

Sunstate Association Management
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Community Website:
<https://gulfviewestates.com/>

January 2025

The Gulf View



Community Meeting
Bi-Monthly Meeting February
Jacaranda Branch Library
Zoom access available

Sarasota County Sheriff
Non-Emergency Number
941-486-2444
Large Item Trash Pickup
941-493-4100

Commentary

Eric Martell, Editor

Another Christmas gone by. Snow flakes, sugar plums, cold weather, the smell of fresh evergreens in the house along with freshly baked Christmas cookies, the sounds of carols, the rustle of presents being wrapped, and the merry cries of excitement from the young-uns as they rip the paper off, creating *chao ab ordo* – to reverse the common latin phrase ‘chaos out of order.’

Well, not really, not anymore, and not for everyone as we used to think. The world is divided in ways that couldn’t be conceived of in the last century. We have indeed created *chao ab ordo* in our divided society. I need not go into the news headlines, grim as they are, you all have probably read many of them. Still, there are the following things to be thankful for: The weather in Florida this time of year is delightful. Keep in mind that without some downsides like hurricanes, we would have no contrast and thus no way to appreciate how nice it is. The grandchildren may be coming for a visit, or not, but they’re still appreciative of gifts, but may not show it in the excitement. It’s all about receiving when you’re young; only later does the appreciation of giving as an unselfish act arise, but it gains in value as you age, so there’s that.

Gulf View Estates is a nice neighborhood. It has a good reputation as a well-kept place. The homes mostly retain their value and the people are generally pleasant and friendly. We’re thankful about that. We’re thankful that we have residents willing to volunteer for various community requirements, which brings me to the newsletter part of this. I’ve heard people express dissatisfaction with the Home Owners Association, even wondering what good it is and why we should pay dues, which, by the way, unfortunately increased to \$325 annually due to extensive damage to the electrical infrastructure at the front entrance, increases in cost for services (did you know we pay for the street lights, for example), and unbudgeted fees for various items.

Here’s the answer to ‘Why have an HOA?’ Just take a drive through the non-HOA areas of the South Venice area. We’ve spoken to a number of people who moved into GVE simply to have the order that a properly run HOA provides. They were worn out by the chaotic nature of non-HOA neighborhoods. As to the statement, “The Board of Directors never does anything,” I will try to put that to rest with a few observations: The Directors are all unpaid and are trying to help maintain property values in the community. There are certain legal requirements they must follow, so such things as fines and compliance with the written restrictions we all agreed to abide by aren’t always done the way you might prefer. As I mentioned the electrical system at the front entrance is old and the storms damaged it almost beyond repair. The Board voted to try and save money by leaving the holiday lights up all year, but they, too, were damaged by the salt that infiltrated into the wires during Milton. The board members have personally reconnected the lights numerous times and they still continue to fail. Aside from that, the front entrance plants need attention, the ponds are getting overgrown with invasive plants and we will be using a waterway service to gradually clean these during the next year.

And, that leads me to mention that some people, who may or not may be residents, don’t seem to appreciate the cleanliness of the community. To them it’s more convenient to toss beer bottles out as they drive home and to expect others to clean up their mess. Most people probably don’t think about it, but those palm fronds that fall into the front entrance don’t pick themselves up. The landscapers will remove them if they’re on the grass, but they don’t seem to pick them up if they’re in the road. Volunteers do. Anyone can get out of their car and clear the street.

Volunteers act as Street Ambassadors. Volunteers work to set up the monthly food truck events, provide the music, and to coordinate interest groups, community dinners, and ladies luncheons. Volunteers man the Board of Directors and give of their time to try and make the neighborhood a better place for everyone. We have a lot of residents who are willing to do community service to benefit everyone in the neighborhood. *Those are things for which to be thankful.*

Best Wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year!
Eric

January 2025

Annual Board Meeting Notes

- **Our attorney made a brief presentation on the proposed changes to our EC&Rs – our governing documents. We will have a community vote on the changes in February or March and must have a quorum for them to be adopted. The changes will reduce confusion and modernize the wording, along with some positive changes.**
- **President's Report:** Minutes of the prior monthly meeting minutes were approved with corrections as discussed.
- **Vice President's Report:** No Report.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Funds are adequate to cover existing expenses, but reserves are not as strong as before. Repairs needed at the entrance island and pond maintenance will require an increase in dues. Community voted to roll over the current balance to next year.
- **Management Company Report:** The new Budget was approved at \$325 for 2025. Statements to be mailed from our bank.
- **Landscape Committee:** Blue Heron has finally picked up the debris at the front entrance. They are doing a nice job along the ponds. We discussed only planting in the front indentations along the 776 street side of our wall.
- **Maintenance Committee:** The pond drain at Wilson & Pierce was cleared to increase drainage. There is erosion behind the South Wall and another washout near the pond's edge along Pierce. We have a reasonable quote from an engineering firm for these problems. The electrical system at the front entrance has been patched and spliced together for so long, that it is becoming an ongoing maintenance problem and needs to be completely redone. There was a discussion about removing the tallest palms on the center island. The consensus was that they are not adding to the attractiveness of our entrance and should be removed. We also have a quote for pond maintenance for the upcoming year and it is within budget.
- **Street Committee:** GVE is still in the queue for 2024 per Sarasota County. This should be in progress by Jan. 8. The county assures us that we are on the list for their contractor to straighten all of our storm-damaged street signs, but they can't say when.
- **Compliance Committee:** **Compliance enforcement is Suspended until January 1, 2025 to allow time for storm repair and debris removal. We are approaching that point. If you haven't gotten debris removed and repairs, you will probably receive a compliance letter in January. All FEMA debris removal is complete. They will not remove additional debris placed streetside at this time. You must make provision for removal yourself.**
- **Architectural Review Committee (ARC):** There were some minor requests. You do not need ARC approval for a new roof or window replacement, unless the outside footprint of the house is changed. We strive to handle requests quickly. Once approved, the approval will not expire until the change is complete.
- **Newsletter committee:** We are back on the winter schedule. Newsletters will be delivered to each residence by the Street Ambassadors, posted on the Bulletin Board and on the website, and copies will be available in the box by the Bulletin Board. Next year, on the months when the Board doesn't meet, the Newsletter will be reduced to two (rather than the current 4) pages.
- **Events Committee:** We are back on our winter schedule – watch for event signs at the front entrance. We are still updating Hobby Lists – there are 27 different opportunities on the list at this time. The majority of the residents present agreed that they enjoyed the Food Truck Events – especially since these events do not cost the community anything.
- **Street Ambassador Committee:** The Street Ambassadors will be collecting the proxy forms for the vote on the EC and R changes.
- **Unfinished Business** – Discussion of the EC and R changes and adoption procedure. The February meeting will be the date to vote on the changes. New board members are needed. Volunteers? Anyone?
- **New Business** – New county garbage cans will be distributed by the county and must be used effective March 2025. We are working to re-implement a directory of residents which will be online in the residents' only site. New Front entrance flag needed.

Are You Missing Important Community Mailings such as dues notices?

You can Update your contact Information with the Management Company. Here's how:

1. Go to Gulfviewestates.com
2. Hover over Association to see the dropdown menu
3. Click on Association Forms
4. Click on Resident Information Sheet
5. Print the Info Sheet
6. Fill out the form
7. Mail it to Sunstate at the address on the bottom of the sheet.

January 2025



Great BBQ with
GITCHEWSUM BBQ



Santa Visited in Mel's Purple
Golf Cart



Food Truck Event Music



50/50 Raffle Drawing



Cookie Exchange Table at
Annual Meeting



Venice Blvd -- dressed up for
the Holidays

February 8th from 9AM to 3PM

Annual Community Garage Sale

Now is a great time to empty your attic and garage!
No participation fees required.

SLOW DOWN

Roosevelt is a long street, but that gives no excuse for
speeding.

BIKERS

Don't ride in the middle of the road.

Both of these issues could end up in tragedy, so be careful.

January 2025

Calendar of Events

January 9th – 12PM – Ladies Lunch
Fusion – 2107 Tamiami Trl
Terry MacAllister@ 865-705-8982

January 23rd – Food Truck Night!
NAS Philly Cheese Steaks – On Pierce by the ponds at 4:00PM

January 25th - Sunset Get-Together @ Manasota Beach
One hour prior to sunset – farthest North Entrance – Weather Permitting

February 8th – Annual Community Garage Sale – 9AM – 3PM

February 13th – 12PM – Ladies Lunch
The British Open Pub – 333677 Jacaranda Blvd.
Sally Martell@407-947-3618

February 19th HOA Board Meeting
2:00PM at Jacaranda Library

Welcome to New Neighbors!

5838 Jackson – Justin Richolson and Taryn Galbreath – Sarasota
5873 Jefferson – Amelia Grove & family

Board of Directors and Committee Chairpersons

Past-President	William Hulshoff	518-524-7833	judgewh@yahoo.com
President	Sharron Klahr	703-608-8338	sklahr3158@gmail.com
Director	Tim June	914-564-4212	timjune406@gmail.com
Director	George LaFond	401-527-1137	georgelafond@verizon.net
Director/Maintenance/ARC	Eric Martell	407-947-3617	semartell@earthlink.net
Director	<i>Vacant</i>		
GVE Ambassadors	Lynn O'Neill	617-775-8830	lynnoneill50@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Eric Martell	407-947-3617	semartell@earthlink.net
Newsletter Committee	Eric & Sally Martell	407-947-3618	sallyemartell@earthlink.net
Event Committee	Kim Baigert	860-302-5879	kimwarb@gmail.com
Event Committee	Rosanna Gibbons	410-382-7394	nutritionbestrx@verizon.net
Entrance Flagpole	Joe Bell	845-661-5927	

Your GVE Street Ambassador:

Name: _____ Phone: _____