

CRV HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

DECEMBER 2009 NEWSLETTER

CRV HOA Website
www.crystalrivervillagehoa.com

Editor: Susie Lunney ~ 352-794-4115
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The President's Message

I thank all of you who have posted "For Sale" signs in your units. It is a very visible sign to Management that the majority of Village Residents support our Association's challenge to the rent increase. Why a "For Sale" sign? Because according to our Prospectus a "For Sale" sign is the only sign that can be legally posted in our windows. Writing HOA on the bottom of each sign shows your agreement with and support of the Crystal River Village Homeowners Association and its protest of the rent increase. If you have put up a sign and a neighbor or friend has not, please show kindness and support their right to their opinion. As more signs go up in the Village, they may decide to join in our protest. The last thing we want to do is create a split or division among our residents.

In the past two and a half years no unit with a price over the mid \$60's, including the models, has sold in our Village that I am aware of. With our Village having the highest lot rent in Citrus County, we are all suffering. A \$25 rent increase is out of line for Citrus County, and even if it weren't, the present economy and timing make it a bad decision from a business point of view.

If you are already trying to sell or planning to put your unit up for sale, contact Management. Tell them how they are damaging the Village and hurting residents and themselves. They hold the key to getting the "For Sale" signs removed from units. They can withdraw the rent increase or at least lower it to a reasonable amount.

Special thanks to Trudy Wood for a wonderful job chairing the recent Halloween Party. She and her team did a tremendous piece of work creating a spooky, eerie atmosphere that made for a fun-filled evening for all of the 103 people who attended.

On a lighter note, an update on our swans. There were no females available, so the newest swan is a male. He and Polly seem to be getting along rather well. One resident even claims to have seen them "doing the nasty" as she phrased it. I have also been informed that there is a nest with a number of eggs in it and a duck sitting on them. We will watch and wait, and perhaps see new developments on our ponds in the future.

I wish you all a Happy Holiday Season and a Healthy New Year.

~Carl Preston (#340) 795-6458

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Christmas Party Cancelled

No one came forward to volunteer to chair the Annual Christmas Party planned for Saturday, December 12, so it has been cancelled. We will still have a December Pot Luck. See more information below.

Christmas Pot Luck

This month's Pot Luck on December 17 will be a Christmas Pot Luck. We will sing some Christmas carols following the meal and share in some Holiday festivities. Margaret Stevens as our hostess and Louise Hosie as the Pot Luck Chairperson welcome your assistance in preparation of and clean up following this event.



Come Deck the Halls!

We will decorate the Clubhouse for the Holidays on Saturday, December 5 at 10:30 am. All residents are invited to join in the festivities. We will listen to and maybe sing some Christmas music, share some refreshments as we trim the tree(s), and create a Holiday atmosphere throughout the hall.

New Year's Eve

Our New Year's Eve Party includes a DJ, Frank DiPiazza this year. Sign up if you plan to attend so seating can be arranged. Tickets will be \$4 per person to cover the DJ fee of \$400, a bargain price for New Year's Eve. Bring your own beverage and a snack to share as we ring in **2010** from 9:00 pm to 12:30 am.

Congratulations & Best Wishes!

December Birthdays

5 Oliver Simon (364)
 6 Dick Marion (165)
 6 Keith Newell (369)
 7 Marilyn Boersma (385)
 7 Stella Fuks (302)
 7 Marjorie Colson (325)
 9 Carol Dulaney (517)
 11 Nick Polisson (313)
 11 Gary Ammerman (168)
 12 Lorraine Fricke (380)
 13 Valerie O'Toole (372)
 14 Pat LaManna (405)

15 Camden Long (445)
 16 Susan Perry (391)
 17 Gloria Cate (160)
 19 Barbara Bakes (525)
 20 Gloria Baker (324)
 21 Barbara Zinkiewicz (526)
 25 Sherri Genung (512)
 26 Lee Stiles (386)
 27 Richard Ballagh (348)
 30 Sharon Shull (434)
 30 Mary Stiles (386)
 30 Roberta Humason (409)

December Anniversaries

5 Bob & Marie Cross (375)
 6 Gerald & Faye Phillips (430)
 8 David & Faye Cartner (442)
 12 Ernst & Lucille Keitel (293)
 15 Dennis & Renee Bailey (428)
 15 Earl & Marj Tischer (489)
 30 Bill & Paula Blaylock (005)
 31 Timm & Lois Gage (377)

Please notify me of any errors or omissions. Thanks, Susie

The Citrus Playbill by Gary Ammerman

Back by popular demand **The Nature Coast Performers, Inc.** are presenting, for one weekend only, *"Love Letters"* by A G Gurney. The production will be staged on December 11 at 7:30 pm, and December 12 and 13 at 2:30 pm. It will be presented at the West Citrus Seniors Center on Veterans Dr. in Homosassa. Please call 527-9061 to reserve tickets.

This year's holiday production at the **Arts Center of Citrus County** will be from the Halavan Youth Theatre Program, a program open to young people ages 7 through 18. *"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever"* will be presented on December 18 and 19 at 7:00 pm and December 20 at 2:00 pm at the Art Center Theatre. Those interested should contact the box office at 746-7606.

Be sure to support Citrus County's Fine Arts!

CRV Fishing Report

We are holding a CRV Fishing Tournament this month (see more information on this page). I hope you will all participate, whether you are an avid fisherman/woman or just an occasional one. And speaking of fishing, which I always am, you know this is **your** Fishing Report. You are the eyes and ears of fishing in Citrus County, I am only the mouth. So this year **please** take the time to let me know what fishing is going on so I can share it with all. If you would like to go fishing, call or stop by.

Merry Christmas & A Happy Fishing New Year!

Ollie Simon Lot #364 Phone 220-6068

Shuffleboard Winners

Oct. 27 Mal Hood & Ken Schedel
 Nov. 3 Mert Brown & Jim Brown
 Nov. 10 Mert Brown & John Moore
 Nov. 17 Margie Jordan & Ken Schedel

CRV Fishing Tournament

COME ONE COME ALL! To the Crystal River Village Fishing Tournament to be held December 5, 2009 on our own two lakes from 8:00 am-11:00 am. This event is sponsored by Ed's Bait & Tackle, located just south of our Village at Airport Plaza on US Hwy. 19.

RULES: Open to CRV Residents only. Live or artificial bait may be used. A cash jackpot with \$5.00 entry fee for those fishermen wishing to participate. The pot will be divided, 1st place will receive $\frac{3}{4}$ of the pot for Biggest Fish Caught & 2nd Biggest Caught will receive the remaining $\frac{1}{4}$ of the pot. **Note:** You do not have to enter the Jackpot to participate, just being part of the fun will make you a winner. **All** who participate will have a chance to win a prize from Ed's Bait & Tackle for Most Fish Caught & Smallest Fish Caught.

For more information, contact Ollie Simon (#364) at 220-6068.



Bingo Fun

Bingo is alive and well and thriving as our snowbirds return! We're coming close to the end of a full year since I took over as Chair, and I thought I'd drop in some statistics. Over the course of almost 11 months, we have distributed close to \$23,000 in winnings to our players - \$13,000 in regular games, \$9,500 in jackpot games and \$600 in our new Speed Bingo game. All those \$8 game cards you bought sure added up! Thanks for your support and hope you all have had a good time.

An invitation remains outstanding for any of our snowbirds interested in calling for Bingo to contact me. It's easy, it's fun, and if some of you snowbirds can do it while you are here, it will give our regular callers a bit of a break and a chance to play, too. Any of our full-time residents who are interested in calling, please contact me as well.

Just a reminder, we will NOT have Bingo on December 23 and 30. With the busy holiday season, we want to take a break and let our usual volunteers have a break also! See you at Bingo!

Bob Hrabec Chairman (#437) 794-3357

Bingo Jackpot Winners

Oct. 28	Trudy Wood	\$83
	Joyce Desidin	\$83
Nov. 4	David Martin	\$182
Nov. 11	Waneta Bragdon	\$188
Nov. 18	Joe Barry	\$104
	Dorothy Taylor	\$104

Trips & Outings

The recent trip to the hard Rock Casino was well attended and a big success. The next outing planned is to the Show Palace Dinner Theatre in Hudson on Saturday January 30, 2010. The production will be *"Seven Brides for Seven Brothers."* The cost of \$39 per person covers a buffet luncheon and the show. Signup sheets are on the Clubhouse bulletin board. Gather a group and carpool from our Village.

Dottie Matteson 795-6898
Trudy Wood 563-2612

Veterans Day Program a Success

About 60 Residents attended the Veterans Day Event at the Clubhouse. Richard Wood (Army), who did a great job as Chair of the event, recalled the roots of Veterans Day, originally called Armistice Day. It commemorates the signing of the treaty on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918 that ended World War I, at that time called the war to end all wars. This year was the 91st Anniversary of the Armistice. Bill Pickett (Army) led us in a salute to our flag. Dennis Lunney (Army) gave the invocation and benediction. There were 16 Veterans in attendance, representing the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines. Each Veteran stood, introduced himself/herself and gave his/her branch of service. It was a moving experience, followed by a time of sharing and refreshments.

Saturday Breakfast for Veterans

On November 14th at our monthly Saturday Breakfast we once again honored our Veterans by providing them with a complimentary breakfast. We served 18 veterans and had a great crowd. Thank you Veterans for your service to our country.

We have been doing the breakfast for almost 4 years and it has been a huge success. I would like to introduce the people that really make it work. They are Linda Shott, Susie Lunney, Lorraine Fricke, Barbara Rundle, Carol Nye, Thelma Bachert, Barbi Nichols, Margie Jordan, and Laura Autovino who serve, deliver the food, and clean up. Special thanks to Trudy Wood for helping with the dishes on Veterans Day. They are a great bunch and a pleasure to work with; without them the breakfast probably wouldn't get off the ground. And I can't forget the men in the back of the kitchen who cook the food. Don Gibeau our grill master makes the pancakes and French Toast, Bud Shott prepares the batter, Carl Preston bakes the waffles, Stan Zipperer is our chief egg scrambler, and Don Hudson pitches in as a back up when needed. They work like a well-oiled machine and do a great job. Thanks to all of you.
Harry Rundle, Breakfast Chairman

Editor's note: Thank you, Harry, for keeping us organized and doing a large share of the work.

November Pot Luck

More than 50 residents were in attendance at the November Pot Luck to hear our enjoyable guest speaker, Gary Mills. He is a nuisance alligator control agent who contracts with the Department of Fish and Wildlife. He regaled us with stories from his experiences over the past 15-20 years removing nuisance alligators here in Citrus County. His repeated refrain throughout his presentation was "don't feed the alligators!" In almost all cases he has handled, it has been a situation where the gator has been fed, either intentionally or accidentally, through feeding other wildlife nearby or having small pets near the water. Fishermen often unknowingly feed them by tossing the scraps from cleaning their catch into open water. Generally a gator will try to avoid humans, but it takes very little feeding to cause a gator to lose his fear. And once it loses its fear, it expects the food to continue. As far as the gator is concerned that makes everything in its vicinity, from pets to little children, fair game.

As a species, alligators were under stress a few decades ago as FL was undergoing rapid growth. They have rebounded and now number about one and a half million. Each year around 10,000 become a nuisance and have to be destroyed. Another 8,000 are taken by hunters who can get a license to hunt in designated areas. So the species is not endangered, just under control. Alligators do provide a benefit. During the dry season "Gator holes" keep vegetation from crowding out open water areas in the marsh, and provide wet areas for other wildlife.

Mr. Mills reminded us that not only is it illegal to feed an alligator, a \$500 fine, it is also illegal to destroy them yourself. If you have a problem with a gator, you must contact an authority to have it removed. For more information visit the Fish and Wildlife Commission website, www.myfwc.com and choose the link, alligators, under Quick Clicks. And most important says Gary, "don't feed the alligators!"

CRV HOA Membership

The November Newsletter included a Membership Form for 2010. You can't miss it, its bright pink. Please fill yours in and return it to either Margie Jordan (#177) 563-9849 or Marj Tischer (#489) at 795-5003. Also, check your listing in the online Residents Directory. If there are any changes needed, please note them on the form before returning it. If you need another form or have questions, contact Margie or Marj.

December Ladies Luncheon

This month the luncheon for CRV Ladies has been changed to an earlier date in December because of the upcoming holidays. The Annual Christmas Luncheon will be held on Thursday, December 10, at noon at the Thai-Phoon Restaurant located in the same plaza as Big Lots. Your hostesses are Rose Peckham and Gloria Baker. Watch for signup sheets at the Clubhouse.

In Memoriam

We sadly announce the passing of three CRV residents in the last few weeks. Elma Mallett, a long time year round resident in lot #393, died in October. Jean Lineberger, a year round resident in lot #282, also died in October. Ben Andrews, a seasonal resident in lot #404, died in November in North Carolina. Ben's obituary and an address for his widow Roberta are posted on the Clubhouse bulletin board. We send our sincere sympathy to the families and friends of Elma, Jean and Ben.

A Thought for Today

If you planted hope today in any hopeless heart,
If someone's burden was lighter
because you did your part,
If you caused a laugh that chased a tear away,
If tonight your name is mentioned
when someone kneels to pray,
them your day was well spent.

~Author Unknown



Season's Greetings To You All & A Happy New Year



November HOA Meeting Summary

At the November 3rd Meeting all eight Board members were present and 85 households were represented. The Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports were read and **approved**. Carole reported that after purchase of the new swan, the Swan Fund has \$317 remaining for their expenses. A **motion** was made and approved to purchase two "Caution Swan Crossing" signs to place at each end of the roadway between ponds. Some did not feel it would help, but most agreed it was worth a try to protect our swans. A **motion** was made and approved to reimburse Carl for gas for his two recent trips to obtain the swans.

The Rent Committee Chairman for 2010 is Gary Ammerman. He named the members of his committee, Carole Hilton, Blanche Dooley, Kay Hrabec, and Leo Lumpiesz. A **motion** was made and approved for the Rent Committee to speak for our Association at any meetings with Management. The main topic for the rest of the evening was the recent notice of lot rental increases received by residents. Most rents were increased by \$25, but a few were \$6, \$9, or \$20. Also, as required by Chapter 723 of the FL Statutes, a petition was signed authorizing our HOA to challenge the lot rental increase.

Many residents were upset and shared their feelings. Several suggestions were made as possible responses to the increase, including picketing the office, posting "For Sale" signs in all our homes, sending letters to Whitehurst family members, and also sending letters to our political representatives. Mailing addresses will be made available to those who need them.



CRV HOA Website

Our website is seeing a lot of activity. Dave & Nancy Hardin have had at least three inquiries on their rental unit from people who have seen their listing on the website, and they have it rented. Many sales of units have occurred because prospective buyers viewed homes on the website. This technology is the wave of the future and we are fortunate to have that tool available to us now.

Christmas Cart Parade

Come join in the CRV Christmas Cart Parade! Decorate your cart and meet on the last street nearest the boat storage area about 2:15 pm on Saturday Dec. 19. We will line up and head to Cypress Cove Care Center for a 3:00 pm Parade as a finale for the Cove's Christmas Party for their residents. Later that evening, at 6:00 pm we will meet in the same location and do a lighted parade around our Village. Be on the watch for the parade as it circles our Village. You might even catch a glimpse of Santa Claus! This event is being organized by Jim Brown, Mal Hood, Ralph Falgiano and John Moore. Contact them for more information.

Rent Committee



The certified letters to the Whitehursts were sent several weeks ago requesting a meeting to discuss the rent increase. I have organized an amenities survey for all of the area communities and have compiled the information received from Crystal River Village, Forest View Estates, Stonebrook Estates, and Walden Woods. I have analyzed the information from the survey of the tri-county area communities. I hope to receive some dates for the initial meeting to share with our attorney so that she can attend the meeting with us. I will try to keep you updated through email for those with addresses in my database.

Gary Ammerman, Rent Committee Chair

Up Coming Events

Super Bowl Party - Super Bowl XLIV will be held on Sunday, Feb. 7, 2010. Plan to join others at the Clubhouse with your favorite beverage and a snack to share and view the game on the wide screen TV.
CRV HOA Yard Sale - Do you have a closet full of things that you never use, but they are too good to throw away? Donate them to our yard sale. The date is not finalized yet, but will be near the end of February or early March.

Crystal River Village - December 2009 - Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 8am- Men's Breakfast Ladies included 10am - Shuffleboard 1pm - Dominos 7pm - HOA Meeting	2 10am -Blood Pressure 12noon - Bowling 1pm - Bridge 7pm - Bingo 7pm - Table Pool	3 8am - ALUM CANS AT CURB 9:30am - Painting Grp 1pm - Mah-jongg	4 9:30am - CRV Golf 12 noon - Craft Club Cookie Swap Party 1pm - Games 7pm - Table Pool	5 8-11am - CRV FISH TOURNAMENT 10:30am - Horseshoes 10:30am - Decorate Clubhouse
6	7 9:30am - CRV Golf 6:30pm - Quilting 7pm - Poker 7pm - Women's Pool	8 8am- Men's Breakfast 10am - Shuffleboard 1pm - Dominos	9 12noon - Bowling 1pm - Bridge 7pm - Bingo 7pm - Table Pool	10 9:30am - Painting Grp 12 noon - LADIES LUNCHEON 1pm - Mah-jongg 7pm - Card Games	11 9:30am - CRV Golf 1pm - Games 7pm - Table Pool	12 8-10am - SAT MORN BREAKFAST 10:30am - Horseshoes
13	14 9:30am - CRV Golf 6:30pm - Quilting 7pm - Poker 7pm - Women's Pool	15 8am- Men's Breakfast 10am - Shuffleboard 1pm - Dominos 7pm - HOA Board	16 10am -Blood Pressure 12noon - Bowling 1pm - Bridge 7pm - Bingo 7pm - Table Pool	17 9:30am - Painting Grp 1pm - Mah-jongg 6pm - CHRISTMAS POT LUCK	18 9:30am - CRV Golf 1pm - Games 1pm - Craft Club 7pm - Table Pool	19 10:30am - Horseshoes 2:15 & 6 pm - CART PARADES
20	21 9:30am - CRV Golf 6:30pm - Quilting 7pm - Poker 7pm - Women's Pool	22 8am- Men's Breakfast 10am - Shuffleboard 1pm - Dominos	23 12noon - Bowling 1pm - Bridge No Bingo 7pm - Table Pool	24 9:30am - Painting Grp 1pm - Mah-jongg 7pm - Card Games	<i>Christmas</i>	
27	28 9:30am - CRV Golf 6:30pm - Quilting 7pm - Poker 7pm - Women's Pool	29 8am- Men's Breakfast 10am - Shuffleboard 1pm - Dominos	30 10am -Blood Pressure 12noon - Bowling 1pm - Bridge No Bingo 7pm - Table Pool	31 9pm - New Years Eve Party 	<i>Happy 2010</i>	

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: by the 23rd of month
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