



Special Points of Interest

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Rotonda West Association

West Ways



Ready for the Vote... Members of the RWA Election Committee devoted countless hours to develop the new voting rules in preparation for the upcoming election. Standing at the left is Peter Traverso, committee chairman, and at the right is Geoff Lorah of the RWA's accounting firm, Webb, Lorah & Company PL. Members seated are Fred Warner, Ginni Mahon, Donna Krabbe, and Barbara Peszko. Not pictured are Margie Carroll and Dick Duggan. *Photo by Sue Killion.*

Two Candidates to Run for RWA Board

(Check out new election rules on page 7)

Two candidates have placed their names in nomination for the 2012 Board of the Rotonda West Association.

They are:

- **David Kelly** - General Manager, Rotonda Golf & Country Club, graduate of Lemon Bay High School and University of South Florida, Immediate Past President, Englewood-Cape Haze Chamber of Commerce.
- **Scott Schermerhorn** - Environmental Supervisor with the Florida Department of Health, holds Master's degrees in Biology and Political Science-Public Administration; serves on the Rotonda West MSBU.

The term is for three years. Hank Artz and Mark Reynolds are the two outgoing directors.

All owners will have the opportunity to participate in the voting and support the candidates. A second item on the ballot will ask for a yes or no vote to carry over excess funds for next year's operating budget and Reserve expenditure. The election package with the ballot, detailed instructions and a new write-in procedure will be mailed by mid-October. Election results will be announced at the Annual Meeting on December 1.

October 20 Is Candidate's Night

You can meet the candidates on Thursday evening, October 20 at Candidates Night at 7:00 p.m. at the American Legion Post 113 at 3436 Indiana Road. Jay Lyons, RWA Manager, will serve as the moderator.

Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions. All are welcome.

New Treatment Adopted For Canal Maintenance

FloridAquatics, Inc., a lake management company based in Fort Myers, has been selected to continue to maintain our 30 miles of waterways for the next 12 months. Its bid was \$315,000.

The firm, led by its President John Farrell, was selected by members of the Aquatic Canal System Committee after four proposals were submitted. The committee met on several different occasions to review the proposals, make the recommendation and prepare its presentation to the Board. The Board approved the selection by a unanimous vote at a special meeting on July 20.

"Our canals are especially unique," stated Hank Killion, committee chairman. "They combine the 30-mile river, finger canals, lakes and ponds, as well as the dams. No other canal system is like it."

The man-made canals covering 285 acres were dug some 35 years ago to provide drainage for the region. Rain water is the sole source of canal water.

Aesthetically, the canals contribute to the scenic beauty and property values of Rotonda West, as well as the golf courses.

Key to the selection of FloridAquatics was the company's development of new equipment to cut weeds and harvest them as soon as they surface. Both devices were developed by John Farrell. The firm has maintained the canals for several years and is familiar with the system and its inherent problems. Its experience and pro-active approach to canal maintenance were paramount. The harvester has been in operation for nearly two years and has proven to aid in the appearance of the canals.

Muck at the bottom on the river contains nitrogen and phosphorous which encourage weed growth. Submerged grass, called Vallisneria, is the most troublesome of the weed family. Last year, the weed grew system-wide and is difficult to control.

FloridAquatics will begin work immediately.



President's Message

By Glynn Perkins

A Salute to the Directors, Staff and Volunteers

We've just passed the mid-point in our 2011 business year. The first six months have been an active period and several articles in this issue of West Ways highlight major projects we have undertaken.

Who are the people who make the decisions on our behalf? What backgrounds do they bring to the table? I think it's time to look at our seven Board members and give you a clear picture of their backgrounds and qualifications to lead this community.

First, let me describe briefly our stature as a community. Sometimes, we lose sight of the fact that the Rotonda West Association is the largest mandated homeowner's community in the State of Florida. What does that mean? Consider that there are at least 14,300 reported mandatory HOAs in the state, with 487 HOAs and condominium associations in Charlotte County alone. We are a state-wide leader and with it, the complexities of our work can sometimes be extremely challenging and even difficult.

Let's now look at our Board. It's with great pride that I point to the experiences of our Board members and how these apply to our assignments.

Hank Artz was in finance, administration and construction in the hospital industry and now serves as our Properties Committee chairman and Residential Modification Committee chairman.

George Burger was a civilian executive in a military environment who was a training instructor and now serves as chairman of Deed Restrictions and Community Relations, as well as First Vice President.

Hank Killion was a chemist for many years with Allied Chemical, heads the Budget & Finance Committee, is a member of the Aquatic Canal System Committee, and serves as Second Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Stan Plizga, the newest member of the Board replacing Pat Kelly who resigned, has been a member of the Aquatic Canal System Committee for five years and was just named its Chairman. He's also on the Policies & Procedures Committee.

Mark Reynolds, who joined the Board earlier this year following the resignation of Gerry Townsend, was a marketing executive now chairing the Policies & Procedures Committee.

Annual Meeting

The 21st Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, December 1. This year, a new secret ballot voting procedure has been adopted. Under State election law, secret ballots are required to be counted the same day of the meeting. In the past, Webb, Lorah & Company PL, the RWA's accounting firm based in Punta Gorda, was responsible for counting the ballots as received. The Election Committee will decide how to handle the procedure and members will be notified.

Peter Traverso, as the developer's representative on the Board, has served for 12 years and brings a wealth of knowledge about our community. Peter now chairs the Election Committee.

And finally, I, **Glynn Perkins** was a business consultant for several corporate clients in the UK. I'm now serving as President, and chair the Administration & Personnel Committee and the Beautification Committee.

We are very fortunate to have a top notch office staff that handles myriad of assignments and details every business day. We rely heavily on our Manager, **Jay Lyons**, who always has a handle on every aspect of our projects and issues.

With a \$1.4 million budget, we are keenly aware of our responsibilities to our 7,200 owners and every resident. A major share of our budget goes for maintenance of our 30 miles of waterways and vacant lot mowing. Some may ask, why spend all that money on vacant lot mowing? Let the lot owners pay for it.

The RWA undertook the mowing program many years ago for a variety of reasons. Considerations were insect, vermin and rodent control, fire protection, and aesthetics. Yes, aesthetics. Consider the appearance of just one un-mowed lot in your neighborhood. The mowing program does benefit all residents and it's mandated in the Deed Restrictions.

Because of the complexities of our work as Directors and the time we spend preparing for our meetings, we've been known to engage in lively exchanges, some with great passion. But that is healthy. Not many organizations are free of debate. Because we believe in ourselves and put forth our views on the table before we come to our decisions, Rotonda West is better for it.

Our guiding force is our 11 committees and 120 volunteers who staff them. Each committee serves in an advisory capacity and makes recommendations for a better community. And we listen. In fact, a wide majority of our decisions are based on input provided by our committees.

I personally want to extend my sincere thanks to all of our volunteers and our hard-working Board members. It's through the collective efforts of all that we are rated a first-class community in Southwest Florida!



Decision Makers... The seven members of the RWA Board take a time out. They are, seated, left to right; George Burger, First Vice President; Glynn Perkins, President; Hank Killion, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer. Standing, Directors Hank Artz, Stan Plizga; Mark Reynolds; Peter Traverso. *Photo by Sue Killion*

Pinemoor West Takes on a New Look

“Our superintendent is working very hard to bring Pinemoor West up to our standards.” So said David Kelly, General Manager of the Rotonda Golf & Country Club, commenting on improvements to the West course.

Both the Pinemoor West and East courses were built in 2004 by Pinemoor Golf, Inc. and were purchased in a foreclosure sale earlier this year by RG&CC.

“All of our expenses right now are directed at Pinemoor West so there is no current plan to reopen Pinemoor East,” Kelly added. “However, we will continue to mow the East course.”

Nearly all the irrigation sprinkler heads and pumps at Pinemoor East were removed by the previous owner installed at the West course. The West system has since been improved.

“We are making great progress with improvements to the West course,” Kelly commented. “The greens and aprons are now in very good condition, a few holes have been changed and we’re currently renovating the 18th hole to become a par 4 to make the course an enjoyable par 70,” said Kelly. He noted that improvements to the fairways are on track.

Jim and Gisela Laurent overlook the fourth fairway from their Pinehurst home. It’s not surprising that he plays the game of golf. “Pinemoor has always had the potential to be an enjoyable and challenging track to play,” he said. “It’s not your typical Florida layout. The pine trees and spacing of the holes, coupled with the real Florida natural shrubs, bushes and rough palmetto, make it unique.” I believe by October that Pinemoor West will be up to the standard of other RG&CC courses,” Jim offered.

Both Pinemoor courses were designed and built by MGI



On Its Way... Golfers tee off at the scenic first tee at Pinemoor West Golf Club. The course is undergoing major renovations under new management. *Photo by Sue Killion*

Golf, the same firm that built the 9-hole Pine Valley course as part of the 27-hole Long Marsh course.

“My hat is off to the management, the club staff, the maintenance crew and the golfers who already enjoy playing at our new Pinemoor West,” Jim added. “The property is shaping up like it could become one of the best in the area.”

Rotonda Golf & Country Club now owns all five golf courses in Rotonda West and The Links in the Windward subdivision. Other owned courses are The Hills, The Palms, and the 27-hole Long Marsh course, in addition to the two Pinemoor courses.

That’s a total of 99 holes of golf!

Welcoming New Faces in the Office

by Ruth Sargent

You may wish to read the thumbnail sketches of the seven Directors in the President’s Message on page 2. They and the various volunteer committees that oversee this huge, multi-faceted community are supported by a professional manager and small office staff.

As Rotonda West has grown, so has the need for more office assistance. Meeting this need are two new part-time staffers, Claudette Romano and Merle Fulton.

Claudette and her husband Joseph make their home in Pebble Beach. Claudette has been an RWA volunteer for nearly 10 years. She has served as the first chairperson of the the Compliance Committee establishing its procedures, did a stint as a Director and as a member of the Beautification Committee, as well as serving on the Rotonda West MSBU.

Before coming to Rotonda West, Claudette spent 32 years with Hoffman LaRoche, the pharmaceutical and health-care company in New Jersey, mostly in administrative capacities. “With the RWA, I’m helping in the office where it is needed, including phones, data input, processing residential modification applications and requests for guest parking, plus several other duties,” she said. Claudette especially enjoys working with the staff and says, “everyone always pitches in to help complete a job.”

Merle Fulton came to Rotonda Heights from Ohio in 2009



The Office Staff... When you call the office, you may reach any one of these staff members. In the usual order, they are Jay Lyons, Manager; Norene Kugler, Assistant Manager; Claudette Romano, Administration; Dianne Brophy, Deed Restrictions; and Merle Fulton, Accounting. *Photo by Sue Killion*

with his wife, Jana. In June, he joined the RWA staff as a part-time administrator/bookkeeper, primarily to support Assistant Manager Norene Kugler. “I love the atmosphere here working with the staff and residents,” Merle said. The Ohio State grad retired from public service in Ohio after 34 years. He was chief fiscal officer for 25 years in his Ohio township and business manager for 9 years with his county government.

See - New Faces - continued on page 5

Caitlyn Lovelace: A Beacon of Hope for the Homeless

Caitlyn Lovelace is an energetic, courageous 11-year-old who devotes much of her waking hours to helping others.

With a sparkle in her eyes, she relates how she has collected more than 500 blankets for the homeless in the Englewood area just since last October, as well as clothing and shoes. She also collects toys for kids in hospitals.

Caitlyn is well aware that the need is great. There are 441 homeless kids alone in Charlotte County, including some of her classmates.

Caitlyn is doing more than her share with her boundless energy. She'll never forget the first blanket she collected in Englewood. A man handed her a blanket and told her that he was once homeless and is now able to help others. "I named that blanket 'Hope' because it was so special," Caitlyn said.

Last October, Caitlyn ran a "Blankets for the Homeless" drive at her school, Vineland Elementary, and collected 187 blankets. All were donated to the Charlotte County Homeless Coalition for distribution. "With winter close to setting in, the blankets provided warmth and comfort for those in need during cold nights," she explained.

Through the generosity of Kathy Kalvan of Quality Self-Storage on McCall Road, Caitlyn does her collections at the facility and has two free units of her own. One is for her collections, the other for kids she has recruited as members of her "Kids Creating Change" club to help with collections. They use the second unit as a clubhouse. There are 10 members, 8 of whom live in Rotonda West, including Caitlyn's brother Isaiah. "Caitlyn is mature far beyond her years," says Kathy at Quality Self-Storage, a big fan. "She is so aware of what's happening in this world and how she can help the less fortunate." One of Caitlyn's recent projects was a car wash at the storage facility. Proceeds were used to buy backpacks for needy school kids.

The members of "Kids Creating Change" reach out for more than car washes and blankets. Every other Monday, you'll find them at Englewood Beach as a clean-up brigade. In fact, on Caitlyn's 11th birthday, instead of blowing out candles, she filled garbage bags at the beach.



Pass the Sponge... Caitlyn Lovelace, center, and her "Kids Creating Change" team at work at a recent car wash. They raised funds to buy backpacks for homeless kids going back to school. Eight of the 10 team members live in Rotonda West. *Photo by Sue Killion*

It all started when Caitlyn was 7 and lived in Plant City. Her Mom Jill and Dad Dennis went to a park often to feed the homeless. One day as winter was approaching, one of the homeless men approached Jill and Caitlyn and asked if they could bring him a blanket. That was the beginning. "That was a learning experience for Caitlyn and I always stress that kids should look beyond themselves." Caitlyn certainly has learned that lesson.

Englewood people including Rotonda West are noted for their generosity in stepping up to help a cause and Caitlyn's project is no exception. "Besides all of the blankets, some ladies knit scarf's and mittens and two kids made blankets by themselves," she said.

"Caitlyn is a hero in my book and I don't use that term lightly," said Mike Billington, Publisher of the Englewood Sun. Mike has written more than one editorial column about Caitlyn's good work. "She's a hero because it takes courage to tackle the kinds of projects she does, the courage to not only care about others but to actually go out and do the work."

Jill and Dennis are supportive parents who care and give Caitlyn an abundance of love and encouragement. Despite the fact that Jill is afflicted with the debilitating disease of Multiple Sclerosis, she tries very hard not to let that get in her way. And as Dennis, who has a painful back ailment, says, "Sure we have problems. But life's blessing is that we're together. We have found the right path of life and follow it."

Mike Billington commented that "Jill and Dennis are to be commended for raising their daughter to be courageous in the face of challenges that many of us find insurmountable and for supporting her efforts. Our community is a better place because of them."

As busy as she is, Caitlyn finds the time to join her CCS Blue Fins Swim Club at Oyster Creek Park and wants to learn how to play the sax. What does the future hold for her? "I want to get into social work and maybe become a missionary," she said. "Maybe I'll join Whale Wars." Whatever she decides, no question she will make her mark. She's already making a huge difference!

Come and Meet Caitlyn and Add to Her "Caitlyn's Closet Collection"

To support Caitlyn's efforts, a "Rotonda West Collection Day" will be held from 10:00 a.m. to noon on Saturday, September 24 at Quality Self-Storage, 3041 McCall Road (SR 776) in Englewood, next to Sheckler Produce and Wal-Mart. Blankets, warm clothing and shoes for all ages, and toys are more than welcome. Caitlyn will be there with her "Kids Creating Change" team.



Helping the Homeless... Kathy Kalvan, Property Manager of Quality Self-Storage, donates two storage units for Caitlyn's collections. Here, they show their admiration for each other. *Photo by Sue Killion*

New Bike Path Honors Bruce Miller

The new bike path to be constructed on Parade Circle will be named in honor of the late Bruce Miller, a former RWA Director and community activist. Before his death, Bruce got the ball rolling for a much-needed bike path by working with Charlotte County officials on a proposed route along Rotonda Boulevard West. Despite his persistence, the project never got off the ground.

Bruce succumbed to cancer on July 14, 2008. He served two terms as a Director of the Association and was Second Vice President and Treasurer. In 2000, he joined the staff of West Ways as a writer and progressed from there.

Construction of the bike path is scheduled to begin in September with completion in December. It will also accommodate joggers, walkers and even mothers pushing baby strollers.

Naming the bike path "The Bruce D. Miller Memorial Bike Path" was proposed by John Peszko and Ken Guillerm at the July RWA Board meeting and approved unanimously. John is chairman of the Rotonda West Municipal Service Benefit Unit (MSBU). Ken is a former Director and past President of the RWA. John and Ken served on the Beautification Committee with Bruce for many years.

Construction of the bike path is the first evidence of the combination of the existing Street & Drainage and new Beautification units within one MSBU. The combination was approved unanimously by the five Charlotte County Commissioners on July 12.

The Rotonda West MSBU under the chairmanship of John Peszko has been spearheading the addition of the Beautification unit for the last year. Several residents attended the County Commissioners hearing and spoke on behalf of the proposal. Among them in addition to John Peszko was Scott Schermerhorn of the Rotonda West MSBU committee; Glynn Perkins, RWA President; RWA Manager Jay Lyons; and RWA Director Hank Killion.

MSBUs are also known as "special assessments." They are a method by which the Board of County Commissioners can pay for certain specific projects by apportioning the costs to property owners in a community like ours that benefit from the projects. The new unit will provide for beautification and landscaping projects, and community improvement projects, as well as road maintenance and road paving. There is no change in the amount of the County tax assessment for Rotonda West property owners. As John Peszko describes the combination MSBU, "Same pants, different pocket!"

New Faces - continued from page 3

Merle's family still retains its 160-acre farm in Ohio, which was passed along to his children. He noted that the present economy is especially challenging. "Staying on top of assessment collections, foreclosures and bankruptcies are major factors in our Association's fiscal well-being."

Stop by the office and welcome Claudette and Merle.

Fiesta's Siesta Is About Over

After a summer break, the Rotonda West Fiesta Association begins a new season of themed dinner-dances at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 15 at The Hills Country Club. Dinner-dances are also scheduled for November 19 and December 17. Please contact Linda Bondeson (941) 548-1384 for details.

Manager's Report

by Jay Lyons, Manager,
Rotonda West Association, Inc.

West Ways On-Line

I want to thank the 400 plus owners who have chosen to participate in the ECOM Program, our Electronic Communications Program. The ECOM program provides owners with the opportunity to receive selected communications from the Association by email. We established the program earlier this year to reduce mailing and printing costs and to improve communications. Participants have received the annual billing statements and notices announcing the opportunity to view the West Ways newsletter on-line, in color and two weeks before it is printed and sent by snail mail. In the future, we will consider sending additional information electronically, as well.

Due to the extremely low cost of the bulk mailing, we will continue to mail West Ways to the 33947 zip code.

If you have an email account and wish to receive Association information in this manner, please send me an email at manager@rotondawest.org stating your willingness to receive all Association information by email, or your intention to access the website to view West Ways.

If you have any questions or suggestions for improving our ECOM Program, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thanks for your help!



Dressing Up the Entrance Ways

Dozens of new plantings have given a new look to the five entrances and other key locations around the community.

Unusual harsh winters in the last two years in Southwest Florida killed off a number of plantings that needed to be replaced. Locations are the grounds at the Community Center, Oakland Hills Marina, the three memorial parks, and the five entrances at Rotonda Boulevards East, North and West, Rebel Court and Cape Haze Drive.

A variety of hardy native plants that can withstand cold weather were selected by the Beautification Committee headed by Glynn Perkins, in collaboration with a landscape architect.

Three separate contracts were awarded to John Eisele, Inc., with \$19,187 earmarked for the Community Center grounds, \$9,139 for the Marina, and \$23,376 spread between the three memorial parks and five entrance ways.

Work Underway for Future Cell Phone Service

Some residents have been observing work being done at the base of telephone poles around the community. These are Florida Power & Light employees pulling fiber optic cable for future cell phone service. According to a Charlotte County Building & Growth Management official, cabling will be tied to existing cell phone towers in the area and the work has nothing to do with introducing high speed Internet service.

Inside the Circle

Bits & Pieces from Around the Community

Calling All Badgers... There's a plan afoot to create a social club for Wisconsin transplants residing in Rotonda West. The effort follows the active and highly successful formation of the Buckeye Club for Ohio transplants. Chris Thompson of the White Marsh subdivision is initiating the project. She is a WI Badger Alumni, class of '86, and a former resident of Hartland, Wisconsin. Full-time and part-time residents are encouraged to join. Call Chris at (941) 214-8115 or email her at badger_8663@yahoo.com.

Easy on the Fertilizer... The Charlotte County Board of Commissioners passed a fertilizer blackout ordinance that applies during the rainy season. Effective next January 1, homeowners will not be permitted to apply fertilizer that contains nitrogen or phosphorus to their lawns from June 1 to September 30. The tighter regulations are expected to prevent water contamination from runoff. Slow release fertilizer applied before June 1 is recommended.

Little-Known Demographics... It may be a surprise that foreign nationals from 57 countries own 12% of properties in Rotonda West. That compares with 4% overall in Charlotte County. What's the big attraction? 99 holes of golf on six golf courses and 30 miles of freshwater canals, ponds and lakes may have something to do with it.

VROOOOM... At age 55, Andy Vanscoyc is the oldest race car driver at the Punta Gorda Speedway while his highly-rated crew chief at 15 is the youngest. Andy races a Chevy pick-up truck in the Cowboy Cadillac class on Saturday nights. At this writing, Andy had won three consecutive races before finishing #6 in the fourth. His division includes 16 drivers and he is in the top two or three in season points.

Stepping Up for Junior Tennis... The tennis courts at Rotonda Community Park will have a new look, thanks to the generosity of many organizations and residents. The Rotonda Community Foundation issued an appeal for funds to paint new lines for a smaller court so kids can take lessons. Charlotte County lacked necessary funds. The Foundation successfully surpassed its goal. The mission of the Foundation is to develop human service programs now lacking on the Cape Haze Peninsula. Rotonda West is well represented on the Board with Nick Gizzi, President; George Krabbe, Vice President; Hank Artz, Treasurer; and Board member Linda Harrison. Mike Billington of Englewood also serves on the Board.

Safety Tip... If you walk your dog or just take a stroll after dark, Neighborhood Watch has issued an advisory to alert everyone to wear light-colored clothing. Oncoming vehicles often have trouble spotting people with dark clothing, especially in areas without street lights.

Before You Know It, the Christmas Parade Is Here Again!

The planning wheels are turning for the 2011 Christmas Holiday Parade that will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 3rd. 100 units are expected to participate.

Last year, 82 units marched before thousands of spectators as the parade proceeded down Rotonda Circle. Dozens of lawn parties were in full swing with revelers along the five-mile parade route.

The popular event attracts a cross-section of Charlotte County businesses, civic and fraternal organizations, churches and social clubs with marching units, floats and musical groups. Several Rotonda West clubs and organizations are in the line of march.

Prizes will be awarded to the top three units. Returning as judges for the second year are Mike Billington, Publisher of the Englewood Sun, Tammy Birdsong, and Jon Bednerik, Executive Director of the Englewood-Cape Haze Chamber of Commerce. The winners will be announced at a post parade party for participants and spectators at the Rotonda West VFW Post 10476.

Spectators will be asked to bring non-perishable food items and new toys, as well as cash, to donate to Englewood Helping Hand. Golf carts will circulate along the parade route for the collections.

The parade is a project of the Community Relations Committee chaired by George Burger.

Several Rotonda West clubs and organizations are regular participants. Organizations interested in registering should go to the RWA web site, www.rotondawest.org and check instructions for accessing the registration form on the Home Page, or call Sue Artz, (941) 697-5591. There is no entry fee. Rain date is Sunday, December 4.

The annual Gazebo Lighting Ceremony will be held at dusk on Saturday, November 26 at the Oakland Hills Marina. The event kicks off the holiday season in the community. The Gazebo will take on a ginger bread house appearance with thousands of lights and cut-out figures. The event features a lighted boat parade with Santa arriving by boat.



Making a List and Checking it Twice... This trio has begun planning for the 2011 Christmas Holiday Parade on December 3. They are, left to right, Cathy Moseley, Earl Haas and Sue Artz. *Photo by Sue Killion*

New Election Package Updated in Advance of Upcoming Voting

*Editor's Note: After some 16 meetings and workshops over a four-month span, the Election Committee completed its work crossing the 't's and dotting the 'i's on documents required for the upcoming election. In this report, **Donna Krabbe**, a member of the committee, details the changes and how they will impact voting privileges of owners and the election package.*

At its meeting on July 14th, the RWA Board of Directors approved the new Election Committee Rules, Procedures & Political Campaign Guidelines. These changes are required to keep the RWA in compliance with the updated laws that govern Homeowners Association - Chapter 720 of the Florida State Statutes and to institute a secret ballot voting system.

The Election Committee would like all members to be aware of the reasons for the changes and the specifics of these changes prior to receiving voting packets. The committee is confident that providing information early will familiarize voters with the new aspects of the voting procedures. Be assured there will be detailed instructions included in your Annual Meeting Notice Package (voting packet.)

If the lot or tract is owned by more than one person, including a husband and wife, a voting certificate must be signed by all the owners, designating the person eligible to cast votes (voting representative). A "tract" is defined as commercial property, such as a golf course. In the past, a lot or tract owned by a husband and wife did not require a voting certificate designating one as the voting representative. Now a completed and signed voting certificate is required for each lot or tract.

If the lot or tract is owned by a corporation or other entity, the voting certificate shall be signed by the president or vice president of the corporation, or, with respect to non-corporate entities, the functional equivalent of the president or vice president, designating the person eligible to cast votes. A new voting certificate must be submitted each time a voting representative and/or ownership changes.

The RWA Board has instituted a secret ballot requiring blind (blank) ballot envelopes to be placed and sealed in a

pre-addressed outer envelope. The outer envelope is pre-marked with the specific lot or tract information. You must notify the Association if the lot or tract or information printed on the outer envelope is incorrect. The owner of the lot or tract or the voting representative on the voting certificate as the individual entitled to vote on behalf of the lot or tract owner must sign his or her name on the outer envelope.

If you are entitled to cast more than one ballot, you must still place each ballot envelope in its separate pre-addressed outer envelope marked with the corresponding lot or tract information. Multiple outer envelopes may be placed in a large envelope (not provided) and mailed to the RWA, c/o Webb, Lorah & Company, PL. The ballot and, if necessary, the voting certificate, must be received before 5:00 p.m. on the day before the Annual Meeting.

As required by State Law Chapter 720, all secret ballots must be counted at the Annual Meeting. This will require an earlier start time and the specifics will be included in your voting package. To cast a ballot(s) at the Annual Meeting, photo identification will be required and the procedure will be slightly changed to secure secret ballots.

There have been some changes in candidate eligibility per Chapter 720 Florida Statutes. There are now two restrictions that come into play that make members ineligible to serve on the Board. Any member who has nonpayment of any fee, fine or monetary obligation to the RWA for more than 90 days is ineligible to serve on the Board. In addition, any member is not eligible to serve on the Board if they have been convicted of any felony in the State of Florida or in a US District or Territorial Court or any offense in another jurisdiction which would be considered a felony if committed in the State of Florida. The exception is if their civil rights have been restored for at least five years as of the date of the Annual Meeting.

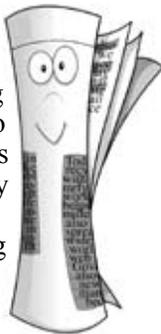
Any member wishing to seek election to the Board must consent to the Association conducting or having conducted a criminal investigation to verify compliance with Section 720.306(9) Florida Statutes.

The complete Election Committee Rules, Procedures & Political Campaign Guidelines are posted on the RWA website, www.rotondawest.org.

West Ways Seeks New Editor

Cathy Moseley has served admirably for the last two years as editor of West Ways, continuing the tradition of bringing community news to our 7,200 owners worldwide. After serving as the editor of West Ways since mid-2009, Cathy has decided to step down.

If you have creative skills and enjoy researching and writing stories on a wide variety of subjects, the volunteer editor's opening may be for you. You'll be responsible for planning the contents of each issue and enjoy working with a dedicated, professional staff. You'll note our pages are filled with reports on Association business matters, community improvement projects, and ongoing events and activities, as well as personality profiles. The newsletter is published bi-monthly. Writers are also invited. Interested? Email Don Mahon, interim editor, at donmahon3@comcast.net.



Webmaster Position Available

A volunteer is needed to perform the duties of webmaster. The person should possess the following: High speed internet access & excellent computer and internet skills.

Duties will include the following: Maintain web hosting account using cPanel, maintain web site photo gallery and calendar, as well as develop new pages and modify existing ones. The webmaster serves as a member of the Community Relations Committee.

The following skills are required: Experience with remote management and back up of servers using FTP, experience with MySQL database management, knowledge of HTML & PHP, experience in maintaining and updating web site, and knowledge of web site design best practices. Knowledge of Content Management System (CMS) website design would be an asset.

Persons interested should contact the RWA office at 941-697-6788 or email webmaster@rotondawest.org.

Rotonda West Association, Inc.

Board of Directors

Glynn Perkins, President
 George Burger, 1st Vice President
 Hank Killion, 2nd Vice President,
 Secretary, Treasurer
 Hank Artz, Director
 Stan Plizga, Director
 Mark Reynolds, Director
 Peter Traverso, Director

Office Staff

Jay Lyons, Manager
 Norene Kugler, Assistant Manager
 Dianne Brophy, Deed Restrictions
 Merle Fulton, Accounting
 Claudette Romano, Administration

West Ways Staff

Don Mahon, Interim Editor
 Ruth Sargent, Writer
 Sue Killion, Photographer
 David Pulaski, Photographer
 Julie Gaustad-Ruhr, Layout



New Look... The Oakland Hills Marina (above) has gotten a landscaping face-lift, along with entrances, parks and the Community Center. Story on page 3. *Photo by Sue Killion.*

Mission Statement

The role of Rotonda West Association, Inc. is multi-faceted: To protect the property interests of the members; to enhance living in the community; to plan for the future in its role as a community association. (Approved November 13, 2002)

Rotonda West Association

3754 Cape Haze Drive
 Rotonda West, FL 33947
 Phone 941-697-6788
 Fax 941-697-0788
 Deed Restrictions 941-697-1780
 Email info@rotondawest.org
 Web www.rotondawest.org

ECRWSS
 POSTAL CUSTOMER
 ROTONDA WEST, FL 33947

- All committee meetings are open to RWA members and meet monthly on the days listed at the RWA Community Center.
- Board of Directors 2nd Wednesday @ 2 p.m.
 - Aquatics Committee 4th Wednesday @ 3 p.m.
 - Beautification 1st Thursday @ 2 p.m.
 - Budget & Finance 1st Wednesday @ 10 a.m.
 - Community Relations 1st Wednesday @ 3 p.m.
 - Deed Restrictions 2nd Monday @ 1 p.m.
 - Properties 4th Monday @ 10 a.m.
 - Residential Modification 2nd & 4th Monday @ 2 p.m.

Important Dates

Rotonda West Association, Inc.
 3754 Cape Haze Drive
 Rotonda West, FL 33947

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 33947
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