



Burnt Store Isles Association

NEWS

Vol. 34, No. 4

Winter 2017



From the President

JOHN GRUCA, President

Here we are in January! I hope all of our Burnt Store Isles neighbors had a great Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and a safe New Year's Eve wherever you were during the Holiday season.

Most of our friends from up north are here by now and happy to leave the freeze behind and enjoy our balmy Florida weather.

Our Christmas party was a huge success with over 100 guests and some excellent treats and appetizers. Our Social Director Su Miscia and her team of assistants did a great job coordinating things. Plus, they have some exciting things planned for 2017. Check out the upcoming events in the Social Section, mark your calendar, and plan to attend!

We still have many new homes being built. Our neighborhood is growing fast. Full size lot prices are increasing and our canals and waterways look good. The perimeter canal dredging project should be started and completed this year.

We should have a comprehensive cost analysis regarding the underground wiring project from the City late this year or early 2018.

Most or all of our streets will be repaved by 2018 which will really make our neighborhood look great. Our new expanded Publix and added liquor store should be open in May of this year. There will be additional new tenants coming to the Publix center as well. More information on who and when should be known soon.

With all the additional families and guests in our neighborhood, please remember to slow down on our streets, drive carefully and stay alert. Remember our speed limit is 30 miles per hour!

To keep healthy, try to walk or bike every day and wave or say hello to everyone you meet...I sure do!

Please enjoy the spring and early summer here in BSI. Thank you to all that have joined our voluntary association. We try to accomplish as much as possible with the funds we have available. Please ask your neighbors to join. It will make us stronger and give us the ability to do even more.

Everyone take care. Have fun fishing, boating, golfing or just relaxing.

UP & COMING

Monthly

BSIBC/BSIA Mixers

1st Fri. of every month

Twin Isles CC

4:30 p.m.

January 24, 2017

Dart Night

Ice House Pub

January 31, 2017

CPR-AED Class

Twin Isles CC

9:00 a.m.

February 11, 2017

Community Yard Sale

March 11, 2017

Ponce Picnic

March 21, 2017

Dart Night

Ice House Pub

April 29, 2017

Shredder Day

Twin Isles CC

9 a.m. - Noon

See inside for details on these activities as well as many others coming up and go to the Association website: www.bsia.net

IN THIS ISSUE

Officers/Directors/Committees.....	2
From the Editor	2
Board Members	3
Social Events Spotlight.....	4
News You Can Use	4
Membership	5
Holiday Lighting Contest Winners.....	6
Treasurer's Report.....	7

BSIA 2017 BOARD

OFFICERS:

PresidentJohn Gruca
 Vice President Ian Milne
 Secretary Libby Strong
 Treasurer..... Bill Courtney

DIRECTORS:

Community Standards.....Melissa Lockhart
 Legal Liaison..... Mirco Vicko
 MembershipNancy Granum
 E-Communications..... Don Hallman
 Community Security.....Ralph McCarty
 Planning.....Faith Ferris
 Special Projects..... Doug Paquin
 Social.....Su Miscia
 Past President (non voting)..... Doug Rhees

COMMITTEES:

Welcoming.....Nancy Granum
 E-Communications..... Don Hallman
 Landscaping..... Doug Paquin
 ArchitecturalMelissa Lockhart
 Membership DirectoryNancy Granum
 Newsletter Editor Joanne Ziemer
 By-Laws..... Mirco Vicko

From the Editor

The Postman Cometh ...

Your postman will continue to bring you mail, but no longer will he bring you the BSIA Newsletter! Starting with the Spring Issue, our newsletter will no longer be printed and mailed to members. We will be going electronic, and members will need to get the news via their computers. Welcome to the 21st Century!

Another change will be that we will no longer publish a Summer Issue. It all started when I found out too many "mailed" newsletters were being trashed rather than forwarded. Newsletters addressed to our northern friends who did not request ALL their mail be forwarded were being thrown away at the Post Office. Imagine the hard work that goes into putting the newsletter together, not to mention the money wasted on postage, and you can see why we decided to stop publishing the Summer Issue. Even though we've decided to go electronic, we still don't feel we need the Summer Issue. There is usually not a whole lot to report on during the slow summer months.

I know change is not always easy. However, I hope you will embrace this change and continue to peruse the BSIA Newsletter online. The same amount of hard work will go into putting the Newsletter together, and we will still feature advertisements for local businesses. The upside is the E-Newsletter will be available for reading a lot earlier than the paper version so the news should still be news!

I wish you all a Happy New Year!

Joanne Ziemer
 Editor, BSIA Newsletter



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WELCOME

2017 Board Members



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Ian Milne
VICE PRESIDENT



Libb Strong
SECRETARY



Bill Courtney
TREASURER



Melissa Lockhart
COMMUNITY STANDARDS



Mirco Vicko
LEGAL LIAISON



Doug Paquin
SPECIAL PROJECTS



Don Hallman
E-COMMUNICATIONS



Su Miscia
SOCIAL



Ralph McCarty
COMMUNITY SECURITY



Joanne Ziemer
PUBLISHING



Doug Rhees
PAST PRESIDENT

Absent are:
Nancy Granum
Membership Director
and
Faith Ferris
Planning Director

Social Events Spotlight

Su Miscia, Social Director



It is great for each of you reading this to be doing so, but this IS THE LAST HARDCOPY NEWSLETTER. Newsletters will still be published three times a year electronically. However, you should ACCESS YOUR E MAIL weekly and read online all the current news that is fit to print. Our E-Communications Director does a fabulous job posting the BSIA – Weekly Bulletin Board every Tuesday. This bulletin takes a great deal of time and forethought. According to statistics, though, only about 1/2 of you “open” it. And we Board Members know that more people than that must be interested in what’s happening around our community.

Our last few months of 2016 were busy starting with a Membership Meeting 11/15 and a CPR- AED Class 11/17, for those of you who stayed in the area for Thanksgiving. December brought on the Holiday spirit with a **BSIA Christmas party** on 12/12. The cheer, the appetizers and desserts, the company, the holiday colored shirts and sweaters all made for a wonderful evening with hours of dulcimer melodies by Chris and Phil. Tossed into winter activities, was a radio controlled sailboat demo at “the Pond” in Southern Charlotte Park.

And then there was the **Holiday Neighborhood Light Contest**. Thank you to everyone who decorated this year whether you decorated as usual or went a

little over the top to “compete” in the contest. The neighborhood looked great! Look for pictures and names of the winners elsewhere in the Newsletter. It was tough to judge with so many beautiful lighting displays. In addition to the five categories, we awarded the Very Best All Around to the residents of Cassandra Drive! Each year they go all out decorating so we felt they should be recognized. Congratulations to all the winners!

The new year of 2017 brings wishes of Happiness from your BSIA Social Committee. The first of 2 scheduled **DART NIGHTS at the Ice House** is set for 1/24/17. You need not be a dart player, or a “couple,” to go. Spots get taken fast once this event is posted, so watch for this. Mark your calendars for **another CPR-Automatic Defibrillator Class** scheduled for Tuesday, 1/31/17, 9 AM at TICC Activity room. There will be more information via e mail announcements. After January, we have the neighborhood yard sale (February), Ponce Picnic (March), and another dart night (March). Watch your bulletins for a Casino Bus trip date and time as well.

Members are always needed to join the Social Committee, so if interested e mail Social@bsia.net.

News You Can Use!

For those of you who do not subscribe to Councilwoman Nancy Prafke’s Weekly Update Report, here are a few excerpts from her weekly reports.

“The City received an application for a height variance for a new 103-room hotel (Marriott SpringHill Suites) planned for the northeast corner of the former City Marketplace property. The proposed variance is to allow a five-story hotel with a maximum building height of 59 feet from base flood elevation to the highest point of the structural roof, instead of 50 feet, as is permitted by code. Additionally, the variance request includes minor modifications in the City’s landscape requirements. The variance request is scheduled to be heard at the following public hearings/meetings:

– Development Review Committee, Jan. 6, 9 a.m., Council Chambers — Staff review of the project from a technical perspective.

– Board of Zoning Appeals Public Hearing, Jan. 24, at 4 p.m., Council Chambers.

– City Council Public Hearing, Feb. 15, at 9 a.m., Council Chambers.

Previous City Councils have approved variances for hotels on this property but economic conditions at the time prevented the developments to occur and the variances expired. The proposed hotel is in line with strategic objectives to support and promote business development opportunities on the Marketplace property and it will benefit future conference/event opportunities at the Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center.”

Q&A Public Forum:

“Question: I’ve been noticing work on land just southeast of U.S. 41 and Cooper. I missed what’s happening. Can you tell me?”

Answer: I'm happy to tell you nothing is going on. While I've reported this in previous newsletters, I continue to receive feedback from residents telling me that "something must be planned there." The property owners, Mayor Rachel Keesling and her husband Klint, are simply bringing this parcel up to code to make it shovel-ready for a future developer. They stated no development is currently planned for this location."

Update on Publix Shopping Center:

Here is what you can share with all of your friends and neighbors and it isn't rumor. I'm getting this straight from Kite Realty that owns the property.

The concrete being poured in the parking lot is for landscape islands and not a free-standing building. The redevelopment will have significantly more landscaping. A Kite representative told me there is enough vacancy in the existing shopping center. We don't need more square footage.

With the walls of the new Publix nearly complete, Kite Realty tells me the construction is on schedule.

Rumors have been circulating that the project is ahead of schedule.

The reason Juicy Lucy was torn down was to clean up this property that had become an eye-sore. Kite Realty wants to make this parcel more attractive for redevelopment. Despite rumors and as even reported on a website, a Starbucks is not going on this property.

Pet Supermarket is taking the space formerly occupied by Dollar General. The space formerly occupied by Beall's Outlet is in negotiation but since the lease isn't finalized the tenant's name isn't being officially released for publication.

All other stores remain open and appreciate your patronage during the construction process.

Nancy's report always provides a lot of good information about what's happening in our beautiful City of Punta Gorda. If you would like to be added to her distribution list to receive her weekly reports, simply email her at nprafke@pgorda.us or nancy@prafke.com. You will be glad you did!

Membership

Nancy Granum, Director

Happy New Year!! I hope everyone had a great holiday season. BSIA closed out the year with a very high number of memberships--- 572! This is not surprising with the number of new homes being built in our neighborhood.

Dues Renewal--2017 membership dues renewal notices have been sent, in December and January, to the member's primary email address. If dues were not owed an email was sent stating this. Members that renew by January 31 are included in the membership directory, if they choose. If you missed the earlier emails to renew, check the bsia.net website for a renewal form or email me at membership@bsia.net. We want everyone to have an opportunity to renew their membership!

Membership Directories--At the end of 2016, when the BSIA board reviewed the 2017 budget, it became clear that expenses needed to be cut. One way to save money is the utilization of an electronic membership directory, rather than a pre-printed directory. So, the board decided to transition to an electronic format; this transition will save several thousand dollars for our association!! The

electronic directory will look very similar to past directories and can be saved to your computer or printed at home. The directory will be published in February and more information will be provided by email, electronic bulletin board, and the BSIA website.

Advertisers--Please consider supporting the advertisers in our directory and newsletters. Even with the transition to electronic formats there are costs associated with these publications; the advertisers make it possible to provide these with minimal costs to our members. Advertisers are also listed on the BSIA website. Take a look at these businesses that support our neighborhood and consider giving them your support!!

Introductory Memberships--A reminder that introductory memberships are free in BSIA. If you have a new neighbor that would like to join, please refer them to www.bsia.net and they can complete an electronic form to get their membership started.

Again, Happy New Year to all our members—and thank you for supporting our neighborhood with a membership in BSIA!!

Burnt Store Isles Announces Holiday Lighting Contest Winners

The winners have been announced for the 2016 Holiday Lighting Contest. After hours of deliberation, the **BEST ALL AROUND**, a new unannounced category, has been awarded to the **residents of Cassandra Drive**, with a dozen of winter wonderland joys to see, none of which could be singled out. The **BEST THEME** lights award goes to **Chris and Sharon Voegile of 742 Macedonia Dr.** for creating a tropical paradise for all to see. The **BEST CUL DE SAC** goes to the **residents of Mondovi Bay condos** for the swirled lights all the way up the palms surrounded by candy canes. The **BEST MUSIC SYNC with LIGHTS** hands down goes to **Joseph and Rosann Aloise of 609 Zafra Ct.** The **BEST ENTRY WAY** of classical Christmas is highlighted by **Doug and Michelle Rhees of 500 Toulouse Drive.** And, a new category, the **BEST GRISWOLD** display is won by **Luigi and Rosa Percontino of 306 Madrid Blvd.** It has been a wonderful participation of spirited residents and all are thanked by B.S.I.A. and wished a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.



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Samuel Kiburz, Portfolio Manager

- ... **With a Will or Trust?** - Dec. 13
- ... **For Interest Rate Changes?** - Dec. 14
- ... **To be a Floridian?** - Dec. 15
- ... **For Family Controlling Your Finances?** - Jan. 10, 24
- ... **For Changes in Your Living and Care Expenses?** - Jan 11, 25
- ... **For Changes in Your Health?** - Jan. 12, 26

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Treasurer's Report

Connie Higgins, Treasurer

***Burnt Store Isles Association, Inc.
Treasurer's Report
From 1/1/2016 to 12/26/2016***

Check Book Balance	\$6,834.70
Savings Account Balance	\$49,673.90
Cert of Deposit Balance	\$0.00
Total Funds	\$56,508.60

Income

50/50 Raffle	371.00
Directory Ads	2,025.00
Donations Received	205.00
Interest Income	32.79
Membership Dues	11,764.23
New Construction Fees	3,300.00
Newsletter Ads	2,880.00
Social Event Fees Collected	1,365.00
Total Income	\$21,943.02

Expense

Accounting Fees	-150.00
Attorney Fees Reserve from Dues	-1,174.00
Banners	-506.37
Directory Printing	-3,646.81
Donations Given	-566.00
Landscape/Property Maintenance	-8,135.36
Liability Insurance	-2,517.00
Meeting Room Rental	-975.00
Miscellaneous Expense	-36.00
Name Tags	-34.13
Newsletter Printing	-4,659.46
Office Supplies	-111.89
P.O. Box Rent	-86.00
Postage and Delivery	-1,134.23
Security Cameras	-10,153.25
Shredder Day (1 per year)	-385.00
Social Event Cost	-3,350.78
Software	-158.83
State Fees	-61.25
Storage Unit Rent	-404.52
Web Data Remote Hosting	-540.00
Web Emails Constant Contact	-780.00
Total Expense	-\$39,565.88

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