

VENETIAN PARK ESTATES GONDOLIER

March 2023



Beautification Committee Volunteers

☘ MARCH ☘



VENETIAN PARK ESTATES

8885 S Tamiami Trail

Sarasota FL 34238

Office: (941) 966-4622

website: www.VPEonline.com

email address: venetianparkestates@comcast.net



BOARD OFFICERS:

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Mike Anderson..... Treasurer

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GONDOLIER STAFF:

Submissions Cassie Dionne..... 603-361-4313cassiedionne@yahoo.com

Anniversaries/Birthdays Sue Loolen

Sunshine Reporter Cassie Dionne

Activities..... Gina Miller

Getting To Know You..... Amy Newman

Safety committee vacant

Recipes..... Cheryl Smith

Household Hints Nancy Garrett

Couriers Jay and Bonni Andrews, Diane McElhaney, Pat Morales, Pat McGee, Gina and Paul Miller

Please note – call Community Media – 941-375-3699 for **ALL ADS**, or e-mail darin@communitymedia.com

DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES FOR UPCOMING GONDOLIER:
April 2023: Deadline is March 15th, 2023
cassiedionne@yahoo.com



Weekly Activities

Mondays:

Shuffle 9:30am
Water aerobics 10am
All in Hold'em 1:00 pm
Aggravation 6:30 pm
Pegs & Jokers 6:30 pm
Euchre 7pm

Tuesdays:

Low impact aerobics 9am
Shuffle 9:30am
Bingo 6:30 pm

Thursdays:

Low impact aerobics 9am
Shuffle 9:30am
Hold'em 5pm

Fridays:

Water aerobics 10am
Hold'em 1pm
Hand and Foot 6:30pm
Cribbage 6:30pm

Wednesdays:

Water Aerobics 10am
Mexican Dominoes 6:30pm

Sundays:

Cornhole 2pm

Watch the bulletin board and our FaceBook page for any changes

GETTING TO KNOW YOU



by Amy Newman

Gene & Terry Roux purchased their snowbird home at 2131 Piazza in February of 2022 (previously owned by Andrea Kudlak). Like most, they have spent their first year of ownership doing updates and are now enjoying the fruits of their labor.

The couple's hometown is Lewiston, Maine, a city 35 miles north of Portland. Both were born and raised there with Gene having two older siblings and Terry as an only child until she was 16-1/2-years old when a surprise baby brother was born. Gene and Terry were high school sweethearts and Gene has the distinct advantage of having known his brother-in-law all of his brother-in-law's life! Later, as a married couple they were the go-to sitters for watching Terry's little brother. Gene and Terry have one daughter and one granddaughter. The Rouxs will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary later this year.

A hardworking couple, Gene has been a heavy equipment operator for 45 years, primarily big excavators and backhoes, and continues to work when home during the off season. Terry has held various secretarial jobs; as an office manager for an insurance company and also for a local hospital for a bulk of her career. She will be working a new part-time position when in Maine as one of the hospital's switchboard operators.

Gene is an accomplished drummer since his teen years and enjoys playing drums in open jams. He was the drummer in a blues/rock band for many years and is looking for a place where he can participate in open blues jams here in Sarasota. (If anyone has knowledge of where to play locally, let Gene know.) The couple has owned several Corvettes over the years and currently own a 2011 Grand Sport. They participate in car shows and belong to the Mid-Maine Corvette Club. Terry is an affable gal who is getting involved in activities and they are both now playing shuffleboard. She and some girlfriends in Maine have a getaway weekend yearly in North Conway, New Hampshire.

The Rouxs find the park's location to be ideal and have explored many of the area restaurants. They feel the distance from Maine and the elbow grease on their winter home to be worth all of the effort. Sit

by the Rouxs at an event here at the park or have a meal together, they will enrich your life.

Terry and Gene Roux and their corvette



DEADLINE FOR
April 2023 SUBMISSIONS
IS 3/15/23. Send to cassiedionne@yahoo.com

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ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING AND VOTING- MARCH 15, 2023 7:00 PM

Please remember that there is a meeting of all the members for the purpose of voting in new Board members for the 2023-24 year. You should have received the envelope with the proxy voting info and resumes of prospective Board members.

We need 51% of the designated voters signatures in person (at the meeting) or by Limited Proxy to hold an election. **51% is 101 persons.** Everyone matters.

If you aren't going to attend the meeting, please sign and return the Limited proxy, along with your completed ballot, before March 15th. Follow the instructions in your packet. Questions should be referred to the Office. Thank You

OUR VOLUNTEER MAILING SERVICE

The day after our Feb. 8th Board of Directors meeting, the office printed up 197 voting packages to elect three Board members. Our volunteers, Jay Andrews, Cheryl Smith, Dorrene Moser, Traci Clay, Gina Miller and Irv Rubin, stuffed 9 different printed pieces into envelopes and delivered them the next day, Friday. Not only did they deliver the mail faster than the USPS could, but they saved us over \$230 in postage!



Happy Hour every Tues at 3:30

DEAR RESIDENT,

At this time of year, many of our owners have guests that might not know that we maintain our own sewer system. Please make your guests aware that they should not flush baby, facial or any other so called "flushable" items down your toilet. They have fibers that are not biodegradable that can destroy our pumps.

The only thing that should go in the toilet is what comes out of your body and toilet paper! Yes, some say "flushable", but so are wedding rings, hot wheels, and other small objects, etc. Also, please don't use Charmin Toilet Paper. Our septic system is not designed to handle the coarser, stronger fibers. Please do your part!

Thank you,

Irving Rubin, President

Office Manager

Venetian Park Estates, Inc.

8885 S Tamiami Trail

Sarasota, FL 34238

941-966-4622

Beautification Committee wants to acknowledge all the hard working guys that helped plant our 12 new fox tail palms; Kenny Deer, Dave Novack, John Sanson, Brian Walker, Roger Thompson, Glenn Newman, Jim Tomes, & Paul Ackerman. I couldn't have done it without them! Also thanks to Louise Novack for her continued help! Terry Deer



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PHYLLIS BUECHNERS' **BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION**



VPE Friends and Neighbors you are invited to help Phyllis Buechner celebrate her 95th birthday on April 4th.

There will be cake and ice cream plus drinks beginning at 1PM at the clubhouse.

No gifts please, your presence is more than enough to make the day special. Come prepared to share a story or memory of Phyllis, or ask her a question about her 38 years living here in this Florida paradise. I will be happy to read your notes or questions if you are shy or unable to be with us. I hope to see many of you at the clubhouse on April 4 between 1 and 3 PM.

Cindy Feiertag, Phyllis'daughter

FLEA MARKET REPORT

Thanks to all the volunteers. It would not be successful without all your help.

Our total profit is \$3688.88. Thank goodness for the regulars we get every year.

We had a few problems which I won't list here, but will post on the bulletin board.

There is a rumor going around that I quit. Not so, but if I don't get more help on Sunday, cleanup day that rumor may come true.

If you see Pedro dancing in the street you will know I quit.

Have a safe year. Pat Morales



CORNHOLE

The Gondolier Activities Calendar now shows Cornhole on Sundays at 2:00 PM.

However the Cornhole equipment is available to all residents and their guests to use anytime they wish. The boards and bags are stored in an all weather container located behind the clubhouse on the back patio area.

The Cornhole "court" area is located just outside the pool fence on the east side of the pool by the sidewalk. There are new concrete pads for tossing the bags. The boards are available to all. We just

ask that the equipment be used in the designated area and not be taken to anyone's home.

Thank you

Jim Tilton



INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR COACHES

On Saturday 2-11-2023 an insurance agent presented information on coverage that IS available for our homes. He will come to our clubhouse to meet with residents to review their situation and help them get coverage.

We need at least 10 people to reserve time for this meeting. The times will be every half hour. There is a sign up sheet with Tony at the clubhouse.

**The day and date for the meeting is Tuesday
March 21, 2023.**



CAUGHT YOU CARING

Have you noticed; it's always appreciated This neighborhood never ceases to amaze me. Tonight I ask for helpers to recover the tarp on my damaged roof. Before you could shake a stick, I had about 5 men at my house doing a better job of replacing the tarp that the 2 idiots workman who put it on in October.

I cannot thank the guys enough, that worked to get it completed before the rain comes tonight. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, you are all heroes to me. Ruth Beck

Thank you to all who helped with the flea market. It is alot of work but also alot of fun and the main way we come up with money for our activities. Thank you to Pat and Pedro for your hard work all year long. You are much appreciated. It takes a village and we have a great one! Thank you again! Gina
Thank you to everyone who helped to make the Welcome Back Party a success. Jan, Ruth, Lee, Sue, Dorrene and Diane. We hope you all enjoyed it. Thanks for coming! Gina Miller

Thank you thank you for all the help at the pancake breakfast! There were too many to mention by name. Many hands make light work! We served 116 breakfasts. Jay and his crew proved again to be awesome cooks! It was yummy! 🍳🍳🍳🍳🍳

Gina Miller

Thanks to Ken and his helper for removing my trees! I'm beyond grateful, you truly exemplify what "neighbors helping neighbors" is about. Thank you again and my God Bless you!! Jan Kostrzewski
Another fine job by our beautification committee, planting along catfish creek. Thanks to the volunteers who donated their muscles and sweat to help make VPE a better place. If you would like to volunteer there is a sign up sheet in the clubhouse. Jay Andrews 😊

Big shout out to Gary and Liz St. Clair for their donation of a new U.S. flag for the clubhouse, we salute you and thanks . Jay Andrews

Tomorrow, after five months, we get to move back to our lot where our house is. Our house is a work in progress and we will be living in a FEMA trailer but we are going HOME. We could never have gotten to this point without the love and support of our family and friends. You know who you are and I dont want to miss anyone so I will not mention names but just know we are eternally grateful for your love and kindness. Pat Bell



SEE THE CLUBHOUSE BULLETIN BOARD FOR SIGN UP SHEETS FOR MOST ACTIVITIES

Painting Class Sunday March 12 2:00 PM
Something new! Our own Joyce Morgan is going to be teaching us a painting class. Class is limited to 10 people for her first time to see how many she can handle. The cost is \$25 for the art supplies and I think will prove to be a lot of fun! The class is first come, first served.

PARK PICNIC

The annual Park Picnic will be held on Sat. March 25 at 4pm. Weather permitting, we will have outdoor games, poolside music by DJ Jay, with a luau theme. We'll have a catered dinner by the same gentleman who brought us the omelets. If you would rather stay out of the sun, you're welcome to stay inside and play cards or games. Bring your swim-suits and play in the water. It's just a fun day, come join in! (If you want something stronger to drink than water or soda, feel free to bring your own.)



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ST. PATRICK'S DAY HORSE RACES



On Friday March 17, we will be having our annual Horse Races. Come put your bets down for charity. Pick your favorite horse or jockey and join in the hilarious fun. I promise you'll spend your evening laughing! 7pm

NEWS FROM YOUR ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE



By Gina Miller

Greetings friends and neighbors! I hope you are well and enjoying life here in our own piece of Paradise!

We have a number of fun activities planned for this month.

On Friday, March 3rd at 6pm we'll have another Casino Night. Yay!

On the 11th we have a coffee and Trivia Night again at 6:30. On Sunday March 12th at 2pm there will be a painting class taught by our own Joyce Morgan. The class will be limited to 10 people and there is a cost of \$25. for the art supplies. On Friday the 17th, we'll have our Annual St. Patrick's Day Horse Races. These are lots of fun and we'll raise a little money for charity. If you'd like to be a jockey, let me know. On Sunday the 19th, we will have a Strawberry Social. On Sunday the 25th is the Annual Park Picnic where we will have a catered dinner by the same company that brought us the omelets so it's sure to be good! It is going to be a luau theme so hopefully the weather will be beautiful and we can play games outside and play in the pool. Jay will provide music for us if we can set up outside. I'm sure it will be lots of fun! The 26th is a rain date for the picnic.

The other important thing happening in March is that we are getting an almost new board for the Activities Committee. Jan Coble and Bobbie Clay are remaining and have a lot of knowledge about how the committee works. We thank them for continuing to volunteer. They've both been invaluable to the committee. We have five newly elected board members. Deb Cinco will be your new chairperson, Jan will remain as vice chair,

JoEllen Wuerzburger will be the new treasurer, and Bobbie will be the secretary. Amy DeBruin, Cathy Censki, and MaryJo Zajeski will be the trustees. I'm confident that they will do an excellent job. I thank them for taking on these new roles but I'm sure they'll enjoy it as much as I have. One thing that you may not realize is that they are the "board" of the committee. You ALL are on the committee. Everyone of you. You don't need to rely on the committee to organize the events and do the "work" which is actually quite fun. You can volunteer to plan and carry out a scheduled dinner like Thanksgiving or Christmas, a party like Christmas or Halloween, or any other activity. You can give them suggestions for activities or ideas for entertainers to come to the clubhouse. Get involved. It makes life more fun and interesting by getting to know new people and making new friends.

I have sincerely loved being the chairperson of the Activities Committee. I feel like because of it, I know almost all of you, enjoyed it, and made so many good friends. Paul so often says that VPE is a friends and family park. I feel that way too. I'll still volunteer, and there are some parties, if it's ok with the new committee, that I will still chair. (Honestly, it will be hard for me to give some things up!) But it's time for some new ideas. I love you all and thank you for your support and friendship.

MAINTENANCE MAN

VPE needs to hire a new maintenance man to replace Bill Milsop. This is a part-time position. If you know of someone qualified for the position, please refer them to the office.

BINGO!



By Bonni Andrews

Let's give Marty Allen a big hand for her first win of the Progressive pot...she was SO EXCITED! Way to go Marty!

Sickness is in the air, so please be careful. Thank you to all of you that help with Bingo. We couldn't run Bingo without all of your helping hands. Bonni and Committee

BAD DAD JOKES

- Q. How did the tree feel in the spring?
A. Released
- Q. What is the difference between spring rolls and summer rolls?
A. Seasoning
- Q. What is the difference between Spring Break and Summer Break?
A. Jumping on the bed won't make a Summer Break.
- Q. You are locked in a room with only a bed and a calendar. How do you survive?
A. You eat the dates and drink from the springs.
- Q. What is the best part about clown college spring break?
A. Everyone can go to Daytona Beach in one car.
- Finally my winter fat is gone! Now I have spring rolls.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 6 Jeannie Porter
8 Sue Loolen
9 Billie Hurley
Debra Demming
10 Phyllis Murphy
15 Ruby Ralston
Amy Newman
16 Bill Milsop
18 Paul Pinkham
Terry Deer
20 Bob Brodeur
21 Marci Schwartz
Robert Hawthorne
Linda Nelson
22 Gary Reymond
Jackie Walker
26 Cathi Censki
28 Bob Thibeault
Tina Pontoni
Dorreen Moser
30 Ray Jack



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MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Ray and Jane Jack
March 23, 1979



RECIPE OF THE MONTH



by Cheryl Smith

This month I have a special recipe for you! Sis Gavin has given us her recipe for her much-loved sugar cookies. I am not the only one who thinks they are melt-in-your-mouth delicious. Those of you who haven't had them are in for a treat.

MARCH

					9	8	3	
		3	2					5
				7	3		1	
1	6			5		4		
								7
						3		
4			8			5	2	1
	2	8		6	1			

Sis Gavin's Sugar Cookies

Ingredients

- 1 C. margarine (Imperial)
- 1 C. vegetable oil
- 1 C. powdered sugar
- 1 C. sugar
- 1 t. vanilla
- 2 eggs
- 4 C. flour
- 1 t. baking soda
- 1 t. salt
- 1 t. cream of tartar



Directions:

Start by creaming together the margarine, oil and both sugars. Then mix in the vanilla and eggs. Next add in the flour, baking soda, salt and cream of tartar but do not sift them. After the dough has been chilled for a couple hours in the refrigerator or about 30 minutes in the freezer, roll the dough into one-inch balls. Sis uses a melon baller for this and then rolls the balls in sugar. Dip the bottom of a glass in sugar and press the dough balls flat. Bake at 375 degrees for 7 minutes. Cool on the cookie sheet for 2 minutes. Half of the recipe makes 4 dozen cookies.



5	2	8	4	6	1	9	7	3
4	9	6	8	3	7	5	2	1
7	3	1	9	2	5	6	8	4
8	5	9	7	1	4	3	6	2
3	4	2	6	9	8	1	5	7
1	6	7	3	5	2	4	9	8
6	8	4	5	7	3	2	1	9
9	1	3	2	8	6	7	4	5
2	7	5	1	4	9	8	3	6



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March Crossword

ACROSS

- 1. Fire remnant
- 6. Trade name
- 11. Nigerian money
- 12. Proof of purchase
- 15. Amnesty
- 16. Visit tourist spots
- 17. Play a role
- 18. Ship's hospital
- 20. Youngster
- 21. Eye infection (variant spelling)
- 23. Stiletto or wedge
- 24. Tube
- 25. Anagram of "Sent"
- 26. Exhausts
- 27. Chutzpah
- 28. Rewrite
- 29. Cooking container
- 30. A tree, leaf or syrup
- 31. In a harmful manner
- 34. Ice or steam
- 36. C
- 37. Fair attraction
- 41. Type of sword
- 42. Highlands dagger
- 43. Utiliser
- 44. Blows
- 45. Overlook
- 46. Alone
- 47. Type of primate
- 48. Half woman and half fish
- 51. Light Emitting Diode
- 52. Reveals in private
- 54. Spin
- 56. Confined to certain regions
- 57. Gladden
- 58. Perspiration
- 59. Genders



DOWN

- 1. Decreed
- 2. Gin and vermouth
- 3. Offer
- 4. Cupid's Greek counterpart
- 5. Hindu princess
- 6. Kickbacks
- 7. Royal
- 8. Sore
- 9. Mesh
- 10. Purify
- 13. Persons
- 14. French for "Head"
- 15. Adhesive
- 16. Doubts
- 19. Pandemonium
- 22. Lands and wealth
- 24. Ancient Egyptian paper
- 26. Urge (on)
- 27. Lass
- 30. Docile
- 32. Honey insect
- 33. Contrariwise
- 34. A knife or gun
- 35. Adds on
- 38. Set apart
- 39. Expunges
- 40. Wear away
- 42. Frank
- 44. Speed competition
- 45. Mass communication industry
- 48. Imitate
- 49. Ticks off
- 50. Handout
- 53. Not many
- 55. Levy





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David Lehman Owner/Operator

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Commercial ✦ Residential ✦ Fully Insured

- Driveways ✦ Sidewalks ✦ Pool Decks ✦ Pool Cages
- Buildings ✦ Roofs ✦ Privacy Fences ✦ Gutter Clean Out

March Word Search




O	V	E	R	L	O	O	K	I	N	G	F	G
B	T	N	I	R	P	W	O	L	E	B	A	L
Y	T	J	W	R	O	M	R	A	G	N	E	O
L	H	O	Z	O	U	T	S	I	D	E	N	B
E	A	Y	H	D	R	T	X	E	O	L	T	E
V	M	E	E	A	T	G	R	P	L	E	E	K
I	M	S	A	E	N	E	F	E	V	E	R	F
T	E	T	L	R	E	D	K	O	A	B	T	A
N	R	E	T	B	V	R	B	C	R	T	A	I
E	E	R	H	L	N	A	O	O	A	H	I	T
T	L	D	Y	A	I	I	W	T	O	P	N	H
T	Y	A	C	C	E	N	T	H	S	K	E	D
A	E	Y	T	K	C	A	L	M	L	Y	R	E

above
accent
armor
attentively
beer
below
black
bread
brown

calmly

drain

enjoy
entertainer

faith
fever

gander
globe
grown

hammer
handbook
healthy

invent

label
leek
lodge

merely

outside
overlooking

packet
pour
print

soar
store

tale
treat





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 FAMILY
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 SMILES ALWAYS FREE**

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MARCH 2023

FEBRUARY
S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4
5 6 7 8 9 10 11
12 13 14 15 16 17 18
19 20 21 22 23 24 25
26 27 28

APRIL
S M T W T F S
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16 17 18 19 20 21 22
23 24 25 26 27 28 29
30

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 Cornhole 2pm	6 Water aerobics 10am All in Holdem 1:00 pm Aggravation 6:30 pm Pegs & Jokers 6:30 pm Euchre 7pm	7 Low impact aerobics 9am Bingo 6:30 pm	8 Water aerobics 10am Mexican Dominoes 6:30pm Activities Meeting 7pm	9 Low impact aerobics 9am Holdem 5pm	10 Water aerobics 10am Holdem 1pm Hand and Foot 6:30pm	11 Coffee 9:30am Trivia Night 6:30 pm
12 Cornhole 2pm Art Class 2pm Daylight Savings Begins @ 2am	13 Water aerobics 10am All in Holdem 1:00 pm Aggravation 6:30 pm Pegs & Jokers 6:30 pm Euchre 7pm	14 Low impact aerobics 9am Bingo 6:30 pm	15 Water aerobics 10am Mexican Dominoes 6:30pm	16 Low impact aerobics 9am Holdem 5pm	17 Water aerobics 10am Holdem 1pm Hand and Foot 6:30pm Horse Races 7pm St. Patrick's Day	18
19 Cornhole 2pm Strawberry Social 2pm	20 Water aerobics 10am All in Holdem 1:00 pm Aggravation 6:30 pm Pegs & Jokers 6:30 pm Euchre 7pm First Day of Spring	21 Low impact aerobics 9am Bingo 6:30 pm	22 Water aerobics 10am Mexican Dominoes 6:30pm	23 Low impact aerobics 9am Holdem 5pm	24 Water aerobics 10am Holdem 1pm Hand and Foot 6:30pm	25 Park Picnic 4pm
26 Cornhole 2pm	27 Water aerobics 10am All in Holdem 1:00 pm Aggravation 6:30 pm Pegs & Jokers 6:30 pm Euchre 7pm	28 Low impact aerobics 9am Bingo 6:30 pm	29 Water aerobics 10am Mexican Dominoes 6:30pm	30 Low impact aerobics 9am Holdem 5pm	31 Water aerobics 10am Holdem 1pm Hand and Foot 6:30pm	

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- VAPOR BARRIER REPAIRS
- HURRICANE TIE DOWNS
- SOFT FLOOR REPAIRS



Before



After

WE TAKE PICTURES



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