

WEST WAYS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION, INC

December 2021



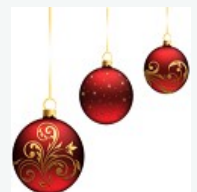
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LOOK AT WHAT'S INSIDE !

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Happy Holidays



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings Rotonda West,

As you read this issue of *West Ways*, our holiday season is upon us. We had a beautiful Gazebo lighting and boat parade last week and as you drive around our community, you will see our Memorial Parks, bridges and other areas with lovely holiday decorations and lights brought to us by our many volunteer decorators, repair persons and painters! All ably coordinated by Karen Harvey and with special thanks to Josh Brown Landscape Maintenance, who volunteered one of his bucket trucks and staff to help us hang our lighted decorations from some of the streetlights as we enter Rotonda West. Thank you for your hard work and efforts to make sure we all smile this season!

Thankfully, we are able to have our Christmas Parade this year and the food drive to benefit Englewood Helping Hand. While we had to place the Parade on hold last year, we are so pleased that we can have our cars, floats, and marchers, bringing us the holiday spirit thanks to the great work of our Parade coordinator Gwen Grace.

As this year winds down, I thank my fellow Directors, all the committee members and volunteers who make Rotonda a wonderful community, and our fantastic Association staff for their challenging work and assistance throughout the year.

Patricia Aho
President



DECEMBER 2021

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

- . December 2nd Thursday at 5 p.m. Annual Meeting/Election Results**
- . December 4th Saturday at 2 p.m. Christmas Parade (Check for NEW Route)**
- . December 10th Friday Music in the Park 4-6 p.m. “The Rotonda Ukulele Band”**
- . December 24th Friday, Rotonda West Offices Closed for Holiday**

JANUARY 2022

- . January 16th (3rd Sunday of each month) BINGO! 1-3 p.m.**
- . January 27th Thursday, 5-6:30 p.m. Music in the Park, “Seasons of Sound”**
- . January 29th Saturday, 9-12 a.m. “Shred Day”**

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

Patricia Aho, President

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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Connie Smith, Writer

Diane Shaw, Writer

David Pulaski, Photographer

Wayne Mengel, Photographer

Nadine Clough, Layout & Design



IF YOU HAVE NOT VOTED BY MAIL, YOU CAN STILL VOTE AT ANNUAL MEETING!

- Thursday, December 2nd, 2021 (5-8p.m.)
- Annual Meeting held at the Rotonda West Community Center
- Voting in person will be from 5pm to 6:30 pm
- Annual Meeting at 7 pm after ballots are counted
- Board of Director election results are announced



1. VOTE FOR TWO CANDIDATES



Sam Besase



Cynthia Chatham



John (Jack) Metz



Andy Van Sycoc

* Revision:
John (Jack)
Metz

2. VOTE “YES” OR “NO” TO ROLLOVER OF EXCESS HOA FUNDS

*Explanation of what “rollover of excess funds” means is on page 6 of this issue.



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



The Activities Committee



Patti Cowin, Event Coordinator



Woman's Club



Englewood Fishing Club



Fiesta Club



Rotonda West Assoc. Office



Rotonda Community CERT



Neighborhood Watch

ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION HOLDS INFORMATIVE AND WELL~ATTENDED OPEN HOUSE

Pictures by: Dave Pulaski



Rotonda Ukulele Band

WELCOME TO ROTONDA!



RWA Election Committee



West Ways Newsletter



Rotonda Classic Car Club

On November 4th, the Rotonda West Association held an Open House which showcased over thirty clubs, committees, and organizations. There was something for everyone, as over 130 people in attendance went from table to table gathering valuable information, asking questions, getting answers, and making decisions about possibly getting involved in and volunteering for the groups.

The Open House was organized by the Activities Committee, and the event was chaired by Patti Cowin.

Thank you to all those who attended!



Garden Club



Holiday Lights



GAZEBO LIGHTING AND BOAT PARADE

By Karen Harvey

Photos by David Pulaski

It was a night to remember, November 27, 2021, where more than 200 residents came out to watch the Holiday Lights being lit on the island for the first time this year and 15 decorated boats arrived at the marina. It was such a festive event, and it officially kicks off the upcoming holiday season in Rotonda West.

The Rotonda West Women's Club ladies made dozens upon dozens of cookies. The Hills provided coffee for the adults and cocoa for the children; music was provided by Jim Wasowski and the big guy, Santa, himself arrived by boat. Englewood Fire arrived right on cue with a shiny red fire truck.

All in all, everyone, young and old, had a terrific time and we were all sorry to see the evening end.



Kicking off the Holiday Season in Rotonda West





**MERRY
&
BRIGHT!**

**LIGHTED BOATS AND SHINY
FIRE TRUCKS PUT SMILES ON
EVERYONE'S FACES**



**SANTA CLAUS ARRIVES
IN STYLE!
MERRY CHRISTMAS!**



MUSIC IN THE PARK



**COME AND ENJOY
THE ROTONDA UKULELE BAND**

**FRIDAY,
DECEMBER 10TH**

4-6 P.M.

SING-ALONG TO HOLIDAY FAVORITES

BRING CHAIRS & SNACKS

BACK PORCH OF COMMUNITY CENTER

**IN CASE OF RAIN,
EVENT WILL BE HELD INSIDE**



Rhonda Kempton (left) and Karen Harvey (right), who organized the holiday decorating, work on lights at Long Meadow



Volunteers Rhonda Kempton, Gwen Grace, Carol Leon, Sonny Leon, Bob Clough, Nadine Clough, and Pam Wright helped to decorate Long Meadow Park

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS WHO HELPED TO MAKE ROTONDA WEST LOOK FESTIVE!

Story and Pictures by:
Connie Smith and Nadine Clough



Walt Vonah and Jack Horner inspect their placement of the Merry Christmas Pebble Beach sign that, along with lighting, is part of the decorations. Other volunteers at Pebble Beach Park were: Deb Orchard, Linda Kelly, Connie Smith, Bob Smith, and Theresa Vonah

OVER 30 PEOPLE VOLUNTEERED TO HELP DECORATE ROTONDA WEST COMMUNITY

Volunteers in addition to the names listed under the pictures:

Jim Gilliland, Liz Gilliland, Sharon Miller, Hugh Miller, Sharon Payne, John Payne, Donna Patterson, Barry Patterson, Wade Casteel, Cari Hale, Patti Cowin, Sam Besase, Kayleen Warren, Frank Warren, Denise Slovinski, Karleen Warren, Frank Warren, Jan Brown-Jacobs, & Dan Jacobs. Maureen & Bunky McDowell decorated all the bridges.

The Memorial Parks will be fully lighted following the official Gazebo Lighting and Boat Parade November 27th at the Rotonda Marina.

THE CHRISTMAS PARADE IS BACK WITH A “SANTA PAWS” THEME

By: Connie Smith



The Christmas Parade is back! Just like pre-Covid times, the first Saturday in December – December 4th, at 2 p.m. - will usher in the Christmas Season in Rotonda West. But there are some changes. A new route takes the parade from west to east along Rotonda Circle (it was the opposite in previous years). Staging is at Rotonda Boulevard West and the parade continues to Community Park where trophies will be presented (donated by Paradise Exclusive Real Estate) and The Hills Restaurant will offer refreshments, including hot dogs, beer, and wine.

Gwen Grace is the new parade chairperson, and her goal is to equal the size and enjoyment of past parades. Since there was no parade in 2020 and only one member of her committee has served before, 2021 is a year of rebuilding. Despite the route change, the physical length of the parade will remain 3 miles. As before, the Classic Car Cruisers and local fire department will lead the parade. The Lemon Bay High School band will join in at Rebel Court and continue to the Community Center. With a few days yet before the parade entry deadline, there were returning favorites: the Rotonda Ukulele Band, Fellowship Church, Sheriff Bill Prummell, and the Fishing Club. Other entries were the Girl Scouts, Dachshund Rescue, Englewood Chamber of Commerce, the South Gulf Cove Yacht Club, and the Conservation and Community Trust.

The Judge's reviewing stand will be at Pinehurst Memorial Park, along with a live WENG Radio parade report by Ken Birdsong and Joe Edwards. The parade theme is Santa Paws and many leashed animals are expected in the parade, along the route and in Community Park afterward. Chairperson Gwen reminded residents that animals are not allowed inside the Community Center, so provisions must be made for the animals' care. Englewood Helping Hands will be the beneficiary of a non-perishable or canned goods collection along the parade route. Just have your donations ready and someone will come along to receive the goods. In keeping with the Santa Paws parade theme, pet supplies and foods will also be accepted.

- Spirit of Christmas
- Best Use of Theme (Santa Paws)
- Best Performance
- Best Organization
- Best Community Business

- ## NEW PARADE ROUTE IN BLUE



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



HOLIDAY GREETINGS!



Many thanks to all members of the GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club, for the help of the RWA Staff and to all of the community members who supported us. The Christmas Bazaar, led by Super-Chairman Gwen Grace, was a tremendous success. The setting in the RWA Activity Building was perfect and many compliments were given by first time visitors as to the beautiful building and surroundings.

The Bazaar was the club's first and *only* fundraiser held in 2021, so we are especially grateful to our enthusiastic customers who provided us with the financial ability to look ahead to our brand-new Calendar Year/Fiscal Year/Club Year beginning January 1, 2022. Prior to the New Year, look for our Cookie Baking Elves at the Gazebo Lighting and cheer for Serge, the 2021 OneBlood Dog, riding in the Rotonda West Santa Paws Parade.

Plans for 2022 include the annual members Art & Craft Competition and a Trivia Night to be held in January. We hope to have a Rummage Sale in February; a Tea/Fashion Show in March. In between events, our projects include sponsoring OneBlood Drives on January 20 and on April 19; volunteering at Englewood Helping Hand; working on an on-going project to provide overnight bags with new pajamas, socks, books and hand-made bunnies for the Guardian ad Litem Program, a January School Supply Collection, on-going Food Drives; weekly Sewing, Knitting and Crafters meetings; and monthly meetings of our six book clubs.

Starting with the January 20th General Meeting, all are invited to visit and see if you would like to join the GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club. General Meetings are held on the *third* Thursday of the month, September through May. RWA Activity Building. 9:00 am Social Hour – 10:00 am General Meeting. January's meeting will be sponsored by the Art & Culture Community Service Program. February's Hearts Afire meeting will be sponsored by the Health & Wellness Community Service Program.



ATTENTION: EARLY ROTONDA WEST RESIDENTS!

**WEST WAYS NEWSLETTER WOULD LOVE TO SHARE
YOUR EARLY MEMORIES OF ROTONDA WEST!**

**PLEASE SUBMIT ANY OLD PICTURES OR SHORT STORIES
ABOUT THE EARLY DAYS IN ROTONDA THAT YOU WOULD
LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS.**

**SEND QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, STORIES, OR PICTURES
TO: westways@rotondawest.org.**

**Editor will be glad to help you in any way needed*

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