



The Moorings

MOORINGS PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

www.MPOA.org

Check out our website. New photos and information added regularly.



NOVEMBER 2011

MOORINGS PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 8961, NAPLES, FL 34101

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear MPOA members and all of our neighbors in the Moorings:

Our fall newsletter typically is mailed to every residence in The Moorings primarily to let you know the advantages of being a member of the MPOA. At this time approximately one-fourth of Moorings residents belong to the MPOA so we are making a special appeal to the other three-quarters of our neighbors to consider joining for 2012.

Why join? I'm glad you asked! First and foremost is our private Beach Park at 2101 Gulfshore Blvd North. Most folks know about the park but some do not. Last spring we celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Park's establishment, and we have just completed a bathroom facility. In addition we have over 5 acres of landscaped grounds with numerous picnic tables and benches for members comfort while relaxing or watching many magnificent sun sets. Also we have a spacious Chickee Hut which can be used for all sorts of personal events. Typically, annually the MPOA has a social event at the Park such as a cookout with drinks and entertainment. Last year for our 50th celebration, we had over 500 folks in attendance. The Park is open from sunup to sundown and we have guards/attendants there 7 days a week. Membership in the MPOA entitles you to park your car at the Park.

Some folks have told us they don't need the Park, as they already live on the beach; or they don't really need a bathroom on the beach and sunsets are just out the condo window. That is true, but MPOA is so much more than just the Park.

We are the recognized "spokesgroup" for the Moorings community to the City of Naples. As president, I sit on the Naples City Presidents' Council which receives monthly updates on issues from our city officials. Last year we organized a bus tour throughout the neighborhood with the heads of all city departments to alert them to issues which concerned our members. Within 3 days after the tour, virtually every concern was personally addressed by the appropriate official. Quite impressive. We'll be doing a similar tour this year and MPOA members are invited to go along.

One of the most important assets of the Moorings is our Moorings Bay system. One of our board members is in charge of monitoring what is happening in the Bay and communicating any problems or issues to those who need to know. Another board member, who also happens to be a member of City Council, is always on the lookout for issues that affect our community. Needless to say, this is much appreciated.

Being an MPOA member will entitle you to a free RCC (Resident's Club Card). Using this card just a few times will save you more in discounts than our annual membership dues. (See more about this elsewhere in this newsletter.)

We have an excellent relationship with the police department and Officer Bill Gonsalves regularly attends our monthly board meetings to update us on any happenings and hear about any problems we might have.

Also, the director of City Planning attends our meetings to keep us current on any planning issues that might affect our neighborhood. These monthly meetings are always announced via email and are open to the MPOA membership. If you haven't visited our website, check it out at www.MPOA.org.

So, hopefully, I've given you a little taste of why it's advantageous and important for you to be a member of the MPOA. Thanks to those of you who are going to renew for 2012; for those of you who might have been a member in the past, we miss you and want you to return; and for those who have not yet joined, give us a try.

Al Katz, President

WATERWAYS AND BAYS REPORT

We are now in the time of year when Moorings residents are returning from their northern homes and year-round residents coming back from their travels. Our waterways are an integral part of the community and it is important we communicate to MPOA members what is happening relative to our bays and Gulf.

SAVE THE BAYSMONITORING MOORINGS BAY

To learn about our Moorings waterways you are encouraged to attend a SAVE THE BAYS meeting on Friday, November 18 in City Hall at 1 pm .

SAVE THE BAYS is funding four trawling events of our bays this year beginning November 1 and occurring seasonally. The purpose of the trawling is to determine what species live in the bay and in what abundance. In cooperation with Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, according to Mike Bauer, (Naples government official in charge of waterways), a net is dragged behind a boat in four locations and the fish are counted, measured and returned to the bay. This information is compared with similar data from Naples Bay, Rookery Bay and the Ten Thousand Islands to determine the relative health of the Moorings Bay system. The overall health of our bay is poor due to lack of bottom structure, oyster beds, seagrass beds and mangroves on the shoreline.

Our Moorings Bay is monitored monthly to determine the water quality. While the water quality is relatively good, this is only because of the flushing action that occurs due to the tidal exchanges through Doctor's Pass. There is still much untreated storm water being dumped into the bay carrying pollutants. This is why it is so important that our town government and SAVE THE BAYS association do a thorough job of monitoring.

These monitories allow Mike Bauer to know how our marine population is faring and take appropriate measure to insure the best water quality that can be achieved.

Wildlife

We have ospreys and eagles living around the bays now. This is a sign they are full of fish and that our waterways are providing a healthy environment for marine wildlife. Could be some good fishing for those so inclined!

Doctor's Pass

The Pass is in good order. Please be careful when transiting and note any changes in the shoals should storms occur. Remember the old boating slogan, "If slow is good, slower is better!" and safer when there are boats coming and going at the same time

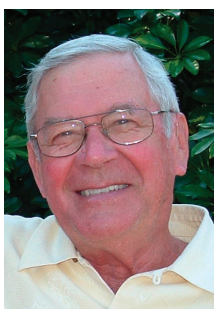
Bob Reynen, Waterways Chair

**WARNING---COYOTES SEEN IN THE MOORINGS!
A coyote attacked and killed at least one cat near
Regatta Court on 11/5. Keep a wary eye in the late
afternoon and watch your pets carefully!**

WELCOME! WELCOME!

**Please come to the semi-annual
meeting of MPOA
Sunday, December 11, 2011
5:00 p.m.
At the Beach Park
The purpose of this meeting is to
announce the nominating committee
that will select the next members of
the Board of Governors of MPOA**

NEW MEMBERSHIP CHAIR



Rog Albers is the new membership chair. He and his wife Carol were both born and raised in Cincinnati. They have 4 children and 11 grandkids. Roger graduated from Xavier University in Cincinnati and worked for Uni-Lever Corp for 30 years in sales and sales management. He worked in Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Toledo, Albany, and Englewood Cliffs, NJ. He retired in 1993 at which time moved to Naples. Hobbies include: "staying alive", yard and house maintenance, reading and golf—in that order!

DONATIONS

We would like to thank the following families for their recent donations in support of our wonderful Beach Park. Every effort has been made to correctly capture and recognize each donation and we regret any misspellings or omissions.

New Gold Level Members--donation of \$1000 or more.

Julie and David Weir

Donations of varying amounts (listed alphabetically by family name)

Connors

Good

Sue Weidlich, *Outgoing Membership Chair*



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“HOW DO I GET A RESIDENTS CLUB CARD?”

I've been hearing that question a lot lately! And the answer is, *Easy. Join your Moorings Property Owners Association.*

The RCC (Residents Club Card™) is growing fast. More than 150 local merchants are participating to give you generous discounts off purchases and services. This is a fantastic way to save money AND support neighborhood businesses. Along with retail stores, we've got many of your favorite restaurants on board, as well as professional services like dentists and insurance agents. If you don't see your favorite restaurant or pharmacy on the list, tell me and I will be happy to reach out to the merchant myself. Go to www.mpoa.org to see a complete list of participating businesses. For more information, you can email info@RCCNaples.com. Or contact me directly.

Along with this year's newsletter you'll receive a membership packet. Please take the time to return it to guarantee your membership in the Moorings Property Owners Association, and to receive your RCC Card!

Don't shop or dine or use a professional service without RCC. The savings will quickly add up and you are supporting your local community. Some of our newest participants are **5th Avenue Coffee Company, McCabe's Irish Pub, The von Liebig Art Center, Gulfshore Playhouse, Character Eyes, Naples Dental Studio, LaFemme Perfumery, Boat Rentals at Naples Bay and Naples Limo and Car Service.**

Of course we still have your old favorites and many more participating merchants so please review your enclosed list and keep it in your car for easy reference. When you have paid your 2012 dues you can pick up your 2012 RCC cards from the beach guards. Your 2011 card is good until the end of the year, but you may begin using the new one (featuring our new logo!) as soon as you get it. Our Slogan is

**HELPING TO BRING LOCAL RESIDENTS AND
BUSINESS TOGETHER**

Marie Murphy, *Condo Liaison and
RCC™ Representative*



BEACH PARK

2012 car stickers and visitor passes will soon be available for pick up at the park. Please remember that you must present EACH car (with its current registration) to the guard in order to receive your car stickers. The guards WILL NOT give out stickers without the car being present at the park and each sticker must be placed on the back left bumper of the car before it leaves the park. Please be patient and kind to our wonderful guards by not asking them to do otherwise. This will assist them tremendously!

Gentle reminder -- Please remember that our visitor passes are just that -- visitor passes. They should not be given on a permanent basis to friends and relatives who do not live in the Moorings. Failure to follow this can result in denial of access to parking in the park with a visitor pass and revocation of that pass. Visitor passes are one of the many perks of membership in the park so please do not abuse it. Our guards are so precious to us and their assistance in monitoring the park is invaluable to us. Should you have questions or concerns please contact one of our Board members.

We could use a few extra hands to assist with the weeding in and around the trees and shrubs at the Park. If you are interested, please call me 239-404-5295 (cell) or 239-643-5005 (home) and we'll try to find a convenient morning for the group to meet for some fellowship and weed control--without chemicals. You'll need to bring work gloves, hand pruners, and yard rakes if you have them. We thank you in advance for volunteering!

Linda Black, Beach Park Chair

Use of The Chickee Hut for private beach parties has become a popular benefit for MPOA members. Ever since The Chickee was upgraded with floor pavers, newly painted furniture and a vented roof, it has become the place of choice for birthday parties, anniversaries, weddings, reunions and large picnics. The reservation calendar for the coming season is starting to fill, so if you are thinking of having an event at The Chickee, see one of the attendants who can assist you with the reservation.

Ned Kendall, Chickee Hut Chair

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Very recently City Council approved the redevelopment of the southern portion of the Naples Plaza. This means the area occupied by Publix and the former Walgreens will be torn down and rebuilt. Publix will re-occupy the site with a larger, more modern store. The rest of the shopping center will remain but will receive a major facelift with more parking, additional landscaping, improved alleyway and major architectural enhancements. By adding 80+ parking spaces the parking lot will change from angled parking to straight-in parking. As a result, parking spaces near Publix will be slightly widened from what currently exists. The plan is to keep the store open through this coming season, closing and demolition around the end of March or April 1, 2012. If all goes well, Publix hopes to re-open by the 2012 holiday period.

City council is currently looking into amending the ordinance that prohibits almost all forms of occupations done in the home. For example: language tutoring, piano lessons, financial advising, and many other low impact occupations are not allowed even though they have long existed. However, a balance must be struck in which home use is permissible, but with very minimal impact on the neighborhood.

In September, City Council approved a budget for fiscal 2011-12. The ad valorem mill levy is the same as last year. This means the vast majority of property owners will pay a lower city tax since values have fallen. A minority of residents who are homesteaded and still have Save Our Homes value will see a small increase due to the state recapture rule.

Below are important dates to remember for the upcoming election. Three council members and a new Mayor will be selected.

Election date: January 31, 2012 (city elections and Presidential primary)

Early voting: January 16 – 29, 2012

Absentee voting: must be requested 4 weeks prior to election.

Your MPOA board stays in touch with city affairs and welcomes your input.

Doug Finlay, Government Affairs Chair