

# the Listening Post

The Official Publication of the Gulf to Bay Recreation Association



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## IN MEMORIUM

History is punctuated with eras - their pulse and their passing. This last week the death of John Szopski marked such a milestone in the history of Gulf to Bay Park. Most of us will long remember with a happy grin, those evenings on the Bay, when we listened to the tales of a Capone-era, Chicago cop spun with an inimitable style and humor.

John left us a legacy of the seamy side of the big mid west metropolis that never will be matched and the rare collection of character studies and fish yarns from the early days of this once old fishing camp. Gulf to Bay will never be the same and Heaven is in for a lot of laughs.

## FROM THE OVAL OFFICE

Congratulations to the January Committee for the super-organized dinner production. And tasty too! I promised to pass on compliments from a number of satisfied customers. Good show, Gang!

And hear this! Our Sunday dinner netted \$44.65 in tips for Meals on Wheels. Add to that the \$3.00 dropped in the pot on Carnival Day. Our Valentine is growing!

There's a navy blue jacket with a flanel lining at the Rec-Hall where someone left it. Also a pair of flip front dark glasses just waiting to be claimed.

This President has learned a lesson. NEVER MAKE A COMMITMENT for a group! It just may turn out that you'll end up in the cookie business, kid. Have you seen that February Sign-Up Sheet?

Our thanks to the January Committee for all their efforts during the month and for the refreshments on Sunday, January 31st. A special thanks to Art and Marguerite Oestreich for the wonderful Slide Show on the Orient.

Allison Brown

## FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES

Sat. Feb. 6 PANCAKE BREAKFAST  
8:00-12 Unlimited Pancakes  
Sausage Syrup Butter  
Bottomless Coffee or Tea  
\$1.25

Sun. Feb. 14 ANNIVERSARY DINNER  
1:00 PM

In celebration with those couples in the park who passed their 50th wedding anniversary, we invite them to be the honored guests of the Association.

Fresh Fruit Cup  
Baked Half-Chicken  
Dressing Giblet Gravy  
Mashed Potatoes  
Fresh Carrots Green Beans Rolls  
Cranberry Sauce Apple Pie and Cheese  
Coffee - Tea

This menu is a repeat of last year's successful Chicken Dinner. The February Committee again has Master Chef Tom McElroy to oversee the baking to succulent perfection. This year we are initiating two new couples into the culinary art. They are Bob and Phyllis Knapp of Cielo St. and George and Ana Galat of Aura St. Repeat performers in the kitchen are the Kalaghers, the Browns and of course Tom's able assistant, Phyllis.

P.S. If you don't come to enjoy the food you must come to see the handiwork of Angie Arvant who is in charge of the decorations.

Need we say more?

Sat. Feb. 28 PLANNED POTLUCK SUPPER  
5:30 PM FUN NIGHT

Details to be announced. Save the date

## THE FIRST DANCE CLASS

by Hampden F. Tener

Basic ballroom dancing steps,  
That we old-timers all should know  
Were the cause of great confusion  
As we tried to do them --- S L O W

The Foxtrot and the Polka,  
The Waltzes and the Lindy Hop,  
Were touched on very briefly  
When the time had come to stop.

Our teacher was so lovely.  
It was good of her to come,  
To teach us just a little bit  
So we wouldn't act so dumb.

You know it's gonna be a rotten day when: Your wife says "Good Morning, Bill" and your name is George; You put both contact lenses in the same eye.

THE SCUTTLEBUTT FROM AURA  
as collected by Marge

Donna and John Darling have their little place real cozy with lots of work and enjoyment put into it.

Ana and George Galat are enjoying their new home (#104), and the friendly folks on the block.

The girls went to the Golden Apple and had a great time as always - Lu, Anna, Ethel, Mae, Bernice and Roxanne.

Bruce and Ella Marshall spent a few days with Lu Rogers and her sister, Anne Connell.

Red and Lu Gadberry are working every day on their new home; never can catch them here.

We sure miss Helen and Walt Schwochows to gab with as they always seem to have news of their nice family. Miss you folks.

Stopped to see Tillie Denhard for news and it was bad news; she wasn't feeling too good. Get better soon!

No news from Bertha Johnson, not home. She is getting out and around these days.

Millie Cohoon's sister and husband have been here for a few days. They are from Avon Park. All had a good time - Edna, Peanuts and Millie - Bingo, fishing and gabbing.

The Stocums really enjoyed having the Finlaysons from Albany, N.Y. by way of Ft. Meyers for the weekend. A lot of card playing went on.

Mae and Wally Dearborn celebrate their anniversary Jan. 26th. Eight years married. Many, many happy returns!

THE BUZZ FROM BAYO  
by Emma Graber

Rose Ouimette had her sister Bella visiting and is expecting her brother to arrive soon.

Go see the tulips that Mike Turk planted but some how came up Narcissus!

Grace Henning is recuperating from cracked ribs. We all wish her a quick recovery.

Alice Flebotte, Doris and Al Boulerice visited friends in Largo and relatives in St. Pete. this past week. Doris and Al will be leaving this sunny area for the cold winter weather of Mass. this next week. Sure going to miss all the nice people in the park, but they will return in March.

George and Florence Finnett entertained friends from Canada. They also were on a cruise from Miami to the Bahamas and Nassau.

Bob and Ruth Arnholt will be away for a month. Bob will be staying on the East Coast helping on a deep sea fishing boat. Ruth and daughter Amy flew north to visit Ruth's daughter and new granddaughter, and then will be back on the East Coast for awhile before returning.

Pat Feinz is seriously ill in Venice Hospital. We all hope her operation will be successful.

Ted and Mae Forslund regret leaving Gulf to Bay and the fellowship with their many friends. However, we're not so far away that we can't see you all. Ya'hear? Ted's thrilled with the boat dock and will see you in the fishing grounds. Their thanks to Bert and Eddie from N.H. for helping with the final move. New address:

#43 Park Pointe Mobile Villa,  
Grove City

CIELO STREET TED-BITS  
by June

First off, want to thank management for the birthday and anniversary recognition. The signs in the office window bring these dates to our attention, making it possible for us to acknowledge these important days.

Irene and Bill Stevenson are getting raves on their lovely Ham Dinner - and they thought it was going to be a tough job! Many thanks to them and their crew.

Those pretty Super Bowl pom-poms were made and donated by Cora Tyson.

Phyllis Knapp is still fighting the tail-end of the flu. That's what she gets for leaving "sunny" Florida for the cold North!

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Price of Corpus Christi, Texas surprised June Simpson with an unexpected visit recently.

The latest "gourmet" craze at Cora Tyson's is - are you ready? Pickled Eggs! Jane Wiley was heard to say, "With a little salt, pepper and butter, they're not half bad!" Incidentally, Jane is looking for a new cook!

Now that Tom McElroy has acquired the fine art of making Coquina necklaces, he 's going into production for his family!

Tom Kalagher overheard muttering "I've got to stand on this ladder to wash these windows but my feet still hurt from doing the "square" at the dance class! How does that go again? One, two, three--What we men go through!

Angie and Georgie have been putting the finishing touches on their new addition. Looks real nice!

Ham Tener wants to remind everyone half of the shuffle season is over. Another 6 wins and we would have been in fourth place in the league. Also, everyone in the park who practiced and wanted to play in the competition did so.

The lady shufflers have decided any court not used by 1:30 P.M. on Thursdays will be available to the men.

Cora Tyson wants to thank the gals who have attended her Friday A.M. "Knit & Craft" class. She invites all the ladies who want to finish up their projects, maybe learn some new crafts

GIELO STREET (cont'd)

or put some of their own on display, to attend. Remember, Fridays 10:00 to 12:00 - it's lots of fun!

Leona Stokes expects to leave for Texas the first of February. We all wish her well, hope to see her back another time, and will certainly miss her.

Virginia Reppenhagen says the latest "Mystery Trip" taken by the exercise class ended up at the Tiki with refreshments and fun. Seems like they were all doing the "Jesse Polka" along the way.

THE DOINGS ON DIJE

by Betty Baker

The John Millers are expecting their daughter-in-law Dolores Hommel for a visit.

Ralph and Roxie Palermo had their grandson Andrew Ide and family visiting for a week. They are on the way to Pisa, Italy where Andrew will study.

Jim Spears is in the Venice Hospital. He is better and we hope to see him home soon. Mae feels good and is back to the Bingo games.

Harvey Vander Laan and wife were here for a few days at the Harry Marshes. Clara Bessinger is staying with Mabel and Harry for the season. Mabel celebrated her 90th birthday this past week.

We were all happy to see Charlie and Shirley Deierlein come safely home from their New York Christmas visit. They missed the snow storms both ways when traveling. The weather is so much nicer here. Isn't it?

Guess people from the North are trying to get in on a little of our beautiful weather as the Masties have had a lot of company this month. Mr. and Mrs. Red Rainey and daughter Libby from Britton, Michigan and Mr. and Mrs. Ken Schneider from Ann Arbor.

Hope Hank will be back on the shuffle courts soon.

NEWS FROM ESTADA ON THE PALM STRIP

as reported by Eve Doiron

Gulf Coast togetherness!! We have it! Here on Estada Street! After storm no one could see the road for palm fronds. Arsine made a good work foreman, didn't take long, no accidents reported. Art and Marguerite took charge of lower end.

At 501 not squirrels on roof! Just "Peanuts" and Art Doiron. It's cold up north! Art returned Friday with new V.W. Ask Art about his quick trip. Ha! Ha!

Happy times are here again at 502 Estada. News is our Nora McCully, a long time resident has returned for a visit. At present she is staying with Dot Hall and Dot will need a crying towel when she moves on to other friends.

The Nahabedians entertained Mr. and Mrs. Prince of Highland Beach, Fla. during the week. They enjoyed a dinner party in Venice with friends for the Super Bowl. John is ready for the poorhouse -- he bet on Cincinnati. They can't wait to see their grandson, daughter and son-in-law from Michigan who are going to visit them in the middle of February.

Dick Hamilton may be the cook now, but we found Marge peeling spuds. Who gets the credit? Hurrah for you, Marge!

Fay Downing would like to thank all the people who helped with "beach-clean-up-day." Quite an improvement. See what happens when all pitch in! No shortage of visitors for the Downings - Shirley Craig, Tecumseh, Michigan, Don and Eve Tichnor from Ann Arbor, Margaret Leighton and Lillian Dewey. Being Michiganders they also visited the Masties.

It is great to have #507 occupied again and alive. Let's all make Helen and Marion welcome. The Hales and the Browns have been helping with the "settling-in process."

"Love Boat". According to a loose interpretation of the law, he who salvages an abandoned boat gets to keep it. Any land bound fisherman in the park may take possession of said boat. For a detailed tour see Art Oestreich at #508 Estada Street. It's a green, wooden boat in questionable condition but well soaked. Now is your golden opportunity for a free boat and a clean-up contribution to the park. Line forms to the right with a box step. Dance your way in.

Jeanette, a real champion, is happily enjoying herself at bridge these days.

WAVES FROM THE GULFSIDE

by Dortha, the sub for Avis

Wendy Bishop from Schenectady, N.Y. visited her grandmother Helena Moody for two weeks, acting as chauffer and cook.

Roberta and Larry O'Neill from Davidson, Michigan are going to be with her parents for ten days, Henry and Onalee Spencer.

Eva and Charles of Ft. Seneca, Ohio visited the Nighswanders, Hulls, and Swickards. They also enjoyed the Denis Cooper travelogue at Lemon Bay High School.

Avis and Paul Reichart are in Indiana welcoming a new little granddaughter, Amy Jean, born to Lisa and Mark Reichert. While there they are also

WAVES FROM THE GULFSIDE (Cont'd)

taking care of Betsey, Von and Carol's little daughter - her mom and dad are on vacation. Gosh grandma and grandpa are important! Lucky little granddaughter. Just got a call - Avis and Fred just walked in - the weather was gosh-awful the entire time of their stay.

ECHOES FROM CIELO COURT

by Loretta

Well, the court is complete now the Jacksons arrived. They report they had a very pleasant trip down and no weather problems. Welcome home Carl and Alice.

The Yates had friends visit from home - Grand Rapids, Michigan, of course. Mat and Lola also received a new toy, but not a surprise. It was their 13th great-grandchild! They have a boy born 1/20/82. Congratulations and God Bless!

Theresa would like to thank everyone for the cards sent to her while she was under the weather. She is feeling some better and tried her hand at fishing but it really tired her out. Keep watching, she'll be back when she's up to it.

Mary Mays mother, Mrs. Josephine Schmidt and her aunt, Ann Cutt are visiting from Illinois and are making their winter home in Venice.

The Pauls, Eleanor and Noble received bad news this week. Eleanor's sister's husband passed away very suddenly. Our condolences.

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We may be in for six more weeks of cold weather. And this is not ground-hognews, either. This forecast is based on the way our thermal underwear keeps trying to ride south.

\* \* \*

You know you're getting old when a "glass of bubbly" is two Alka-Seltzers in warm water.

\* \* \*

With inflation if you put your money in the bank instead of buying a new car, in just a few years you'll have enough to buy a good used one.

\* \* \*

Samples of Maxithins were sent to a number of park people. Why? Don't ask me! Don't throw them away because we received these suggestions for their use: 1) cut small and use for an eye patch (I'll be damned if I will); 2) makes a good bandage for a deep cut; 3) put two together and use for ear muffs; 4) clean glasses; 5) use for waxing refrigerator or car, or wash out the boat; 6) get the dog to wear one, (you won't need a pooper-scooper.)

Editor: C.D.

Shuffleboard News:

Wednesday afternoon the shuffleboard crew played against Deer Creek. Result: six won - six lost.

We are improving; this is better than our average so far. This year we have 53 wins against 61 losses and getting better all the time.

This is somewhat better than we have been doing in previous years.

Our next match is February 1st at Shady Haven. Look out! Here we come!

EXERCISE CLASS

The music is playing

And the women are swaying

To the count of one and two--

Keeping in time

They are all doing fine

Toning up their body--

Stretch up to the ceiling

Oh! What a feeling

Think something pulled out of place--

Next, touch the floor--

It doesn't hurt anymore--

The parts are going back where they were--

Now, they hold on a chair

And swing out with care

The left leg back and forth.

Then they will do the same with the right--

And if that's not enough--

After they huff and they puff--

The teacher says breathe deep with your nose--

And exhale out through your mouth--

When it's near time to close--

They all sing a ditty that goes--

Head and shoulders

Knees and toes

And away we go.

Next day, when it comes

They do it all over again

To the count of one and two.

by MAE E. DEARBORN

The Rev. Vernon Smith paid us a return visit as a representative of the Florida Mobilehome Owners ASSN, and urged: Join the MFO. Use your power as senior citizens to impress your State elected officials by writing to them and letting them know your concerns as a mobile home owner. This will be discussed at length in the next issue when we have more information about the new bills.