



Prestancia Pipeline

THE PRESTANCIA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2011

Editor's Musings...

So I find myself looking at the year ahead of me, realizing that I am going into my sixth year of living here in "The Paradise Capital" of America, a transplant from New York. Tough relocation (NOT), and working from my home office full-time looking out at swaying exotic palm trees that put me into a "I'm in a hypnotic state of mind." I never thought that working could be so desirable, having commuted to NYC for years on three separate trains each way. Thank you, God, for showing me the way (to Sarasota)!

I've been editing this newsletter for nearly as long as I live here, and loving the opportunity to meet many of our neighbors (in the different communities within our gates), participating in community meetings, pool parties for residents, sipping

vino with "genuine" people with whom I call my neighbors. I find myself walking around the neighborhood most of the time with a happy face.

Now on to business. As editor (and a national public relations specialist), I believe in communication, a key ingredient to any successful community. Many people who are reading this might not be aware of our origins and lots of people ask me, "What does the word 'Prestancia' mean?" In Old World Spanish, it means "Excellence." To its founders, it means years of methodical planning, all the best talent and careful execution each and every step of the way. Prestancia is a marvel in planning — one that is innovative and alive, yet in synergy with its surroundings and environment (*have you figured out that I really*



An editor in paradise

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And Now, A Word From Our President



*Russ Seifert,
PCA President*

The holidays are over and all the decorations are down and put away to use again next year. If I must say so myself, our Christmas decorations at the North and South gates were outstanding this year. It is difficult to capture the Christmas spirit when you are decorating palm trees, but as one came through the gates the spirit seemed to be apparent. Now a new year begins, and I want to wish everyone a healthy, happy, and prosperous new year. These are not the best of times. Our nation's, and our local, economy is a long way from where it was a few years ago. People are hurting, and even though there seems to be a glimmer of hope, it doesn't come through to those that are looking for work, trying to sell their house, or trying to get by on less income. We need to reach out to help those people whenever possible.

Speaking of selling houses, actually there have been a few sales in Prestancia in recent months. The sales prices are lower than the sellers would like but at least there are still some people that want to move in to our piece of Paradise. Let's hope the pundits are wrong and the housing market will improve this year.

We had a first for our community the Sunday after Thanksgiving. You will hear more about this, but our community was a part of the Police Athletic League's (PAL) first of what is going to be an annual Half Marathon. I was approached early last year to see if we would be interested in participating. It seemed like a great idea to me, our Board concurred, and we were one of the first communities to sign on. Our residents enthusiastically

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Neighborhood News

THE MANORS

2010 was a very busy year for The Manors. After almost a year of planning and development, The Manors has installed two beautiful re-designed street lights at the “entrance” into our community at the corner of Prestancia Boulevard and Boca Pointe Drive. This design grew out of an idea originally submitted by Sam Wyman. The lights were crafted and installed by American Finishing which is the same company that built and installed the new entrance lights into Prestancia. As part of the updating of our “entrance,” we also installed new plants and landscape lighting in a new design developed and executed by David Leifer.

The residents of The Manors like to get together with their neighbors, and we held two community parties this year. The first was in early June at the home of Lais and Karl Pfitzenreiter. There was a small per person charge to cover wine, soda, some food and service help, etc., but the success of the party was all the delicious food prepared by our talented neighbors which they brought to the party — and, of course, getting together with our neighbors! So successful was this party that our Social Committee members Mary Dunne and Sally Taylor decided to do the same thing for our Holiday Party. Sally and Tom Taylor opened up their home for this event which they had beautifully decorated for the holidays. It was a festive evening enjoyed by all who attended.

BIG NEWS: The Manors is going international in the marketing of our community, thanks to the efforts of Phil Wood and Karl Pfitzenreiter, who have created a professional, informative, fabulous video of The Manors and our wonderful lifestyle. (Lucky for The Manors Phil is a professional announcer, which really stylizes this video and Karl is a “retired” marketing CEO.) We emailed this video to the Sarasota County Commissioners as well as Sarasota County Visitors Center, all of whom emailed back mega “bravos” — the video also discusses Sarasota! You can view this super video. The video is on YouTube if you search for the keywords *The Manors of Prestancia, Sarasota, FL*. If you view the video please forward the video or link to all your friends and family. According to Karl and Phil, “The more hits we get the more our video moves up in the rankings and gets Prestancia and The Manors more viewers!”

The Manors also went online in 2010 thanks to David Leifer. The Manors’ homeowners can now conveniently view our documents, download architectural forms, etc. We plan on adding to this site in the future.

The Manors wishes our neighboring Prestancia communities a very happy, healthy 2011.

VILLA D’ESTE

The big event in 2010 at Villa D’Este was the reconstruction of the two adjoining villas destroyed in the fire in November 2009. The villas had to be rebuilt to look the same as before the fire, a daunting task when architectural plans from 1987–88 were not readily available. Nevertheless, we successfully resolved issues ranging from insurance, consultants, and contractor selection to oversight engineers and county inspections. The exterior of the two adjoining villas now are completed except for landscaping and the owners are working on the interiors. While the villas appear identical to the rest of the complex, they meet all current building codes, including hurricane resistant windows.

A more pleasant project in 2010 was the beautification of our pool pavilion. We re-landscaped most of the area surrounding the outside of the pool fence, with a small section remaining to be completed in 2011. Our residents are delighted with the new plantings which make our pool area a lovely place to relax and enjoy our Florida sunshine.

On a humorous note, Villa D’Este did battle with a resident woodpecker in 2010 and lost! The pesky bird managed to thoroughly demolish a number of round wood attic vents. The replacements now have screens over them to deter the woodpecker (whom we hope has moved elsewhere), as well as bats.

LA VISTA

- Calle Facil was repaved
- All home security systems were updated
- An active book club meets regularly
- Dinner party was held after decorating the entryway
- Instituted a newsletter for all residents
- Some residents participated in the PAL half-marathon

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Feed Me!

Editor's note: Let's face it, we all love to eat. And who doesn't wonder if there is a nice new little joint with terrific food, or a cool, casual place to catch a bite to eat, or perhaps the best damn take-out Chinese you ever had since visiting Chinatown in NYC or San Francisco? Whatever it is, we love to eat. So I'm pleased to debut this new column that will highlight some of the favorite places I've dined recently in Sarasota, and hope that you will find them equally delightful if you decide to become patrons.

Put a little ZEST in your life!

Zest! Café and catering

6584 Superior Avenue Sarasota (off Gulf Gate)

(941) 924-2535



John and Nina Arico, owners of ZEST!

John and Nina Arico have been working in the catering business in Sarasota for the past eight years, and decided to open a small café only open to patrons on Friday and Saturday nights. It was a smart idea if you want five-star cooking in a very intimate setting without the bells and whistles. Before heading to Sarasota eight years ago, the Aricos dreamed of getting

out of New York City to a cleaner (and warmer) climate. They recruited their chef, David Luiggi, who owned his own restaurant in Puerto Rico which was destroyed by a hurricane.

The magic of Luiggi's culinary creations lures casual diners to Zest's very special dinners on Friday and Saturday nights. Each weekend features a different menu, and each menu will feature a meat, a seafood and a vegetarian entrée. Vegan and dairy- or gluten-free meals can be prepared with advance notice, and a specially chosen selection of wine and beer is available at reasonable prices (\$8.00 corkage fee if you BYOB). Reservations are required and seating is very limited, so you'd better call in advance. Menu items include lamb osso buco with sundried tomato papardelle and grilled zucchini and yellow squash; and seafood scampi (jumbo shrimp, divers scallops and tender white fish

with garlic and extra virgin olive oil over handmade pasta with grilled zucchini and yellow squash).

\$26-\$28pp, includes starter and dessert (decadent desserts include Pine Island mango mousse with blueberry and chocolate truffle, and their tiramisu cake is the absolute best!)

<http://www.zestofsarasota.com/>

Ferrari's Restaurant

Ferrari's

Tucked away in the northern part of The Landings shopping center, at the intersection of Route 41 and Proctor. (941) 929-7900

Price range: Moderately priced à la carte meals, beer and wine only, no hard liquor

Italian food at its finest. Huge portions of hearty Italian food highlight a very friendly restaurant experience that is enhanced by the personality of its owner, Vincenza Aquino. A transplant from New York, this Italian dynamo oversees every dish that comes out of its busy kitchen and makes sure (among other things)



Vincenza Aquino, owner of Ferrari's

that the pasta is al dente, the wine is flowing, and the customers all have happy faces on. You won't find pizza or steak here, but chicken, fish, and veal selections are plentiful, and of course pasta variations are always the hit of the night. In season, reservations are recommended. Atmosphere is casual. Come with a big appetite, and bet you'll leave with a doggy bag!

A Word From Our President

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became involved and we had dozens of volunteers to help and even more people to cheer on the 500 plus runners that participated. We put up a banner welcoming the runners (who came from all over the

world) at the South Gate and another wishing them luck at the North Gate. The best part of this is that the PAL uses the proceeds to work with kids that need help. Our people that moved here from the north know what a great job PAL does and it is wonderful to see them get more involved locally.

Neighborhood News

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MARA VILLA 1

During the past year in Mara Villa we have been working on several projects. We completed another section of the wall along Prestancia Boulevard that included two new quatrefoils and the continuation of our new landscape plan. At our entries we have installed our four new post lamps. In Mara Villa I, we finished putting new roofs on our 11 villas. It was a big project for us, but Gary's Roofing made the job run smoothly and efficiently. I think all owners would agree they did a superb job. Also in Mara Villa I, we continued a retaining wall project to solve some irrigation problems and put in a walking path that leads to Prestancia Boulevard.

On the fun side of things we had a lovely Christmas party at the TPC Clubhouse. We had a great turnout

and the evening included a wonderful dinner and cocktails, plus a dance performance by one of our residents, Barbara Cohen. Her dance instructor attended our party, and after a wonderful dance routine he danced with everyone, and I might add even made my two left feet move gracefully around the floor! The DJ played great music all evening and everyone danced the night away! We honored our oldest resident, Marty Karp, complete with a birthday cake topped with a photograph from his early military days and current photograph. The party was extremely successful and I have to take my hat off to Andrea Martone for that — she was in charge of the party from invitations to birthday cake!

This year with our website up and running we hope to post monthly pool events and other news of interest for the residents. We hope this will help to keep everyone in our community more informed and involved.

Editor's Musings

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really love living here yet?). And by the way, we have a beautiful, informative website (if you haven't seen it already) that can be accessed at www.Prestancia.org. Within its pages are many photographs and highlights of the community, including a glimpse into the 12 communities within the gates of Prestancia.

This year, we are making a resolution to encourage all community presidents to cross over into the technological realm by using the website to upload key documents that your residents can access and read. Everything from the budgets to calendar listings to key meeting notices to permits for exterior renovations and more. To date, The Manors is fully engaged in using the website (each community has their own password to access their site), and Mara Villa I is actively working toward this same purpose. I implore you to encourage your presidents to utilize the website, as it streamlines communications and keeps

everyone apprised of key issues. Presidents can contact me at PipelineEditor@comcast.net and I'll get you in touch with the webmaster who oversees this effort.

In closing, with the help of the TPC, I am developing a series of Women's Empowerment events that will be scheduled throughout this year and held at the TPC Club. If you're interested in being put on our mailing list so we can send you a schedule once it's solidified, please do so by writing me at my email address above. Give me your name, address and email and I'll be sure to keep you informed. So many women tell me they are "hungry" for activities that will connect them to other women, and empower them both intellectually and spiritually. And did I mention ALSO TO HAVE FUN? Fun is good. Laughter is good. LIFE is good here in Prestancia.

Andrea Martone