



# Casa del Lago

Vol. XVII

NEWSLETTER, Barbara Shearer, editor – [shearerbarbara52@gmail.com](mailto:shearerbarbara52@gmail.com)

November 2021

For More Information Visit Our Website [www.MyCasaDelLago.com](http://www.MyCasaDelLago.com)



## FROM PRESIDENT BOYER'S DESK

### Have a Safe and Happy Thanksgiving!

Sometimes all the bad news can get us down. But once a year, we can celebrate with a special fall holiday. This is a holiday we share with families, friends, and food. Thanksgiving is centered around a meal that signifies giving thanks for all of God's blessings, all that we have received and all that is going well.

### New Schoo Homeowner Portal

Here is the link to the new Homeowner Portal:

<https://portal.schooassociationmanagement.com/homev2/Login>

This is a new, enhanced website provided by Schoo Association Management for Owners and Board Members to access valuable information and communicate with the management company. You can even use the website to pay assessments, and look at budgets, governing documents, the most recent financial statements and much more! If you have not logged on yet, you need to first get a temporary password from Andrew at Schoo Management 239-362-3091.

### New Front Gate Area Progress

During October, repairs and repainting of the walls were completed including the gate house and gates at the community entranceway. The annual flowers will be installed the first week of November as soon as the plant supply is available. In September, we completed the new shrubbery plantings along the front walls and they are growing and looking very healthy. This will certainly upgrade the look of our community for the holidays.

### Please Note: Mulch application starts Nov. 8th!

Our ANNUAL mulch application is scheduled to begin Monday, November 8th!!! You can prepare for this by clearing out any personal items you have stored next to your house such as hoses, pots and the like. We will use the same dark brown pine mulch. It is an organic mulch, which helps keep water in the soil, and over time, it breaks down to add nutrients to the soil. If you currently have a different mulch in place, such as stones, your property bedding mulch will be skipped. The mulching crew will be supervised by Estate Landscaping.

### November Landscape Schedule

Our Mowing schedule changes to every other week during the winter months. Hard edging (this means next to pavers or the street curb) is done with each mowing; soft edging (around plant beds) will be done every other mowing. The November mowing dates will be Monday, Nov. 1st, Nov. 15th and Nov. 29th. Estate Landscaping will treat any pests or disease on shrubs the week of Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>. Pruning of shrub beds is scheduled beginning Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> and irrigation checks will be done week of Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### Reporting Landscaping Problems

Please, for any homeowner landscape request, such as a broken sprinkler or plant problems, report your issues directly to our **Estate Account Manager, Will Kollmann**. **The Estate Landscaping telephone number is (239) 498-1187** or you may email [info@estatelandscaping.com](mailto:info@estatelandscaping.com)

### December 1st Board Budget Meeting Notice

Homeowners recently were mailed a letter notification with the proposed 2022 Budgets that will be voted upon by the Board members. This year, the meeting will be held at the clubhouse starting at 7PM on Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>. Since we have two associations, there are two budgets: one budget for the Homeowners Association (HOA) and one for the Master Association (POA). The quarterly assessment that all homeowners pay includes money for both the HOA and the Master POA. All homeowners are invited and encouraged to attend the board meeting and will be given an opportunity to speak on the agenda topics.

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### **Community Speed Limit is 15 MPH**

We remind all homeowners to observe our speed limits. Remember that our streets do not have sidewalks. We do have homeowners walking, biking and taking their dogs out for a stroll several times each day and evening on our streets. PLEASE observe the 15 MPH speed limits and watch for small children who also play and ride bikes on our streets every day.

### **"Blind Person Area" Signs Coming to Casa del Lago**

Our community, like many other neighborhoods, have visually impaired individuals. Can YOU imagine walking our streets blindfolded all the way to the clubhouse every day? I bet you would have trouble doing this and might find yourself worrying about every car or truck passing by. We want to remind homeowners, visitors and delivery trucks that we have one or more visually impaired people walking on our streets daily. Several "Blind Person Area" signs will be posted in the coming months. Please show RESPECT and CAUTION for anyone using a "White Cane" while walking our streets!

### **Ballot for Board Member Voting**

Each year any homeowner may put his or her name on the ballot to become a Board Member. Information regarding how to do this was mailed to all homeowners. Our Homeowner Association has a five-member Board of Directors. Next year, on January 26, 2021, two board members' terms will expire: Charlie Kelly's and Karen Martin's. The Good News is that both Charlie Kelly and Karen Martin have told us that they want to continue to serve on our HOA volunteer Board and want to have their names put on the Ballot. At the January 26, 2022, Annual Homeowners Meeting, homeowners will cast their votes and choose who they want to represent them on the Board. If you are interested in becoming a Board Member, please read the Association documents and rules and regulations so that you fully understand the obligations and responsibilities of the Board of Directors.

### **HOA Association Financial Update**

Our Association financial statements show Expenses exceeding Income through September Year to Date. Income YTD Sept. is \$473,375 and Total Expenses YTD has been \$493,441. As a result, we are \$20,066 behind Budget. Better news is that our Reserve Accounts have grown to \$323,976 compared to \$285,535 last year. HOA Reserves are used when we need to repair a major Association structural part such as a swimming pool or roof, repave our streets or replace a major piece of equipment such as an air conditioning unit. Because our community is over 20 years old, things are wearing out on a regular basis. All of our Reserve Accounts are safely held in FDIC-insured bank accounts and Certificates of Deposit.

### **Time to Clean your Roof**

We just cleaned the clubhouse roof and gutters and they really shine!!! Check it out! This is prime roof cleaning season and many homes in our neighborhood REALLY need to have it done. Ask for a free quote before you select any contractor. Please ask them to clean the driveway pavers as well. Be sure that the contractor is licensed and insured. We recommend using a "soft chemical wash" technique instead of pressure washing. Pressure washing can lead to color washing out of the roof tiles and to an increased likelihood of tiles being cracked from workers walking on them. Additionally, a soft wash chemical cleaning will last longer than pressure washing. We recommend "Shine Window Cleaning" for cleaning roof tiles using a "soft wash." Shine's phone number is 239-275-3037; ask for a quote first and we suggest including the driveway as well.

### **Holiday Decorations Can be Dangerous to Workers**

To prevent electrocution to our workers or damage to plants decorated with holiday decorations, any home with shrubs or trees with wires and lights will not be trimmed or pruned. After the removal of the decorations, pruning will resume on the regular schedule. We do not want electrical cords or decorations to be damaged but often these cords are green and can be very hard to see. Please do not have electrical cords lying across the lawn where the mowers travel. This will cause damage to the cords and result in unnecessary complaints that we don't need.

### **New Homeowner Information**

1. If you need a clubhouse key card or entry gate clicker, contact me at [gboyer01@aol.com](mailto:gboyer01@aol.com). Cost is \$10 per clubhouse card and \$20 for gate clickers. I keep a supply at home.
2. All garbage and recycle cans must be stored **inside** an enclosed garage except on the trash/recycle pick up date. Outdoor storage of these trash and recycle cans is not permitted per our community rules.
3. Cars parked overnight on our neighborhood streets will be towed at owner's risk and expense without warning. Please keep vehicles in your garage or driveway and off our streets between midnight and 6AM.
4. Before making ANY changes to the exterior of your home, including landscaping, painting, pools, etc., please obtain prior approval by the Architectural Review Board. Please review the ARB guidelines found in our rules package which can be found on the community website.

### ***Happy Thanksgiving!***

George Boyer  
Deer Lake HOA President  
[Gboyer01@aol.com](mailto:Gboyer01@aol.com)

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**Anytime is a great time to reserve the clubhouse** for parties, including birthday parties, showers, etc. Please contact George Boyer at [gboyer01@aol.com](mailto:gboyer01@aol.com) or call 239-415-1633 with any questions you may have. The clubhouse reservation forms and rules can be found on our website [www.MyCasaDelLago.com](http://www.MyCasaDelLago.com)

#### HOA CONTACT INFORMATION:

**George Boyer**, President  
239-415-1633

[gboyer01@aol.com](mailto:gboyer01@aol.com)

**Karen Martin**, Vice President  
502-396-5995

[Krmartin57@gmail.com](mailto:Krmartin57@gmail.com)

**Bill Snodgrass**, Vice President  
239-822-6647

[snodsls@aol.com](mailto:snodsls@aol.com)

**Bradley Messina**, Secretary  
815-298-6670

[bmess57@yahoo.com](mailto:bmess57@yahoo.com)

**Charlie Kelly**, Architectural Review Board  
For ARB Requests  
Call 239-274-3871

[blkjackkelly@comcast.net](mailto:blkjackkelly@comcast.net)

**Jack Chancellor**, Hurricane Committee  
239-936-5695

[jchan275@comcast.net](mailto:jchan275@comcast.net)

**Sheryl Colborn**, Clubhouse Committee Chair  
215-290-4742

[sherylcolborn@comcast.net](mailto:sherylcolborn@comcast.net)

**Estate Landscaping and Irrigation Repairs**

Main Office 239-498-1187,  
Account Manager-Will Kollmann,

[info@estatelandscaping.com](mailto:info@estatelandscaping.com)

**XFINITY Cable TV Repairs and Service**

Call 1-800-934-6489

**ADT Home Security Repairs and Service**

Call 1-800-878-7806

#### Bocce Ball and Swimming Pool Reminders

Remember to try out our Bocce Ball court. The balls and equipment bag needed to play are kept inside the clubhouse. The supplies are located behind the white office door near the ping pong table. Please return them when you are done. Our swimming pool is heated all year long so you can enjoy that too while your northern friends are freezing and shoveling snow this winter.

**PICKLEBALL  
ROCKS™**

Let's Play

#### New Hours and Days!

Come join us for some exercise, socialization and fun! Find out what all the buzz is about on the tennis courts at the clubhouse.

|                  |                           |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Tuesdays</b>  | <b>9:00 am – 10:30 am</b> |
| <b>Thursdays</b> | <b>9:00 am – 10:30 am</b> |
| <b>Saturdays</b> | <b>9:00 am – 10:30 am</b> |

If you'd like some guided instruction and would like to learn how to play, please contact Anne Carta at [annecarta71@gmail.com](mailto:annecarta71@gmail.com) or at 781-646-6345. We have the equipment necessary to learn and everyone is welcome!

#### HOW TO CONTACT OUR MANAGEMENT COMPANY

**Our Community Contact person is Lori Jacobson,**  
239-362-3091 (Schoo Office) or by email  
[lorij@samcam.biz](mailto:lorij@samcam.biz)

Schoo Management, Inc.  
9403 Cypress Lake Drive, Suite C  
Fort Myers, Florida 33919  
Office: 239-362-3091 (24 hour answering)  
President Pat Schoo  
[pats@samcam.biz](mailto:pats@samcam.biz)

#### TENNIS ANYONE?



**DOUBLES TENNIS DAYS AT CASA DEL LAGO!  
DO YOU LIKE TO PLAY?  
WE USE BOTH COURTS FOR DOUBLES TENNIS  
MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS  
STARTING AT 8AM SHARP!  
FOR INFO: CALL GEORGE 415-1633**

## November CURIOUS YET USELESS TRIVIA

**1. Poet Emily Dickinson wrote: "November always seemed to me the \_\_\_\_\_ of the year."**

(a) Norway (b) butt end (c) best (d) nadir.

**2. November 9 is National Scrapple Day. Scrapple**

**is also known as:** (a) Kopf Schmalz (b) pan hare

(c) pig slop (d) Offal Krappe.

**3. On November 5, 1781, Congress elected the first President of the United States in Congress**

**Assembled. Who was it?** (a) Augustus "Pinky" Lee

(b) John Hancock (c) John Hanson (d) George

Washington.

**4. What did Bill Gates buy for \$30,800,000 on**

**November 11, 1994?** (a) silence (b) DaVinci's Codex

Leicester (c) a gold-plated Maserati R32 (d) a zoo for his

kids.

**5. November is National Pomegranate Month!**

**Ancient Egyptians as far back as 1500 BCE used**

**pomegranates to treat:** (a) tapeworms (b) acne

(c) rhinitis (d) asp bites.

**6. November is also National Peanut Butter**

**Lovers Month. What was the first nationally**

**branded peanut butter that began promotion in**

**1904?** (a) Kellogg's (b) Carver's Peanut Crème (c) Good

`n Nutty (d) Beech-Nut.

**7. Which of these activities is not recommended**

**to celebrate National Peanut Lovers Month?** (a) try

a new peanut butter (b) enjoy a PB&J (c) join a peanut

butter lovers club (d) lace the inside of your spouse's

favorite slippers with peanut butter.

**8. What was the code name of the first large H-**

**bomb the US detonated on Eniwetok Atoll on**

**November 1, 1952?** (a) Honey (b) Mike (c) Boomer

(d) Harry.

**9. Which of Shakespeare's plays was first**

**presented on November 1, 1611:** (a) All's Swell That

Ends Swell (b) A Midsummer Night's Scream (c) The

Tempest (d) Toyota and Cressida.

**10. November is Sweet Potato Awareness Month.**

**How do sweet potatoes differ from yams?**

(a) sweet potatoes are New World; yams are Old World

(b) yams contain more calories (c) yams contain a

higher percentage of water (d) there is no difference.

**11. Who sponsors World Toilet Day on November**

**9?** (a) American Standard Brands (b) the United Nations

(c) Mitsubishi Manufacturing (d) Church Toilet Seats.

**12. What would be an appropriate activity to**

**celebrate World Toilet Day? (fill in the blank)**

**13. What does the website for National Absurdity**

**Day, November 20, recommend for celebrating**

**the day:** (a) have a food fight (b) let your dog make

the decisions (c) do without one of your five senses

(d) any of the above.

**14. National Saxophone Day is celebrated on November 6. While a saxophone is made of brass, it is classified as a woodwind. Who invented it?**

(a) Woody Herman (b) Alexander Graham Bell

(c) Adolphe Sax (d) Binx Beinecke.

**15. On November 13, 1789, Benjamin Franklin wrote a letter to Jean Baptiste le Roy in which he**

**wrote:** (a) "Take my wife...please!" (b) "A franc saved,

is a franc earned." (c) "Nothing is certain, but death and

taxes." (d) "French maidens shall be the death of me."

**ANSWERS:** 15. (c) 14. (c) 13. (d) 12. (-) 11. (b) 10. (a) 9. (c)

8. (b) 7. (d) 6. (d) 5. (a) 4. (b) 3. (c) 2. (b) 1. (a)

—Ben Shearer