



SPRING 2009 EDITION

March 2009

Hello Everybody:

Spring is just around the corner but, it is hard to imagine with the north-eastern seaboard almost shut down today with yet another snow storm. As I sit and write, I am wrapped in a warm sweater to help ward off another cold day for Florida, but I bet all those people in New York would change places with me in a heartbeat. But, warmer days are on the way and by Wednesday we will enjoy a high of 77 as we watch our own Jim Labinski play in the Professional Tennis Exhibition. Speaking of which, by the time the tournament is over we will have raised about \$30,000. Our best effort ever. Inside our Newsletter you can read more about the Tennis Ball Evening and the weekly Tennis Exhibition Matches.

With all of the shocking financial news circulating it is not surprising that we are constantly asked, "How is business at the Boca Grande Club?". Well, of course, we are not immune to the vagrancies of the marketplace; for example, the interest rate we can obtain on a CD is much less than this time last year. Thankfully, we were in a healthy financial position with no debt, as we entered the current downturn and we remain so. Each year we lose a certain number of members to attrition and, this year we lost a few more due to changes in their financial circumstances. However, our membership numbers remain steady with our current Social Membership over 400 and, we even had some new members join us this season. As we go forward, we will continue to carefully monitor our expenses. We believe the Club is in very good shape and can weather the financial storm that is raging in the world around us. Our real-estate company, Beachfront Properties, had one closing in January and, will have another one next week. They have some great listings and there sure are some bargains out there. They certainly have been more successful than any other company in marketing Club properties.

We are glad to say that our rental bookings have stayed on course for the first four months of 2009 although, the reservation pattern is different compared to that of 2008. We had more rentals in January, while February was down, March is about equal and it presently looks as if April will exceed last April. All in all, we are hopeful that the first four months will compare to our numbers of 2008. We continue to work on rental bookings for the summer months and have some very good rental rates to offer after May 1st and, of course, our Wedding business will click in at that time.

The Clubhouse is busy and we are now open six nights a week for dinner service, both in the Main Dining Room and in our Upper Deck Lounge. Wednesdays we do not offer dinner service but, as of this week we are open for lunch seven days a week. Becki Kemmer, our Clubhouse Manager, tells us that our members and guests appear to be very pleased with our smaller plate offerings and our nightly specials, including the all time favorite Prime Rib Roast on Sunday nights.

See inside the Newsletter as we have highlighted some great events yet to come, including our St. Patrick's Day Party, Seafood Night & Easter Brunch. Don't forget to sign up for the Children's Beach Party & the Easter Egg Hunt.

Yvonne Anderson
President/CEO Boca Grande Club



OTHER NEWS

Tennis Ball Report

We kicked off our Professional Tennis Exhibition Series with "The Tennis Ball" evening in the Clubhouse and a great evening it was. We sold 169 tickets, with \$60 from each ticket going to the beneficiary, The Suncoast Humane Society.

The food themes of "The British Pub", "The Pacific Rim" & "The Mediterranean" were wonderful. The entire staff volunteered their time for the evening, as did the DJ, Jay Goodley. Everyone was very generous. The Grapevine, The Temptation Restaurant and Terry Seitz Fine Wine donated some wine to the evening while Jack Johnson worked very hard to make the Silent Auction the success it was.

There were some great auction items and a heartfelt thanks goes to the following for their generosity in donating to the Auction:
 Larry & Ellen Umlauf, Steve & Susan Jansen, Jay & Kay Proops, Hank & Karen Irvine, Lori & Harrison Coerver, Cathy & David Parkes, Karen & Jim Grace, Bonnie & Harm de Blij, Synthia & Don Joseph, Jack & Jean Johnson, Bob & Pam Wham, Carol & Dick Wythes, Al Rollins, Courtyard Hair, Stacey Phillips, Hope Grayson, Ron Butkovich, Janet Nash Culp, Dick Tolsdorf, Fred Foulkes, Boca Grande Outfitters, The Boca Grande Club, Lemon Bay Golf Club, The Gasparilla Inn & Heron Creek Golf Club.

A special thanks goes to Ellen Umlauf, Brian Troutman, DeeAnn Phillips, Les Nash, & Kathy Parkes for helping to arrange some of the donations.

Bryan Troutman and Bob Wham came up with the 50/50 Split The Pot design. The first draw took place at the Tennis Ball. Drawings take place each week at the tennis matches and are split 1/3 to the winner, 1/3 to the Humane Society, 1/3 to the final draw which will take place on the evening of the last tennis match. The split will be 50/50 with the Humane Society.

Helping us reach the \$30,000 mark were Bobby Miller of Grande Aire and Nat Italiano of Italiano Insurance who kindly donated \$2,350 each for a total of \$4,700. The Englewood Bank added \$300 to bring the total to \$5000. Way to go guys!



The following are moving forward to play in the two Semi-Final matches: Sean Tully, Gasparilla Inn, Joe Venezia, The Landings, Jim Labinski, Boca Grande Club, Nate Griffin, Riverstrand, Steve Ethier, Pass Club, Adam Zastempowski, Jacaranda West, H. Wetzel, The Pass Club and Scott Harrington, The Legends. Join us to see who will move forward to the finals.

For More Tennis News, see our Court Report, which we have enclosed with this Newsletter.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE REPORT

The Duplicate Bridge sessions continue to be a great success in the Dunes Clubroom. Social Member, Peg Barrett works hard to ensure this is an enjoyable Friday afternoon for all involved.

Bridge starts at 1:00 pm sharp and Peg reminds everyone that they must commit to stay till the end of the game. Private lessons can be arranged with Peg.

LET'S GO FOR A WALK

Do you like walking but, you feel you need help getting motivated?

May we suggest joining Stacie for our Beach Power Walk?

Meet her at the Main Pool Deck at 8:00 am on Mondays and Wednesdays.



It's off to work we go...

When we opened up our Tiki Bar this season it was with a new look. This in-house project took place when we closed in



September and was just what was needed to give us a fresh look. We also added a new palm frond roof.

We are currently working (again in-house) to refurbish our wait-staff station, which is in need of some additions. This project should be finished very shortly and will look very nice.

We just completed the roof replacement on the Pagoda in the Pagoda Garden. Over the years wind and rain had taken their toll on the shingles. Once again, this was an in-house project.

The beach walkout between Phase IV and Dunes Chalet was completed this summer. We used trex board. This Summer the Main Pool Walkout is scheduled to be completed in trex board.

The Master Board has put the building of a new Fitness Center on the back burner. It is their thought that we should not undertake a major project, such as this, in the current economic times. In the meanwhile, we are working with the engineer and Bowen Construction to ascertain what we can do to enlarge and to make the current facility more user friendly. Who knows! We may be able to push out a few walls without the County descending upon us. If we can work out something that makes sense, we could do most of it as an in-house project. We will keep you posted.

And finally, remember all of our buildings, except Village Homes, have new building numbers. The numbers are located either on or in front of the building. Marina Village/Manor have new Street numbers so their addresses should indicate the new street number instead of the old number. Everyone else should just add a line with the building number to their old address. These (reflective) numbers will help visitors & deliveries easily locate your building and will aid the EMS in an emergency.

Just in Case ...

the Club has several Semi-Automatic Defibrillators on hand. We keep one at the Front Office, one in the Beach & Tennis Shop which we transfer to the Front Gate at night, and one in the Clubhouse. We hope we never have to use them but it is nice to know where they are, just in case.

A Lucky Escape

John Cummings, who many of you know from Bell Stand duties, has been off work for the past two weeks due to a bad vehicle accident that he was involved in.

Late one Friday evening John was traveling home from visiting a friend's house in Placida when he swerved to avoid an animal on the roadway just nearby the Pig & Whistle. He has very little recall of the evening.

He flipped his car several times and was very lucky to be pulled out of the flattened vehicle (by some local homeowners), without any broken bones. He did suffer a severe concussion, heavy bruising, and compression. By the time you read this John will be back at work with us.

Oh, just one more Tennis Thing...

BALL MACHINE RENTAL COST
\$20 PER HOUR
OR BOOK 10 HOURS FOR \$150 AND
USE ALL YEAR

THESE RATES APPLY ALL YEAR AS
THE COST OF MAINTAINING THE
MACHINE IS THE SAME ALL YEAR

Wireless Internet Service

Free Wireless Internet Service is available in the Dunes Clubroom, The Beach & Tennis Shop & the Deck areas of both locations.

And, we are always glad to print out your airline tickets at our Front Desk.



Things to do.....

Personal Training with Wendy
By Appointment, Call 4465

Water Aerobics with Stacie
Mon. Wed. & Fri. 9:00 am Main Pool

Yoga with Virginia
Wed. & Sat. 10:30 am Dunes Clubroom

Power Beach Walk with Stacie
Mon. & Wed. 8:00 am Meet at Main Pool

Massage with Elaine
Call 4465 for an Appointment

Bike & Golf Cart Rentals can be arranged by calling our Front Desk. If you rent a golf cart through an outside source, please make sure the rental company knows that they must pick up an identification tag at the time of delivery. All Rental Golf Carts should have a tag indicating the name of the person renting the cart and unit number. This is to avoid people taking the wrong cart. **You must have a drivers license to drive a golf cart on Club property. Please don't let your underage child drive. It is against our rules. Our Front Gate will not permit a child to enter our property driving a cart. They will hold the cart until an adult comes to pick it up.**

Basketball, if you are in the mood to shoot a few hoops you can borrow a basketball at the Front Desk.

Herbs from the Garden, you can use our Pagoda Herb Garden to add to your culinary creations. We have quite the variety to offer and, you are welcome to help yourself. Please do not pull, use a scissor and snip.

A Visit with Felix The Cat, our Housekeeping staff tell us that a number of our members often pay a visit to Felix the cat. Felix has lived in Housekeeping ever since he was found abandoned in an empty house. That was several years ago, now he is one happy fat cat..

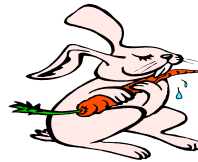
Kiddies Corner

Non-toilet trained children are not permitted in our pools. Swim diapers do not change this rule. We provide a Kiddie Pool .



You're Invited to our Annual Children's Beach Party....

Wednesday, April 8th 11:00—1:00
Meet at the Beach for Fun & Games, Prizes, Children's Menu, Face Painting. RSVP ARE A MUST - Call or drop by the Front Desk to sign up.



We invite all our children to meet the Easter Bunny at the Playground at 10:30 am on Easter Sunday April 12, 2009. There will be two sections: (under four years) (over four years). One only needs to collect 4 eggs which can be traded for your bag of candy. Register at the Front Desk. Please note the name & the age of the children.



Our office receives calls about pet owners not taking care of their pets. So Please, it is a Club rule, and we must insist that you clean up after your pet. We even provide the bags. Your Dog must be leashed at all times when out on Club property. There is a dog park on the island where you can let your dog run.

Please remember to confine your dog to one area of your unit, if you will be away from home. This may prevent them from barking, or check if you can get a pet sitter.



OUR E-MAIL ADDRESSES

General Email:

office@bocagrandeclub.com

President/CEO:

yvonne@bocagrandeclub.com

General Manager:

peter@bocagrandeclub.com

GM Executive Assistant:

admin@bocagrandeclub.com

Director of Club Operations:

ops@bocagrandeclub.com

Rental Reservations:

Director of Rentals:

rental1@bocagrandeclub.com

Rental Agent:

rental2@bocagrandeclub.com

Clubhouse:

Clubhouse Manager:

cm@bocagrandeclub.com

Property Management:

Director of Property Management:

dpm@bocagrandeclub.com

Property Maintenance Supervisor:

pm@bocagrandeclub.com

Accounting:

Accounting Manager & Personnel Director:

office@bocagrandeclub.com

Accounts Receivable: ar@bocagrandeclub.com

Property Sales/ Beachfront Properties:

Beachfront@ewol.com

Now, you have our e-mail addresses. If you would like to hear from us, please make sure we have your e-mail address.

That way we can keep you up-to-date on Club news, events and weather warnings.

Please Remember!

Your annual Food & Beverage minimum of \$500 is solely for your use. You cannot transfer it to family members or to friends. You can use it to entertain and treat but you must accompany your guest.

The Community Center runs some great movies, free of charge, on Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays. Stop in at the Front Desk for a movie schedule. The Club also offers recently released movies on DVD & Video, as well as a collection of oldies but goodies.

Clubhouse Dining Hours

During the Months of March & April we offer an additional Lunch and Tiki Bar service on Wednesdays.

Lunch: Daily 11:30am to 3:00pm

Tiki Bar Service: Daily 11:30am to Sunset

Dinner: 6:00 to 9:00 pm is served every day except Wednesday

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**May 1st we serve dinner Thursday thru Sunday**

**Last Thursday Dinner Service May 7th**

**Last Sunday Dinner Service July 5th**

After which,,Dinner is served on Friday & Saturday. We close after Labor Day for approximately 4 weeks.

**FOOD TO GO.....**

**We are always happy to prepare food for you to take home. Just give us a call and allow us sufficient time, especially in our busy season.**



**MEET OUR NEW HOMEOWNERS**

Robert Scanlon & Candy Naville Scanlon  
42B - Phase III

Elizabeth Campbell  
43A - Phase III

Harry Brakeley & Susan McNally Brakeley  
Grande Manor 102 - Phase V

Mr. & Mrs. James Cormack  
56B - Phase IV

*A special welcome to each of you. We hope you enjoy many years of ownership at the Club.*

*OUR NEW HOMEOWNER DIRECTORY IS READY FOR PICK UP AT THE FRONT DESK.*

**DON'T MISS.....Saint Patrick's Day Party, Seafood Buffet Evening, Easter Brunch Buffet, The Court Report. We have enclosed flyers on all of these events, which are printed back-to-back.**

**A SPECIAL BABYSITTER....**

**Tennis Professional, Matt Haugen, has asked us to announce that he is more than happy to take on babysitting duties. Matt comes from a family of six and assures us he is very familiar with the joys of babysitting. Matt also oversees our children's Tennis Movie and Pizza Parties. See the Pro-Shop for details. We also have a list of additional babysitters available at our Front Desk.**

**There are many great events taking place on our lovely island. You will find several of these events posted on our bulletin board at the entrance to our Bike Path.**

***P.S. A couple of homeowners may have extra tickets for the Baseball games in Port Charlotte. If you are interested, give the Front Desk a call and they can give you their phone number.***

**We have several members who are currently recovering from illnesses. We send our very best wishes to all of them for a continued speedy and easy recovery.**

**We are sad to announce the passing on December 12, 2008, of Social Member, Mr. Alastire Campbell, husband of Pamela. We extend our condolences to his wife and family.**

**Remember, when you are disposing of cardboard boxes break them down. If you do not Waste Management Services will not take them away. If our staff breaks your boxes down there is a 15 minute minimum charge. Additionally, if you do not break them down you do not leave room for your neighbors to dispose of their trash. So, be nice, breakdown your boxes.**

CAN MY FAMILY USE THE BOCA GRANDE CLUB FACILITIES?

YES, UNDER OUR FAMILY MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM FAMILY MEMBERS IN A DIRECT LINE OF DESCENT OR ASCENT-CAN AVAIL OF FAMILY MEMBERSHIP. THE COST FOR SOCIAL MEMBERS IS \$400 PER ANNUM, OR \$25 PER WEEK. PER FAMILY FOR HOMEOWNERS, THE COST IS \$200 PER ANNUM, OR \$25 PER WEEK.

PARENTS, CHILDREN, GRANDCHILDREN, AND GRANDPARENTS FALL INTO THIS CATEGORY.

SIBLINGS, COUSINS, AUNTS, UNCLES, OR FRIENDS CANNOT USE THE CLUB UNLESS THEY ACCOMPANY A MEMBER AS A GUEST OR ARE MEMBERS.

SO, PLEASE DO NOT LEND YOUR CARD TO ANYONE AS IT CAN ONLY BE USED BY YOU.