



Playa del Mar Newsletter



Playa del Mar

Volume IV Issue 2

SPRING 2009

YOUR NEW BOARD

Special thanks go out to all those that volunteered and campaigned to be on our Board. It is great to have so many unit owners vying for a position on the board. Playa del Mar is a multi million dollar operation and it is no easy task to meet not only the needs of owners but the needs of the building as well. Good luck to our new Board with the tasks ahead and the goal of no increase in our maintenance nor any assessments.

Many of our owners are professionals such as doctors, lawyers, CPA's etc. It would be wonderful to have the benefit of their expertise and we encourage them to volunteer assistance whenever they can.



You have a board President that believes in committees and has created ELEVEN of them. Committees are the eyes and ears of all 370 owners and their function is to assist the board in providing constructive input for a better Playa del Mar.

Each of these committees are chaired and called by a board member on an as needed basis. All meetings are posted and open to all residents that may want to sit in and observe. The board thanks all those that have provided positive input and contributed to making PDM a better place to live.

EXAMPLE: SOCIAL COMMITTEE



Your social committee is a perfect example of volunteering. The time, effort and frequency of social events has been quite a commitment for these ladies. They plan, shop, prepare, setup, serve, provide entertainment, socialize and cleanup. The attendance continues to grow at each of these functions. Take a moment to thank them for all they do. They are now meeting and planning a Memorial Day event. Stay tuned for details and more fun!

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to provide a newsletter that will be up to date and be a consistent source of information to Playa del Mar residents. We communicate regularly with the Board of Directors, share current issues, provide progress reports and stimulate interest in activities at the Playa del Mar



Bob Boffa
President



Annette Gamburg
Vice President



Dianne Ennis
Treasurer



Carolyn Kervin
Secretary



Millie Fox
Director



Fred Nesbitt
Director

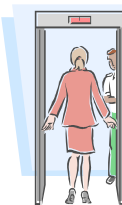


Michael Hickmann
Director

Your newly elected **Board of Directors.** Please give them your support. Volunteer and join committees, share in the responsibilities and make Playa del Mar a fun place to live. Share in the social events whenever you can.



We have recently installed the automatic doors in the lower garage by the elevator landings. This project has been long awaited. We expect a respectable return on our investment with the doors opening and closing automatically, conserving energy by reducing the load on our A/C system.



The landscaping of the building has shown much improvement. The palm trees have all been trimmed and we have completely revamped the sprinkler system along the north and south "alley". All the dead palms and shrubs have been removed from this area and will be replaced with filler plants and trees. Additionally, special attention will be given to the front two corners of the building in need of some plantings.

We will be revisiting the sealing of the pavers around the pool deck in the next couple of weeks. Once back on the job, it should not be more than two weeks for completion.

Recent problems with the south garage automatic gate has been resolved. The same goes for the south elevator that had been down for WEEKS! It had been awaiting refurbished parts. Apparently when the new elevator cabins were installed, the mechanisms were inspected by an engineer and only needed parts were ordered at that time. Time has since worn down certain mechanisms, parts were no longer available and new ones had to be retooled. Thank you for your patience during this inconvenience.

The lower garage will be receiving much needed attention, such as scrubbing and painting. Leaks in the expansion joints on the north upper deck have all been repaired. Also, the north wall has been repaired and repainted. PDM has acquired a Hydro Jetter power washer that allows maintenance to power wash inside the sewer pipes. "This routine process pays for itself many times over in saved expenses of emergency calls to clear blockages and more importantly cleanup expenses resulting from such blockages". This recent dry weather has created an ideal environment for insects to breed in our sewer system and the power washing will be a major deterrent. Our exterminator advises all apartments to use strainers on all sink and tub drains to prevent any kind of insect intrusion. Take advantage of our free exterminator services.

Pigeon alert! An important message to the owners, guests and lessees. Please DO NOT feed the pigeons, whether on your balcony, at the pool, promenade or on the BEACH! The pigeons are starting to nest in areas around the building and have been seen "perching" and "wooing" on our balconies. They are indiscriminate with their droppings that will seriously damage our railings and balconies plus it could become a potential health hazard.



OUR BALCONY RAILINGS ARE DONE!



SPS is in the final stages of repairing our railings. Work on the promenade is underway and all balconies are finished. Before we settle up with them the Management has an important request. If you have ANY kind of complaint on their work such as damage to your balcony, the deco floors, the railings, cracks, paint overspray on your doors, windows or siding, you are asked to report that in writing to the office even if you have already done so. Photos or videos would be great. **PDM is holding back \$200,000.00 and this is your opportunity to put in your claim for any repair before we relinquish any of the money held back.** You, the owners, see these issues, no one else, so examine your balconies and write up what you feel should be rectified

KATRINA AND WILMA HURRICANE DAMAGE

ALSO! Your Board is trying to recover monies from QBE who denied us claims for Katrina and Wilma damages. Management has asked that if you, anyone you know, or if you can remember any kind of damage to the building from either hurricane, to document it in writing to the office. Photos, videos and written documentation will be submitted to QBE in the hopes of recovering what was denied.



PIPES PLUMBING & PROBLEMS!



When a stack is closed for drain pipe repairs, you are requested not to use the water. Yes, it is turned off, but if you use that ONE flush or fill buckets in advance and flush during the shut-down it defeats the work that has been done and the work has to be rescheduled and done over. This is an added inconvenience to all and incurs unnecessary labor and expense to redo it. It isn't the drawing of the water that is the problem, it is the elimination of it through the pipes. Recently a stack under repair was inundated with waste, covering a worker, when an owner "flushed", sending it down to the repair site. **Please avail yourselves of the four bathrooms on the lobby floor if you have an emergency during a shut down.**



Florida State Governor Charlie Crist scheduled a Town Hall Meeting at the Beach Community Center near the Galt Mile on February 18, 2009.

The more than 300 residents packed the Beach Community Center almost all wearing Stop Calypso buttons and white and red T-Shirts with the Stop Calypso Logo. Governor Crist randomly called on residents in the Center for their questions.



After several questions concerning Beach Re-nourishment, President Obama's Economic Stimulus Plan, and Home Foreclosures, PDM board member Fred Nesbitt asked a question concerning the proposed Calypso project.

Crist responded by saying he would not sign off on the project! All 300 residents were on their feet cheering. It was a great relief to a long hard fight to defeat the LNG deepwater port.

I would like to thank all the residents who signed petitions, sent letters to Governor Crist and other elected officials, attended public hearings, testified at public meetings, and donated time and money to getting the word out about this ill conceived project.

It has been an incredible experience to be part of a grassroots coalition that defeated a Multibillion Corporation with lobbyists and very deep pockets.

Linda Eidinger

The Miami Herald newspaper reported the first ever city to run on Solar Power being developed on 17,000 acres northeast of Fort Myers. " It will include the world's largest Photovoltaic power plant, which will be operated by Florida Power and Light." The new city will be called Babcock Ranch and will include 19,500 homes and buildings that will be powered by zero-emission solar energy. The State of Florida and FP&L also give rebates to buildings for solar panel installation another issue for discussion at the Green Committee.

Please remember to give your current email address to the office so the PDM newsletter can be e-mailed, saving on the cost of printing and postage.

Thank you again PDM residents for doing your part in helping to save our planet.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS



Tripping the light fantastic at PDM's Saint Pat's party are Joan & Rick Westen. The Westens have been PDM owners here since 1997. Prompted by Rick's retirement as a financial advisor in 2004, they are now Florida residents and enjoy eight month stays here since 2006. When not here in PDM, you can find them in

the air, on land or by sea, visiting such places as (but not limited to) Alaska, Canada, Mexico and Belize, focusing on Rick's fishing expertise!!

An avid fisherman, he boasts of a pretty good size sailfish caught in Mexico, one of his many prize catches. Most recently, they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with 14 members of their family on a cruise.



Joan says that it was over the Christmas Holidays and was a warm and beautiful experience.

The Westens are very supportive of building activities and attend all the Social Activities when they are here.

They have one daughter, married and living in Canada with her husband. They have been blessed with two grandchildren, a grandson attending North Western college just outside of Chicago and their granddaughter attending high school in Canada. Before becoming a devoted housewife, Joan had a career in nursing, specializing in the maternity ward. Not people to just sit around, both are active in the gym. Joan loves the pool and can be seen doing laps in the pool late in the day and Rick can be seen wearing out the pavers on the promenade with his daily walks.

PDM GOING GREEN

PDM residents are cooperating and recycling daily.



The twelve recycle bins in the lower garage yield 63,024 gallons of recyclables per year! That is an outstanding job! The cost of the recycle pick up is \$95.00 a month per manager, Sam Aponte. A small amount for the good of keeping our planet "Green" and it helps to offset the cost of our waste removal expenses.

The Green Committee will be discussing more ways to also save energy in the building. Interested residents please volunteer for the PDM Green Committee. If you see unnecessary lights on in the lobby, library or Ocean Lounge during the day for no reason, please turn them off or call the office or front desk and report it so they can be turned off.



We all must do our part and every watt counts.

SHOPPING CARTS

Finally we have some controls regarding the shopping carts. Using the plastic card to release and insure their return has been very successful. EXCEPT we have had instances where owners are returning them to a different location and releasing someone else's card. Owners have paid \$10.00 for their card! Please check to make sure you are in possession of your own and not someone else's card. Notify the front desk if the unit number on your card is incorrect so that they can be swapped out for those that have been reported taken in error or turned in. Reminder: Please DO NOT BRING WINN DIXIE carts into our building.



MAINTENANCE REQUESTS

Maintenance personnel have been instructed not to accept verbal requests for service other than through the Manager's office. Forms (shown below) are available in the office and all requests must be submitted in writing. This is to your advantage.



Requests are numbered, documented and assigned according to their urgency.

If you go into the office with a request, please fill out a Maintenance request form and document the issue.

EMERGENCY/AMBULANCES

Occasionally, ambulances return residents on stretchers from a rehab or hospital because the resident will be rehabilitating at home. In these cases, it is important that when you are expecting a loved one to come home by ambulance and to avoid any kind of wait for the freight elevator, please call the front desk to make them aware of the ambulance/resident's arrival. No one wants to be "on display" lying on a stretcher waiting for the elevator. The freight elevator is the only one that can accommodate a stretcher and if there is an issue with a reserved or an out of service elevator, the front desk has a heads up to clear the way and expedite its use. An outgoing resident leaving by ambulance always has the elevator locked down but it is not the case for an incoming patient. If possible, try to inform the front desk of a patient's arrival.



Your Newsletter Staff



Barbara
2304



Phyllis
2404



Linda
110

TIDBITS

PING PONG



Joining billiards in the game room is ping pong now available for residents. The billiard tables have been refurbished with new felt and the tables have been sanded and renewed.



A special ping pong table top designed to fit over a pool table was ordered, giving residents the ability to enjoy both billiards and ping pong. The ping pong top is easily removed and can be placed on its side should both billiard tables be needed. Same rules apply for its use. Restrict use to a half hour if others are waiting. Paddles and ping pong balls can be signed out at the front desk.

POOL FURNITURE



Now you see them now you don't! Most of the pool chaises have been returned after being refinished under the warranty. The umbrellas were sent back for replacement of the broken hand cranks but when returned to PDM, it was noticed that the "ribs" hadn't been addressed and have been sent back to the manufacturer for repairs. In the meantime, the red umbrellas are also under repair as replacement spares, should another wind storm raise havoc with our poolside umbrellas.



PLEASE RETURN CHAISES TO THE SEAWALL

Additionally our beach chaises are susceptible to the elements as well. That is why chaises left on the beach are targets of theft, rising tides and early deterioration. The chaises along the seawall are for your comfort and respectfully ask that you return them to the seawall when you leave the beach.

NEW MAIL CARRIER

Deanna Marema is our new mail carrier. She has requested that all residents heading north for the summer, fill out a mail forwarding form. All mail forwarded is free of charge and that includes Canada and other countries. Take notice that this service is only good for six months.

ATTENTION RESIDENTS: Broward County is threatening to close the Galt Mile Library!! Help save the library by signing the petition at the front desk.

WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS

January/February/March

- Maria Jose Gaibor Unit #1109 (Lease)
- Shelby Wilbourn & William Richards Unit #2612
- Sabato Antonio Sena Unit #2103
- Eric & Dawn Lee Unit #1917
- Steven Schwartz Unit #407 (Lease)
- Jason Meyer & Jodie Gilcrist Unit #108 (Lease)
- Martin Krappinger & Corina Cune Unit #2514 (Lease)

WELCOME TO PARADISE!