

Cudjoe Gardens



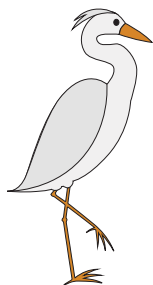
ANNUAL NEWSLETTER 2022



Inside This Issue

- Welcome New Neighbors
- Treasurer's Notes
- Paddle for Paws
- Useful and Medicinal Plants in the Keys
- Notes from the Sheriff Station
- Annual Rainfall Report
- Boater's Notice
- Annual Meeting & Snowbird Party Notice
- Candidates for Board of Directors
- Board of Director's Ballot
- How did Sawyer & Colson Get Their Names

Photo & newsletter design by Leigh Anne Schuler



*Cudjoe
Gardens*

CGPOA
P.O. BOX 420121
Cudjoe Key, FL33042



Welcome!

Kathy Niemann, President CGPOA

Wow, what a year this has been. As a neighborhood family, we welcomed a lot of new neighbors to Cudjoe Gardens. Sadly some have passed away and some have moved on to new adventures. I, for one, am looking forward to the new year and all the great things it can bring to and for our neighborhood.

The annual meeting will be held on January 29, 2022, and I look forward to seeing you there. To all of those new to the neighborhood, welcome. I hope you love and come to love the neighborhood as much as I do. To all of those who have been far away and are coming back for the wonderful winter, welcome back.

If you are new to the neighborhood and this is your first time at the annual meeting, we will take care of some necessary business. We will be voting on the next officers for the board of the association, hearing what the board has been up to, and it is a lot, and of course the sheriff's office will be there to give us an update on crime in the area and tell us what we already know – what a wonderful neighborhood this really is. We do have one really important piece of business we will discuss - renewing our deed restrictions. Please be sure and come to hear that presentation.

Everyone, the covered dish social after the business meeting will be back. The board feels that as of right now it is safe enough to hold such an event. If you do not feel comfortable with a covered dish, bring your own food, and join the fellowship. In the past we had hotdogs and we brought the sides. The hotdog man has moved so it will only be potluck. There will be details in the January e-minder. Later in the newsletter is the form to join the Cudjoe Gardens Property Owners Association (CGPOA). Please take the time to fill it out. You can get it to us before or at the annual meeting. We are asking that you give us a check and not cash. It is difficult to keep up with who paid what and keep documentation with cash.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone.

Treasurer's Notes

Andrew Daly

As a snapshot, our checking balance as of 12/15/21 is \$11,374.33. Our money-market balance is \$47,783.33 for a total asset balance of \$58,757.63. Note--this reflects balances as of 12/15/21 and includes all costs for Christmas Party and any obligations as of this date. It does not reflect obligations such as legal counsel (not yet voted upon).



Welcome New Neighbors

Joseph & Sharon Bonner	20973 7th Ave W.
Robert & June Blair	20895 7th Ave W.
Paul Brunfelt & Lainie Plotnik	20820 6th Ave W.
Clawges Family	419 Pattison Dr
Kristen and Geoffery Coan	540 Sawyer Dr.
Mark & Lisa Crissey	20880 6th Ave W.
Stephen & Laura Derrickson	173 Sawyer Dr.
Kristan Eklund & Brian Dietrich	20833 4th Ave W.
Jeffrey Elliott	20896 7th Ave W.
David Gardner	20843 2nd Ave W.
Michael Geide	91 Sawyer Dr.
Richard & Linda Hannan	743 Pattison Dr.
Robert & Fredrick Hugh	450 Pattison Dr.
James & Colleen Hunter	20847 5th Ave W.
Tony & Angela Lee	266 Colson Dr.
Stephen and Andrea Lennon	469 Sawyer Dr.
Todd and Shani Macpherson	71 Sawyer Dr.
Jeffrey Mitchell	20896 7th Ave W.
Curt & Amanda Nezu	21006 3rd Ave E.
Brian Peachey & Kristen Vuknic	121 Drost Dr.
Frank & Stacey Pillari	20889 7th Ave W.
Michael Sugg	21092 1st Ave E.
Christopher Thommes	429 Pattison Dr.
Karl & Julie Townsend	20879 7th Ave W.
Robert Trumball & Lisa Lynd	20730 1st Ave W.
Ellwyn & Lara Reynolds	20730 1st Ave W.
Shawn & Cynthia Verne	20871 8th Ave W.
Frank & Angie Wagner	224 Sawyer Dr.
Neil & Kelley Wagoner	20964 7th Ave W.
Ken & Kathy Went	449 Pattison Dr.
Jaret Williams	21076 Hamilton Ave.
Robert & Shannon Wright	430 Pattison Dr.

Note, we did not intentionally leave out any new residents and would be happy to include you in our next email if we missed your name.



DOGS - DOGS - DOGS

We do love our dogs in Cudjoe Garden. BUT – there always is one – we do not love their poop on our roads and yards. I know we all get caught out with our dogs and go to pick up after them to find our bag holder is empty or we forgot our bag. If you find yourself in that situation, just ask someone walking their dog, they will be glad to give you a bag. If you see someone who does not have a bag, please offer them one. For those of you that rent your house, Please, please put a note in the house letting the renters know their dog must be on a leash and they must pick up after them while walking. Better still, leave a roll of doggie bags for them. This simple measure helps to keep our canals clear and beautiful.



2022 Paddle for Paws Event!

by Dana Chianella

Cudjoe Gardens COVID paddlers and the FKSPCA invite you to participate in the second annual fundraising event “Paddle for Paws” to raise money for the Marathon Campus animal shelter.

The main paddle boarding event will be held at **Cudjoe Gardens Marina on January 22, 2022**, starting at 10:00am. Registered participants meet at the Marina in your kayaks or paddleboards (bring your paddle pup or cat too). Please arrive a few minutes early to check-in. Here is the link to sign up for the paddle boarding event: <https://fkspca.org/event/paddle-for-paws/>.

There will be a pet friendly post-paddle party following the paddle at Mangrove Mama’s at 1:00 pm with Happy Hour pricing on food and drinks. Multiple prizes will be raffled; you do not need to be present to win.

If you own a business and are interested in sponsoring this event you will get your business name and logo advertised on the Paddle for Paws banner and t-shirts available for purchase at sign-up and day of the event. Please contact Dana at paddlefor-paws@gmail.com or 305-809-6293 for any questions.



Ruin a Bad Guy's Day



**IF YOU SEE
SOMETHING
SAY
SOMETHING**
Report Suspicious Activity

305-745-3184

Notes from the Sheriff's Station

Jo Socha



- The Sheriff’s office is here for you! If you see something that is not right call us 305-745-3184, don’t wait until the next day.....**CALL WHEN YOU SEE IT.**
- Captain Thompson and Jo Socha will be working on a project to get pictures of pets and keep them so if your pet gets loose we can **BOLO BE ON THE LOOKOUT** to find your baby or if we find a pet the deputy will be able to go through the pictures and find out where he belongs. *Watch the eminder or for signs at the Station.*
- Please remember... Yard waste does not get blown into the canal, it’s against the law.

Important Contacts:

Cudjoe Sheriff Station	keyssso.net	305-745-3184
Fire/Rescue Cudjoe Key	monroecountyem.com	305-745-9014
Sugarloaf Fire Dept	monroecountyem.com	305-745-4001
Crime Stoppers	crimestoppersusa.org	800-346-8477
Monroe County Sheriff’s Office	keyssso.net	305-292-7000
Florida Highway Patrol	flhsmv.gov	305-286-2600
Lower Keys Medical Center	lkmc.com	305-294-5531
National Weather Service	weather.gov	305-295-1316





The Rain Year in Cudjoe Gardens

By Peggy Jent

I'm Peggy Jent an official rain reporter for Cocorahs.org. Randy McDonald was the previous reporter and he encouraged me to become a site so we could keep up with the rainfall in Cudjoe. I live on 9th Ave west so the entry number to access this info on CoCoRaHS website is a little different.

Go to CoCoRaHS.org then enter station number FL-MN-65 Station name. Cudjoe Key 1.1 SSW and you can find the rainfall reports. I've had some issues entering past dates but that should be corrected soon. Our combined reports for 2021 are as follows 28.45 inches of rain thru November. We aren't including December with this report but just to let you know...we have not had any rain so far in December. If 2021 seemed dryer than 2020 you would be right. In 2020 we had 68.47 inches of rain.

ABOUT COCORAHS

CoCoRaHS (pronounced KO-ko-rozz) is a grassroots volunteer network of backyard weather observers of all ages and backgrounds working together to measure and map precipitation (rain, hail and snow) in their local communities. By using low-cost measurement tools, stressing training and education, and utilizing an interactive Web-site, our aim is to provide the highest quality data for natural resource, education and research applications. The only requirements to join are an enthusiasm for watching and reporting weather conditions and a desire to learn more about how weather can affect and impact our lives. Our Web page provides the ability for our observers to see their observations mapped out in "real time", as well as providing a wealth of information for our data users. For more information, please click visit:

<https://www.cocorahs.org/Content.aspx?page=aboutus>

If you would like to sign-up as a volunteer observer and become part of our expanding network, please visit:

<https://www.cocorahs.org/Application.aspx>



Useful and Medicinal Plants of the Florida Keys

(Author's note: This chapter is based on a speech presented for the Upper Keys Garden Club by Mrs. Roy (Francis) Tracy. It is used with her permission.)

The original settlers had no access to a doctor or to medicine except by long boat trips sailing to Key West.

One of the most useful to the natives and brought to them from the Bahamas in 1860's was the Barbados Aloe (Aloe Vera). Every home had several plants for burns, cuts, insect bites. To take internally, a leaf was cut up and placed in a crock, covered with water, and bruised. After 24 hours, the resulting fluid was taken as a drink for what we call ulcers, or as a laxative. They called it "Belly Ache" plant. The Aloes of commerce used in many prescriptions is a powder made from the dried jelly of this plant. There are large plantings of the Aloe in Dade and Lee counties and sold commercially.

The next most used plant was the Pawpaw (Papaya). It seemed to be native to the Keys and though small in its wild state, was used by puncturing the green fruit. Then a white juice oozed. It was put into bottles and diluted with water for a digestive. The leaves were wrapped around meats for tenderizing, and the black seeds chewed as a tonic. Today, the cultivated fruit is enjoyed by most people. Cosmetics and meat tenderized are made commercially from papaya and sold all over the country.

The Gumbo Limbo tree (Bursora) called Dum-Eleli in the Islands was used as a tonic. The leaves were boiled in water as a tea. Also, the young leaves were used to make a poultice when crushed. This takes the sting from wasp and bee stings and even mosquito bites. It is even claimed that the green bark makes a love potion, but no claims are made as to its success.

Datura, Angel Trumpet is the plant furnishing the drug, Atropine, a heart stimulant.

Castor Bean grows wild on the Keys and from the seeds comes the oil of commerce, used as a cathartic. In World War I, Castor Oil was used as a lubricant for airplanes.

Sapodilla (Sapoti) furnishes the chicle used in chewing gum and was exuded from the semi-green fruit and the bunches as a sticky white latex that seemed to be a good digestive.

Candle Bush (Ringworm Cassia) is an excellent treatment for skin infections. The leaves, seeds and bark are steeped in water.

Among the smaller trees and bushes, many have medicinal uses. The seeds of the soapberry make a substitute for soap. Guava and Barbados Cherry are both excellent sources of Vitamin C.

The Wax Myrtle leaves are boiled, the wax floats up on the cooling water and from that were made candles.

Jamaica Dogwood trees (or Fish Fuddle) have a narcotic that will stupefy fish when placed in water. The Silk Cotton Tree (Coiba) or Kapok Tree has a beautiful red tulip flower in winter. The seed pods split open and are filled with a cottony floss around the seeds. This is the Kapok of commerce.

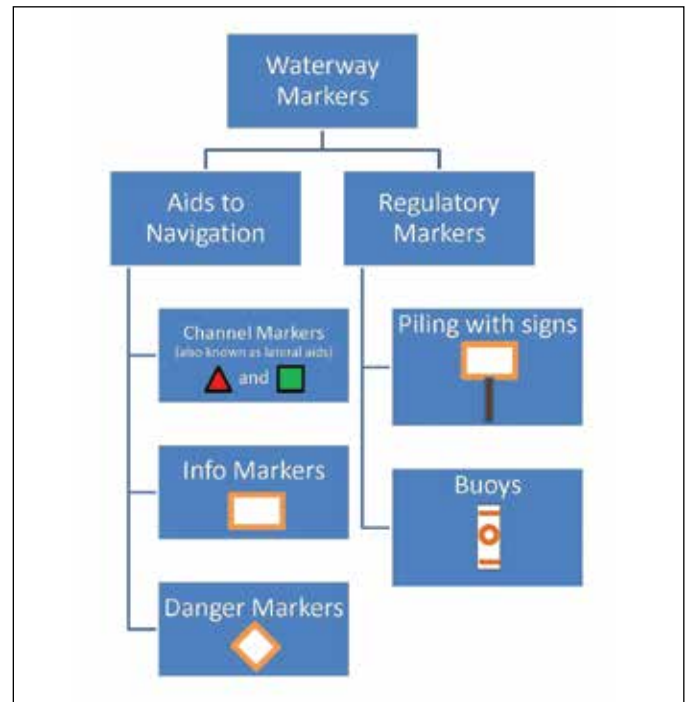
Continued on page 6



Boaters Notice

by Andrew Daly

For you boaters out there: please let me know if you see any aids to navigation in Cudjoe Bay off-station (our buoys), or daymarks that are damaged or in poor condition. The Coast Guard has responsibility for aids to navigation from our entrance through Daymark #10. The County has responsibility from Daymark #11. We (Cudjoe Gardens POA) are responsible for the buoys marking the "sailboat channel" and portions of the channel leading to the marina. I will be happy to notify the responsible parties if you see any discrepancies (for instance, #10 is in bad shape). Please contact me at cdaly31867@aol.com.



Hi Cudjoe Gardens Friends & Neighbors!

For those of you I have not yet had the pleasure to meet, I would like to introduce myself. My family and I live at 20889 7th Ave West, here in our beautiful Gardens! We moved from Sugarloaf Key almost 1 year ago and absolutely love it here! I am originally a Southern North Carolina girl, attended UNC, equestrian, adventurer, and retired athlete. I am the Head Coach for the Girls Weightlifting Team at KWHS, a volunteer for the KW Mounted Patrol caring for our stoic and majestic police horses, a Children's Book Author of a new series, and my main profession is a Realtor with Coldwell Banker Schmitt.

I am proud to say I am in the top 7% of the agents in the entire Florida Keys. I love everything I do and give it all my very BEST! My motto is "Your Agent...Your Results!" And "Kindness Always!" I am right around the corner, willing to help you with preparing for selling your home, and or buying a new home.

- 1st Step is assessing your home and giving recommendations on what needs to be done for it to be show ready to get Top Dollar
- Helping with cleaning out and decluttering in preparation to put it on the market
- Meeting with people for any work needing to be done
- Staging
- Professional pictures and drone shots
- Being present for every showing
- Negotiating for the best offer, with hopefully Multiple Offers!
- Closing and making you more money right now than ever since this Market is still HOT!

I have even been known to buy a new washer and dryer to help make a deal go thru! I am here for YOU...Anytime, any day, just give me a call 305-906-0144.

See you in the Gardens!!

STACEY PILLARI
REALTOR®
(305) 906-0144
staceypillari@cbschmitt.com

COLDWELL BANKER
SCHMITT
REAL ESTATE CO.

CRS/REC
E/M

1201 White Street, Key West, FL 33040



Join Your Property Owners Association!

As a property owner in Cudjoe Gardens, you are invited to join the Cudjoe Gardens Property Owners Association (CGPOA). Your participation is essential to the ongoing success of the association and vitality of our neighborhood. For additional community resources go to www.cudjoegardens.org and like us on Facebook. Your membership supports the following association activities:

CGPOA Community Collaboration

- Monitor & represent CGPOA resident interests in current Affordable Housing Planning
- Testing of canal water
- Replacement of new canal markers
- Offers Vacant lot maintenance for a nominal fee
- Member newsletters
- Monthly email announcements keeping you informed about what's happening in the community
- CGPOA web site which provides bylaws and deed restrictions
- Attend & Represent the community at meetings for County, State & Federal issues impacting our neighborhood
- Monthly CGPOA Board Meetings (in person and on Zoom)
- CGPOA Annual meeting. All property owners are encouraged to attend. The meeting is held in January.

If you are interested in volunteering for a community function, mailings, or participating on any adhoc committee contact any Board member or indicate on the CGPOA membership form.



Medicinal Plants

Continued from page 4

There are two palms native to the Keys and are very hard to transplant. They are the Silver Palm and the Thrinax Palm, or Key Thatch Palm. Both were used by the natives to thatch their roofs and make baskets.

Pigeon Peas were used extensively as food. The bush grew from 8 to 10 feet high and was covered with a very pretty yellow pea bloom; then, long pods filled with peas. Natives used them green or dried. Another smaller plant, Crotalaria also produces peas, but smaller and edible. This is called the Rattle Tree. Birds love the seeds, and the plant is an excellent humus builder.

In 1836, Dr. Henry Perrine introduced the Sisal Agave from Mexico. While he did not live to see it produced commercially, the old settlers said they did weave the fiber by hand into a cloth used for small sails, and for rope.

Prince-wood bark was used for intermittent fevers. It belongs to the quinine family. Limes were planted for the prevention of scurvy. Coconuts provided milk.

2021 CGPOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Kathy Niemann
(423)605-4183
Kathy-winters@utc.edu

Vice President: Mary Bell
(312) 810-8282
marycbell@live.com

Treasurer: Andrew Daly
(305) 797-0345
Cdaly31867@aol.com

Recording Secretary: Cindy Dresow
(305) 744-0558
cindy.dresow@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary: Ken Kurdziel
(305) 767-1771
kurdziel@totalspeed.net

Director: Greg Daniels
(305)407-4009
captgregdaniels@aim.com

Director: David Dornseif
(312) 810-2222
davdd11@yahoo.com

Director: Lisa Ferringo
(305) 797-1221
LisaFerringo@gmail.com

Director: Ihor Raniuk
(305) 923-0331
iraniuk@hotmail.com

Director: Leigh Anne Schuler
(804) 739-1198
logoleelee@hotmail.com

Associate. Director:
Jo Socha
(Neighborhood Watch &
Crime Prevention)
(305) 393-2466
jojsocha@gmail.com

Social Committee Chair:
Stacey Pillari
(305) 906-0144
StaceyPillari@CBSchmitt.com

E-minder Articles:
Submit by the 27th of prior
month to:
Leigh Anne Schuler
(804) 739-1198
logoleelee@hotmail.com





**All residents of Cudjoe Gardens
are invited to our**

Annual Meeting & Snowbird Party!

1:00 PM on Saturday January 29, 2022

Rain date Sunday January 30, 2022

Meeting & Election of Officers

Discussion of Deed Restrictions Renewal

Special Guests:

Sheriff Rick Ramsay, Capt. Mike DiGiovanni, Lt. Tom Walker, Capt. Dave Dipre, FWC

The meeting will be held at Jo Socha's house, 20750 First Ave West on back patio. Following the meeting will be the Potluck Social. Jo will provide baked Ziti with salad and Lisa Ferringo will provide Cuban Pork. Please bring an appetizer, side or dessert and BYOB.

For parking efficiency, please consider walking, bike riding, carpooling, and, please follow the directions of our esteemed Director of Parking: Rich Schugar.

CGPOA Dues: Dues of \$75 for calendar year 2022 are payable now.
To VOTE for new officers & board of directors, your CGPOA membership must be current (2022).
Please see next page for membership application and Board of Directors ballot.



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803-240-4814**

David S Davis
www.FixADentFLKeys.com



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305-407-4009 www.cudjoebee.com



Cudjoe Gardens Property Owners Association (CGPOA) Application

Show your support! Join or renew your membership, just \$75/year

To VOTE for new officers & board of directors, your CGPOA membership must be current (2022).

You may pay online at <https://cudjoegardens.org/>

OR Send check payable to:

CGPOA, P.O. Box 420121, Cudjoe Key, FL 33042

You may also pay your dues at the Annual Meeting/Snowbird party Jan. 29th.

Privacy Statement: This is to help you understand the information we collect and why we collect it. The POA Board sends monthly newsletters via e-mail only, and occasionally e-mails updates more frequently. The Board mails the year-end Newsletter. In addition, we print a Community Directory from time to time. If requested, the CGPOA Board will not print e-mail addresses or other contact info you provide in the Directory. We will use the information only to send you information of interest to our community. Your information is not sold to a third party nor is it used to solicit private interests.

Include this info
in the Cudjoe
Garden Directory?

Name(s): _____ Yes No

Cudjoe Gardens Address: _____ Yes No

Phone Number: _____ Yes No

Out of Town Address (if applicable) _____ Yes No

Preferred Mailing Address: Cudjoe Key Out of Town

Preferred E-Mail Address: _____ Yes No

Additional Email Address: _____ Yes No



Yearly Vacant Lot Maintenance Program is also available for standard lots in maintainable condition.

Member Cost: \$200 per lot **Non member cost:** \$275 per lot, \$200 each additional lot.

Please note: This is a general up-keep program for vacant lots, not a monthly lawn service. For any questions concerning lot maintenance, contact Pete Pedersen at 305-744-9802.

CGPOA Board of Directors Ballot



The board consists of 5 Officers and 6 Directors. All are volunteer positions. Please mark an X by your selection and return with your membership renewal

or bring to the annual meeting. This year we have more volunteers than we have positions available. Please read everyones bio/questionnaire and make your selection. Nominations will also be taken from the floor at the meeting. To be eligible, you must be a paid member of the CGPOA and a resident of the Gardens for one year.

- President:** Kathy Niemann, 6th Ave W (incumbent)
- Vice President:** Mary Bell, 7th Ave W (incumbent)
- Corresponding Secretary:** Leigh Anne Schuler, 1st Ave E (former director)
- Recording Secretary:** Cindy Dresow, 7th Ave. E (incumbent)
- Treasurer:** Lisa Ferringo, Pattison Dr (former director)

PLEASE VOTE FOR ONLY 6 DIRECTORS:

- Director:** Andrew Daly, 2nd Ave W (former treasurer)
- Director:** Greg Daniels, 6th Ave W (incumbent)
- Director:** David Dornseif, 7th Ave W (incumbent)
- Director:** Ken Kurdziel, 6th Ave. E (former corresponding secretary)
- Director:** Leslye Gartrell, Navajo Dr
- Director:** Jean Mirabal, 5th Ave. W
- Director:** Cheryl Straub, Seminole Dr.
- Write In:** _____



Board of Directors Candidates

This year, we have more volunteers than we have available positions on the Board of Directors. Each candidate was asked to answer a brief questionnaire about themselves. Please take the time to review these so you can cast your vote!

Name: Kathy Niemann

Address: 20788 6th Avenue W

Phone Number: 423-6054183 (cell phone)

Email Address: Kathy-winters@utc.edu

How long have you resided in Cudjoe Gardens? 2 years full time – we wintered here prior to that

Are you a part-time or full-time resident? Full-time

What do you most like about living here? This is the easiest question to answer. It is the people. We love the neighborhood, our home, the great access to the water and our house being on flat land. We had been here in the winter and when we decided to buy and move full time, there was not a question about where we wanted to live. The people in this neighborhood are like family.

What would you like to see improved? I would like to see more participation in all aspects of the property owners' association. This can take several forms, come to the meetings, contact the board about issues of concern to you, and involvement in social events. Often, I hear people complain to neighbors, but they do not bring the complaint to the board. The board operates on a complaint driven system.

Why would you like to serve on CGPOA Board? I retired and was looking for a way to give back to my neighborhood and my community. I served on the board as a director, and we needed a President. I feel my responsibility is to carry out the by-laws and the deed restrictions as written and share my personal thoughts as part of the input but abide by the decision of the board.

Additional information: It has been an honor to serve as your President for the last year. I hope I earned you support through my actions and the actions of the board. Many of you are not aware of how involved the board is in the community and issues that affect the community. One last thing, if you do not know me by name and have a dog, my dog is Ella. She loves everyone.

Name: Mary Bell

Address: 20820 7th Ave W

Phone Number: 312-810-8282

Email Address: marybell@live.com

Position: Vice President

How long have you resided in Cudjoe Gardens? 6 years

Are you a part-time or full-time resident? Part time

What do you most like about living here? The friendly neighbors and the attractive look of our community.

What would you like to see improved? I would like to have every homeowner join the association.

Why would you like to serve on CGPOA Board? I like to work towards improving Cudjoe Gardens and beyond our community advocating for quality of life solutions that impact all of us in the Florida Keys.

Name: Andrew Daly

Address: 20781 2nd Ave West

Phone Number: (305) 797-0345

Email Address: cdaly31867@aol.com

Position: Treasurer (seek re-election as Director 2022)

How long have you resided in Cudjoe Gardens?

Since April 1993

Are you a part-time or full-time resident? Full time resident

What do you most like about living here? The physical attributes of the community--water access, excellent canals, the care the vast majority of residents take in maintaining their property. The residents, especially the community cooperation and resolve that we have had to (repeatedly) demonstrate during and after hurricane clean-ups. We take care of each other in difficult circumstances.

What would you like to see improved? I would like to see broader involvements in community affairs, such as zoning, ROGO and highway capacity issues, and more frequent and proactive interaction with state, county and federal officials and oversight bodies. I would also like to see more neighborhood involvement in beautification efforts, social gatherings and just interaction between neighbors.

Why would you like to serve on CGPOA Board? I am retired and have the time to devote to community projects, I enjoy working with other members of the neighborhood and I think, as a long-term resident, that I have a certain perspective as to how we can build on the neighborhood's strengths to make it an even better place to live.

Additional information: Former board member (many years absence), retired Coast Guard officer and civil servant, boater, diver, sailor.

Name: Cindy Dresow

Address: 21023 7th Ave. E.

Phone Number: 305-744-0558

Email Address: cindy.dresow@gmail.com

Position: Recording Secretary

How long have you resided in Cudjoe Gardens? 22 years

Are you a part-time or full-time resident? Full time

What do you most like about living here? Great neighbors. Wonderful weather. Gazing at the water. Beautiful flowers & trees. Safe neighborhood. Watching variety of fish in the canal. Brightness of the stars. Terrific mosquito control.

What would you like to see improved? More attractive entrance to Cudjoe Gardens. More participation of our CGPOA events. Quicker "welcome" to our new residents. All pet owners being responsible by picking up after their dogs.

Why would you like to serve on CGPOA Board? I like having a vote on decisions made for CGPOA.

Additional information: Although not consecutively, I've been on the CGPOA Board over 15 years. I served as Director, Social Director, Vice President, and now Recording Secretary. There is nowhere I'd rather live. I want this community to ALWAYS be a place I'm proud to call "home".



Name: Ken Kurdziel**Address:** 21072 6th Ave**Phone Number:** 305-767-1771**Email Address:** kurdziel@totalspeed.net**How long have you resided in Cudjoe Gardens?** 3 Years**Are you a part-time or full-time resident?** Full-time**What do you most like about living here?** The deep water canals and no bridge access to the Atlantic Ocean side. I have been an avid deep sea fisherman since growing up in the Ft. Lauderdale area. The neighborhood reminds me of old Florida that I grew up with. The people here are great.**What would you like to see improved?** More community participation. The board hears complaints from residents about being left out or not taking action on some topic, usually without knowing what the board is actually doing or why they make the decisions that they make. Please come join the board or be on a committee.**Why would you like to serve on CGPOA Board?** I like being informed about what is happening around me. I also like having some influence about things that will impact me.**Additional information:** I originally joined the board because they were desperate for someone to take on the responsibilities of the Government and Legislative Affairs committee. I am a retired systems engineer and used to dealing with large, complex issues. I am logical, detailed and thorough as I can be in looking at the long term consequences when solving problems.**Name: Greg Daniels****Address:** 20971 6th Ave West**Phone Number:** 305-407-4009**Email Address:** captgregdaniels@aim.com**How long have you resided in Cudjoe Gardens?** 5 years**Are you a part-time or full-time resident?** Full-time**What do you most like about living here?** I enjoy that Cudjoe Gardens is a quite safe community with strong neighborhood ties.**What would you like to see improved?** I would like to see more participation from residents.**Why would you like to serve on CGPOA Board?** I enjoy being part of the community and as part of the community I believe that we have to give back and participate in order to make it a great place to live. Volunteering for the BOD is part of that.**Additional information:** I have lived in the Lower Keys for 32 years. Five in Cudjoe Gardens and served on the BOD as president. I've been active in the community serving 3 years as chairmen for the Keys Energy Services Advisory Committee. I'm a past president of Ecurrie Vitesse Sports Car Club and now serve on the BOD of the Florida Keys Scenic Highway Committee.**Name: David Dornseif****Address:** 20820 7th Ave. W.**Phone Number:** 312.810.2222**Email Address:** davdd11@yahoo.com**Position:** Director**How long have you resided in Cudjoe Gardens?** 7 years**Are you a part-time or full-time resident?** Part time/7 mos.**What do you most like about living here?** The unique natural beauty, climate & wonderful people**What would you like to see improved?** More residents participating in Cudjoe affairs.**Why would you like to serve on CGPOA Board?**

To be involved & contribute my views & input to decisions affecting our community.

Additional information: I graduated from St. Joseph College (IN) with undergraduate degrees in both Psychology and Philosophy. The majority of my 40 year career was spent in Chicago developing & managing hedging and trading accounts specializing in leveraged futures markets which sometimes included limited partnerships and private placements.

I met my wife and current CGPOA Vice President, Mary Bell in the early 90s and we married several years later. We moved to Cudjoe Gardens when I retired 7 years ago. We have a lake home in Michigan where we continue to spend summers sailing/cruising on Lake Michigan. We also play tennis and lately have transitioned to pickleball.

I continue to provide weekly guidance meetings with KW High School students as a mentor in the non-profit Take Stock in Children prepaid college scholarship program which has

Name: Leigh Anne Schuler**Address:** 21052 First Ave East**Phone Number:** 804-739-1198**Email Address:** logoleelee@hotmail.com**How long have you resided in Cudjoe Gardens?** 4.5 years**Are you a part-time or full-time resident?** Full-time**What do you most like about living here?** I love the beauty of the neighborhood, the clear canals for swimming and kayaking and the wonderful people I've met here. And the weather of course!**What would you like to see improved?** More participation in neighborhood events.**Why would you like to serve on CGPOA Board?** As a graphic designer, I wanted to offer my services to help give our correspondence a professional look. I currently put together the directory, the annual report, the E-minder and various event flyers throughout the year. I feel it's important to be on the board to make sure I keep up with it all. I also help plan events with the Social Committee.

Name: Lisa Ferringo**Address:** 651 Pattison Dr.**Phone Number:** 305-797-1221**Email Address:** LisaFerringo@gmail.com**How long have you resided in Cudjoe Gardens?** 4.5 Years**Are you a part-time or full-time resident?** Full-time**What do you most like about living here?** There are so many things that we like about Cudjoe Gardens. People take pride in their homes and truly care about their neighborhood. We love our neighbors who have become great friends of ours. The boating access and quality of the canals and homes was the initial reason we moved here from Ramrod Key and are so happy that we did. Having a full service marina was a big plus and we are looking forward to the restaurant reopening.**What would you like to see improved?** More community participation. I would like to see a more inclusive board of full time and seasonal residents.**Why would you like to serve on CGPOA Board?** I enjoy being part of the community and would like to encourage more participation at our social and board events.**Additional information:** I currently serve on the advisory board for Truist Bank and on foundation board of The College of the Florida Keys. I was past President of the Coldwell Banker Schmitt Charitable Foundation and past President of the Marathon/Lower Keys Association of Realtors. Jason and I live here with our daughter Olivia who is attending FSU and our son Chase who is in 6th grade at Sugarloaf School and our dog Marlin.**Name: Leslye Gartrell** (married to Bijan Haghjou)**Address:** 561 Navajo Drive**Phone Number:** 571-641-7139**Email Address:** leslye.gartrell@yahoo.com**How long have you resided in Cudjoe Gardens?** My husband and I have been permanent residents for 3 years since December of 2018.**Are you a part-time or full-time resident?** Full time.**What do you most like about living here?** Living in Cudjoe Gardens has been our dream since 2015 after looking all over the lower keys for a community like this to settle in. After establishing ourselves here, it is the paradise we dreamed of and the people in the community are so warm and friendly. We are continuing to enjoy meeting and getting to know all of our neighbors.**What would you like to see improved?** I personally would like to contribute to a greater outreach of all of our neighborhood property owners and would like to take an active part in bringing more of our residents into the social and business aspects of living in this wonderful community.**Why would you like to serve on CGPOA Board?** I believe that my experience with serving in the Army for 33 years in many leadership capacities can contribute to the future of the Cudjoe Gardens Property Owners Board. I look forward to being of service to my community with the passion that I served my country.**Name: Jean Mirabal****Address:** 20878 5th Ave W**Phone:** 360-624-0045**Email Address:** Mirabal.5@hotmail.com**How long have you resided in Cudjoe Gardens:** Since July 2018**Are you a part-time or full-time resident?** Full-time**What do you like most about living here?** I just love the amazing sense of community here in the Gardens. The best part of living here are the people; and that is really saying something when you think about the paradise that we live in. I appreciate living in a community where I witness and experience acts of kindness every day.**What would I like to see improve?** I would like see a greater representation of Cudjoe Gardens residents on community boards that discuss broader issues of interest to our neighborhood.**Why would I like to serve on the CGPOA?** I consider my home here in the Gardens my forever home and would like to contribute my time and talents to maintaining the structure that makes us so special and being a part of considering future improvements. I am a level headed, fair minded person that is committed to supporting the best interests of our remarkable community.**Name: Cheryl Straub****Address:** 551 Seminole Drive**Phone Number:** 814-594-9246**Email Address:** straubcheryl@gmail.com**How long have you resided in Cudjoe Gardens?** 6 years**Are you a part-time or full-time resident?** Part-time presently**What do you most like about living here?** The friendliness of the residents. Low crime. The care and continued work by residents to maintain such a unique and beautiful neighborhood to spend time in.**What would you like to see improved?** A community where all property owners whether full-time, part-time or simply property owners feel equal and important in the decision making for our POA.**Why would you like to serve on CGPOA Board?** I believe that I have the leadership skills to serve on this board and to act in the best interest of our POA with objectivity, selflessness, integrity, accountability and honesty. I look forward to involvement in the upcoming review of the POA's By-Laws and Deed Restrictions.**Additional comments:** I have owned property in the Lower Keys for coming up on 20 years. My family is in the final stages of selling our 3 generation family business with over 100 employees. That being said, I have learned that listening and digesting the information and concerns of others is not only important but beneficial in decision making in the best interest of all involved. I have served on boards and been involved with many groups and organizations in our Pennsylvania hometown. As I enter into the retirement phase of my life I will have more time and interest in my Florida home and its community. I would be honored to serve on our POA board. I would be available to listen to your comments and concerns and place my vote in the best interest of the majority.

What has the CGPOA Ever Done For Me?

by Andrew Daly

The simple answer is - plenty. Three items come to mind.

The first, creating a system of flow-through canals. When this neighborhood was first developed, there was only one flow through canal. Many of the rest suffered from floating sea-grass build-up and other flotsam finding its way into canals and staying there. Thanks to an energetic effort on the part of concerned residents and an energetic Board, a plan to join all canals through a system of culverts was developed and executed. Cudjoe Gardens now has some of the highest water quality of any neighborhood in the Keys.

The second, helping to safeguard resident's health in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma. Those of us who were here in the hurricane's aftermath remember, vividly, the site the State and County used to burn the damaged material collected during clean-up efforts. The smoke engulfed the whole island and parts of Sugarloaf. It was noxious. The CGPOA Board at the time, led the effort to take samples, collect information and contact experts that demonstrated, conclusively, to County authorities that the smoke was not just a nuisance, but a real public health-threat. The County shut down the burn site as a direct result of the CGPOA and other community groups' actions.

Does anyone have a deep-draft boat? If so, then you are probably familiar with "the sailboat channel" on the western side of the neighborhood. The area is tricky to navigate with a vessel that draws over three-and-a-half feet. The CGPOA went out, bought buoys and placed them to mark the most favored channel. Perfect? No, but it has certainly made life easier for residents with sailboats or trawlers. The CGPOA has also purchased, and will soon place, "NO WAKE" buoys to help stop inexperienced boaters from creating high, and potentially damaging wakes in and near our canals.

The CGPOA is hardly a perfect organization, but it is effective in making our neighborhood a better place to live.

Property Owner's Concerns:

If a property owner has a specific concern, it must be mailed to the Cudjoe Gardens Property Owners Association (CGPOA) or given to a Board Member in writing. It will then be discussed at the following Board of Directors Meeting and kept on record. Please mail any correspondence to: CGPOA, PO Box 420121, Cudjoe Key, FL 33042.

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The Results

- Sold 37% of all homes in Cudjoe Gardens To-Date This Year!
- Had the Highest Price Sale in Cudjoe Gardens in 2021 and 2020!
- 42 Sales over \$1 Million in 2021!
- Over 170 sales totaling over \$160,000,000 in 2020. No other Residential Realtor has ever accomplished this or come close!
- Lisa had the 2 Highest Price sales on Sugarloaf Key in 2021!
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How Did Sawyer and Colson Drives Get Their Names?

by John Viele

In 1934-35, Ross Sawyer built a “country lodge” on Cudjoe Key. The “Lodge” which he built out of materials from the abandoned wooden railroad spur track, still exists. It is located on the north side of State Road 4A (the first overseas highway) behind the new stilt houses. The lodge and the adjacent property were a place for the Sawyer family to get away from Key West and for Ross and his friends to go fishing and hunting. The family also kept beehives and raised fruits and vegetables in the area now occupied by the nursery. The soil was rich and dark and produced, among other things, excellent Key limes, tomatoes, peppers and watermelons. A shallow well, left over from the railroad construction days, supplemented rain water collected from roof run off. A windmill generator provided a limited amount of electric power.

My information comes from Jeanette Sawyer, Ross Sawyer’s former wife and her two sons, Robert and Ronald Sawyer, who I interviewed in 1981. Jeanette recalled that she normally went up to the lodge with her boys only on weekends. The boys particularly enjoyed catching langouste (spiny lobster) and hunting white crown pigeons and racoons. The family ate the pigeons and coons, but, in those days, lobster meat was mainly used as fish bait.

Jeanette did not recall that anyone else was living on Cudjoe Key at that time, except a single black man named Burton Cash. Cash lived in a small shack nearby the Sawyer’s lodge. He raised collard greens and sugar cane on the Sawyer farm and was the last of the “charcoal burners,” making charcoal from burning buttonwood which he sold in Key West. (Apparently, there were still a lot of wood stoves in Key West.) Jeanette said that she regarded Cash as her protector from the vagrants who occasionally passed by on the road.

Ross Sawyer was one of the owners and developers of Cudjoe Gardens. Colson Drive gets its name from Ross Sawyer’s partner who owned a dragline and dredged some of the canals in the early days of Cudjoe Gardens development. According to one source, Ross and Colson had a falling out and that is why the canal along the outer perimeter of Sawyer Drive lots was never finished.

John Viele is a retired naval officer, former submarine commander and Cudjoe Gardens longtime resident. He served as history editor for a resource textbook on the history and environment of the Florida Keys. John has also written *The Florida Keys “A History Of The Pioneers”*, *The Florida Keys Volume 2: True Stories of the Perilous Straits*, and *The Florida Keys Volume 3: “The Wreckers”*.



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Cudjoe Gardens Annual Christmas Party - December 10, 2021

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