

**Seaside Gazette**

**Spring 2014**

**North Myrtle Beach, SC**

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**Please check out the Seaside Plantation web site for additional news and for the minutes of board meetings.**

**[www.seasideplantationnm.com](http://www.seasideplantationnm.com)**

## Presidents Message

Contributed by Drew Gillespie

To all my friends and neighbors. This will be my last Presidents message. There are old sayings that begin "It is with a heavy heart ..." Well, it truly is with a heavy heart that I must tell you I cannot seek reelection to my position as Director of the Seaside Plantation Association and therefore the office of President.

As many of you are aware, I have health issues that prevent me from giving the Association the attention it deserves. These issues are ones from which I believe I will recover and I did try to stick it out until that recovery. But it is not to be. At the moment, I simply cannot devote adequate time and attention to the job I was elected to do. Not only do I need more time than I thought, the stress of the job lately is something I need to get away from as well. For me to continue would not be fair to you or my colleagues on the Board, and would slow or prevent my recovery. Possibly, one day I will be able to return to a full involvement with our community. I will hope for that.

All of you know how much I love this neighborhood and the people in it. I know it to be one of the finest anywhere. I am grateful that Gigi and I are able to live here. The love and support that you have given me through my health issues has been wonderful. Thanks to the other Board members for supporting me through it as well. It has been a genuine pleasure to serve. I appreciate your giving me the privilege, and so much support through the years. I have to say that my wife Gigi did as much as I did, and without her, it would have been tough.



As to business, there is a little activity. We have a new, more reliable gate system. The old system was just that ... old. It was well beyond its useful life. So, using money in the reserve fund for which it was intended, a new system was installed. It is very smooth. We sent out an email covering all this in detail. Briefly, to us there are a few visible changes. You can now use any USA cell phone as your visitor entry call and you can have two numbers as your visitor entry call. You can buy a windshield tag that will open the gates. Everything else remains the same, including the "clickers" and cards. A big THANKS to Frank Fleisher who was the project manager for the gate system. He did a wonderful, professional job. Please thank Frank when you see him.

The Board is preparing the preliminary 2015 budget. If you have any input, call a Board member. You may have noticed activity on the drain at the end of East Coast Lane. We have a serious drainage problem but it is being repaired. The spa is not working as it should. That is being investigated and will be improved. Preliminary work is being done to install a new bar in the current Board Room to more effectively use our clubhouse space. Whether it happens or not depends on cost and design.

Many of us enjoy the various activities sponsored by the association. Please join in. From bridge to golf, there is a lot going on. You could be missing out on a lot of fun by not participating. If you go to a clubhouse function, please use the front door. Using the side door on the handicap entrance invariably causes a jam around the bar. You should find the side door locked in the future, except for the handicapped.

Please avoid parking on the sidewalk. One of the many amenities here is that it is a pleasure to walk around the neighborhood. When you or your visitors park on the sidewalk, you block it. Please do not park on the street at night. Our streets are narrow and need to be clear at night to avoid accidents.

The area around the clubhouse is being eroded into the pond by muskrats. Please read Fred George's wildlife report for details. Other than that the ponds are beautiful. Thank you Fred George. the landscaping is very nice. Thank you Nancy Fleisher, and please read her report. All Board members have a report in this newsletter, and they are informative. Your Board works on a myriad of things from budget and spending to security and roadwork. They are a hard working bunch and we should all thank them. I certainly appreciate all they do. Many other residents do a lot as well. For example, Sue Pastroff puts together this newsletter and Gary Kumerfield takes care of our social activities. There are too many folks to mention, but thank you every one for all you do.

We have a great neighborhood and I say again it has been a pleasure serving you. I encourage every resident to consider running for the Board. I have tried to focus on two things as President; keeping the operating costs, and therefore your dues, low and making sure any Board activity is done in a neighborly way. Board elections are imminent and I encourage you to vote for those who would also focus on those things.

Thanks for the memories.  
Drew



# Editor's Message

Contributed by Sue Pastroff

At the end of Sea Island Way is a sign that says "Amenities Center". This is in front of an area consisting of a building, a pool, hot tub, parking lot, deck, and shuffleboard court. When I edit the newsletter I get messages that meetings are held at the Amenities Center or the Clubhouse but which is which? In the newsletter I try for consistency but in this case it is often difficult.

The multi-purpose building at the end of Sea Island Way can be called 'Bridge Building' on Monday afternoons, 'Readers Retreat' on book club Tuesdays, 'Couples Castle' or 'Poker Palace' on Wednesday evenings, 'Mah Jongg Mansion' on Thursdays, 'Holiday House' for parties, etc. When you think of a clubhouse you often think of a little space put together by kids with cardboard, wooden planks, blankets, and whatever else they can find. The common theme is that there is feeling of comfort and camaraderie in a clubhouse. For editorial purposes I will call our multi-purpose building 'the Clubhouse' in the newsletter knowing that it is a place for friendship, comfort and fun in Seaside Plantation. However, since we are both a high-tech and fancy subdivision, how about "Thee Amenities Center at Seaside Plantation" or 'TACASP'?

## News from the City of North Myrtle Beach

Visit [www.nmb.us](http://www.nmb.us)

### Summer Concerts – Music on Main

All concerts are at 7 PM-9PM. Bring your beach chair.

Thursday September 18, Hip Pocket (Beach/Variety)

Thursday September 23, Smokin' (80s/Area Rock Tribute Band)

Thursday September 25, Jim Quick and Coastline (Beach)

### 9-11 Candlelight Vigil

Commemorate those that fell victim to the 9-11 attacks. An evening ceremony begins at 7:00 pm with ocean view backgrounds, located in the Horseshoe (end of Main Street). Rolling Thunder will ride motorcycle into the event to publicize the POW-MIA issue, followed by several color guards. After the presentation of a remembrance wreath for all fallen Americans join everyone on the beach for a twenty-one gun salute by the Marine Corp League. Complete silence and only a glow from the crowd's candles light up the night as Taps is played and the dedicated wreath is taken out to sea for our fallen Americans to rest.

Date: Thursday, September 11, 2014 Time: 7:00 pm Location: Main Street and the Horseshoe; 11 S. Ocean Blvd., North Myrtle Beach, SC 29582 Cost: Free

### Annual Irish Italian International Festival – Saturday Sept 27

The **City of North Myrtle Beach** will host the 11th Annual Irish Italian International Festival on Saturday, September 27, 2014. The festival begins at 10:00 am and continues until 4:00 pm on Main Street; featuring food from local restaurants, two stages of live entertainment, street performers, art & craft vendors, and dance groups all surrounding an Irish Italian International theme. Restaurants will compete for the title of Best Entrée, Best Decorated, and Best Dessert. Festival goers can join in a friendly **spaghetti eating competition!**



## South Carolina Incidence Response:

### **DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS?**

The South Carolina Dept. of Transportation has a great program for motorists. It is called Incidence Response. If you are out on the highway and have trouble, help is right there. Just dial "**HP**". An Incident Response Unit will be right there with help. I ran out of gas today on hwy 31. As I was sitting there wondering what to do, A Mr. Jimmy Norris with the SCDOT stopped and asked me if I needed help. He put several gallons of gas in my car while I just sat there. **NO CHARGE**. He could not have been more helpful or polite. Very professional. Wonderful program. Remember, if you are in trouble, call **HP**

Drew

## Treasurers Report

Contributed by Mike Hicks

### FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF JULY 31, 2014:

Our financial condition remains strong, as shown in the summary of financial results below:

#### BALANCE SHEET - OPERATING (Funds to cover future operating expenses):

ASSETS \$526,000 - LIABILITIES \$5,000 - EQUITY \$521,000

#### BALANCE SHEET - RESERVES (Required funds to cover the replacement of fixed assets):

ASSETS \$ 319,000 - LIBILITIES \$0 - EQUITY \$319,000

#### OPERATING STATEMENT (Results through July 31, 2014):

YTD INCOME - ACTUAL \$247,000 - BUDGET \$234,000 - VARIANCE \$13,000

YTD EXPENSE - ACTUAL \$170,000 - BUDGET \$174,000 - VARIANCE \$4,000

NET OPERATING INCOME - ACTUAL \$77,000 - BUDGET \$60,000 - VARIANCE \$17,000

## Amenities Center Report

Contributed by Mike Hicks

A second "Casual Cocktail Party" was held in July. Those in attendance agreed that this should continue for the months of September and October. The next one is scheduled for September 18.

We continue to look for contractors to bid on our renovation project. So far, we have only received one bid and that was considered too expensive. It looks like we will not be able to get this done in 2014. However, we are hopeful that this can be accomplished, before next summer, with the reserve funds that have been set aside for the Clubhouse.



# Landscape Report

Contributed by Nancy Fleischer

The neighborhood is looking great. Thank you all for working so hard to keep your property looking beautiful. All your neighbors appreciate your efforts.

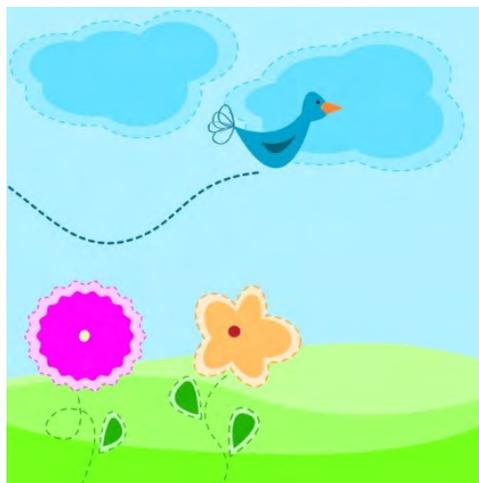
We have fully recovered from this past severe winter weather and the damage it caused to our grass and plants. After a slow start in March, our new landscaping company has finally addressed all the common areas that had been so neglected by our previous landscape company. Our new company, Phoenix, has been very responsive to requests for attention. We have replaced some bushes that expired this past winter and addressed other major issues. At this point our landscaping is in maintenance mode.

The flowers this year are very impressive and are doing very well as a result of ample rain.

We have experienced muskrat damage around our clubhouse. The exterminator has eliminated quite a few of these critters. We are considering repairing the damaged areas on the peninsula surrounding the clubhouse. We are seeking bids at this time.

You may have noticed the caution tape at the end of East Coast Lane, near the intersection of Tradewind Court. We have continued to experience drainage problems with this section of the storm drain system despite repairs about 5 or 6 years ago. We are now investigating a major repair for this storm drain. As you might imagine, we are being very particular to insure the corrective action taken will permanently resolve the issue. We are working with engineers and construction companies to understand alternatives before developing a final plan. The City of North Myrtle Beach is supporting us in understanding causes and corrections.

Please let me know if you have anything for the landscape committee. If you would like to join our landscape committee please give me a call or an email. Our committee of two would welcome additional support. Our committee collects concerns to relay to our landscapers, sometimes inspecting the work after it is completed. We meet twice a year to review the spring and fall planting plans. We review budgets and proposals. I promise there are no commitments to regular meetings required.



# Ponds and Wildlife Reports

Contributed by Fred George

I am pleased to report that our ponds are in the best shape I can ever remember. We have been blessed with almost perfect weather conditions over the last few months. The rain we have experienced has kept the lakes topped off at optimal levels. The other thing that the rain does is dilute the nutrients that enter the ponds through the well water used to maintain levels. This is the first season we have been able to shut the well pumps off for extended times. With the ponds topped off the sunlight does not penetrate as easily to the bottom thus reducing weed growth.

Another benefit of less weed growth is less fountain maintenance. I have not had to have the baskets cleaned at all this summer. The combination of a new basket configuration and less weeds has contributed to lower expense to maintain the fountains. Chemical treatment has also been held to a minimum.



**Bye Bye Geese!!!**

Wildlife control has not been as easy this year. We enlisted the services of the U. S. D. A. to remove over 60 Canadian geese that had nested in our ponds this spring. This is a costly procedure and ends with the geese being donated to local food banks. The cost is shared equally with Ocean Keys Condos. Unfortunately we still have people in our community and at Ocean Keys who feel they are helping the geese by feeding them. The truth is that feeding them contributes to the geese being captured and donated to food banks.

We have also had an influx of muskrats and raccoons. We have enlisted the services of The Snake Chaser to trap and remove these critters from common areas. The raccoons have been located around the clubhouse. When visiting the pool please make sure all consumable trash ends up in the trashcans and assure the lids are secured tightly. The control of local wildlife is a constant issue. With less human intervention the birds and animals that visit our community will follow their normal seasonal patterns and leave on their own.



## Seaside Plantation Social Activities:

Social Activities Committee: Gary Kumerfield

This Social Activities Committee has been formed with the intention of planning the events that occur regularly every year but also try to add some new ideas or events that folks here in Seaside would enjoy.

The committee members are Nancy Revella, Reatha Robertson, Barbara Frank, Charles Smith & Gary Kumerfield, chair. This committee will meet from time to time and try to plan not only existing events like 4<sup>th</sup> of July, etc., but some new activities. If anyone has an idea for an event that they experienced elsewhere or heard about somewhere else, please get in touch with a committee member & express your thoughts. We thank you for your involvement!

The next event will be a “**Casual Cocktail Party**” at the Amenities Center on September 18. This month the party may include an antique car show involving older cars owned by Seaside residents. Look for announcements from the committee.

Couples Bridge Party: Miriam Compliment

Couples Bridge is held at 7 PM every other Wednesday evening at the Clubhouse. The next game will be September 10.

NOTE: Bridge Players wanted!!! Please note that you do not have to be an expert Bridge player to join. We do a lot of snacking, laughing and some not very serious bridge playing. If you have questions, there is always someone to help. To join our group please contact Miriam Compliment at [mcompliment@sc.rr.com](mailto:mcompliment@sc.rr.com) or telephone (843) 249-7480.

Men's Poker Club: Gary Kumerfield

On the same day that our traveling golf league plays we play very easy & fun poker that night at the Clubhouse. We start at 7:00 & play for two or three hours. Please keep an eye out for the notices e-mailed at least a day before & come on down for some good fun! Call Gary Kumerfield at 280.9755 with questions

Book Club: Nancy Lacey

The Seaside Plantation Book Club will meet on Tuesday, September 16, 2014 at 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse. We will be discussing GONE GIRL by Gillian Flynn.

The following schedule will be discussed at the September meeting. Brings your suggestions for other books:

October 21                      Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline

November 18                  Invention of Wings by Sue Monk Kidd

No meeting in December

January 20                      The Headmaster's Wife by Thomas Christopher Greene

It will be great to see our friends again and to also discuss what we did during the summer.

We welcome new members to join our group of great gals. Hope to see you there. Come join us and have a great time!



Golf League: Larry Etkorn 843-424-2696

We continue to have a good turnout for the bi-weekly outings. In fact, for last event we had 18 players.

Our future golf outing schedule is:

Sep 24, 8:24

Oct 8, 8:33

Oct 22, 8:33

Nov 5, 8:30

Nov 19, 8:30

For the September 10 date, we need a location other than Crow Creek since they are punching their greens a couple of days before then. I was thinking of Aberdeen, Heather Glen, River Hills, or Farmstead.

The annual golf banquet is scheduled for October 29 at the clubhouse. We will announce the golfer of the year and install Fred George and Dan Boarman as co-commissioner for the next year

### Traveling golf League: Gary Kumerfield

Every other Wednesday The Seaside Traveling League plays at different courses around the Grand Strand. This program gives us all an organized alternative to our regular Seaside League at Crow Creek on the other Wednesdays of the month. Please let Gary Kumerfield know at [gk@jayscompany.com](mailto:gk@jayscompany.com) if you want to play but are not getting e-mail notices of times & courses being played.

Ten Seaside Ladies at Moveable Feast on September 5, 2014

A different author luncheon at a different site every Friday. Check out [classatpawleys.com](http://classatpawleys.com).



# Geek Speak – No more Passwords!!

Contributed by Frank Fleisher



Shhhhhh!

“No more PASSWORDS?? Are you crazy?” is probably your first reaction; but the truth of that thought is beside the point. All of you have probably heard of how the Russians and Chinese are hacking millions of our financial accounts, both corporate and personal. They are not alone. If you have a password protecting sensitive and financial data—YOU ARE IN A HACKER’S CROSS HAIRS.

Hackers are now armed with lots of tools. The big ones are huge “Hacker Dictionaries”. There are about twelve major ones. Each dictionary is based upon an actual dictionary augmented with adaptations that people use to disguise a password, including mis-spellings, numbers or symbols inserted. Sadly, the most common password is still ‘password’ followed by ‘passwerd’ or ‘12345678’, and finally, the very clever ‘password123’. I am sure you use something more sophisticated; but if you are still using any ‘single’ password; you are about to be easily hacked. Alternatively, passnumbers, whether birthdays or random numbers, are just as susceptible and harder to remember. What do you do?

First you need more letters, symbols and numbers— six or eight characters is not enough. Twelve characters is good, more is even better. But, how can we remember such a complex, long password? Simple, do not use a password! Use a ‘passphrase’. Here are two simple steps to develop a strong passphrase.

1. Basic Passphrase. Think of a simple phrase that you can remember, like: ‘jackwenttowork’ or ‘caughtabigbass’. Both of these phrases are 14 characters long. Select a phrase you can remember that does not have your name or a reference related to you (street, city, school, favorite team, birthday---these are all discoverable from your ‘emails and other online life’, all hackable).

2. Be passphrase creative. Several symbols remind you of letters. A ‘<’ symbol can be a sideways ‘L’. An ‘\$’ is a great substitute for an ‘s’. A ‘#’ can be a ‘t’ or even a ‘double t’. Use ‘%’ for a ‘k’. Use a double parentheses ( ) for an ‘o’. Some symbols, like @ or &, are not permitted in all passwords protected systems, so you will need to try any symbol out. Let’s see what we have when we add symbols to “jackwenttowork”. This passphrase becomes “jac%wen#ow()r%. A good start.

Next substitute numbers. Some numbers sound or look like words or letters—you see them on vanity license plates all the time: ‘GR8 for great’, ‘2 for two’, ‘4 for for’, ‘3’ for a backwards ‘e’, etc. Substituting, numbers we now we have ‘jac%w3n#2w()r%’, this is becoming a pretty strong passphrase.

Finally use CAPITALS. Pick a pattern you can remember; for example, capitalize the third letter of every noun. Try this, we now have the super strong, creative passphrase: ‘jaC%w3n#2w()R%’. That will blow the mind of any hacker (or their software).

Final note. With enough time, any password or even passphrase can be hacked. Most paranoid IT departments require changes every one to three months. We are probably good for at least six months depending on what you are protecting.



# The Vintner and the Vineyard

## Contributed by Harry Walker

I'm sure that we are all familiar with the fact that most of the red wines that we purchase today are blended wines. In the USA in order for a wine to be labeled by its varietal name such as Cabernet or Merlot the wine must contain 75% of that specific grape. European wines must contain 80% of the varietal.

The soil plays a critical part in the quality and production of the wine. There is an expression in the industry "Wines are made by the vineyard with minor help from the wine maker". The quality of the soil in particular vineyards can increase the value of the fruit and consequently the value of the wine. The cost of the same varietal grown by the same winery from one specific vineyard to another can vary. While 2009 Heitz Cabernet from their Martha's Vineyards would probably cost you over \$200.00 a bottle their 2009 Cabernet from their Napa vineyards should run about \$40.00 a bottle. The soil in regions like the cooler Lake County in California contains heavy concentrates of volcanic rock decreasing the yield of the fruit and producing very concentrated juices. Old vine Zinfandels do very well there and although Cabernets also do well in similarly gravelly soil they are usually produced in more moderate climates. There is also a very distinct difference in grapes grown on well drained hillsides rather than flatter richer and more fertile valleys. In the southern part of the state Temecula Valley with its rich soils cannot produce quality red wines. Although the soil may be perfect for red grapes the hot summers and moderate winters are not conducive to their growth and production of red grapes.

While it is true that the vineyard is most critical in wine production the wine maker is still an important factor in the process of selecting and blending the grape for a wine to be exceptional. The blending may affect the color and flavor adding sweetness to an overly dry grape or to the contrary adding dryness to a sweet fruit. While great wines that are produced from outstanding vineyards may only require minor help from the winemaker the less prominent vineyards will produce fruit that may need much more attention. A major factor with all vineyards is that the grape crop is not always the same and is dependent on many factors. A particularly cold or hot spell, heavy or light rainy seasons will impact the fruit making the blending of the crop to be an absolute necessity to assure a wine that does not vary much from vintage to vintage... The commercial blending of wines is a science but it is also an art form. The wine maker is an artist in his own right and his skills result in giving a consistency to the vintage. His expertise will impact many factors that include the texture, color, aroma, body and most importantly the taste of the finished product. In addition to the blending of the grape there are many other tools available to the vintner like adding oxygen to the wine to increase aging and proper maceration (contact with the skin) that will impact not only the color of the wine by also the taste and the tannins in young red wines.. The use of high quality oak barrels should improve the aging of red wine and also give a creamy vanilla finish to chardonnays. White wines tend to be more single varietal than the reds that often need blending grapes such as Merlot or Cabernet Franc. Another important factor in the winemaking process is the timing of the harvest. The wine maker must decide the exact moment that the grape is harvested. This can only be accomplished by the taste of the fruit by a skilled professional. Late harvesting will produce greater brix (sugar) and have a negative impact on most red grapes and harvesting too soon will result in astringency in the wine.



It's pretty obvious that the vineyard and the vintner both **play a critical part in the production of the wine. Take a few minutes to study the label of your next bottle of wine paying particular attention to the blending and appellation or region where the grapes are grown or vinted.**

Being a Scotsman at heart my wine recommendation for the month is Malbec: This wine that has become increasingly popular in the last couple of years. Most Malbecs are produced in the Mendoza Valley of Argentina and are dependent on the rocky soil in that area of the Andes Mountain. These wines tend to be a single varietal wine and are a reasonably priced" drink me now" wines. I would personally recommend the Ascension or San Lucas Malbec that can be purchased for about \$20.00 a bottle or the lesser priced Alta Vista or Massimo's wine that are in the \$10.00 range. I would classify these wines as spaghetti wines but pleasant to drink for us less sophisticated wine connoisseurs...



# Local Theater Update

Contributed by Sue Pastroff

It is time for theaters to start up again so grab your spouse, partner or buddy and go out for a night or afternoon on the town.

## Atlantic Stage

79<sup>th</sup> Street Theater at the Coastal Carolina building at the corner of Hwy17 Bypass and 79<sup>th</sup> Street, Myrtle Beach 877-287-8587 atlanticstage.com

Dr Jekell & Mr Hyde	Oct 16 – Nov 9
A Christmas Carol	Nov 26 – Dec 21
Doubt	Feb 19 – March 15
Present Laughter, Noel Coward	April 2 - 26

## Theater of the Republic

Main Street Conway, SC 843-488-0821 theateroftherepublic.com

Young Frankenstein	October 17 – November 2
Holiday Special	Dec 4 – Dec 20
Rent	Feb 20 – March 8
Smokey Joe's Café	April 24 – May 10
Gypsy	June 19 – July 5

## Coastal Carolina Department of Theater

Coastal Carolina Box Office at Wheelwright Auditorium: 843-349-2787  
Both the Edwards Theater and the Wheelwright Auditorium are on the CCU campus.  
If applicable ask for Senior Discount – tickets can be as low as \$10.  
Coastal.edu/culturalarts ticketreturn.com

Little Women: The Musical	79 <sup>th</sup> Ave Theater	Sept 25 – Oct 4
Metamorphoses	Edwards Theater	Oct 18 – 25
Golden Dragon Acrobats	Wheelwright Auditorium	Nov 10
Miles & Coltraine Blue	Wheelwright Auditorium	Nov 7
Hair: The Musical	Edwards Theater	Nov 13 – Nov 22

## Stage Left Theater – 3064 Deville Street, Market Common

Box Office: 843-232-1339 <http://www.stagelefttheatre.mb.com>

Dollhouse	Oct 2 – Oct 18
You Better Watch Out	Dec 2 – Dec 21
A.R.Gurney's Love Letters	Jan 29 – Feb 15
Elvis Has Left the Building	May 28 – June 14

