

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

It has been really great to see so many Heronwood residents turning out for our every other month "Meet & Greets". It has been especially nice to meet and talk to many people who are new to me and, of course, the food is always delicious. Plus, I don't have to cook dinner! We plan to continue these informal get-togethers.

Many of you may have thought of volunteering to run for the board and helping to keep our beautiful community running smoothly and efficiently. You may have the perceived notion that it involves a lot of time and energy, but that is not always the case. Initially, you would be expected to attend a monthly board meeting for about an hour and a half on the third Thursday at 4 PM You might then volunteer to spend more of your time doing one of our "jobs" or not, as you wish. We do have a full board now, so please consider stepping up in the future. If we have a board with younger, working members, we could change our meetings to an evening.

We would like to thank retiring board member and Vice President, Charley Mudge, for more than nine years of service to our community. Many of you remember contacting him every time you wanted to paint your home, put on a new roof or make some landscape change. Charley served as the chairman of the Architectural Review Board for many years. We will miss him and wish him well.

Dot Blake

Heronwood Board Of Directors

President	Dorothy Blake	781-6127
Vice President ARB	Charles Mudge	219-8810
Vice President Landscaping	Robert Hochstein	781-8097
Secretary	Nancy Carr	220-2795
Treasurer	Jon Robb	221-8898
Director	Ken Klein	220-2958
Director Newsletter	Lynda Meyers	485-8938
Director Ambassador Chairperson	Darlene Jones	283-8661
Director	Ray Bowles	463-7233



PHOTOS BY DEBORAH SILVER/ TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS
 Francine Peach (right), general manager of Cowboys Bar-B-Q & Steak Co. in Stuart, greets Ken Klein (from left), 81, Charley Mudge, 82, and George Eagleson, 80, all of Palm City. They have been friends for more than 20 years. The trio rated 17 restaurants to find the best chicken wings in the area and decided Cowboys Bar-B-Q & Steak Co. in Stuart came out on top. "It's messy goodness," Klein said.

NO BONES ABOUT IT

Palm City retirees' quest to find best chicken wings in Martin County — and enjoy each other's company, too

By Hillary Copsey
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 772-223-4754

The best hot wings in Martin County come from Cowboys Bar-B-Q & Steak Co., according to three Palm City friends who spent weeks eating and rating the sloppy, savory food.

Ken Klein, George Eagleson and Charley Mudge visited 17 Martin County restaurants to lunch on wings and created a spreadsheet to rank each establishment on everything from quality of the chicken and sauce to ambiance and price.

You might think they really love chicken wings — but what they really care about is each other. Eagleson doesn't even like wings all that much.

"They're just OK," Eagleson said. If he hadn't participated in his friends' quest for the best wings, "I'd have never heard the end of it," Eagleson added. "And we enjoy each other's company so much. It was just so much fun."

The men met 20 years ago on the golf course — Eagleson is the best golfer, they said — after retiring from jobs in New Jersey, Connecticut and Chicago and moving with their wives to Martin Downs Country Club. They all go to the same church — Palm City Presbyterian — and each likes to stay busy. They play cards, organize breakfasts and lunches and serve on various boards



The trio claim a plate full of chicken wings at Cowboys Bar-B-Q & Steak Co. in Stuart is the best in the area. They visited 17 restaurants, mostly in Martin County, and through a series of criteria rated the wings, service, dip, price, ambiance, service and drinks were the best.

and committees.

For a while, they were part-owners of a pontoon boat, so slow they wrote down the date every time their vessel managed to pass another boat.

Mudge is the oldest at 82. Klein is 81 and Eagleson is 80. Each has had some serious health concern in the past 10 years.

"At this age, you don't ask anyone how they feel," Eagleson said.

But still, the men keep their calendars full. A good attitude and things to do are the best medicine, they say.

So, when Mudge, who has pulmonary fibrosis, had to go permanently on oxygen and started using a walker, his friends found projects to keep him entertained. They

moved many of their gin rummy games to Mudge's house — "We don't let him win though," Eagleson said — and they turned their standing Wednesday lunch date into a quest for the best wings Martin County offers.

"They've been wonderful friends and companions," Mudge said.

"Taking care of him is kind of a pain," Klein said, grinning. "Tough little rascal, he is."

The friends determined Cowboys, Shrimpers and Evergreen were the top three wing finalists after weeks of lunches. A second visit to each restaurant, determined Shrimpers low prices — 80 cents a wing — and Evergreen's good service couldn't compare with Cowboys' plump wings.

HOT FOR WINGS

Ken Klein, Charley Mudge and George Eagleson, Palm City retirees who jokingly call themselves ROMEOS — Really Old Men Eating Out — took it upon themselves to find the best wings in Martin County. They went to 17 restaurants for lunch and ranked each in a variety of categories including price, quality, sauce, dip, ambiance and service. Here are their findings:

Best overall: Cowboys Bar-B-Q & Steak Co., 2902 S.E. Gran Park Way, Stuart; 772-287-8100

Average price: 90 cents-\$1 per wing

Best deal: 59 cents on Wednesday at Bono's, 2290 S.E. U.S. 1, Stuart; 77-283-0078

Best ambiance: Sailor's Return, 625 S.W. Anchorage Way, Stuart; 772-872-7250

Best extra: Grilled onions at Anthony's Coal-Fired Pizza, 2343 S.E. U.S. 1, Stuart; 772-287-7741

"They look like little turkeys," Mudge said.

It doesn't hurt that the place provides extra sauce on the side and has friendly servers, Klein said.

The men already have determined Maria's Cafe in downtown Stuart has the best breakfast in the county. Their next quest: the best tacos.

PHONE DIRECTORY

The forms for the next directory are being mailed. Please send it back ASAP. The neighborhood ambassadors will only be coming to your door to retrieve them if you don't mail them back. If you are renting the home please let the ambassador know. If you choose not to be published in the directory please write your name and address on the form with instructions NOT to be added to the book. This will help to make sure everyone in Heronwood is accounted for whether or not they want to be in the book.



CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

A big thanks to Marie Teste, John Fortier, Maria Locklar, Larry Jones, Dot Blake, Beth Mistarz and Lynda Meyers for putting up and taking down the christmas lights.

After 3 years of decorating the Christmas displays, Beth Mistarz and Lynda Meyers are handing it over to Larry Jones. He has graciously accepted the job and is looking forward to getting creative and bringing his vision to it. He can always use helpers so anyone interested please contact Larry at 304-965-5012.



THANK YOU

If you've noticed the meet & greet signs are easier to read that's because they were redone and we have Maria Locklar to thank for that. She spent a few hours writing up new ones since the last ones got wet and moldy.

We also would like to thank Bob & Dot Blake, Mark & Beth Mistarz and Eric & Maria Locklar for hosting the previous meet & greet parties. Thanks to everyone for taking time out of their lives to do so much for Heronwood.



MEET AND GREET

In order to get to know our neighbors better a Meet & Greet Party is held every other month at the home of one of our residents. This gives residents a chance to talk informally and get to know each other. It is an open door policy so you may come for as little or as long as you like. It is open to everyone in Heronwood, men & women, residents and renters. Don't forget to bring the kids. Beverages will be provided. Please feel free to bring something to share if desired but is not expected. Attire is casual.

Signs, with yellow paper, are put up to show the next home to meet in. Eric & Maria Locklar held the party in February while Mark & Beth Mistarz put us all in the mood for the holidays when they hosted it in December. George & Gail Mey have graciously volunteered their home for the April gathering. Hope to see everyone there.

We are always looking for a home to host. It is your decision when and what time. If you are interested in volunteering to hold the party at your home in the future or help in any way please contact Lynda Meyers.



MESSAGE BOARD SIGNS

To help distinguish board meetings from Meet and Greet notices they will now be printed on colored paper. Yellow will be for Meet & Greet parties, pink for Board Meetings and purple will be for Annual Meetings. This will help to let residents know from a glance what is going on.

PHOTOS FROM THE MISTARZ PARTY



LOCKLAR MEET & GREET PARTY

For any of you that missed the last Meet & Greet party it was a blast as you can see from the pictures. There was a nice turnout with a lot of delicious food to nibble on. Everyone had outdone themselves. At right is a picture of the hosts, with Eric Locklar in the middle with his charming wife Maria. With them is Jimmy Tew, whose wife Jan and daughter Hayley-Madison were also at the party.





NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

Ginny Madden would like to start a book club or even play cards. She is open to any day or time. If you're interested in getting together please contact her at 463-8029.



FREE MEMBERSHIP

The Martin Downs Country Club is offering a free trial for the month of March. This complimentary Trial Social Membership allows access to the main Clubhouse's Grill Room and Bar (lunch and scheduled dinners), golf pro shop, reserving the card room and/or the banquet room for special events as well as an opportunity to attend all events on the buzzing social calendar. They have dinner with live music on Wednesday nights, Happy Hour twice a week and Sunday Brunch to name a few things. To take advantage of these opportunities call 286-6818 or drop by the reception desk at the Clubhouse Tuesday – Friday, 9:00 – 5:00.

DONATIONS TO CHARITY

Before you throw out your gently used items please think twice before just throwing them in the trash. Charities such as Vietnam Veterans Of America, (VVA), will come to your house and pick up everything. If you don't want to stay home and wait just leave the items outside with a sign for them and they will pick up. It only takes a few extra minutes to save something useful to someone from being thrown in the landfill. So please contact the VVA at 800-775-8387 or online at scheduleapickup.com or Salvation Army at 1-800-728-7825 to schedule a pickup.

ARB PROCEDURES

The Heronwood Board meets on the third Thursday of every month. Immediately after the Board meeting all ARB applications will be reviewed.

Therefore, everyone must plan ahead and submit your ARB applications one month prior to commencement of work (painting, roof work and landscaping for example).

If you would like to speak, written notice must be sent to Advantage Property Mgmt. prior to the meeting.

GARAGE DOORS

It is being noticed that garage doors are being left up during the day. They need to remain closed except for taking out the trash, recyclables, yard work, etc. Please do not keep them cracked. They need to be all the way down.

STORM DRAINS

After storms our storm drains do fill up with yard debris which stops the water from flowing away and causes flooding. If you notice the drains are plugged up please remove the debris so the water can flow. It's a simple, easy thing we all can do to help the community.

CHANGES TO PROPERTY

Any outside painting projects to your home need to get prior ARB approval. For a list of approved colors please contact Darlene Jones for the book of colors that have been approved. You will need to put down a deposit of \$50 which will be refunded once the books are returned. Too many books have been lost which the Association has picked up the tab for in the past but will no longer do.

CAR REGISTRATION DECALS

Anyone who wasn't able to get their new car registration decals when they were being done on January 25th & 26th will now have to go to MDPOA. The cost is \$10.

ANNUAL BOARD MEETING

This year the Board Meeting has been moved to MDPOA instead of the Sports Resort. The meeting is scheduled for March 12 at 7pm. Everyone is welcome.

HOMES FOR SALE

The following homes are on the market in Heronwood. Anyone selling their home needs to have their binder with the By-Laws, Covenants & Regulations available to new home buyers. If you do not have the book a new one can be purchased for \$10. Please contact Diana Fordering, Advantage Property Mgmt., at 334-8900.

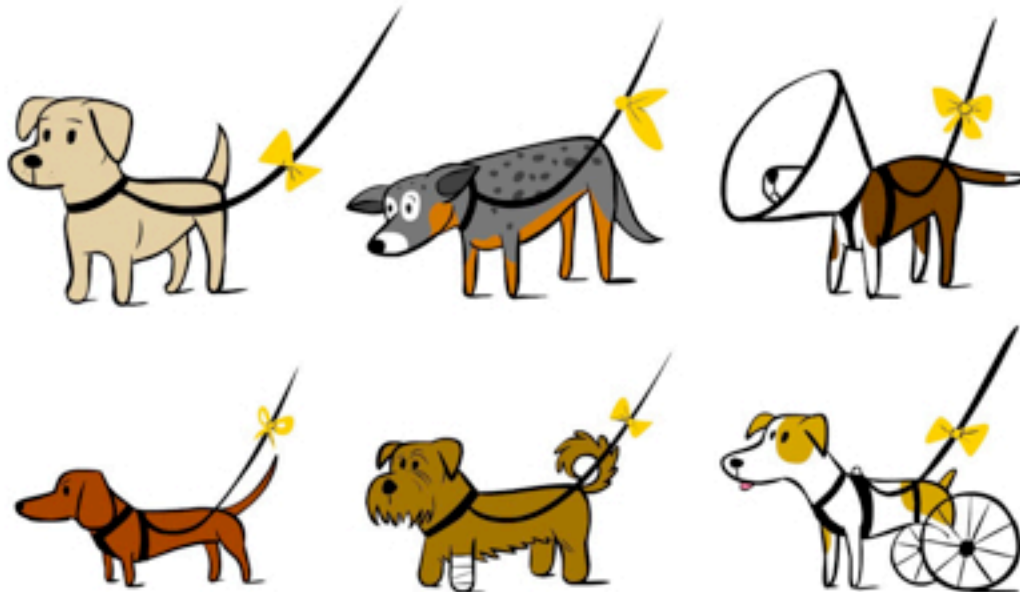
Home sale information courtesy of Doris Spears, a Heronwood owner and Broker Associate, Keller Williams of the Treasure Coast. Mrs. Spears can be reached at 772-260-9466 or dorisspears@gmail.com if anyone would like more information or a free in-home consultation.



2346 SW Creekside Drive	\$264,900
2385 SE Creekside Drive	\$249,900

THE YELLOW DOG PROJECT.com

If you see a dog with a **YELLOW RIBBON** or something yellow on the leash, **this is a dog who needs some space.** Please do not approach this dog with your dog. Please maintain distance or give this dog and his/her person time to move out of your way.



There are many reasons why a dog may need space:

- HEALTH ISSUES
- IN TRAINING
- BEING REHABILITATED
- SCARED OR REACTIVE AROUND OTHER DOGS

THANK YOU!

Those of us who own these dogs appreciate your help and respect!



Illustrated by Li Chin www.doggiedrawings.net

BARKING DOGS

Barking dogs continue to be a MAJOR problem. In fact it has been getting worse and this will not be allowed to continue. It is inconsiderate to your neighbors to allow dogs to bark incessantly. Remember the Board DOES have the authority to have animals removed from the property if they are deemed a nuisance. There are plenty of resources at our disposal to help train our pets. Please refer to the internet, library, TV shows and even trainers to help get your pets under control. If any resident is having a problem with a neighbors dog please contact Diana Fordering at Advantage Property Mgmt. at 334-8900 to voice your concerns. It is kept confidential.



LARGE YARD WASTE

If you have a large pile of yard debris or know you will have it, it is better to call ahead to Waste Management at 546-7700 to schedule a pick up. Otherwise it could take days or even weeks to get tagged for the big claw truck to pick up. Please do not place debris on MDPOA property.

TRASH CANS

Residents should not be putting trash cans out the night before pick up.

Animals can get into them and spread trash all around. It is permitted to put out



yard trash the night before. Residents need to bring in trash can and recycling bins the day of pick up. Please do not leave them outside for an extended time.

WEBSITE

The Heronwood website has been revamped. You can now get forms to print out, review the Rules and Regulations and much more. Please visit www.heronwoodpalmcity.com to see all the changes and get the information you need.

AUTOMATIC MONTHLY PAYMENTS

In an effort to minimize costs, please consider the use of automatic payment for your monthly assessment. This would save the Association the cost of envelopes and the extra postage to mail the envelopes.

If you should have any questions, please call Esther at 772.334.8900.

RIDDLE COMPETITION

Who remembers the riddle? It appeared in the last newsletter and we had one entry. Beth Mistarz guessed the answer and took home the prize. The answer, for all of you racking your brains, was Sunshine.

I appear in the morning
But am always there.
You can never see me
Though I am everywhere.
By night I am gone.
Though I sometimes never was.
Nothing can defeat me
But I am easily gone.

Here is the next one.

What is long and thin, works in light, Has one eye, and an awful bite?

If you think you know the answer please submit it to Lynda Meyers through email or by phone by July 1 st. All correct submissions will be placed in a bowl and one will be pulled at the July Board meeting. You may enter as many guesses as you wish. The winner will receive a \$40 Visa gift card. Good Luck!



THE MDPOA CORNER

YOUR PROPERTY IS VERY SECURE IN MARTIN DOWNS

The Martin Downs Property Owners Association has been responsible for the security in our neighborhoods for over twenty five years. Their record during that time has been outstanding. The constant visual presence of roving patrols and the single entry gates, manned 24/7, have served as a definite deterrent to those who may break the law. The more serious crimes like robbery, larceny and breaking and entering have been minimal in spite of significant growth of the MDPOA community over the 25 year span.

We do have the occurrence of suspicious incidents or persons, trespassing, unwanted guests and covenants violations, all of which are responded to promptly by our security staff. But, these violations are far less here than in other parts of the county. Our most significant problems are juvenile vandalism and mischief, quite common, as our community becomes younger.

About 75% of our residents within the MDPOA area live in the 24/7 manned gated areas where vehicle access is by bar code for residents. Other villages utilize various gate access systems. We try to control visitor, contractor, and vendor access by limiting it to those "invited" by our residents. .

Of critical importance, our security staff is prepared to guide rescue vehicles to the proper location, saving valuable minutes. If you have occasion to call 911, be sure to call security next.

We are frequently asked why we do not contract with professional security firms for their services. Our experience shows that we can do a better job. There are a few very good security companies. They tend to be more costly and are better suited to protecting businesses and retail shops. In the past, the security firms we hired had frequent absenteeism and high turnover causing gaps in service and continuous training. For the past 10 years we have hired our own security staff and have had very low turnover, consistent attention to our resident's needs and an uncanny ability to recognize unauthorized activity. While our staff do not carry weapons and cannot detain individuals, they summon law enforcement professionals whenever necessary. This is cost effective in our situation. To employ armed staff and the insurance cost associated with it would be prohibitive and is not justifiable.

Finally, our security system can only be successful with the cooperation of our residents. We need all of our residents to report security violations when observed. Please call security when you see a serious situation. If you witness a real crime in progress call 911 first, the sheriff will respond, then call security. Our response in the past has been prompt and effective, we expect that to continue. With your help we will enjoy effective security control at an affordable cost in the future.



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www.MartinDownsSportsResort.com





Martin Downs Golf Club

Many exciting improvements are in process as of the printing of this newsletter:

- Full calendar of golf and social events
- Hole 1 on CC for Driving Range and short game chipping with Bunker Shots on the Green (near completion)
- Hole 18 for warm up play or practice (near completion)
- New practice putting green area at CC (near completion)
- Long term marketing plan for attracting new members

During the month of March, residents are invited to

“Be a Member for a Month”.

This complimentary Trial Social Membership allows access to the main Clubhouse’s Grill Room and Bar (lunch and scheduled dinners), golf pro shop, reserving the card room and/or the banquet room for special events as well as an opportunity to attend all events on the buzzing social calendar.

The Martin Downs Golf Club is offering a **Summer Membership from May 15th – October 15th**. The family rate is \$700 and single membership is \$500.

Summer Membership benefits include:

- Unlimited golf for a cart fee
- 2 day tee time reservations
- Discounted guest rates
- Reciprocal Golf and Dining privileges with other top clubs in the area
- Complimentary golf lesson
- Access to the Junior Golf Program
- Access to special members only golf trips with the professional staff at discounted rates
- Unlimited use of the Clubhouse and practice facility
- Access to member’s only golf and social events

To take advantage of these opportunities call 286-6818 or drop by the reception desk at the Clubhouse Tuesday – Friday, 9:00 – 5:00.

Let’s support our community clubs!



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