

OCEAN REEF PRESS

Vol. 11, No. 15

A Unique Way of Life

February 9, 2024



Susie Misini-Hassett and Cathy Totonis, All Charities Weekend co-chairs.



Celebrations abound at the Chase and Watjen table during the Live Auction.

AROUND THE REEF

Fat Tuesday Celebration

Tuesday, February 13

6-8 p.m. • Town Hall Waterside

Deck out in your best Fat Tuesday attire for a fun and festive evening at Town Hall Waterside. For details, call Member Events at 305-367-5874.



Joannie Rich, Lexus raffle winner, with her husband Mike Rich.



Paul and Jane Bishop.

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A love story shared, **pg. 19.**

Did you pick the winning wine? **pg. 34.**

As the wind blows, **pgs. 43-44.**

Croquet all day, **pg. 47.**

And a Great Time Was Had by All ...

By Sarah A. Cart

What a fun **All Charities Weekend** (ACW) that was!

It began with a huge crowd turning out Friday evening for the Silent Auction preview. The Carysfort Ballroom dazzled thanks to Silent Auction chairs **Lori** and **Brad Young** and their committee. Members found a

broad selection of beautifully illuminated items available for bid, from wines and spirits, to electronics, artwork, and jewelry. While considering all the possibilities and noting "wish list" items, those who came had the opportunity to taste and vote on the Members Choice wines for next season as well as sip and compare four select bourbons while catching up with friends and neighbors.

And the lobby was abuzz, too, with larger items on display from a Club Car golf cart to a pair of electric bikes,

two stand-up paddleboards, and a gold Vespa, as members took advantage of opportunities to talk with representatives from several of All Charities' Preferred Partners.

Come Saturday morning: Thanks to the sunshine, the next day lots of people took the opportunity to check out the display of NetJets at the Airport and admire the Lazzara yacht in Slip F1, but a bit of chill in the air also inspired many to return to Carysfort Ballroom for burgers, beer, and bidding.

That evening, attendance at the black tie gala broke records. Dapper gentlemen arrived with ladies in gorgeous gowns to enjoy cocktails and one last

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OR "See"



A cloudy evening led to a gorgeous sunset from Villa Cay. Photo by Steve Parker.

What have you discovered on your walk, biking or on a daily golf cart ride that you never noticed before?
Email orp@oceanreef.com and share your discoveries.



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DEADLINES

Advertising Friday at 5 p.m.
Editorial Monday before issue at Noon

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GENERAL INFORMATION

E-mail Updates
To receive the Friday email containing links to The Ocean Reef Press and This Week at The Reef via e-mail, send your e-mail address to communications@oceanreef.com.

INFORMATION

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NEWS & HAPPENINGS

Tri Delta February Gathering

Thursday, February 15 5:30 p.m. on the Grill Room patio.
If you would like to let us know you are coming, email janebattles@yahoo.com.

Calling All Thetas

Please join us for a gathering at the Reef Lounge on **Wednesday, February 28th** at 5:30 p.m. For details, please call **Sally Martin** at 734-646-4774.

Kappa Gathering

Calling all Kappas! Meet us at Port O' Call on **Thursday, February 29** at 5 p.m. For details, contact **Nancy Dillman** at ncstonegate@yahoo.com, 502-599-3180 or **Katy Miller** at katybmiller@me.com, 914-602-6628.

Gotta Question?

When leaving The Reef traveling south on 905 there is an ongoing project installing rubber pipe along the side of the road. What is this project about? I thought we had a new water pipe installed just a few short years ago.

We reached out to Emmy Koenig McDowell from FCAA for the answer! She shared that the project you're thinking of from a few years ago took place between 2019 and 2020 when FCAA installed 16-inch transmission lines along C-905, connecting Key Largo and Ocean Reef. These upgraded lines now play a crucial role in supplying water to the Club.

The current project you're seeing along 905 is also by FCAA. They are using a technique called "pipe bursting" to revitalize a 12-inch pipeline that wasn't in use. The FCAA says this effort will improve the Club's water system by increasing its capacity and



adding a backup line for better reliability.

Come late May through mid-June, the work will extend into Ocean Reef from the Front Gate to the intersection at Gatehouse Road and will be conducted from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Full road closures are not expected. FCAA is also redesigning the interconnection points, which may also extend briefly within Ocean Reef gates at a later date.

Most of the work is anticipated to be completed by mid-June 2024 and the final completion is anticipated for late August 2024. During closeout, there will be pavement restoration taking place mid-June 2024 to mid-July 2024.

For questions, please call 305-296-2454 or email community@fkaa.com.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

If you would like to submit a question, email the *Ocean Reef Press* at orp@oceanreef.com.

Those Equity Nights!

Equity-Only Nights Offer Special Menus

By Jody Steele

After checking out last week's Wine & Dine email, I was happy to see CH Prime was launching a new prix fixe menu for their "Equity Only Nights" offering on Wednesdays. A glass of wine plus a three-course meal, all for \$70! I immediately went to the Ocean Reef Club site and selected "Dining" from "Club Life," scrolled down to "CH Prime Reservations" and grabbed 6:45 p.m. for two. All set in just a few minutes.

Equity Nights

Last season, the Club added some policy changes based on Member feedback to help with reservations, cancellations, and some crowding. Equity Only

Nights in Gianni, the Ocean Room, Islander and CH Prime were part of that plan.

CH Prime

Entering the Clubhouse, we heard beautiful music coming from CH Lounge and then escorted to our table we caught the last glimpse of a Keys sunset—certainly a lovely way to begin the evening. We were then given the Members' Night menu along with the regular CH Prime menus. The special Wednesday menu includes a glass of wine, with a choice of an appetizer, entrée, and a dessert all with selections to choose from for each of the three courses. The onion soup was a real hit with my husband and I was impressed with the field green salad with a yummy, light dressing. The filet and salmon with asparagus and the famous potato puree were also delectable options. We finished (well, not really) with key lime pie and chocolate cake with vanilla gelato (delicious treats for lunch the next day).

EQUITY MEMBER ONLY NIGHTS

Monday – Gianni Ristorante

Tuesday – The Ocean Room

Wednesday – CH Prime

Thursday – Islander & Sushi Bar

The Experience

The Clubhouse is a beautiful building with exquisite spaces. Of course, the expertise of the CH Prime staff and their warm welcome to Members is always appreciated. Philippe Babin, Clubhouse Maître D, and his team address every detail to ensure a perfect evening. Chef Ian Fleischmann visited guests at their tables and he shared with us his dedication to the local "farm to table" scene and his enthusiasm for the entire menu. It was a wonderful dinner date.

The Schedule

You can enjoy Equity Member Only Nights four times weekly. Each of the following outstanding Ocean Reef Club restaurants serves a three-course dinner including a beverage with a prix fixe menu. The menus can be viewed at oceanreef.com/dining.

Equity Members Only Nights can be reserved by going online at oceanreef.com/dining or calling Dining Reservations at 305-367-5931.



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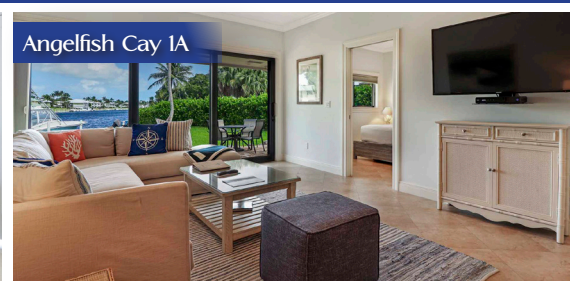
- 10% discount on all club food, beverage and retail outlets
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- Housekeeping Services provided during your stay
- When reserving through your Club, all club outlets and services are notified should you have any special needs
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And a Great Time Was Had by All ...

Continued from | 1

look at the Silent Auction selections before moving to the gorgeously candlelit Town Hall, aglow with sequin tablecloths and spectacular floral displays.

Susie Misini-Hassett and **Cathy Totonis**, 2024 All Charities Weekend co-chairs, welcomed everyone and thanked their hard-working and dedicated team of volunteers. With the help of adorable photos of their beloved four-legged pups, they encouraged all in the room to demonstrate their loyalty to the All Charities cause in the form of animated, passionate, whole-hearted, and relentless bidding. And then Auctioneer David Goodman went to work, and even a brief power outage couldn't dim the excitement. The crowd was delighted to take part in his "Heads or Tails" challenge, from which **Ann Van Ness** walked away as the victor with a new Apple iPad Air in her hands, and at the very end of the evening, **Joanie Rich** was ecstatic to win the drawing for the 2024 Lexus RX350.

Imagined possibilities will now be able to transform into reality, not just for auction winners, but also for all those to whom the Ocean



Brad and Lori Young, 2024 Silent Auction Chairs and next year's All Charities Weekend Co-Chairs.



Kelly Jones, this year's Wine Auction Set Up Chair.



Beautiful décor set the stage for a stunning evening.



Chirakadzes and Hassetts at Friday's Silent Auction.

Reef Community Foundation (ORCF) will be able to make grants in the coming months, as All Charities, conceived in 2008 to minimize the number of fundraising events held each season, facilitates the Foundation's provision of financial grants focused on youth, education, community, and health and family services to assist thousands of our neighbors in Key Largo, Homestead and Florida City, as well as supporting and strengthening the non-profit

entities here on The Reef: the Medical Center, Cultural Center, Academy, Art League, ORCAT and Conservation Association. In 2009, ORCF awarded 17 grants totaling \$365,000; coming into ACW 2024, nearly \$65 million had been raised and \$21 million passed through to our neighboring communities.

The final numbers will take a few weeks to shake out, but there is no doubt the funds raised will fuel miracles.

Thank you, Ocean Reef.

In the meantime, some people are curious and have asked, "What did X go for?" If you're one of those, know that the bid site (while now closed to bidding, of course), is still available. You can look up a Silent Auction item by simply logging onto bidorc.org.

Want to know more about All Charities? You can call the office at 305-367-5996 or email AllCharities@OceanReef.com.




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ALL CHARITIES

The Heart of Ocean Reef

February 2-4 2024

2024 ALL CHARITIES WEEKEND, THEMED "IMAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES," SHOWCASED THE UNPARALLELED GENEROSITY OF OUR ORC MEMBERS.

KICKING OFF WITH FRIDAY'S SILENT AUCTION AND WINE & BOURBON TASTING, THE FESTIVITIES CULMINATED WITH SATURDAY NIGHT'S GALA AND LIVE AUCTION, TRANSFORMING POSSIBILITIES INTO IMPACTFUL REALITIES FOR OUR LOCAL NON-PROFITS, HERE AT THE REEF AND IN OUR SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES.



Pam Bass, Kelly McKernan, Angeline Materna, Kelly French, Beth Noyes, Staci Berry, Parris Bozeman, Val Rich.



Barbara Olcott and Lee Bryant.



Luisa Bryan with David and Lisa Desmond.



Laura and Mark Zausmer.



Ray Larkin, John Costas, Mike Hutchins and Scott Franzblau.



Nelson Sims, Brock Vinton, Mike Jones, Michael Berman.



Sera and Tim Reycraft.



The Davidson family.



Amy Upjohn and Brad Vandenberg with Betty Mason.



Amanda, Ashley and Lauran Parker.

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Marina Village 7B | Marina View

3 BD, 3 BA | \$8,250,000 | 2592

Rob Desmond | 561.307.3065 | rob@oceanreefclubsir.com



Harbour Green 11 | Canal Front

4 BD, 3 BA | \$7,500,000 | 2506

Patti Furneaux | 305.321.3156 | patti@oceanreefclubsir.com



Pumpkin Cay 47B | Canal Front

4 BD, 3 BA | \$6,250,000 | 2628

Cassy Everhart | 305.522.2332 | cassy@oceanreefclubsir.com
Morgan Smith | 305.321.1143 | morgan@oceanreefclubsir.com



Harbour House 22 | 45' Dockage

3 BD, 4 BA | \$5,995,000 | 2639

Jay Rourke | 786.493.8105 | jay@oceanreefclubsir.com
Megan Lyons | 786.201.5265 | megan@oceanreefclubsir.com



Cay Harbor 8C | Canal Front
2 BD, 2 BA | \$3,895,000 | 2624

Parris Everhart
305.522.2738 | parris@oceanreefclubsir.com



Angelfish Cay 25A | Canal Front
2 BD, 2 BA | \$3,500,000 | 2547

Helena Morton
305.522.2196 | helena@oceanreefclubsir.com



Angelfish Cay 21A | Canal Front
2 BD, 2 BA | \$3,275,000 | 2641

Mary Brady
201.303.2052 | marybrady@oceanreefclubsir.com



Angelfish Cay 29B | 36' Dock
2 BD, 2 BA | \$3,250,000 | 2622

Marcy Aultman
305.522.0582 | marcy@oceanreefclubsir.com



Fairway Lakes 36A | Golf Views
2 BD, 2 BA | \$2,975,000 | 2642

Eric Woodward
305.394.4461 | eric@oceanreefclubsir.com



Angelfish Cay 14B | Canal Front
1 BD, 1 BA | \$2,800,000 | 2534

Rick Romeo
304.667.7896 | rickromeo@oceanreefclubsir.com



Residence Club B-211 | Large Patio
1 BD, 2 BA | \$2,800,000 | 2643

Molly Taylor
508.524.4633 | molly@oceanreefclubsir.com
Russell Post
305.451.8199 | russell@oceanreefclubsir.com



Angelfish Cay 38B | Canal Front
1 BD, 1 BA | \$2,350,000 | 2579

Parris Everhart
305.522.2738 | parris@oceanreefclubsir.com



PC Garden Home 74 | Canal Front
 3 BD, 3.5 BA | \$7,500,000 | 2502
 Helena Morton
 305.522.2196 | helena@oceanreefclubsir.com



Marina Village 2B | Canal Front
 3 BD, 3 BA | \$6,999,000 | 2578
 Karyn Thiele
 305.394.4185 | karyn@oceanreefclubsir.com



Harbour Green 45 | Canal Front
 4 BD, 3 BA | \$6,850,000 | 2635
 Cassy Everhart
 305.522.2332 | cassy@oceanreefclubsir.com
 Morgan Smith
 305.321.1143 | morgan@oceanreefclubsir.com



Pumpkin Cay 43A | Canal Front
 3 BD, 3 BA | \$6,275,000 | 2524
 Molly Taylor
 508.524.4633 | molly@oceanreefclubsir.com
 Russell Post
 305.451.8199 | russell@oceanreefclubsir.com



NEW LISTING

2 Hardwood Hammock | Golf
 4 BD, 4.5 BA | \$5,695,000
 Parris Everhart
 305.522.2738 | parris@oceanreefclubsir.com



Pumpkin Cay 7B | Canal Front
 3 BD, 3 BA | \$4,950,000 | 2513
 Karyn Thiele
 305.394.4185 | karyn@oceanreefclubsir.com
 Susan Bryan
 305.522.7700 | susan@oceanreefclubsir.com



FC Landings 9A | 31' Dockage
 2 BD, 2 BA | \$4,150,000 | 2621
 Jay Rourke
 786.493.8105 | jay@oceanreefclubsir.com
 Megan Lyons
 786.201.5265 | megan@oceanreefclubsir.com



NEW LISTING

93 East Lake Rd. | Anglers Club
 2 BD, 2 BA | \$3,950,000 | 2648
 Bill Dickinson
 305.304.8311 | bdickinson@oceanreefclubsir.com
 Barbara Sibley
 305.394.0061 | barbara@oceanreefclubsir.com



Residence Club A-107
 2 BD, 2.5 BA | \$3,200,000 | 2553
 Mary Brady
 201.303.2052 | marybrady@oceanreefclubsir.com



NEW LISTING

Cay Harbor 8E | Canal Front
 2 BD, 2 BA | \$3,195,000 | 2647
 Jay Rourke
 786.493.8105 | jay@oceanreefclubsir.com
 Megan Lyons
 786.201.5265 | megan@oceanreefclubsir.com



Pumpkin Cay 14B | Canal Front
 2 BD, 3 BA | \$2,995,000 | 2604
 Molly Taylor
 508.524.4633 | molly@oceanreefclubsir.com
 Russell Post
 305.451.8199 | russell@oceanreefclubsir.com



Pumpkin Cay 12B | Canal Front
 2 BD, 3 BA | \$2,900,000 | 2561
 Mary Brady
 201.303.2052 | marybrady@oceanreefclubsir.com



Angelfish Cay 72B | Canal Front
 1 BD, 1 BA | \$2,200,000 | 2636
 Mary Brady
 201.303.2052 | marybrady@oceanreefclubsir.com



Angelfish Cay 11B | Canal Front
 1 BD, 1 BA | \$2,185,000 | 2644
 Molly Taylor
 508.524.4633 | molly@oceanreefclubsir.com
 Russell Post
 305.451.8199 | russell@oceanreefclubsir.com



CONTINGENT

Angelfish Cay 75B | Canal Front
 1 BD, 1 BA | \$2,150,000 | 2632
 Karyn Thiele
 305.394.4185 | karyn@oceanreefclubsir.com



Angelfish 38A | Canal Front
 1 BD, 1 BA | \$2,100,000 | 2598
 Helena Morton
 305.522.2196 | helena@oceanreefclubsir.com

Memberabilia



by Joan
Birsh

LAST CALL for a live theater performance of *Side by Side by Sondheim* Tues. Feb. 13 at the Ocean Reef Cultural Center....

ABOUT THE SHOW

Side by Side by Sondheim does not have a traditional script. Instead, there is wonderful music and lyrics, created by Stephen Sondheim, an undisputed master of the Broadway Theater Musical.

It has been said that every song by Sondheim is a tiny play that tells a complete story. And you can be sure that those stories will be told brilliantly in song and dance by the talented Zoetic cast of four (which includes Stuart Meltzer, who is the director, as well as an actor, in this OR performance).

ABOUT SONDHEIM

The late Stephen Sondheim (he died in November 2021) is to theater buffs what Steven Spielberg is to movie buffs.

Sondheim was the composer, the lyricist, the writer (often, all three) of 16 Broadway shows.

The delightful musical revue *Side by Side by Sondheim*, presented by Zoetic Stage, is an early work of Sondheim's. It was recently revived on Broadway to rave reviews.

ABOUT ZOETIC STAGE

Zoetic Stage (whose home base is a small theater, located in Miami's Adrienne Arsht Center), is, in a way, Ocean Reef's very own theatrical company. *Side by Side by Sondheim* is the seventh show that Zoetic has specially produced for a single night at Ocean Reef.

One night only is a pretty



Director/actor Stuart Meltzer appears with Jeni Hacker in the current OR presentation of *Side by Side*.

awesome commitment. It means the actors must learn and rehearse their roles. The sets and costumes, the lighting and sound must be designed or redesigned for the Cultural Center stage.

It could be a director's and a producer's nightmare, but lucky for us, **Stuart Meltzer** and **Michael McKeever**, the founders and creative force at Zoetic Stage, welcomed a challenge.

DISCOVERING ZOETIC

In the winter of 2016 **Barbara Olcott**, who was Chairman of the Cultural Center Board, asked my husband Arthur Birsh and me for help in finding a suitable theatrical production for the 2017 season.

Our quest was to discover something that would work physically on the Cultural Center's stage and please an Ocean Reef audience.

Having quickly dismissed the idea of Broadway touring companies (too expensive and too big for our stage), we limited our search to local and regional theatres within a few hours' drive from Ocean Reef.

We saw revivals, original plays, musicals big and small. Some very professional and some not so much.

Then we found **Zoetic Stage** in their small theater, tucked into the large Arsht Center complex. And after seeing Zoetic's productions of *Sunday in the Park with George* (a musical by Stephen Sondheim) and *After* (an original play by a Zoetic



Michael McKeever, who wrote *After*, performed with Jeni Hacker in the 2022 production at the Cultural Center

founder Michael McKeever), we quickly realized we had struck a mother lode, where two men **Michael McKeever** and **Stuart Meltzer**, were extracting theatrical gold.

OR LOVES ZOETIC

After two successful productions at Ocean Reef (*Sunday in the Park with George* and *After*), the Cultural Center secured a commitment from Zoetic for one production each season.

This gave John Hunt and the Cultural Center Board a say in selecting the play or musical to be presented by Zoetic at Ocean Reef.

Sometimes the choices, like the current *Side by Side by Sondheim*, are productions that Zoetic has presented at their own theater in the Arsht Center. Sometimes they are plays like *Deathtrap* (the 2022 OR/Zoetic production), that are exciting old favorites. And sometimes they are an original play like *After*, the brilliant award-winning play written by Zoetic's co-founder and Producing Director **Michael McKeever**. (The multi-talented Michael McKeever is also a set designer and an actor, who frequently appears in Zoetic productions.)

Stuart Meltzer, Michael's co-founder and partner – in life as well as Zoetic – is also multi-talented.

Stuart is an amazing director, a playwright, and a performer. (He's one of the cast of four in *Side by Side*).

Both Michael and Stuart are

Floridians, Michael was born into a big Italian family in North Miami Beach. Stuart lost his mother when he was a small child and was raised by his father in Kendall.

Michael was a design graduate from the Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale and had an early career in advertising.

Stuart, who was singing from age five, says that he "never thought of doing anything but working in show business."

After earning a degree first in Theater and later in Directing, he became Head of Theater at Gulliver Preparatory and then for many years he was on the faculty of the New World School of the Arts.

In 2010 Stuart Meltzer and Michael McKeever founded Zoetic Stage.

PAST AND PRESENT

On February 7, 2017 Zoetic Stage presented Stephen Sondheim's musical *Sunday in the Park with George* at the Ocean Reef Cultural Center. **Stuart Meltzer** directed the 15 cast members and 6 musicians with unmatched professionalism.

The next season Zoetic Stage presented *After*, a five-character award-winning play written by **Michael McKeever**, who also was one of the actors.

In the seasons that followed Zoetic at Ocean Reef produced *Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*, *Deathtrap*, *The Gin Game*, *39 Steps*.

And now it is Last Call for another incredible Zoetic Stage production.

Don't miss this chance to see *Side by Side by Sondheim* and to experience the Broadway excellence of this production by Zoetic Stage – One night only (2/13/24) at 8 p.m.

Tickets are \$175 for Cultural Center Donors and \$200 for non-donors. There is an optional pre-performance dinner for \$63+, reservations are required. To secure your tickets email tickets@oceanreef.com.

ORCA NEWS

ORCA Welcomes New Custom-Made Fire Assets Donated by Monroe County

A traditional “push-in” ceremony on February 6 marked a significant milestone at ORCA’s Public Safety Fire Station 26, celebrating the arrival of a custom-built Rescue Ambulance and a multipurpose Rapid Intervention Vehicle (RIV) designed for various emergency scenarios.

Design and construction of both vehicles over a two-year period was fully funded through a generous grant from Monroe County. “We have a remarkable relationship with Monroe County officials and these donations in the form of funding grants highlight the collaboration toward community safety,” said ORCA President Juan Perez.

Enhanced Safety and Comfort

The ambulance, a Freightliner M2 medium duty module, was designed by ORCA Fire-Rescue leadership with safety, efficiency, reliability, and patient comfort in mind. The ergonomics of the ambulance’s patient compartment allow for Firefighters and Paramedics



ORCA’s new multipurpose Rapid Intervention Vehicle designed to respond to various emergency scenarios.

to travel safely and seated during patient transports while providing the highest levels of care and comfort to their patient.

An improved air-cushioned suspension system will significantly improve the ride while the interior lighting, compartmentation, and communications systems all contribute to an enhanced patient experience.

Expanding Fire-Rescue Capabilities

The multipurpose Rapid Intervention Vehicle, an Oshkosh Stinger Q4TM, is built on a Ford F550 Super Cab chassis. The addition of the RIV to the ORCA Fire-Rescue fleet fills a critical void in the capability to respond to aircraft, fire and related rescue scenarios.

“Having a third fire apparatus capable of supplying hose lines for a structural fire attack will better prepare us for aircraft and structural fires as well as for the potential of separate, simultaneous fire incidents,” said ORCA Fire Chief John Flynn. “The addition of these vehicles demonstrates the

commitment of the ORCA Fire Department to the highest level of safety and service for the entire Ocean Reef community and the well-being of its citizens.”

The RIV carries 500 lbs. of dry chemical agent, 40 gallons of firefighting foam, and 300 gallons of water. These extinguishing agents can be delivered individually or in tandem through a bumper-mounted, remote-controlled turret, and/or through preconnected hose lines on the rear and side of the apparatus.

A forward-looking infrared

(FLIR) camera is mounted to the bumper turret, allowing for the operator to “see” in low-light or smoky conditions. An electric winch capable of moving loads up to 12,000 pounds is mounted to the front bumper as well.

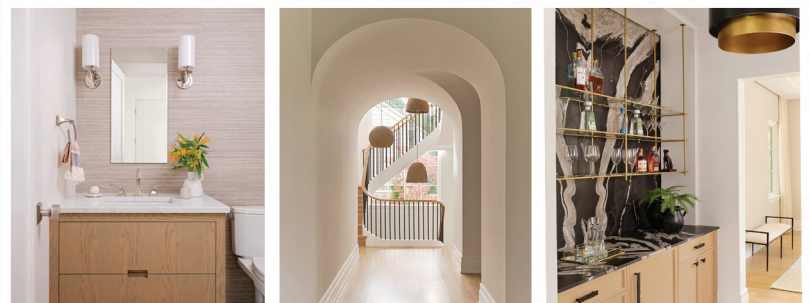
The firefighting foam and dry chemical agents carried by this apparatus are the appropriate extinguishing agents not only for aircraft fires, but also for near-shore vessel fires, as well as for advanced electrical fires, such as in electric vehicles that have occurred with greater frequency throughout the U.S.

Like the rest of ORCA’s Engine and Ladder apparatuses, the Rapid Intervention Vehicle is capable of pumping water to supply hose lines for a structural fire attack.

Present at the ceremony were representatives from the ORCA Board of Directors, Ocean Reef Club, Marathon Fire Department, Miami-Dade Fire Rescue and the Ocean Reef Medical Center.



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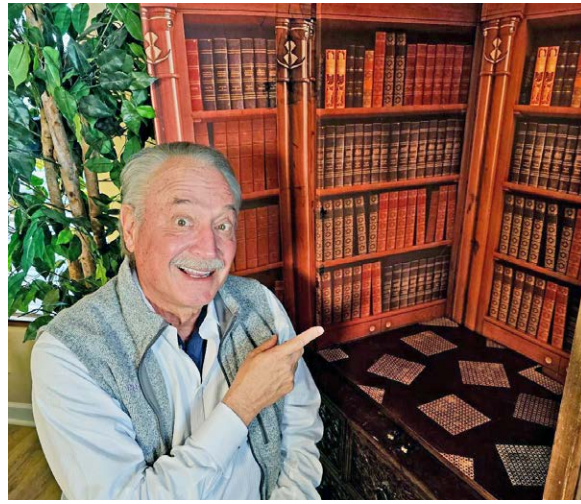
by Terry Baxter

As we all know, COVID changed everything. Employees across America reverted to working from home. This might even have been more prevalent at Ocean Reef, where families could hunker down in safety with plentiful food delivery options and beautiful surroundings.

One of the more successful converts is my friend, **Alex Castellanos**. Before COVID, Alex had already morphed from the veteran campaign manager of his earlier years to a political consultant and advisor. He formed Purple Strategies, a company made up of top operatives from both sides of the aisle to offer a broad range of non-partisan consulting services (Red+Blue = Purple).

Alex says, with a self-deprecating laugh, "I started doing TV when it was still radio." Not quite. Alex had done some TV here or there, but usually just to support a campaign. Then CNN asked him to come in "just to talk politics" – election roundtables, Inaugurations, election-eve coverage. Then ABC joined the mix, all the programs were studio productions. Alex would fly to NYC for *This Week With George Stephanopoulos*, or Washington D.C. for *Meet The Press*. His clever analysis often came with a humorous twist. He coined the term "soccer moms" to describe a segment of the electorate. It didn't hurt that Alex is News Anchor handsome, and speaks in a honeyed Carolina drawl.

The Kennedy School of Government made him a Fellow. He taught "Presidential Politics in America" for a semester at Harvard. He is a popular speaker, listed with The Washington Speakers Bureau. Alex says, "For big money you can get Tony Blair



Susan Castellanos is the set designer. Classical book wallpaper in an old liquor cabinet. Alex still wonders where the booze went.

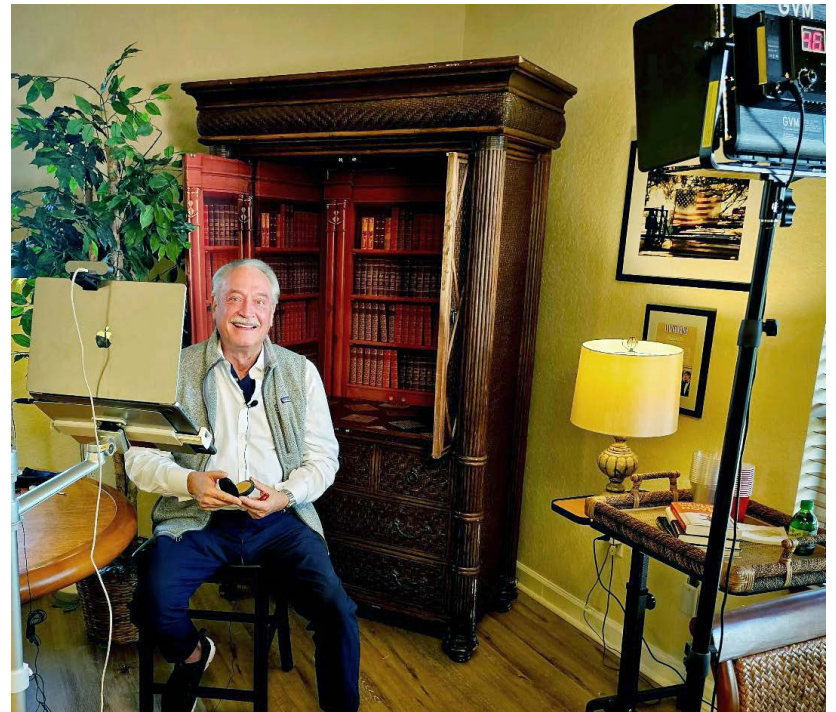
or George Bush. For a dollar fifty, you get me."

Alex has settled into a more comfortable time of life, with more time at Ocean Reef. He has taken "Emeritus" status at Purple. He has shortened his commute. He does an ABC radio commentary one day a week, completing a call-in to half a dozen stations across the country. He actually has conducted the newscasts from his boat on E Dock. Technology has improved so much that broadcast-quality video is available on consumer cameras. Alex has set up a mini studio in his Emeritus Purple Intergalactic Headquarters in the Plaza Building. Wife **Susan** has converted a liquor cabinet into a "library" background by covering the interior with bookish wallpaper. With our high-speed internet, Alex can now do his live television appearances via video links. It is just a matter of shooing the dogs into the next room and applying some make-up. "I can use the same make-up as my daughter," Alex says as **Catherine** moves her purse out of his reach. "Even though television news has become a parade of 'heads in boxes' thanks to COVID, I still enjoy being asked for my observations. The 24-hour news cycle creates plenty of room for all points of view. As they say, if you heard it on TV, it must be true."

All joking aside, Alex enjoys debating with his peers. "I love to stay in the game," he admits. "I care about the future of the country. This is my little contribution. It's great that I can do it from paradise."



A screenshot from Fox News shows one of Alex's quips is featured as a "notable quotable" that summarizes the week's events.



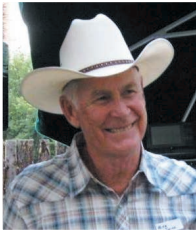
Alex sets up the link using a laptop and wifi. "Live" means no redoes. Any flubs go to the dreaded out-take reel. Lights, camera, action.

Alex's rules for online TV interviews

1. Find a quiet little corner and make sure you have a good, strong internet connection. Turn off YouTube TV, close all other browser windows and apps.
2. Use a TV light (a ring light, for example) or three lights: a key, fill, and backlight. Cheap and available on Amazon.
3. Use a little makeup. Yes, even you gentlemen! TV lights penetrate the skin down to your blood vessels and can make anyone look blotchy and red.
4. Feel free to use your hands, but keep them in a box between your chin and belt buckle. Let your hands emphasize not distract.
5. Prepare to be spontaneous! Study, make notes, think through what you want to say... then set your notes aside for the interview and actively listen and respond to the questions.
6. Have fun. Nobody watches TV just to be informed. We all like to be entertained.
7. Respect the viewer. They are sharing the most valuable thing they have: their time. Try to leave them with an insight or experience they would otherwise never get.

Late August, 1992

Hurricane Andrew Makes Landfall



"How We Got Here"
by Mike Smith

During the late summer months, the South Florida weatherman becomes very popular. It is the heart of hurricane season, and Ocean Reefers watch the news reports for disturbances forming in the tropical divergence zone, where many hurricanes are formed. One such disturbance formed on August 16th and was designated Tropical Depression Three. As it churned past Barbados several days later, it was reclassified as Tropical Storm Andrew. Atmospheric conditions kept the storm from intensifying for the next few days, but when it was 650 miles southeast of Nassau, winds had strengthened to 100mph, and it became a hurricane with a predicted path turning north, making landfall near Jupiter, Florida, on August 25th.

Sally Davidson, who lived in a new house on Sunrise Cay, decided to stay at The Reef and weather the storm. With her was her daughter, **Jennifer**, and Bob and Clair Wilkerson, who worked for the Davidsons. Also on The Reef was **Russ Post**, who agreed by phone to stay at the Davidson's house. On the evening of August 23rd, Russ parked his car in the Davidson's driveway. The night sky was clear with only a wisp of breeze, which added to everybody's sense of well-being.

Earlier that day, Merle Prebel, the contractor who had constructed the Davidson house, ensured everything was bolted down and secure for



The Boat Barn after Hurricane Andrew on August 25, 1992 .



Yachtsman Inn.

the expected storm. He later went to his home on Harbor Course (now called Hammock Course), had a casual meal, and went to bed, all the time believing the computer models that showed the storm turning north.

The storm failed to turn north and intensified as it barreled across Cat Cay in the Bahamas and headed straight toward South Florida.

As everything was so quiet outside, everybody in the Davidson house decided to try to get some sleep and reconnoiter later, around 1 a.m., which they did. They gathered in the living room then, and things had dramatically changed. The wind blew, and rain beat against the windows and sliding glass doors. Then the power blinked off and on and finally off, leaving the entire house pitch black.

Armed with flashlights, everybody moved to a lower recreation room with three concrete block walls. The storm intensified. Russ moved an easy chair and propped it against the room's only door. The wind started to shriek. Glass crashed to the floor. The sound of a broken skylight. Glass sliding doors being lifted from the walls and crashing. The solid wood door started to heave, and Russ braced against it. Water began to pour through an electrical fixture in the ceiling. Somebody suggested a prayer, and they did but could barely be heard above the freight train roar.

By 8 a.m. the following day, the storm center had moved



The Raw Bar.

away, and they emerged from their room, thankful, tired, and possibly in shock. The house was devastated, but they had survived and would rebuild. Russ's car looked like it had been in a Bonnie and Clyde movie covered with dents from flying roof tiles that also broke all the windows. During the peak of the storm, being outside must have been similar to a killing zone. Jean Hunt, another Sunrise resident, came back to a damaged house highlighted by a neighbor's roof tile buried in their refrigerator door. Some streets were impassable due to fallen trees and debris. Golf courses looked like war zones. The wind had blown the Har Tru surfaces on tennis courts into piles baring the sub-surfaces. The stop sign at the four corners was bent into an upside-down position (dots).

Ironically, Merle Prebel woke and had incurred very little damage, as had most other residences on the southern side of Ocean Reef. Hurricane Andrew was a Category 5 with a small diameter, the center of which made landfall south of Florida

City. Winds had exceeded 165 miles per hour with embedded tornados.

Two days later, while flying down to Ocean Reef with this writer, Bob Morgan (past Club Chairman, now deceased), noticed the mangroves north of Ocean Reef were almost totally defoliated and twisted into grotesque shapes. The Airport runway was littered with destroyed airplane parts, with an airplane engine in the middle. Food stations, one at the Racquet Club, had been set up and distributed free food. People helped each other. Some, whose houses were not habitable, stayed with others whose homes had avoided extensive damage. Work crews from northern states began to arrive to assist those that needed help.

Ocean Reef would rebuild. Monroe County would revise home specification requirements to better handle high winds. And best of all, the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew created an opportunity for the Members to purchase the Club we all enjoy today.

Super Bowl LVIII on the BIG SCREEN

Sunday, February 11

Get ready for an unforgettable Super Bowl experience at our complimentary party on **February 11!** The evening promises a perfect blend of football, fun, and fantastic company as we showcase the excitement of the Super Bowl on the big screen. The pre-game festivities commence at 5 p.m., building up to the highly-anticipated kick-off at 6:30 p.m.

The game will be broadcasted on the big screen in the theater and also in the Compass Room. And of course, no Super Bowl party is complete without the perfect game-day snacks and drinks! Indulge your taste buds with a selection of delicious game food available for



purchase – from favorites like chicken fingers and hot dogs to gourmet sliders and more.

Don't miss out on the action – mark your calendars for February 11 and join us as the San Francisco 49ers take on the Kansas City Chiefs.

Reservations are not required. Food and drinks will be available for purchase.

Your support of the All Charities Weekend strengthens entities, like the Cultural Center, that enhance Ocean Reef Club's Unique Way of Life and enables the Ocean Reef Community Foundation to provide for thousands in Key Largo, Homestead and Florida City. Call 305-367-5996 to learn more.

FOOD & FILM EVENT



Producers of the Film Society Bill and Becky Dickinson at the Cultural Center: Food & Film evening featuring "My Big Fat Greek Wedding". The famous Bundt cake served as a centerpiece and dessert.

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CULTURAL CENTER

Library Corner

by Susan Bohan

The Library at the Cultural Center adds books throughout the year, both fiction and non-fiction. The following are about three interesting people often in the news today for their achievements both good and bad:

“Elon Musk” by Walter Isaacson – Repeatedly bullied as a child in South Africa, this visionary, prone to Jekyll-and-Hyde mood swings, has led us into the world of electric cars, private space exploration and artificial intelligence. And then there is Twitter...

“Going Infinite: The Rise and Fall of a New Tycoon” by Michael Lewis – About the spectacular success and failure of the

world’s youngest billionaire, Sam Bankman-Fried, in this psychological portrait of a man whose roller-coaster life led by his own rules became undone. Michael Lewis’s description of cryptocurrency and high-frequency trading and its partial collapse became an instant best-seller.

“My Name is Barbra” by Barbra Streisand – One of the few EGOT winners (Emmy, Grammy, Oscar, Tony), she writes honestly about her struggles and successes in a delightful book eagerly welcomed by her millions of fans.

Reminder
The Library is now open Monday through Thursday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The book drop on the Airport side of the building is accessible for returned books any time.

CULTURAL CENTER



AT OCEAN REEF

ZOETIC STAGE: SIDE BY SIDE BY SONDHEIM



Tuesday, February 13 - 8:00PM

\$175 Donor • \$200 Non-Donor

This Tony Award-winning musical celebrates the incomparable genius of Broadway’s most prolific and celebrated lyricist/composer. Featuring music from *Company*, *Follies*, *A Little Night Music*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* and more.

OUTDOOR CONCERT JOHN FOGERTY



Saturday, February 17 - 8:00PM

\$350 Donor • \$395 Non-Donor

Among Fogerty’s many hit songs, both as a solo artist and as leader of CCR, highlights include *Centerfield*, *Proud Mary*, *Susie Q*, *Fortunate Son*, *Born on the Bayou*, *Bad Moon Rising*, and *Have You Ever Seen the Rain*, among many others.



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Artist's Concept

44 Cardinal Lane | New Construction
5 BD, 5.5 BA | \$13,900,000 | 2615
Jay Rourke | 786.493.8105 | jay@oceanreefclubsir.com
Megan Lyons | 786.201.5265 | megan@oceanreefclubsir.com



36 West Snapper Point Drive | Water Front
6 BD, 6F/4H BA | \$35,000,000 | 2521
Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633 | molly@oceanreefclubsir.com
Russell Post | 305.451.8199 | russell@oceanreefclubsir.com



16 Sunrise Cay Drive | Ocean Front
5 BD, 6.5BA | \$19,875,000 | 2540
Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633 | molly@oceanreefclubsir.com
Russell Post | 305.451.8199 | russell@oceanreefclubsir.com



32 East Snapper Point Dr. | Canal Front
4 BD, 3 BA | \$16,900,000
Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633 | molly@oceanreefclubsir.com
Russell Post | 305.451.8199 | russell@oceanreefclubsir.com



26 Channel Cay Road | Canal Front
4 BD, 3.5 BA | \$13,500,000 | 2533
Rick Romeo | 304.667.7896 | rickromeo@oceanreefclubsir.com



1 Osprey Lane | Ocean Front
4 BD, 5.5 BA | \$25,900,000 | 2256
Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633 | molly@oceanreefclubsir.com
Russell Post | 305.451.8199 | russell@oceanreefclubsir.com



42 Island Drive | Canal Front
4 BD, 4.5 BA | \$18,750,000 | 2499
Barbara Sibley | 305.394.0061 | barbara@oceanreefclubsir.com



3 Exuma Road | Canal Front
4+ BD, 3F/2H BA | \$14,750,000 | 2611
Barbara Sibley | 305.394.0061 | barbara@oceanreefclubsir.com



3 Ocean Reef Drive | New Construction
7 BD, 7F/3H BA | \$11,950,000 | 2580
Helena Morton
305.522.2196 | helena@oceanreefclubsir.com



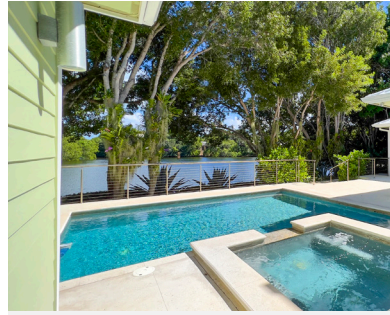
15 Harbor Island Dr. | Canal Front
5 BD, 5.5 BA | \$11,800,000 | 2594

Molly Taylor
508.524.4633 | molly@oceanreefclubsir.com
Russell Post
305.451.8199 | russell@oceanreefclubsir.com



11 Grayvik Drive | Canal Front
3 BD, 3 BA | \$11,450,000 | 2552

Molly Taylor
508.524.4633 | molly@oceanreefclubsir.com
Russell Post
305.451.8199 | russell@oceanreefclubsir.com



175 South Harbor Dr. | Lake Front
4 BD, 5.5 BA | \$7,995,000 | 2599

Jay Rourke
786.493.8105 | jay@oceanreefclubsir.com
Megan Lyons
786.201.5265 | megan@oceanreefclubsir.com



29 Baker Road | Water Front
4 BD, 4.5 BA | Nearly Complete
\$6,995,000 | 2332

Eric Woodward
305.394.4461 | eric@oceanreefclubsir.com



NEWLY PRICED

24 Tamarind Lane | Lake Front
5 BD, 6.5 BA | \$6,695,000 | 2495

Jay Rourke
786.493.8105 | jay@oceanreefclubsir.com
Megan Lyons
786.201.5265 | megan@oceanreefclubsir.com



437 South Harbor Dr. | Golf /Lake
4 BD, 4 BA | \$5,900,000 | 2607

Barbara Sibley
305.394.0061 | barbara@oceanreefclubsir.com



36 Bay Ridge Rd. | Central Location
3 BD, 3 BA | \$5,850,000 | 2601

Mary Lee
917.603.3252 | marylee@oceanreefclubsir.com



8 Halfway Road | Golf Course
3 BD, 2BA | \$5,795,000 | 2595

Molly Taylor
508.524.4633 | molly@oceanreefclubsir.com
Russell Post
305.451.8199 | russell@oceanreefclubsir.com



426 South Harbor Dr. | Lake Front
3 BD, Bonus Room, 3.5 BA
\$5,790,000 | 2619

Cassy Everhart
305.522.2332 | cassy@oceanreefclubsir.com
Morgan Smith
305.321.1143 | morgan@oceanreefclubsir.com



PENDING

12 Ocean Reef Dr. | Central Location
3 BD, 2 BA | \$5,649,000 | 2478

Helena Morton
305.522.2196 | helena@oceanreefclubsir.com
Contingent by: Eric Woodward
305.394.4461 | eric@oceanreefclubsir.com



302 Carysfort Road | Villa Cay
5 BD, 4 BA | \$5,695,000 | 2593

Mary Lee
917.603.3252 | marylee@oceanreefclubsir.com



5 Ocean Reef Drive | Central
3 BD, 3 BA | \$5,490,000 | 2609

Helena Morton
305.522.2196 | helena@oceanreefclubsir.com



23 Tamarind Lane | Lake Front
3 BD, 3 BA | \$5,395,000 | 2640

James Morrison
305.393.3407 | james@oceanreefclubsir.com



32 Bay Ridge Rd | Central Location
3 BD, 3 BA | \$5,125,000 | 2498

Marcy Aultman
305.522.0582 | marcy@oceanreefclubsir.com



31 Angelfish Cay Dr. | Ocean Front
Vacant Homesite | \$14,975,000 | 2487

Molly Taylor
508.524.4633 | molly@oceanreefclubsir.com
Russell Post
305.451.8199 | russell@oceanreefclubsir.com



NEWLY PRICED

24 Cardinal Lane | Water Front
25,828 Sq. Ft. Lot | \$8,200,000 | 2570

Mary Lee
917.603.3252 | marylee@oceanreefclubsir.com

Happy Valentine's Day



by Rev. Dr. Bob Henley

My grandkids think I attended elementary school with Fred and Wilma Flintstone – in truth they were several grades ahead of me! But when I think of Valentine's Day, it reminds me of something we did in those early grades every February 14th.

Kids & Valentines

Early in February, we would carefully choose a shoebox and artfully transform it into a 'Valentine's Day Box.' A hole would be carefully cut in the lid - just large enough to accommodate the many valentines your friends would

put inside. Then the box and lid would be covered with colored paper and decorated with hearts.

Then on Valentine's Day, we each brought our empty decorated box to school. And at the end of the school day, we each took our box home, now stuffed with valentines, looking to see what the cute girl or boy wrote to you on theirs. Talk about nostalgia!

Not once did anyone ask about or tell us where the tradition of Valentine's Day originated. My best guess would have been Kansas City - that's where Hallmark Cards and Russell Stover Candies were headquartered.

Where It Started

Historically, it was first called 'Saint Valentine's Day' or the 'Feast of Saint Valentine.' It was originally associated with acts of martyrdom in the earliest years of the Christian church. There are several persons named Valentine in those early

centuries, but no one is sure which one of them is the actual source.

One account has a person named Valentine imprisoned in Rome for caring for Christians being persecuted by the Roman Empire in the third century. These early people of faith were considered pagans by the Romans. Why was that? It was because they refused to worship the Roman 'gods.' Another tradition has perhaps the same person restoring sight to the blind daughter of his jailer.

If either story is true, perhaps we associate Valentine's name with love because that first saint lived out Jesus' great admonition – Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

When It Changed

Some centuries later, this feast of Saint Valentine became associated with romantic love and 'lovebirds.' Through time, especially in England, it became an occasion for couples to express their love for one another with flowers, candy, and cards known as 'valentines' – for which florists, confectioners, and card companies ever since have been grateful.

In our marriage of almost 55 years, I can tell you that flowers and cards are good things and are appreciated in our relationship. A nice intimate dinner is even better than a box of candy – at least at our house!

Making Love Last

But as good as these are, they are no substitute for the necessary work of building a fulfilling relationship over a lifetime. That necessary work requires equal amounts of grace and grit! Now in our sixth decade, we will tell you how rewarding it is to be able to say, as Garrison Keillor once wrote, *We Are Still Married!*

Recalling Joys & Sorrows

In 1973, I was a newly ordained associate pastor on the staff of a growing non-denominational congregation in suburban Milwaukee. A couple in the

congregation – Glen and Rosie – asked me to conduct their wedding ceremony. It was my first wedding as a pastor. My nerves showed up at the point I was supposed to ask, "Who presents this woman to be married to this man?" Instead, I asked the other way round! The look on the bride's father's face was my clue that I had messed up!

Since that first wedding, I've lost count of just how many weddings I've conducted. But I can tell you that I have no greater joy as a pastor than working with a couple as they plan for their wedding and prepare for their marriage.

My most memorable wedding since coming to Ocean Reef took place several years ago in the old chapel. The couple, Bob and Marge, were in their eighties. The moment came when I asked the groom, "Bob, do you take Marge as your wife?" He took a step back with one foot, thrust his arm into the air, and exclaimed in a booming voice, "I DO!" We were all taken back – especially his bride!

We know that not every marriage lasts – some for hard but good reasons – others for reasons sometimes the couple themselves do not always understand. My wife has led divorce recovery workshops, and a large single-adult group in which most participants were single again through divorce. It was a joy to see many of them find love and a new beginning in a healthier relationship.

A Suggestion to Consider

As we come to this Valentine's Day – next Wednesday – here's a suggestion. We each have friends who have lost a spouse and are living alone. I bet they would be surprised and delighted to receive a valentine this year. How about making this Valentine's Day special for them by sending them flowers, candy or a card? They will love you for it! And so will the florists, the confectioners, and the card companies! Happy Valentine's Day to you all!





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Mon 9-3	Thurs 9-3
Tues 9-3	Fri 8-12
Wed 8-4	

Senior Café Breaking News!

By Cynthia Weglarz, ForgetMeNots
& Senior Café Co-Chair

Come join the fun on **Tuesday, February 20**, 10:30 a.m. at the Chapel Fellowship Hall. Annie Lebeaux, the Angler's Club famous piano bar hostess, will entertain everyone with the songs of their lives. Annie's unlimited repertoire of music and stories are sure to warm everyone's hearts.

The Ocean Reef Recreation Department is also getting involved on February 20th. Chris Nelson, Director of Recreation, is sending a fun craft project for participants to create. How exciting to have the Recreation Department supporting this event, just as they have recently offered



Annie Lebeaux, from Angler's Club, will entertain at the next Senior Café gathering.

a Silver Fit Plus class every Friday, at 2 p.m. in the Fiesta Room of the Fitness Center. Volunteers will host and



Director of Recreation Chris Nelson will provide a fun craft project for participants to create.

assist at these programs. RSVPs at 708-476-6350 are very helpful to plan refreshments.

CATHOLIC MASSES

Saturday, February 10 • 4 p.m.
Visiting Priest Father Tim Kesicki

Sunday, February 11 • 12 p.m.
Father Stephen Hilley

This Saturday, the Chapel & Fellowship Center welcomes visiting priest Fr Tim Kesicki, Past-President of the Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States, to say the Catholic Mass at 4 p.m. Please join us in welcoming him to our community.

Fr Hilley will say the Catholic Mass on Sunday at 12 p.m., after his sermon was postponed from the week before due to unfavorable weather.

WORSHIP ON WEDNESDAY EPISCOPAL SERVICE

All are invited for the Episcopal/Anglican service celebrating Ash Wednesday and communion in the Chapel Sanctuary. This **Wednesday, February 14**, Reverend **George Ronkowitz** will return to lead the service.

SHABBAT SERVICES



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9
Sanctuary - 6:00 pm

Led by Rabbi Anne Feibelman and Cantor Adina Scharfstein. Followed by dinner on the Sailfish Patio.

Reservations for dinner requested - shirschbiel@CongregationOR.org

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16 & 23
Cornerstone Room - 6:00 pm

Join us as we welcome Shabbat as a community with a brief service.

All events at the Ocean Reef Chapel

ART & FASHION WALK

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17
STARTS 11AM • FISHING VILLAGE

OUTDOOR FASHION SHOW BEGINS AT 1PM
Gift Bags & Champagne

LOCAL ARTISTS
Sponsored by Reef Gallery

LIVE MUSIC

12PM CUT FLOWER DEMO

2PM ORCHID DEMO
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FS-36 | NEW LISTING

80' x 30' 5" Floating Dockage | \$4,500,000 | 2646

HS-11 | Floating Dock

70' x 21' 6" Dockage | \$4,200,000 | 2620

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DS-3 | Floating Dock

90' x 21' 8" Floating Dock | \$3,900,000 | 2633

ES-21 | Floating Dock

70' x 21' 8" Floating Dock | \$3,050,000 | 2422

AS-27/28 | Gatehouse Dock

72' Dockage | \$2,250,000 | 2596

Cassy Everhart | 305.522.2332 | cassy@oceanreefclubsir.com
Morgan Smith | 305.321.1143 | morgan@oceanreefclubsir.com

DS-11 | Floating Dock

90' Dockage | \$3,395,000 | 2438

Eric Woodward | 305.394.4461 | eric@oceanreefclubsir.com

DS-7 | NEWLY PRICED

90' Floating Dock | \$3,274,000 | 2571

Marlina Lerma | 305.801.2699 | marlina@oceanreefclubsir.com

AS-11 | Gatehouse Dock

55' Dockage | \$1,550,000 | 2613

Karyn Thiele | 305.394.4185 | karyn@oceanreefclubsir.com



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CHAPEL & FELLOWSHIP NEWS

Ocean Reef Chaplain

Rev. Dr. Robert Henley

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FRIDAY, FEB. 9

AA Meeting

7:30 a.m., Chapel Board Room
For additional AA Meetings: 305-390-4983

Shabbat Service

6 p.m., Chapel Sanctuary, with Rabbi Anne Feibelman

SATURDAY, FEB. 10

Torah Study Session

9:30 a.m., Chapel Sanctuary

Catholic Mass

4 p.m., Chapel Sanctuary, Fr. Tim Kesicki

SUNDAY, FEB. 11

Traditional Worship Service

9 a.m., Chapel Sanctuary, Dr. Joe Coffey

Kids Matter (4yrs-8yrs)

9 a.m., Chapel Children's Room

Journey Together

10:30 a.m., Chapel Sanctuary, Chaplain Bob Henley

Kids Matter (9yrs - up)

10:30 a.m., Chapel Children's Room

Catholic Mass

12 p.m., Chapel Sanctuary, Fr.

Hilley

MONDAY, FEB. 12

Al-Anon Meeting

9 a.m., Chapel Fellowship Hall

Rosary Prayer Group

4 p.m., Chapel Fellowship Hall

AA Meeting

7:30 p.m., Chapel Board Room
For additional AA Meetings: 305-390-4983

TUESDAY, FEB. 13

Catholic Bible Study

9 a.m., Chapel Living Room

Potluck Gathering

6 p.m., Chapel Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 14

Intercessory Prayer

8 a.m., Chapel Board Room

Ash Wednesday Episcopal Service

9 a.m., Chapel Sanctuary, Rev. George Ronkowitz

Catholic Ash Wednesday Service

10:30 a.m., Chapel Sanctuary

Chapel Women Connect

10:30 a.m. & 4pm, Chapel Fellowship Hall

THURSDAY, FEB. 15

Ocean Reef Men's Fellowship

8 a.m., Chapel Fellowship Hall

Valentine's Day is coming...
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give her what she really wants...



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MON-SAT 10-5

THE PLAZA BUILDING 2ND FLOOR



Love Started with a Knock on the Door



by Felicia
M. Koretsky

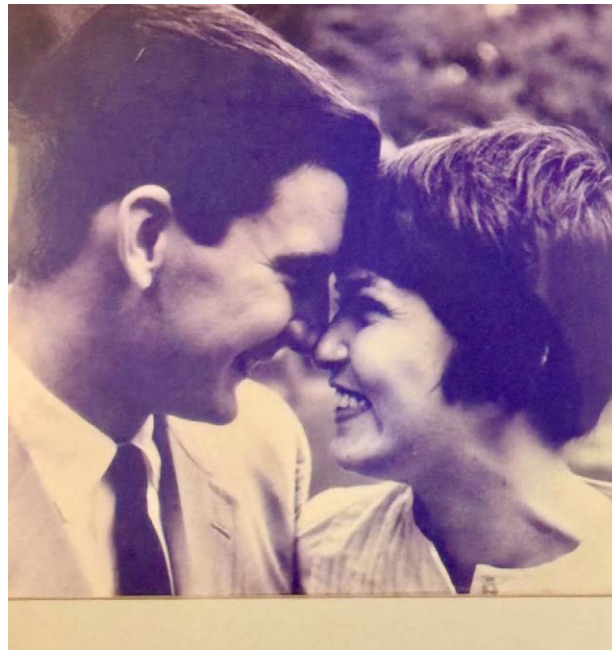
It's springtime in 1965. Beautiful **Elizabeth "Betty" Foster**, 23, an American Airlines stewardess and pediatric nurse, and her roommates are planning a party in their New York City apartment. She asks a male friend to bring over some "nice guys."

John "Jack" Marquardt, 27, a tall, handsome medical student with a full head of thick brown hair is the first one to arrive. Betty answered the door. She took one look at him and felt instant chemistry. "I said to myself, I'll take him," she recalled.

Wasting no time, Jack, attending Cornell University New York Hospital Medical School in Manhattan, asked Betty on a date for the next day. Not to come empty handed, Jack brought the only thing he had in his kitchen: A single Yellow Delicious apple. The two spent the day walking along the East River.

It gave Jack all the confirmation he needed. "If we could share one apple, we could share anything," he said.

In between her flights and his studies, the two made the most of every New York minute they had together, but money was tight. So, the creative duo funded their dates by participating in volunteer studies at the Rockefeller Research Institute. The neurological tests paid particularly well and afforded them nice dinners, nights at the opera, and tickets to their



The Marquardts pictured in the 1960's.

first Broadway show, *The Fantasticks*.

Always on Schedule

The day after graduating medical school, Jack and Betty went to her hometown of Baltimore, where the following evening, they had a wedding rehearsal dinner. The day after, they were married. Resourceful Jack found a good deal on a honeymoon in Bermuda. But the newlyweds realized why it was such a steal when they showed up to a room with bunk beds.

After the honeymoon, the couple moved to Chicago for Jack's medical internship at Rush Presbyterian St. Luke's Medical Center and within a year, they welcomed the first of their six children (five boys and one girl). Their lives continued to move with Jack's career from an ophthalmology residency at Barnes Hospital Washington University in St. Louis to an academic position at the National Eye Institute (NEI) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in Bethesda, MD, and then back to St. Louis.

Opting for a quieter life with more upside opportunity, the young family moved to a 300-acre farm in Mansfield, OH, where they bred American Quarter horses. But their success came

when they took a gamble and built the area's first outpatient eye surgery center. Jack practiced there for more than 50 years.

House vs. Boat

In the early 1980s, the family, who love to sail, took a trip to Key Largo. The owner of a sailboat chartering business they were considering buying into had a home at Ocean Reef. But when one of their kids ended up with the measles, Betty stayed behind with him while the rest of the family went out on the water. She ended up meeting **Becky Dickinson**, and her three sons, on Buccaneer Island. After chatting about real estate, Betty convinced Jack that buying a home might be a better investment. Becky's husband, **Bill**, was in real estate (still is) and showed them a perfect waterfront point lot in Villa Cay. One and done, they were sold. The couple eventually built a bigger home on the same lot and continue to live there today, 43 years later.

A few years back the couple sold their farm, but their Ohio Eye Associates has long since expanded its eye-care services with locations throughout central Ohio. Their son, Richard, an optometrist, has his practice there.



The Marquardts today, February 2024.

Married 56 Years

Celebrating their 57th anniversary this summer, the grandparents of 16 and great-grandparents of two, attribute their love story to a shared Catholic faith and values. Nearly six decades together, the two have some great tips for couples.

"Put a sticky note on your bathroom mirror and ask yourself on a daily basis, 'Am I fun to live with?' If you're feeling grouchy or in a bad mood, it really does make you think. You have to be happy with yourself first," said Betty. "To make a marriage work you have to have respect for each other at every stage and don't forget to love, love, love one another and here's the hard part... no matter what!"

Revolving their lives around the comings and goings of their big family, Jack says always be agreeable and end all conversations with "Please remember that I love you."

Looking back on their early days in New York and walks through Central Park, the Marquardts often remember the Latin words of wisdom to live by inscribed on a large marble bench they'd pass, honoring one of the park's founders, Waldo Hutchins.

Alteri Vivas Oportet si Vis Tibi Vivere.

Translation: "One must live for another if he wishes to live for himself."

GAME ON!

Join Us for the Super Bowl

The Super Bowl is this **Sunday, February 11** and your favorite Reef restaurants are offering specials to help you get in the game.

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From noon to 9pm, order 10 wings and a pint of draft beer for \$18. Wing sauce includes Garlic Parmesan, Buffalo, BBQ and Jamaican Jerk.

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Burgee Bar

Specials include buffalo chicken egg rolls, loaded tater tots, and smash burgers.

For hours of operation, see page 31.

NEWS FROM THE MEDICAL CENTER

Medical Center Visiting Physician Program

Addition of an Ear, Nose & Throat Specialist

The Medical Center is pleased to announce the addition of Pablo Arango, M.D., to their visiting specialist's program. Dr. Arango is a board-certified Otolaryngologist.

He graduated Magna Cum Laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Vanderbilt University in 1993 and received his M.D. from the Vanderbilt School of Medicine in 1997. Originally from Colombia, Dr. Arango grew up in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. He moved to Brooklyn,



Pablo Arango, M.D.

N.Y. where he joined a private practice ENT group. During his time there, he was Chief of Otolaryngology at Long Island Jewish-Forest Hills Hospital where he was involved in teaching medical residents.

After 14 years, he decided it was time to move back to South Florida with his wife and two daughters and start his own practice. His practice interests include the full scope of (ENT) ear, nose and throat problems. He enjoys seeing patients of all

ages and has a special interest in pediatric care.

His next clinic date at the Medical Center will be March 1st, 2024.

Visit us on the web at www.mcor.org to see the complete list of over 25 specialists. You may book an appointment online or call 305-367-6702 for further information.

Coming Soon!

• **Boutique D' Reef**

March 5-7

• **Annual "Fun-Raiser"**

March 12th & 13th

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VISITING SPECIALIST SCHEDULE

Please bring your identification and insurance cards to each visiting specialist appointment. They bill separately from the Medical Center. To schedule with a visiting dermatologist, please call their office directly. For all other specialists, please call 305-367-6702.

<p>Audiology Natalie Crespi Feb. 14, 20, 21, 28</p> <p>Daisy Elwick Feb. 12, 13, 26, 27</p> <p>Cardiology Julio Barcena Feb 9, March 8, April 12</p> <p>Howard Bush Feb 15, March 14, April 18</p> <p>Colorectal Surgery Dan Ruiz Feb. 19, March 18, April 15</p> <p>Dermatology Alexandra Price Feb. 16, March 15, April 19, May 17</p> <p>Alysa Herman (305) 444-4979 Feb. 15, March 7, 21</p> <p>Debra Price (305) 670-1111 Feb. 16, March 1, 15</p>	<p>Jill Waibel (305) 279-6060 Feb. 12, March 11, April 5</p> <p>Stephanie Nicolau (305) 740-6181 x1 Feb. 7</p> <p>Varee Poochareon (305) 740-6181 x1 Feb. 14, 21, 28</p> <p>Endocrinology Heberto Valdes March 1, April 5</p> <p>Gastroenterology Sandra Rodriguez Feb. 13, March 6</p> <p>Gynecology Jason James March 14, April 11, May 9</p> <p>Jila Senemar Feb. 13, March 12, April 14, May 7</p> <p>Holistic Medicine David Coppola (305) 451-1819 Feb. 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, 29</p>	<p>I.V. Therapy Scott Williams (305) 907-7550 Feb. 12, 19, 26</p> <p>Nephrology Anthony Farias March 18, April 22</p> <p>Neurology Victor Faradji March 7, April 4</p> <p>Neuro Spine Nancy Epstein Feb. 14, March 20</p> <p>Raul Vasquez Castellanos March 12, April 9, May 14</p> <p>Ophthalmology Bascom Palmer 786-530-2289 Feb. 27, 29, April 5, 6</p> <p>Zach Segal Feb. 20, March 19, April 16</p>	<p>Optometry Lauren Nicholas March 1, April 5, May 3</p> <p>Susanna Tamkins Feb. 16, March 15, April 19</p> <p>Orthopedic Sport Medicine Michael Swartzon March 8</p> <p>Orthopedic Surgery Joseph Fernandez March 15, April 19</p> <p>Derek Papp Feb. 29, March 14, 28</p> <p>James Voglino Feb. 9, March 8</p> <p>Orthopedic Hand Surgery Roberto Miki Feb. 23, March 22</p> <p>Pediatrics Rosa Fernandez Tele-Med 954-385-6277 (Option 1)</p>	<p>Plastic Surgery Ramiro Perez March 4, April 8</p> <p>Podiatry Brigette Smith Feb. 14, 28, March 13, 27</p> <p>Polly Reeves Feb. 15, March 14, April 11</p> <p>Sophia Masri Feb 23, March 22,</p> <p>Psychology Joseph Mora Feb. 19, March 11</p> <p>Pulmonary & Sleep Disorders Raul Valor Feb. 9, March 15, April 12</p> <p>Spine Care & Pain Management Ronald Tolchin Feb. 6, 20, March 5, 19</p> <p>Urology Dani Papir 786-530-2289 Tele-Health</p> <p>Lunan Ji April 3</p>
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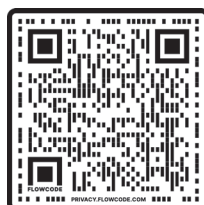
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MEMBER NEWS

Ocean Reef Conservation Association Complimentary Presentation

**Tuesday, March 5th at 4 p.m.
The Cultural Center**

Please join wildlife photographer and author Kirsten Hines and Audubon Florida's Director Julie Wraithmell for a captivating visual and narrative journey into Wild Florida: an Animal Odyssey. Intimate and artistic photographs complemented by essays and observations feature a variety of wildlife that thrive here, including Florida panthers, Roseate Spoonbills, loggerhead sea turtles, and more.

This thoughtful photography presentation offers a current perspective of Florida's wildlife and the environment they need to flourish. Learn about endemic species that occur only in Florida, and animals that originated elsewhere in the world but now call Florida home. The best nature photography does not just capture the imagination-they help both educate and inspire action.



Michael Fay celebrated his 60th birthday in true Ocean Reef style surrounded by friends and family numbering more than 300. With two bands and plentiful libations, the dance floor was always full especially when Michael took the mic! Pictured from left: Michael Fay, Billy Fay (Michael's brother), Pat Fay (Michael's mother), Paula Fay and their children Marla and Merrett.



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Thank You Ocean Reef Mentors

Submitted on behalf of Monroe
County Education Foundation

The Monroe County Education Foundation (MCEF) would like to extend its deepest gratitude to the mentors from the Ocean Reef community for their dedication and positive impact on the Take Stock in Children (TSIC) program in the Upper Keys. With initiatives such as Take Stock in Children, MCEF is committed to providing opportunities and resources that propel students toward a brighter future.

Members and Take Stock mentors **Bettina** and **Buck Schottland**, **Loretta Mackay**, **Christie** and **Bob Zoba**, and **Esther Lerner** and **Dan Carrico** joined MCEF President Bryan Green, County Mayor and MCEF Board Member



Bettina Schottland, Loretta Mackay, Buck Schottland, Christie Zoba, Bryan Green, Chuck Licis-Masson, Esther Lerner and Bob Zoba pictured with KCF luncheon speaker Lt. Col. Dan Rooney.

Holly Raschein, and Executive Director Chuck Licis-Masson at last month's Keys Children's Foundation Luncheon.

"We are forever grateful to the Ocean Reef community members who volunteer their time to mentor a Take Stock scholar," emphasized Chuck Licis-Masson. "Our eligible scholars cannot enter the program until we have a

mentor trained and ready to be matched with the student. The dedication of these mentors ensures that every child who is prepared to commit to their education has the support they need to succeed."

Take Stock in Children has welcomed a record intake of 93 scholars this school year, including 41 outstanding new students from the Upper Keys,

bringing the total number of TSIC students served in Upper Keys schools to an impressive 113. Ocean Reef mentors like Esther, Dan, Christie, Bob, Buck and Loretta, who generously volunteer 30 minutes of their time each week, are not just guiding students academically; they are truly changing lives and shaping futures.

The Take Stock in Children program is a comprehensive program that provides deserving low-income students with a caring volunteer mentor and a college scholarship. The unwavering support from mentors empowers these scholars to excel in their studies, graduate from high school, and succeed in college and the workforce.

If you are interested in learning more about the Take Stock in Children program or becoming a mentor, please reach out to Chuck Licis-Masson at 305-293-1546 or via email at chuck.licis@monroecountyedfound.com.

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Whistlepig Pete?



"Nature
Notes"
by Nancy
Zakon

Not exactly. It's Punxsutawney Phil. Last week's celebration prompts questions of origin and history of this odd tradition. It begins further back than expected. As with many holidays, Groundhog Day is an ancient overlay of several cultural traditions. To quickly summarize: the beginning of Spring is an inspiration, and for Celtic Pagans, a celebration. As Christianity spread across Europe, the early Spring celebration coincided with Candlemas (denoting Jesus' first visit to the Temple) exactly 40 days after Christmas. In parts of Europe people believed a sunny day for Candlemas meant 40 more days of snow and cold. German folk carried it further: it was a sunny day only if small animals like badgers saw their shadows. The Germans brought along this tradition when they immigrated to Pennsylvania in 1700-1800's. They chose groundhogs, native to the area for their "weather forecasting".

The nationwide celebration of Groundhog Day began in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania on February 2, 1887. A local newspaper editor pitched the idea of a celebration to a group named Punxsutawney Groundhog Club, a fun group of businessmen and groundhog hunters. Hunters? Yep. They hosted a summertime groundhog hunt and picnic. Are you tempted? The menu included cooked groundhog meat (tastes "between pork and chicken") and something called "groundhog punch," a combination of vodka, milk, eggs, orange juice, "and other



The "all knowing" groundhog.

ingredients." That should fix you up!

Where is Punxsutawney?

The map shows 84 miles northeast of Pittsburgh. The Delaware tribe of Native Americans initially settled there naming a campsite halfway between the Allegheny and the Susquehanna Rivers, the name meaning "the town of the sand flies".

Finally, a note or two on groundhogs: amazing, tough critters, regardless of their eating your gardens! Because they inhabit a swath from mid- to northern US, lower Canada and even Alaska, they are called a variety of names including whistlepigs (whistling when in danger), a chuck, wood-shock, groundpig and Canada marmot. Groundhog tunnels can be 50 feet long, include a water trap, a series of sleeping rooms and a separate bathroom! In winter, a groundhog truly hibernates: his body temperature lowers from 100 to 35 degrees, as opposed to a bear's temperature that doesn't lower at all.

Phil's real name is 'Punxsutawney Phil, Seer of Seers, Sage of Sages, Prognosticator of Prognosticators, and Weather Prophet Extraordinary'. Not to spoil a great party or fun tradition, Phil's accuracy is 38%. Pass the Punxsutawney punch!

R & R

"Reflection & Romance"



by Jody Steele



Sunrise or sunset, Greenberg Park is the perfect "secret" spot for relaxation and reflection.

We are well into the Season at Ocean Reef Club. Our calendar is delightfully busy. However, sometimes it is nice to find a quiet place to be alone or with a special someone. These "secret spots" do exist right here at Ocean Reef.

Greenberg Park – Along the shore, sitting at the gazebo, or perched on your golf cart... there is always a view. Sunset anyone? No beverage, except water though.

The Point – The sunrise is beautiful at The Point and I

hear it is usually pretty quiet. There are cocktails on weekend evenings if you crave some socializing, but other nights are lovely, too. Just grab a beverage at the Beach Bar and stroll to The Point.

Buccaneer Island – After the beach crowd heads home, this huge area is perfect for relaxing on a lounge chair or taking a

swing in a hammock. And you can gaze at the Atlantic and could be lucky enough to see a cruise ship go by.

Fishing Village – Lots of comfortable places here in the midst of all the action. Choose your favorite ice cream cone and sit at a table on the dock, have dinner on the porch upstairs at Gianni or enjoy a

cocktail on the balcony next to their bar. The Raw Bar has a few tables for two out on their dock and sitting on the channel in the evening is pretty lovely. Port O' Call has the large patio with comfy chairs, but the tables on the walkways are nicely spaced for two. Arriving early is a recommendation for some of these spots.

Sunrise Bridge – This is one of my favorites, but now it is unavailable. The mangroves at night along with the stars make it dreamy and it is so quiet. One you might want to revisit at a later date.

Dockmaster's Office Deck – When not used for a special event, this upstairs deck at the Ocean Reef Marina is a beautiful retreat any time of the day or early evening. Hoping you have some of your own "spots" to add to the list.

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A Celebration of Giving!

Note from Ocean Reef Chamber President - Brad Copeland

I'd like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to each of you who played a part in the remarkable weekend of giving that unfolded during the All Charities event. It is with true gratitude that I reflect on the spirit of generosity and compassion demonstrated by our community during such occasions.

With a personal history spanning nearly four decades within Ocean Reef, I have seen the remarkable generosity and compassion that define us as a community. From my parents' involvement as Patron Members to my present roles as President of the Ocean Reef Chamber of Commerce and proprietor of Going-Aire, I have been privileged to experience firsthand the profound impact of our community's philanthropic endeavors. Furthermore, my involvement as Chair of The Florida Keys Children's Shelter, a member of The Academy at Ocean Reef's Board, and New Hope CORPS' board has provided me with real insight into the transformative power of collective giving that Ocean Reef has provided.

To each Club member who graciously donated their resources and time, I say thank you. Your contributions will undoubtedly make a tangible difference in the lives of those most in need within our community. I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the business community for their commitment to giving back to the community that sustains us all. Your steadfast support underscores the interconnectedness and values that define us as a community. Above all, I extend my thanks to those who will directly benefit from the essential funds raised during this event. Your resilience and contributions inspire us all, and your stories serve as a reminder of the true purpose behind our collective efforts.

I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the dedicated staff whose tireless efforts brought this event to fruition. From the executive team to those who labored tirelessly behind the scenes, your dedication and commitment are appreciated. Again, thank you to all who participated in this extraordinary event. May you be richly blessed for your selflessness and compassion.

THANK YOU!
-Brad Copeland

Thank you to all our Chamber Members who donated their time, talent, or items:



Another Hero in our Midst

By Jody Steele

Ocean Reef Club is a treasure to all of us and we know that it takes an enormous effort from "behind the scene" Associates to make our community so special. Traditionally, quarterly and yearly, the Club recognizes Associates for outstanding service. It is always an honor to share one of these stories.

Dedication

For 17 years, Joseph Shackelford has been an integral part of the Solid Waste Management team at Ocean Reef Club. He arrives five days a week to start his shift at 6:30 a.m. Joseph picks up his truck and does his assigned route. On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday he picks up the trash in the same neighborhoods he has for many years. On Tuesday and Thursday, he does special pickups



Joseph Shackelford, from Solid Waste Management, is the 2023 Associate of the Year. Pictured with Laura Ciampa, VP of HR, and President Alex Tonarelli.

all over The Reef.

Joseph is a "one-man show" in that he and his peers who work in Solid Waste mostly work alone. He does this all with a friendly smile and a wave and really appreciates Members greeting him in return.

Associate of the Year

This deserving and humble man

was recently awarded "Associate of the Year". Joseph shared that he was surprised and honored to receive this award in front of his coworkers and peers at the annual Associate Holiday Party, held in Town Hall. Jorge Espinoza, Solid Waste Manager, shared his respect for Joseph and the work he has done for almost two decades.

Our Part

So what can we do to help Joseph and this dependable team? Joseph and Jorge explained that loose trash is their biggest challenge. It really is our responsibility as Members to bag and tie our trash before placing it in the bins. Also, remember to call Solid Waste Management when you have heavy trash and items that do not belong in plastic trash bags. The Team picks up those goods on Tuesdays and Thursdays—just call 305-367-5992 to schedule a time. Extra bins can also be ordered at this number.

Our sincere congratulations to Joseph for his award and long service to our community.



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WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

9 FRIDAY

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8am • Croquet Lawn

Everglades Alligator Farm Tour
8:45am • Meet at Nature Center

Equity Get-Together Rise & Shine Social
9am-11am • Sailfish Room & Patio

Deep H2O Class
10am • Member Fitness Pool

Gameio Tennis Clinic
10 & 11am • Tennis & Games Center

I05 Tennis Tournament
11am • Tennis & Game Center

Stretch and Mobility Class
3pm • Member Fitness Center

Self-Defense Class
4pm • Member Fitness Center

Reef Club Kids Open
6-10pm • RCK Clubhouse

Live DJ at The Burgee Bar
9pm • Burgee Bar

10 SATURDAY

ORC Run Club
7am • Member Fitness Center

Everesting Class
8am • Member Fitness Center

Torah Study Session
9:30am • Chapel Fellowship Hall

Gentle Yoga & Cycle Class
10am • Member Fitness Center

Dancing Through the Decades Class
10am • Member Fitness Center

Gameio Tennis Clinic
10 & 11am • Tennis & Games Center

Rod & Gun Club Sporting Clays
10am-3pm • Card Sound Range

Grand Seafood Buffet
6pm-8:30pm • Card Sound Range

Live DJ at The Burgee Bar
9pm • Burgee Bar

11 SUNDAY

Cardio Tennis Clinic
8 & 9am • Tennis & Games Center

Ladies' & Men's Pickleball Doubles Club Championships
8:30am • Tennis & Game Center

Reformer Pilates & Vinyasa Yoga Class
9am • Member Fitness Center

Reef Club Kids Open
9am-1pm • RCK Clubhouse

Beginners Sailing Clinic
9:30am • Meet at the Pool Desk

Aqua Cardio Class
11am • Member Fitness Pool

Junior Tennis Clinic
11am • Tennis & Games Center

Aqua Cardio Class
11am • Member Fitness Pool

Reef Rec Room Open-Tailgate Party
3pm-10pm • Reef Rec Room

Super Bowl LVIII On the BIG Screen
5pm Pre-Game • 6pm Kick Off
The Cultural Center

Cocktails
5-8pm • The Point (Members Only)

12 MONDAY

Tai Chi Class
7:30-8am • Member Fitness Center

Cardio Pickleball Clinic
8am • Tennis & Games Center

Move Better Fitness Class
9am • Member Fitness Center

Cooking School Class: Commitment to Excellence
9:30am-12:30pm • Carysfort Kitchen

Special Hands Class for Canasta Players - Hosted by Claudia Langworthy
10am • Card & Games Room

Farmer's Market Open
11am-4pm • Field at Four Corners

Benefits of Water Safety for Children & Adults
2pm • Member Fitness Center

Men's Night Tennis League
5:30-7pm • Tennis & Games Center

13 TUESDAY

Pro Agility Class
7am • Member Fitness Center

Cardio Pickleball Clinic
8am • Tennis & Games Center

Heart Golf Tournament (18 Holes)
8:30am Shotgun • Dolphin Course

Clinic or Private Lesson Hosted by Jay Devillers
8am-5pm • Tennis & Games Center

Cardio Boxing Class
8:30am • MFC Outside Tent

A Flight Croquet League
9am-12pm • Croquet Lawn

DUPR Rating Round Robin
10-11:30am • Tennis & Games Center

Rod & Gun Club Sporting Clays
10am-3pm • Card Sound Range

Heart Golf Tournament (9 Holes)
10:30am Shotgun • Hammock Course

Aging Gracefully (From the Inside Out)
4pm • Member Fitness Center

Potluck Gathering
6pm • Chapel Fellowship Hall

Fat Tuesday Celebration
6pm-8pm • Town Hall Waterside

Vine to Table Dinner: Carnival Extravaganza
6:30pm • Carysfort Kitchen

Zoetic Stage: Side by Side by Sondheim
8pm • Cultural Center

14 WEDNESDAY

Foam Roll and Core Class
7am • Member Fitness Center

Tai Chi Class
7:30-8am • Member Fitness Center

Sweat Class & Reformer Pilates Class
8am • Member Fitness Center

"A" Flight Level Cardio Tennis
8am • Tennis & Games Center

Clinic or Private Lesson Hosted by Jay Devillers
8am-12pm • Tennis & Games Center

Valentine's Day Couples Workout Class
11am • Member Fitness Center

Valentine's Day in the Fishing Village
11am-4pm • The Fishing Village

Couples in Wine Tasting
5pm-7pm • Port O'Call

15 THURSDAY

Pro Agility Class
7am • Member Fitness Center

ORC Swim Club
7 & 8am • Member Fitness Pool

Men's Pickleball League
8am • Tennis & Games Center

9 Hole LGA Ringer Event
8-10am • Hammock Course

Rod & Gun Club Handgun Range
10am-2pm • Card Sound Range

Rod & Gun Club Sporting Clays
10am-3pm • Card Sound Range

Callaway Demo Day
10am-3pm • The Range

Farmer's Market Open
11am-4pm • Field at Four Corners

Croquet Mixer Open Play
2-5pm • Croquet Lawn

Importance of Stretching & Mobility
3pm • Member Fitness Center

Raw Bar Lobster Bake
5-9pm • Raw Bar

Specialty Dinner: Bourbon Indulgence
6:30pm • Carysfort Kitchen

Burgee Bar Karaoke
9pm-12am • Burgee Bar

ON SCREEN & STAGE

General Admission \$12, Donors \$10
Children (under 12) \$6
Movie Hotline: 305-367-6306

"The Boys in the Boat" (PG13)

Friday, February 9 • 4:30 & 7:30pm
Wed., February 14 • 4:30 & 7:30pm
Thursday, Feb. 15 • 7:30pm

Runtime: 2hrs 3mins

Premise: Set in the summer of 1957, with a 1930s-set story centered on the University of Washington's rowing team, from their Depression-era beginnings to winning gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics.

"Anyone But You" (R)

Friday, February 16 • 4:30 & 7:30pm
Sunday, February 18 • 4:30 & 7:30pm
Wednesday, February 21 • 7:30pm

Runtime: 1hr 43mins

Premise: After an amazing first date, Bea and Ben's fiery attraction turns ice-cold-until they find themselves unexpectedly reunited at a destination wedding in Australia. So they do what any two mature adults would do: pretend to be a couple.

Super Bowl LVIII On the BIG Screen!

San Francisco 49ers vs Kansas City Chiefs

Sun. Feb. 11
5:00pm – Pre-Game • 6:30pm – Kick-Off
Complimentary. Drinks & Food available to purchase.

Live Performance: David Foster, Chris Botti & Katharine McPhee

Tue. Feb. 6 – 5:00pm & 8:00pm
Tickets: \$300 Donors - \$350 Non-Donors
Tickets@oceanreef.com

Zoetic Stage: Side by Side by Sondheim

Tuesday, Feb. 13 – 8:00pm
Tickets: \$175 Donor - \$200 Non-Donor
Optional Pre-performance Dinner \$63++
This Tony Award-winning musical celebrates the incomparable genius of Broadway's most prolific and celebrated lyricist/composer.

John Fogerty Outdoors

Saturday, Feb. 17 – 8:00PM
Tickets: Donor \$350 - Non-Donor \$395
As the leader of Creedence Clearwater Revival, Fogerty forged groundbreaking sound all his own. Among his many hit songs, highlights include Centerfield, Proud Mary, Susie Q, Fortunate Son, Born on the Bayou, Bad Moon Rising, and Have You Ever Seen the Rain, among others.

Cultural Center Museum

Daily 9am-4pm • Open During Movies

Library Hours
Monday-Thursday • 10am-2pm

CLUB SHOPPING

Joan the Shopper

PUPPY LOVE.... I have been a dog owner for one month, 14 days, 6 hours and 43 minutes. To be honest I don't own Daisy Mae, she owns me. She sets the schedule for her meals, walks, and the much-anticipated treats. She has even established our bedtime. (This shameless little dog has shared my bed since the day we met)

Puppy Love, as it turns out, is the real thing. At Ocean Reef, instead of feeling a little crazy for devoting so much time and concern to an "animal", most members assure me the crazy thing is that it took me so long to join the cult.... Now, just like the estimated 560 other dog owners at OR, I'm unabashedly showing photos of Daisy Mae on her hind feet, her front paws in a begging position; or Daisy Mae cuddled into her favorite spot on the top of the couch in my office; or Daisy Mae stalking one of those tiny lizards, which she occasionally catches and commits to a long and torturous death.... The addition of a dog to the household requires a fresh look for canine products at the Ocean Reef shops. Here is the result of my first dog-related shopathon, which I limited to the OR **Gift Shop....** *Dog Leash* – decorated with the OR Burgee (\$25); **Dog Collar** – features ORC in big white letters on a royal blue background. The edges are trimmed in red and the brass buckle is engraved



with a bone. (*Impo* \$26); **Doggie Onesie** – (they call it a T-shirt). It comes in gray, but I bought the bright red one with the prominent OR burgee on the front, which would be Daisy's back (\$26).... One other dog related item, Apple's **AirTag**, which came to me, not from the Gift Shop, but from my neighbors **Craig and Em Wierda**. Basically the AirTag is a small disc that attaches to Daisy Mae's collar and will allow me to track her, all too frequent, dashes for freedom. I will no longer be compelled to run through my neighbor's yards shouting "Daisy Mae COME." Now a map appears on my iPhone that shows exactly where my almost perfect dog is happily destroying someone's landscaping....**LAST WORD:** *Puppy Love is accepting your loved one's imperfections....***HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY.**

by Joan Birsh

OCEAN REEF STORE HOURS

Member Fitness Center

Monday – Friday 6am-7pm.
Saturday & Sunday 7am-5pm.
305-367-5820.

Ocean Reef Gift Shop

Daily 7am-7pm.
305-367-2611, ext. 7139.

The Burgee Shop

Daily 9am-5pm.
305-367-2611, ext. 5515.

Tennis Pro Shop

Daily 8am-5:30pm
305-367-6583.

Port O'Call Wine & Spirits

In the Fishing Village.
Monday – Thursday
& Sunday 11am-8pm
Friday & Saturday 11am-9pm
305-367-5999.

The Spa at Ocean Reef

Monday – Saturday 8:30am-
5:30pm. Sunday 9:30am-4:30pm.
305-367-6506.

Golf Shop

Daily 7:30am-5:30pm.
305-367-5912.

WINING & DINING

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12 – SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Palm Court

Lunch Daily 11:30am-3:30pm

Beach Bar & Grill

Beverages Daily 11am-8pm
Food Mon.-Thurs. 11:30am-4pm • Fri.-Sun 11:30am-5pm

Everton's Rum Bar

Beverages Thurs.-Sun. 2-6pm

Islander & Sushi Bar*

Mon.-Thurs. & Sun. 5:30-9pm • Fri. & Sat. 5:30-10pm
Equity Member Only Night Thursday

The Ocean Room

Breakfast Mon.-Fri. 7-11am
Buffet Sat. 7-11am, Sun. 7am-12pm
Dinner Tues.-Thurs. & Sun. 5:30-9pm • Fri. & Sat. 5:30-10pm
Asian Buffet Friday • Equity Member Only Night Tuesday

Gianni Ristorante*

Dinner Mon.-Thurs. & Sun. 5:30-9pm
Fri. & Sat. 5:30-10pm
Equity Member Only Night Monday

Raw Bar

Lunch Daily 11am-4pm
Dinner Daily 4-9pm (Lobster Bake on Thursday)

Port O' Call Wine & Spirits

Mon.-Thurs. & Sun. 11am-8pm
Fri. & Sat. 11am-9pm

Reef Treats

Mon.-Thurs. & Sun. 7am-9pm
Fri. & Sat. 7am-10pm

Reef Hut

Lunch Mon.-Sat. 11am-4pm
Dinner Mon.-Fri. 5-8pm

Reef Eats

Breakfast Mon-Sat 7am-11am, Sun 7am-12pm
Dinner Mon.-Thurs. & Sun. 4-10pm • Fri. & Sat. 4-11pm
305-367-5898

Fitness Café

Mon.-Fri. 7am-5pm • Sat. & Sun. 7am-3pm

The Point (Members Only)

Coffee Sat. & Sun. 7-10am
Cocktails Fri.-Sun. 5-8pm

Burgee Bar

Dinner Daily 5-10pm
Cocktails Mon.-Thurs. & Sun. 5-11pm
Fri. & Sat. 5pm-1am

Reef Lounge

Small Plates Daily 5-10pm
Cocktails Mon.-Thurs. & Sun. 5-11pm
Fri. & Sat. 5pm-12am

CH Prime (Members Only)*

Dinner Wed., Thurs., & Sun. 5:30-9pm • Fri. & Sat. 5:30-10pm
Equity Member Only Night Wednesday

CH Lounge (Members Only)

Open Wed., Thurs., & Sun. 5-9pm • Fri. & Sat. 5-10pm

Toski's

Snack Bar Mon.-Sun. 9am-4pm
305-367-5835

Town Hall Waterside

Open • Fri. & Sat. 5-10pm • Thurs. & Sun. 5-9pm

Grill Room (Members Only)

Lunch Mon.-Fri. 11am-4pm • Brunch Sat. & Sun. 9am-4pm
Dinner Daily 4-9pm

Rum Runner

Open Daily 9am-4pm

Visit oceanreef.com/Dining for menus and weekly specials.
For dining reservations, call 305-367-5931.
*Reservations required.

Garden Group Tours Viscaya Museum & Gardens



by Annie Miles

If you enjoy the charm and the beauty of Renaissance Italy, it lies delightfully within your reach just an hour from Ocean Reef. The beautiful Viscaya Museum and Gardens in Coconut Grove is a stunning display of the opulence of the early 1900s and was the impressive setting for the February meeting of the Garden Group at Ocean Reef. The estate was built on Biscayne Bay by industrialist and conservationist James Deering, of the Deering McCormick-International Harvester fortune, in an effort to conserve the landscape of the area and protect the wildlife and plants. He also chose the location because he suffered with pernicious anemia, for which doctors recommended sunshine and a warm climate. Viscaya took years to build and the artistic supervisor for all phases of the design and furnishing of the home was Paul Chalfin, a young painter and designer. Deering chose the Caravel, a Spanish sailing ship, as his emblem for Viscaya because it



Volunteer guide Ira explains the history and wonder of Viscaya to Garden Group members.



Garden Group members and guests Loretta Mackay, Arleigh Tysoe, Kathy Bahl, Vicki Goldsmith, and Linda Roaseau enjoy the rose garden.



The majesty of the Living Room includes a unique hand-made pipe organ and distinctive furnishings.



View of the villa from the formal gardens.

was the vessel that Spain used to conquer the world. Although a Spanish architectural motif seemed the obvious choice for the home, considering Florida's Spanish heritage, Deering was fascinated by Italian villas which became his inspiration. Viscaya was influenced by the Veneto and Tuscan Italian Renaissance models and also incorporates Baroque, Rococo and Neo-classic

styles. Formal Italian and French garden elements were combined with Cuban limestone and Floridian coral architectural trim and landscaped with native plants suited to the habitat and climate. The villa's museum contains 34 decorated rooms of distinctive furnishings with an emphasis on 15th-19th century art. Garden Group members enjoyed an hour-long tour of the first floor of the villa, and then spent their remaining time exploring the rest of the house and the gardens. For member **Loretta Mackay**, it was particularly special, as she fondly recalled the wedding of her son 17 years ago, which was held in both the villa and the gardens. "Viscaya was a magical setting for the wedding, and our trip today reminded me of its elegance and beauty. It is truly a South Florida treasure."

In 1952, the home and the formal gardens, which needed significant restoration, were purchased by Dade County for

the purpose of establishing an art museum. Deering's heirs then donated the villa's furnishings and antiquities to the museum. Viscaya began operation in 1953 as the Dade County Art Museum. In 1994, the Viscaya estate was designated as a National Historic Landmark.

The Garden Group will host their biennial House & Garden Tour on **Friday, March 22, 2024** from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Five gorgeous homes and a lovely backyard garden will delight patrons and proceeds go to support conservation and to help sponsor local horticultural, civic and environmental projects and non-profits. Tickets are now on sale for \$75 and are a tax-deductible donation. They may be purchased from any Garden Group member, at the Farmer's Market, J. McLaughlin or by contacting House Tour Chairman **Loretta Mackay** (305-304-3284) or Treasurer **Joan Flippin** (703-628-9127).




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Adventures Available!

Join The Dive Shop

By Lisa Bailey Cassidy, The Dive Shop Co-owner

If you're looking for fun outdoor and on-the-water activities for your family, consider the offerings at The Dive Shop at The Reef. Last week we brought you the 50-year history of dive operations here at Ocean Reef and this week we bring the current activities and adventures available.

Today, along with a full retail store featuring scuba, snorkel and spearfishing brands such as Scuba Pro and Riffe International, as well as an inventory of attractive wearables (many made from recycled plastics from the ocean), The Dive Shop offers the following menu of activities at Ocean Reef:

Daily Snorkel & Dive Trips
9 a.m. to 12 p.m. & 1 - 4 p.m.) dive guides provided; snorkel guides available

Explore the waters of Carysfort Lighthouse and the Northeast reefs of the Florida Keys on one of our two vessels, *Cool Coral Cat* and *Keep Coral Cool*. Carysfort has an unusual "double reef" configuration located in the Florida Keys Marine Sanctuary. There is a proliferation of shallow corals, perfect for snorkeling near the lighthouse. To the south of Carysfort Lighthouse, a broad expanse of elkhorn coral forms Carysfort South, a large shallow reef. Offshore, massive star corals loom over a labyrinth of under ridges, gullies, and an occasional swim-through tunnel along with great marine life, the waters of the Florida Keys provide the perfect depth for both snorkelers and divers.

Snorkeling can be enjoyed by most ages (5 and up) and



Experience the beauty of our local reefs through diving and snorkeling trips with The Dive Shop.

requires no prior experience. A snorkeling trip is often the first thing a Member brings to their guests to enjoy. Truly, it is the perfect introduction to the 'reef' of Ocean Reef. Right here in our own backyard is the only living coral reef in the North American continent.

Scuba Instruction & Certification
 A Professional PADI operation, we offer a range of certifications from Open Water to DiveMaster. The Dive Shop has been lucky to have certified generations of divers within the ORC Community.

Refresher Course
 Has it been a long time between dives? Then take a refresher course with us to get back under water.

Discover Scuba Diving
 Not a certified diver? No problem. Discover the wonder of our reefs and marine life while you try scuba diving on our one-day course.

Summer Scuba & Eco Camp
 Become Ocean Reef's newest Jr. Open or Advanced Open Water diver. Our summer camp will provide you with all the instruction and needed gear for a full week of excitement. Keep an eye out for our Marine Conservation camp.



The Dive Shop can host private events on either of their two vessels, like this wedding party on Cool Coral Cat.

Daily Sunset Trips
 Cruise into the sunset onboard our vessel and enjoy a relaxing tour around Ocean Reef and Card Sound.

Eco Mangrove & Canal Tours
 From the comfort of our vessel, enjoy one of the most important ecosystems in the Florida Keys, learn about the mangrove habitat and its importance in the

environment.

Private Charters
 For any of the aforementioned activities, we offer private charters for families, business groups, schools, weddings and more.

To schedule your next outing and adventure with The Dive Shop at The Reef, call 305-367-3051 or visit thediveshoporc.com.

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And the Winners Are...



by Sean Carroll,
Director of Beverage

Of the many wonderful events that take place during All Charities Weekend, one of the Members' favorites is voting on which new wines will be featured property-wide on all of the wine lists. As in years past, there were 10 white wines and 10 red wines to taste and vote on. It was a wonderful turnout last Friday, with so many visiting the wine tasting in between bidding. So here are your 2024 All Charities Wines:

2022 Rombauer Sauvignon Blanc, Sonoma & Napa, California
In 1972, when Koerner and



Joan Rombauer at the tasting table during Friday Night's All Charities Silent Auction.

Joan Rombauer moved their two children, two horses and five dogs to Napa Valley, they were already well acquainted with the natural relationship between food and wine. Koerner and Joan established Rombauer Vineyards in 1980, and in 1984 they released their first California-style Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon wines. Over four

decades later, the winery has become widely acclaimed for its distinctive, fruit-driven expressions of these beloved varieties and more. The fruit for the Rombauer Sauvignon Blanc comes from premium growing sites in Sonoma and Napa counties that offer abundant sunshine yet moderate temperatures - ideal conditions. Lifted aromas of key lime, honeydew melon, and passionfruit all jump out of the glass supported by hints of freshly cut grass in the background. Those fresh lime and honeydew flavors continue to the palate, joined by kiwi and subtle herbaceous notes, all mingling together in a lively way. The wine is linear and focused, ending with enticing, mouthwatering acidity that will leave you wanting more.

2020 Beringer "Q" Red Blend, Napa Valley, California

The history of Beringer wines dates back to 1868, when Jacob Beringer, enticed by the opportunities of the new world, sailed from his home in Mainz, Germany, to New York. However, after hearing that the rocky hillside soil and fertile valley floor of Napa Valley resembled that of vineyards back home in Germany, Jacob made his way to California in 1869. He became cellar foreman for Charles Krug, one of the first commercial winemakers in Napa Valley. A few years later, in 1875, Jacob and his

brother, Frederick, purchased 215 acres, right next door to Charles Krug in St. Helena, for \$14,500. This parcel of land, known as Los Hermanos (the brothers), became the heart of the Beringer estate. On this estate, the Beringer Brothers oversaw their first harvest and crush in 1876. With Jacob serving as winemaker and Frederick as financier, the brothers made approximately 40,000 gallons of wine, or 18,000 cases, that first year. Today, like its investments in innovations, Beringer has invested deeply in its winemakers, with an average tenure of almost 16 years per winemaker. The Q Red Blend showcases traditional Bordeaux varietals with a foundation of Cabernet Sauvignon, the backbone and undisputed star of Beringer. In this vintage, the blend anchors with 86% Cabernet Sauvignon, with Merlot, Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc. Merlot contributes to a round mouthfeel and soft tannins, Cabernet Franc adds great color and unique aromatics, Petit Verdot adds fullness and complexity, while a touch of Malbec adds a beautiful silkiness and depth of color to the final blend. Aromas of high-tone black fruits, maraschino cherries and brown spice are pronounced. The blueberry and red fruit notes are accented by notes of espresso and brown spice. The wine is juicy and plush on the palate with blackberry, tea and spice notes evident. The velvet tannins are mouthcoating and leave an almost chocolate note on the long, juicy fruit finish.

These wines will be making their debut in all Club locations beginning next week as we update the wine lists printed throughout property. As always, they will be in Port O' Call as well.

"Drinking good wine with good food in good company is one of life's most civilized pleasures."

Cheers!

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Artists in the Wild!



by Deborah Goodwin Geller

The recent Plein Air Paint Out was a huge success! This has become an annual event many look forward to. We are especially appreciative of all the members who were willing to host the artists in their home. Some of our host families reunited with artists from previous events and many new hosts formed a bond and made a new friend they hope to see again next year.

During the day I travelled around with my sidekick photographer (my husband **Alan Geller**) and what a



Julie Skoda

delight! We started at the Sailing Club with Charles Dickinson and heard all about the Plein Air concept, why he loves to participate and I must say the painting he was working on was impressive as he was working on it, but when we saw the finished product in the show that night it was spectacular!

Other artists we chatted with were Amanda Lovett, Linda Aprileti, Cathy Berne, Kathleen



Charles Dickinson

Berne, Brian Murphy, Pearl Horn, Carol Stockwaeson and our own Ocean Reef Member and teacher **Julie Skoda**. We found common ground whether it was past cities lived in or events we'd been to. I encourage you to look them up and see where they are participating in other Plein Air events around the country. There may be one close to your home base or summer home.

All in all each one we spoke to said they loved this event



Kathleen Berne

and especially The Reef for the diverse choice of subjects, the weather, and the people.

Friday night's Gallery showing of their work was not just well attended, it was packed! When I arrived I already saw red dots indicating sold paintings all over. There were even requests from some artists to do the same painting again for a new customer since it was sold! So word to the wise next year, come early!

Proposed for Membership

The following individuals are being considered for Ocean Reef Club membership. Direct communication concerning these nominations to Vice President of Membership, Islande Dillon, at 305-367-5921 or idillon@oceanreef.com.

Equity Membership

Angela and Scott Colman are new members applying for Equity membership. Mr. and Mrs. Colman are purchasing 59 Anchor Drive, Unit B and the equity from John Hession. Mr. and Mrs. Colman are residents of Tampa, Florida. They belong to Tampa Yacht & Country Club. Their sponsors are Tim Pruban, Mark Blackburn, and Gail Freed.

Shannon and Stephen Nolan are Social members applying for Equity membership. Mr. and Mrs. Nolan are purchasing 13 Anchor Drive, Unit B and the equity from Greg Schneiders. Mr. and Mrs. Nolan are residents of Fort Worth, Texas. They belong to

River Crest Country Club. Their sponsors are Colin Caldwell, Mark Blackburn, Clark Orr and Cynthia Egan on behalf of the Board of Directors.

Pia and Donald Allen Steinbrugge are new members applying for Equity membership. Mr. and Mrs. Steinbrugge are purchasing 63 Anchor Drive, Unit A and the equity from Stephen Elson. Mr. and Mrs. Steinbrugge are residents of Richmond, Virginia. They belong to The Country Club of Virginia. Their sponsors are Eric Harper, Tiff Armstrong and Mark Murphy.

Alicia and John Tlapek are Social waitlisted members applying for Equity membership. Mr. and Mrs. Tlapek are purchasing 7 Cay Harbor, Unit A and the equity from George Purnell. Mr. and Mrs. Tlapek are residents of Cherry Hills Village, Colorado. They belong to Cherry Hills Country Club, Country Club of the Rockies and Silverleaf Club. Their sponsors are Bill Koeblitz, Bill Rowley, and Jack Thomas.

RARE OPPORTUNITY!



Be part of the incredible expansion of Angelfish Cay's most sought out locations. Situated at the end of Angelfish canal provides unmatched views down the canal. 38' unassigned dockage is a bonus!

Expansion of this Premium 1BR, 1st floor canal-front unit to a 3BR 1,486 SF home will accommodate your family and friends.

This pre-construction offer will allow the lucky buyer to customize the floor plan to their specific requirements.

Scheduled to be completed prior to the beginning of the 2025 season. Price of \$3,500,000 is an unbelievable discount to market pricing! Price will increase at start of construction.

Architectural design has been approved by ORCA's design review panel but subject to final approval by ORCA and Monroe County. Owner is a licensed Broker in Georgia. The Buyer Agent's, if any, are protected.

CALL TOM 678-429-5849 FOR MORE INFO.

Farmer's Market Favorites



by Susan Bohan



Come check out the Kool Treats tent at the Farmer's Market. You can't miss it!

As you enter the Farmer's Market at Four Corners, on your left is a multi-colored pastel tent for Kool Treats. It usually has a line of Members thoughtfully choosing options for the much-praised Acai Bowls. So just what is an Acai Bowl and why is it the first stop for my children and five granddaughters when they visit?

For those, like me, who knew little about these treats, here are some facts:

- Made from the acai berry originating in Brazil
- It is pronounced ah-sigh-ee

from the Portuguese

- Each customized bowl takes about 5 minutes to create
- The berries are packed with antioxidants, fiber, vitamins, potassium and manganese
- Generally considered low in calories but depends on what add-ons you choose
- The creators of this American version, sisters Twann and Gwen began making these treats for their Miami neighborhood before realizing it could become a full-time business

When I last visited, **Angela**

Basciano was picking up her Acai Bowl filled with acai puree, bananas, strawberries, granola and coconut. "This is my first time buying one. A Member posted a picture of a bowl on Instagram and I thought it would be a healthy choice for lunch." It certainly looked delicious and she was eager to try it.

So stop by and see why these Kool Treats live up to their name!

Visit the Farmer's Market every Monday and Thursday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Field at Four Corners.

VALENTINE'S DAY PRE-SALE EVENT AT THE PLAZA BUILDING

**Saturday, February 10
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

Join us for an afternoon of live music and refreshments as you shop to spoil your loved one. Each vendor will provide their own drink and a light bite.

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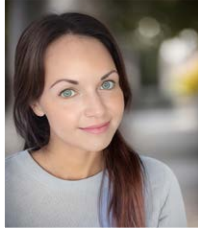
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Caryna Nina Designs



“Spa Notes”
by Jillian
Barron, The
Spa Director

If you frequent the Spa and love to shop, then you probably have heard of one of our favorite designers, Caryna Nina Miocic of Caryna Nina Designs, who usually visits us for a trunk show during the season. If you have not, then you must stop by next week.

Caryna’s one-of-a-kind designs reflect her personality as well as her background. Raised in both Paris, France, and Greenwich, Connecticut, she returns frequently to Europe to find inspiration for her designs in the beauty and history of Italy, Croatia, Morocco, Spain, and France. While traveling,



Caryna Nina Designs

she searches for special fabrics that come to life in the form of a blouse, dress, caftan, or perhaps a kimono. With an eye for detail, she designs with the goal of making every woman feel beautiful, confident, and feminine. Details like hand-picked piping, ribbon on a jacket, silk charmeuse lining, and the bias cut of her designs all combine to reveal her regard for elegance.

Caryna’s luxury couture designs work for every woman, whether you are lounging at the pool here on The Reef, at a

polo match in the Hamptons, sailing in St. Tropez, or a guest at a summer wedding, you will find something special from her collection. Caryna has resort wear and evening wear, including divine Caftans, feminine kimonos, and one-of-a-kind dresses, tops, and shawls. She strives to create art, fashion, and therapy for her clients by working with colorful designer silks. She especially loves chiffon, as she believes it is the most beautiful, whimsical fabric. Each Caryna Nina design is one of a kind and proudly made here in the US.

Caryna states that the Caryna Nina brand was created to empower women and make them feel alive, beautiful, unique, and like a goddess. To Caryna, her collection is not just fashion, but a frame of mind and lifestyle. Working with vibrant colors and prints is a source of color therapy that uplifts her clients’ energy and spirit, which is why her best clients are also her repeat clients over the last 20 years.

She studied Renaissance art

history in Heidelberg, Germany, and Florence, Italy, at Pepperdine University. She believes her appreciation for line and form is expressed directly in her designs. She also holds a degree in Fashion Design from Parson’s School of Design (New York City) and worked as an Assistant Designer for Catherine Puget, a Haute Couture Bridal Atelier in Paris France, before returning to Greenwich to launch her own line and open her showroom. Today, her signature style is bought by clients all over the world.

Stop by The Spa to meet Caryna – she will be with us for her trunk show from **Wednesday, February 14** through **Friday, February 16**.

Upcoming Spa events

- Friday, February 9 and Saturday, February 10 – Zoe’s Empire Spa Trunk Show from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Wednesday, February 14 through Friday, February 16 - Caryna Nina Spa Trunk Show from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.



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OUT & ABOUT



Rick and Norma Brock's granddaughter, Ora, put a lot of effort into making this lemonade stand to raise money for ORCAT. She visits ORCAT regularly when she comes down to see her grandparents. She held her sale on Sunrise Cay on Saturday and then can be seen making her donation of the funds at ORCAT Monday morning. Submitted by Laura Wilson.

Valentine's Day Retail Sale

at Club Retail Shops!

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SPORTS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Introducing The Oxefit XP1



“Fitness Focus”
by Luis
Bracamonte,
Director of
Fitness &
Wellness

The Oxefit XP1 is a commercial smart gym and training system equipped with robotics and analytics that provide real-time power, velocity, force, and load feedback. The machine has two force plates for balance training and assessment of symmetry and features workout settings such as overload, chains, burnout, perturbation, tempo training, adaptive and reactive resistance, and adaptive air jump.

Several NFL teams and professional golfers are using the Oxefit. Dustin Johnson, who became an investor and owns a golf fitness performance center in Jupiter, FL, is equipped with several XP1 systems. The Oxefit is also used for rehabilitation as its robotics and analytics provide the user with meaningful data and a safe exercise experience.

The Oxefit XP1 shows how the fitness world evolves as technology becomes ubiquitous. The gym of the future combines technology, human intuition, and social connection. With the addition of the Oxefit XP1, we are taking a significant step forward and staying ahead of the curve.

Here are a few companies and teams using the Oxefit for training and rehabilitation: Kansas City Chiefs, Cincinnati Bengals, Dallas Cowboys, Miami Dolphins, Jacksonville Jaguars, LA Rams, Cleveland Clinic, Pebble Beach, Texas



The Oxefit XP1

Rangers, Albany Bahamas, LSU, Ohio State, Oklahoma State, TCU, University of Minnesota, USPh, Cedar Valley, Fusion PT, SciFit, Upgrade Labs, West Virginia University, University of Texas, BYU, Iowa State University, Hit it Great, University of North Dakota and University of Florida.

Ben Jaeger, Director of Strength and Performance with Oxefit, will be at the Member Fitness Center on **Thursday, February 15** to continue educating ORC Fitness Specialists on all the machine's capabilities and answer any member questions. The future is here.

Special Events: Let's Dive into The Diet with Dr. Erica Siegel

Complimentary lecture
Tues., February 13 at 4 p.m.

We will explore the foundations of functional medicine and what you can start doing tomorrow to vitalize your body.

Benefits of Water Safety for Children and Adults with Kristine Ingold

Mon., February 12 at 2:00 p.m.

Water safety includes a

person's behavior in and around water. Understanding the proper equipment to use while swimming and learning some basic rules and techniques for swimming can help save lives. Join American Red Cross Certified Lifeguard and water safety instructor Kristine Ingold as she explains the importance of water safety for children and adults.

Valentine's Day Couple's Workout with Hannah Whistler

Tues., February 13 at 10 a.m.

Outdoor Gym at the Member Fitness Center

Celebrate love and fitness in our special Valentine's Day Couples Workout Class! Join fitness trainer Hannah Whistler for an exhilarating session to strengthen your body and bond. Share the joy of wellness with heart-pumping exercises that promote teamwork, communication, and a dose of romantic fun while fostering a healthy and active lifestyle with your significant other.

Save the Date: ORC Run Club Half Marathon April 6 at 7 a.m.

The ORC Run Club meets every Saturday at 7 a.m. at the Outdoor Gym. ORC Fitness



Table Tennis open play every Friday at 3:30 p.m. at the Member Fitness Center

Specialist Izabella Rose leads the club and aims to develop a running community among members and associates interested in running. Typically, the group runs at different paces for about 45 minutes. On April 6th, the goal will be to complete a Half Marathon. If you want to challenge yourself to complete the 13.1-mile course, contact the Member Fitness Center to register and join the ORC Run Club every week. All finishers will receive a unique event medal to remember the experience. Lace up and run with us!

The Member Fitness Center hosts over seventy group classes per week and several special events. Our team of over thirty ORC Fitness Specialists and instructors have advanced specialties and expertise across multiple fitness and wellness disciplines. The team collaborates with MCOR doctors, physical therapists, golf pros, and tennis pros to create each member's best fitness and wellness experience and results. For information on personal training, pilates, yoga, and other fitness and wellness services and programs, contact us at 305-367-5820.



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MEMBER FITNESS CENTER

LifeBreath Chakra Class



by Beth Bielat
Member
Fitness Center
Specialist

Friday, February 23
4 p.m.
Member Fitness Center

Our LifeBreath Classes have been offered at the Member Fitness Center for over twenty years. It is a favorite among many of our beloved members. Here is just a few testimonials.

"After my sessions, I feel rejuvenated, peaceful, and calm. I love that I can use LifeBreath on my own too."



I practice for a few minutes each morning to help me start my day with a smile."

"I've been doing sessions with Beth for almost two decades. I just love how it makes me feel."

"I have done LifeBreath with Beth for two seasons. Each time it's a little different and very helpful. Recently I had surgery and I used the technique for pain control. It was amazingly helpful."

Join me on Friday and explore YOUR journey into a world of self-discovery and transformation.

Call to reserve your spot at Member Fitness Center 305-367-5820.



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MEMBER FITNESS CENTER

Unveiling the Benefits of Strength Training for Runners

By Bella Rose, Member Fitness Center Specialist

In the world of running, the focus often lands squarely on pounding the pavement, clocking miles, and pushing endurance limits. While these aspects are undeniably crucial, there's another dimension that many runners overlook: strength training. Incorporating strength training into a runner's regimen offers a plethora of benefits that go beyond just adding muscle mass. It's a game-changer that can enhance performance, prevent injuries, and elevate overall fitness levels.



Split Squat Top Position

When runners engage in strength exercises, they target muscle groups that are crucial for propulsion, stability, and overall form. By strengthening the core, legs, and upper body, runners can improve their running economy—the amount of oxygen consumed at a given pace.

By incorporating explosive movements like plyometrics, sprints, and weighted exercises, runners can develop fast-twitch



Split Squat Bottom Position

muscle fibers, which are essential for quick accelerations and maintaining speed over short distances. Additionally, strength training enables runners to tackle inclines, uneven terrain, and adverse weather conditions more effectively. Stronger muscles provide the necessary support and stability to navigate challenging environments, allowing runners to maintain momentum and perform at their best regardless of the

obstacles they encounter.

Beyond the realm of running performance, strength training contributes to overall health and longevity. It promotes bone density, reduces the risk of osteoporosis, and helps maintain joint health as runners age.

To reap the benefits of strength training, runners should incorporate it into their training regimen at least two to three times per week. Focus on compound exercises that target multiple muscle groups simultaneously, such as different variations of squats, lunges, and deadlifts. See photos for an examples.

We will now be offering small group training for those runners interested in starting their strength training journey. The session will be held on Mondays at 6:30 a.m. at the Member Fitness Center with Member Fitness Specialist Bella Rose. For more information, please call the Member Fitness Center at 305-367-5820.

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Dr. Lisbeth Roy D.O.

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Aging Degeneration	Prostate / BPH
Autoimmune Disorders	Heart Disease
Irritable Bowel Syndrome	Chronic Pain
Dementia / Alzheimer's	Diabetes
Covid / Long Haulers	Arthritis
Erectile Dysfunction	Cancer



INFLAMMATION

Think of Chronic Disease Like a House on Fire

- **Fire Represents Inflammation** which is the body's natural beneficial defense against infection or injury
- **Smoke is the Disease & Symptoms** that emerge from out-of-control "chronic" inflammation
- **Dr. Roy** has helped hundreds of patients reclaim their health by uncovering the root cause of their inflammation & unlocking their body's natural healing defenses to help repair itself. She has helped her patients realize optimal health to feel better & improve their quality of life, often when there was no other apparent hope. She is an author, a sought-after speaker & has trained hundreds of physicians & medical professionals on implementing this approach.

AS SEEN ON:

THE OSCARS

NBC NEWS

THE DR. OZ SHOW

abc NEWS

THE DOCTORS

CBS NEWS

Dr. Roy graduated Summa Cum Laude from Colby-Sawyer College in New Hampshire and earned her Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree at the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine. She completed the Anti-Aging, Functional, & Regenerative Medicine Fellowship Program & participated in the Stem Cell Therapy Fellowship Program. Her practice is built on trust, integrity, & deep, honest relationships with her team and clients.

**Introduction & Personal Testimony by Jim Strode,
ORC Equity Member**

Monday, February 19th, 4 P.M. / Pelican Room / Limited Seating

Too Much, Too Little, the Wind is our Destiny



by Currie Wooten, CSSC Commodore

The forecast was right. When we were eyeing our chances for the race last Saturday, they were predicting light winds coming from one direction (NNW) and then switch around to the opposite direction (S). Not only were the light winds disappointing, but the fact that they would change 180 degrees would mean the attendant boats would have a lot of work moving the marks around.

The sailors were hopeful the winds wouldn't be as light as predicted, so the PRO, **Lorne Price**, and his trusty scorekeepers and race managers went out on **Pete Liashek's** boat and took wind readings for about an hour, while most of the skippers and crew were patiently waiting for the call, go or no go!

Unfortunately, the race was called off! Luckily, the two skippers who did venture out limped back in and agreed with the call. If the winds had gotten much lighter they would have needed a tow in.

We were fortunate that the mid-week winds were great and **Gary Sayia's** 3-day sailing clinic was an absolute success. We had 2 motorboats helping up to 5 sailboats, which came out for practice with starts and spinnakers. This really was a great way for skippers and crew to hone their skills and practice working together. Gary was a tough taskmaster and pushed and shoved the sailors to understand the timing and position for the boat to cross the starting line and be ready for the first windward leg.



General recall as most of the boats were over the starting line before the horn, pin end to left of motorboat.



Joe and Betka Robillard taking off with speed.

I'm not saying there was a lot of yelling, just loud nudging from Gary! The spinnaker practice was the next lesson and the crew of each boat reported in after the session that they really appreciated all the hoisting and jibing and taking down of the spinnakers that was required by their instructor, even though during the practice they had been frustrated with the orders and the tasks. Everyone came away with better awareness of the steps to handle these 2 important parts to every race.

This week, CSSC was treated to a surprise shipment of oysters to start off their fun Thirsty Thursday get-together at Waterside. The club came together and 100 oysters were slurped up in minutes!

Then the group determined their favorite trucks, grabbed some dinner and enjoyed the Waterside atmosphere.

Coming Up Next

The next event will be this Saturday, and the forecast shows good steady winds 8kts from the East. We start our next series, the Magic Series, (even though the Connors series only had 2 races) and we are planning on having our Hot Dog Day after the **race**, so be sure to stop by and see 100 hot dogs gobbled up.

Another event coming up is our Mid-Season Luncheon at the Residence Club on **Saturday, February 17** at 12 p.m., after the race that day. Make sure you try to register online at cardsoundsailingclub.com and send your check in.

If you are interested in



Taskmaster Gary Sayia blowing the horn at the one-minute time with Clark Moody announcing.

sailing a Bullseye and joining our fun club, look at our website and contact our membership chair, Gary Sayia,

at 201-919-7432 or join us on any Saturday at Baker Harbor when the wind cooperates.

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Too Windy for Racing on the Pond



by Windsor D. Coffin, CSMYC Commodore

Mother Nature gave her one-two punch to both of Ocean Reef's sailing clubs last weekend, but for two different reasons. While the Bullseye sailors dealt with near calm conditions on Saturday morning that kept the fleet in port, the EC-12 model yacht sailors were kept off the Pond on Sunday morning by winds that were too strong even for our smaller, heavy-air "B" rigs. The threat of severe weather was also a factor.

It was always going to be the timing of the thunderstorms that



An EC-12 on a much calmer day. Photo credit: Windsor Coffin.

would determine if we could sail our EC-12s or not. At dawn, it looked like the line of storms would arrive at around 11 a.m. So, we decided to move the start time up from our usual 10 a.m. start time to 9 a.m., even though the wind velocity was already borderline. We figured it might have been possible to get a few races in and pack up well ahead of the weather, but when we arrived at the Pond the wind was strong and the gusts even stronger. So, as the Commodore, I rigged my boat and launched her to assess the conditions before anyone else went through

the trouble to rig theirs. Sailing to windward, the conditions were strong, but sailable. The problem came when turning downwind as the boat became overpowered in the gusts and difficult to control. Given that on a good day a good portion of the fleet stays together all around the course, the potential for considerable damage to our boats was far too great. With that, we called off racing for the day.

As I write this and look ahead to this coming Sunday, the sailing conditions look nearly perfect. We will keep our fingers crossed that it stays that way!

The Card Sound Model Yacht Club races every Sunday (except Easter Sunday) until the end of April at "the Pond." Our first race start is at 10 a.m. and, of course, our sailing is dependent on favorable weather. If you would like more information about our model yachting club and our EC-12 model yachts, please come see us on Buccaneer Island or contact me, **Windsor Coffin**, at csmyc12@gmail.com.

ROD & GUN CLUB

SAVE THE DATE!

Monday, March 18

Bonefish Bonnies and Rod and Gun together invite you to

Fetch, Stay and Dine

An evening of celebrating Man's Best Friend, and how to communicate with dogs, featuring Mr. Jude De'Niese, Dog Whisperer of renown.

Details to follow!



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Club Championships 2024



“Center Court” by Justin Romero, Director of Racquet Sports

Club Championships are the pinnacle of Club sports, where teams compete to claim the ultimate prize in their respective leagues and sports. These Championships have a long and storied history, with countless memorable moments and performances that have cemented themselves in the annals of sporting lore. “The Club Championships in any sport is an annual touchstone. The Pickleball Championships at Ocean Reef



2023 Tennis Ladies’ Doubles Club Championship Participants.

Club are especially known for camaraderie, sportsmanship, and amazing skill,” says **Fred Sherman**, Chairman of the Pickleball Committee.

As we reflect on the past and look forward to the upcoming Club Championships, we can see how these events have evolved over time and what they mean to Members who have participated in them. **Wally Hayward**, Chairman of

the Tennis Committee states, “I love the history and traditions of the Ocean Reef Club Championship events and look forward to building upon them for generations to come.”

2023 Champions

- Croquet Doubles Club Champions – **Laura and Kendall Hendrick**
- Pickleball Ladies and Men’s Doubles Club Champions

- **Kelsey Thiele, Victoria Leontios and Tony Baumer, Ralf Sellig**
- Tennis Ladies’ and Men’s Doubles Club Champions – **Thayer McKenzie, Michelle Flanigan and Wally Hayward, Keith King**

Croquet, Pickleball, and Tennis Club Championships Schedule:

Croquet

- **Friday, February 9** at 8:30 a.m. – Doubles Club Championships

Pickleball

- Ladies Doubles Club Championships – **Saturday, February 10** at 8:30 a.m.
- Men’s Doubles Club Championships – **Saturday, February 10** at 11 a.m.

Tennis

- **Saturday, February 17 and Sunday, February 18** at 8:30 a.m. – Ladies and Men’s Doubles Club Championships



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Tennis

Player of the Week

Maria Perez

Meet Maria Perez, our tennis player of the week! Maria epitomizes a relentless fighting spirit. With a remarkable defensive game, she's known for chasing down every ball without ever surrendering a point easily.

She loves playing Tennis 105 and is super competitive, always aiming to win. Maria practices hard, hitting the court five to six times a week for three-hour sessions. Her dedication and passion make her a well-deserved player of the week!



PICKLEBALL RESULTS

MEN'S NIGHT LEAGUE

- 1st Place:** Todd Doolan
- 2nd Place:** Brandon St. Germain
- 3rd Place:** Steve David

MEN'S MORNING LEAGUE

- 1st Place:** Todd Doolan
- 2nd Place:** John Dinsmore
- 3rd Place:** Dan Attridge

LADIES LEAGUE

- 1st Place:** Liz Angelone
- 2nd Place:** Lisa Towbin
- 3rd Place:** Kam Krouskos



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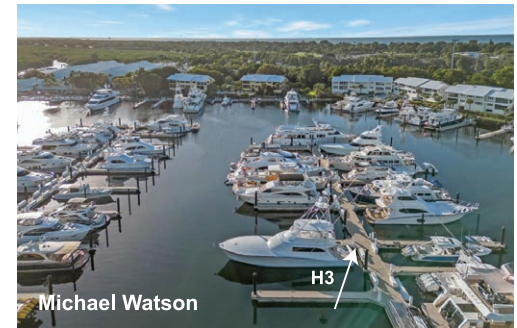
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Croquet Club Championships & More Upcoming Events

By William Hinkebein, ORC Croquet Chair

Golf Croquet Doubles Club Championship

The 2024 Doubles Club Championship is today, Feb. 9, on the beautiful lawn beginning at 8:30 a.m. Many teams aspire to be the club champions but only one will make it. Come out and watch.

Hot Dog Day & Three-Wicket Tournament

Our second and final 3-Wicket Tournament of the season will be held **Sunday, Feb. 18** from 2 p.m. until finished. This fun event is played with teams drawn onsite from a hat. Sign up or just show up before 2 p.m. on Feb. 18. A fun and healthy hot dog buffet with all the fixings will be on-hand in the tiki hut for all participants.

Golf Croquet Lessons

Coach Paul Fecteau is continuing lessons on Saturdays. Paul is a championship level player and a certified USCA Referee. Those taking lessons with Paul have all expressed positive comments and shown good results. Paul has a natural way to make a player understand how to hit the ball and the strategy to follow.

Golf Croquet Singles Club Championship

The 2024 Singles Club Championship will be held on **Friday, March 1** from 8:30 a.m. until finished. This is the real test of how good is a player. There is no blaming your partner if you do not play well in this event.

To sign up for the above events, call the Tennis & Games Center at 305 367-6583

Woman, Wickets & Wine (WWW)

The WWW continues every Monday afternoon 3:30-5 p.m. No sign ups needed. Just show up.

GOLF CROQUET TIPS

Determining Your Next Shot

The following is a simple four-step method to help a player determine what their next shot should be.

Consider these four steps to select your shot.

1. **Make the wicket** – make the wicket if you feel you can.
2. **Hit or block the danger ball** – the danger ball is the opponent's ball that is up next after you. . .if it is in scoring position and you are not, you should smash their ball away so they cannot score.
3. **Help my partner** – how can you help your partner ball so they are in an improved position.
4. **Eliminate any threats** – think through the order of play moving forward and determine what might help you by eliminating an opponent's next good move.

Three Important Shots

Coach Paul Fecteau continually states the importance of the following three shots in a game.

- **First shot to the next wicket:** The first player shooting to the hoop has a huge advantage. Place this shot in a position to score. If you can do this, your opponents are forced to try to clear your ball away from scoring position, which is not always easy. Theoretically, the player who has that first shot at a hoop should be able to score on their second shot.
- **Clearing:** Clearing is the act of knocking your opponent's ball out of scoring position. You must be able to hit straight and sometimes long to clear your opponent's ball away from in front of the hoop.
- **Scoring:** Obviously one cannot win a game if they cannot score. While defense, including clearing, is huge and important, you still have to ultimately score hoops.

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GOLF SCOREBOARD

The 2024 Challenge Cup

Thursday, February 1

Final Team Totals:

Ocean Reef Club-69

Card Sound Golf Club-57

2024 Old Buddy Tournament

Friday, February 2

Old Buddy Champions: Mike Rich and Dick Wallace

Flight 1: David Ross and Steve Rosenberg

Flight 2: Jay Guarch and Scott Heffner

Flight 3: Elias Vamvakas and Jim Davidson

Flight 4: Tom Schivelbein and Rob Kurz

Flight 5: Wicho Hernandez and Andy Fernandez

Flight 6: Billy Orgel and Tom Johasky

Flight 7: Elkan Scheidt and Tom Yates

Flight 8: Carlos Enriquez and Tony Rodriguez

Flight 9: Mike Rich and Dick Wallace

Flight 10: Kevin Chase and Mike Hutchins

Flight 11: Brian Read and Phil Hemplemen

Flight 12: Al Mast and Bob Hoyt

Flight 13: Jeff Fassbinder and John Kazmer

RECENT CATCH



Kevin Cassidy (left) and Larry Johnston (right), with their Captain John Wolf, caught this beautiful Swordfish off Ocean Reef this past Saturday after a two-hour fight!



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2024 Old Buddy Tournament



"From the Gold Tees" by Michael Leone, Director of Golf

Old Buddy Tournament

The 2024 Old Buddy is complete. We could not have asked for better weather for any of the three days of play, and the competition was just as good. Following our final match on Friday morning, the flight winners and wild card winner moved on to the Modified Alternate Shot shootout on Holes #1, #2, #3 and #4. With 6 teams eliminated on Hole #1, after 7 teams made a NET birdie to move on and a blind chip-off to determine the last 8 teams moved on to the second hole.



2024 Old Buddy Champions Mike Rich and Dick Wallace.

After Hole #2, and another chip-off needed to cut the field down to 4 teams, the suspense started to build. As we moved on to our 3rd playoff Hole with the Final 4 players, **Dick Wallace/Mike Rich** and **John Kazmer/Jeff**

Fassbinder stayed locked in and survived to move on to our final, sudden-death, playoff hole on #5. These two teams took aim, into the wind, with a difficult back right location and only one go around was needed for our 2024 Old Buddy Tournament to be decided. Congratulations to Dick Wallace and Mike Rich, our 2024 Old Buddy Champions!

We would like to thank all the teams and spectators for coming out to this year's Old Buddy Tournament. It was a great display of golf and camaraderie for the MGA with our largest field ever.

LGA Challenge Cup

The 2024 Challenge Cup is in the books. First of all, we

want to thank all participants for a wonderful two days of competition! These events would not be what they are if it was not for the enthusiasm brought by all of the Members. We also want to give a huge shout-out to our team captains, **Hillary Smith** and **Adele Acheson** for their leadership throughout this event and the season as a whole.

Entering the second and final day of the Challenge Cup, Ocean Reef held a 9-point lead. That being said, the coveted trophy was far from won. The Members of the Card Sound team came out firing on all cylinders on their home turf in an effort to close the gap and have the Challenge Cup back at Card Sound. Team Ocean Reef knew it would be a battle to hold that lead with the talent they had to fend off. Team Ocean Reef kept up the momentum from day one, but team Card Sound brought in a few big wins that made it interesting. Ultimately, Team Ocean Reef Club was able to hold off the charging Card Sound team and keep the Challenge Cup in the hands of Ocean Reef! Congratulations to Ocean Reef Club, the 2024 Challenge Cup Champions.

Final Team Total

Ocean Reef Club:
69

Card Sound Golf Club:
57

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SWING TIP OF THE WEEK

Improve Your Putting Using Your Eyes



by Kelan McDonagh, Golf Teaching Professional

When putting, the goal is always to get the ball in the hole in the least number of strokes as possible.

The human brain likes to complicate this task from time to time. We worry about stroke length, stroke direction, moving shoulders, etc.

Your eyes are the secret to better putting. Here's why:

Next time you are on



Correct form: eyes on the target, creating awareness.



Incorrect form: eyes looking down, not creating awareness.

the practice putting green, follow this routine and see how much your speed and direction improves. We are talking zero swing mechanics here. Simply allow your eyes to send an optimal message to your mind:

- Take 3 practice strokes before setting up to the ball.

- While taking those 3 practice strokes, keep your eyes firmly on your target.
- We learn nothing from taking practice strokes while looking down at the ball. You might think it's effective, but in truth, it achieves very little. Looking at the hole triggers your mind to get the

ball to the hole using instinct and feel - developing a sense for speed and direction.

Now, for the moment of truth:

- Take your setup behind the ball. and take one last look at your target.
- Once your eyes refocus on the ball, make your stroke! Do not wait to let your mind wander and question the task at hand.

Remember, your eyes are the secret. They tell your mind how to achieve the task at hand which is ultimately speed and direction. Try this out, have fun with it, and watch your putting improve almost immediately.



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BRIDGE TIP OF THE WEEK

Why Play Bridge?



by Gregg Van Dyke, Director of Card & Games

Bridge Stimulates the Brain.

Bridge is one of the best ways to practice the "use it or lose it" advice for maintaining mental sharpness in older age. Research has shown that regular bridge playing improves reasoning skills and long- and short-term memory. You'll feel the neurons firing not only while you play, but long after. Many players say that hours after a bridge game, they still feel mentally alert and energized, similar to the "high" that long-distance runners experience after a race.

Bridge Exercises Both Sides of Your Brain

Bridge is one of the few games that stimulates both the left and right sides of your brain. Every time you play, you use -- and improve -- your skills in communication, logic, math, memory, visualization, and psychology. It's a unique type of mental workout that is both relaxing and invigorating, and that can't be duplicated by other leisure or work-related activities.

Bridge Can Improve Your Physical Health

Research has shown that a game of bridge can even boost your immune system. By stimulating the brain cortex, bridge-playing activity produces higher numbers of white blood cells that fight disease. Other studies have found that people who play bridge regularly are 2½ times less

likely to develop Alzheimer's disease.

Bridge is Social

A game of bridge involves communication and cooperation with your partner and interaction with your opponents. There's a special camaraderie among bridge players that develops from the social setting and the game's emphasis on teamwork, ethics, and sportsmanship. And if you play duplicate bridge, you can find new friends and partners at more than 3300 bridge clubs throughout North America.

Bridge is a Bargain

All you need for a bridge game is a deck of cards and three other people. You don't have to leave your home, and if you have a computer, you don't even need the cards or the people. You can play and practice on your own with bridge software, or you can join in live games with thousands of players from around the world at one of the free online bridge clubs. You can also enter games at your local duplicate club, where you'll enjoy a three-hour session of bridge for less than the cost of a movie.

Bridge is Fun

Of all the reasons to learn the game, the most important is that it's just fun to play. It offers the suspense of poker, the cerebral qualities of chess, and the excitement of athletic sports, all in a sociable setting where you're a participant, not just a spectator. Every session allows you to test yourself and experience the feeling of accomplishment when you find a successful bid or play.

That's what keeps people coming back to the bridge table, and it's why bridge will always be the world's most popular card game.

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Dive Into The Fun at the Card & Games Room

By Gregg Van Dyke, Director of Card & Games

Get ready for some serious fun and games at the Card & Game Room! Here's what's coming up:

Special Events

- Canasta Special Hands Class with Claudia Langworthy: February 12 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Sunday Funday for Beginning Bridge: February 18 at 2 p.m.
- Mark your calendar for a Canasta Dinner on February 26 and a Bridge Dinner on March 11.
- Join us for the Ocean Reef Mah Jongg Club Championship on March 5 at 1 p.m.

Regular Activities

- Canasta Pick-Up Games: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.
- Mah Jongg Pick-Up Games: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 pm to 4 pm.
- Beginner Canasta Lessons: February 15 at 12:30 p.m.
- Live Duplicate Bridge Games: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 1 p.m.
- Backgammon Lessons: Fridays at 10:30 a.m. (by appointment).

Join the Fun

Whether you're a seasoned player or just starting out, there's something for everyone at the Card & Games Room. Come on over, meet new people, and enjoy some friendly competition. See you there! The Card & Games Room is open seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

BRIDGE & CANASTA RESULTS

Bridge Results

Monday, January 29

North/South: Adelaide Jared and Pam Harding

East/West: Amy Salisbury and Dottie Kemp

Friday, February 2

North South: Monica Phillips and Paula Pendergast

East/West: Beverly Platner and Dottie Kemp

Monday, February 5

North/South: Judie Berry and Denny Morgan

East/West: Beverly Platner and Brian Platner

Canasta Scores

Darla Finley and Susan Gross: 11,760

Regina Fink and Darla Finley: 12,060

Penny Cunningham and Darla Finley: 12,135

Linda Westervelt and Penny Cunningham: 11,950

Special Hand: Regina Fink


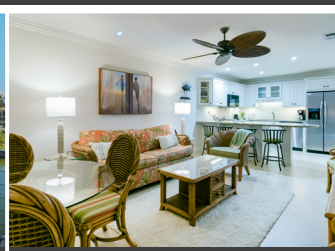




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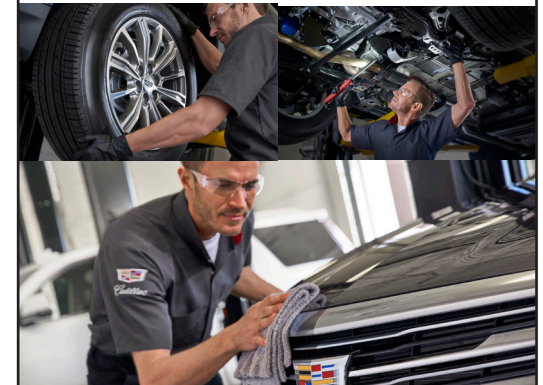
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