

Ripples

MARCH 2020



SKYE LOCH HOME OWNERS
ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER
www.skyelochvillas.com

BOARD MEETING AND ASSOCIATION FORUM: THURSDAY, MARCH 5 at 6:00

NEW BOARD MEETING TIME: Beginning in March, the board meetings will now start at 6:00 p.m.

THANK YOU: To Pat Cashmore who has resigned her position on the board. We thank you for your service.

WOMEN'S CLUB: Our next meeting is March 10th at 10:30 in the clubhouse kitchen. This month the ladies will be going to Marguarite's Café for lunch. If you plan to go, there is a sign up sheet in the clubhouse kitchen so reservations can be made. We will leave the clubhouse parking lot at 11:00. Carpooling is encouraged. All ladies are welcome !!!

ICE CREAM SOCIAL COMING SOON: This event will be towards the end of March. When the details are worked out there will be flyers posted on the bulletin boards at the Clubhouse

THANK YOU: To Dave and Debbie Wyllie, Lila Barry and Scott Rolston for chairing the Valentine's Day Dance/Party. It was a great time! Profit to Women's club was \$432.00!

THANK YOU: To Janice Burke and Betty Hassett for great job they did chairing the flea market. It was a big success and the profit to Women's Club was \$701.00!

NEW POOL SIGNS: If you are going to the pool, you may see a "Pool Closed" sign on the entrance gate, north side of the clubhouse. Also there will be a clip board that will have a note as to what time the pool will re-open. Chemicals used to keep the water clean take time to dissolve. Chemicals not dissolved can cause skin rash and irritation. Thank you for your patience. Stay safe, have fun, enjoy the pool. Frank Kane

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD: Our trash dumpsters are used daily by residents and fill quickly. Sometimes in our haste we forget to close the lid and leave the trash exposed to birds and vermin who think of our dumpsters as a grocery store. Leaving the dumpster lid open only invites unwanted pests. Please close the dumpster lids after each use and bag your trash. **If** you have large items that need to be disposed of, please do not leave them by the dumpsters as it states in Article 6.3 in our Rules and Regulations. The city will not pick up large items unless they are notified that the item is there. Contact Ameritech at 727-726-8000 and ask for Scott Vignery and he will tell you when to put it out and arrange for disposal of your item. You will then get a bill for the disposal from the city. **Please** do not wash your car on your lot, street or common ground as it states in Article 4.6 in our Rules and Regulations. There is a place to wash your car by the North end dumpster. **If** you get a new car, please get a new parking sticker for it at the office. **No** feeding of birds, turtles, fish or any animal is allowed at any time as it states in Article 6.7 of our Rules and Regulations. Bread and other food humans eat is not part of their diet and can be harmful to them. And any food they leave behind can attract unwanted wildlife. Please see the next page for more info on this.

SKYE LOCH COMMUNITY SCHEDULE

Shuffle board—Monday at 1:00

Lady's Cards—Mondays at 6:00

BINGO—Tuesdays at 6:30. Sales end at 6:20
Coffee Time—First and third Tuesdays at 9:00
Men's Cards—Wednesdays at 7:00

Bocci Ball— ?

Billiards—Fridays at 12:00



Why Shouldn't We Feed Water Birds?

"Water birds" are birds that live in or near aquatic environments such as the ocean, lakes, marshes, swamps, and rivers. This includes pelicans, ducks, geese, herons, egrets, gulls, terns, cormorants, etc. What Types of Problems Can Occur From Feeding Water Birds? Feeding water birds leads to problems such as:

- behavioral problems in the birds—they lose their fear of humans and become aggressive;
- malnutrition from eating foods with low or no nutritional value;
- injuries from swallowing hooks and nonfood items;
- entanglement in fishing line—which can lead to starvation, loss of a wing or foot, and death;
- injuries from swallowing large fish bones which they cannot digest—large fish bones can puncture a bird's pouch, get caught in the throat, and even puncture a bird's stomach;
- becoming tame, losing fear of humans;
- increased spread of disease;
- degradation of water quality (from concentrations of bird feces);
- parent birds who are dependent on humans for food and therefore cannot teach their own young proper foraging techniques to feed themselves.

Feeding wild birds at fishing piers is harmful to the birds' health. Birds that attempt to swallow too large a fish may choke or suffer internal injuries. Birds that learn to associate fishermen with food may try to eat fish off the hook and become severely injured or die from swallowing hooks or getting entangled in fishing line monofilaments. Studies show that more than 700 pelicans die each year by getting caught in monofilament fishing line. Feeding water birds such as pelicans can actually lead to the death of the birds.

Why Shouldn't We Feed Water Birds?

Feeding birds also concentrates birds in one location. This leads to an increased chance of disease being transmitted from bird to bird. Avian pox may be transmitted through the increased physical contact between birds that comes with crowding and intense competition for food. Diseases such as avian botulism are transmitted between birds through their droppings. With large amounts of bird droppings comes the increased transmission of these diseases. Large amounts of bird droppings can also lead to increased bacterial counts, including *E. coli*, in nearby bodies of water. Plus, the increased amount of nutrients from bird droppings leads to growth of algae and may affect water quality. Bread and other processed foods are not part of a bird's natural diet and may lead to malnutrition from eating foods with little or no nutritional value. The balance of fiber, fats, mi-

cronutrients, carbohydrates and protein in a bird's natural diet is radically different from a scavenged diet consisting mostly of human food. Also, birds can choke on large pieces of bread. Further, the leftover bread is attractive to other wildlife such as rats and raccoons, which are predators of eggs and chicks. Wild birds that are fed frequently become habituated to it. This repetitive behavior of going after food thrown to them can result in the birds swallowing anything that is thrown to them, including garbage. Birds that are taught to be dependent on humans for food cannot teach their own young traditional foraging behaviors; the young may starve as a result. Tame birds also become vulnerable to hostile human behavior. They get chased by children and dogs, and harassed by those who think the birds are a nuisance. Feeding causes birds to be unafraid of dangerous hazards like cars. Additionally, some species, such as the ducks, geese and swans, may alter their normal migration patterns if food is provided year-round. Sometimes people attempt to feed birds up close, which causes undue stress to birds. This is especially harmful during the breeding season. Approaching nests to feed birds may lead to birds altering their nest placement, abandoning their nests, or to nest failures. It may cause the nest to be noticed or found by predators such as crows and jays. Feeding wild birds can lead to property damage or aggression from the birds. During breeding season, sandhill cranes that seem tame have been known to attack pets and damage property. Gulls, terns, and pelicans may swoop, dive or chase after you to obtain food. Geese and ducks can damage lawns by tearing grass up and eating it. They also deposit large amounts of fecal material on yards. Feeding is bad for most wildlife, and especially for water birds.

What Can You do to Protect Birds Around Coastal and Inland Water Systems?

Don't feed wild birds.

- Enjoy watching them from a distance, especially during breeding season. For closer looks, use binoculars.
- Help educate others about the consequences of feeding water birds.
- When fishing: • Stay with your fishing poles, don't leave them unattended;
- Dispose of monofilament fishing line in a trashcan, or if provided, use the monofilament recycling box;
- Dispose of carcasses of larger fish in covered trashcans.

Mark E. Hostetler, Martin B. Main, and Maena Voigt
UF/IFAS EDIS 11/2003, Reviewed 8/2015

ITS OUR ANNIVERSARY!: 17 years ago, the Association bought Skye Loch Villas. The Association paid \$400,00.00 cash for Skye Loch Villas and became owners on March 1, 2003.



WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS!: John and Gail Mc Gilvany, Wayne and Janice Atherton and William Rimmer.

GET WELL WISHES: Elizabeth Yaggy and Rose Mattise.

SKYLOCH SUNSHINE COMMITTEE: If you know a resident who is ill or has suffered a loss of a loved one you are encouraged to contact Lila Barry and she will send them a get well or sympathy card from all of us at Skyloch. You can email Lila Barry at skylochvillassunshine@gmail.com or you can stop by her house at 319 Skyloch West with the information.



COFFEE TIME: Join us for coffee and conversation on March 3 and 17. We gather in the clubhouse kitchen at 9:00. Bring a mug, \$1 and a dish to share if you are able.

FOOD DRIVE: Women's club is collecting non expired, non perishable food for the Dunedin Food Pantry. Please leave donations on the cart in the clubhouse kitchen by March 15. Thank you for helping us support this charity.

SKYLOCH WEBSITE: We have a website and the address is at the top of this newsletter. This website has lots of information and can answer many questions you may have. Our Rules and Regulations, property manager contact info, meeting minutes, financial report, a preferred vendor directory and Emergency Management Information and much more.

OUR PROPERTY MANAGER: is Scott Vignery and he is here every Wednesday morning at 10:00 in the Clubhouse. If you need to talk to him, he is there or you can call at 727-726-8000 ext. 222 or email him at, svignery@ameritechmail.com.

SPRING AHEAD: Time to change your clocks again! Daylight Savings Time begins on March 8 at 2:00 a.m. Also, change the batteries in your smoke detectors.



THINGS TO DO IN DUNEDIN:

St. Patrick's Day Celebration 2020

Tuesday, March 17, 2020 11 am - 11 pm

Flanagan's Irish Pub / Downtown Dunedin
465 Main St.

Presented by Flanagan's Irish Pub. For more information, visit www.FlanagansIrishPub.net



Yesterday is history
Tomorrow is a mystery
Today is Gods gift and
that is why we call it
the present. Joan Rivers