



MARION LANDING

THE COMMUNICATOR

APRIL 2009



VOLUME 19 ISSUE 4

HOMEOWNER FORUM

Tuesday, April 7 @ 9 AM

BOARD MEETING

Friday, April 17 @ 9 AM

(All meetings in Lifestyle Center)



**Amenities Due
April 1**

BOARD NOTES

by Gordon Herrick, President

The Board of Directors has researched the water usage of Marion Landing since we have been solely under the control of the Homeowners and Leland Management became our management company. One of the statistics that jumped off the page was that during the month of May, our water usage increased each year. We can only assume that the increased usage was due to more outside watering as we prepared our lawns, plants and homes for the summer. At this time of year, people are putting in new sod and plants, as well as power washing their homes. With May approaching, we suggest the following water saving tips:

Outside

- If you do not have an operable outside house valve to turn water off inside your home in case of a leak or repair, you may want to consider having one installed.
- As a precaution, when going away for an extended period, consider turning off your outside house valve to prevent damage in case of a leak.
- Don't forget that when going on vacation, you will still have usage from your irrigation system running, if you have not turned it off.
- Check your irrigation system for leaks. Be sure sprinkler heads are seated properly and not wasting water. Consider having a separate turn-off valve for your irrigation system in case you have a leak and need to make repairs.
- Take a reading of the meter before you irrigate and when you are finished, calculating how much water you use each time you irrigate. Adjust the timer, if necessary.
- Water your lawn only when needed. During the rainy season, you can shut your sprinkler off during the weeks that we get sufficient rain.
- Plant drought-resistant trees and plants, as they require less watering. Put mulch around trees and plants. Mulch slows evaporation of moisture and will discourage weed growth. However, don't pile mulch up around the base of trees or shrubs, since that encourages damage from rotting or insects.

Inside

- Repair faucet leaks and install low-flow aerators.
- Run only full loads when using your dishwasher or washing machine.
- Check toilets for leaks by adding food coloring to the water in the tank. If the color appears in the bowl without flushing, there is a leak, so you need to repair or replace your toilet.

Remember: You may water your lawn only once a week. Watering times are before 10 a.m. and after 4 p.m.

DEADLINE for MAY COMMUNICATOR articles - April 17 at 5 PM

May Editors: Peggy Baxter & Connie Rowe

FROM YOUR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MANAGER

by Deeann Welch

Mandated Age Verification Process

Every two years the State of Florida mandates that +55 communities, such as ours, verify the age of their residents and who is living at each lot. I will be calling every homeowner and asking you to come to the Administration Office and complete an age verification form, which will be maintained on file as proof that we completed the process. This is an important process, so please make sure you list everyone who lives in your house and always let me know when any information changes. We want to remain a +55 Community, so I take the process very seriously and appreciate your help in completing it. Two years ago we tried to complete the verification process by mailing the form to you via U. S. Mail, but we did not get a good response. This is why I will be completing the process in a different way this year, and it will only take a few minutes of your time. Although I need a response from all 598 home sites in Marion Landing, this process must be completed in an organized manner. So I can get other work completed, please come at the time you have chosen, so you do not miss me or have to wait for someone else. As you know, I do leave the office to run errands for Marion Landing, complete site inspections, meet with contractors, meet with employees, or attend meetings. If you should come at a different time than scheduled and I am not in the office when you arrive, Sylvia cannot complete this task with you since it is the responsibility of a Licensed Community Association Manager. If you must miss your scheduled time, please call and I will schedule another time frame for you to complete the form. I look forward to seeing you in my office. Thanks in advance for your help in keeping my files updated and accurate.

Frost Damage Tips

The cold temperatures over recent months have resulted in heavy freezes throughout Florida. It is better to wait until the new growth starts this spring to find the point along the branch where the damage ceases. When the damaged plant material is cut back too soon, it leaves the healthy portions of the plant more susceptible to further damage, or death, should there be another frost or freeze. The more severe the damage, the longer it takes for the



buds to emerge, so patience is definitely needed to be sure you've located all the damage. When you find the exact point down the stem where the frost damage ends, you can make the appropriate decision as to where to prune. Cutting about half an inch above the nearest bud is a good rule of thumb. For more information about a particular plant or trees in your yard which might need special care, you can easily look up the plant you have concerns about online. There are many websites with good information for you.



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR S & R COMMITTEE

by Val Spencer

Just a reminder, Marion Landing has a community grill available for all to use. The picnic area is a great place to hold both family or group picnics. It is also a good spot to hold committee meetings or club get-togethers.

I know you hear this every week, but it is important that you check the bulletin board on a regular basis, as Pam has many things planned for the future.

Please be sure that you wear your bracelet, as well as your name tag, at Tuesday Socials, Forums, and other Lifestyle Center events.



We are in need of volunteers to chair various activities. If we are to continue holding activities such as luncheons and dances, we need people to step forward and chair these events. Any new things you may want to try are welcome. The S&R Committee meets at 9 AM on the third Wednesday of each month. Please attend and bring your ideas. We are also in need of volunteers to staff the kitchen for the Tuesday Socials. We have the Dog Club for April, but we need to cover the months of May, June, July, and August. Please sign up on the roster located in the Lifestyle Center Lobby, right outside the kitchen.

PAM'S PROGRAM UPDATES *by Pam Guenther, Activities Coordinator*

Email address: pguenther@lelandmanagement.com

April is my favorite month because spring is well underway and the flowers are blooming! The only thing I don't like about it is I turn a year older. Yes, for all of you curious people, I will be 39 once again! Okay, so it is my prerogative as a woman to "plead the fifth". What can I say!

Easter and Passover are this month and I would like to wish everyone a Happy Easter or Passover. Along with celebrating these holidays, there will be plenty of other happenings going on at the Clubhouse this month, including another wonderful Sunday concert on April 5. The Annual Yard Sale will take place on Saturday, April 4, and what a great way to start your spring cleaning by getting rid of all those things you no longer need and making some money at the same time. As promised, we have the Dudley Farm tour scheduled again and, hopefully, some warmer weather too.

This month we have a new seminar on April 23 that will focus on health and wellness issues. This seminar also includes a free lunch, so you may want to mark your calendar for that date. Our new Paper and Bows design class is off to a great start. For those of you interested in something new and different, you may just want to come down and check out this class. As always, if there is a class you are considering taking but not sure about, the instructors welcome you to stop by and check it out before you sign up. It's a great way to find out if it is something you really want to participate in.

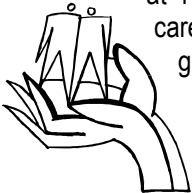
By now, many of you know our speakers are scheduled after the Social on the third Tuesday of the month. I hope those of you who have stayed for the speakers have enjoyed their talks and learned a little something. This month we have Dr. Gamero scheduled on Tuesday, April 21. He is an Internal Medicine physician and will speak on related topics.

Thanks to my MC for March, Joanie Ritter--she does a great job as always; and to George Taragna for graciously volunteering to be April's MC. Thanks also to our residents, Joy Asashon and Noreen Metzger, for exhibiting their collections in the Lobby display cabinet this month and in March. We really appreciate your time and effort.

Have a great month and see you at the Clubhouse!

MONTHLY CAREGIVERS GROUP

Our Caregivers Support Group meets the first Wednesday of each month. This month's meeting will be held on April 1; and as always, it is held in the privacy of the Library at 11 AM. Please plan on attending if you are a caregiver or would like to learn more about care giving or know someone who does. These meetings are hosted at no cost by Karen Butler from Marion County Senior Services and they are open to everyone.



ALZHEIMER'S AND DEMENTIA EDUCATION CLASSES

The Alzheimer's and Dementia Education classes this month will be held on Wednesday, April 1, and Wednesday, April 15. These classes are conducted in the meeting room of the Lifestyle Center from 1:30 until 3 PM. These are the last classes in a series of seven. You may still attend, even if you have not attended before, since each class covers a different topic. There is no cost, but sign up is required.

PAPER AND BOW DESIGN CLASS

This will be Anita's second class and everyone who participated last month thoroughly enjoyed it. Come by and check it out, or sign up for her next class, which will be held Thursday, April 16, from 10 until 11:30 AM. The cost is just \$5 for all material and instruction. Come learn how to make some fancy bows and gift wrap or decorate a favorite photo album or scrap book. The possibilities are endless!

MAKE AN EASTER BASKET!

I know Easter will have passed by the time Sharon's next class is held, but there is always next year! And if you still have those leftover Easter eggs and bunnies, what better way to display them than in a handmade basket you wove yourself? For those of you who have already participated in this basket weaving class, you know how much fun it can be and how much fun it is to have Sharon as a teacher. You can make and take a basket home the same day as class. The cost varies with the type of basket made, so check the flyer in the Lobby and sign up if interested. You can also check with me in the Activity Office to see the next basket the class will be making. The class will be held on Wednesday, April 29, at 9 AM and runs most of the day, so bring a bag lunch with you.



(Program Notes continued on page 4)

PROGRAM NOTES

(Continued from page 3)

BOTANICAL FLOWERS CLASS

Barbara Shoop will return this month, but at the time I'm writing these Program Notes, a date has not yet been confirmed. Please check the flyer in the Lifestyle Center Lobby for that info and sign up if interested. Each month she teaches new and returning students the simple art of melting plastic cutlery to form beautiful porcelain-like flowers in just a short time. The cost for this class is always just \$12 and includes all the material and instruction.

BUNKA SHI SHU

Margaret Nelson instructs Bunka Shi Shu each Wednesday from 2 until 4 PM in the Craft Room, with the exception of the last Wednesday of the month, which is held in the Library. Her next class is scheduled for April 1 and she is always accepting new students. Cost is \$3 for instruction plus the cost of the kit. Please sign up in advance for this class. There is a flyer posted in the Lobby or see me for more info.

OTHER:

DUDLEY FARMS TOUR

Because our Florida weather did not cooperate with us back in January, we have a new tour date for the Dudley Farms State Park! The tour is scheduled for Friday, April 3, and begins at the farm at 10 AM. Dudley Farms is an actual working farm built in the 1800's and depicts farm life through the mid-1900's. The tour is guided by farm volunteers and takes approximately two hours. It is located in Newberry, Florida, just a short distance from Gainesville. Cost is \$4 per car. For more information and driving directions, please contact Pam in the Activity Office. Sign up is required and groups are limited to twenty people.



SUNDAY CONCERT

We have a new Sunday afternoon concert scheduled for April 5, from 3 to 4:30 PM. Tickets cost \$3 each and you will be entertained by several different musical acts. Bob and Noel Brouillard will host the program, which will include an a cappella female trio, a male Do-Wop group and a female singer. Tickets for the show may be purchased from Pam between 2 and 4 PM on Wednesdays and Thursdays, or at the door.



FREE EDUCATIONAL CLASS

Marion Landing resident, Warren Smith, will hold a special presentation class on the "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009" on April 6 from 11 AM to 12 PM. The class will be held in the Lifestyle Center meeting room and is free to anyone who wants to attend. This is a one-time only class and is geared to explain the new stimulus program and tax concerns. Please sign up on the flyer posted in the Lobby, if interested.

FREE BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS

I am happy to say Sylvia Martinez, with Quiet Oaks Assisted Living, will be here the day of the Homeowners Forum to take free blood pressure readings for anyone interested. For your convenience, she will be set up in the Library on April 7 before and during the meeting.



DR. GAMERO IS APRIL'S SPEAKER OF THE MONTH

Our speaker this month is Dr. Gamero, who is an Internal Medicine practitioner. He will be here on April 21, right after the Tuesday Social, to give a short and informative presentation, as well as answer any questions you may have. We hope you plan on staying a short while after the Social to hear him speak.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS SEMINAR

We have a new seminar planned that will be held on Thursday, April 23, from 11 AM until 12:30 PM in the Lifestyle Center. Lina Oliver, with Genewize Life Sciences Company, will speak about wellness issues that are important to all of us. It also includes a free lunch, so be sure to get your tickets early and mark your calendar for this informative seminar. The cost is just \$1 per ticket and will be refunded at the door.

SAM'S CLUB MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Jackie, with SAM'S Club, will be on hand at the Tuesday, April 14, Social to assist those residents who wish to renew their memberships, or maybe just purchase a new one if you are not already a member.