

WEST WAYS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION, INC

APRIL 2023



PUBLISHED BY THE ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION FOR ROTONDA WEST PROPERTY OWNERS.
THE E-NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT ROTONDAWEST.ORG

ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION NAME VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

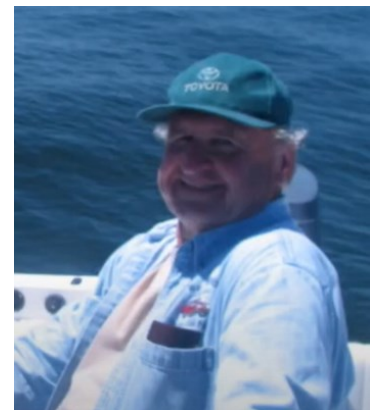
Congratulations and a big thank you to the RWA volunteers of the year! Nick Gizzi, past president of the Rotonda West Association Board of Directors, and a member of the Aquatics Committee, Deed Restrictions Committee, Community Outreach Committee, Holiday Decorating Committee, and many more, and the late Stan Plizga, key member of the Aquatics Committee, MSBU Board,



Nick Gizzi

Wildlife Committee, organizer of the Bird/Nature Walks, past BOD member, and builder of the sleigh and reindeer that grace the RWA entrance at the holidays, and many other community efforts. The awards were presented by Karen Harvey, at the Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner.

Nick Gizzi was accompanied by his wife, Kathy, and grandson, Philip. Stan Plizga's wife, Charlotte accepted the award given to Stan posthumously, and was accompanied by Hank Killion. Both men received a standing ovation, and the community's sincere appreciation for their contributions.



Stan Plizga

LOOK AT WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE!

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BOD President
Andy VanScyoc



Community Outreach
Committee Chair
Deb Orchard



Budget & Finance
Committee Member
Jack Metz



Deed Restriction
Committee Member
Loni Kiedrowski

ANNUAL VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER RECOGNIZES 2022 VOLUNTEERS

Rotonda West Association is a large HOA with over 15,000 members! It takes a village to run. With a small paid staff, volunteers are vital to its success!

On Sunday, March 19th, at The Hills Golf & Country Club, Rotonda West association honored the volunteers who served in 2022 on committees, the Board, and the Holiday Decorating Committee.

Some of the activities that were planned such as the Christmas Parade and Celebrate the Circle had to be scuttled because of Hurricane Ian, but the work continued in other areas.

The RWA also honored two people with Volunteer of the Year awards. They were Nick Gizzi, and posthumously, Stanley Plizga. Both of these men are so deserving of this award for their tireless service of 20 plus years to the Association.

By: Karen Harvey

Photos by: David Pulaski

From all of us who attended the dinner, we wish to thank the RWA for sponsoring the event, the Community Outreach Committee for organizing the event, Karen Harvey and Lynn Smith for planning the event, Karen Harvey for being the emcee, the speakers (pictured on this page) who represented the committees, and The Hills Golf & Country Club for a delicious meal.



Emcee Karen Harvey



Building & Grounds
Committee Chair
Sam Besase



Residential Modification
& Compliance Committee
Chair Barb Peszko



Election Committee
Chair Rose Anne
Woodliff



Event Planners:
Lynn Smith & Karen Harvey

Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

Photos by: David Pulaski

ALL NAMES ARE LISTED LEFT TO RIGHT



Holly Carr, Barb Peszko, and
Kathy Gizzi



Manager Derrick Hedges
and wife Meghan



John Harvey, Wade Casteel,
Annette Casteel, Donna Patterson



Dave Woodliff,
Rose Anne Woodliff, Cheryl
Lateer, and Nadine Clough



Kathy Gizzi, Bob Clough,
and Cheryl Lateer



John Peszko, Nick Gizzi, and Nick's
grandson, Philip Knecht



A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS OF 2022!



APRIL EVENTS

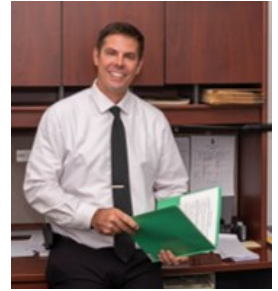
- April 1st, Saturday, **CELEBRATE THE CIRCLE!** Held at Broadmoor Park, at 646 Rotonda Circle. Time: 11 a.m.—3 p.m. (See page 10 for details)
- April 15th, Saturday, **GFWC RWWC– Fashion Show Fundraiser**, 11:30 a.m.
- April 16th, Sunday, **BINGO** 1-3 p.m. Doors open at 12:15 p.m. In the Community Center.
- April 17th, Monday, **Guided Nature Walk** in Broadmoor Park 9-10:30 a.m.
- April 18th, Tuesday, **GFWC-RWWC One Blood Drive** 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- April 25th, Tuesday, **MEET & GREET** in the Community Center at 646 Rotonda Circle. 5-7 p.m. (See page 12 for details)
- April 26th, Wednesday, **A Frank Levin Lecture, “The Most Important Minus Sign”** 1-2:30 p.m. in the Community Center.
- April 26th, Wednesday, **Florida Lake Watch Annual Meeting, Demonstration, and Lecture.** 4:30-8:30 p.m. In the Community Center.
- April 27th, Thursday, **Fire Department Presentation on services** 7 p.m.—8:30 p.m., (6:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m. free sundaes)
- April 29th, Saturday, **GFWC-RWWC PanCan Purplest Ride (Walk to Support Pancreatic Cancer)** 8 a.m.-10 a.m. in Broadmoor Park



MAY EVENTS

- May 18th, Thursday, **Charlotte County Emergency Management Presentation on Hurricane Preparedness.** Ice Cream Sundaes 6:30-7 p.m., Presentation 7-8:30 p. m.

MANAGER'S MESSAGE



Greetings Rotonda West Association Members,

Six months ago, our community was devastated by Hurricane Ian. Despite this horrific occurrence, our community has made tremendous progress with cleanup and repair efforts. Our Rotonda West paradise is being restored better than ever.

Following the aftermath of Hurricane Ian, the Rotonda West Association Board of Directors waived the requirement for a Residential Modification Application (R.M.A.) until April 3, 2023, for any repairs needed as a result of damage by Hurricane Ian. Needed repairs were limited to "like for like," the same footprint, following the Residential Modification Guidelines and Deed Restrictions. The Board of Directors also relaxed the parking restrictions until April 3, 2023. The Rotonda West Association made these decisions so residents could make needed repairs and debris could be removed with more flexibility to residents.

Starting Tuesday, April 4, 2023, the Rotonda West Association will resume regular enforcement of the Deed Restrictions.

Rotonda West Association is working diligently to help those in our community affected by Hurricane Ian. Accommodations are offered where the storm's impact on property conditions has resulted in violations. The Rotonda West Association requests that you contact Deed Restrictions Administrator **Holly Carr at 941-697-6788** or email holly@rotondawest.org for more information.

Thank you,

Derrick Hedges
Rotonda West Association Inc.,
Manager



Rotonda West Association Board of Directors 2023



Sitting L to R:

Sam Besase, Treasurer; Andy VanScyoc, President;
Les Goodman, Vice President;

Standing L to R:

Patricia Cowin, Secretary; Jack Metz, Director;
Karen Harvey, Director

Right: David Kelly, Director



BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE SECOND AND FOURTH THURSDAY OF
EACH MONTH IN THE COMMUNITY CENTER AT 2 P.M.

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND A MEETING AND LEARN INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR
COMMUNITY FIRST HAND.

OR YOU MAY ZOOM THE MEETINGS FROM THE COMFORT OF YOUR HOME.

OFFICE STAFF

Derrick Hedges
Manager

Tammy Birdsong
Administrator

**Holly Carr, &
Nancy Schwechel**
Administrators and
Deed Restrictions

Jenny Bulle
Bookkeeper

Annette Casteel
Administrator and
Minutes Clerk

Sheryl Ann Nowicki
Administrator

Joe Harris
Communications Specialist

Jay Dernier
Compliance Officer

MAINTENANCE STAFF

Wayne Taylor

Dale Anderson

Bill Simmons

Craig Brown

Doug Smith

***THANK YOU TO OUR
WONDERFUL STAFF***

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2023

Andy VanScyoc, President

Les Goodman, 1st Vice President

Sam Besase, Treasurer

Patti Cowin, Secretary

David Kelley, Director

Jack Metz, Director

Karen Harvey, Director



WEST WAYS STAFF

Nadine Clough, Editor

Connie Smith, Feature Writer

Grace Checuti, Flyer Designer

Karen Harvey, Writer

Barry Kean, Writer

Lynn Smith, Writer

Deb Orchard, Writer

Rita Lopienski, Writer

David Pulaski, Photographer

Wayne Mengel, Photographer

Nadine Clough, Layout & Design

Spring Events 2023

*ALL EVENTS ARE OPEN TO RWA MEMBERS AND THEIR GUESTS.
ROTONDA WEST COMMUNITY CENTER AND BROADMOOR PARK
646 ROTONDA CIRCLE*

BINGO - Apr 16, May 21

Sunday, 1 pm – 4 pm, Doors open at 12:15 pm

Meet & Greet Potluck Dinner - Mar 28, Apr 25, May 23, Jun 27

Tuesday, 5 pm – 7 pm

March 25 - Music in the Park with Jonny Puma

Saturday, 6:30 pm - 8 pm

April 1 - Celebrate the Circle

Saturday, 11 am – 3 pm, Family friendly outdoor party.

April 17 - Guided Nature Walk at Broadmoor Park

Monday, 9 am, Meet at Community Center Doors

April 21 - Music in the Park "Rotonda's Got Singers"

Friday, 6:30 pm - 8 pm

April 26 - Lecture "The Most Important Minus Sign" by Frank Levin

Wednesday, 1 pm - 2:30 pm

April 27 - Charlotte Co Fire Dept - Programs, Info & Services

Thursday, 7 pm - 8:30 pm - Ice cream Sundaes 6:30 pm - 7 pm

May 18 - Charlotte Co Emergency Mgt - Hurricane Preparedness

Thursday, 7 pm - 8:30 pm - Ice cream Sundaes 6:30 pm - 7 pm

June 3 - National Bike Day Ride

Saturday, 9 am, Rotonda Community Park Pavillion

June 21 - Lecture "Global Warming – Truth or Consequence"

By Frank Levin Wednesday, 1 pm - 2:30 pm

June 22 - Damsel in Defense - Self-Defense & Awareness

Thursday, 7 pm - 8:30 pm - Ice cream Sundaes 6:30 pm - 7 pm

June 24 - Music in the Park - more information later



**CELEBRATE THE
CIRCLE WAS A
GREAT SUCCESS!
THANK YOU TO ALL
THE PEOPLE WHO
MADE THIS SPECIAL
DAY POSSIBLE.**



GUIDED NATURE WALKS

Story and Pictures by: Rita Lopienski



MARCH 13TH WALK

The guided nature walk in Broadmoor Park on March 13th was great! Close to forty people attended. Our two guides, Bill Dunson, Professor Emeritus in biology from Penn State University, and Jim Peterfesco shared their knowledge with the group. The participants looked at and learned about ants, good & bad weeds, oaks and pines, birds, bodies of water, butterflies, alligators, and more!



APRIL 17TH WALK

The next walk is planned for Monday, April 17th, at 9 a.m. Meet at the Community Center doors in Broadmoor Park, 646 Rotonda Circle.

Join guides Jim Peterfesco and Bob Horswill for a butterfly, bird, and plant identification easy-paced walk through Broadmoor Park.

The ecology of Florida butterflies will likely be discussed, as time permits. Meet at the community center portico.

WEST WAYS NEEDS YOU!

Your Rotonda West Newsletter, West Ways, depends on people who are willing to contribute stories, ideas, pictures, reports or just about anything that is about our community.

You are not required to submit an article each month, or even to join a committee. Our newsletter would love to showcase our community members and their interests.

Please contact Nadine Clough, West Ways Editor, if you have any questions or would like to submit something.

My email: westways@rotondawest.org



GIVE WRITING A TRY!

**OUR NEWSLETTER
GOES OUT TO PEOPLE
ALL OVER THE
COUNTRY AND ALL
OVER THE WORLD!**

**CURRENTLY, WEST
WAYS IS SENT TO OVER
4,000 READERS!**

Broadmoor Park has tremendous value as a habitat for wildlife. The lakes (three of which have good water quality), along with the Long Leaf and Slash Pines, Live Oaks, and Prairie offer good opportunities to see wildlife.

Broadmoor Park is listed as an iNaturalist Project area to document flora and fauna found by iNaturalist participants. This project was established by the University of Florida Wildlife Ecologist Mark Hoestedler, who surveyed Broadmoor Park in 2018. He set up the iNaturalist Broadmoor Park project in 2021.

Connect with Nature.
Identify flora and fauna.
Download the app:
iNaturalist



 *Rotonda West*
ASSOCIATION
Community Outreach Committee

GUIDED NATURE WALK BROADMOOR PARK

MONDAY, APRIL 17 9:00 AM

JOIN THE GUIDES...

Join Jim Peterfeso and Bob Horswill for a butterfly, bird, and plant identification easy-paced walk through Broadmoor Park. The ecology of Florida butterflies will likely be discussed as time permits.



GATHER TOGETHER

646 Rotonda Circle
Outside of the
Community Center at the
Overhang.
Please no pets.



CONSIDERATIONS

- *Apply sunblock & bug spray.
- *Wear a hat & comfy shoes.
- *Hydration beverage.
Alcohol not allowed.
- *Binoculars - Camera - Magnifier
Tip: Depending upon your device, a cell phone can be used as a camera and magnifier.





MEET & GREET POTLUCK DINNER



The first Meet & Greet Potluck Dinner of the season was held on Tuesday, March 28th and was a resounding success with approximately 60 people attending! Friends and neighbors of Rotonda West came together, along with their dish to share, and got to meet new friends, talk with some old friends, and share a dinner.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming Potluck Dinners! The planned dinner will be held this month on **Tuesday, April 25th, from 5-7 p.m. in the Community Center.**

Bring your own drink of choice (no alcohol), and a dish to share. Table service is provided.

COME MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS!



SPECIAL AWARD

Photographer David Pulaski was given an award and recognition for his part in fighting a fire at his condo. Read the original article from May 2022 in West Ways on page 13 in this issue.



Above: David Pulaski accepts award from Charlie King

**West Ways Photographer
Helps Fight Fire at the
Castaways Condominiums
in Englewood**

By: Nadine Clough



David W Pulaski

On Friday April 1st, a fire started in the Castaways Condominiums in Englewood. According to Battalion Chief Raymond Reese, the fire broke out in the kitchen of a ground floor apartment. The guests staying in the apartment used their extinguishers and managed to slow down the progress of the fire.

Rotonda residents Dave and Wanda Pulaski rented a Castaways unit for a week vacation on Manasota Key. As they were unpacking on Friday, Dave smelled smoke and asked if Wanda was cooking something. Below is Dave's account of the incident:

I opened up the door to the deck and was met with a wall of thick smoke from below us. I ran down the stairs and saw smoke flowing out from the door of the first-floor unit. The door frame siding was already melting. I do not remember the doorknob being warm. I cracked the door open a bit and looked in. The stove, cabinets, stove vent were a wall of big scary flames. The ceiling had started to burn.

I broke the glass case that held a fire extinguisher outside the units, and pulled the extinguisher pin. I then ran into the unit to fight the fire. I know, ludicrous, right? I hit the flames around the stove and vent, cabinets, then stuck the extinguisher hose up the stove vent. I attacked the fire several times as other guests formed a water bucket line to fight the fire until the firefighters got there.

It was quite scary! The Englewood Fire Department arrived already fully outfitted and immediately they drenched that black mess. Smoke gone. Impressive! Battalion Chief Reese said the guests did a really good job of containing the fire.

Great job Dave!

Get to know your neighbors &
make new friends!

MEET & GREET POTLUCK

5 pm - 7 pm
Tuesday, April 25th
RWA Community Center
646 Rotonda Circle

For all residents and renters in the Circle.
Bring a dish to share & your drink of choice and cup.
We will provide the rest of the tableware.
50/50 Drawing!

BINGO

*April 16th
Sunday*

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Play begins promptly at 1:00 pm
Doors open at 12:15 pm

The event is open to RWA members
and their guests.

646 Broadmoor Circle, RWA
Community Center

Snacks & water available, or bring your
own. Covered beverage container please.

Must be 18 to play.

Event open to RWA members and their guests.



Community Outreach Committee



Photo by: Rita Lopienski

**COME AND
JOIN THE FUN!**

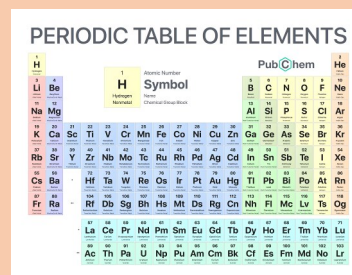
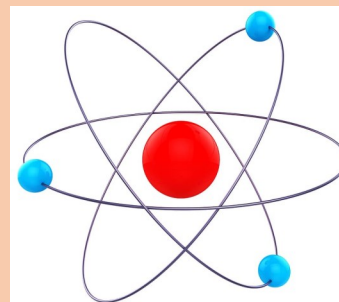
The Most Important Minus Sign in the Universe

A Lecture by Frank Levin

Wednesday, April 26th 1 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

Held in the Community Center, 646 Rotonda Circle

Minus signs are ubiquitous, ranging for example from negative numbers to characterizing losses in the stock market. Yet the most remarkable one is very likely unknown to non-scientists. Termed the most important minus sign in the universe, it is responsible for the existence of everything we are familiar with, such as life as we know it. Without it, atoms not only would be very different, but so would the Periodic Table of the Elements that organize and classifies them, if indeed there could even be one. This most important minus sign determines the structure of atoms and thus the Periodic Table. If you find this intriguing and want to learn details, then you are invited to join Frank Levin, a retired Brown University physics professor, for a 90-minute lecture on this topic, no math or science background needed.



ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION, INC.

646 Rotonda Circle

Rotonda West, Florida 33947

Tel: (941) 697-6788

Fax: (941) 697-0788

Email: info@rotondawest.org

CELEBRATE NATIONAL LIBRARY MONTH BY VISITING ROTONDA'S OWN BOOK NOOK



Stop in some time when the Community Center is open (9 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays) and sign out a book!

On your way into the main room of the Community Center, you might have glanced to the left and seen bookshelves. Maybe you investigated the Book Nook on your way to the restrooms. If you have not, then you are missing a jewel of a library right here in our community.

The Community Center Library was founded in 1975, and officially dedicated in 1977. The library was started with a donation of 500 books from the GFWC Ronda West Woman's Club. The club started the library and it's an ongoing volunteer service that they provide. It was first located in the old RWA Office Building on Cape Haze Drive, before moving to its present location when the new community center opened.

Presently, Sharon Ivanik oversees the Book Nook. She organizes and oversees the many books that are offered.

Donations are accepted of gently used books with copywrite dates after 2017. Duplicate books are not shelved.

MUSIC IN THE PARK WITH JONNY PUMA

March Event by: Nadine Clough



Jonny Puma

Photo by: N. Clough

Another great performance by Jonny Puma! He does not disappoint. A beautiful evening filled with favorite songs like "Another Saturday Night", "Wagon Wheel", "Dancing in the Moonlight", "Tennessee Whiskey", "Hallelujah", and many more. He happily took some requests, and ended the evening with "The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald" as the crowd headed for home. Approximately 170 people attended.



MUSIC IN THE PARK

EVENTS ARE SPONSORED BY THE COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE



Music *in the* Park

“Rotonda’s Got Singers”

Featuring talented RWA members and their talents:
Scott Barnette, Pearl Strohm, Dick Young, Doc Coombs,
Michael Dionne, Vance Absher, Wayne Barber, Don McGuire,
Kent Harvey, and Andy Van Scyoc with with Nichol Kastor.

21
APRIL
SATURDAY

BROADMOOR
PARK
646 ROTONDA
CIRCLE

6:30
PM
TO 8
PM

Bring your seating, beverage and snacks.
Come and enjoy the music!

All events are open to RWA members and their guests.



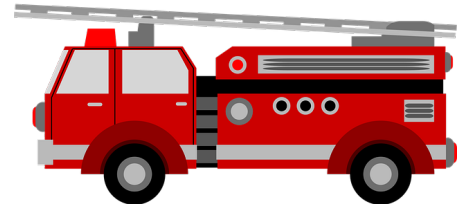
Rotonda West
Association
Community Outreach Committee

ROTONDA EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS HOSTED BY THE COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE

FIRST IN THE SERIES OF PRESENTATIONS:

APRIL 27th from 7-8:30 p.m.

CHARLOTTE COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT
LEARN ABOUT YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT
SERVICES



Programs, Information, & Services -Hear about: Reflective Address Marker, AED Registration, Knox Box Program, Red Dot Program, Santa Firehouse Pancake Breakfast, and Smoke Detector Program.

Presentations will begin at 7 p.m.

From 6:30 p.m.-7 p.m. we will be providing **free**
ice cream sundaes to attendees.

Presentation held inside the Community Center

UPCOMING PRESENTATIONS INCLUDE:

- MAY 18TH - Charlotte County Emergency Management and Neighborhood Watch-Hurricane Preparedness. What you need to know to prepare for storm season.
- JUNE 22ND - Damsel in Defense. Laura Fogarty on “Self-Defense and Awareness”. She will explain situational awareness/focus locked, 5 key elements of self-defense, intuition signs, staging your home when traveling, and choosing the right products for you. She will have products available for purchase. However, you are in no way obligated to make a purchase.



The Wonder Horse

By: Connie Smith and Nadine Clough

The following story is one that Nadine Clough shared with Don Mahon about a year ago. He thought this would be a wonderful story to share with the readers of West Ways. Nadine was hesitant, but Don insisted. He contacted Connie Smith to do the interview and write the story. So here is the story Don wanted in West Ways. It is a promise kept.

The horse was born in 1961 at the stable where the young girl, Nadine helped out. The day the horse entered the world, she was standing in the next box stall witnessing the birth. The colt stood up soon after birth strong and sure of himself. That confidence and strength would follow him throughout his 30 years of life, and he would need every bit of it for what lay ahead of him.

The colt was named Spicy Melbourne. His sire was called Spicy, and was a Morgan horse, one of the earliest horse breeds developed in the United States and the symbol of the State of Vermont. His mother was called Silver Melbourne, and she was a lovely Standardbred mare who had raced at the prestigious Saratoga Harness Track in New York. They called him "Mel" for short, and he became a beauty with a golden palomino coloring and a flowing mane and tail.



Spicy Melbourne



A few years passed, and Nadine decided to purchase Mel. Her family had moved to a farm with a barn for a horse. A dream come true! Now she could continue the training and showing of Mel full time. Mel was smart and quickly learned the art of barrel racing, a timed race maneuvering around several lined up barrels. They competed in many shows, dramatically bending at full speed around the barrels. They also competed in western riding classes exhibiting the quality of the horsemanship and the trained willingness of the horse to follow each subtle reining or leg pressure signal. Many ribbons were won over those early years.

Above:

One of Mel's ribbons won at the Skidmore College Spring Horse Show in New York.

Then tragedy struck. Mel had caught a virus that went into both eyes, and he soon became totally blind at the age of seven. The veterinarian told Nadine and her family that the horse must be put down. Her parents agreed. They did not want their daughter riding a blind horse! It was dangerous! Nadine asked for more time with Mel, and her parents agreed to wait until winter before dealing with the sad situation.

What might have been the end for some horses was simply the beginning of "Mel, The Wonder Horse". That was when Mel's astounding intelligence dumbfounded everyone. Nadine continued to ride the horse as before, the training taking over for the loss of sight. Mel continued to obey each command given, and trusted Nadine completely. He would even run at a full gallop when asked.

Eventually, Mel was once again entered in Western riding competitions, and it was only when judges learned of Mel's blindness that ribbons were withheld. After Mel's story got around, she was asked to perform barrel racing demonstrations with the blind horse, and at the conclusion of each performance, audiences were astonished to hear the horse that hadn't missed a step was blind!

Wonder Horse Continued

Many special years followed for Nadine and her horse. Mel always was ready for a show, or a trail ride, and would not hesitate to run at a full gallop if he trusted the rider. But if the rider were a beginner rider or a child, he would keep it at a walk no matter how many times “giddy-up” was said.

He had incredible spatial memory. One story was told of Mel walking smack into a fence post that was left in the middle of a field after the fence was taken down. The post was removed immediately after the incident, but from that day forward, Mel would always stop at that spot, and go around. People could never figure out what he was doing! But Mel knew his pasture.

Nadine grew up, got married, and had three children that all rode Mel. Many more horses came and went through Mel’s life and he was buddies with all of them. He would follow them around the pasture and whinny for them when he got separated, and they would whinny back. None of them, however, achieved Mel’s legendary status as a “Wonder Horse”

Mel died in 1991, at the age of 30, having lived a long and tremendously fulfilling life for a horse. A life shared with a girl who will never forget him.



Left to right: Mel with his buddy Alpha 1973



Nadine and Mel 1968

Author’s Note:

This story is dedicated to the memory of Don Mahon whose fond wish was to read about Nadine the horse lover.

Connie Smith



Example of a rider and horse barrel racing.

Barrell racing event horses are trained to respond to neck reining and bend with leg pressure.

This is the event that Mel excelled in before and after the virus took his sight.



Protecting Rotonda West since 1981

www.rotondawestneighborhoodwatch.com

Facebook @ Rotonda West Neighborhood

Neighbors helping neighbors. It's a simple adage and one that holds immeasurable power when it comes to keeping communities safe. Residents should always keep an eye out for strangers in their neighborhood. If anyone is seen running through the neighborhood, carrying suspicious packages, entering an unoccupied house, loitering around, peering into cars, waiting around schools or parks, or even appearing at people's doors as a delivery person with the wrong address, call the Sheriff's Non-Emergency number 941-639-0013.

Why do we patrol? Basic Crime Prevention~ Work for a better and safer neighborhood through protecting and honoring the rights of others.

Build a Stronger Community~ Get to know your neighbors. In our fast-paced world, we don't spend enough time learning about our neighbors. Watch groups give community members a reason to get together and talk about making their community a better place

Benefits of Neighborhood Watch

There are obvious benefits Neighborhood Watch volunteers and their communities have experienced throughout the years such as: • a reduction in crime • a better quality of life • a greater sense of security, responsibility, and personal control • building community pride and unity • preparing for helping others and ourselves in our community • becoming the extra "eyes and ears" of law enforcement personnel and therefore reduce law enforcement's burden.

You Can Do It

Feel like you don't have the time? You don't have to take on a leadership role. It only takes a moment to notice something suspicious and report what you saw. Volunteers assist just two hours a month. Every effort helps.

Feel like you don't have the skills? Your Neighborhood Watch will train you in person or virtually. Neighborhood Watch is also a good way to share your experiences, practice your skills and learn new ones.

Feel like you're still a newcomer to the neighborhood? Neighborhood Watch is a wonderful way to get to know your neighbors and find people who share your interests. Knowing your neighbors also makes it easier to recognize strangers who may not have legitimate business on your street.

You're Part of the Answer People like you are what makes a Neighborhood Watch program successful. Your neighbors need your help and you need your neighbor's help. The small steps you take now will pay big dividends down the road. Building a spirit of community helps keep all of you safer and more secure. That's what Neighborhood Watch is all about!

If you are looking to volunteer as a Patrol or be a Base Station, it just takes two hours a month; a small commitment to protecting our neighborhoods. If you are interested in joining our organization, please contact David Perry at 941-828-1584 OR go to our Facebook page @ Rotonda West Neighborhood Watch

Protecting Rotonda West since 1981



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



Gwen Grace, President

A big thank you to all the Rotonda West residents who supported our fundraising efforts at the March 11th Craft Bazaar and Cookies by the Pound sale. We sold out of cookies and baked goods by noon. With your support we are able to provide Lemon Bay High School college and technical school scholarships as well as supporting many local charities.

Our March general membership meeting featured the Lemon Bay High School Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps parading the colors. Chief David West, the NJROTC advisor, explained the program and took questions. Our other guests were from the Ukrainian National Woman's League of America and from Punta Gorda Rotary Club which is supporting an effort to aid the Ukrainian people with medical supplies and food.



Coming up on April 15th is the Spring Fling Fashion Show and Luncheon. At this writing, there are still a few tickets left. Check out the flyer on page 23.



LEFT: The club members had lots to do in March with road clean-up on Rotonda Blvd West, Ukrainian Easter egg decorating, and RIGHT: a trip to the Ringling College/Englewood Art Center to name just a few of the many activities the club provides.



YOU ARE INVITED... Please come to a general meeting and see if you would like to join the GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club. The Thursday, April 20th meeting will include the induction of 20 new members of the club at the RWA Community Center. A 9 am social hour precedes the 10 am general meeting.

For more information about supporting or becoming a member of the GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club see our website at www.gfwcrotondawest.org. We are a 501(c)3 nonprofit woman's service organization.



GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club Presents

Spring Fling Luncheon & **FASHION SHOW**

Place: Rotonda West Community Center

646 Rotonda Circle, Rotonda West, FL 33947

Date: **SATURDAY, APRIL 15TH 2023**

Time: **11:30 A.M.**

Fashion by Off the Wave,
409 W Dearborn St, Englewood, FL 34223



****Door Prizes and Opportunity Drawings****

Lunch includes Mimosas and Dessert

For Tickets: CALL 941-697-5303 or

EMAIL Racheleadler22@gmail.com

Tickets also available at Off The Wave & The Literacy Center



DONATION : \$35 Ticket

Checks should be made out to gfwc-rwwc

Proceeds to benefit The Literacy Center for Dyslexia

695 Old Englewood Rd, Englewood FL, 34223

GFWC RWWC is a 501(c) 3 non-profit

RWA MEMBERS

JOIN CONSTANT CONTACT

FULL RWA WEBSITE ACCESS

&

DELIVERED TO YOUR E-MAIL

WEST WAYS NEWSLETTER
ANNOUNCEMENTS
COMMITTEE MEETINGS
EVENTS AND FUNCTIONS
GENERAL INTEREST

**Administrative Office - Community Center
Broadmoor Park**

**646 Rotonda Circle
Rotonda West, Florida 33947**

**Office Hours: 8:00AM - 4:00PM M - F
TEL: (941) 697-6788**



COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE

HOW TO REGISTER

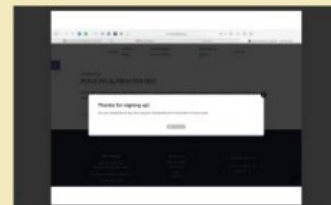
Step 1.

**On any device with
website access go to:
rotondawest.org**



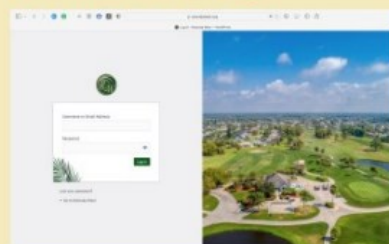
Step 2.

**Fill out the pop-up screen
information.
Enter "Sign-up"
Close screen**



Step 3.

**To enter into website,
log-in again at
rotondawest.org**



NEED HELP? CALL 941-697-6788