences for children of all ages.



Rules of the Road

Motor Vehicles: Always drive your vehicle on the right side of the road. There are no “turn lanes” within Burnt Store Marina. Never drive your vehicle in lanes indicated for the use of bicycles and pedestrians. Always stop at stop signs. Never exceed the posted speed limit.



Bicycles: Always ride your bicycle on the right side of the road, even if there is no “bike lane” available. Use hand signals to indicate intention to turn. Always stop at stop signs. Never exceed the posted speed limit.

Golf Carts: Always drive your golf cart on the right side of the road. Use hand signals to indicate intention to turn. Always stop at stop signs. Use lanes indicated for the use of bicycles and pedestrians only when neither is present.

Pedestrians: Always use lanes provided for bicycles and pedestrians. If there is no lane available, use the left side of the street, facing wheeled traffic. Use caution when crossing streets. Wear reflective clothing and carry a flashlight when walking or running after sunset.



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Punta Gorda Office Location

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Thank you to our clients who allowed us to assist them in reaching their real estate goals in 2021!

Our 2021 closings totaled roughly \$34,000,000!

3321 Diamond Key Ct.	\$1,436,000	3333 Sunset Key Circle #105	\$353,000 *	3021 Matecumbe Key #1	\$220,000
655 Coronado	\$1,350,000	3333 Sunset Key Circle #101	\$350,000	25176 E. Lenox Drive	\$212,270 *
1230 Romano Key	\$1,225,000	17159 Pebblewood Ln	\$350,000	27497 Deep Creek Blvd	\$211,072 *
307 McGregor St	\$1,160,000 *	2090 Matecumbe Key Rd #1404	\$340,000	5 Pirates Lane #53c	\$175,000
3290 Sugarloaf Key Rd	\$1,065,000	17906 Courtside Landings	\$326,250	16442 Burnt Store Rd	\$155,000
3301 Diamond Key Ct.	\$975,000 *	3420 A Sunset Key Circle	\$320,000 *	24196/24188 Vincent	\$128,000
BSL New Construction	\$709,000	3376A Sunset Key	\$319,000	3483 Desoto Dr	\$102,500
3421 Sunset Key Cir	\$740,000	3020 Matecumbe Key #403	\$315,000 *	17286 Comingo Ln	\$60,000
4940 Linkside Dr	\$630,000	24383 Baltic Ave	\$305,000	3115 Wisteria Pl.	\$58,000
6050 Key Largo Cir	\$600,000	24351 Baltic Ave #102	\$299,900	216 SE 15th Ter	\$57,000
BSI New Construction	\$555,000	410 Colony Point Dr	\$285,000	24468 Coffield Ct	\$57,000
1374 Pine Siskin	\$551,050	108 Islamorada	\$285,000	16096 Chitlan Ct	\$56,000
24092 Redfish Cove Dr	\$550,000	3191 Matecumbe Key #301	\$280,000	23926 Vincent Ave	\$50,000
3313 Sunset Key Circle #703	\$500,000	450 Gaspar Key Ln	\$270,000 *	24340 Nicobar Ln	\$40,000
3321 Sunset Key #502	\$495,000 *	3450A Sunset Key Circle	\$260,200 *	17290 Sagehorn Ln	\$35,500
3300 B Sunset Key Circle	\$495,000 *	801 Islamorada Blvd #25A	\$255,000	24138 Peppercorn	\$34,000
4000 Cape Cole Blvd	\$480,000 *	3191 Matecumbe Key #103	\$250,000 *	24190 Santa Inez Rd	\$30,000
3368 C Sunset Key Circle	\$435,000 *	3760 Cobia Villas Ct	\$243,000	24294 Penhollow	\$28,000
3329 Sunset Key #403	\$432,000	3191 Matecumbe Key #105	\$235,000	16490 Cape Horn	\$25,000
50 Big Pine Lane	\$405,000 *	3191 Matecumbe Key Rd. #308	\$230,000	25149 Estrada Circle	\$25,000
4099 Cape Cole Blvd	\$390,000 *	4 Pirates Ln 41B	\$227,000	25427 Estrada Circle	\$25,000
3321 Sunset Key Circle #107	\$385,000	14040 Heritage Landing #123	\$226,700 *	16073 Ortega Dr	\$22,000
2077 Little Pine Circle	\$370,000	3600 Bal Harbor 2E	\$222,000	16810 Acapulco	\$16,900
17918 Courtside Landings	\$367,000	14040 Heritage Landing #121	\$221,399 *		
16237 Cape Horn Blvd	\$365,000 *				

* indicates we represented both buyer and seller

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Platinum Point Yacht Club

By Sue Smith, Director

Platinum Point Yacht Club’s fall calendar was packed with events that launched our 2021 - 2022 season, and brought our members back together for much fun, and reconnection with friends. One unique and extremely successful activity was the “Let the Good Times Roll” community shrimp boil, under the leadership of Diane Segger and her team. With a delicious shrimp dinner, wonderful live music, a silent auction, and a market of art work, jewelry, baked goods and more, the shrimp boil brought club members and our community neighbors together for a great time.



The Recipe Box

By Candace VanDenBerghe, Marlin Run

If you still have leftover turkey lurking in the freezer from the holidays, this is one way to use it. (Or, use the meat from a rotisserie chicken from Publix.)

Chicken Mushroom Pasta Bake

(serves 4-6)

- 4 Tbsp. butter
- 8 oz. sliced mushrooms
- 1 small onion, finely chopped
- 1 - 2 cloves garlic, minced (or garlic powder to taste)
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. pepper
- 1/4 c. flour
- 2 c. chicken broth
- 1 c. half and half
- 3 - 4 c. chopped chicken (or turkey)
- 1 - 2 c. peas (optional)
- 2 - 3 c. shredded cheddar cheese
- 8 oz. cooked spaghetti



Preheat the oven to 350°F. Grease a 9x9 or 7x11 inch baking dish.

Melt the butter in a saucepan over medium-high heat. Add the mushrooms and onion and cook until soft, about 8 minutes. Add the garlic, salt and pepper and cook about 1 minute.

Reduce the heat to medium. Sprinkle in the flour and cook, stirring for 1 minute. Gradually add the broth and the half and half, stirring until blended. Reduce the heat and simmer until thickened, 3 - 5 minutes.

Remove the saucepan from the heat. Add 1 cup of the cheese and stir until the cheese melts. Stir in the pasta, peas, and the chicken. Pour the mixture into the prepared baking dish.

Sprinkle the remaining cheese over the top of the casserole. Bake, uncovered, until the sauce bubbles and the cheese is melted, 35-40 minutes.

A Note to Our Many Associations

The Beacon editors would like to hear from the many different associations in Burnt Store Marina. How many homes do you represent? What’s special about your group? Do you have or sponsor special activities for your members? Tell us about your association.

We would like to highlight one association each month, not only about your great personalities, but also your treasured furry or feathered friends.

We love your photos too!

Email your articles and photos to all of us, listed in the Directory on page 2 of this issue.



The Trim-a-Tree dinner party, led by Sharon Mundhenke and Suzanne Morrison, celebrated the holiday season, and recognized twenty-three new members. During this event, new members were invited to continue the tradition of hanging a nautical ornament on the Christmas tree as part of their introduction to PPYC. Another favorite tradition of the season is members’ participation in the Adopt-a-Child program. Becky Isley coordinated the effort to provide opportunities for sharing Christmas presents with needy local families.

PPYC’s on-water activities were similarly in full-swing. Monday races are regular highlights on sailors’ calendars, the Happy Hooker fishing group continues to inform, and organize for enjoyment of our exceptional resources, and the kayak group plans outings like December’s Peace River trip. After a successful November cruise to Pink Shell Marina and Resort in Fort Myers Beach, the December overnight cruise trip took approximately 40 members to South Seas Island Resort for three days and nights. During the holiday season, the beautiful beach setting is additionally enhanced by stunning decorations. Monthly lunch cruises are once again visiting local waterfront restaurants, and non-boating members are invited to go with boats that make the trip. The December destination was Village Brewhouse at Fisherman’s Village.

January promises to be just as busy and just as rewarding as the pre-holiday period.

With a New Year’s Eve Social, a Great Gatsby party for jazzing into 2022, the well-known Golden Conch Regatta, and a club favorite, the annual Progressive Dinner, PPYC members have much to look forward to in January 2022.

It is impossible to describe all of the events we enjoy as PPYC members. Our education committee schedules programs on a variety of topics. The December event was an interesting speaker and discussion of the Civil Air Patrol. Book Club members met to discuss *Bad Blood*, a nonfiction selection about the Silicon Valley. As has been noted in these articles so many times, the calendar is filled with 80+ selections including exercise classes, golf scrambles, book club, bridge, mah jongg, bunco, and informal social opportunities like happy hours, sunset socials, and grill nights.

If you are interested in joining our group, new member information can be obtained at the club house. Dorothy Saviste, Club Administrator, is on-site Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and can be reached at 941-639-0733. PPYC is always looking for new faces to add to our family of members. We would be happy to share the newest information about our open houses for potential new members, with friendly people looking for ways to actively connect with their Burnt Store Marina neighbors.

November Open House at the Fitness Center



BSM Fitness Marketing Committee member Barb Berman & Berkly Bargain hunters check out the BSM Fitness Center Pickleball Club Committee Chair Steve at the Open House Yard Sale tables. More than \$700 was raised. Hocker speaks with Open House guests. Welcome Table

Photos by Peggy Baldwin



HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!!



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The History of Platinum Point Yacht Club (PPYC)

By Joan Flinspach, Sailfish Pass

PPYC was founded 37 years ago to provide an organized means to enjoy boating at Burnt Store Marina. Developers of the marina, along with resident boating enthusiasts, observed that events like the Golden Conch Regatta, first run in 1983, enhanced the quality of life of the community. In September 1984 the BSM Harbormaster, Anthony Diez, encouraged by the Bass Brothers realty organization, which had taken over BSM that year, sent a letter to area boaters announcing a meeting to form a new yacht club. In what would become a tried-and-true format, cocktails were offered at 6 p.m. with a meeting to start at 8 p.m. Charles Plumb, President of Burnt Store Marina, presented a check for \$5,000 to form PPYC. John Landry, as the owner of the International Sailing School at BSM, was well positioned to become the first Commodore.

The plot of land separating the two yacht basins of BSM was called “Platinum Point” at that time, and the developer placed the original yacht club drawings at the outside tip of that property; thus the name, Platinum Point Yacht Club. Development on the point didn’t move forward immediately, nor did the building of the clubhouse.

In the first newsletter of January 1985, the editor announced a winter racing schedule, a Ladies Skippers race, a district one J-24 racing championship, the Golden Conch Regatta and a cruise to Longboat Key. By March, the new club had received Articles of Incorporation from the state of Florida and acquired its first clubhouse, half of a mobile trailer positioned near the harbormaster’s office. With a new home, members were invited to bring an ornament with their name on it to place on the holiday party Christmas tree, a tradition which carries on to this day as the Trim-A-Tree party. Dick Milliman, a founding member, carved and painted the original sign for the club, and members danced at the first Commodore’s Ball.

As the club grew, they expanded to both sides of the trailer and celebrated the installation of running water in the clubhouse galley. Male members of the club decided to honor their spouses and the general public with the first Pancake Breakfast on Valentine’s Day 1989 in the adjacent Chickee Hut (now the Tikki Hut).

In 1991 and again in 1992, PPYC hosted the US Olympic Pre-trials and Trials for the Soling class sailboat races. Members provided registration, measurement, race

committee members and boats, and hospitality. The winner of the Olympic Trials at BSM won the Silver Medal in the 1992 Barcelona Olympics and the US Olympic Committee awarded PPYC the honor of flying the Olympic Flag in recognition of their help over many years.

About this time boating safety and other educational programs were introduced. Over the years this program has been augmented to include topics such as: the environment, technology, history, exhibitions, art classes, computer classes, help desk, book discussions, health, etc.

Members decided to purchase land and build a clubhouse at the November 1992 annual meeting. They negotiated the purchase of the current clubhouse site from Florida Design Communities and a year later the Board signed the final designs for the new clubhouse. Groundbreaking occurred on April 12, 1994 with the Grand Opening on February 18, 1995. A committee planned for new activities in the expanded space including Bridge, Mah Jongg, grill nights, and many other recurring and special activities. In May 1998 the club burned the mortgage. The Quilters group began meeting in February 2002 and a new tradition was started with the annual Blessing of the Fleet during which member boats cruised past the clubhouse to salute the Commodore and members who had passed away in the previous twelve months were honored.

The members decided to remodel the clubhouse in 2004 and closed the building on April 30. This was fortuitous as Hurricane Charley struck on August 13. Because the furniture, carpet, windows and drapes had already been removed, the club experienced so little damage that no insurance claim was made.

PPYC’s 25th anniversary was celebrated in January 2009 and regular Jam Session concerts were added to the event calendar, a still popular activity. The Navigator’s Fund was formed in 2012 to raise money to again refurbish the clubhouse. Etched doors, the tile compass in the entry, and the bar were added. Another refresh was undertaken in 2020-21 which included a re-modeled interior, renovated washrooms, new sound system, fresh paint, new flooring and a more modern ambience.

During the last decade fishing, kayaking, progressive dinners, golf cart poker runs and many other activities have been added to the event calendar. In November 2021, the



club welcomed over 350 members and guests to another new event, a very successful Shrimp Boil. While boating activities have remained a constant and PPYC remains an active “yacht club”, more than half of current members do not have boats and join simply to participate in the myriad of social activities and occasionally get out on someone else’s boat.

In writing an historical retrospective like this it is hard not to reflect on the reasons why the club has been so successful over its 37 year history. As a club where virtually all members pitch in to help with events or club management at some time during the year, those members gain a sense of investment in the club. PPYC is a club that has never been afraid to adapt to the times and add new activities when appropriate. The club also had good continuity of management for many of those years in recently retired Club Manager Carol Matthews. If you are interested in seeing what the club has to offer, drop in and see new Club Manager Dorothy Saviste on Monday, Wednesday or Thursday or ask any other club member to show you around.

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*We Service The
Burnt Store Corridor!*

Notary On Staff

Superior Service! Extraordinary Results!

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1000 Matecumbe Key Rd
\$1,350,000
Beautifully maintained home situated on the Marina's Largest Lake (14-acres)



507 Lakehurst Ave NW
\$639,900
Grand Two Story Home 6BR/3.5BA Home with Luxurious Italian Marble tile



24276 Santa Inez Rd
\$630,000
You'll notice everything in the executive 3BR Pool home in Burnt Store Lakes



24417 Baltic Ave Unit 1301
\$465,000
Beautiful Esplanade Penthouse Condo Marina living at its best



3020 Matecumbe Key Rd #301
\$460,000
Waterfront Views from 3rd Floor 3BR/2BA Condo w/covered parking



3925 Cape Cole Blvd
\$410,000
Charming and Immaculate Outrigger Model in Mariners Pass



17495 Boca Vista Rd #7
\$409,000
Watch the Boats from your Lanai in this top floor condo at Villa Tuscany



23058 Troy Ave
\$390,000
Multiple offers on this Beautifully remodeled 3BR Home



2090 Matecumbe Key Rd #1503
\$359,000
Spectacular 5th Floor Condo, Turnkey Furnished with Amazing views



1600 Islamorada Blvd Unit 73B
\$274,900
Commodore Club Condo spacious split floorplan, Turnkey furnished, 2nd Floor



11214 Royal Rd
\$265,000
Great Investment Property Reduced to Sell, Fenced w/Manufactured Home



3170 Matecumbe Key Rd #115
\$209,000
Great Keel Club Condo ground floor one bedroom and one bath



**HAPPY '2022 MARINA RESIDENTS!
BEST WISHES FOR A SAFE &
HEALTHY NEW YEAR."**

We're Ready When You Are!

CENTURY 21[®]

SUNBELT REALTY

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3160 Matecumbe Key Rd. • Punta Gorda, FL 33955
In the heart of the Marina. Where the community meets!

