



# The Gulf View

## President's 2015 Report

### Inside this issue:

News	2
Calendar	3
Mailboxes	3
Crabbie Gator	4

As we start out the New Year I want to take a moment to thank everyone who took the time to attend and/or vote by mail for our Annual Meeting. We reached our quorums; elected our new Board of Directors and approved our Budget.

If you attended and found our Annual Meeting interesting, we invite you to attend a monthly Board meeting. They are the third Wednesday of the month at 2:00 PM at the Jacaranda Library. The next meeting is January 20. I can't promise cookies, but we do deal with issues of importance to residents and you will have an opportunity to comment or ask a question. If you can't attend, but have an issue or question you would like to bring up, you can e-mail [sussman.linda@gmail.com](mailto:sussman.linda@gmail.com) or call me at 408-9486. Our website is another way you can keep up with the happenings and issues of GVE. Go to [gulfviewestates.com](http://gulfviewestates.com) and check it out. We are always looking for help on committees, a specific project you think might help our community, input to our website and to our newsletter. So take a minute and drop me an e-mail or contact our newsletter editor.

The Board extends a special thank you to everyone who has been involved in any way with GVE during 2015. It was your participation that made it a great year; helped keep our community looking great and in a secure economic position for 2016.

Driving and parking in GVE during the sale time is always problematical. Some residents who are not participating choose to leave for the day. Others will put tape and obstacles along property lines to keep the cars off and protect their sprinkler heads. If you have any questions contact Ceci Kuelzo, Chairman of the event at 496-4453 or e-mail [cecikuelzo@yahoo.com](mailto:cecikuelzo@yahoo.com).



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## Annual Garage Sale

February 20, 2016

9:00 PM to 3:00 PM

All residents are invited to participate in this once a year opportunity to offer unwanted items for sale during an advertised event.

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**Thought for the Day**

*“The real things haven’t changed. It is still best to be honest and truthful, to make the best of what we have, to be happy with simple pleasures and have courage when things go wrong.”*

~ Laura Ingalls Wilder

2014 Board of Directors		
President	Linda Sussman	408-9486
V. President	Jim Henry	492-9792
Secretary	Bonnie McQuigan	
Treasurer	Fred Noren	
Directors	Rich Delco	493-5266
	Ed Kowalski	493-5584
	Mike Shlasko	493-3504
Architectural Review	Rich Delco	493-5266
Security Patrol	Tina Glover	445-5636
Events/Social	Ceci Kuiltzo	496-4453
Street Capt. Coord.	John Canon	496-7903

President continued

I hope everyone enjoyed the holiday lighting and decorations at our front entrance. The mix of multicolored and white lights was a nice look. I am interested in hearing from residents about what they liked and what they might want to change for next year. The new landscaping on either side of our front entrance along SR776 fills in the blank spots and gives the entrance a finished look. The new lighting of the palm trees along the Adams Road entrance has added a new and beautiful dimension for the evening and highlights our development as you drive up. On to 2016 and the Annual Garage Sale: here is your chance to clean out some of those things cluttering up the house and turn them into cash. Saturday, February 20 is the one day of the year you can have a garage sale in GVE. We will put an ad in the local papers and homeowners can set up their own tables or band together with neighbors. On the sale day a representative of GVE will come by and collect \$2.00 from each participating household to pay for the ads. At the end of the day we will arrange for a charity organization to pick up anything you have left that you don't want to put back; just leave it at the curb. The sale is scheduled to start at 9:00 AM and end at 3:00 PM. However, this sale is very popular with area residents and many will show up on your driveway long before the start time looking for particular items or bargains.

Linda Sussman, President

**News of the Neighborhood**

Welcome to two new members of the Board: Fred Noren who will serve as Treasurer and Bonnie McQuigan as Secretary. Angela Theriault and Leontine VanDerMeer chose not to run for another term. Thank you all for volunteering your services. Gulf View Estates runs, not on Dunkin’, but on the good intentions of residents who volunteer their services.

The Annual Owners Meeting, which was held December 2 was attended by all Board members and a quorum of resident/owners. The budget was passed with the surplus rolled over. Many improvements have been completed and the Association is in excellent fiscal condition.

Coffee and cookies were also excellent and enjoyed during the break in the meeting for counting votes. Many thanks to those who provided this delicious diversion.

Sunstate Association Management Group moved to a new address as noted on Page 1 of this issue of *The Gulf View*. The telephone numbers remain the same.



# Bits and Pieces

## Calendar of Events

### January 7

Ladies Luncheon will be held at *Norma Jean's*, 1632 Rt. 41 Bypass, Venice, at 12:00 noon. Your hostess, Ceci Kueltzo, will accept reservations at 496-4453.

### January 28

Community Dinner Night Out is planned for *Waterfrontoo*, 2205 N. Tamiami Trail, Nokomis. Ceci is accepting reservations at 496-4453.

### February 4

Ladies Luncheon at 12:00 noon, will be at *The Livingroom*, 2357 S. Tamiami Trail, Venice. Please call Pat DiFrancesca for your reservations at 408-8968.

### February 25

Community Dinner Night Out, at *Landy's Restaurant*, 1400 Aqua View Lane, Englewood, is planned by Pat DiFrancesca for 6:00 PM. Pat is accepting reservations at 408-8968.

### March 3

Ladies Luncheon is arranged by Joanne Veatch at *Farlow's on the Water*, 2080 S. McCall Road, Englewood, at 12:00 noon. Reservations can be made by calling Joanne at 497-1168.



### March 31

Community Dinner Night Out will be held at *LaStanza*, 285 W. Dearborn Street, Englewood, at 6:00 PM. Your host, Earl Legge, will arrange reservations at 408-0470.

## Mailbox Stations

By Angela Theriault

As we start a new year here in GVE, I would like to share some information with the community on the USPS mailbox stations.

Over the years some improvements have been made, but as many know, some are aging and need repair. Being one that receives frequent packages, noticed that my station on Monroe and Roosevelt lacked a parcel receptacle. Another location at Pierce and Lincoln also lacks a parcel receptacle. So I asked how one could be requested. Hence, I am doing a study on the repair and replacement.

You may have seen me back in late October checking the stations early one morning. Going from one to another, using a helpful list provided by former treasurer Mike Shlasko, who had success getting a few problems corrected before me. (Very appreciated Mike. That list saved me much time.) I took note of each problem I found at each station.

After several calls and a few weeks, contact has been made with the Venice USPS Substation and a list consisting of what I considered urgent problems of a hazardous nature were brought to the department's attention, as well as com-

ments and requests for cleaning or repair of others.

There are two stations in hazardous condition. One is at Wilson and Pierce and the other at Cleveland and Pierce. There is one leaning station between Madison and Monroe on Roosevelt.

The supervisor in charge has advised me that a maintenance person was dispatched to our community and personally went over each comment on the list I submitted. I have been told she doesn't think the USPS will clean them. Much of the problem of dirty, moldy stations is caused by the sprinklers according to the maintenance man. The more serious problems will be discussed with her manager, along with the questions of repair and painting of others. No date or time has been set for her meeting with her manager as of this writing.

If anyone has a problem with their mailbox or station, now would be the time to voice your concern. If you think you have a problem I haven't covered, please do not hesitate to contact me. Since our community is run by volunteers, it is imperative that we all help out by giving suggestions, making comments, and, yes, even come forward with constructive criticism to help completion and success of this, and any other project.

## Neighborhood Watch

See it! Hear it! Report it!

Emergency: 911

Non-Emergency: 941-316-1201

## The Saga of Crabbie Gator

By Joanne Veatch

"Keep an eye out for Elvis!" our neighbors told us soon after my husband and I moved into Gulf View Estates. Elvis was an eight-foot gator living in the canal behind our house. The neighbors explained that Elvis usually would back himself up to the bank and rest, looking with his knobby, red eyes out across the canal. We were warned that if Elvis started resting himself up on the bank, and especially if he lay on the bank parallel to the canal, it was a sign he was getting too friendly with the humans and was posing a threat. Elvis was captured and we had peace in the canal until Crabbie appeared. Crabbie was another big gator. He looked to be at least eight feet. Too soon, Crabbie began to sun himself on the bank near my house and would lie parallel to the canal. When I saw him open his jaws, exposing rows of big teeth, I knew I had to act.

As soon as I told Linda Sussman, President of our Association, about Crabbie, she laughingly replied, "I hope you don't want me to come down there and deal with Crabbie!" Linda gave me two numbers to call, but I got no answer at either one. So I went to the sheriff's department to learn where I could get help. A deputy sheriff gave me two more numbers, which I called, and each person who answered said, "This is not our department." These people gave me the alligator control phone number, who sent me to the Department of Fish and Wildlife. There, I hit the jackpot. I was given a reference number and instructions to contact our Association's office, who would write Fish and Wildlife, giving permission to enter the property to deal with Crabbie.

I heard nothing for about two weeks, but you can bet I didn't forget about Crabbie. Then, a little after sundown one evening, my doorbell rang. I opened the door to see a strange man, who did not identify himself but began to say, "I came by to . . .," and at that instant, I spotted a huge, treble hook in his hand and I blurted out, "What are you going to do with that hook?" The stranger answered, "That's what I caught the alligator with."

I was relieved for more reasons than one. This nice man led me to my neighbor's yard where I saw Crabbie with jaws taped and a net wrapped around his entire body.

"He measured eight feet, nine inches, and weighs approximately two-hundred fifty pounds" the gator trapper said.

That, ladies and gentlemen, is a big gator.

