

The Savoy on Palm Newsletter

Volume II

Issue Number IV

February 2008

Note from the Editor

Betsy Cole

During Holiday season it was wonderful to hear children's voices and see them around the Savoy. We had many more 'grands' than originally reported in the last newsletter. Several of the children made fast friends with other Savoy grandchildren and left with promises of staying in touch and looking forward to the next visit here. It is fun to have our families meet.

Italian Night was a great success with 16 in attendance and THE BEST Italian food any of us had tasted. Call Leslie if you want the recipe for the best Tiramisu ever! Lots of great cooks reside in this building.

The tour of the back stage of the ballet and the grand opportunity to see the dancers in their practice was just wonderful. Thank you so much Lynda!

Get ready for Super Bowl Sunday on the 3rd Floor. There is a posting in the mail room. Last date to sign up is this Monday!! We have to plan & order pizzas by then.

Please note the changes in Social Committee schedule.

Please note the important rule changes and clarifications.

Peter announced the formation of the new investment committee to be chaired by Michael Meserov, with members, Walter Blagstrom and Marvin Kauklin. Thank you gentlemen.

Also note for your convenience, the inclusion of the list of committee chairs and members. If you have questions or suggestions about Savoy issues contact the appropriate committee chairs.

Please continue to support your committees AND the newsletter. Until next month, thank you!

Message from the President

Peter Fanning

It occurred to me the other day as I was pondering one of the several problems that the Board faces in the governance of the Savoy on Palm Condominium Association, Inc. that there probably aren't very many of our members who realize that, as a condominium association incorporated in the State of Florida, we are actually a non-profit corporation. Having spent most of my adult working life employed by or creating non-profits, it is second nature to me to understand that each time a non-profit satisfies a customer, it drains resources, and every time a for-profit satisfies a customer, it gets resources back. In the world of the condominium as a non-profit, each owner is an important funder, and thus, partner and policy-maker within the organization. As a funder, your return on investment is increased quality of life experiences and comfort.

Given the important consideration that each owner is a partner-policy maker will then partly explain why decision-making in a non-profit can be a much more deliberative and slower process than some who come from the for-profit world are comfortable with. Furthermore, in organizations that focus on the underlying principles of not-for-profits, we find that teams are more important than individuals and that Boards have a greater obligation to manage intangible assets and capture the wisdom of every partner than in traditional for-profit organizations. Thus, in order to enhance our potential as a successful non-profit, it is extremely important to maximize the resources we have in our funders. As challenging as it may be to sit through protracted Board meetings, bear in mind that there is untold wisdom in the comments of even those with whom we may disagree. Our fellow policy-makers are the very resource that makes the Savoy an enviable place to live and are the foundation of this organization. The several committees and their members spend untold hours assessing our viability in many areas of concern and their reports stimulate others to want to share their expertise with us. This interaction among the members of our non-profit organization limits the drain on our resources and improves the overall satisfaction of all our customers – you the owners. Be vocal, but be considerate. We need your help and your participation to meet our vision to remain the premiere condominium in Sarasota.

Upcoming Savoy Events

Parties - Mark your calendars!

*New events!

***February 3, 2008** Super Bowl Party in the party room. Sign up is in the post room. You need to sign up by THIS Monday the 28th of Jan. Very informal, come as you are. We will order pizzas. Bring Dessert or Appetizer to share. (Put on sign-up sheet) Bring your own drinks and a small fee for our pizza. The television will be hooked up to HD!! Thanks Bruce Blackmore for setting the HD up.

February 24, 2008 Oscars night on 3rd Floor. Informal gathering to watch the Oscars together. Starts @ 8:00 Bring a dessert IF you would like to. No sign up necessary. Cancelled if the writer's strike is not over.

Continuing Informal, 2nd Sunday, potluck, International cuisine night schedule follows:

Sunday March 9, 2008 – French – Coots

Sunday April 13th – Greek – Marge

Sunday May 4th – Mexican – Leslie

Meetings/talks/lectures

*Owner Lecture Series

February 19, 2008 12:00pm 3rd Floor. Peter Fanning will give a talk on Healthcare Options and the 2008 Elections. Bring your own brown bag lunch & drink.

February 14, 2008 Thursday 4:00pm. Board of Director's meeting 3rd Floor.

February 11, 5:00pm 3rd floor, Civic committee discussion

meeting on the future development of the Churches' property adjacent to the Savoy. Jane Robinson, director of Planning & Redevelopment for the City of Sarasota and John Burg, Chief Planner, will speak to homeowners on Palm Avenue.

February. Date To be announced., Life Support Training, 3 ½ hour course, 1st come 1st serve, \$30/person, sign up with concierge.

March 7, Monday, 7:00pm 3rd Floor –Civic committee meeting, with Lt. Karr who will discuss 'vagrancy' and the issues the Police department has in dealing with homelessness. There will be discussion on what we can do as citizens to help.

Committees (Committee reports are made at each board meeting)

Facilities: Bill Roe reports the facilities committee continues

to be very active with its work to improve the condition & operations at the Savoy. Check out the new benches in the locker rooms. In process and soon to be seen, a new fence along the NW side of the property, timer for the SPA, lights on the back gate lock and completion of landscaping. Thermostat covers are on. Warranty claims for pool cushions have been filed. We have defined and organized management of guest suites. **The guest suite now requires forms that need to be filled out.** The forms will be at the concierge desk with instructions, welcome packet and waivers. If you have questions, complaints, or suggestions, please communicate them to the committee.

For repair matters, fill out a work order form at the front desk.

Rules:

1. Change: For our enjoyment, Dry snacks and drinks (plastic/no glass) are now *allowed* around the pool, except during the holidays when there will be lots of children. At that time children are to eat at the tables, not @ the pool. Check language in new rules amendment and the minutes of the last board meeting.

2. Clarification to existing rule: There are to be no adornments, on any of our balconies, showing higher than the top railings. The purpose is to keep the building looking uniformly attractive and safe. Check the specific language in your new rules amendment and board meeting minutes to make sure you are in compliance.

3. Check new lottery rules for guest suite.

4. Check new parking rules pertaining to valet services.

Civic: Coots Siegel reports Anne Blagstrom and she attended a public workshop designed to facilitate the creation of Green Space for the city of Sarasota. Coots and Anne brought to their attention the neglected property on the South East side of Palm Avenue.

Landscape: Bea and Betsy report that Birds of Paradise will be planted along the south wall of the pool for privacy at the grill area from the building to our south. Ferns will replace dying plants along the south wall. More vines will be planted in the planters on the roof top, to create a more attractive gathering place

Turnover: Mort reports that they are in the final phase of filing notice of claims and receiving written responses. Turner and Floria have agreed to repair and replace many of the itemized defects. The respective principals will be meeting to discuss differences, process, procedure and timing.

Life Safety: The fire drill went well and, as a result of our cooperation and participation, the board was able to fix the kinks in the system that were not working. Thank-you Board for all you did to ensure our future safety.

Social: Board approved an HD box for the 3rd floor TV.

Events and changes are noted under 'Upcoming Savoy Events'.

Reminders

* From Dina- Jan. 29th is an election day in Sarasota. It is a two item ballot; presidential primary and a property tax amendment. You have to be registered as a Dem. to vote in the Dem. presidential primary and as a Rep. to vote in the Rep. primary. Voters not registered in a party cannot vote in the primary; all registered voters can vote on the amendment. 401 S. Palm Ave precinct is located at Payne Park Auditorium, side conference room, 2100 Laurel St., Sarasota, Fl.

Helpful Hints and Requests of the month

* Bill Roe reports he discovered there are there are 12 chairs and 3 folding tables kept in a storage closet for our use.

Resources

* Main Street Cleaners will pick up and deliver at The Savoy Tues. & Thurs. Check procedure details with concierge.

Around Town

Feb 2nd 6:00 - 11:00pm, Historic Palm Ave will transform into a Magnificent Outdoor Lounge for the benefit of Preserving our Beaches. Hosted by Sarasota Conservation Foundation. Tickets \$15 at www.chillloungenight.com or at the door. Roy's sponsoring this event.

Feb 16th 6:30 Best in Show Gala. Michaels on East. Cocktail attire - \$250.00/person.

March 1st – Opening night of the opera at the newly renovated opera house. 'Rigoletto' (Verdi). Ribbon cutting at 3:00pm followed by opera & sit down dinner in tent. .

April 19th - Sidewalk sale at Designing Women Boutique. They accept clothing, jewelry, etc. donations. It is a good time to clean out your closet.

Owner News



Our very own 'Stella', representing the Savoy, invited Leslie & Dick, Anne & Walter (on the Animal Rescue Coalition Board) Jerry & Bea, Dee & Stan and Lynda & Fred to the Saks 5th Avenue Animal Rescue Coalition fund raiser, for an evening of fun, good food and a great mission. Stella reports that the Savoy owners were very well behaved.

Savoy Committees January 2008

Budget:

Nancy Lindeman, Chair
Michael Mesirov, Peter Fanning, Mort Siegel, Marvin Kaulkin

Civic:

Coots Siegel, Chair
Gerry Elden, Anne Bladstrom, Michael Mesirov

Communications:

Betsy Cole, Chair

Facilities:

Bill Roe, Chair
Betsy Cole, Bea Elden, Gary Jones, Marge Mesirov, Toby Kaulkin

Landscape sub committee :

Beathe Elden, Betsy Cole, Co-chairs

Grievance:

Mort Siegel, Chair
Dina Lareau, Betsy Cole, Nancy Lindeman

Investment:

Michael Mesirov, Chair
Walter Bladstrom, Marvin Kaulkin

Life Safety:

George Hawley, Chair
Fred Doery, Bob Lindeman, Michael Mesirov, Gerry Elden

Rules:

Marge Mesirov & Toby Kaulkin, Co-Chair
Nancy Lindeman, Fred Doery, Jane Baisley, Dina Lareau

Social:

Betsy Cole, Chair
Ronna Ruben, Coots Siegel, Marge Mesirov, Kim Blackmore, Lynda Doery, Leslie Rivera

Turnover:

Wayne Ruben, Chair
Mort Siegel, Peter Fanning, Bill Roe