

LIDO KEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

LIDO KEY MATTERS

JANUARY 2012

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Calendar of Events

All Membership meetings held at the Lido Beach Resort—8th Floor, 10:00 am on the 3rd Saturday of the month.

**“Meet and Greet”
Island Neighbors
Happy Hours on
Thursday: 5:00 pm
(Beverages and Food
Available for Purchase)
February 16—Lido Beach
Resort (8th Floor)
March 1—Lido Pool
Pavilion
April 12—Lido Pool
Pavilion**

**Annual Sunset
Cocktail Party
Sun and Surf Colony
Beach Club
1148 Ben Franklin Drive
Member Appreciation
Event**

**LKRA
P.O. BOX 884
SARASOTA, FL
34230**

Letter from the President

Welcome:

Well we are almost a third of the way through our 2012 season and so far we have had absolutely beautiful warm and sunny weather. I may be a little prejudiced since I live here all year round, but I believe this to be the greatest place to spend winters (especially on Lido Key).

It has been an extremely busy year with the MURT project being completed in November. The Lido Pool Committee has been hard at work meeting all summer trying to work with the city to keep the Pool/Pavilion open for all of to enjoy. They will continue to meet to work to that goal. They deserve a big round of applause for their efforts.

We had a great turnout at the January Breakfast meeting with a very informative presentation regarding the beach renourishment possibly scheduled for 2013.

We have picked up a new board member just recently which I will be introducing at our next member meeting. We still are looking for one more board member which will give us a full board for the first time in a while.

We are in the process of lining up speakers for next year’s meetings already. If anyone has ideas on who you would like to hear speak at these meetings, please let us know, as we would be happy to hear from you.

I am honored to have been elected to be the president of this great organization and I look forward to serving you. If you have any questions or concerns on any issues regarding our Lido Key please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Carl Shoffstall, President
Lido Key Residents Association
129 Tyler Drive, Unit 102
Sarasota, FL 34236
Cell: (813) 967-2687

**LIDO KEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION MEETING
BOARD ELECTIONS ON FEBRUARY 18, 2012****MARY MOSS**

At the annual meeting in February, the following individuals are up for re-election:

Carl Shoffstall, Jeff Long, Mary Moss, and Debbie Comer.

Tim Mahaney was appointed to the board at the last board meeting and has agreed to be Assistant Treasurer.

There is still room for one more member on the board. We are especially in need of someone to help with the newsletter.

If there is more than one new nominee at the annual meeting, there will be an election conducted at that time.

The board meets each month prior to the regularly scheduled meetings and is authorized by the by-laws to meet at other times as the need arises.

BEST KEPT SECRET ON LIDO BEACH**JOHN LAMBERT**

Lido Public Beach Pavilion is home to the Seabreeze Concession Restaurant. Here you can enjoy breakfast or lunch with a view of the Gulf of Mexico. Hours are 9 am to 5 pm, weather permitting. You can enjoy hot food, sandwiches, snack, beer and wine and usually a daily special. Your host will be the friendly Gabe. Gabe also has the Lido Beach Ice Cream and Gift Shop. They sell great Lido Beach shirts.

When you visit Gabe, mention that you read about him in our newsletter and you will receive one soda, beer or hot dog FREE. Try the concession restaurant soon. Take out orders are also available. See you at the Seabreeze Concession Restaurant.

OUR LIFE BLOOD**JOHN LAMBERT**

Membership is the life blood of any organization. Even though we are the largest neighborhood association in the city, we can do much better. We have 1,475 full time residents and at least 1,000 snow birds. Membership does count when we visit City Hall to deal with issues here on our beloved Lido Key. I challenge each member to sign up one new member in your condo or neighborhood. On the back of the membership form are many of the reasons to join. Snow bird owners and renters are encouraged to join.

Do your part and get at least one NEW member before our March meeting. At the present time we have almost 400 member households.

LIDO KEY HISTORY—COURTESY OF LONGBOAT KEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Paleo and Calusa Indians lived on Lido Key and surrounding lands for 4,000 years, and archaeological evidence suggests they worshipped the sun. The Indians left the barrier island after Spanish explorers came in search of gold in the 1500's. Then, for more than three centuries, the barrier island was largely uninhabited.

But John Ringling took an interest in Lido Key in the 1920's. Hoping to inspire Warren G Harding, who was president at the time, to buy a winter home on nearby Bird Key, Ringling named the streets on Lido Key after American presidents.

In 1940, the city of Sarasota opened the Lido Casino with funding from the Works Progress Administration, the largest New Deal agency, to attract tourists and provide jobs. The casino was a popular attraction in the 1940's and 1950's. Tourists often lined up to have their pictures taken with the large seahorse sculptures that were attached to the building. The casino was demolished in 1969, and today, the Lido Beach Pavilion stands in its place. Two molds of the original seahorse sculptures from the Lido Beach Casino now stand at Mote Marine Aquarium, where they were moved in 2009 after spending decades in storage.

Lido Key was among the barrier islands Arvida purchased for \$13.5 million in 1958. But the public protested in 1967, when Arvida proposed enlarging part of Lido Key, as it had Bird Key. As a compromise, Arvida sold Sarasota County the northern and southern tips to use as county parks.

Today, Lido Key is home to a renowned white sand beach that was renourished in 2009, along with hotels and motels and a population of about 2,500 full and part time residents – who, like the islands earliest residents, no doubt also worship the sun!

Member Appreciation Event

Sunset Cocktail Party-Thursday, March 22, 2012

Greet your island neighbors, and enjoy Lido's beautiful sunset, with good food, beverages and dancing. This annual event is again being held at Sun and Surf Colony Beach Club (1148 Ben Franklin Dr.) Music provided by Lido's favorite performer, Marc Anthony Roman. Appetizers served. B.Y.O.B. and your chair. Spread the word, bring a friend.....no cost to Members, Guests are \$10.00. Gate will open at 5:30. This is a great opportunity to invite your neighbors to join L.K.R.A. See you there.

Please email debbieacomer@hotmail.com to RSVP

LKRA Meet and Greet

Two successful and enjoyable social Gatherings have been held this season. Enjoy social time with members and friends at the third Meet and Greet, Thursday, February 16, at the Lido Beach Resort Bar located on 8th floor. Beverages and food available for purchase.

Future Meet and Greet will take place at the Lido Pool Pavilion. Bring friends to party at the beach. Music provided. Mark your calendars: Dates are Thursday, March 1, and Thursday, April 12

GENERAL MEETINGS

You are invited to hear Mayor Suzanne Atwell speak about "What's going on in Sarasota", at our next general meeting, Saturday, February 18.
Lido Beach Resort 8th floor, beginning at 10:00

COALITION OF CITY NEIGHBORHOODS ASSOCIATION**(CCNA)****CARL SHOFFSTALL**

The monthly meetings of the coalition of neighborhood associations are held on the 1st Saturday of every month starting at 9:00 am at the fire station on Waldemere Ave. Various issues that impact the neighborhoods are discussed as well guest speakers do presentations on these matters.

I have been attending these meetings for the last 4 years as the lido key representative. I sit on the executive board of this organization as the secretary and have forged some very good relationships with the neighborhoods all over the city as well as city of Sarasota staff.

Over the past few months I have made presentations on the progress of the Lido Pool/Pavilion to the CCNA members and have had unanimous support of our efforts to save our Pool/Pavilion.

In conclusion I think this is a very worthwhile association to be engaged with. Anyone one can attend these meeting and I urge everyone to check one out. I will let the association know about any issues that affect Lido Key at these meetings.

If anyone is interested in attending these meetings, they are held the first Saturday of each month at 9:00 at the Waldemere Fire station.



BEACH PROJECT UPDATE**JOHN KIRKER, BEACH CHAIRMAN**

On January 18th, a meeting was held at the US Army Corps of Engineers in the Jacksonville District Office.

Milan Mora, the project manager for USACE met to ensure that the Lido Beach Restoration Project stays on track in accordance with the already established work schedule.

In attendance were state of Florida DEP, Sarasota City engineer Alex Davis Shaw, Coastal Planning and Engineering Inc (CPE), Rick Spandohi, consultant for the City and Laird Wreford, Coastal Resource Manager for the County.

Some time in April, a meeting will be held in USACE office in Tampa and all principals will be in attendance to continue to discuss Lido Beach Project between New Pass and Big Pass.

At our breakfast meeting on January 21st, Laird Wreford, our guest speaker, talked about this project and did a slide presentation. All LKRA members in attendance were very impressed by his knowledge and the scope of this project

SARASOTA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

District One	Carolyn Mason	(941) 861-5344	cmason@scgov.net
District Two	Joe Barbeta	(941) 861-5344	jbarbett@scgov.net
District Three	Christine Robinson	(941) 861-5344	crobinson@scgov.net
District Four	Nora Patterson	(941) 861-5344	npatterson@scgov.net
District Five	Jon Thaxton	(941) 861-5344	jthaxton@scgov.net

CITY OF SARASOTA COMMISSIONERS

At-Large	Mayor Suzanne Atwell	(941) 954-4115	suzanne.Atwell@sarasotagov.com
At-Large	Vice-Mayor Terry Turner	(941) 954-4115	terry.Turner@sarasotagov.com
District One	Willie Shaw	(941) 954-4115	willie.shaw@sarasotagov.com
District Two	Paul Caragiulo	(941) 954-4115	paul.caraglulo@sarasotagov.com
District Three	Shannon Snyder	(941) 954-4115	Shannon.snyder@sarasotagov.com

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR NEWSLETTER!!

Submit your letter in 150 words or less to the Editor at carl@floridaplaystructures.com and get your letter and/or picture printed in an upcoming newsletter.

Editor reserves the right to shorten submissions as necessary and, in case of multiple submissions, the Editor will make a final decision on which letter(s) to print.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Good Afternoon,

I have lived on Lido Key since 1996. What a great area!

I am not sure if you are aware that there are a great number of safety issues occurring daily concerning traffic control here on Lido Beach. Although the speed limit is posted as 25 mph, cars drive routinely on Ben Franklin Drive far in excess of the speed limit, cars do not yield to the pedestrian crosswalks and bicycles ride on the sidewalk and through stop signs and crosswalks.

I have spoken with Police officers numerous times and they advised me to contact you, the City Commissioners, as they do not have adequate staffing and their superiors feel we will deter tourism if they enforce the rules.

I truly believe with a few traffic calming efforts and a reasonable level of law enforcement, we can achieve a happy and safe environment for all to enjoy!

After the terrible accident that happened on Siesta recently, I hope we can be proactive before something like that happens on Lido.

Please, in the interest of safety, will you look into this matter?

Thank you for your service to our community!

Sincerely,

David Riedlinger
333 Ben Franklin Drive
Sarasota, Florida. 34236

(This email was sent to all the City Commissioners)

**OUR APPRECIATION TO THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE
CREATION, PUBLICATION, AND DISTRIBUTION OF THIS NEWSLETTER**

Editor: Carl Shoffstall

Contributing Articles: Mary Moss, John Lambert, Debbie Comer, Carl Shoffstall, John Kirker, David Riedlinger

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Maintain & Finalizing Mailing List: Cindy Shoffstall

Newsletter Mailing & Delivery: Cindy Shoffstall & Deborah Tucker

WHY SHOULD**I****JOIN LKRA?******Lido Key Residents Association**

- Because each of us is only one voice, but the Association with many voices can make a difference;**
- Because LKRA continues to work with law enforcement in preserving the safety and security of our Key;**
- Because my membership will help LKRA remain strong and unified as it faces whatever changes may be proposed in our pool/pavilion in the coming year;**
- Because Lido Key, with its array of new condos and old Florida architecture, is my home and I want to preserve the “quiet island” by adding my voice to the growing membership of people who live, who rent and who visit second homes here;**
- Because to accomplish these goals for Lido Key it takes all of us, but the amount of time required is minimal (just to stay educated and able to support).**

****Membership Details on the back of this sheet****

2012 LKRA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**2012 DUES: \$20.00 Annually Per Household
\$30.00 Annually Per Condo Association or Hotel**

PLEASE PRINT:

Member Name: _____

Spouse/Partner: _____

Condo (if applicable): _____

Email Address: _____

Lido Key Street Address: _____

City: ----- _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Mailing Address (if different): _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone #1: _____ **Phone #2:** _____

If you would like to volunteer for a committee, please check your choice below.

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------|
| Membership | Condo Liaison | Special Events | Program |
| Newsletter | Directory | Traffic & Safety | By-Laws |
| Finance & Audit Committee | Parks/Beautification | Beach Renourishment | |

Thank you – You Will Be Contacted

Have a question? Call Carl Shoffstall at 813-967-2687. Send Membership Form and Check to Address Below. Memberships Meetings are held the Third Saturday in the months of November, January, February, March and April.

**RETURN FORM TO:
LIDO KEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION, PO BOX 884, SARASOTA, FL 34230**