

THE GROVE GAZETTE

WINTER 2007 EDITION

Well, we made it through another Holiday Season!! We hope everyone is sane, safe, and healthy after the busy Holidays.

Our Security issue remains unresolved. The Master Association promises to take up our petition, which was discussed in the Fall Gazette, prior to their Annual Meeting which should take place sometime prior to our Annual Meeting.

There have been a couple more issues of vandalism in The Grove. Most recently, 2 teenagers were seen paint-balling our new Grove sign at the 49th Street entrance. The Board has just been made aware of their names and address and will start calling the police with every incident. Please keep in mind, if a resident witnesses acts of vandalism, you do not need to be a Board member to call the police. Call the Sheriff first, and then call a Board member. Police numbers in addition to the usual 911 are; Sheriff dispatch - 316-1201, and to report vandalism - 365-8247.

In this mailing, you will also find notice of our Annual Meeting, which will be held at the Elk's Lodge on Lockwood Ridge Road on March 13, 2007, as well as a financial statement as required by Florida law, proxy cards and election ballots for election to the Board of Directors. Our Annual Meeting is the perfect time for our homeowners to ask questions, vent problems and assist with special projects. That evening will be Pasta Night at the Elks. Come on down, enjoy a dinner and walk on over to the next room and attend our Annual Meeting.

Mark your calendars - Our 2nd Annual Block Party will be held on March 18th from 2 until 4 PM in the Cul de sac just east of the 49th Street entrance. Bring a chair, a few bucks for a raffle and enjoy stale green beer and cheap wine and the camaraderie of our neighbors. There will be burgers, bratwurst and veggie burgers with all the fixings. Fliers are posted on both bulletin boards. A great time will be had by all.

Debi, Mike and Adam have updated our website. They are continuing to discuss details relative to the secured portion which will be devoted to our financial postings. The discussions primarily are devoted to aspects of password choice and control. We hope that by now everyone has had the opportunity to visit our website, www.HamletsGrove.com.

By the time you read this, the purchase of Beekman Place Utilities by Sarasota County should be a done deal. Here we will try to explain the rate system, old vs. new. Under Beekman Place Utilities, we are currently charged a *flat* rate of \$34.28 for sewerage. Sarasota County, we are told, will charge a *volumetric* rate of \$13.48 plus \$6.82 per 1,000 gallons up to a cap of 10,000 gallons. This should result in a bill about the same or lower for approximately half our residents. The rest of us will probably see an increase in our bill, depending on usage. Perhaps those of us who see an increase will exercise water conservation in an effort to lower our bill.

Speaking of water, there was a letter to the editor of the Herald Tribune dated 12/14/06. The gist is that we are supposed to be having our backflow check valves tested annually by a licensed plumber. This is a State law that has not been enforced by Sarasota County. The State is encouraging Sarasota County to enforce this law. The article further states this inspection can cost between \$35. - \$65. I'll bet that most of us have no idea what a backflow check valve is, let alone know that it should be inspected. We are told that it is an anti-siphoning device that precludes the backflow of unsanitary ground water into the water main system. It remains to be seen how this enforcement will affect us.

The Board of Directors

- Joe Mastrolia, President 359-8758
- John Reven, Vice President 359-3843
- Bernie Poddick, Secretary 355-6965
- Dr. Judy Lasher, Director 360-3360
- Mike McDonald, Director 355-4848
- Leonard Schimberg, Director 351-8632
- Bob Warshaw, Non-Member Treasurer