

Happy New Year! Enjoy the first 2022 issue of the *Coconut Telegraph*!!! January 2022

Keep up-to-date by checking out this issue and by visiting the [LGPOA website](#).

**** Membership Update**

**** LGIFR Board meeting**

**** Who do you call for law enforcement matters? Deputy Billy Prummell not Fire Chief Bill Underhill**

**** Charlotte County gives “go ahead” to next step for Fishery property**

**** Notice of LGPOA Bi-Annual Elections - Districts 2,4,6,7 & 8**

**** Sewer Project Update**

**** Utility Board Update Regarding Sewer Project**

Ante Up on Saturday, January 15th for the 5th Annual Poker Run! This event will be held after the quarterly LGPOA meeting, which is being held at The Placida Beach Condo's field at 11 AM for all members to attend. The Poker Run is open to non-members, also. Come see what fun we have and sign-up at the same time!

Bring a fully charged cart and a favorite beverage to run with. There will be three grand prizes. Cards will be dealt out at 5 locations around the island and the top three hands will win a basket of goodies. One year the grand prize winner won with a royal flush! Prizes will be handed out once everyone returns. Please RSVP to twrhonda@gmail.com with the number in your party (remember, membership is not required).

Hope we can count you in!

**** Membership Update**

From Membership Chair, Dawn Bokar:

Happy New Year! Our membership drive for 2022/23 will begin in late February so please be sure your address listed on the Charlotte County taxing authority is up to date. Add your P.O. Box to the tax roll if you only see your island address in the mailing address section. As always, you can join or rejoin the homeowner' association by going to www.lgpoa.org and pay via Paypal or sending a check to:

LGPOA
P.O. Box 3643
Placida, FL 33946

**** LGIFR Board meeting**

From Fire Chief, Bill Underhill:

The LGIFR board meeting will be at 10:00A.M. on Saturday, January 8, 2022 at the firehouse, 8928 Gulf Street. All property owners on LGI are members of LGIFR and are encouraged to attend board meetings.

**** Who do you call for law enforcement matters? Deputy Billy Prummell not Fire Chief Bill Underhill**

From CC Deputy, William Prummell:



First and foremost, I love my career in law enforcement and policing the barrier islands here in Charlotte County is the best. As your island deputy, I am a member of the Marine Patrol Division and often assist in that capacity as well. I am seeking my vessel captains license and recently became apart of the Maritime Emergency Response Team which means I am on call for emergency marine calls such as search and rescue for overdue boaters or boaters in distress.

I hold many certifications and are a part of numerous other support units at the agency too. I am a member of the Technical Surveillance Team which requires my attention in a plain-clothes undercover capacity at times to assist with long term/organized criminal investigations or crime trends occurring throughout the county.

I am member of the Underwater Recovery Unit, more commonly referred to as the Dive Team. This too requires my attention from time to time based on investigations and situations throughout the county.

I am part of the Emergency Response Team which is comprised of members who respond to assist & police other areas of the nation/state in the event of a natural disaster like counties devastated by hurricanes or other significant events such as the recent riots in the nation.

All of these positions are demanding in their own way and require regular in-service training but I enjoy being a valuable member of each team and ultimately being a beneficial deputy to the county.

My first priority as the island deputy is crime prevention and my responsibilities as the island deputy go beyond Little Gasparilla Island. I am also responsible for patrolling Palm/Knights Island & a portion of Boca Grande. Each aspect of my positions requires different needs and hours from me. I frequently change my schedule as it would benefit the need of the islands, such as "party" holidays, crime trends and other known events.

I am issued a patrol vehicle, patrol vessel and two patrol side by side all-terrain vehicles; all of which have their place in policing the islands, to include but not limited to, speed enforcement on land or the water, dealing with unleashed dogs on the beach especially during sea turtle season and other basic crime prevention/deterrence. They too require regular use and maintenance by me.

Just because you do not see me at times does not mean I am not there. That being said, I am not a resident of either island and do commute to work. It is important to contact the Sheriff's Office at any hour in need, not to wait until you do see me or the next morning,

specifically for disturbances or in progress type issues. The marine patrol unit and I have trained and worked with members of the mainland patrol squads to operate our vessels to get to you for immediate assistance situations. Our dispatch non-emergency phone number is (941) 639-2101. If I am on duty and available I will handle the matter being reported. The islands are apart of a patrol zone and when I am on duty, my position alleviates the zone deputies responsibility for the islands. However that also means, when I am off duty your issue or matter will not be ignored and the zone deputy will contact you. COVID19 has also changed the way we respond and handle calls for service in general, a deputy may choose to call you first before responding and meeting to avoid in person contact for some matters. Police matters should be reported to the Sheriff's Office dispatch center; I know Fire Chief Bill fields calls of many matters, but those which may be a police or legal matter should make it to me.

But more about me, I was raised locally and am a graduate of Lemon Bay High School. I am married to my beautiful wife Marla with our one son, Little Billy, who also requires my attention 😊. My son and I attend jujitsu 2-4 nights a week. Little Billy is a huge Pokémon fan and anyone who has approached me in my patrol truck, on the mainland, has probably seen the Detective Pikachu hanging on my passenger side seat. The vacation time I earn is all spent with them and usually on the water.



I was hired in 2011 and have reached 10 years with the agency. Six plus of my 10 years were spent as an investigator in several units, handling cases from burglaries, thefts, homicide, sexual assaults, crimes against children and domestic violence. Many of the people I interacted with during those investigations were reluctant to interact with law enforcement and the kind/friendly people and hellos on the island have been a very positive change in this profession for me. I believe I have brought the skills I learned as an investigator to this unique position as the island deputy and have used them to better police the island. Please do not be offended if I do not come in, sit down and sip coffee with you, I feel the more I am on the street, beach or water the better I am to the community.

**** Charlotte County gives “go ahead” to next step for new project at Fishery property**

From Vice President, Rhonda Olson:

The Charlotte County Commissioners met December 14th and voted unanimously to finalize the zoning charges to the now named *Village & Marina at Boca Grande*. Full article – click [here](#).

**** Notice of LGPOA Bi-annual Elections - Districts 2,4,6,7 & 8**

From Vice President, Rhonda Olson:

Are you a property owner on Little Gasparilla Island who has joined the LGPOA? Do you have a desire to preserve our unique island way of life? The current representatives for all districts have expressed a willingness to continue to serve in their positions, but that doesn't

mean we can't have an election to bring in new perspectives. Those interested in continuing to serve are:

District 2 - Rhonda Olson
District 4 - Richard Leydon
District 6 - Barb Dwyer
District 8 - Roy Petteway

If you are interested in District 7, it is currently open for representation.

If you would like to run for election to serve on the Board of Directors in lieu of a currently serving director in districts 2, 4, 6, 7 or 8 and own property in one of these districts (*see corresponding property addresses below*), please email a brief written statement introducing yourself and why you would like to serve. Statements will be posted on the LGPOA website and emailed to all LGPOA members. Elections will take place immediately following the Annual Meeting in April.

Please submit your statement of interest to LGPOA Vice President, Rhonda Olson, at twrhonda@gmail.com no later than February 24th, 2022.

Determining Your District by Address Number:

- #1 - 8000 – 8288
- #2 - 8292 – 8538 plus 8542, 8550, 8556, 8560, 8564, 8568, 8570, 8576, 8578, 8586
- #3 - 8594 – 8888 excluding 8546, 8554, 8558, 8562, 8566, 8574, 8582, 8590, and excluding even numbers 8802 – 8818 (even #'s)
- #4 - 8890 – 9134 plus 8802 -8818 (even #'s)
- #5 - 9140 – 9394
- #6 - Hideaway Bay Condominiums
- #7 - 9420 – 9646 excluding 9494, 9498, 9502
- #8 - 9660 – 9908 plus 9494, 9498, 9502

**** Sewer Project Update**

From Vice President, Rhonda Olson:

The LGPOA is considered a litigant in the hearing PIE and Linda Cotherman are spearheading against EU. Our board decided we needed to participate in this manner to make sure LGI was considered in any outcomes. We have not hired an attorney, we are not participating in the hearing, but we are monitoring the events to protect LGI.

Prior to the hearing, there are a number of events parties are participating in – depositions starting in December, filing of prehearing statements on January 12, completion of all discovery by January 21, and a Prehearing Conference on January 26. The following issues will be addressed in the prehearing statement and the Commission will consider them at the hearing on February 8-9. Their decision will most likely be made in April.

A link is provided for the issues on the docket.

**** Utility Board Update Regarding Sewer Project**

From Vice President, Rhonda Olson:

There are people from all islands involved in EU's sewer project interested in forming a utility board to handle our utilities instead of paying private utilities for our services. Each property owner would own a share. The volunteers will be sending a letter to each property owner in the spring of 2022 to establish support of the idea and provide more details.

Please feel free to email me at robinturner63@gmail.com with any information you would like to see in the next month's Coconut Telegraph by the 25th of each month. The content is reviewed by board members for approval. Thank you, *Robin Turner-Grimshaw*