

# February 2019, Coconut Telegraph

Important Information in this issue you won't want to miss!

- \*\*Captains For Clean Water - Link to join**
- \*\*Who won the Poker Run? - Meeting update**
- \*\*Notice of LGPOA Bi-annual Elections**
- \*\*LGPOA Annual Membership Drive**
- \*\*LGPOA Annual Meeting - Could you help?**
- \*\*Environmental Update - Red tide**
- \*\*LGIFR Update**

## Island Garbage (trash)

From Vice President, Rhonda Olson:

Who is responsible for removing garbage from the island? The answer is each property owner. We're having a problem with this basic concept, which seems like common sense to most islanders.

At our meeting on Saturday, Richard Leydon reported that the green construction heavy-duty bags positioned on the island are not for household use, yet trash bags have been unlawfully placed in them. Accompanying photos documented this abuse.

Every home on LGI is responsible for proper trash removal off-island. If you have renters, make sure they understand the rules. If your rental management company removes trash for your renters, please make sure they understand as well.

Everyone needs to understand that this action is illegal and that trash trespassers will be fined.

## **\*\*Captains For Clean Water**

From Vice President, Rhonda Olson:

Captains For Clean Water is a grassroots nonprofit organization advocating for clean water and healthy estuaries across south Florida. It started out as a group of

fishing guides that “had enough” of Florida’s poor water management practices. Given the destruction seen firsthand, they were convinced that if everyone knew what they know, the problem would have been already fixed. They discovered, the solution has been delayed for decades because of a lack of political will and public awareness.

If you are interested in more information, please visit their website at [Captains for Clean Water](#).

**\*\*January 26<sup>th</sup>, LGPOA Meeting & Poker Run**

If you weren’t able to attend, please visit the meeting minutes at [LGPOA.org](#). Many topics were covered you don’t want to miss. People in attendance enjoyed hot cocoa and coffee, were able to join the LGPOA or update their current membership information and volunteer for future events.

First place winner of the Poker Run was Madison Underhill, second place went to John Hoekstra and coming in third place was Dawn Bokar. Each won Valentine gift boxes with snacks and candies.

**\*\*Notice of LGPOA Bi-annual Elections - Districts 1,3,5 & 7**

From Secretary, Terrie Weibley:

At the March 30<sup>th</sup> annual LGPOA meeting, representatives for Districts 1,3,5 & 7 will be elected. Each of the current representatives has expressed willingness to continue to serve in their positions. Several have only recently begun to serve in order to fill vacancies necessitated by the transfer of island property or death.

Those currently serving are:

District 1 – Rhonda Olson (Vice-President)

District 3 – Deric Flom

District 5 – Jeff Cowherd

District 7- Paul Holmes (Treasurer)

If you would like to be considered to serve on the Board of Directors in lieu of a currently serving director and you own property in one of these districts (see corresponding property addresses listed below), **please email a brief written**

**statement introducing yourself and delineating why you would like to serve to Secretary Terrie Weibley at [tweibley1@gmail.com](mailto:tweibley1@gmail.com) no later than February 18<sup>th</sup>.** Statements will be posted on the LGPOA web site and emailed to all members.

Addresses Corresponding to District Numbers:

#1 – 8000 – 8288

#3 – 8594 – 8888 excluding 8546, 8554, 8558, 8562, 8566, 8574, 8582, 8590, and excluding even numbers 8802 – 8818

#5 – 9140 – 9394

#7 – 9420 – 9646 excluding 9494, 9498, 9502

**\*\* LGPOA Annual Membership Drive**

From Membership Chair, Dawn Bokar:

Being a Member of the LGPOA means you get the most accurate and updated information on island news and happenings. Current LGPOA memberships will expire on April 30, 2019, the last day of the LGPOA's fiscal year. On or before April 30<sup>th</sup>, we invite you to join the LGPOA or renew your membership. You can do so by using the online form at [www.lgpoa.org/membership](http://www.lgpoa.org/membership) or you can complete and send your paper submission via US mail. 2019 membership packets will be mailed in mid-February. Thank you!

**LGPOA Annual Meeting & Potluck Picnic**

From Vice President, Rhonda Olson:

This years Annual Meeting and Pot Luck Picnic will be held at the Placida Beach Condos on Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will start at 11am and the picnic will follow.

Bring a chair, a side dish or dessert to pass and your neighbor! The food is always so good. Your dues provide the main course, paper products and water. Bring a beverage of your choice if you'd like.

If you are interested in cooking/grilling for the event please let me know at [twrhonda@gmail.com](mailto:twrhonda@gmail.com).

**\*\*Environmental - Red tide**

From Environmental Chair, Linda Soderquist:

As always, there's no way to predict if the red tide will get better, worse, or be around in another week or another month! You know how that goes!

The latest red tide sampling (Jan 23) indicates medium concentrations in the area between Stump Pass and Gasparilla Pass. On island observations are variable day to day in the past week, depending on wind direction and currents. Beachgoers have reported respiratory irritation, with dead crabs and mullet on the beach at the south end of LGI. Boaters have also reported respiratory irritation and observed dead fish floating in the bay and washing into the canals on the south end.

There was a dead dolphin removed from Don Pedro a few days ago, no one is sure if it was red tide related at this time.

Please find below some great information with additional links.

[https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/252fd8\\_a1839a045f754373898e18d35c84d973.pdf](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/252fd8_a1839a045f754373898e18d35c84d973.pdf)

**\*\*Little Gasparilla Island Fire and Rescue (LGIFR)** (The LGPOA is not affiliated with the LGIFR, we just want to keep you up to date on all island activities.)

From Fire Chief, Bill Underhill:

Within the next week, digging will commence for a water supply line for the Hideaway Condos in front of the little pond.

I would like to say thank you to everyone for all the safety and respect shown during the holidays. Everyone was great, there were no complaints!

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Please feel free to email me at [twrhonda@gmail.com](mailto:twrhonda@gmail.com) with any information you'd like circulated in the next month's Coconut Telegraph by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month. Content is reviewed by board members for approval.

Happy Valentines Day!

Rhonda Olson