

O.B.G. P.O.A.

The Property Owners' Association for

All Residents of the Villages of Lake-Sumter

"Neighbors United for Their Common Good"

Bulletin • May 1996

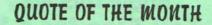
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"In Germany, they came first for the Communists, and I did not speak up because I wasn't a Communist. Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak up because I wasn't a Jew. Then they came for the trade unionists, and I did not speak up because I wasn't a trade unionist. Then they came for the Catholics and I did not speak up because I was a Protestant. And then they came for me, and there was no one left to speak up."

- Martin Niemoller (during the Nazi party rise in power)

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P.O.A. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We hope you have noticed we are spotlighting our volunteers in our Bulletin this year. We want to show them how much we appreciate their efforts in our behalf, and we want you to become acquainted with the people who support and serve our organization.

In doing so, we are discovering how many of them also are involved in other causes which benefit our community and its residents.

There are so many areas where the services of volunteers contribute to the needs of the people they serve. Have you, for example, thought of the many positions filled by volunteers in hospitals? Or considered the goals of service and fraternal organizations which could not possibly be achieved but for the dedication of their members?

We need not look far to find groups in our community which offer information, entertainment, travel opportunities and sponsorship of events with proceeds going to charities.

And where would we be without the volunteers who complement the recreation department staff by organizing golf tournaments, water exercising, line dancing, a library, and other activities for our enjoyment?

There is no way I am aware of that could possibly calculate the value in dollars of the contributions made by volunteers. I only know much would be lost without them.

If you are a volunteer, please accept the many, many thanks due you. If you are not, you might consider how much your time, energy, and enthusiasm are needed by the organization(s) of your choice. You will receive more than you give.

TEST OF THOSE TIPOS OF THEY SENSE DONOTHY HORE IS ISSUED

Try this proverb out of the Middle East: "Don't let old age be the winter of your life. Let it be the harvest."

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STRAIGHT TALK ABOUT THE SALE OF OUR AMENITIES

As you may be aware, the developer is in the process of selling the recreational facilities and common grounds (amenities) to the Village Center Community Development District for the sum of \$24,635,000. It may be helpful for you to understand what the V.C.C.D.D. is and how it came into being.

Some years ago, a Florida statute (Chapter 190) created Community Development Districts establishing a procedure to provide independent districts to manage and finance the basic services for community development. A C.D.D. is a special purpose governmental unit and must, by law, conduct business "in the sunshine." This means the public may attend meetings and offer comments.

In our case, as required by Chapter 190, the developer submitted a petition to the Lady Lake Commission for approval to form the V.C.C.D.D. The boundaries of the district were defined as encompassing all the area bounded by Avenida Central and Highway 27-441 (the commercial area) all of which is owned by the developer. Approval was granted on August 17, 1992.

On August 23, 1993, the V.C.C.D.D. issued \$26 million in bonds to purchase Sunbelt Utilities from the developer. As many of you know, Sunbelt provided and billed residents for water and sewer service. Now water and sewer payments go to V.C.C.D.D. What you may not know is the V.C.C.D.D. also may provide sewage treatment to the Town of Lady Lake as the result of an interlocal agreement.

In late 1994, the V.C.C.D.D. approached the Lady Lake Commission to propose expansion of its jurisdiction to include all the amenities in The Villages, and approval was granted.

The V.C.C.D.D. plan was to issue bonds to finance the purchase of the amenities from the developer. The bonds were to be retired from receipts from our monthly amenities fees.

Several of your fellow residents went to court about one year ago in an attempt to legally stop issuance of the bonds. It was their position amenities fees were never intended for the financing of anything other than maintenance of the recreational facilities and common grounds. Unfortunately, their effort failed.

(continued on next page)

SALE OF AMENITIES - continued

To understand the existing situation, you need to be aware the V.C.C.D.D. is governed by a five-member Board of Supervisors which is elected or appointed by the owner of the property in question. The owner, in this case, being the developer which means members will be named by the developer in perpetuity. It also means the developer will maintain complete control over our amenities for the next 20 years until the bonds are retired.

Finally, be aware the entire issue of \$24,635,000 of V.C.C.D.D. bonds will be purchased by the developer. In simple terms, this means the V.C.C.D.D. likely will receive a check from the developer for \$24,635,000 and the title to these facilities. The developer will collect the principal and interest in the approximate amount of \$45 million over the next 20 years.

Is this fair? The P.O.A. doesn't think so and will continue its efforts on your behalf. We believe use of Chapter 190 in this manner was not the legislative intent.

KUDOS TO VOLUNTEERS NO. 4

PAT CARTER has been a P.O.A. member since 1988. She has served on many committees and as a member of our Board of Directors. She currently serves as a member of the Liaison Committee for Unit 8.

She chaired the Documentation Committee which was responsible for accumulating documents in support of legal action which resulted in restoring services to residents through mediation.

Pat comes from upstate New York where she retired as a police captain. She followed a master's degree with a doctorate and pursued a second career teaching Sociology and Criminal Justice at Rochester Institute of Technology.

In addition to P.O.A. activities, her other involvement in community affairs includes the Lake County Bicycles/Pedestrians Board, Lake Rails to Trails, SHARE, Clown Alley 179, and the Lady Lake Kiwanis.

Her daughter is a teacher in Albany and her son practices law in Alaska. She has two grandchildren.

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The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M. with President Dorothy Hokr presiding.

The invocation was offered by Glenn Swindler followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Marian Fiori, acting as secretary, read the minutes; Carol Menci gave the treasurer's report.

The business meeting included a lengthy discussion of a report on both Community Development Districts.

Ray Rogers, President of the Lake-Sumter chapter of S.T.O.P. (Stop Turning Out Prisoners), spoke on the organization's goal of obtaining 440,000 signatures on a petition calling for a constitutional amendment to supplement the statute requiring prisoners to serve 85 per cent of their sentences. They also want the amendment to go beyond the statute to include release for life sentences only upon grant of parole or clemency.

He was accompanied by Penny Dixon as a representative of families of victims of violent crimes, and Sheila Baker as a Tavares Police Department officer.

After the benediction, the 50-50 drawing was held followed by refreshments and socializing.

PLEASE MARK THE FOLLOWING DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR

MAY (3rd	15 Wednesday		7:30	P.M.	HA	P.O.A. (open meeting) Paradise Recreation Center
JUNE (1st	4 Tuesday)	-	7:00	P.M.	es arms	P.O.A. Board of Directors Charlie Chaplin Room
JUNE (1st	6 Thursday)	-	9:00	A • M •	SEE SERVICE FROM A	P.O.A. Liaison Committee Lucille Ball Room

THESE MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO ALL RESIDENTS OF THE VILLAGES

REMINDER: The P.O.A. meets year-round on the third Wednesday of each month.

PLEASE NOTE: As a result of our recent survey, meetings for June, July and August will convene one half hour earlier at 7:00 P.M. on a trial basis.

DIGEST OF V.C.C.D.D. MARCH 19TH MEETING

All Supervisors were present, and minutes of meetings held on February 5, 16 and 23 were approved.

Approval was granted to purchase water meters from Sensus Technologies and to R. Roche and W. Baun to attend computer accounting school.

Attorney Thornton indicated the attorneys are working but have no report to make at this time.

DIGEST OF C.D.D.#1 MARCH 19TH MEETING

All Supervisors were present, and minutes of the February 23 meeting were approved.

A list of three (3) names was submitted to be placed on the November ballot as nominees for the Board of Supervisors.

Frank Swenton asked for a list of home owners and lots owned by the developer and was advised it would be availabe in October.

Attorney Thornton, Supervisors and those present discussed qualifications for voting for Supervisors and possible incorporation in November. Only landowners are eligible to vote and proxies will be permitted. The nominees receiving the most votes will be elected.

The Supervisors approved hiring Mike's Maintenance for Units 8-13 cul-de-sacs, and all invoices were approved for payment.

DIGEST OF V.C.C.D.D. APRIL 17TH MEETING (a continuation of March 29th meeting)

Supervisors, Gary Moyer, Pete Wahl, Attorneys Burnsed, Roy, Thornton and several people involved in the issuance of V.C.C.D.D. bonds were present.

Moyer explained several documents had to be approved before bonds are issued, hopefully before the 8:30 A.M. special meeting scheduled for April 29th.

Ms. Eppinger stated a total of \$24,635,000 in bonds will be issued: Series A (senior bonds) in amount of \$18,060,000 at $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent and Series B (subordinate bonds) in amount of \$6,575,000 at $8\frac{1}{4}$ percent.

(continued on next page)

Mr. Tyler, underwriter counsel, stated there is a private placement agreement for purchase of the bonds. There also is a document confirming and amending the January purchase and sale agreement.

Submitted by Robert Conner who represents the P.O.A. Board of Directors at V.C.C.D.D. and C.D.D.#1 meetings

Meetings of the V.C.C.D.D. and V.C.C.D.#1 are, by law, open to the public. A schedule of their meetings is available by calling 753-4508. Residents are encouraged to attend these meetings where decisions are made which affect each community.

DR. NELSON KRAUCAK IS GUEST SPEAKER ON MAY 15TH

Dr. Kraucak has been invited to speak at the May meeting of the P.O.A. at the Paradise Recreation Center.

He has established a Life Family Practice Center located in the Leesburg Regional Medical Center's Office Park north of Boone gate on Highway 27/441. He specializes as a family physician, and his associate, Dr. Marivic Villa, is an internist.

They provide primary care, ancillary services, and alternative therapies. In addition to treatment by acupuncture, massage, and herbal medicines, chelation therapy is available; and he will explain the latter for the benefit of those who are not familiar with it.

HELP! VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

- P.O.A. GOLF TOURNAMENT. Frenchie Degre has been in charge of the two golf tournaments held thus far. He needs someone to take charge of future tournaments, beginning with the one he has scheduled for November. This is a project we have undertaken for the benefit of the ARC Lake County (Association of Retarded Citizens). Please contact Frenchie at 753-7941 and experience the satisfaction of helping the less fortunate.
- P.O.A. SECRETARY. We have a vacancy in this position due to the resignation of Thelma Holt for health reasons. There must be many members out there with the experience needed to fill this vacancy. If you feel you can be of assistance in this capacity, please don't hesitate to call Dorothy Hokr at 750-5469.







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Profile of P.O.A. Members

A Continuing Series

Thomas Ritter is the first member of our Liaison Committee to be featured in our monthly profile. He represents residents in Unit Three and is committee chairman. He also co-chairs the committee which distributes our Bulletin for delivery to residents.

Tom took disability retirement after 18 years as a city policeman in Elmira, N.Y. He then obtained a bachelor's degree in law from LaSalle U, but a new law excluded correspondence school graduates from admittance to the bar.

Irene lived in nearby South Waverly, PA, but worked in a doctor's office in Elmira where she and Tom met. They have resided at 832 Tarrson Boulevard in (the Village of) Orange Blossom Gardens since 1980.

As a World War II veteran, Tom received a combat medic badge and a conspicuous service award from the State of New York. He was awarded a bronze star later - 50 years later - due to a fire which destroyed military records.

He is an active member of the local DAV and serves as its Adjutant. He also serves as Senior Vice-Commander of District Nine.

Tom's arthritis makes it difficult for him to pursue his magic, guitar playing and wood carving hobbies. He became involved with the P.O.A. because he wanted to assist in its efforts to protect residents' interests.

TO JOIN POA: You may join at our meetings or simply fill out the membership form below, pay dues of \$6.00 per household, and place in the OBG/POA Drop Box in the Recreation Hall or mail form and check for dues to: P.O. Box 1657, Lady Lake, FL 32158-1657

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