



Memories at the Speed of Old Florida™

Island Breeze



A Coastal Island Between Sarasota & Ft. Myers
7092 Placida Road
Cape Haze, Florida 33946 U.S.A.
941.697.4800 Resort • 941.697.0696 Facsimile
www.PalmIsland.com

2019: Celebrating 36 Years!
Est. 1983

Spring 2019

Issue XXV

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A Message from Rick Brunette, Vice President & General Manager

This year's Spring issue is my 19th *Island Breeze* and we have included many of our favorite photos, helpful messages and important information. I certainly hope you enjoy your reading and reflect back to the great memories of the 2018-2019 fall/winter season.

Now, the Resort is starting its 2019 spring/summer season and working hard on our yearly plans to further enhance our infrastructure, its assets and its services. Anxious to share with you the undertakings once it is formalized and let us all hope that last year's red tide is not repeated this year to the extent of last year.

It is with much enthusiasm and excitement that we are also on the cusp of some internal transitions of management with either reassignments of responsibility for those more career minded or replacing staff or simply adding staff with the intent to provide greater consistency in everything we do. The dominoes started to fall when my Administrative Assistant moved into the Association Management position after 3 years in her previous post. Please check out the article on Vanessa, page 3. Her replacement, Jerri Betts commenced her new job to Palm Island just this week. Next time you are "on-island" please drop by, introduce yourselves and say hello. With that all said, "on with the news."

Thank you,

Rick Brunette

Congratulations to our Team Member of the Year!



Each year at the team holiday gathering, the executive committee chooses one team member from our 12 team members of the month who stood out and set an example of service above and beyond. We don't always include this announcement in our Spring Newsletter, but because we all find her charming and she was recently promoted, we thought we would this year. If you haven't already said "Congrats" to Melissa, now is the time.

In addition, to her team member of the year accolades, she is now a guest services supervisor. So next time you hear her cheery voice greet you, say congratulations, once or twice!



Our Barge Mascots, The Osprey Family

Palm Island Spring Splendor



Checking the water temperature for the day



Early Morning Rounds

It's More Than a Restaurant, It's an Experience... Rum Bay

Rum Bay Restaurant has been a local favorite for over 25 years serving guests from our barrier islands, those mainlanders who choose the short excursion on our water taxi as well as the boating community throughout the region.

Boaters enjoy the

complimentary use of boat slips during their dining visit to Rum Bay Restaurant on Palm Island Resort.

Not only is Rum Bay noted for its great food in a casual island atmosphere, but has been recognized and awarded top honors for its seafood and signature Swamp Sauce atop a rack of baby back ribs. Rum Bay's menu has something for everyone regardless of the time of day, lunch, mid-afternoon, sunset or evenings. Favorites include the native grouper, fish tacos, seared ahi tuna, sumptuous seafood salads, grilled steaks and naturally the ribs.

Online gift cards coming soon, but in the meantime, please call the restaurant to purchase them. Give someone the tropical experience of dining island style in the form of a gift card.

Please call Rum Bay Restaurant for more information: 941-697-0566



News from Leverocks

If you haven't been to Leverocks lately, you are missing out on all the cuisine dishes that our new Chef Joel Sardinha brings to the table. He has a colorful passion for food and is a true chef with many years of experience. He likes to fuse his past travels and adventures into his own dishes creating a wonderful dining encounter.

Leverocks is the first in Englewood to subscribe to a nationally recognized software program so that you can book your restaurant reservations online! It's called, "Open Table." The table reservations are "First Available Seating" once your party has all arrived and then just get ready to get "Hooked on Leverocks."

Simply call the restaurant directly during their hours of operation, or just go online to their website and book a table. It is very easy and convenient for you through LeverocksPalmIsland.com. Reserve anytime!

You can go online to view a full menu or to purchase a gift card for that special occasion, a friend's celebration or a gift for a holiday. Leverocks will also have gift cards available at the restaurant.

Please call Leverocks for more information: 941-698-6900



From left to right: Chef Joel Sardinha, John Prater, Food & Beverage Director Kevin Rose, and Brian Blondun

Vanessa Diaz-Hemmeick New Association Manager

Vanessa Diaz-Hemmeick has been promoted to the position of Community Association Manager for Island Harbor Resort Management, Inc. effective on Monday, February 11th.

Vanessa started with Palm Island Resort in guest services and soon became the trainer for new guest services agents as well as overseeing our front desk audit function. Due to Vanessa's responsiveness to guest service and attention to detail, Palm Island Resort promoted Vanessa to be Administrative Assistant while she enrolled for courses towards a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management.

Although not quite completed, Vanessa will graduate this Summer 2019. In her administrative position, she has had the opportunity to understand a great deal about our individual association, the property owners and the role of the CAM (Community Association Management) in our family of companies.

Now, she will bring her knowledge and experience to the benefit of so many of you. She has expressed that one goal of hers is to continue providing the same level of service you have received in the past. Please extend Vanessa the best of wishes in her new position.



Owner's Community Corner

Glass no longer accepted in WM Commercial Recycling

The following is from Waste Management: Earlier this year, China began to limit the quality and quantity of material it accepts for recycling, impacting the recycling industry world-wide. As a result, our focus on quality is higher than ever as we work to ensure the long-term sustainability of our recycling programs. Glass is no longer accepted. When non-recyclable items (contamination items) end up in your recycling, they have the potential to turn the entire load into trash, resulting in additional service charges for contamination.

Beach Renourishment Project Description

The beach project extends for over 4.4 miles across the Sarasota County / Charlotte County line south to the Stump Pass Beach State Park, approximately 400 feet south of R15. The initial project proposes to discharge 1,009,000 cubic yards of beach compatible sand with construction tolerance and it tapers to restore the critically eroding shoreline of Manasota Key between R175 (Sarasota County) to R15.4 (Charlotte County). The County permitted five offshore borrow areas for their existing erosion control project and have identified three new offshore borrow areas, for a total of eight areas to provide the sand for initial construction and subsequent renourishment. The beach fill will impact 2.1 acres of persistent and 2.5 acres of nearshore hard bottom sand. Three mitigation reef placement areas totaling approximately 4.8 acres are proposed to be constructed with the initial restoration as a mitigation area.

Charlotte County Fire Station No. 10

Charlotte County Government is replacing the existing Fire Station No. 10 currently located at 101 Gasparilla Way. The size of the new fire station is approximately 5,800 square feet. Six available sites have been evaluated but with further consideration due to costs, environmental impacts and other factors this has brought the total down to 3 potential sites located on Knight /Don Pedro /Palm Islands in Charlotte County. On Tuesday, May 14th, the Charlotte County Commissioners approved by vote the site at 61 Gasparilla Road.

Charlotte County Leash Law

In Charlotte County Florida, it is unlawful for dog owners to allow their dog to stray or run at large upon any public area. Dog owners must at all times have "direct control" over their dog. It is important as a dog owner to keep their dog leashed at all times. Dogs are not allowed on the beaches, or the entire pool area. These rules are enforced for the safety of our pets, the safety of other owners and all guests but most importantly the safety of our wildlife on the Island which is protected by law.

Tennis Highlight Summary for 2018-2019

Palm Island Tennis has established a connection with the tennis players on Don Pedro Island and word of mouth has been our main marketing tool. We have had a total of 2 yearly, 15 weekly tennis memberships so far this year. This has created more participation with adult clinics, round robins and more players mixing in with our resort home owners. April 6th had a record of 20 players, using 5 courts! All 6 courts were in use at the time with one court of pickleball players.

More positive comments have been received about the removal of court #10 and providing a better first impression of the resort. The annual report of the home owners tennis facilities has sparked some improvements (PIV 1 Court resurfaced, PIV 2 Court drainage issues) and needed discussion in others. Beach Villas has formed a tennis court committee to address some of the concerns mentioned in the report. It is hoped that all tennis court facilities on Palm Island Resort will be uniformly in safety and appearance.

We have had groups from Wisconsin, Montana, and a ladies group from Lakewood Ranch. The Lakewood Ranch group are considering staying longer next year and making an event they named "The Shark Tooth Tennis Classic".

We have done more complimentary "How to play pickleball" clinics this year with instruction handouts. Lastly, we are proud to announce that PIR was once again recognized by Tennis Resorts Online as a Top 75 Tennis Resort for 2019!

2019 Home Owner's Tennis Tournament Results



Susan Thomsen & Jamie Beckstead

Men's Singles Final
Kent Donewald def. Paul Pellettier 6-1, 6-2

Women's Single Final
Jamie Beckstead def. Susan Thomsen 6-1, 6-0

Women's Doubles Round Robin Champions
Betsi Morris & / Susan Thomsen

Men's Doubles Round Robin Champions
Tom Vasila & Kent Donewald

Mixed Doubles Final
Betsi Morris/Warren Morris
def. Susan Thomsen/Paul Pellettier 6-1, 6-2



Paul Pellettier & Kent Donewald



Men's Doubles Champions
Tom Vasila & Kent Donewald



Paul Pellettier / Susan Thomsen
Betsi Morris / Warren Morris



Women's Doubles Champions
Betsi Morris & Susan Thomsen



Season Activities Galore

The beach party in March was a huge success. Danny Beach played under the gazebo while guests ate hotdogs, drank Rum Bay Smashes and made s'mores by the fire pit.

Throughout the last several seasons our fitness program has grown so much! We have had some trials and errors when it comes to fitness classes available and attended but, we now have a very solid schedule in which most of you have joined and have enjoyed. Our program has seen many owners leave the resort but, also have seen many new owners move in! This season we added some new classes and it was welcomed warmly, so now we have a wonderful fitness program that includes classes available to all resort guests, owners and their families for free!



Karen Kupse, our massage therapist, has worked magic with her finger tips this year. Massages have been scheduled some days with six massages in a day! Our Massage Room is very serene and welcoming with the entrance through the Tennis Pro Shop. Please contact Concierge to schedule a massage with Karen.

Red Beard, our Island Pirate has been out and about telling pirate story's, making crafts with children and performing his family show on Friday nights.

Nature walks, kayak tours and scavenger hunts have been well attended this season. Scavenger hunts have been very popular among families and groups. Figuring out the riddles and finding the hidden clues leads your team on a tour of merriment which has been proven to be loads of fun. Turtle season starts on May 1 through October 31.

Villa Enhancement

For the last few years, we have been focused on improving our rental management program and the condition of island residences within the program. With your help, we have come a long way. We continue to look at ways to make this better daily. Our guests are really the ones that make it all work, their happiness helps to sustain our business income. With a 65% return guest rate, we do have something to brag about!

Vacation rental continues to be the fastest growing segment of the hospitality industry! Expedia, booking.com and other booking sites are getting on board. HomeAway continues to be out in the media drawing more and more attention.

Travelers are looking for places to unplug, connect with family and be away from it all, sound familiar? It is likely what brought you to Palm Island Resort! Along with this, the travelers expectations have grown, they do expect the same amenities in rental accommodations as they have at home.

We appreciate how quickly our rental resident owners made Wi-Fi installations happen. In the spirit of working with you to improve your villa condition and sustain our rental income we are here to help.

Thank you for communicating with us, allowing us to help you and to satisfy our loyal returning guests year after year. We look forward to seeing you for your Island time in the fall and being a part of the Palm Island family.

Please contact Lisa with any questions at 941-697-4800 or email LHalpin@PalmIsland.com



GM Reception: Welcome to Spain & Portugal



Lynn & Woody Clough



Ginny & Donald Lato



Jo & Carl Walter



Claire & Phil Navratil



Lynn & Dale Cravey



Jenny Lowell & Paul Pellettier



Betty & John Minor

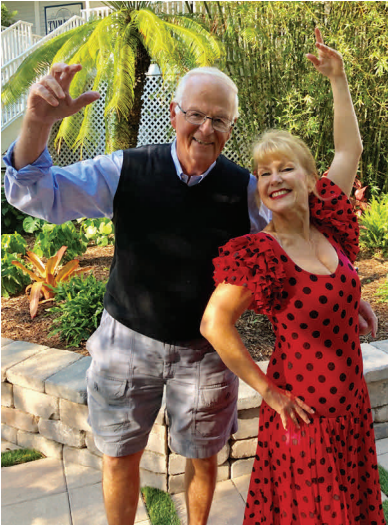


Nancy & Randy Metzger



Beth Neary & Lee Ann Russo

Sight, Sounds and Flavors of the Iberian Peninsula



Dick Strand



Nancy & Bruce Chudacoff enjoying the evening with Annette Kaplan



Warren Mathews



Patti, Bob and Bobby McCabe



Gay & Cap Borges



Ann & Mark Smith with grandchildren

Dog Days of Palm Island Resort

Find us on the web
www.PalmIsland.com

1. Fenway Athanassiades
2. Rocky Cavaliere
3. Dufferin Martin
4. Joey Lynne
5. Tebo Buhler
6. Riley Fox Edwards
7. Clarence Pratt
8. Wyatt Weis
9. Callie McPhillips
10. Cali Bognanno
11. Brandi Kelley
12. Daisy Birkby
13. Brady Trester
14. Remy Gamble
15. Blu&Sabsation May
16. Echo Schmitz
17. Hootie Petrie
18. Tigger Borges

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PalmIslandResort
Cape Haze

ISLAND BREEZE NEWLETTER
Debbie Curtis, Editor

Contributors:
Rick Brunette, General Manager
Debbie Curtis
Kris Vetter
Art Santos
Lisa Halpin

Photography credits:
Debbie Curtis

Questions? Please Contact
activities@palmisland.com

