

WEST WAYS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION, INC

November 2021



PUBLISHED BY THE ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION FOR ROTONDA WEST PROPERTY OWNERS.
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HAPPY THANSGLIVING FROM THE RWA FAMILY !



MANAGER'S MESSAGE



Happy Fall from the Rotonda West Association! I know that many members are ready for some cooler temperatures. The Rotonda West Association is ready for the start of the Holiday Season and the return of many of our seasonal members.

The Administration Office Staff continues to diligently work welcoming new members as properties have been selling and are continuing to update and verify correct member information. Additional staff have been added to our Compliance Department to make sure Deed Restrictions are understood and followed to preserve, protect, and enhance our property values. The Board and I have focused on collecting past due monies owed to the Association and the staff has done an incredible job in receiving the monies that have been past due this year. We thank all members for their diligence in keeping compliant. The online payment portal for the Rotonda West Association is active and it allows many members to pay assessments easily online and has saved the Rotonda West Association approximately \$ 20,000.00.

Members again are enjoying our Community Center. Additional Staff have been added to accommodate the Community Center's reopening and to help with the scheduling of member usage of our center. Please call the Rotonda West Association Office to learn more about using the Community Center for a special occasion or event.

The Rotonda West Association Maintenance Staff and contractors are ready for some cooler weather and the slowing down of grass growth, we have had a busy growing season. The Maintenance Staff is preparing to perform regular maintenance of the Community Center and Administration Office with power washing and painting, where needed. In addition, the staff will be making sure all electrical outlets are in working order for our upcoming fall events, seasonal light displays, and winter parade. The Memorial Parks are getting prepared to be spruced up and cleaning of signs and other items are scheduled.

I invite any member to contact the Rotonda West Association directly with any questions or concerns. We are available by e-mail, telephone, or in-person at the Administration Office. Our friendly staff is here to help.

Thank you,
Derrick Hedges
Rotonda West Association Manager

NOVEMBER 2021

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

- **November 4th Thursday 6 p.m.-8 p.m
Community Open House**
- **November 10th Wednesday 10 a.m. Neighbor-
hood Watch Meeting-Team Meetings Only**
- **November 13th Saturday 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
RWWC Christmas Bazaar & Bake Sale**
- **November 24th Wednesday RWA Office
Closes at Noon**
- **November 25th RWA Office Closed for
Thanksgiving**
- **November 27th Saturday Sunset 5:30 p.m.
Gazebo Lighting and Boat Parade**
- **December 4th Saturday at 2 p.m. Christmas
Parade “Santa Paws”**
- **December 10th Friday Music in the Park
4-6 p.m.**



OFFICE STAFF

Derrick Hedges,
Manager

Tammy Birdsong,
Administrator

Holly Carr,
Administrator
Deed Restrictions

Nancy Schwechel
Administrator

Penny Hanson,
Bookkeeper

Annette Casteel
Minutes Clerk

Joe Harris,
Communications
Specialist

Mike Heincelman,
Compliance Officer

MAINTENANCE STAFF

Matt Rooney
Maintenance
Supervisor

Wayne Taylor

Tim Deutsch

Paul McGinley

Pablo Guardiola

Dale Anderson

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2021

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Patti Cowin, 1st Vice President

Sam Besase, Treasurer

Jerry Eldred, Secretary

Stephen Froggatt, Director

Diane Shaw, Director

David Kelly, Director

WEST WAYS STAFF

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Diane Shaw, Writer

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Wayne Mengel, Photographer

Nadine Clough, Layout & Design





Rotonda West Association Open House

Thursday, November 4

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

LEARN ALL ABOUT:

- Rotonda West Activities
- Clubs
- Committees
- Fun things to do in your neighborhood
- Civic and Government Organizations
- Charlotte County Sheriff's Office
- Raffle



Community Center

646 Rotonda Circle



MSBU APPOINTS TWO NEW BOARD MEMBERS

By: Diane Shaw

The Charlotte County Streets and Drainage Municipal Services Benefit Unit (MSBU) has two newly appointed board members

On Tuesday, October 26, at their regularly scheduled meeting, the Charlotte County Commissioners appointed Denise Burns and Laura Ingrassia to serve as members of the board. This will be a second term for Ms. Burns and a first term for Ms. Ingrassia. Both will serve three-year terms. The terms begin on November 1st 2021. The other members of the MSBU board are Chairman Nicholas Kotzalas, Vice Chair Sam Be-sase, and Carol Delucca. Ms. Ingrassia is replacing Curtis John who resigned.

Currently, Charlotte County has suspended all MSBU meetings because of concerns about Covid-19. If Charlotte County rescinds this policy, it is expected that there will be a regular meeting of the MSBU on December 15th, 2021. Congratulations to Ms. Burns and Ms. Ingrassia on their appointments!

Every Rotonda West Gardener Wins With This Group!

Story and Pictures by:
Connie Smith



Rotonda West Gardener Kim Duperault holds a plant cutting to share with group

The fourth Friday of every month, the Rotonda West Gardeners meet at the Community Center to learn about, discuss and trade plants. But first, they enjoy a delicious pitch-in lunch!

The best way to participate with this group is to find them on Facebook and submit a request to join. The week of the meeting, organizer Kim Duperault will post a notice of the time (11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.), remind everyone to bring their covered dish and to “bring plants, garden items or cuttings. If you don’t have any, it’s OK, you will get some.” Little does the uninitiated realize the potential to “get some” cuttings!

Kim said once you join, you will get a name tag. With that, you will get a 10% discount on plants at A&G Lawn and Garden Center on Placida Rd. When you arrive at the meeting you will receive a door prize ticket and be given an opportunity to buy raffle tickets at \$1 apiece. Since there are no membership dues, the raffle sales accommodate expenses for the meeting. Another bit of information: Kim Duperault and Unki Reynolds are sisters of Korean heritage. How they and their husbands ended up in Rotonda West is the community’s good fortune. The sisters love plants and gardening and are a wealth of information which they enjoy sharing.

On this particular Friday in September, Unki Reynolds demonstrates just how easy succulents are to propagate. An example of a succulent plant that many may recognize is a jade plant. The characteristic of a succulent plant is thickened, fleshy parts – usually stems or leaves – that are engorged with up to 90-95 percent water for arid climates or dry soil conditions. Fun succulent fact: nearly all cacti are succulents but not all succulents are cacti.

Another great thing about succulents is that the more sun they receive, the more colorful they become. They do not need to root; a leaf or cutting inserted into potting soil will allow it to grow. Just be sure to prepare your pot so that it’s going to drain well. Unki said at least two inches of rock or sand at the bottom of a pot, covered with regular potting soil, will provide sufficient drainage.



Unki Reynolds shows how easy a teapot can be filled with attractive succulents

Holding up a small, colorful teapot, Unki demonstrated how a plant lover could insert various succulent cuttings that would result in a lovely arrangement. Two years ago, Unki said she started her love affair with succulents and now she has over 500 plants. "These are my babies; they are so much fun!" she exclaimed. She also offered to tour her garden after the meeting.



Kim Duperault offers Malaba Chestnuts for garden club members to taste

Kim Duperault brought Malaba Chestnut plants, showed pictures of flowers to edible fruits, & passed around samples of the chestnuts to taste. Kim told the group, "Who would've guessed, it's also called Money Tree, because the germination rate from the nuts is more than 99%, thus, easy to grow and sell. It quickly became a symbol of prosperity to grow them."

Afterward, members may ask any questions they have about any plant or dispense plant information they may care to disclose. Then, the use of the tickets becomes apparent. If one is blinded by the delicious display of luncheon dishes, that's understandable, but a long table next to the gardeners is also filled with the green of various cuttings brought in by the members. Everyone watches the numbers on their tickets as a drawing allows each to go to the table and select a cutting of their choice. Whether one's number is called quickly is of no consequence because there are plenty of wonderful cuttings to select from: fire spike, devil's backbone (also known as a zig zag plant), coral bush, vanilla orchid, oyster plant, crinum lily, ground orchid, air plant, cardboard box palm, money tree or Everglades tomato.

These gardening enthusiasts also disclose why they are so generous with their cuttings. How can you acquire new plants if your lanai/building lot is filled with your existing plants? "You only have so much room!" noted Unki Reynolds. Kim added, "Yet there are so many tropical plants which we never grow up north, and now you have a chance to grow them here. We gardeners have a hard time resisting them. When you give care, they grow well, it'll make you smile and remember the time you got them. We are spreading happiness through plants sharing!"



To join the Rotonda West Gardeners, go to Facebook and search for Rotonda West Gardener or follow this link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1882007972045696>



Sam Besase



Cynthia (Cindy) Chatham



John (Jack) Metz



Andy Van Scyoc

BOARD CANDIDATES PROPOUND VIEWS, DEFEND ACTIONS

By: **Connie Smith**

Residents had a chance to question four candidates for Rotonda West's two open board of director seats during Candidates' Night, September 30th at the Community Center. The candidates include a present board member, a former board member and two newer Rotonda residents.

The election will take place at the Rotonda West Association Annual Meeting, December 2nd. All property owners should have received ballots in the mail that must be returned by 5 p.m. on December 1, or they may vote in person at the Community Center on December 2 from 5 to 6:30 p.m.

Questions were solicited from property owners by the Association, and board president Patricia Aho served as moderator. The candidates spent nearly two hours explaining their views and sometimes defending their actions. They are: present board member **Sam Besase**, resident **Cynthia (Cindy) Chatham**, resident **John (Jack) Metz**, and former board member **Andy Van Scyoc**.

Wildlife Concerns

Wildlife was a subject of at least two questions put to candidates: how to educate owners about alligators in the canals, and should RWA spend funds for signage to protect wildlife?

All proposed education is a way to support the community's alligators. **Sam Besase** cited the new owner packet as a way to educate new owners about Florida's wildlife. He said the wildlife committee provides valuable training and education. **Cindy Chatham** said she joined the wildlife committee because alligators are special to her and education is key to their protection. **Jack Metz** told how he had come upon a female alligator and her eight babies sunning themselves on the canal and that residents need to learn to live with their existence. **Andy Van Scyoc** said he helped to found the wildlife committee because he believes the existence and preservation of wildlife enhances Rotonda West property values.

As for the expenditure of RWA funds to protect wildlife, particularly gopher tortoises, there was disagreement. **Besase** said the goal of the RWA is to maintain property values and purchase of gopher tortoise signs does not fall into that role. The other three believed signs can help protect gopher tortoises. **Van Scyoc** said he would even raise funds for the signs if the RWA did not pay. **Chatham** said the signs are a benefit to prospective purchasers to let them know of the existence of burrows that they may need to pay to relocate and that RWA mowing crews can avoid damage to tractors or burrows if they are made aware via the signs. **Metz** said there is probably a way that the association, the board and the wildlife committee can work together to protect gopher tortoises.

Golf Course Perimeters

Some residents' objections to the appearance of the perimeter of golf courses within Rotonda and whether a property control agreement was possible was the subject of another question. The answer was complicated.

Besase and **Van Scyoc** both said residents should be careful what they wish for because failure of a golf course in Rotonda West could result in sale of the property and undesirable development. **Besase** and **Van Scyoc** also agreed that the Rotonda West developer has exempted the golf courses of the same deed restrictions by which residential property owners must abide. Both **Chatham** and **Metz** advocated for a cooperative solution that might result in better mowing or maintenance schedules in the golf course perimeter. All agreed a negotiated solution should be possible since the golf course manager David Kelly is also on the board of directors.

RWA Challenges

What are the most important challenges facing future RWA boards?

Cindy Chatham said Rotonda West is changing. "When I came here, I was told...that everyone was over 75 years old. That's definitely not true. We have a diverse community." She added that committees should be expanded to "add voices". **Jack Metz** said the greatest challenge is transparency of information from the board, flowing to the association, as well as financial strength. "When I moved here and read that the assessment was only \$190 a year, I said, 'wow, that's the success of the board,'" he said.

Andy Van Scyoc said younger parents are moving into Rotonda. "This place needs to be a great place to grow up...it's not a retirement community anymore," he said. "When I moved here in 2007... there were no children. Now there are children on three sides of me. It's cool." **Sam Besase** said the challenge is to work together. He said he is for evening meetings but they don't have good attendance. He said Zoom meetings increase communications and transparency.

MSBU: Bridges and Paving

The candidates were asked how the community should monitor and report on upcoming MSBU (Municipal Service Benefit Units) projects, such as paving and rebuilding of bridges.

Chatham said she has lived in Rotonda one year and she doesn't know that much about the MSBU but she understands the need for it. Although she doesn't foresee problems or extra costs, she said the board should make sure the community receives updates, even if there is no progress. **Metz** said he moved to Rotonda in May, has read about the MSBU and he supports its existence although the board should be involved at the county level. **Van Scyoc** said the Rotonda West board has a duty to monitor the MSBU and report back to the community. "We never had a project of this magnitude... we would want to stay on top of it," he said. **Besase** said he has spent four years on the MSBU board and his complaint is that it only meets quarterly. Repaving the roads is going to be an even bigger project than the bridges, he said. Advocating for MSBU monthly meetings, he added, "Today was supposed to be an MSBU meeting...because of Covid it was cancelled. Now it won't meet again...until December."

Candidate Controversy

Candidates did not escape questions about their past actions.

Referring to his past board service and his resignation before the end of his term, **Andy Van Scyoc** was asked to guarantee he would actively participate and complete his term if elected. Van Scyoc said his resignation was because of a "difficult situation" – the previous association manager was a rental tenant. "I won't get stuck in that trap again," he said, and added it is his intention to serve his full term.

Chatham was asked two specific questions: whether she would vote in opposition to another board member she has criticized and whether she thought it was acceptable for a resident to sue the association. As to potential board member conflicts, she said, "we all have different perspectives. I am a great debater...but...we can find a happy medium. My goal is to keep this community going in a positive direction." About potential lawsuits against the HOA, she said she had consulted an attorney when she believed she had been the victim of non-disclosure, having to do with the enjoyment of her view of the lake upon which her home is situated. "If we (the association) make a change that is going to affect somebody's property, we need to make sure that it is disclosed," she said.

Referring to **Metz's** resume that includes management of three HOA communities in Pennsylvania, he was asked whether short term rentals should be limited to one week or more in Rotonda West. He said each of those associations had rules about short- and long-term rentals. "If someone buys a house and wants to use it as a rental, they should be able to use it", he said. **Besase** added that the Rotonda HOA visited the issue as a board and the developer vetoed limitation of rentals.

Van Scyoc was called to task because he is an administrator for a Rotonda West Facebook group that has used "derogatory language". "I don't like it. I stop a lot of threads," he said. "I usually shut them down. There is an owner's page which is the only page that we allow any discussion of the association, but, I can't watch it 24/7", he added.

Social Media

All were asked about the responsibilities of social media by board members.

Chatham said she believed social media was the reason the wildlife committee's bat presentation was well attended although she conceded board members may have a responsibility to keep negative discussions of RWA business off of Facebook. She suggested the association consider a Facebook page that would dispense information but not allow open discussion. **Besase** said he "tends to stay off Facebook and not get engaged in back and forth." He said many Facebook users should say "in my opinion" instead of espousing information as fact. "We're not going to run the Association by what Facebook says we should do." **Van Scyoc** said he believes "a lot more good comes out (from Facebook) than bad. **Metz** said social media can be a valuable tool to provide information to the community. "Unfortunately, there's a lot of negativity, but it can be used in a positive way," he said.

Holiday Decorations

Another question asked the candidates how they would avoid in the future the "debacle" of Memorial Day 2021 that involved holiday decorations and deed restrictions.

Metz said he was not in Rotonda at the time but he heard about it and that deed restrictions should be able to carve out exceptions in respect to the military, fire or EMS. **Van Scyoc** said an easy solution would be for sign regulations to exempt holidays in general. **Besase** said "The staff could have done differently. The board could have done differently. We all learned from it...I don't want to see it happen again." **Chatham** said she has a strong position on deed restrictions and Memorial Day. "You get three to four people deciding for 16,000," she said. She suggested compliance staff be instructed that holiday displays are not a part of deed restrictions.

Ability to Serve

The candidates were asked what factors in their lives would limit their ability to serve.

Chatham said she has children and grandchildren but with the availability of Zoom meetings, she believes there is a way to schedule her participation. "I would only do it if I was 100% sure," she said. **Metz** said he is retired and available "pretty much all the time...I don't see any restriction that would limit my ability to serve." **Van Scyoc** said in the six and a half years of his previous election on the board of directors, he only missed one meeting and that was when he was in the hospital with cancer. **Besase** said, "I've attended 700 meetings in the last seven years...I only missed one meeting."

To see and hear it all...

For the full content of questions to the candidates and their responses, as well as some questions not covered in this article due to space restrictions, the Rotonda West Candidates Night is shown in full via Zoom. To watch, go to:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ZHJVamOIdo&list=PLg9nEsSqf3O9ldq3d0-YSClhAZt55fOpT>

THE CANDIDATE'S INFORMATION SHEETS, THE EXPLANATION OF THE ROLL-OVER OPTION, AND THE STEPS FOR VOTING ARE INCLUDED AT THE END OF THIS ISSUE.

TEAM ROTONDA WEST WALKS THE WALK FOR ALZHEIMER'S

By Karen W. Harvey

It was a beautiful morning on October 2nd and Broadmoor Park in Rotonda West was the place to be where more than 62 walkers joined the fight to end Alzheimer's. Team Rotonda West Walks the Walk raised over \$8,000 in donations...the highest in Charlotte County! The original goal of the group was \$5,500, but they were able to surpass that goal by a huge margin of 47%. Jennifer Davis Cope of the Rotonda West Womens Club organized the well-attended event.

You can still donate to the cause by using the website link: <http://act.alz.org/goto/RotondaWestWalk>

We are so proud of everyone who participated, raised funds, and had a good time in doing so!



RWWC EVENT ORGANIZERS



AWESOME JOB!



MUSIC IN THE PARK- JUST DELIGHTFUL!

Story and pictures by:
Nadine Clough



On the beautiful evening of Thursday October 21st, Rotonda West residents were treated to the soulful sounds of Michael White. Originally from New York, Michael is a singer/songwriter who has competed in many singing competitions such as the USA National Karaoke Championship.

Lorah Steiner, who is responsible for arranging for Michael to perform, introduced Michael and his wife, Kristen to the crowd. Lorah hoped the audience would come to appreciate his singing talent and his warm personality as she has.

Michael opened with "The Impossible Dream" originally sang by Jack Jones, followed by "Fly Me to the Moon" by Frank Sinatra, and "Georgia" by Ray Charles. He sang selections from many genres and also included a song written by himself, "Need You Now". Michael took requests from the audience such as, "Sweet Caroline" by Neil Diamond, and "You're Just Too Good To Be True" by Frankie Valle. Some other crowd favorites were, "Margaritaville" by Jimmy Buffet, "My Girl" and "Ain't to Proud to Beg" by The Temptations.

It was obvious that people enjoyed the concert. People's feet kept the beat, many sang along to old favorites, some people chose to dance, and all stood for Lee Greenwood's "Proud to be an American". As the sun was setting, Michael finished up with "All Night Long", by Lionel Richie as many in the audience held up their cell phone lights and swayed along to the music.

This was the third Music in the Park presentation. The crowds have been growing with each event, with well over one hundred people in attendance this time.



The next Music in the Park will feature the Rotonda Ukulele Band performing holiday music. The date is December 10th from 4-6 p.m.

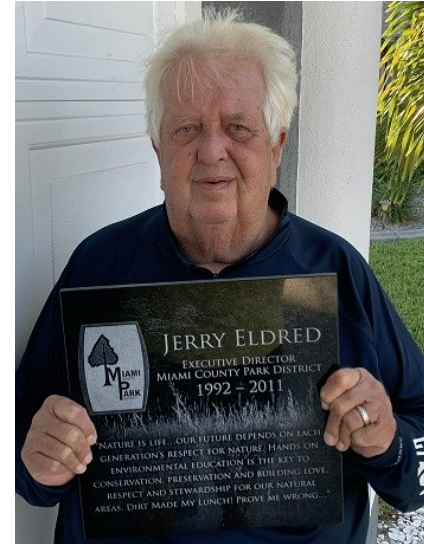
Don't miss it!



ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION
DIRECTOR JERRY ELDRED
RECEIVES RECOGNITION FOR
ACCOMPLISHMENTS AS
OHIO PARK DISTRICT EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR

By: Diane Shaw

Photo by: Jim Mervilde



On November 9th, Jerry Eldred and some of his family members traveled to Troy, Ohio at the invitation of the Miami County Ohio Park District (MCPD). There, he was presented with a replica of a plaque that will be displayed in the main classroom of the Heritage Center of the Lost Creek Reserve Park.

The plaque is the culmination of Jerry's 20 years as Miami County Park District Executive Director. When Jerry was a student at Texas A&M, he took classes that inspired his plan to become a Park Director and fifteen years later, he accomplished that goal. Under Jerry's leadership, the MCPD has expanded from a 600 acre, 3 facility district to a 2,200 acre 15 facility one. Jerry's primary goal was education. His secondary goal was to expand the Park District. His own love of nature formed his goal of creating a hands-on environmental education program for students. He says his proudest accomplishment is that today, that program is taught in every school system in Miami County, Ohio, reaching approximately 3,500 students. He talks about how during his tenure, voters supported his vision by supporting the tax increases needed to fund both education and expansion. He says that some of the voters today are students who learned about nature through the Park District's programs. Currently, the District is building its first Education Center called Heritage Hall, so education is still growing in the Miami County Park District.

The plaque that Jerry received quotes him as saying:

Nature is life...Our future depends on each generation's respect for nature. Hands-on environmental education is the key to conservation, preservation and building love, respect and stewardship for our natural areas. 'Dirt made my lunch. Prove me wrong.' The term, Dirt made my lunch, was used in classrooms to demonstrate the fundamentals of nature and our reliance on it for our basic needs.

Jerry stresses that his talented staff were instrumental in achieving his goals and together with his own efforts, they accomplished the goals of education and expansion. As a result, there are adults today who long ago learned 'Dirt made my lunch'.

Jerry Eldred

CONGRATULATIONS DIRECTOR ELDRED!



ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION, INC.

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**Visit our website to sign up for upcoming
West Ways Newsletters**



GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club, Inc.
Donna Krabbe, Former-President



**GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club
Is Proud to Present Rotonda West Member
Charlotte Arcadia
Selected as GFWC Florida
Jennie June 2020-2021**



L to R: GFWC Fl. State President Dianne Foerster; Award Winner, Charlotte Arcadia; GFWC International President, Marian St. Clair.

The GFWC Jennie Award is the only national honor bestowed by GFWC that recognizes individual members for personal excellence. The award is an occasion to highlight extra-ordinary women who epitomize the spirit of independence, courage and persistence through their roles as volunteers within clubs, representatives of their community and as members of their families. Charlotte Arcadia is currently Parliamentary Advisor, having previously served as Club 2nd Vice President, 1st Vice President, President and District 12 Director of GFWC Clubs including Arcadia, LaBelle, Naples, Port Charlotte, Punta Gorda and Rotonda West Woman's Club. A well-known and loved GFWC Florida member throughout the state, Charlotte's body of work was recognized on October 23rd by GFWC FL State President Dianne Foerster at left and

What is GFWC? It's the General Federation of Women's Clubs, founded in 1890 and now in its second century of living the volunteer spirit of community service. GFWC has 80,000 members within Clubs in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and 15 countries. Florida ranks second in the number of GFWC Clubs (187) and members after California. So, where does the GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club fit in all of this? Organized in 1973 and Federated in 1974, currently at 150 members, 70% of whom live within the community of Rotonda West, the Club has work hard in Rotonda West and surrounding communities and ranks high in "second largest" Florida, not by number of members, but by accomplishments dedicated to the community, the founding principle of GFWC 131 years ago.

The 2021 GFWC International Convention was held in Atlanta in late August to award GFWC outreach programs provided throughout all states and countries. GFWC Florida placed 1st in Education & Libraries – Rotonda West placed 2nd in the state. Florida placed 1st in Environment - Rotonda placed third in the state. Florida placed 1st for Health & Wellness – Rotonda placed 2nd in the state. Florida placed 4th in Domestic Violence Awareness, but Rotonda placed 1st in the state and Rotonda's Purple Leash/ Red Rover Program was recognized as #2 of the Top 10 International Projects. Florida won 1st Place for ESO, the International Book Club Sorority for Personal Enrichment – GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club (that provides the Rotonda West Free Library) is 1st in the State of Florida and #1 in International.

Now that you know what we are all about, come and meet us in person to decide if you would like to be part of the Team. The November General Meeting of the Rotonda West Woman's Club will take place at the RWA Activity Bldg on Thursday, November 18, 2021. 9:00 am for meet, greet and social time. The General Meeting will begin at 10:00 am. Please note this is the 3rd Thursday of the month of November.

November is a special month to remember all active Service Members, Veterans, Gold Star Families and First Responders. The meeting will focus on our Civic Engagement and Outreach Community Service Program. It will also be the last opportunity to donate to this year's Wreaths Across America project.

HOLIDAY BAZAAR AND BAKE SALE

November 13th

The GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club is having our annual Holiday Bazaar and Bake Sale on Saturday, November 13th from 9 am until 2 pm at the Rotonda West Community Center at 646 Rotonda Circle.

The women have been working hard all year making handmade crafts for the holidays and for the home. There is a wide variety of beautiful items from the Creative Crafters, the Sew 'n Sew group and the Knit 'n Chat club.

And of course, there is our very popular "Cookies by the Pound" with hundreds of baked treats and Christmas cookies – great to put in the freezer for the holidays. Our Bake Sale will have plenty of homemade pies, breads and other delicious items.

We are having a Café serving limited breakfast items and hot dogs for lunch.

The Gift Basket drawing is a highlight of the fundraiser with over a dozen beautiful baskets to choose from along with a 50/50 Opportunity Drawing.

So, stop by and browse and help support our non-profit organization that helps so many in our community and provides scholarships to local students.



From your Rotonda West Activities Committee

What's Happening!

November 4th - Open House

Community Center 6 pm – 8 pm

30 booths of information - Committees, Clubs, County Officials, our own Rotonda staff, volunteers and more.

You don't want to miss this one

Canned food drive for St Francis Assisi – last day to collect

November 27 - Gazebo Lighting and Boat Parade

Rotonda Marina

Starting at 5:30 pm

Don't miss out on the cookies by RW Women's Club

And hot cocoa by The Hills and a "special visitor from North Pole"



December 4 – Christmas Parade

"Santa Paws"

Starts at 2 pm – Parade Route start Boulevard West

ends at the Community Center for "after party"

Food and drink available for purchase from The Hills

Food drive for Englewood Helping Hands, during parade



December 10 – Music In The Park

Ukulele Club – Christmas carol "cheer" Sing-A-Long

Broadmoor Park behind Community Center

4 pm – 6 pm

Bring your favorite beverage to "cheer" on this this happy hour event.

Also, your chairs, bug spray and your favorite snack, too.



SAM BESASE



SAM BESASE – CANDIDATE FOR RWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

474 ROTONDA CIRCLE - PHONE: 281-923-4041

EMAIL: SAM.BESASE@ROTONDAWEST.ORG

ELECTED & CURRENT TREASURER-2020 & 2021

- **RWA Board of Directors since 2019. Income over budget; Expenses under budget. Available cash is at an all time high! Reserves fully funded. No increase in HOA fees in 6 yrs.**
- **Former Chairperson, current 5 year member of RWA Budget & Finance Committee 2016-Present**
 - **Prepare annual RWA HOA budgets – Prepare written monthly reports to RWA BOD**
 - **Added 3 new members (women diversity) to RWA Budget committee in 2021**
- **Chairperson of RWA Building & Grounds Committee 2016-Present**
 - **Added 4 new members in 2021 (diversity) to RWA Building & Grounds Committee**
- **Attend about 75% of ALL RWA committee meetings since 2014 to present time (attended over 600!!)**
- **Member of CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) (trained in Firefighter Rehab & Call Center) - activated by Charlotte County 10 times in last 5 years incl. Assisted at 3 COVID vaccination sites-2021**

Ability to work well with others and listen to RWA property owners and try to “do the greater good for the community”. Proponent of **transparency** – utilizing posting of data via electronic means thru website. Created several FAQs for RWA staff. Developed the RWA Manager Weekly Activity Report. Consensus builder on major items. Fiscally sound decisions **FOR THE GREATER GOOD OF THE COMMUNITY.**

Education: 1978-2006 - University of Toledo plus 30+ Continuing Education Training courses.

US Army Veteran 1966-1968 Served 16 months overseas – France/Belgium - Soldier of the Year
Member: Association United States Army (AUSA); AMVETS; Moose, Elks; American Legion

ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION – MY VISION

Participate in the decisions related to the overall growth of Rotonda West with improvements in infrastructure throughout Rotonda West by selectively adding features as budget permits that are part of the overall RWA 3-year plan. Working with fellow Board members on the solutions to RWA issues. Actions geared toward enhancing property values and quality of life in Rotonda West. Ability to find common ground and work well with other board members and key committees that are striving to do the greater good for the overall best interests of the whole RWA community. Ability to analyze complex issues and recommend workable solutions. Strong leadership and organizational skills geared to meeting milestones. Excellent verbal and written communication skills. Leadership is the ability to effectively integrate and balance group ideas between competing **GOOD** things.

RWA Projects championed over the last 3 years: **FULL TIME** Resident of Rotonda West since 2011
Added 10 Parking Lot Solar Lights Added 25 New Parking Spaces Added 20 Composite Park Benches
Added New & Improved Speakers & Microphones Added Driveway & Sidewalk Improvements
Added Shell Replacement & Maintenance on Multi-Use Paths Added New Signs Adding Generator
Added SSD to all Computers Added New Solid State Servers Added New Security Devices

Lifetime Experiences: 2006-Present-Founder and President of ALPHA CONSULTING ENTERPRISES.

See website www.defensecontractconsulting.com Also see LinkedIn account. Travel to UAE.

2006-2013 **US LOGISTICS** **Senior Executive** **Fayetteville, NC & Greenville, SC**

Director of Contracts & Proposal- Directed Proposal/Contract processes from cradle to grave on multiple projects.

I welcome questions and comments on my FB page: **SAM BESASE–RWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS** which provides more information on work done as a member of Rotonda West HOA Board of Directors.

CYNTHIA (CINDY) CHATHAM



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Cynthia "Cindy" Chatham
Sportsman Terrace

Cinchatham@yahoo.com

412-310-4828

Summary: I have faced many challenges throughout life which has not only made me stronger and more compassionate but has given me the ability to look at things through many different perspectives. The decades of owning a business and managing others has provided an extensive knowledge and understanding of financial planning, execution of proposals and delegation of the work load. I believe that all projects no matter how small afford the same tenacity and dedication; consistency is key to success. I have always been a hands-on manager working alongside my teams not only to ensure proper execution but to understand what each individual's responsibilities are and the assets they bring. I believe that even the slightest power comes with extreme responsibility and the one with the power is the one responsible for all the outcomes. Every decision must be looked at in detail and from different perspectives as we are all unique in our lives, yet quite cohesive as a community. My goal, should I be elected director of RWA would be to ensure the community has a strong voice and ample opportunity to be involved and heard in all decision-making affecting changes within The Circle.

Background: I had lived in the North Hills of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania until making the move to Florida last year. I have five older brothers and two children. My daughter, is retired from the USAF and now a civilian member (her husband is still active duty) and they are blessed with two fantastic boys. My son is a union finisher who lives outside of Pittsburgh with his girlfriend and her daughters. My moving to a new state and area where I knew no one is a good reflection of my personal strength and resilience. I owned a construction business with my husband of 19 years. I am retired from Port Authority of Allegheny County after decades of service where I held numerous positions including diesel mechanic, body man and shifter. I was a manager at Preston Trucking, PJAX and a few bars. Along with working as a bartender, server, secretary, sales, retail, house cleaning and Lyft driver many are in addition to my career; an extremely diverse background.

Education: LaRoche University: 2013 BA in Psychology minor in Law. CCAC: AS and AA majoring in Business, Psychology and Education. Divine Providence Academy: HS diploma college prep with strong business background.

Volunteer: I have decades of volunteer service including but not limited to women's shelters, animal rescues/rehab, Reading is Fundamental, Habitat for Humanity. I am currently on the RWA Wildlife committee, a foster for SWFLGSD, Neighborhood Watch base, and I planned and coordinated the recent Bat Presentation at RWA community center.

JOHN (JACK) METZ



Rotonda West 2021 Board of Directors Election
Candidate Information

Name: John (Jack) Metz
Broadmoor Lane

Eligibility to Serve: Yes, I am eligible per the Florida statute 720.306(9)(b)

Email: jackmetz53@gmail.com

Phone: 267.718.4634

Background Information:

I was born and raised in Philadelphia, Pa., married to Christy Metz, and we have 3 adult children. I attended St. Leo University, in Florida, graduated with a degree in Social Work and Business Administration. After several years in sales and service I became the owner of a restaurant in Harleysville, Pa, a suburb of Philadelphia. During that time, I started to volunteer with the Harleysville Fire Department becoming an EMT/Paramedic. I sold the restaurant to pursue what led me to a 35 + year rewarding career in the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) industry. I worked in a variety of positions gaining experience in management, human resources, finance, budgeting, operations, and purchasing.

Christy and I lived in a HOA community in Harleysville Pa where I served as Vice President of the Homeowners Association for 16 years. My experience on the HOA Board led me to a position with First Service Residential managing 3 HOA communities in Chester County Pa., then we moved in 2017.

Relocated to Bainbridge Island, Washington in 2017 for a career move for Christy at which point I retired. At that point I became involved with the Bainbridge Island Fire Department and Bainbridge Prepares, teaching classes in CPR and Emergency Preparedness.

Christy and I moved to Rotonda West in May 2021 to enjoy a more relaxed and climate friendly location.

I would like to serve as a Board member to give back to our community and I believe that my background in management, and finance, my ability to work with other Board members, Association staff and Community members in positive and forward-thinking results will fit very well as a Board member of the RWA.

As for accomplishments, I would get familiar with the short- and long-term goals that have been developed by the Board and continue to strengthen the financial position of the community.

I wish to thank the Election Committee for your time in reviewing my information. I have also included my resume for your review.

Thank you again,

Jack Metz

ANDY VAN SCYOC

Andy Van Scyoc, Candidate – 239-940-2584

avanscyoc@aol.com



My name is Andy Van Scyoc, and I am proud to announce my candidacy for a seat on the Rotonda West Board of Directors.

Having served for six and a half years on the Board earlier (2013-2019), I have decided to once again pursue the responsibilities that will enable me to play a meaningful role in the ever-evolving emergence of our unique, wondrous and thriving community. I intend to work towards re-unifying all our residents in the pursuit of mutually beneficial objectives we all can be proud of.

I was born in Ohio, lived in Michigan and North Carolina, and attended Ohio State University. I worked for the Whirlpool Corporation early in my career and subsequently held positions in several marine and automotive businesses – one of which occupies my working hours to this day.

In July of 2007 I moved to our current home at 10 Annapolis Lane, and instantly fell in love with all that is Rotonda West. I own multiple properties in the development, making my devotion to this Community a primal focal point of my life. My wonderful wife and our dog KT have fully supported me throughout.

In addition to my aforementioned Director's responsibilities, I have had the great opportunity to serve in the following administrative capacities within our community:

- ...Administration/Personnel Committee
- ...Building and Grounds Committee
- ...Residential Modification Committee, (Chaired 2012-2017)
- ...Communications Committee (Community Relations Committee) (2009-2020)
- ...Founder of the Wildlife Committee
- ...Founder and Chairman of the RWA Activities Committee
- ...Deed Restriction Committee

At the onset of my tenure as a Director, I made the motion to acquire the property that would eventually become our stunning Broadmoor Park. This also allowed the Association to replace our antiquated Headquarters outside the community to its handsome new location along the shores of Lake Farrell. Another major benefit was that it allowed us to establish our own mowing and community maintenance programs instead of hiring expensive outside contractors.

When not working on the serious nut-and-bolt Community issues, I've also found the time to administer the "Rotonda West Florida" family of Facebook groups that bring us all together, as well as host the "Rotonda West" radio show on WENG for two years.

Perhaps my greatest joys in serving Rotonda West, however, are the pontoon boat rides I've organized and sponsored in conjunction with several other wonderful boat owners in the community. Many hundreds of our residents have been able to see this fascinating place we call home from a unique and inspiring perspective throughout the year, and especially during the Christmas season when, for the last 14 years our gazebo lighting and Rotonda West Holiday Boat Parade have captured the spirit of the Holidays.

This year I will be organizing the 15th ... It is truly a labor of love!

Rotonda West will always be close to my heart. I believe I've already played a part in making it as outstanding as it is, and I am excited and anxious to be a part of realizing the unlimited potential we all believe it has.

We have much to do... I ask for your vote, so together we may begin...

Thank You.

Andy VanScyoc

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S ELECTION: TWO WAYS TO VOTE!

VOTE BY MAIL USING ABSENTEE BALLOT:

- Read blue instruction sheet carefully
- Mark your blue absentee ballot (Vote on Rollover Option and on Candidates)

***ROLLOVER EXPLANATION IS ON PAGE 10 OF NEWS-LETTER**

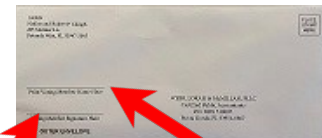
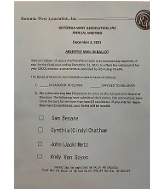
- Place the blue absentee ballot in the blue ballot envelope

- Seal the blue absentee ballot envelope

- Place blue envelope into the white outer envelope

- **PRINT AND SIGN YOUR NAME ON WHITE ENVELOPE**

- Attach postage to white outer envelope and mail (you may place in a larger white envelope for signature privacy)
OR drop off your outer white ballot envelope in the election lockbox located at the Association's office at 646 Rotonda Circle



VOTE AT THE ANNUAL MEETING:

- Thursday, December 2nd, 2021
- Annual Meeting held at the Rotonda West Community Center
- Voting in person will be from 5pm to 6:30 pm
- Meeting will resume at 7 pm after ballots are counted
- Board of Director election results are announced



EXPLANATION OF ROLLOVER OPTION WHICH APPEARS ON THE BALLOT

(Reposted from a previous West Ways FAQ's article)

PLEASE EXPLAIN "ROLLOVER OF EXCESS RWA HOA FUNDS" WHICH APPEARS ON THE BALLOT EACH YEAR

Property owners are asked each year as a part of the RWA election process to VOTE either YES or NO to rollover excess funds. Here is Geoffrey Lorah's (RWA's outside independent CPA auditor) explanation:

1. Common interest realty associations (primarily condominium and property owner / homeowner associations) are organized as not-for-profit corporations. For operating purposes, it is assumed the annual budgets for these associations will be prepared on a break-even basis, meaning expenditures will equal revenues. When an association has excess member revenue in any given year, there are three basic options available to the association regarding the treatment of the excess revenue:
 - A. Refund the excess revenue on a pro rata basis to the members of the association
 - B. Obtain member approval to "rollover" the excess revenue to the subsequent fiscal year
 - C. Retain the excess revenue and report this revenue as taxable income on the association's Federal and/or State tax return
2. If the members do not approve the rollover of the excess revenue, an association has two options regarding the treatment of the excess revenue; either refund it to the members or report it as taxable income.

Please note: This is a general explanation. The rollover process is primarily based on the requirements of IRS Revenue Ruling 70-604