

July 2018, Coconut Telegraph

Important information in this issue you won't want to miss

****July 4th Picnic is Saturday June 30th, rain or shine!**

****Call for Volunteers! Membership and Web Master Chairs**

****Environmental Update**

****LGIFR Update**

****North/South Sand Path Update**

From LGPOA President, Richard Leydon, Jr.:

We continue to work on the north/south easement for a permanent solution and will keep the members apprised of any new developments.

LGPOA 4th of July Picnic

The picnic will be held Saturday, June 30th from noon to 2pm on the Placida Condo's grass lot.

Side dishes or desserts are very welcome but not required for attendance. Smoked pulled pork, baked beans, coleslaw, plates, silverware and water will be provided. Non-members are welcome to join on site (\$40).

Bring a chair, a dish to pass and a beverage other than water if you'd like.

To allow everyone to cool down, LGIFR will be on site to spray water, and LGIFR T-shirts will be available for purchase.

****Call for Volunteers! Membership and Web Master Chairs**

The LGPOA is looking for a volunteer to assume the role of Membership Chair.

Requirements:

- Laptop or Desktop Computer
- Internet Service
- Available 2 hours per week beginning March 1 and ending April 30
- Available 1 hour each month for the balance of membership cycle
- Comfortable with light data entry into simple Google Mail list/MailChimp

To offer your support, please contact Membership Chair, Mary Lou Davidson at maryloudavidson@yahoo.com.

The LGPOA is looking for a volunteer web master.

Requirements:

- Laptop or Desktop Computer
- Internet Service
- Available 2 hours per month to make updates, manage host service payments, organize and upload media.
- Comfortable with light data entry into WordPress

To offer your support please contact Membership Chair, Mary Lou Davidson at maryloudavidson@yahoo.com

****Environmental Update**

Nesting Turtles & Red Tide

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

Turtles continue to nest despite the fierce red tide, with more than 70 nests and 200 false crawls to date. This includes one Kemps Ridley and two Green turtle nests. Shore bird nesting continues as well; at least 45 least tern nests are located on the south end of the island. The nesting area has been enlarged with stakes and signs. Thank you to LGI dog owners who maintain control of their dogs on the beach. In fact, the red tide toxins are so dangerous for dogs it would be wise to refrain from bringing your dog down to the beach at all at this point. Visitors and renters have not followed guidelines regarding turtle nests and birds. There is evidence of dog prints at nests, which are easy to distinguish from coyotes.

Further, some people choose to leave dog waste bags on the beach. There is, of course, *no* trash pickup on the island. Each person is responsible to take all trash off island. Please work with any renters or visitors at your home to be sure that dog owners fully understand the guidelines, and please warn them about the dangers of red tide. See this article specifically about effects of red tide first correlated with dogs on LGI:

<http://www.heraldtribune.com/news/20030616/unconventional-treatment-aids-dogs-sickened-by-red-tide>.

Thank you to islanders who have been diligent about removing all beach furniture each evening and filling all holes dug during the day. Our sea turtles need our help; four turtle deaths on LGI have been noted with this most recent bout of red tide. The senior biologist identified one as a green sea turtle and the other as an exceedingly rare Kemp's Ridley. For the safety of all, stay up to date regarding red tide and other water toxins at FWC's website:

<http://myfwc.com/REDTIDESTATUS>.

****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 Fire Chief, Bill Underhill:

I would like to remind folks to have fun and enjoy the 4th remembering those who have given their time and those who have given their all so we can continue having the freedoms we have.

While we enjoy the time just remember to be safe with the festivities. Be careful of where you have fires, if it is a bon fire or fire works please keep it safe and use areas clear of houses, trees and other combustible items.

The beach has a lot of dead fish, please watch where you step and wear shoes if possible. There will be many bones and fins from the fish in the sand and water.

Little Gasparilla Property Owners Association Board and Committee names and emails can be found on the LGPOA website at www.lgpoa.org. Barbara Orcutt has requested to be taken off active duty as a board member until further notice. If you are in District 5 (houses numbered 9140 – 9394), please contact Rhonda Olson at the email below.

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