

The Fountain

Cape Haze Community Newsletter

Volume 13, Issue 4

November 2009



CHPOA President's Letter

It's nice to see everyone returning to Cape Haze for the winter season. This was the first year that Pat and I stayed in Cape Haze for the summer. We enjoyed the quiet and had more opportunities to enjoy the beach and the water. The CHPOA Board has several members who are year-round residents so we decided to keep meeting. We plan to provide some updates at our Members Meeting on November 14, 2009. We scheduled the meeting at 4 PM just prior to the "Tailgating Party" organized by the Cape Haze Women's Club. We hope you can join us at the Community Center for both events.

We plan to provide updates on proposals for the Community Center and on our work concerning deed restrictions. There will also be a representative from Charlotte County attending to brief us on an updated Neighborhood Watch program for Cape Haze. (See Page 2)

Once again I'd like to invite and encourage all residents to join us. We live in a great Community and it can only get better with your input and participation. See you on November 14 if not sooner.

Ross Witschonke
CHPOA President

CHPOA and Women's Club Information

2009 Board of Directors

President	Ross Witschonke
Vice President	Susan Butler
Secretary	Mary Lou Fitzgerald
Treasurer	Shell Rieley
	Ralph Bond
	Ben Cirka
	Stan Friedenber
	Art Hanson
	Karen Irvine

Women's Club 2009 - 2010 Officers

President	Hilary Dahms
Vice President	Barbara Hanson
Secretary	Mary Lou Fitzgerald
Treasurer	Sharon Blasdell

See your Cape Haze Residents Directory for contact information for any of these volunteers.

Membership Meetings

Saturday, November 14, 2009	4:00 PM	Community Center	Party Following
Saturday, January 23, 2010	10:00 AM	Community Center	Coffee at 9:30 AM
Saturday, April 17, 2010	10:00 AM	Community Center	Coffee at 9:30 AM

Website - www.capehaze.org

Cape Haze Neighborhood Watch

Cape Haze is viewed as an upscale area and thus a potential target for thieves. Recent events have made it clear that we need to be more thorough and vigilant in protecting our properties. While the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) and the hard working deputies are doing a great job, they can use additional support from the citizens of Cape Haze.

It has been reported that individuals have been seen visiting various properties in our Community to see if they are occupied, presumably to set up another visit in order to rob them. This follows a more general trend with crimes against property being reported as having climbed significantly.

Thus, we are re-activating our Neighborhood Watch program of "Neighbors Looking Out for Neighbors" in conjunction with the CCSO. In this program we will act as another set of eyes and ears for the sheriff's deputies. It is important to point out that this is not a vigilante program and we have no arrest or even confrontational power.

Our role will be to see, be seen, observe and report on suspicious activities. The basic theory is

that if a potential criminal knows we are watching they will go elsewhere. Further, we can provide data and intelligence to our deputies that might aid them in their activities protecting us.

As a first step, we are going to have a representative of the CCSO explain the overall program. This initial meeting will be held at the Community Center on Saturday November 14th as part of our Special Members meeting that day at a special time, 4:00 PM.

Next we will have a training session and will then go live, as soon as possible, with our patrols. Since most crimes occur during daylight hours we will schedule our two person patrols to match the hours of risk.

I hope you will attend the meeting and sign up for this very worthwhile program.

Thanks,

Bill Dahms
941-828-0447
k2ykw@comcast.net

New Entrance Signage Eases Confusion

Residents who've had need for emergency services have long been frustrated by the slow response time due to the inability of the EMS drivers to find their way around our Community

Karen Irvine called Commissioner Robert Skidmore and got immediate action. Within a week, through the efforts of Bonnie Stoner, an executive assistant to the Board of County Commissioners and Jason Ouimet from the Charlotte County Public Works Department, new signs were installed at our main entrance. These new signs should go a long way to

clearing up the confusion about our three Green Dolphin Drives.

A very special thanks goes to our County employees and to Karen for her determined efforts.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Meet Your CHPOA Board Member

Karen Irvine - was first elected to the Cape Haze Property Owners Association Board in January 2005 and then reelected to a second term in 2008. Her willingness to serve over this long period surprised no one who knows anything about Karen.

When you hear, "Who thought of that?", the answer is often Karen Irvine. If you want creative event ideas, ask Karen. If you need help organizing an event, just ask Karen, If you need something done, just ask Karen.

Karen and her husband Hank had an investment property in Captiva and started spending time there many years ago. When they found it becoming too crowded, they relocated to Palm Island. However they knew that when they retired they would prefer living on the mainland. So one rainy day, they began driving around the area, found Cape Haze and fell in love with our Community.

They first bought in Cape Haze about 25 years ago and rented their house out until they became snowbirds, splitting their time between Florida and Nantucket, Massachusetts. That was about 17 years ago and they've since become permanent residents of Cape Haze.

Karen grew up in Short Hills, New Jersey, west of Manhattan. She attended the Beard Prep School in South Orange, New Jersey and went on to Centenary College in New Jersey studying Public Relations and Merchandising.

Karen's first job was as head buyer for the women's division of a chain of small stores carrying sports clothing and accessories. Then she moved out west to Tacoma, Washington and became a buyer for Nordstrom/Rhodes.

Eventually, Karen moved back to Short Hills where she met her husband Hank. Hank and Karen always worked together, Hank as a tennis pro and Karen as a pro shop manager. In this position she used all her experience as she was the buyer, accountant, marketer, and personnel manager. At one time they had as many as five pro shops.

Karen has one son, two daughters, six grandsons and six granddaughters. Her son, daughter-in-law and one grandchild live in Oregon and have a

restaurant in Hood River. It's called the 3 Rivers Grill and has an excellent reputation - so stop in if you get a chance. Karen's daughters and families live in Rumson, New Jersey. With eleven children between them, they are both very busy stay at home mothers.

Karen says one of her very favorite pasttimes is spending time with her grandchildren. She goes on to say she loves fishing and dancing. Karen is also a very accomplished artist who specializes in non-symmetrical, heavily shelled frames and mirrors as well as Sailors' Valentines.

Karen's Sailors' Valentines are truly works of art involving color-matching, miniscule shells arranged in detailed and precise geometric patterns. Karen will be teaching a class on Sailors' Valentines through the Boca Grande Art Alliance beginning in January.

Karen's involvement in our Community started when she first moved here and continues today. She led the aerobic dancing class for many years and has been instrumental in planning social events.

For several years she has organized the Women's Club shelling and lunch on Palm Island event and then taught everyone what to do with all those shells. She is currently working with Gasparilla Marina to coordinate our Lighted Boat Parade (see flyer, page 5).

When asked why she joined the CHPOA Board, Karen says, "It's always been my belief that when you live in a community, you should get involved and help preserve it." Karen goes on to say that she hopes Cape Haze will become even better in the years to come.

We're lucky to have people like Karen in Cape Haze and thank her for her contributions to our Community.

Beware the Giant Palm Weevil!

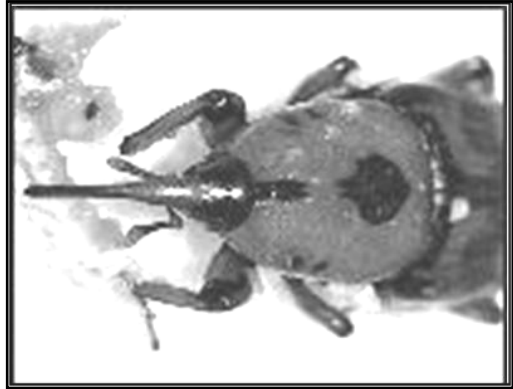
In our neighborhood resides a deadly fiend – the Giant Palmetto Weevil, aka *Rhynchophorus Cruentatus Fabricius*. A mouthful! And a mouthful this not-so-little creature will take of your canary island date, washingtonia, and a few other palms. These plants face little chance for survival once the bug is established within.

The critters will invade a random victim, setting up a “base of operations” from which to spread. Last season properties on South Green Dolphin lost four beautiful palms due to inattention to the infection of an initial canary island date palm. So far three canary island date palms and one washingtonia have been lost. It remains to be seen if others will bite the dust this season.

So, what to do? If you have these palms on your property, it is imperative to have them treated twice a year {spring and fall} with a mixture which kills larvae, juveniles and adult weevils. Check with a large tree landscape specialist – they’ll have the needed product. And if you see unusual frond yellowing, especially around the top {heart} of the plant, have the tree immediately inspected. If an infection is found, treat without delay! More than likely the plant has been mortally wounded and will need to be removed. Dead and dying plants should be removed as soon as possible to prevent further hosting. Your neighbors will appreciate it.

To learn more, navigate your browser to <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/IN139>.

Lee Buechler, Cape Haze Neighbor



Palm Weevils are in various shades and combinations of red and black. They range in length from two to four centimeters.



Ponderings

When asked on Thanksgiving what he was thankful for, the young man responded, “I’m thankful that I’m not a turkey.”

Q: Why did they let the turkey join the band?
A: Because he had the drumsticks

A Good Question . . .

What is the difference between Bird Flu and Swine Flu? For bird flu you need tweetment and for swine flu you need oinkment.

**Stay Informed!
Check the Cape Haze
Website Often!!**

www.capehaze.org

Cape Haze and Gasparilla Marina Lighted Boat Parade

Saturday December 12 (Rain Date December 13)

Appetizer Buffet with Coffee at Waterside Grill follows Parade \$5/person
Cocktails available at extra cost

Boats of all sizes are Welcome

To Make it Easy to Decorate and Get Home after the Festivities
No Charge Docking Space is available at Gasparilla Marina from Friday 4:00 PM
and again Saturday for overnight

- Assemble at Gasparilla Marina Fuel Dock by 5:30 PM
- Captains Meeting at 5:45 PM - Departure at 6:00 PM
- Planned Route is Gasparilla Marina fuel dock to Palm Island Marina and Back
- Inverters to run lights on battery and battery lights available at Walmart and other Retailers.
- For More Information, Contact Karen Irvine, 697-8883

Let's make this the best parade ever by really lighting up those boats. Let's also give them something to look at by decorating our waterfront.

Participate by captaining a lighted boat, riding on someone's boat, decorating the waterfront, and joining the group for party following the parade.

Registration Deadline is December 1

Name _____ Phone _____

Taking a Boat _____ Can You Take Additional Passengers _____

Want to Ride on someone's Boat _____

Need docking Friday _____ Need docking after Parade _____

Number Attending Party Following Parade _____ X \$5.00 = _____
(Make check payable to Cape Haze Women's Club)

Send registration and check to Karen Irvine, 255 Green Dolphin Dr., Cape Haze, FL 33946

Cape Haze Women's Club

Welcome to the 2009-2010 season! The Cape Haze Women's Club is geared up and ready to go with several fun outings planned for November through January. Please mark your calendars and make your reservations early!

Our **Kick-Off Tailgate Party** will take place on **Saturday, November 14** immediately following the CHPOA membership meeting. Bring your own beverages for the social hour and your appetites for a delicious dinner of slow-cooked oak smoked pulled pork with dipping sauce, buffalo wings, potato salad, baked beans, coleslaw, dessert, coffee and iced tea. Buffalo Bill's Catering of Venice will provide the dinner. Cost is \$14/adult and \$6/children 8th Grade and younger. Checks may be made payable to Cape Haze Women's Club. Call Hilary Dahms 828-0447 or Barbara Hanson 828-7447 now for reservations.

On **Friday, November 20** we will meet at 8:45 a.m. at the Community Center to join members of the **Lemon Bay Garden Club for a tour** of six outstanding local gardens. Tickets are \$12. Luncheon is available at the Lemon Bay Garden Club clubhouse for \$8. Contact Jeanne Corbin 697-2274 or Penny Riele 697-9811 for tickets a.s.a.p. as this is always a sell-out event.

The **Holiday Decorating Committee will meet on Monday November 23** at 9:45 a.m. at the Community Center to decorate the building, the fountain and the Cape Haze entrances. This is a great way to get into the spirit of the season and all hands are welcome!

Our special CHW holiday event this year will be a **trip to the Powel Crosley estate in Sarasota for the Festival of Trees on Thursday, December 3**. We will meet at 10:15 a.m. at the Community Center to carpool to "Seagate", Crosley's lovely winter home on Sarasota Bay. A noted inventor and entrepreneur, Powel Crosley founded the American Automobile Accessories Company, the Crosley Radio Corporation and WLW in Cincinnati. He developed the Crosley automobile and the Shelvador refrigerator among other projects.

Decorated holiday trees will be on display throughout the Crosley home, and we will enjoy a special Christmas tea at 1:30 p.m. in the tearoom. Tickets are \$25, payable to Cape Haze Women's Club. Call Hilary Dahms, 828-0447 or Barbara Hanson, 828-7447 for reservations.

Holiday events continue with the **Cape Haze Holiday Boat Parade on Saturday, December 12. Raindate: Sunday, December 13**. Karen Irvine has arranged for Cape Haze boaters to join the Gasparilla Marina flotilla for a lighted parade along the Cape Haze waterfront followed by a party at the Waterside Grille. All residents are invited to participate either by joining the parade or by viewing it from convenient locations on the waterfront. Details of these arrangements may be found on page 5. Call Karen Irvine 697-8883 to join the fun!

Heading into 2010, our first **Friday Night Social will be January 8**, hosted by Clare and Don Landmann. Bring your beverage of choice, an hors d'oeuvre to share, and join us at the Community Center from 5-7p.m.

There will be a **regular business meeting** of the Cape Haze Women's Club on **Monday, January 11 at 10:30 a.m.** at the Community Center. Speaker to be announced.

On **Monday, January 25 we will enjoy a morning of shelling on the beach** at Palm Island followed by lunch at Rum Bay. We will meet at the Community Center at 9:00 a.m. to carpool to the Palm Island ferry. This is always one of our most popular outings, so please sign up early. Call Karen Irvine 697-8883 for reservations.

Future outings include a theater trip in February and the Sarasota Orchestra Association fashion show and luncheon at the Venice Yacht Club in March. Watch for details on the Cape Haze website www.capehaze.org. and in the next issue of *The Fountain*.

(Continues on Page 8)

Upcoming Events

- November 10 Book Review Club
Wednesday Letters & The Reader
10:00 AM - Community Center
- November 14 CHPOA Meeting - *Note Special Time*
4:00 PM - Community Center
- November 14 Welcome to the Season Catered Party
Following Meeting - Community Center
- November 20 Women's Club - Lemon Bay Garden Tour
8:45 AM - Meet at Community Center
- November 23 Decorate the Community for the Holidays
9:45 AM - Meet at the Community Center
- December 3 Powell Crosley Festival of Trees
10:15 AM - Meet at the Community Center
- December 8 Book Review Club - *The Red Tent*
10:00 AM - Community Center
- December 12 Holiday Boat Parade
5:30 PM - Gasparilla Marina Fuel Dock
- January 8 Friday Night Social
5:00 - 7:00 PM - Community Center
- January 11 Women Club Meeting, Speaker TBA
10:30 AM - Community Center
- January 12 Book Review Club - *While I Was Gone*
10:00 AM - Community Center
- January 23 CHPOA Meeting - 9:30 AM for Coffee
10:00 AM - Meeting - Community Center
- January 25 Palm Island Shelling & Lunch
9:00 AM - Meet at Community Center

Stay informed, check our website - www.capehaze.org

Women's Club - (Continued from Page 6)

In addition, we have all our on-going activities: **Aerobic dancing** takes place **on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings at 8:15 a.m.** at the Community Center. Our instructor, Cheryl Clark has put together great routines and fun music for a program that is suitable for all fitness levels.

Our **informal walking group**, the "Walking Ladies" meet at the fountain at **8:15 a.m. on Tuesday and Thursday mornings** for a moderately-paced one hour walk around the Community. The Walkers provide fun exercise and good company.

The Book Review Club meets the **second Tuesday of the month** at 10:00 a.m. at the Community Center. The next meeting is **November 10** and the books to be discussed are *The Reader* by Bernard Schlink and *Wednesday Letters* by Jason Wright. Check the Cape Haze website for the full reading list.

We hope you find some of these outings and activities to your liking. One thing is certain, one is never bored in Cape Haze! Hope to see you participating soon.

Hilary Dahms, Women's Club President

The Fountain

is published January, March, May, and November.

All articles, letters, photographs, and "Upcoming Events" received by deadline will be considered for publication.

Text submissions should be Microsoft Word files.

Photographs should be .jpg files of at least 400kB in size.

Text and photographs should be attached to e-mail with "Fountain Submission" in the subject box, and forwarded to NancyBue@aol.com.

Hard copy submissions may also be considered.

**January Deadline is
January 14, 2010**

The Fountain

Cape Haze Property Owners Association
P. O. Box 690 Placida, FL 33946

**Special Meeting, All Invited!
Saturday, November 14 at 4:00 PM
Party to Follow!**

Inside this Issue:

- **Neighborhood Watch Coming**
- **Busy Social Season Underway**
- **Meet Your Board Member**

The Fountain is produced by Nancy Buechler Cape Haze Florida