



Little Gasparilla Property Owners Association

PO Box 3643, Placida, FL 33946

April 2017, Coconut Telegraph

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

- \*\*Final Notice of LGPOA Bi-annual Elections
- \*\*LGPOA membership drive 2017
- \*\*2017 Labor Day Cookout and Fishing Tournament
- \*\*Police protection in March results
- \*\*Island Internet, are you interested?
- \*\*Environmental update
- \*\*LGIFR update

#### Annual Meeting Reminder

The Spring 2017 Annual LGPOA Membership Meeting will be held on Saturday, April 8 @ 10am at the Placida Beach Condos. Please contact your district board member if you are interested in organizing the potluck. If there are no volunteers the picnic portion will be cancelled.

#### \*\*Final Notice of LGPOA Bi-annual Elections

LGPOA Board seats for Districts 1, 3, 5, and 7 are up for election. If you live in any of the districts outlined below and would like to serve on the LGPOA Board of Directors, please submit a written statement to LGPOA Secretary, Mary Lou Davidson at [maryloudavidson@yahoo.com](mailto:maryloudavidson@yahoo.com).

Below is a list of the addresses that pertain to each of these districts.

#### LGPOA Address/Districts

District 1- 8000 – 8288

District 3 - 8594 – 8888 including: 8546, 8554, 8558, 8562, 8566, 8574, 8582, 8590 excluding: 8802-8818 (even #'s)

District 5 - 9140 – 9394

District 7 - 9420 – 9646 excluding: 9494, 9498, 9502

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

Your 2016 LGPOA membership will expire on April 30, 2017, the last day of the LGPOA fiscal year. We welcome your on-line renewal at [www.lgpoa.org/membership](http://www.lgpoa.org/membership) or, paper submission that was sent via US mail. You will also find a printable member application at [www.lgpoa.org/membership](http://www.lgpoa.org/membership).

## **GET READY TO FISH!**

### **2017 Labor Day Cookout and Fishing Tournament**

The LGPOA is looking for a logistics oriented individual who “LOVES TO FISH” to help spearhead the 2017 Little Gasparilla Island Labor Day Weekend Fishing Tournament. The Kid’s fishing gear has already been applied for from Fish Florida, we simply need a few more task-oriented people to help get things rolling. The LGPOA and past volunteers have compiled a detailed account of how to get this off the ground so don’t wait another day to call and join the 6 other volunteers who are ready to jump in and make this another great success. Please call or e-mail: [maryloudavidson@yahoo.com](mailto:maryloudavidson@yahoo.com). 404-372-0015.

## **\*\*Spring Break on LGI**

The LGPOA has worked closely with Charlotte County Police to ensure a smooth Spring Break. Deputy Ed Trentacosta who is assigned to both Palm and Little Gasparilla Island has reported only five instances for which he was called to respond since early March. They were: (1) Trespass that included a fire on the beach (1) burglary, (1) act of vandalism (paint on a dock) and (2) complaints of unleashed dogs on the beach.

We encourage islanders to remain vigilant at all times about securing their homes, fishing equipment and golf carts. If you or your guests have pets, please walk them with waste removal bags and leashes to protect the safety of all. Thank you for your cooperation.

Please report any threatening dogs to Charlotte County Dog Patrol at 941.833.5690

## **Level I Threatening Animal**

This classification is for animals that have done any of the following:

- Attacked and/or injured a domestic animal
- Has approached a person, on or off of the owner’s property, upon the streets, sidewalks or any public -grounds in a menacing fashion or apparent attitude of attack.
- Has been impounded by Animal Control three (3) times.

Summary: It is the opinion of the animal control director, that this category level of is a threat to public health or safety.

## **Century Link On LGI – More affordable Internet for the island!**

Century Link is considering running Internet to LGI. A hard line Internet option from Century Link would most likely offer reliable service without data caps and speed issues at lower costs than satellite. Ed Feehan is collecting names. He has 100 names via Facebook but needs approx 200 for service to be considered. If you would like to email your names/addresses to Ed Feehan at the email below he will add your name to the list. If your neighbors and friends would be interested, be sure they contact him as well at [Edroadie@yahoo.com](mailto:Edroadie@yahoo.com).

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**\*\*Environmental Committee**

From Environmental Chair, Linda Soderquist:

### Sea Turtle Update

Second call for sea turtle patrol VOLUNTEERS. We need you! During the months of May through October the beach is alive with federally protected, endangered nesting sea turtles. If you can commit to two weeks, at least, of daily, sunrise beach walking a fairly short distance to and fro, Let me know! Laura Dallas through email: [jddal@aol.com](mailto:jddal@aol.com), by telephone at 941.830.2530 or follow the Facebook page: Little Gasparilla Island Turtles and Shorebirds for information on Florida's sea turtles and upcoming events on the island.

If you can't make a two week, daily, sunrise beach walking commitment there are other opportunities to help:

1. Please pick up trash and remove it from the island.
2. Be aware that leaving your lights on inside your beach front home or on the exterior could discourage nesting females to approach the beach and cause baby turtles to follow your "false" lights away from the ocean. Please shield your lights so that they are not visible from anywhere on the beach. Better yet, replace existing bulbs with Amber LED bulbs, which give you 10,000 hours of turtle-friendly light! Find certified dealers who carry Amber LED's:  
<http://myfwc.com/conservation/you- conserve/lighting/certified/bulbs/>
3. Please remind your renters to turn off exterior lights when they use your home, provide literature for turtles as they are one of the many treasures of LGI. (Contact us for free handouts and literature for rentals)
4. Help keep the beach dark at night - no flash lights, flash photography, bonfires, fishing lights/lamps
5. Do not approach, disturb or touch nesting females- just back away, slowly and know that you witnessed an amazing event!
6. Nests are easily flagged with stakes, screens and signage, please do not disturb.
7. Do not interfere with hatchlings headed for the water. They are cute, but it is integral for their survival to imprint on the beach as they return to the same nesting grounds many years later!
8. Take away from the beach each day what you bring down to enjoy fun in the sun (chairs, coolers, toys, floats and trash).

### Wildlife Rescue information

Hello islanders – its spring again on LGI. Winter was busy with animal rescues. There have been lots of shorebirds suffering from red tide toxicity. Venice Wildlife Sanctuary has been inundated with birds impacted by red tide. If caught and treated in time the outcomes have been good. Birds eat the fish that have been affected, they get dehydrated and weak. They float into shore and then lie on the beach. The more people we get out there, looking around and observing the wildlife, the more we can save. If you spot a sick bird on the beach, call Lori and Melissa, on island volunteers, at 347-387-6844 or the Venice Wildlife Sanctuary at 941-484-9657.

**\*\*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 Bob Weronik, President:

As we look at drought conditions for Little Gasparilla Island, The National Drought Mitigation Center <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Home/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?FL> as of March 23, 2017, lists our area as a severe drought. What this means is that severe dry conditions and low humidity combine to create an atmosphere favorable for wildfires. Although you may believe that your fire

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on the beach or in a burn barrel is safe one ember from these types of fire could cause a severe brush fire or even structure fire under these abnormal conditions. Little Gasparilla Island Fire and Rescue urges everyone to delay outdoor burning of any type until conditions improve.

All property owners are members of LGIFR and are urged to attend the meetings of the LGIFR Board. The next LGIFR Board meeting is May 6, 2017 at 10:30 AM at the Firehouse.

Little Gasparilla Property Owners Association Board and Committee names and emails can be found on the LGPOA website at [www.lgpoa.org](http://www.lgpoa.org).

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 25th of the month. Content is reviewed by board members for approval.

Rhonda Olson

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