

INSIDE SUNSHINE NEWSLETTER

December 2021



SEPO Board

I can't believe it's time to say this again – Merry Christmas everyone. And to those of you who will be traveling over the holidays, enjoy yourselves and please stay safe.

As we head toward yearend, the Board continues to work on multiple items. At the top of our list is our effort utilizing Law Firm LADD & THIGPEN, P.C. concerning **possible changes to our SEPO Covenants and Bylaws**. We anticipate residents voting on these recommendations as part of the Annual Meeting election process on February 15, 2022. We also anticipate holding several educational-type meetings so residents can ask questions and understand all the issues prior to casting their votes.

Unfortunately, one of our Board members resigned in November. We are working to find a replacement to complete the term of Board Treasurer.

This year we have approved several revisions to our SEPO Policies & Procedures, which include: Improvements to our financial process/reporting, removing text that conflicts with our Covenants, implementing SEPO resident/renter identifier golf cart stickers, reestablishing golf cart trail fees and dedicating them to golf course improvements.

At our 1 PM December 14 Board meeting we propose to discuss a formal policy dealing with Men's and Women's Golf League play. You can provide your comments to the Board about this and other Agenda or non-Agenda items at the Residents' meeting the day before, which is December 13 at 1 PM.

The SEPO Board Nominating Committee was appointed at the Board meeting on November 9. As a reminder here are some reasons why you would want to consider running for the Board.

1. You will help to protect your investment.
2. You will make your community a nicer place to live.
3. You will bring valuable skills to the table.

If occupying a seat on your HOA Board of Directors sounds like a fun and challenging opportunity, please reach out to the Nominating Committee (<https://www.sunshinecountryclub.com/board-nom-elect-comm-2022>) and they will assist you with the steps to take to get started.

SEPO Board President
Tony Tramel

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Sunshine Resident/Renter Identifier

The golf cart resident/renter identifier stickers arrived in the SEPO Office last month. Since there are still several golf carts in Sunshine without this sticker, this is a gentle reminder that, as an added level of security for our community, the Board is asking you to place this sticker on your cart. The stickers are the same as we have on our cars. They are free and available from the office, Jean Burgoine or Lenore Combs. Please, place the sticker on the lower left-hand side of your cart windshield. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated as we try to make our community just a little bit safer.

SEPO Board

Women's Club: From the President

There were approximately 42 members who attended our November meeting. We had a lot of input from several women concerning upcoming events. The casino night will have to be postponed until next year due to time constraints. We may have to change some of the scheduled events from time to time, but will always replace it with another activity. Mary Hendrickson suggested having a Mardi Gras and volunteered to chair the event.

The plans for Thanksgiving Dinner chaired by Beverly McIntosh, and Goofy Golf chaired by Janis and Derek McFee were finalized. Sue Swidryk, Activities Director, spoke about some trips she has planned. Sue can be contacted for more information.

Judy Stone volunteered to find potential nominees for new officers. We need to elect a Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. These positions are held for two years.

Lenore Combs volunteered to chair Christmas Day. Dee Novak will take over as kitchen buyer for Linda Jones, and Sally Dronen. Linda and Sally were the buyers for several years.

One of our best fund raisers, the craft and bake sale, is coming up on Friday, December 3, 2021 from 8 to 12.

Terry DeBackere will chair the event. Let's all make this a sale to remember by donating baked goods, candy, other goodies, and your gently used items that someone might want to buy.

The winner of the drawing for remembering to wear her name tag was Mecca Henry. Our next meeting will be on Friday, December 17, 2021 and we start at 9am.

Thanks to everyone who came to the November meeting and participated, and to all who have volunteered.

Marian Young, Women's Club President

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Women's Club Activities Information (and Volunteering)

This may be new to some but not so new to others. The following is from the Women's Club Bylaws dated October 11, 2019. The entire document can be found on the Web site (<https://www.sunshinecountryclub.com/wc-bylaws>).

BYLAWS OF THE WOMEN'S CLUB OF SUNSHINE COUNTRY CLUB ESTATES ARTICLE VI

MEETINGS

Section 1. There shall be one social event and one regular business meeting each month in the months of October through March.

As an FYI - In March of the current year, the Women's Club monthly events that are planned for the next season are approved by the SEPO Board. The signup sheets for these activities normally get posted on the Women's Club bulletin board in the office building soon after this approval.

At the Women's Club meeting on November 19, there was discussion on the need for volunteers for the events coming up between now and the end of March 2022. These events don't plan and execute themselves. As Lenore often says, it takes a village. And it's a super great way to meet residents you don't know and to also catch up with old friends and neighbors. So please consider signing up to help with this. If you don't try it, you won't know how much fun you are missing out on.

Marian Young, Women's Club President

Women's Club: Bake Sale & Craft Show

Women's Club Bake Sale & Craft Show will be Friday, Dec 3rd from 8 am to noon at Retzlaff Hall. All are encouraged to get out your recipe books and make your favorite goodies to donate. Whatever your specialty ... pies, cookies, homemade candies, jam ... anything yummy. Drop off of your goodies in Retzlaff Hall will be from 4 to 7 PM on Thursday Dec 2.

Also available will be homemade rolls & coffee to enjoy with your neighbors.

Kathleen Sumner is in charge of the raffle table and drop offs.

Crafters ... tables will be available to display your wares for a fee of \$5.00 per table. Call Terry DeBackere to save your table.

Terry - 309 714 4743

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Women's Club: Casino Night (Cancelled) & Mardi Gras (Scheduled)

Due to the time required to put on this event, there will not be a Casino Night in February 2022. Instead, a Mardi Gras event will be held with Mary Hendrickson chairing. I'm sure she can use some help with planning. Look for more details about the Mardi Gras in future SEPO communications.

Sue Swidryk

Women's Club Activities Director

Karaoke Christmas Sing-Along

Retzlaff Hall, Wednesday December 22, from 6:00pm until 8:00pm, Karaoke Christmas sing-along.

Everyone welcome to sing. There will be songs for everyone to sing as well as individual singers.

Thanks

Jerry Rash

Sunshine Garden Club

We had a great time at the November Get Together. Thank you all for being our guests.

Door prize winner was LaDonna Harvey.

Our next get together will be:

Tuesday, December 14th, at 7:00pm in the library.

Topic of interest and discussion will be Christmas Flowers with emphasis on Pointsettias. In our area they can survive planted in the ground. Who knew?!

Some December things to do: planting herbs that thrive in cool weather, add color to winter gardens with petunias, pansies, and snapdragons. Prepare now to protect tender plants should a cold snap come upon us.

Thank you,

Brenda, Sue, Terry, Glenna, Susanne

Woodworkers Club

Shop cleanup will continue to be the first Tuesday of the month at 8:00 am. Thanks to Cathy Chajec for organizing and supervising that necessity. The cleanup only takes about an hour if enough people show up to help.

If you are new to the community and wish to use the woodshop, you must attend an orientation session prior to being given access to the shop. Contact John Chajec (jcsayjack@gmail.com) to get your name on the list for the next orientation.

At the current time there is no spaghetti dinner planned for this season.

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Woodworkers Club meetings are the second and fourth Friday of the month at 1:00 pm. While the meetings last season were held in the Pavilion or virtually, we are beginning to hold the meetings in the woodshop.

There will be additional Monitor Refresher Courses offered as more people return for the season.

Jerry Wetherbee

SUNSHINE HEROES UPDATE - WALL OF HONOR

With so many new residents here in the estates I feel that it is necessary to get this information out again.

This is a call for our residents who served in the armed forces of all nations and the men and women in our community who served as police officers, fire fighters and first responders. The service wall is up in Retzlaff Hall. This wall displays the names of residents living and deceased who served their country or community. The deceased are eligible when the surviving spouse resides within the estates.

If residents want their picture or their spouse's picture included on the wall, they will need to fill out an application form. These forms are available in the office. Check with Valerie to get one or see me. My information is below. She also has pledge forms available if you need one. Fill out this form and include a picture you want displayed and return it to the office or me. The picture you provide for use will be copied and returned. Please be sure to include your address here in the estates so that I can return your picture. If you want a current picture, I can be available to take one if you contact me (the information is below). All name plates and pictures that are placed on the wall and in the book should remain there indefinitely.

I want to inform our residents on the status of this project. The wall is installed and the name plates are up. There are more plates ordered and will go up soon. Additional plates will be engraved as I receive applications.

The donations that I have received are currently sufficient to cover costs. Many of our neighbors made donations. I am keeping an accounting of all donations and expenditures and will make it available for anyone to see upon request.

Thank you for your donations towards this project and for those that may still come in.

Thank You For Your Service.

Jim Tennant
4161 N Missouri
616-866-9960
Email: jimbuck1050@yahoo.com

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Sunshine Neighborhood Watch – CERT Team
(Est. 2008)
SCCE - Harlingen's premier NW & CERT Team



Lights On -- Lock Up and Look Out for each other!

Lenore J. Combs, Coordinator 956 245 1276 LJCombs44@gmail.com
Officers Bravo and Moreno, NW HPD District Representatives

Dear Friends,

December 2021 - Your Neighborhood Watch – CERT Team wishes you all Seasons Greetings from Thanksgiving to Christmas to New Year's while we reflect on the history, meaning and reason for the season. But in the meantime, as we get caught up in the hustle & bustle thinking of why we celebrate this special time, don't forget the Bad Guys have their holiday planned too and possibly at your expense.

Consumer education is one of the best ways to ensure that you all enjoy a happy and safe holiday.

At home – fires, electric shock, carbon monoxide poisoning and injuries lead the list. Holiday lights, octopus extension cords & plugs and space heaters – dry trees and hot lights – candles – all keep EMS and the Fire Department busy.

Crime doesn't take a holiday - Other areas of concern range from being away for the holidays to Porch Pirates, traveling, shopping, pick-pockets, carrying cash vs credit cards, holiday safety in the home and the beat goes on..... Always shop with a friend and take precautions with your purse and wallet.

While at the Mall - Park carefully and in a well-lit spot. When approaching your vehicle, have your keys handy – get in quickly and lock your doors. Don't leave your presents in plain sight – put them in your trunk. Remember - an unlocked car is an invitation.

Virtual crime vs real loss - Avoid Shopping fraud. E-commerce can lead to risky behavior. Don't become a victim of identity theft. Use a Credit card since most banks will cover fraud. If the Bad Guy gets your Debit card, real money is going to go bye-bye until the Bank replaces it – maybe.

Don't get on a "phishing" site accidentally – they are not secure or consumer friendly. If you are using mobile apps and digital wallets, make sure your phone is password protected.

Shred your shipment receipts because they have your name & address with partial credit card info. You are your own last line of defense.

FROM THE EDITOR

Merry Christmas to all. Thanks for submitting your articles for this Newsletter to keep the community informed of upcoming events. SEPO Newsletters Guidelines are always available here: (<https://www.sunshinecountryclub.com/guidelines-sepo-newsletter>).

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