

October 2019, Coconut Telegraph

Important information you don't want to miss.

***LGPOA Membership Update**

***Island Wide Garage Sale** - November 29th (Friday after Thanksgiving)

***Kids Fishing and Marine Clinic** - November 30th (Saturday after Thanksgiving)

***Environmental Update**

***LGIFR Update** - Bill's island update

DFC Ed Trentacosta Reassigned

From Charlotte County Sherriff, William Prummell:

As of September 9th, DFC Ed Trentacosta was transferred to the Courts. I had several openings come available that I needed to fill. Ed requested (for personal reasons) and has been approved to fill one of those vacancies. I will not leave the islands unattended. Though I am unable to fill this position until around the beginning of the year, our district 1 deputies and marine patrol will be picking up patrols on and around the islands. If you have any concerns or events that arise, please do not hesitate to reach out to the District Commander, Lt. John Hamp. John grew up in Englewood and is very familiar with the islands and waterways and can address your issues and/or concerns.

I know you are sorry to see Ed go, as am I, but I will find a very suitable replacement as soon as my staffing allows. Thank you for your understanding.

***LGPOA Membership Update**

From Membership Chair, Dawn

Big thanks to the 237 Islanders who supported the LGPOA by renewing their membership or joining as new members this year! We're up two memberships over last year and have several new owners as well. Welcome to all!

I'd like to point out that being on a committee isn't a time consuming endeavor and being a full-time islander isn't necessary either. Meetings are infrequent and conference calls make it easy wherever you are.

Your input is important to all island matters and what better way to meet your neighbors and contribute to our community. It's never too late to join or renew your membership, so if you haven't yet, you can do so online at www.lgpoa.org/membership. Or you can mail your form or contact information and \$40 payment to Little Gasparilla Property Owners Association, P.O. Box 3643, Placida, FL 33946.

***Island Wide Garage Sale** - mark your calendars for the Friday after Thanksgiving.

The Island Wide Garage Sale will be held November 29th from 9am to 1pm.

The last few years we've had so much fun. The people selling sold treasures to those of us traveling the island to see what was for sale.

Anyone can have a sale, just email us your house number and any items you'd like listed or featured. (Submit by November 22nd please.) You can recycle your unwanted items to someone that can use them and make some money for yourself at the same time! It's easier than hauling the items off the island, right? We will put a sign on the main sand path advertising your house number to make it easy to find.

Anyone can go to the sales as well! We will email the list of garage sales and items to POA members the week before. They will also be posted on the island bulletin boards for everyone to see.

We need a volunteer to put up and make the signs Thursday night. In the past I've used garage sale signs from Home Depot and put island house numbers on them. If you have a better idea that would be great!

Please contact us with information regarding your sale, if you'd like to be the "sign person" and any questions at twrhonda@gmail.com.

***Kids Fishing and Marine Clinic - Saturday, November 30th, 2019.**

The Kids' Marine and Fishing Clinic will be held November 24th from 10 am until noon.

Participants that sign up in advance will receive a fishing pole and a tackle box provided by Fish Florida.

- Who? Kids of all ages are invited.
- When? 10 am - noon, to save your spot call [941-999-7788](tel:941-999-7788) or email twrhonda@gmail.com.
- Where? Please meet at the Hideaway gazebo by the pool and building "A" at 10am.
- Why? Learn about knot tying, casting, fish species and the importance of environment stewardship as it relates to fish, turtles, manatees and all sea life. We will collect and observe critters from in the sea grass and have tons of FUN!

If you'd like to come and help you are more than welcome! We need a craft leader for the kids' folders, plus others! Please let us know.

Water shoes are a must. Bug spray is a great idea. The event will happen rain or shine.

****Environmental**

Turtle Patrol Update

From Florida Wildlife Commission Permit holders for LGI, Laura, Lena and Ava Dallas:

Turtle patrol has had a really great year! We've currently documented more than 200 nests and more than 400 false crawls. False crawl is a strange term - it means when a female turtle crawls up on to the beach and for whatever reason decides not to nest. She turns around and heads back out to sea without nesting. Her track can look like a horseshoe shape, but not always. Some reasons a turtle might not nest may be lighting, smells and any kind of predators around (including humans, but mostly coyote, dogs and armadillos).

We have only one dead adult to report so far this year, which is ever so much better than last year! We've had several dead baby turtles wash back in the surf, which is normal. We had one nest-disorientation so far, which means all of the

baby turtles from a nest tracked away from the ocean! There was a rental house with lights on well into the night near the nest where this occurred.

Please continue to be diligent, alerting guests at rental properties to turn off exterior lighting on the beach at night and to close blinds if interior lighting is on. Continue to remove trash, beach furniture and dog waste from the beach daily.

Thank you for all of your help this season.

LGI Water Quality Monitoring Volunteer Needed

From Environmental Chair, Linda Soderquist:

For nearly 20 years I have been involved with water quality monitoring locally and the last 10 years right off my dock on LGI. I am ready to retire and hoping to find other islanders to take over this important work based right here on LGI.

Read about the water monitoring project at <https://floridadep.gov/rcp/aquatic-preserve/content/charlotte-harbor-estuaries-volunteer-water-quality-monitoring-network> . The time commitment of water testing and collecting samples involves about an hour on the first Monday of every month at sunrise. The samples then need to be taken across to the mainland and dropped off at Cedar Point by Lemon Bay High School.

I can help train someone to use the equipment and protocols, and the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves will continue training until you are comfortable with the process. It is interesting, important, volunteer work and it would be wonderful to have someone continue the monitoring the waters around our island.

If you are interested or need more information, please contact me, Linda Soderquist at 941 270 7994, or linist@hotmail.com.

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

From LGIFR Board of Directors:

We have finally realized the long held goal of acquiring a permanent residence for our very deserving Chief Bill and his wonderful family. They are in the process of

moving to the fire station's new location: 8928 Gulf Street. We would like to offer deepest thanks to David Haynes and Barbara Pendergrass of Tarpon Realty and Len Carney of Englewood Bank and Trust without whose invaluable help, this would not have happened. Many thanks also to those who are helping Bill and his family move.

From LGIFR Fire Chief, Bill Underhill:

LGIFR Moved!

September brought a big change to LGIFR! For those who have not heard, we have moved to 8928 Gulf St. As soon as we get squared away we will have a firehouse grand opening and all will be welcome.

For all who helped with the move THANK YOU!!!

For those who provide food and drinks THANK YOU!!!

The support we are receiving is truly amazing.

Hurricane Season - State of Emergency Burn Ban

We are in the peak of the hurricane season and the tropics are busy. Stay informed! When the need arises we will continue to update you on the fire department Facebook page.

With the new governor in place some old rules previously not enforced are being enforced now. The one thing that impacts the island is that during a state of emergency there is a complete burn ban, this is instituted at a state level and violations are enforced by all state agencies.



Please feel free to email me at twrhonda@gmail.com with any information you'd like circulated in next month's Coconut Telegraph by the 25th of each month. The content is reviewed by board members for approval.

Rhonda Olson