

# **CONTACT INFO**

#### **2019 OFFICERS**

Spencer Palmer President 365-0676

Kim Kahant 1st Vice President 967-4940

Gary Oliwa 2nd Vice President 876-6415

Angela Bermudez Secretary 649-5651

Christine Jenson Treasurer 373-8900

DIRECTORS AT LARGE Sue Boyd Guthrie Ed Ridolph Sandra Dale

STREET REPS
See Page 2
Also on our website
www.floridagardens.net

PBC SHERIFF Non-Emergency (561) 688-3000

# Florida Gardens Newsletter

January 2019 / Volume 50; Issue 1



HAPPY 2019



Who Belongs to the Florida Gardens Civic Association?

### YOU DO!

The Florida Gardens Civic Association encompasses all the adult RESIDENTS of Florida Gardens, as defined in the Association By-Laws. Such residents are defined as 'Members' of the Association. Pay particular attention to the second sentence that follows: To quote the By-Laws: "All owners of property in Florida Gardens shall be considered Members of the ... Association. Additionally, all adult non-owners who shall have resided in Florida Gardens for more than six months continuously shall be considered Members of the Association". So you see, EVEN RENTERS are members of the Association.

Membership, as defined above, is automatic. There is nothing to "join". There are NO FEES or DUES. If you're an adult living in Florida Gardens you are automatically a Member.

All Members of the Association (i.e. residents) are entitled and encouraged to attend all of our Association activities and meetings. You probably are aware we have several parties for the kids throughout the year and a few adult get-togethers. These events are open to ALL MEMBERS.

The Association relies on VOLUNTARY DONATIONS from the Members for the money to pay for our events, scholarships and expenses. Besides money however, the other major donation we need from you is just a little of your TIME. Our events only happen with the help of people willing to give just a bit of their time and energy. Please consider coming to any of our short monthly meetings and see how you can make a difference in support of our great community.

#### **CHRISTMAS EVENTS PHOTOS**

GO TO OUR WEBSITE - www.floridagardens.net AND SELECT THE PHOTO GALLERY TAB FROM THE TOP MENU TO SEE PHOTOS OF ALL OUR GREAT 2018 CHRISTMAS EVENTS

STREET REPS

UPDATED 1/9/19

STREET

PRIMARY REP PHONE

AKRON (N)

MICHAEL TEETS (561) 319-0563

AKRON (S)

BILL APPLEGATE (561) 965-5311

ARCH

CAROL CULBERSON (561) 642-9832

BARBERTON

GARY MARCINKOSKI (561) 301-7775

CANTON

TAMMY TWOREK (561) 308-9436

CLEVELAND

MARIAN FRENCH (561) 762-3222

COCONUT

KIM SAUNDERS (561) 767-6183

CUYAHOGA

PENNY SPRING

(786) 486-2222

**CYPRESS** 

CARMELA CAGLE (561) 727-7267

DAYTON

ALANNA HARMAN (561) 248-3151

MANGO

CHUCK SACHER (561) 433-5875

OHIO (N)

CHERYL SMART (561) 586-1900

OHIO (S)

MIKE MISKO

(561) 629-6121

PALM

DAVE FINKLE

(561) 644-6617

PALMETTO

JOHN SJOHOLM

(561) 649-1357

PINE TREE

TERRY CROSBY

(561) 968-9970

PLUMOSA

SARA RIDOLPH (561) 967-2197

DANNY WOOD

RUBBER TREE

(561) 722-0353

SPRINGDALE

HEATHER ZAPF heatherzapf@gmail.com

#### From the President

By Spencer Palmer

Happy New Year and Thank You All for taking the time to read our newsletter.

Since it's a New Year, let's start out volunteering at some of Florida Gardens upcoming events.

As always, I would like to thank all of our volunteers that make our neighborhood one of the best communities in Palm Beach County.

Despite the weather, the Christmas party and the day & night parades were a great success. I would like to thank Santa, Fire Rescue Station 32 (picture below) and all of the volunteers that made these successful events. Thank You everyone for donating toiletry supplies for our Troops and toys for the toy drive. I would also like to thank Able Plumbing for the Christmas decorating contest prize fund.

The elections were held at last month's meeting and all Officers were re-elected. Thank you, Officers, for everything you do for Florida Gardens. It shows that you really care about your community.

I would like to Thank Carmela Cagle for stepping up to become the new Street Rep for Cypress and taking on the position of Event Coordinator.

I would like to thank both John Jabron and Gary Oliwa for repairing the clubhouse chairs. This helps tremendously to keep the costs down not having to buy more chairs.

Remember, drive through your neighborhood like your kids are playing there.

Hoping to see you at the next residents meeting on 2/14/19 @ 8pm in the clubhouse at 134 Ohio Rd.

PICTURED AT RIGHT: Captain Reyes and Gary Moore who transported Santa to our party while his sleigh was in the repair shop.



### **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### COMMUNITY BBQ COMING APRIL 6th.

Save the date! BUT.... It won't happen without volunteers. Contact Spencer Palmer at 365-0676 and give a little of your time in support of your community.

#### **UPCOMING ASSOCIATION MEETINGS**

All adult residents in Florida Gardens are Members of the Florida Gardens Civic Association. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month except July and August. All regularly scheduled meetings are held at 8:00 pm in the Clubhouse. Attendance by the Board of Directors is mandatory, but all residents are encouraged to attend. The meeting dates for the next three months are February 14th, March 14th and April 11th.

#### **STREET REP CHANGES**

There have been a few changes to your Street Reps. Please see the list at the left for your latest Representatives. We welcome Carmela Cagle as the new Rep for Cypress, and Sandra Dale was selected as a new Director at Large, with John Sjoholm becoming the new Street Rep for Palmetto.

#### OFFICER ELECTION RESULTS

The required annual election of Officers was held at the December Board of Directors Meeting. All Officers were individually re-elected by a unanimous vote of the Board.



# CHRISTMAS DECORATING CONTEST WINNERS

Congratulations to the winners of our 2018 Christmas Decorating Contest that was **sponsored by Able Plumbing**. See photos of the Neighborhood winners on our website. (www.floridagardens.net)

Neighborhood Best Overall: 1st Place - 20 Pine Tree 2nd Place - 75 Dayton 3rd Place - 308 Akron

Honorable Mentions, no particular order: 32 Palmetto 80 Cuyahoga 254 Akron

#### **Best-on-the-Street Winners** (exclusive of the top winners above)

80 AKRON (N)	61 CANTON	130 CYPRESS	175 OHIO (S)	91 PLUMOSA
314 AKRON (S)	129 CLEVELAND	56 DAYTON	37 PALM	25 RUBBER TREE
106 ARCH	110 COCONUT	130 MANGO	110 PALMETTO	120 SPRINGDALE
123 BARBERTON	111 CUYAHOGA	68 OHIO (N)	67 PINE TREE	

#### NEXTDOOR - Our Neighborhood Social Media Site

Use Nextdoor to keep up with day-to-day happenings in our community as well as the communities around us. As of January 1st, we had 492 households signed on. If you're not already 'connected', go to www.floridagardensfl.nextdoor.com and join. It's FREE.

#### 2018 NON-RESIDENT CLUBHOUSE RENTALS AND CLUBHOUSE REVENUE

Our Clubhouse building and surrounding property were deeded to the Florida Gardens Civic Association on May 5, 1970 for use by the community. General operating funds for the Clubhouse come from the rental of the Clubhouse. Clubhouse rental fees for Florida Gardens residents are always less than the fees charged to non-residents. In 2017, the rental rate paid by non-residents for a Clubhouse rental was only a few hundred dollars higher than the resident rental rate, and the non-resident rental rate was significantly lower than rental rates for comparable facilities in the area. As a result, in 2017 the Clubhouse was rented almost every weekend (sometimes on multiple days) and about half of all the rentals were to non-residents at the higher rental rate. We were able to afford significant improvements to the Clubhouse building that year partly because of the rental revenue we received. However, because so many of our rentals were to non-residents, it was often the case that a resident wanting to rent the Clubhouse could not do so because it was already reserved by a non-resident.

Since the primary purpose of the Clubhouse is to serve the residents, the Association Board of Directors made the decision at the beginning of 2018 to significantly increase the rental price to non-residents, with the belief that it would significantly reduce the number of non-resident rentals and thus allow more availability for rentals to the residents. It was understood that this would have a negative impact on Clubhouse revenue. Indeed this is exactly what occurred last year. Over 80% of the 65 weekend Clubhouse rentals were to residents, fulfilling the original intent for Clubhouse use and, as expected, with the loss of the higher rate non-resident bookings there was a reduction in annual rental income.

Combined with a 14% reduction in donations last year, our total Association operating funds now are considerably less than in the past, and we need to make some significant capital improvements to the building. Since the only other source of Association revenue is from donations, we must rely on our residents more than ever to support all the community activities, the scholarship fund, and simply pay the bills. Given all that this community has to offer, we ask those of you who have not supported our community Association in the past to please consider giving a 2019 donation. A coupon and mailing envelope are included in this month's Newsletter, or donate online through our website. Any amount will be appreciated.

#### **2019 Scholarship Award Applications**

by Ed Ridolph

Once again this year, as we have done for more than 35 years, the Florida Gardens Civic Association will make a scholarship available to selected graduating high school seniors who are a resident of Florida Gardens and who will be entering college this year. This gives the community the opportunity to recognize and reward the hard work and commitment, both in school and to the community, that the student has demonstrated during their high school years. Over the years, thanks to our resident's annual donations, the FGCA has been able to award thousands of dollars in scholarships to more than 55 high school seniors who have gone on to continue their education. This year, with the good support of the residents of Florida Gardens, it's a tradition we intend to continue.

Applications for the FG Scholarship can be submitted any time between now and the April 15th deadline. To qualify, there are certain requirements that must be met prior to applying. Among these are 20 hours of community service to Florida Gardens, a bona fide resident of Florida Gardens, a graduating high school senior entering college for the first time during this calendar year, and whose family has made a minimum donation to the Association for the current and previous year. We encourage all qualified applicants to apply for the FGCA scholarship. Applications are available from our Scholarship Chairman, Ed Ridolph, at 967-2197. We look forward to hearing from you.

#### MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

#### **SEND US YOUR THOUGHTS:**

This is your community newsletter. We'd like to get your feedback. Tell us what you like / don't like about it, how we can improve it, etc. Please give us your input.

#### **SUBMIT AN ARTICLE FOR PUBLICATION:**

If you have a topic that might be of interest to the community, write a short newsletter article and submit it. Any file format is acceptable.

#### **MAKE AN ANNOUNCEMENT:**

Want to share a milestone such as a special birthday, anniversary, family addition, graduation, offer congratulations, etc.? Submit it to the community newsletter.

#### **SHARE A RECIPE:**

Want to share a special recipe? Submit your favorite recipe for your neighbors to enjoy!

#### **HOW TO DO IT:**

Submit your newsletter input via email to goliwagmo@aol.com and put "Newsletter Submission" in the Subject line. The source of all submissions will be published. The submission deadline for inclusion in the March newsletter will be Monday, March 11th.

#### **DISCLAIMER:**

This is a community newsletter. Any submitted content will be edited for appropriateness and we reserve the right to deny the publication of any content deemed offensive or not in the best interest of the community or the Florida Gardens Civic Association.



## St. Luke's United Methodist Church

165 Ohio Rd. Lake Worth, FL 33467 (561) 965-3043

Office Hours: Mon.-Thur. 9:00 am-12:00 pm Sunday Schedule

8:30 AM to 9:00 AM |

Brief worship and communion service

| 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM | Adults & Youth Sunday School

| 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM | Contemporary Praise & Worship Service (nursery service is provided)

Sunday School for 3rd-5th grade

FLORIDA G	ARD	ENS C	RIME	REPO	DRT						11/01/18-12/31/18			8	Compiled by Sue Guthrie				
	AKRON		BARBERTON		CLEVELAND		CUYAHOGA		DAYTON	OHIO		PALMETTO		PLUMOSA		SPRI	NGDALE	E	
		ARCH		CANTON		COCON	Л	CYPRES	S	MANGO		PALM		PINE TRE	E E	RUBBER	TREE	LK WOR	RE RE
Missing																			
Person/Recovre																	2		
Alarm/Hold up								1					1			3	1		
Abuse							1						1						
Assist another Department				1							1								
Resident Check	4					2			3		5	2		2			1		
Domestic / Civil						1										1			
Juvenile Trouble						1													
Vehicle Stop	1	1																	
Police Serv. Call Info	1	1					2				1			1					
Stolen Vehicle Taç	9																		
Welfare Check						1									1		1		
Conduct Check												1							
Suspicious		1	1															1	
Incident/Person Vandal / Theft / Trespass			1																
Contact /Information										1				1					
Motor Vehicle						1					1								
Crash Suspicious		1				•					•							1	
Vehicle Hit and Run		•										1						•	
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#### **NOW DONATE ONLINE!**

We understand that many of you may find it inconvenient or even impossible to send us a donation using a paper check. We are now set up to allow you to donate online with your credit card. Your transaction is secured through PayPal. Go to our website - www.floridagardens.net and select "DONATE" from the top menu (depending on your device, it may be located under "More"). From the Donate page, select the "DONATE NOW" button and enter your info.



#### **SAFETY TIP - IDENTIFY YOUR HOUSE**

by Gary Oliwa

Back in October, I helped judge the Halloween Decor contest that was graciously sponsored by Able Plumbing. While riding around, it was often difficult to determine the address of some of the houses we passed, especially at night. It was bad enough where the house itself didn't have a number on it. Sometimes the number was on the mailbox, but on those streets where all the mailboxes were on the same side of the street, unless you know that odd numbers are on South and East sides of the streets and even numbers on the North and West sides, it can be almost impossible to quickly determine a street address. In an emergency, every second counts. Back in 2000, an article was submitted by Palm Beach Fire Rescue and published in the Newsletter, encouraging people to have their house numbers easily seen from the street in case of an emergency. In that article, they gave the following tips:

- 1. Bigger is better. Minimum 4" numbers on the house in a contrasting color so they stand out.
- 2. Have them in a location that is very visible from the street and (ideally) illuminated.
- 3. Also put them on the mailbox. If all the mailboxes are on the same side of the street, put an arrow to indicate which mailbox belongs to which house.

Help First Responders get to you quickly in the event of an emergency and make your house numbers visible from the street, day and night.

#### CLUBHOUSE RENTAL



FOR INFORMATION ON RENTING THE CLUBHOUSE, FIRST VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT www.floridagardens.net AND CLICK ON THE CLUBHOUSE TAB. THEN CALL TERRY AT 968-9970 TO SCHEDULE YOUR EVENT.

#### 'SHARE A RECIPE'

This month's recipe submitted by Kim Kahant

#### **HEALTHY SMOOTHIE FOR 2019**

(any ingredients may be omitted for your smoothie)

1/2 Banana

½ Cup Frozen Mango

½ Cup Frozen Strawberries

¼ Cup Frozen Spinach

¼ Cup Vanilla Yogurt

3/4 Cup Organic Fat-Free Milk

#### **Nutrition Facts:**

Calories: 255 Total Carbohydrates: 46 g Total Fat: 1 g

Dietary Fiber: 5 g

Sugars: 34 g Protein: 15 g



#### DISCOUNTED AND NON-DISCOUNTED CLUBHOUSE RENTAL RATES

The current Clubhouse rental fee for residents is divided into two categories. There is a 50% discount given to residents who have made a minimum donation of \$30 to the Association before April 30th (with exceptions made for those who move into the community after that date). The purpose of the deadline date is to encourage donations to be made at the beginning of the year. The reasoning is as follows.

Association revenue to support our community activities comes from two sources - donations and Clubhouse rentals. Aside from event costs, scholarship awards, insurance and a few administration related items, almost all expenses for the Association are Clubhouse related. There are fixed expenses that can be easily projected (taxes, utilities, management costs, etc.), unforeseen expenses that we try and reserve for (repairs, replacement of aging appliances, etc.) and capital improvements that we would like to make going forward IF money is available to do so. Right now, we are seriously in need of an improvement to the air conditioning system.

The revenue we receive from Clubhouse rentals alone does not cover all our Association expenses. We use rental history to try and project what our rental income will be for the coming year. Donation income is more difficult to predict. While we graciously accept donations at any time of the year, if we can receive most of our donations at the beginning of the year we will know about how much money we will have to work with for the full year and can decide how much we can put in reserves for emergencies and how much we might have for capital improvements.

Our donation drive is thus conducted at the beginning of the year. Back in 1999, the then Board of Directors implemented the discounted clubhouse rental idea. In 2008, the April deadline was implemented, again to attempt to encourage that donations were made at the beginning of the year. That incentive has remained to this day. While any donation amount is welcome, historically a minimum \$30 donation received before April 30th will secure the discounted clubhouse rental rate for the year. Our clubhouse is a great location for your special event. Please support your Florida Gardens Civic Association with your donation and secure a discounted rental rate as a bonus.



Have you checked out our Florida Gardens Website lately?

### www.floridagardens.net

Our website contains information on renting the clubhouse, the current list of your Street Representatives and Association Officers, copies of past Newsletters, other Administrative information, a large photo gallery of recent community events, and now even a DONATE page that you can use to make a donation to the Association online. If you haven't looked at it lately, take a moment and see what's there.

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W ARCH HOME LISTED IN MAY WITH 7 PRICE REDUCTIONS – DIDN'T CALL ME!

