

LIDO KEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

LIDO KEY MATTERS

MAY 2013

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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
Upcoming Meetings:
November 2013

**Sarasota Grand Prix
Boat Race
Sunday, July 7, 2013**

**Meet and Greet Events
To Be Announced**

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

Letter from the President

Greetings to everyone, I cannot believe the 2013 season has come and gone already! We had a great season with many new members joining up along with past members renewing. Many of you have already returned home as we send this newsletter out. We will endeavor to keep everyone informed on what is happening on Lido Key over the summer through e-mails along with another newsletter at the end of the summer.

To recap this past season, we had several Meet and Greets, which had very good turnouts for the members to socialize. I would like to give a shout out to the Lido Beach Resort, The Helmsley and the Lido Pool Pavilion concessioner (Gabe) for putting out a great food spread for these events.

We had our general memberships meetings at the Lido Beach Resort November (city and county staff), January annual breakfast meeting (new city manager), February at the Holiday Inn (candidates forum for new city commissioners), March (city engineer and county official on beach renourishment) and in April (police officers taking questions on issues in city and a parking official from city). Again, I want to thank the Lido Beach Resort and Holiday Inn for hosting our association.

We are working on lining up guest speakers for our programs for next year, as well as our social events. I will let everyone know when we firm up people, dates, and times.

At the April meeting, I told everyone we would be asking three questions to the city commissioner candidates. In my opinion, this is a very crucial race for all of the City of Sarasota. I urge you all to vote on May 14th if you are registered here.

I would be remiss if I did not thank the board members and all volunteers for all their time and effort in making my job easier.

I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable summer and I look to see you very soon.

Sincerely yours

[Carl J Shoffstall](#)

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QUESTIONS FOR THE CANDIDATES**RESPONSE BY SUZANNE ATWELL**

1. Will you support a plan to upgrade the Lido Pool/Pavilion and when do you see it moving forward? It has been almost two years since the LKRA put forth their plan.

A. Given the estimated almost \$3 million cost of the LKRA proposals; there seem to be two options. First, time for further improvements in the City's fiscal situation. It is improving, but not as rapidly as we would like. But by 2016, which is the initial phase recommended by LKRA, the situation will hopefully have changed for the better. Secondly, and perhaps more importantly, a partnership between the City and private investors. An investment in a restaurant/tiki bar, etc could be an example of generating a profit for an investor and revenue for the City. This what I am most interested in as we move forward.

Let's look at an Invitation to Negotiate where we can interview vendors with creative minds who will look at the entirety of the Lido project. The renovation of the restrooms could be incorporated into that plan, instead of in isolation. Critical to this process is the length of the lease in drawing long term investment.

As I stated in July of 2012 "We need to start bragging about our Lido Beach pavilion and pool the way that Sarasota County brags about Siesta Key." "We don't use this asset like we should."

2. How do you intend to resolve the conflicting positions of the City and County regarding Lido Beach and Lido Parks and the maintenance of the landscaping on all the streets? It seems all that is done is finger pointing.

A. It is true that with implementation of the Interlocal Agreement, the City has assumed operating costs of parks that previously were maintained and operated by the County. But unfortunately that is history.

QUESTIONS FOR THE CANDIDATES**RESPONSE BY SUZANNE ATWELL****(Cont'd)**

However, the City's relationship with the County at this time should permit us to resolve any remaining conflicts. We are in charge of "East of the Dunes" and the County is in charge of "West of the Dunes". The County has systems already in place (lifeguards, equipment, etc.) I fully understand the LKRA wants the highest level of service. I think we all want that. I am open to further conversations with the County--especially in light of future major changes to this beautiful amenity that both the City and the County can agree on.

3. Will you support a plan to upgrade the Lido Pool/Pavilion and when do you see it moving forward? It has been almost two years since the LKRA put forth their plan.

A. Yes, I believe that revenue generated by a public/private partnership, could and should be used to pay for a substantial portion of the operation and maintenance of the pool and pavilion. This is everybody's beach and the upkeep should reflect that commitment.



QUESTIONS FOR THE CANDIDATES**RESPONSE BY SUSAN CHAPMAN**

1. Will you support a plan to upgrade the Lido Pool/Pavilion and when do you see it moving forward? It has been almost two years since the LKRA put forth their plan.

A. Yes, I do support the plan to upgrade the Lido Pool and Pavilion. I have attended City Commission meetings in support of this project. Obviously, Sarasota County's decision to cease its support of our parks and the economic downturn have complicated the Process in moving forward with this plan. The key to moving forward is determining the source of funds to get started. I am committed to looking at creative solutions for Funding this project, including dedicating revenues from the pool, parking, and Concessions toward the project. Having worked on many community projects, I know that funding is never the key obstacle to realizing solutions.

2. How do you intend to resolve the conflicting positions of the City and County regarding Lido Beach and Lido Parks and the maintenance of the landscaping on all the streets? It seems all that is done is finger pointing.

A. Thirty years ago, the City won a dual taxation lawsuit against Sarasota County based upon the fact that the City of Sarasota pays more than its fair share in county taxes but does not receive proportionate services. As a result, the county took over parks and storm water maintenance for the City. Ever since, the City and its residents have questioned whether the maintenance provided is sufficient. Finger pointing seems to have become the habitual response to inadequate maintenance. We, as City residents, need to demand and to expect accountability and coordination from both governmental entities. City residents pay forty percent of the total county taxes. Yet, we are often viewed as if we are not deserving of county services. The first step of accountability is to require city and county staff coordination. We must also insist that our County Commissioners, three of whom live in the City, understand that we expect to receive benefit for our tax dollars.

3. Will you commit to preserving our Lido Key as it is for all the city residents and use the revenue generated by any upgrade of the pool/pavilion to maintain it?

A. Yes

QUESTIONS FOR THE CANDIDATES
RESPONSE BY RICHARD DORFMAN

1. Will you support a plan to upgrade the Lido Pool/Pavilion and when do you see it moving forward?

It has been almost two years since the LKRA put forth their plan.

A. I am a supporter of the Lido Pool/Pavilion project and would be an advocate of giving it prime consideration this year as the new commission is seated. One of the criteria for project selection and prioritizing should be the length of time a particular project has "waited in line" for attention. As the pool was nearly closed a few years ago and has not received any real attention from either the county or city in many years, I believe it is time to consider the LKRA plan. I would be in favor of a public/private partnership arrangement whereby a private entity could come in and manage the pool and pavilion and retain an equity or profit sharing position in it. This could be combined with a separate "taxing" program which would place a cap on a maximum profit participation amount and bonus structure for the operator. Revenue over and above that benchmark could be returned to the facility for maintenance or the addition of other amenities. This would allow for an annual re-supply of funding without the necessity to continually re-apply for municipal funding. If the program proves successful, surplus funding could be applied to other areas of Lido or could be earmarked for landscaping or other initiatives within the neighborhood. The pool would become its own mini-taxing district of sorts if it can remain self-sufficient and would remain in control of its own destiny.

2. How do you intend to resolve the conflicting positions of the City and County regarding Lido Beach and Lido Parks and the maintenance of the landscaping on all the streets? It seems all that is done is finger pointing.

A The conflict between the city and the county relative to maintenance issues on Lido can be resolved through better communication and a non-adversarial approach between all parties. It makes sense to have more joint meetings between the entities, perhaps with limiting focus to specific areas or issues that require expeditious resolution. These policy-oriented discussions must take place between the respective commissions and not be left for staff to deal with or make recommendations on.

QUESTIONS FOR THE CANDIDATES**RESPONSE BY RICHARD DORFMAN****(Cont'd)**

A review of key inter-local agreements must take priority so as to find more equitable solutions as to funding and participation. Simply put, the organization that puts the most money into a project should receive the greater share of the funds that may come out of it. Each party must accept that with "ownership" comes a commensurate amount of responsibility. This need not be a process fraught with conflict. Through constructive dialogue, solutions can be found. But, we must have more opportunity to sit together to find these solutions. An annual meeting is simply not enough. Lido is a key generator of income for both the city and the county and both organizations must take equal responsibility based on the contribution each respectively makes. While each organization claims certain rights of use, these usages must be prioritized in terms of both need and economic benefit. If the county requires space for certain projects within the pavilion for example, a review of that usage is necessary to determine if that is in fact the best use of the space and whether it makes sense from a cost/return basis. This will not take place unless the principle parties are allowed to meet on a more regular basis to explore a variety of alternatives and solutions to any given issue. Again, it is about taking ownership, a fair distribution of funds and equity and an open dialogue without finger-pointing that will allow us to find solutions to many of our issues.

3. Will you commit to preserving our Lido Key as it is for all the city residents and use the revenue generated by any upgrade of the pool/pavilion to maintain it?

A. As mentioned above, I like the idea of the pavilion/pool facility acting as a mini-taxing district. I like the idea of feeding the profit from its operation back into the neighborhood if we are able to create the proper legal vehicle in which that could happen. And again, I believe Lido is a key economic generator for the entire area and as such, should be treated equitably by both the city and the county.

QUESTIONS FOR THE CANDIDATES
RESPONSE BY RICHARD DORFMAN
(Cont'd)

I consider an upgrade to the facility as an investment in our future; something that will allow both residents and visitors to enjoy all that is Sarasota. I believe it will also pay back considerable economic benefit. I like the idea of a certain degree of self-determination when discussing how it will be used, funded and made profitable. I am supporter of a public/private partnership as the natural next step in revitalizing the facility. I truly believe the Lido Pool and Pavilion can become another jewel in the crown of our beautiful city



NANCY KIVLIN

LIDO KEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION'S OLDEST MEMBER

101 YEARS YOUNG !!



SARASOTA POLICE DEPARTMENT**LT CORRINE STANNISH**

I have taken over Lt Randy Boyd's position while he is filling in as the Patrol Captain. I've been with the agency for almost 25 years and was assigned to the patrol division on the night shift since 2006. Prior to that, I worked in Crimes Against Children and the Community Policing Unit.

My contact information is: corrinne.stannish@sarasotagov.com; 941-364-7367 office; 941-364-7358 fax.

The Police Department is hosting a Marine Safety Event on May 25, 2013 from 8:00am to 1:00pm at Centennial Park at 10th and US 41. The focus will be boating safety, marine equipment security, personal safety and drowning prevention.

Burglary update from Detective Llovio (maria.llovio@sarasotagov.com) – As of April 24, 2013, the last burglary in Zone 10 occurred on April 6, 2013. We still have no leads and are asking the residents to be aware of their surroundings and to call the police with any suspicious activity, vehicles or persons. We urge residents to secure their property in a safe place (safe deposit box) and to lock all the doors and activate you alarm system. It may be a good idea to have your alarm system checked to be sure it is working properly.

I look forward to working with the Lido Key Residents Association.

MEMBERSHIP**JOHN LAMBERT**

Membership is the life blood of our organization. We continue to strive for increased membership but have never reached our goal. If each member brings in one new member we will be well on our way in achieving our goal.

Now go after them now.....Let's reach our goal in 2013.

(CCNA)**CARL SHOFFSTALL**

The monthly meetings of the Coalition of City Neighborhood Associations (CCNA) are held on the 1st Saturday of each month (except July) at the fire station on Waldemere Ave. There are approximately 27 neighborhood associations represented each month.

There is a scheduled topic for each meeting with a speaker addressing the issue that affects the neighborhoods. The meetings are open to the public and anyone can attend.

Many city and county officials attend. Anyone interested in going to these meetings let me know and I will give the time.



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.



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

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2013 LKRA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**2013 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**