



The Gulf View

Annual Meeting December 16

By Linda Sussman

Henry for their help in making the beverages, serving and cleanup.

This meeting is a chance for each of the Board members to update residents and to listen to comments. President Linda Sussman took the opportunity to thank everyone who had volunteered during the year for the many large and small tasks that keep GVE operating. Vice President Jim Henry put us into a good holiday spirit. Our treasurer, Fred Noren, could report that "the Association is financially very strong." Bonnie McGuigan who headed the Annual Picnic Committee reported everything went so well she is willing to head the committee in 2017. She is also in charge of the 2017 Garage Sale.

Rich Delco, who heads the Architectural Review Committee (ARC) and the Landscape Committee, said that our current ARC process is working well and he appreciates the cooperation of residents. He is also our liaison with The Country Squire who handles our landscape work. Ed Kowalski who, as head of our Maintenance Committee, keeps everything operating smoothly, knows where the wires and pipes are buried. He wanted to say thank you for the electrical upgrades and LED lighting done this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm. The returning Board members then held a very short meeting to agree that everyone would continue in their current roles for 2017.

I am very pleased to report that the 2016 Annual Meeting was totally routine. Owners who either signed in at the meeting or sent in their proxies enabled us to meet the quorum for each of the phases. It was especially gratifying to find that we had met the quorum before the meeting started. All the Board members were re-elected; the budget was approved and money was put into the wall reserves.

For the record we had 156 owners either signing in at the meeting or sending in their proxy. As we had all the 2016 Board members returning for 2017 Board and no other candidates, the President announced the Board was unanimously re-elected under our revised by-laws. The votes to approve the 2017 proposed budget and the carryover of excess membership income in unit 1 was approved 83 to 0. For phases II and III the vote for approval was 73 to 0.

One of the major changes in the meeting was that the beverages and goodies were set out before the meeting began at 7:00 pm rather than at the midway point when we were counting ballots. With the method Sunstate, our management company uses, every household submits a ballot either as a proxy or when they first sign in. This significantly shortens the meeting and helps things run very smoothly. A special thank you goes to Gerri Kowalski, Rich Delco and Coleen

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Thought for the Day

“The moment of enlightenment is when a person’s dreams of possibilities become images of probabilities.”

~~ Vic Braden

2016 Board of Directors		
President	Linda Sussman	408-9486
V. President	Jim Henry	492-9792
Secretary	Bonnie McGuigan	375-8597
Treasurer	Fred Noren	882-4543
Directors	Rich Delco	493-5266
	Ed Kowalski	493-5584
	Mike Shlasko	493-3504
Architectural Review	Rich Delco	493-5266
Security Patrol	Tina Glover	617-899-5149
Events/Social		
Street Capt. Coord.	John Canon	496-7903

Response to Opinion Poll:

Just reading the reply in the GVE Newsletter and I have to agree with that writer.

I too see dirty cars parked in drive-ways that never move for months, so you know they are not regis-tered. I too have witnessed the dogs roaming without leashes or owners anywhere in sight. I too agree that adding extra space for additional cars is not in keeping with this beautiful community.

I am concerned about children run-ning up and down the front lawns. I understand they have no yards in which to play after school, however they could get hurt falling into the storm drains in our front yard if parents don’t teach them not to trespass. As for the streets: I was driving home at dusk and was stopped by a little boy who was in the middle of the road, holding his hands out motioning me to stop. I did stop, blew the horn so a parent might see what was going on, and rolled my window down to explain to this young child that he shouldn’t

do that because I could not see him very well at that time of day.

As for the parked vehicles in the road, the writer is correct. Not only are they parking in the road overnight, but they are parking on the lawns at all times. Even my lawn is abused by drivers who think it’s okay to pull on the grass when they visit neighbors. They have caused me to incur bills for broken sprinkler heads as we are not able to repair them ourselves.

The EC&R’S are well written, sen-sible, and represent the rules as a basis for common sense governing to keep this community clean, neat and safe. Everyone should be happy to follow these guidelines.

I was given a chance to read them by my home’s previous owner and that owner was adamant regarding the responsibility of the new owner to obey these rules. Do all sellers do this? They should!

I think the guidelines that have been a part of GVE for so many years should be kept as written and the new owners should have to live by them. Continued on Page 3

Annual Garage Sale

Out with the old and in with some cash. Annual Garage Sale will be held Saturday, February 18, 2017.

There will be a \$2.00 charge col-lected on the day of the sale from each participating family.

If you have any questions please call Bonnie McGuigan, Chairper-son for the Sale at 942-375-8597.

A Very Happy New Year
to all in GVE.

Note: I rode around the entire neighborhood at least ten times this holiday season and would like to compliment all the neighbors whose homes were decorated. The lights were very impressive and I loved the participation. The colors were very warm, welcoming, and would make all of us proud to live in GVE, a beautiful neighborhood. I hope to see more homes decorated this coming 2017 holiday season.

Thank you for the experience.
Bonnie McGuigan

Bits and Pieces

Calendar of Events

January 18

The Board of Directors will hold their first monthly meeting of the new year at 2:00 PM at the *Jacaranda Library*. All residents are invited to attend.

January 26

Community Dinner Night Out is planned for *Darrell's Restaurant*, 215 S. Tamiami Trail, its new location on Venice Island. It's set for 6:00 PM. Please call your hostess, Linda Sussman, for reservations at 408-9486 or email sussman.linda@gmail.com.

February 2

Ladies Lunch has been arranged by your hostess, Pat DiFrancesca, at *Stefano's Family Restaurant*, 401 S. Indiana Avenue, Englewood. Please call Pat at 408-8968 to make your reservations.

February 18

The Annual Garage Sale for the GVE community will be held on Saturday, February 18th. It is the once a year opportunity for all residents to participate in a neighborhood sale event. If you can help



with collecting the \$2.00 per family fee on that day, please call Bonnie McGuigan at 375-8597.

February 23

Community Dinner Night Out is also being planned by Pat DiFrancesca at *LaStanza Ristorante*, 285 W. Dearborn Street, Englewood, at 6:00 PM. Please call Pat for your reservations, 408-8968.

Angela's Letter

Holidays are over after a magical time of year! After all the shopping, wrapping and holiday festivities I am left with such a great outlook for 2017. Time spent with family and friends, enjoying good food and an occasional spiced (or was that spiked?) punch, everyone sampling the favorite homemade cookies and desserts. I don't think the love of family and good friends is more abundant than during the month of December.

Here in GVE we witnessed many homes so colorful and specially decorated. Driving around the community I found myself uttering ooh's and aah's while a smile naturally appeared. Many of our neighbors certainly had the spirit of the season. I thank all of you for making my holiday so memorable.

I would also like to acknowledge our front entrance and the statement it makes to those who enter or pass by. If it were not for the thoughtfulness of our Board and all their work, we would not have the distinction of the Grand Entrance of GVE. Thank you to all those dedicated individuals. Your design is outstanding and, in my opinion, no

other community has an entrance quite as beautiful.

Let's keep the spirit of the holidays in our hearts as we go forward in 2017. Let us all resolve to be more thoughtful, courteous, giving, helpful and tolerant of those around us. I am certainly going to try.

Angela Theriault

Response to Poll continued

We are strongly opposed to after-sale driveway modifications. There are circular drives in our neighborhood that already allow multiple cars.

There must be more owners out there who reject the idea of changing the rules of the EC&Rs to accommodate more automobiles parked in driveways and on lawns.

The poll will be open for comment through January.



Neighborhood Watch

See it! Hear it! Report it!

Emergency: 911

Non-Emergency: 941-316-1201



Some of the Door Prize Winners at the Annual Picnic



Food



Music



Chefs



President's Report

By Linda Sussman

It is a new year and I have high hopes for 2017. A traditional way we in Gulf View Estates celebrate a new year is by paying our annual dues. The Board has kept our fee at \$190 for the year once again yet we have managed to work on improvements to our common areas and keep our community looking good.

We are very proud to have one of the very lowest homeowner fees in this area. In part it is because most residents pay the fee when they get the bill in December. If you haven't paid by the end of January and we have to send out a reminder bill, it will cost the Association in administrative and mailing costs. Even more important it will cost a delinquent property owner a \$25 late fee. Eventually we collect from everyone, but the longer it takes the more expensive it becomes for everyone involved. Please check through all your holiday mail and bills and pay the one for Gulf View Estates now.

For the holiday season the Board once again decided to go with an outside firm to put up, maintain and take down our holiday decorations and lights at the front entrance. It is expensive, but many think it is worth the cost. Before contracting this out GVE relied on volunteers to do all the work. This spring the Board will re-evaluate our holiday decoration options. Any ideas are more than welcome. However if we want to continue to contract this service we will have to make a decision by our May meeting. Let us hear from you on what you like and don't like about what we have been doing.

With the holidays and 2016 in the rear view window we enter the busiest time of the year here in Florida. Almost all our residents are back enjoying the moderate weather. Visitors and snowbirds are in town crowding the roads, restaurants and attractions. Yes, we have to be more careful getting in and out of our entrance and remembering to make reservations for our favorite places. But without all the hustle and bustle life would get boring and many of our favorite places would be out of business.

Each month GVE volunteer hosts and hostesses arrange a dinner out on the fourth Thursday of the

month. If you haven't yet joined us, it is a great opportunity to meet new and old neighbors. I am in charge of the January dinner at Darrell's Restaurant on the island. To be included in the reservations please call me. We also have the Ladies Luncheon on the first Thursday of the month. In February it will be hosted by Pat DiFrancesca at Stephano's in Englewood. There are some unofficial games and activities within the community, but if you would like to start something officially, now is a good time to send a notice with all the particulars to our editor and myself so it can be included in our events and also on the website.

This is the time of year when the Board gets busy making sure things will run smoothly during 2017 and reviewing any special projects we might want or need to undertake this year. If there is anything you think we should focus on or change this is a great time to bring it up. Send us a letter, e-mail or even better come to our monthly Board meeting on January 18th at 2:00 pm at the Jacaranda Library.

Homeowners are also looking more carefully at their properties and considering improvements or changes. Please remember to check with Sunstate Management and our Architectural Review Board Chairman, Rich Delco, to see what, if any, approvals you might need before you get too far along with the planning.

GVE representatives are periodically riding around the community to make certain owners are adhering to our Easements, Covenants and Restrictions. If not we will be sending you a letter outlining what we see as a problem. The very minimum you must do is respond. It is when you don't tell us what is going on or if you have a problem that things tend to escalate. It is in everyone's best interest that issues be resolved before going to the Compliance Committee.

Happy New Year

