

WEST WAYS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION, INC

JUNE 2023



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

Charlotte County Emergency Manager Patrick Fuller Speaks on Hurricane Preparedness

Yes, it's that time again! Hurricane season begins June 1st.

On May 18th, the second in the Emergency Preparedness Series sponsored by the Community Outreach Committee was held in the Rotonda Community Center at Broadmoor Park, 646 Rotonda Circle.

Over 100 Rotonda residents heard Patrick Fuller, Charlotte County Emergency Manager speak on the importance of being prepared for the upcoming hurricane season. Early predictions put the expected number of named storms at 13 for this year. Fuller stressed that people need to prepare for each and every hurricane, and not to become complacent. Heed each warning as if the storm will be as intense and dangerous as Hurricane Ian was.



Patrick Fuller

Note: These presentations are also available on zoom



**MORE STORY
& PICTURES
ON NEXT PAGE**



Emergency Preparedness Presentation, cont.



Above: David Perry, President of Neighborhood Watch

Other speakers at the presentation were David Perry, president of Rotonda Neighborhood Watch, and John Blanchette, of CERT (Community Emergency Response Team).

David Perry spoke on the purpose of Neighborhood Watch, and its continued need for volunteers.

Blanchette stated that the one area in post-storm operations that is in need of improvement is in the area of better communication. He noted the importance of setting up incident command posts to serve as a base for communications.



See page 17 for John Blanchette's full explanation of this much needed addition to post-storm operations.

Left: John Blanchette, Gulf Coast CERT ERT

START PREPARING NOW FOR STORM SEASON

- Know your evacuation zone.
- Have an evacuation plan ready. Where will you go?
- Keep contact information up-to-date in your phone.
- Check your disaster supplies. Build a disaster kit.
- Refill prescriptions and have at least a two week supply.
- Trim landscaping, and secure or store any object that can cause damage in high wind.
- Stay informed through local news and weather reports.
- Have storm shutters ready and a plan to install them.
- Secure your boat early. Drawbridges are closed after an evacuation order is given.
- Have cash on hand. Have a full tank of gas in your car.
- Have your pet and their supplies ready for an evacuation.
- Stock up on water and canned goods before storm.



Above L to R: Grace Chetcuti, Rita Lopienski greet residents to the presentation.

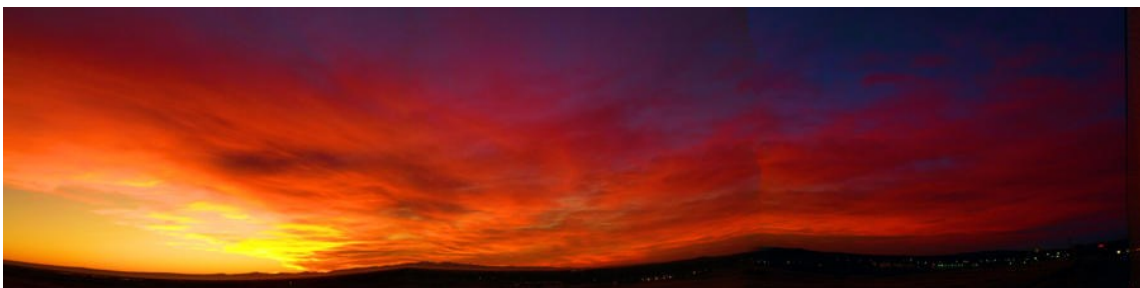


Above L to R: Gwen Grace, Annette Casteel, Manager Derrick Hedges, & Nadine Clough serve free ice cream sundaes as residents get the "scoop" on hurricane preparedness.

UPCOMING: 3RD IN THE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS SERIES JUNE 22ND - Damsel in Defense. "Self-Defense and Awareness"

LOOK AT WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE!

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

RWA President Andy VanScyoc



CANAL CLEAN-UP EFFORT

Rotonda West has 26 miles of canals that are a beautiful part of our community. Unfortunately, Hurricane Ian used our canal system as a dumping area to catch any and all types of objects that were not nailed down.



A special group of Rotonda residents took up the challenge of cleaning up the debris left in the canals after the hurricane. Many people helped out with this effort, and we thank them all. Here are the people who took part in 5 clean-up missions or more: Stephanie Jack, Cindy Chatham, Patti Cowin, Hank Barstow, Bryan Cox, Steve Reed, Bob Carver, FJ Mignagaray, and Larry Lopienski,

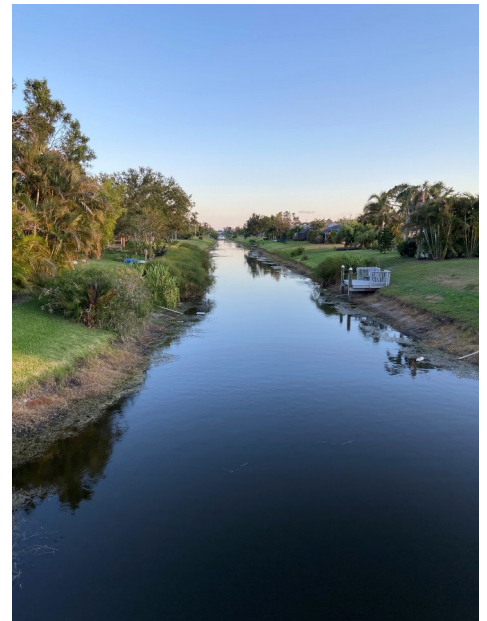
and several others. I wish I had kept track. Apologies to those I left out.

Much time and energy was devoted to the clean-up. We spent about 80 boat hours doing the job, so far. Man hours is probably north of 300. We have gone through about 700 dollars worth of fuel, mostly funded by the donations of generous residents of Rotonda West.

The objects retrieved were varied. We have removed large roof sections, soffit parts, tree debris, pool cages, patio furniture, lots of screen materials often with fish trapped inside that we would release, and many, many porta potties and trash bins. Also, I did retrieval work with my truck in areas that weren't boat friendly.

Many community members living along the canal pulled out debris themselves. The "Team Player" signs helped out with that. When the clean-up crew spotted a "Team Player" sign, they knew that there was debris to be picked up at that location. It helped out a lot with the process of picking up the junk.

Even after 8 months of clean-up, there may still be debris in the canals that need attention. If you have canal debris that needs to be picked up, please call the RWA office (941) 697-6788 and leave a message.



Pinehurst Canal

Thank you to all the community members who helped out in so many ways!

JUNE EVENTS

- June 3rd, Saturday, “Rotonda Strong” Our Health & Wellness series. National Bike Day. Meet at the Rotonda Community Park on Parade Circle at 9 a.m. for a group photo and information. Bring your bicycle and let’s ride.
- June 21st, Wednesday, Frank Levin Lecture “Global Warming Truth or Consequences” 1 p.m.-2:30 p.m. at the RWA Community Center.
- June 22nd, Thursday, 3rd in the “Emergency Preparedness Series”, Laura Fogarty from Damsel in Defense. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Laura’s presentation on personal safety is from 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m. in the Community Center. This safety workshop is offered to ALL residents (men & women), as it is an important topic for all of us.

FREE Ice Cream Sundaes from 6:30-7 p.m.

- June 24th, Saturday, Music in the Park. Cary Price from Fletcher Music 2-4 p.m. (Doors open at 1:30) Be prepared for a high energy show of tunes from the 50’s through the 90’s. Free ice cream sundaes at intermission. (INSIDE EVENT)
- June 27th, Tuesday, “Meet & Greet Potluck Dinner” 5 p.m.-7 p.m. in the Community Center



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

Jack Lennar
Compliance Officer

MAINTENANCE STAFF

Wayne Taylor

Dale Anderson

Bill Simmons

Craig Brown

***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 Chetcuti, 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

GFWC ROTONDA WEST WOMAN'S CLUB HONORS AND REMEMBER VETERANS ON MEMORIAL DAY

Story & Picture by: Nadine Clough

On Sunday, May 28th at 8 a.m. members of the GFWC RW Woman's Club gathered at the Memorial Park across from the entrance to Broadmoor Park to honor veterans with a dignified ceremony and a quiet walk.

Sign up sheets had been provided at Broadmoor Park and in the RWA Library during the month of May. People signed up the name of the veteran who they were walking for. The names from those lists were then counted and a flag was planted to create a memorial garden of American Flags on the morning of Memorial Day.

The veteran's names were read and honored by past GFWC President Kathryn Gallagher. Following the reading of the names, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the National Anthem was sung. People then quietly walked and thought about the veterans who served and offered their lives so that we may live in peace and freedom.





"And I only hope when I have my own family that everyday I see a little more of my father in me."

KEITH URBAN

Country music star



"My father gave me the greatest gift anyone could give another person: He believed in me."

JIM VALVANO

College basketball player, coach, and broadcaster



"She did not stand alone, but what stood behind her, the most potent moral force in her life, was the love of her father."

HARPER LEE

Author of *To Kill A Mockingbird*



"Any man can be a father, but it takes someone special to be a dad."

ANNE GEDDES

Portrait photographer known for her elaborately-staged photos of infants



"Anyone can be a father, but it takes someone special to be a dad, and that's why I call you dad, because you are so special to me. You taught me the game and you taught me how to play it right."

WADE BOGGS

Professional baseball player



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY TO ALL THE DADS NEAR AND FAR

JUNE 18, 2023



"Sometimes the poorest man leaves his children the richest inheritance."

RUTH E. RENKEL

American author of many inspirational quotes



"Being a daddy's girl is like having permanent armor for the rest of your life."

MARINELA REKA

Author of many quotes and sayings



"Old as she was, she still missed her Daddy sometimes."

GLORIA NAYLOR

American novelist. Known for novel *The Women of Brewster Place*



"If there is any immortality to be had among us human beings, it is certainly only in the love that we leave behind. Fathers like mine don't ever die."

LEO BUSCAGLIA

American author, speaker, professor



"A father is the one friend upon whom we can always rely."

EMILE GABORIAU

French writer novelist, journalist. A pioneer of detective fiction



"The quality of a father can be seen in the goals, dreams and aspirations he sets not only for himself, but for his family."

REED MARKHAM

American educator



"No man stands taller than when he stoops to help a child."

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Sixteenth American President



CANDIDATES NEEDED FOR NEXT ELECTION CYCLE

**Submitted by: RoseAnne Woodliff
Election Committee Chairperson**

If you have ever considered running for HOA board position, now is the time for you to step up and become a candidate for the Rotonda West Board of Directors. This year, 2 seats will be up for election. The election term is for December 2023 through November 2026.

There are several actions dates that you need to keep in mind:

- Friday, July 14 at 9:30 a.m. is a Candidate Workshop. The workshop is intended to familiarize candidates with all the information needed to file their notice of intent to become a candidate. If you cannot attend in person, please attend or view the Zoom recording on rotondawest.org website under Elections. All candidate documents need to be filed by 12:01 p.m. on Friday, August 11, 2023.
- October 19, 2023 from 7-9 p.m. Potential Candidates may want to reserve the evening for Candidates Night to answer HOA owners questions.

Get all the facts and information from a committee member, or if you have any burning question, please consider sending the election committee members an email at: electioncommittee@rotondawest.org.

2023 PARADE IS IN JEOPARDY!

Everyone loves a parade! Especially in Rotonda West. Unfortunately, our Christmas Parade may not happen this year because we do not have people to organize it.



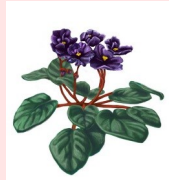
So far, one Holiday-spirited person has stepped forward to help with the job, but a co-chair and other community-minded people are needed to help. One person can not do it all!

There is no time to waste. Organizing and planning of the parade should begin in June or July.

**IF YOU CAN HELP OUT, PLEASE CONTACT THE COMMUNITY
OUTREACH COMMITTEE: communityoutreach@rotondawest.org**

*Book Coming Soon:
Eileen Collins Celebrates Daughter Lydia
with Inspired Essays*

By: Connie Smith



Eileen Vorbach Collins, until recently a Rotonda West resident, is an award winning essayist whose book will be released this fall.

Rotonda West's Eileen Vorbach Collins has a gift.

But it's not a gift that any of us, for an instant, would trade her. She's an award-winning essayist and it's easy to see why. Her essays are inspired. They are thought-provoking, poignant, entertaining, multi-layered, sometimes humorous, and her inspiration is the suicide, now nearly 25 years ago, of her 15-year-old daughter Lydia.

Writing wasn't Collins' immediate outlet for expression of her grief, she says. It took years to reach the point where she could write. A nurse by training, she pursued a master's degree in pastoral care and her thesis focused on suicide bereavement. When she first moved to Rotonda West, she noticed a neighbor had a yellow suicide prevention ribbon on their car and learned they'd lost a grandson. As they spoke, the neighbor pointed out another house nearby. Their son, a veteran had died by suicide. Collins would often see that neighbor, Mike Dalglish walking to bring attention to veteran suicide.

"And here we are," she said, "three families on the same block that have experienced suicide. We could have our own support group and we don't even need a designated driver. There are likely others. It's a tremendous public health issue, but still carries a stigma. Many people are reluctant to talk about it."

Eileen's gift is that she is able to celebrate Lydia's extraordinary self while exposing the illness of depression that robs young and old, of their humanity and even their life, if intervention and treatment is not successful. A few of Collins' essays can be read on her website – www.eileenvorbachcollins.com - and while introducing readers to Lydia's quirky, creative, curious psyche (Eileen's essay *Love in the Archives* does much more justice to describing her beloved daughter's essence), themes center upon a mother's never-ending love and desire to keep those safe within her virtual embrace.

The essay *Hold on Till the Sun Goes Down*, is an amusing recounting of a mother's inability to refrain from worrying about the safety of those she loves, starting with Collins' own mother's cautionary tale of the loss of the tip of her right pinky finger. *In Strong Enough to Withstand the Loss*, Lydia's tending to her deceased grandma's African violets serves as a beautiful, layered, metaphor for the fragility of life.

Continued on next page

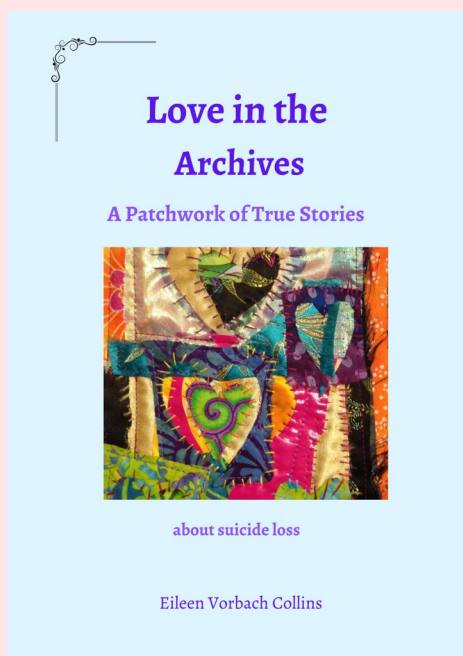
This fall, a collection of Collins' essays – "Love in the Archives: A Patchwork of True Stories" - will be published in book form by Apprentice House Press. The book is a well-deserved honor. Collins has earned numerous awards for her writing and has been published in many journals and magazines. In these days of tight literary budgets, publishing houses do little promotion of new releases, so any publicity is mostly up to individual authors. Collins declares she's "not very good" at managing her own public relations, but a few minutes reading her short essays is sure to gain an enthusiastic following. Yes, the subject is sad, but no, Collins does not handle the subject in a depressing way. That's the magic of her gift.

To follow Eileen Collins' literary journey and to obtain a copy of her book when it is released, go to her website – www.eileenvorbachcollins.com - and go to the **Contact** link. Enter your email in the **Subscribe** form to sign up for her monthly newsletter. Or find her on her Author Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/vorbachcollins> where she also shares new work by other writers she admires.

In the month of May, Collins and her husband moved "back north," but she remains a member of the Suncoast Writers Guild in Englewood and the Florida Writers Association, which presented her work with two awards in 2022; a Gold Royal Palm Award for unpublished book, as well as first runner up book of the year. Her story about Lydia, *Love in the Archives*, now the title of the collection, received the Diana Woods Memorial Award for creative nonfiction and was published in Lunch Ticket, the Literary Journal of Antioch University, Los Angeles. Two other essays in the collection were nominated by literary journals for a Pushcart Prize.

Despite the accolades and compliments, and as sensitive and creative as Collins' writing is, she declares she is self-taught. Back in 2005, she says, she spent \$2.50 on a used copy of Strunk and White's "Elements of Style" and went from there. When it is suggested that perhaps Lydia is taking a hand in her writing success, Collins tuts and declares that even at 14, Lydia was a much better writer. "I've included an essay, *Because I am a Woman*, written by Lydia in the book and it is the best piece of all," she declares.

It will be a book worth reading.



Collins' writing is inspired by the death, nearly 25 years ago, of her 15-year old daughter Lydia and although the topic may sometimes be sad, the stories are not depressing, demonstrating the magic of her writing gift.



REPLANTING THE SHORELINE AT BROADMOOR PARK

Story and Pictures by: Ann Weaver



One of the sad results of Hurricane Ian is the loss of many shoreline plants in the ponds of Broadmoor Park. Plants along the shoreline and in the water provide important habitat for wading birds, as well as food for fish and aquatic animals. Grasses and rushes provide essential nesting areas for birds, reptiles and small mammals. Without the cover and the food source of shoreline plants, wildlife may be hesitant to return to the ponds of Broadmoor Park.

Shoreline plants also filter out excess nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus, providing a natural water purification system, which eventually results in clean water to replenish the aquifer. Pollinators such as butterflies and dragonflies are attracted to flowering shoreline plants such as cannas and pickerelweed, adding to the joy of a walk in the park. A planted shoreline will help wading birds such as herons, egrets and anhinga return to the ponds of Broadmoor Park.

A group of volunteers is forming to work with community manager Derrick Hedges to select the plants, choose the shoreline areas to plant, actually plant the plants, assist with watering them, and then periodically check their progress. Weeding out invasives that may show up will be important to the process. Interested in this project? Email Ann Weaver at ann.weaver815@gmail.com to find out more.



Native canna lilies bloom in May on the Palms golf course



Snowy egrets find this shoreline with native plants appealing

ROTONDA IN THE NEWS

Florida LakeWatch Reports on Rotonda Canals

On April 26th, in the Rotonda Community Center, about 50 people were given an update on the overall health of the canals which run through Rotonda West. The presentation was given by Lakewatch Regional Coordinator Daniel Willis and Lakewatch Director Mark Hoyer of Florida Lakewatch, and was sponsored by the Rotonda Aquatics Subcommittee of the Building & Grounds Committee.

A statewide water quality research program which is out of the University of Florida, Lakewatch uses volunteers in a “hands on” approach to assess water quality of lakes, rivers, canals, and coastal sites. The volunteers collect samples and test for nitrogen, phosphorus, and chlorophyll. They also measure turbidity and depth. The data gathered gives an overall biological status of the health of waterways.

Sam Besase, chair of the Building & Grounds committee, and Hank Killion, co-chair along with John House, of the Aquatics subcommittee, opened the meeting with a tribute to the late Stanley Plizga who was a former Aquatics Chairperson, and was involved in the LakeWatch program. The Association also thanked long-time members Bob Winter and Nick Gizzi, who were presented with commemorative paddles. **For further information about Lakewatch, visit lakewatch.ifas.ufl.edu.**

Parking in the Median on Rotonda Boulevards

At the April 25, 2023 meeting of the Charlotte County Board of Commissioners there was discussion about, and a decision made on the allowance of parking on the grassy medians on the Rotonda West boulevards. The commission had decided to adopt an ordinance banning parking on certain medians throughout the county. After residents spoke up, it was decided to exempt some of the streets in Rotonda West.

The “catalyst” for the ordinance came after the county decided to protect the planted trees along one roadway’s median. According to Charlotte County Administrator Hector Flores, drivers, workers, service trucks, etc. had been using the median for parking and thus damaging the landscaping there. Medians in Rotonda West were some of the sections affected by the ordinance.

Many residents of Rotonda West were unhappy with the proposed rule, which was intended to prohibit parking on medians along Rotonda Boulevards West, North, and East. One resident, Sam Besase spoke up saying, “In the case of Rotonda West boulevards, the proposed rule is counterproductive”. His reason being that if the ordinance is passed, then service and construction workers will park in the bike lanes. Besase called the proposed rule a “bad idea for a problem that doesn’t exist”. Another Rotonda resident, Hank Killion stated, “There are still 20 roofs on that road that need to be replaced”. He added, “Construction vehicles will be forced to park in the bike lanes, creating a safety hazard”.

The commissioners agreed that the bike safety would be an issue if construction vehicles, service vehicles, and others were to park in the bike lane, and they therefore decided to remove the Rotonda roadways with grassy medians from the no parking ordinance.

MAY'S MEET & GREET POTLUCK DINNER

Article and Pictures by: Rita Lopienski

The May 23th Meet & Greet Potluck Dinner offered a delicious variety of food and the chance to meet our newest neighbors and to make new friends.



Host Donna Stogsdill

This event is held monthly on the **fourth** Tuesday of each month at the Community Center. It is put on by the Community Outreach Committee, and is hosted by Donna Stogsdill. Hope to see you at the next Meet & Greet Potluck Dinner to be held on June 27th. See flyer below.



A delicious selection of dinner fare.
Check flyer to see what type of food to
bring. It changes each month.

COME AND JOIN US!

MEET & GREET

POTLUCK

Tuesday, June 27th from 5-7pm
RWA Community Center
646 Rotonda Circle

Open to all RWA members and their guests

Bring a dish to share, and your drink of choice and cup. We will provide the rest of the tableware.

*To try and even out the dishes, we are **suggesting** the following (we will rotate this every month):*

If your last name begins with:

- A-H -Dessert
- I-P - Salad or Side
- Q-Z- Main Dish
- (ie: casseroles, baked pasta dish, etc.)

This is a great way to meet your neighbors and make new friends!!!



Rotonda West
Association

Presented by the
Community Outreach
Committee



There will be
a 50/50 pot

BINGO WRAPS UP A WINNING SEASON



The Community Outreach Committee's BINGO Games finished off a successful season in May. The monthly games drew an impressive amount of gamers each month. The May count being over 90 people.

BINGO Games will be on vacation for the summer months, but will return in September. Watch West Ways for details.

The volunteers that generously donate their time and energy each month deserve much thanks. Without them, these games would not take place.

A BIG THANK YOU TO:

Denise Slovinski

Deb Orchard

Lynn Smith

Grace Checuti

Gwen Grace

Rita Lopienski

Patti Cowin

Nadine Clough



Also, thanks to RWA Board of Directors, Derrick Hedges, Annette Casteel, and the staff that help out in so many ways.

SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER!



Article by: Nadine Clough

Photos by: Rita Lopienski



John Blanchette, Gulf Coast CERT ERT

Gulf Coast ERT, Inc is a Nonprofit 501c3 company that will fill the void in the aftermath of future disasters along our Gulf and Atlantic coast when communications fail in our communities. Recently after Hurricane Ian, our community of around 8,000 homes sites were out of touch with friends and families for over 10 days. Some communities up to and beyond 30 days. No cell, no internet, no phones, etc. complete blackout. Even with all the destruction from Ian, which was expected, we found lack of communications with the outside world discerning and incomprehensible in our technology centric society.

Gulf Coast ERT with the assistance of a nationally known building and supply chain will buildout two trailers to use initially on the Florida coast as Incident Command and a base for communications reaching out to families and friends via amateur radio service (HAM). We have several HAM operators and enough local volunteers from a nationally recognized charitable organization and Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) to go house to house to as many as we can in our timeframe for wellness checks, gather information and communicate via HAM to those family and friends outside the area their status. Our goal is to be staged and onsite at our sponsors location within 48 hours and sending personal notifications to family and friends shortly after arrival. If we find any injuries, residents not feeling safe or other circumstances, we are CERT trained and can handle many situations and if we cannot, we will be in direct contact with first responders via handheld radios provided to team leads by us and monitored by our Incident Command base. We will also have the tools and supplies to work with volunteers to do light cleanup of areas where we are deployed. Also supplied by a grant from our sponsor.

NOTE: The following 3 pages contain information on how you can help Gulf Coast ERT, which will in turn help our community with better communication in the case of a disaster.



Local volunteer group that is part of a FEMA program that mobilizes in the aftermath of a Disaster. Trained in Light Search and Rescue, Triage and First Aid, Shelter Management, Call Center Operations, and many other skills.



Florida based and covers the State in the aftermath of a Disaster. We utilize volunteer teams to go into devastated areas to perform Wellness and Safety Checks and in case of loss of Communications get that information back to Friends and Loved Ones.

BIRDIES POKER RUN CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT!!!

**Come out and have FUN helping us Raise Funds to Buy
our Incident Command and Communications Trailers to
Provide Disaster Assistance Locally and Statewide!**

**July 22, 2023 at 8:30am
Rotonda Palms Golf Club**

**\$80 per Golfer
\$65 each for First Responders
Includes Box Lunch on the Course**

**Contact our Gulf Coast ERT Staff at
941 662-1656 or Gulfcoastert@aol.com**

Go Fund Me App - gofund.me/efcab0c2



**Rotonda CERT and Gulf Coast ERT are both
Nonprofits with IRS designated 501c3**



AND



Local volunteer group that is part of a FEMA program that mobilizes in the aftermath of a Disaster. Trained in Light Search and Rescue, Triage and First Aid, Shelter Management, Call Center Operations, and many other skills.

Florida based and covers the State in the aftermath of a Disaster. We utilize volunteer teams to go into affected areas to perform Wellness and Safety Checks and in case of loss of Communications get that information back to Friends and Family.

BIRDIES POKER RUN CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT!!!

**Help us Raise Funds to Buy our Incident Command and
Communications Trailers to Provide Disaster Assistance
Locally and Statewide!**

**July 22, 2023 at 8:30am
Rotonda Palms Golf Club**

**\$100 – Name on our Individual Donor Board
\$250 – Sign Displayed on Golf Course
\$500 – Corporate Banner
\$1,000 – Tournament Sponsor**

**Contact our Gulf Coast ERT Staff at
941 662-1656 or Gulfcoastert@aol.com**

Go Fund Me App - gofund.me/efcab0c2



**Rotonda CERT and Gulf Coast ERT are both
Nonprofits with IRS designated 501c3**



QTY	NAME or TEAM	EMAIL or PHONE
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Go Fund Me





If you have not had a chance to watch our monthly meetings that we have recorded, please do. Recordings are located on our website and Facebook Page. You will find all kinds of interesting information about Neighborhood Watch, what transpired over the month(s), and pertinent information presented by Deputy Inferino from CCSO. Each month he gives us an update on things going on around our Rotonda West community and around Charlotte County.

There has been a significant increase in gift card scams; even from local Sheriff's departments. DO NOT FALL FOR IT; the Sheriff's department would never ask you for a donation using gift cards as a payment. If someone calls you and gives you a "song and dance" about paying with "gift cards". DO NOT FALL FOR IT. Once they have the "gift cards" from you they will probably end up calling you again to ask for more money – it is a scam. Tell your friends and neighbors to not to fall for those scams.

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.

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

David W Perry -President- 941-828-1584

www.rotondawestneighborhoodwatch.com

Facebook @ Rotonda West Neighborhood Watch



GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club, Inc.
Gwen Grace, President



GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club has been very active in the last few weeks. On Saturday April 29th Clare Imrie, the Health & Wellness Community Service Program Chairman organized the club's first annual PanCan Purplestride – the walk to end Pan-creatic Cancer. It was held at Broadmoor Park and the walk raised more than \$2000.



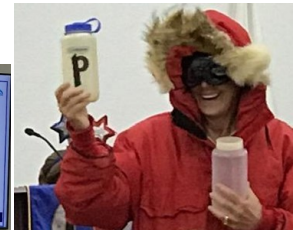
← Saturday, May 13 was the US Postal Carriers food drive. Our club was asked to help serve the volunteers lunch at saint David's Jubilee center.



→ GFWC RWWC awarded over \$10,000 in scholarships for college and technical college students, continuing education students and high school HOBY leadership scholarships.

← Our May20th General Meeting featured an Environmental theme and a celebration of our 49th Anniversary. Members had the opportunity to make ice cream cone planters to take home and we held a pizza party after the meeting,

Also, we had a very interesting and informative presentation given by Rotonda West resident and GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club member, Louise Huffman. Louise described her travels to Antarctica including a demonstration of the clothing she had to wear in the subfreezing environment. A Florida native, Louise described sleeping in



← The Art & Culture Community Service Program was pleased to have Nancy VanTassel conduct two classes for our members in the art of wired jewelry making. Nancy new member of the club and shares her talent with our members.

The Executive board and interested members will be planning for 2023-2024 on June 18th. There are lots of events and projects that we hope to accomplish including the 50th anniversary of our club. Although we do not meet for General Meeting in June, July or August, our book clubs, Tonettes, Sew n Sews, Knit n Chat and Creative Crafters continue to meet during the summer. If you are interested in joining, please go to our website at www.gfwcrotondawest.org for information. You can also find us on Facebook at GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Group. Our next General Meeting is September 21st.



Join the
RWA
Strong
Health &
Wellness
Initiative!

WORLD BIKE DAY RIDE

SATURDAY, JUNE 3 @ 9AM

Rotonda Community Park Pavilion, 100 Rotonda Blvd E

Check-in at the Pavilion for a group picture.

Unable to join us, bike when you can!

Community Outreach Committee presents...



“Acknowledging the uniqueness, longevity, and versatility of the bicycle, which has been in use for two centuries, and that it is a simple, affordable, reliable, clean and environmentally fit sustainable means of transportation, fostering environmental stewardship and health.”
www.un.org

**BIKE AS A FAMILY, CLUB, FRIENDS OR INDIVIDUAL!
DO IT FOR HEALTH, FUN, OR A PURPOSE.**

There are 2 paved circular bike paths at the Park for leisurely, safe biking, or venture further out!

You are encouraged to wear helmets, track your miles and time.

Submit your pictures and day's ride story to
communityoutreach@rotondawest.org

Other Bike Trails:
Ann & Chuck Dever
Regional Park
Cape Haze Pioneer Trail
Carmalita Park
Rotonda Community Park

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

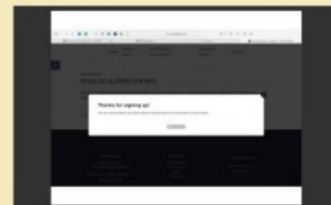
Step 1.

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



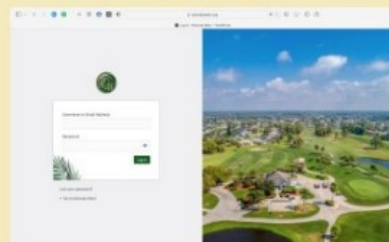
Step 2.

**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