

The Quacker



"Please don't feed us."

A Newsletter for the Key West Golf Club Homeowners Association

Fall 2016

Management Notes:

Just to keep you informed, many projects have been completed this year with a few more to finish by year's end.

These include moving the fitness center, tenting the Community Center and new landscaping around the Community Center.

There have been numerous landscaping projects, most notable in the Sanctuary. To lighten dark areas in the Community we have added landscape lighting. The projects that we would like to complete before year's end are a new gate at the Kokenzie entrance to the Golf Course, the new Third Lane Entrance, and new lighting throughout the Community.

I would like to take some time to explain the new Third Lane Entrance. The **QuickPass** visitor access system was installed over a year and half ago. We have been using it but not to its full potential. The Third Lane project will enable us to do that. The project will provide an additional entrance lane at the gate house. The additional lane will be for residents of the Community only and will be automatically opened by a transponder in the Resident's vehicle. All visitors will be required to be signed in by the security personnel in the visitor's lane. In order for this system to be properly implemented, we will need the co-operation of Owners, Tenants and Visitors as the procedures of the past 20 years will no longer work. All Owners and Tenants must sign up on QuickPass and enter into the QuickPass system all visitors coming into the property. By doing this, it will let Security know who is authorized to enter the Community, and who is not.

Once the Third Lane project is complete and the system is up and working, we will begin issuing transponders to all authorized vehicles.



Once this is complete, it will be mandatory that all visitors are entered into the QuickPass system by the Owner or Long Term Tenant. **REMEMBER VISITORS ARE ALL VEHICLES THAT ARE NOT AUTHORIZED ON THE PROPERTY BY MANAGEMENT**, meaning they do not have a decal or a transponder. All unauthorized vehicles not put into the QUICKPASS SYSTEM will be turned around at the gate. It will not be Security's job to input them into the system. The Owners and Tenants must enter guest/visitor information into QuickPass.

With that being said, as Management, we are here to assist anyone who is not familiar with QuickPass or who has forgotten how to use the system. I will be sending out information about QuickPass that will help familiarize you with this system.

Over the next few months the Maintenance crew will be coming around to replace the big green trash cans. You will either get two smaller cans or one large can and a blue recycle can. Any additional cans will need to be purchased by the owner. Please remember to use the **free** service Waste Management offers for bulk pickup of furniture and appliances. Call them at (305)000-0000 and set up a pickup date and put all trash out on **THAT DAY**. Also, please use your own personal cans for yard debris. The Maintenance crew constantly has to pick up debris that could have easily been put into personal trash cans and removed for free by Waste Management. As a result, our dumping costs are very high, and it takes time out of the Maintenance crew's day to pick up the extra trash and debris, when they could be getting more important work done around the Community.

Inspections are being done throughout the entire Community, and the response for the most part has been positive. Remember, this is your investment as well as 390 other homeowners. Please take the time to maintain your property as the Rules & Regulations state and preserve everyone's investment. A good place to start is to make sure your front appearance is clean and inviting to your neighbors and any potential buyers in the community.

We don't want to be the type of Association that nags at owners, but at the same time we do need to make sure that the Association is well taken care of.

Please look at our website:

www.kwgchoa.com.

Everything you need to know is on the site. If you see any maintenance issues throughout the common areas, there is a quick link for a Maintenance request.

Quacker



Feral Cats in the Golf Course Community

Let's start with some definitions:

Feral cats are cats that have been born in the wild and have never lived with humans. Strays on the other hand have once lived with humans but have been abandoned, lost or strayed from home. Strays can be befriended and re-socialized, while feral cats will run away from humans.

Some facts:

A "housecat" can live 15-20 years and more in a loving home with good nutrition and regular veterinary care. Feral cats live about 2 years. Half of kittens born in the wild die within their first year. Their lifespan is short due to hazards such as cars, poisonous snakes and buffo toads, diseases including feline leukemia and feline AIDS, starvation, and injuries. For a feral cat, it's a hard, short life. Stray cats may meet the same fate if they are not reunited with their owners or find a new home.

We have a number of feral cats roaming the Golf Course Community. There is one who occasionally enjoys sleeping in the sun on my front porch in the afternoon. He's used to seeing people, so if I open the door he just walks down the stairs and leaps over the gate and moves on. It looks like he has suffered some kind of facial injury in the not too distant past. I've seen several slender black cats that seem to have yards and spots of sun they prefer. Most ferals are unseen and each female feral can have multiple litters of kittens a year that can breed as early as 6-months-old. Unchecked, that can lead to way too many ferals and a much less healthy population.

There are some members of the community who feed feral cats and others who dislike them. That's just the facts of life. Either way, as a community we can help these animals and help regulate the population. We are fortunate to have

the Florida Keys SPCA right on the College Rd loop with us, and they also provide Animal Control services through Monroe County. They help with a TNR (trap-neuter-release) program. The cats can be trapped with the assistance of Animal Control. They will be neutered, spayed, get a rabies vaccination and be released back to the GCC. For those who dislike cats, the population numbers will decline over time and troubling behaviors like spraying and fighting will diminish. For those who care about and for these cats, it will mean a healthier, longer life.

For more information on Feral Cat Management and ways to help feral cats go to

www.aspc.org.

If you have an interest in a TNR program at GCC, you can call Lindsey Thompson at the FKSPCA, 305-294-4857.

I would also be happy to share my experiences as a volunteer at the FKSPCA and as a foster parent for many kittens.

Cheryl Thurston, 51 Spoonbill, 305-849 7434.

MOVING?

The KWGCHOA wants to make your move as easy as possible.

Please notify the office so arrangements can be made with Security for you to have adequate parking and loading or unloading space by blocking off the area for you the night before.

If you live in the Sanctuary, notices have to be distributed to the residents notifying them of the two way traffic.

Call Randy 305-293-0301 (randy@cackw.com)

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FKCC Swimming Pool

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One of the few problems in Paradise is how to stay fit enough to enjoy all the exciting activities and events this sophisticated little island provides.

The answer is out at the College. This well-kept half-size Olympic pool offers many ways to burn calories and tone up the body. There are two water aerobics classes every day (9 am and 6 pm) and one on Saturdays at Noon for hearty partiers. There is Open Swim every weekday morning. Swimming lessons are available as well as personal coaching.

Pool President Lori Bosco keeps a tight rein on the activities as well as coaching the high school swimming team and teaching mermaid lessons.

The pool is heated when it needs to be, kept covered when not in use, and is generally sparkling clean. Rest rooms are available.

It isn't free. Water aerobics are \$7 a class, but you can enroll for a month for \$60 and swim or exercise all you want.

Get rid of some excess you.

Bring your own towel and have some fun, too.

Key West Golf Club Homeowners Association

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More Good Things to Eat on Stock Island



Right behind Dolphin Deli, where the laundromat used to be is a genuine French Bakery. The baguettes are warm out of the ovens and properly outside, soft inside. There are so many goodies to choose from! Bread, real French bread; Croissants, some with chocolate; tasty sandwiches (to go for \$8.50) like Caprese panini, Curry chicken, Bagel Deluxe.

This marvelous addition to Stock Island's food landscape is surely welcome. There are cakes, tarts, quiches all ready to take home to eat. There is some seating available inside, but you'll be too busy drooling to care.

Their hours are good, too. Open seven days a weeks from 6:30 AM to 6:00 PM. They don't deliver yet. Keep hoping. Phone is 305-916-5669.

Yes, they are a branch of the Croissants de France on Duval. Guess we could call it Croissants de Pont Ile de Veche.



When you are walking around this beautiful facility, if you see a weed that needs to be pulled, pull it.

It would be wonderful if Maintenance could do it all, but they are swamped as it is. Just do your part to help it look nice here.



HOLIDAY CONTEST

On Friday, December 23rd, bring your decorated Golf Bag to the Butterfly Garden. Prizes for Most Patriotic Golf Bag, Biggest Golf Bag, Most Colorful Golf Bag, Most Creative Golf Bag, and for Best Use of Native Materials on a Golf Bag.



Saturday, December 3, 2016 is the Annual Gifts and Art Market to be held at the Community Center from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Several of our creative residents will offer a wide variety of jewelry, cards, paintings and other nice things. Maybe even some home-baked goodies.

Call Dodie Black (305) 295-8736 for more details on exhibiting.



Christmas Decorations may not be put up until after Thanksgiving and must be taken down by Saturday, January 7, 2017.

The Homeowners Association is asking that you limit the decorations to your porches and inside your fences.

Should you have any questions about your holiday decorations, please contact our office.

When you are walking around this beautiful facility, and see a piece of paper where it shouldn't be, pick it up and take it to the trash.

Learn How to Do It Here.



Florida Keys Community College



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FENCE FACTS

What's the difference between a picket and a pale?

These are pickets, about 1-1/2" square arranged in a Wedgewood style.

Pales are wider -

Usually 4" wide x 1" deep or 3" x 1" and 30" to 36" tall. Many old fences were based on spears stuck end first in the ground, typically from a vanquished enemy. That is more noticeable in wrought iron fences.

Here are a few types of tops, many of which form most of the fences in this community.



FANCY DOG EAR PYRAMID SPIRE REGULAR



Copper Leaf (*Acalypha wilkesiana*)

These astoundingly colored leaves belong to the Copper Leaf or Joseph's Coat. It is a vigorously growing evergreen shrub that can get up to 15 feet tall if you don't keep pruning it.

This is a native of the Pacific Islands and named after Admiral Charles Wilkes who explored them. The 6-8" leaves are serrated. The flowers which bloom during the summer are droopy spikes, but are related to Red Hot Cattails.

It likes full sun and well drained soils of almost any type, as long as it is not too alkaline.

The Monroe County Extension Service will gladly explain any plant questions or problems. Contact them at 305-292-4501, or visit them on the second floor of the Gato Building at 1100 Simonton Street. Talk to Gail or Kim.



Clarence S. Higgs

"County Commissioner Clarence S. Higgs died suddenly last night at his home, 517 Grinnell Street. He was 59 years old on June 7.

Higgs was one of the most active workers in behalf of organized labor in Monroe County. He was serving as Business Manager of the local Carpenters' Union, a position he held for 22 years, at the time of his death.

In 1944 he entered politics in Monroe County and was elected as County Commissioner from the third district. He was re-elected in 1960 for his fifth consecutive four-year term.

He looked upon the Key West International Airport and the White Street pier as two of his leading accomplishments as a commissioner.

Higgs was a member of the Elks, Moose, Hi Noon Lions Club and Dade Lodge, F and AM, Cayo Hueso Grotto, Key West Consistory, Florida Peace Officers Association and Mahi Temple of Shriners."

-Key West Citizen July 17, 1961

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If you are looking for a unique gift, local artist and one-time Golf Club resident, Karen Beauprie, would love to paint a watercolor portrait of your home.

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An 11" x 14" matted painting is only \$400.00.

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