

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

As the new President of the Heronwood Home Owner's Association, I am both committed and enthused to maintain the standards established through the years and which make our community attractive and high in real estate values.

Dot Blake has served Heronwood as an outstanding and exemplary president and I am very pleased that she will continue as Vice-President to help guide me through the next year.

We have a very fine Board of Directors who will confront several major undertakings facing Heronwood. Among them: re-surfacing of our roads and cul-de-sacs, overseeing the MDPOA efforts as they reconstitute the lake embankments to insure the safety of the home owners and their guests, and the reviewing of our long standing covenants to determine if some need revision to accommodate changes in our social dynamics.

As the former chairman of the ARB, I had the opportunity to meet many of our residents and to assist them with the changes and improvements to their homes. I am pleased to report that we had a large number of approved applications for home improvements and upgrades reflecting the attractiveness of our neighborhood which in itself is a valuable asset.

Please feel free to contact me, your neighborhood ambassador, or any member of the board if you have questions or comments about life in Heronwood. I also encourage you to attend our monthly board meetings held every third Thursday at 4:00 p.m. at the MDPOA Building.

Let's all look forward to a great year working together.
Ray Bowles

Heronwood Board Of Directors

President	Ray Bowles	463-7233
Vice President ARB	Dot Blake	781-6127
Vice President	Gail Mey	219-9655
Treasurer	Jon Robb	221-8898
Director Secretary/ Newsletter	Lynda Meyers	485-8938
Director Landscaping	Beth Mistarz	220-0824
Director Ambassador Chairperson	Darlene Jones	283-8661
Director	Paul McMahon	971-0033
Director	Gary Owen	370-3131

INTRODUCING NEWEST BOARD MEMBER

We would like to congratulate Gary Owen as our newest board member, taking the place of Nancy Carr. A few words from Nancy about leaving the board: I would like to say that the board I worked with for four years was made up of members who worked hard and were dedicated to making Heronwood an attractive, pleasant community in which to live. I feel confident that the new board will continue to carry on that plan. I will miss working with such a wonderful group of people but I think after working on the Heronwood Board for a total of eight years it is time for someone to take my place.

We would like to welcome our newest board member, Gary Owen. He was originally from Johnstown, PA but has lived on the Treasure Coast for 28 years. Gary is an Advanced Open Water scuba diver and a Private Pilot. He along with his wife Susan, have jumped right in getting involved in the community by helping put up the Christmas decorations, hosting the February Meet & Greet Party and now joining the board. In their free time they both enjoy spending time with their kids, each have a 16 year old, dancing, fine wine, and numerous outdoor activities, including visiting the the Florida keys, with Islamorada being their favorite.

We are lucky to have him join us on the board as well as he and Susan joining the neighborhood.

CONDOLENCES

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the families of Albert Sedlock & Joan Miller who recently passed away. Both couples having been in Heronwood from the very beginning and living on Heronwood Road they became good friends.

Albert was born in Connecticut and worked for Sikorsky Aircraft for 34 years before his transfer to Florida. He served his country in the Marines and was buried with Military Honors. He and his wife Dolores were married in 1953 and have four children together, Terry, Jerome, Diane and Gregory. Dolores is leaving Heronwood to start a new chapter in her life. Her new address is Brookdale at Jensen Beach, 1700 NE Indian River Drive, Jensen Beach, Room 237, phone is 772-283-2367 if anyone would like to visit or call.

Joan Miller was born in Canada 77 years ago and was married to her husband Butch in 1956 and moved to Michigan. She worked during their early married years to help Butch get an education but also raised three children, D'Arcy, Dianne & Dean. They relocated to Florida in 1984 and have been wonderful neighbors and friends to everyone they met.

These residents made a lot of friends here and made this community a better place to live and will miss them all very much.

NO FISHING IN THE LAKES

A notice was recently sent out through email to inform us that MDPOA is issuing a no fishing policy in the ponds. This is due to the fact that the edges were too severe and need to be re-sloped. The fear is that if someone fell in they would not be able to climb out. South Florida Water Management made us aware of the danger and the MDPOA attorney recommended for liability reasons we do not allow fishing until they can be re-sloped. When or if that will be done is unknown but residents will be kept posted.

Residents need to be aware that alligators are in the ponds and waterways in Martin Downs. A resident's dog was killed by an alligator in one of the ponds. The alligator was killed which is the procedure when a wild animal kills a human/dog for fear that it would do it again. Usually when an alligator is spotted in a residential area, it is removed to a more appropriate environment. Ray Bowles, our board president, has been receiving calls and e-mails from many of the residents who are requesting signs, warnings, etc. which MDPOA is in the process of making NO TRESPASSING signs. One thing that we will definitely do is to inform new residents at the time of their interview before they've moved in, that we do have many waterways which naturally attract alligators. South Florida has the habitat and climate that makes it very conducive for alligators; hence they have been here long before we have and we must learn to live with them. We do have very strict rules here prohibiting swimming in the lakes by people and dogs. **DOGS MUST BE LEASHED AT ALL TIMES** and cats must be on leashes when outside; not just for our safety but for the safety of the pets as well.

We are very saddened by this and our condolences go out to the family and hope not to lose any more pets to these animals that are only doing what comes natural to them. We humans have to take precautions as well to protect our loved ones. Please **DO NOT** feed wild animals and be careful letting children and pets get too close to the water. We have been asked not to fish in the ponds due to the erosion of the edges. Please stay on the sidewalks for the safety of yourself and your family. Just because we don't see the alligators doesn't mean they aren't there so please use caution. If you see any alligators the number for Nuisance Alligators is (866) 392-4286.

Thank You!

The Board would like to thank Nancy Carr & Gail Mey for helping out with the car registration stickers this past January.

We would also like to thank Ray Bowles, Debbie Faulkner, Kate Faulkner, John Forier, Russell Forier, Lou Graner, Darlene Jones, Jon Robb, Judy Robb, Gary Owen for coming out to assist Larry Jones in putting up the Christmas decorations this past holiday season.

These residents took time away from their families and lives to help out. We appreciate all that you do.

EMAIL ADDRESS

The newsletter is printed two times a year, in April and October. The newsletter and various information is sent out through email. This reduces paper and cost, always good to help Mother Earth. This list is not shared with anyone. If you submitted an email address through the directory you will be added to this list. You can be removed by contacting Lynda Meyers at 485-8938. If you're planning to move please let Lynda know so you can be removed.



The newsletter is for the residents to get information as well as share. If you have any thing worth sharing please contact Lynda.

ENTERING MARTIN DOWNS

Visiting guests will have to show ID when coming into the gate. This might cause some delays at the front gate but this is necessary to know who is in Martin Downs.

MEET AND GREET PARTY

IT'S PARTY TIME!!!!!! Larry & Janet Jones have graciously volunteered to host the next party. It will be held at 3733 Spoonbill Terrace on Friday, April 17th from 5:30-7:30.

For those that are new to Heronwood the parties are held every other month, excluding the summer, in 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. Tea, soft drinks and water will be provided. Guests may bring alcohol if they wish. Residents usually bring a finger food dish to share but is not mandatory. Attire is casual.

Signs, with yellow paper, are put up to show the next home where the party is being held. 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 please contact Lynda Meyers at 485-8938.

These pictures were taken by Beth Mistarz at the February Meet & Greet Party held at Gary & Susan Owen's home.



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 in the Covenants that this is Not allowed. 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. They need to be stored inside the garage when not in use, not outside anywhere.



STORM DRAINS

We will soon be in the midst of hurricane season and it is very important to keep our storm drains free of debris. Debris 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. It is also a good time to start trimming bushes and trees before the season starts.

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.



CAR PARKING

As long time residents we might forget ourselves what is allowed or not. It is a good idea to read the Covenants from time to time to familiarize yourself with the rules. One that is being broken lately is on street parking overnight. It is not allowed to park cars on the street over night. Please make sure that cars are moved to the driveway prior.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

To keep Heronwood safe we all need to keep an eye out for trouble. If you notice any thing suspicious please contact security. We have a few homes vacant and do not want kids playing inside due to unlocked doors or even outside. This can be dangerous. When you will be out of town it's a good idea to let a neighbor know. Be observant of workmen, repairmen or service people. Lock your vehicle and keep doors in your home locked even when home. With every resident keeping an eye out Heronwood will continue to be a great and safe place to live.



BARKING DOGS

We all enjoy relaxing on our property but that is hard to do with dogs barking.



Whether your dog is inside or outside please be courteous of your fellow neighbors and do not allow your pets to bark incessantly.

It is also neighborly to pick up after your fuzzy loved one. No one wants to see or step in your dogs "business". It's common courtesy.

Dogs and cats are not allowed to roam free. Dogs **MUST** be on a leash at all times and cats should be inside and not allowed to roam free outside. When cats are outside they also need to be on a leash. If pet rules are constantly broken the Board **DOES** have the authority to have animals removed permanently. You can be seriously fined if your dog is off leash and attacks someone or another dog. Or worse your animal could be put down. You might think you will know how your pet will react in a situation but we can never know for sure. Please do not take this risk and keep your animals on a leash and under control.



FOUND DOG POTTY BAG

A round grey potty bag holder was found on Heronwood Road. If you lost it or know who did please contact Lynda Meyers at 485-8938 to have it returned.

SELLING YOUR HOME



Anyone selling their home needs to have their binder with the By-Laws, Covenants & Regulations available to new home buyers. We cannot depend on realtors to get the information to potential buyers. It is in your best interest to make sure prospective buyers know the rules before committing. This can save time, money and aggravation during selling. To receive another book please contact Alicia Brown, Advantage Property Mgmt., at 334-8900. There is no cost.

UPCOMING DIRECTORY

We are once again working on getting a new directory printed. The last time forms were sent out and were to be returned to Advantage Property Management, Darlene Jones or Dot Blake. The ones that were not returned were picked up by the Neighborhood Ambassadors. This proved to be an endeavor that just took too long. To make the process easier, this time we are asking residents to look in the latest directory, which is yellow, and make sure yourself that your information is updated and correct. If you have any changes to make or you are new to Heronwood please contact Beth Mistarz at 220-0824 or Lynda Meyers at 485-8938. If we hear nothing from you concerning your information it will be reprinted as it is in the latest book. The book will be printed as soon as the information can be collected, so please make sure your information is updated. We are looking for businesses to advertise so if you know anyone that is interested please contact Alicia Brown at 334-8900. All the money goes toward the cost of printing.



ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD PROCEDURES DURING MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS

The Heronwood Board meets on the third Thursday of every month. During the Board meeting all ARB applications will be reviewed. The meetings are open to all residents. 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.

AUTOMATIC MONTHLY PAYMENTS

In an effort to minimize costs, please consider the use of automatic payment for your monthly assessment. This saves time as it is deducted from your account and saves money on stamps. To entice residents to join, the Board is giving gift cards to Publix when residents join. You do have to sign up for a year. This offer expires July 1, 2015.

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



WEBSITE

It is now easier than ever to get information that pertains to Heronwood. You can print out ARB forms, review the Rules and Regulations and much more at the Heronwood website. Please visit www.heronwoodpalmcity.com to get the information you need.

SAFETY AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Whether you're riding a bike or riding around in your golf cart please be on the lookout for walkers and people with dogs. We all need to be aware and considerate of each other and share the sidewalk. It is very startling to have vehicles fly up on someone, especially fearful dogs. So please announce yourself before coming upon people on sidewalks.

Remember, you must have valid registration and insurance to operate a golf cart. Only people with drivers licenses are permitted to drive as they are considered vehicles by law.

As always we need be careful of children waiting at bus stops and morning walkers. It is very dark and cars need to be going the speed limit and always be on the lookout for pedestrians.



CHANGES TO PROPERTY

ANY changes to the outside property including cutting down trees, taking out any vegetation or painting projects MUST be approved by the ARB. Along with our Rules & Covenants there are also Martin County laws pertaining to certain aspects of removing trees that need to be considered before removal.

Remember there is a time frame after getting approval that things must be done.



COVENANT RULES AND REGULATIONS

Over the past few months residents have been breaking the rules, whether knowingly or not. Trees are being cut down with out permission, too many animals are being kept on the property or not leashed, playground equipment and trashcans are being kept outside over night to name a few. Residents need to read the Rules & Covenants to make sure they are complying with the rules set forth. This is what keeps Heronwood a wonderful place to live.

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 on 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 schedulepickup.com or Salvation Army at 1-800-728-7825 to schedule a pickup.

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543 NW Lake Whitney Place, Suite 106 · Port St. Lucie, FL 34986 · 772-335-9219 Office · 772-335-9368 Fax
www.cushniemcmahonlaw.com

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8942 SE Bridge Road
Hobe Sound, FL 33455

MOLLY STONE

Realtor®

The Michelle Tucker Team

(772) 285-6692 Cell

Molly@TuckerSellsFlorida.com

www.HomesForSaleMartinCountyFL.com

