

August



**Cartoon courtesy of
Donna Wolfson**

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TURTLE TALK proof readers check articles for errors in spelling, punctuation, grammar, and sentence structure.

The author of each article is responsible for the factual accuracy.



Turtle Talk

August 2024

President's Message

By: Grace Boehm, Board President



As many of you probably know, a palm tree at the south gate entrance to the community suffered a lightning strike on June 30, which had devastating consequences not just for the palm but for most of our electrical and electronic infrastructure at the south gate. The attendant in the booth was safe but shaken up. We lost nearly all of the electrical panels, internet lines, telephone lines, cameras, gate equipment and the fountain timer and motor. The incoming gates were inoperable without intervention by a human, so Allied provided staffing until 11PM each night so residents who use the south gate would be able to easily enter the community. They responded quickly with staffing and we thank them, as well as the entire community, for your patience as Nanette and team worked through the recovery. We will be filing an insurance claim shortly to minimize what could have been a significant cost to recover.

At the July Board meeting, the Governors considered several funding requests. The hedge between Sweetmeadow Circle and Hanging Moss Lane along Turtle Rock Boulevard died suddenly (perhaps related to the lightning strike) and was replaced when the adjacent hedge replacement was done. We approved repairs around the weir on Pond 9. The battery on one of the utility vehicles died and has to be replaced; the board approved that replacement. The Board also approved a three year contract with Trimmers to install, maintain, and remove the holiday lights. Finally, the Board conditionally approved the next phase of the shoreline restoration project.

Continued on page 2

2024 Board of Governors



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***Board meetings will be held the LAST
Thursday of each month starting at
6:30pm during 2024.***

President's Message continued.

Also at the July Board meeting, Violet Allyn was appointed to the ARC to replace Chuck Barackman. The Board and the ARC thank Chuck for his contributions. Seven members were named to the Pickleball Task Force: Dave Alcala, Margaret Becker, Jeff Fasick (chairperson), Debbie Foust, Jane Frattini, Carol Oram and Fran Sola. Thank you to all volunteers, especially those appointed at the July meeting.

As we look forward to updating and improving our aging infrastructure, the community is facing several very large challenges whose solutions have significant price tags: Honore Border, Gate Access, Pickleball, Shoreline Restoration, Street Lights just to name a few. There is a lot of work to be done, and it's the Board's responsibility to prioritize the projects and the timing of the projects and make sure we use the association's funds as efficiently and appropriately as we can. The 2025 budget planning process is underway and will help us create a financial plan that supports the community's priorities.

We hope to see you at the August Board meeting on August 29th at 6:30PM.

Treasurer's Report

By: Susan Birkenmaier, Ed.D.



| Year-to-Date Ending | June, 2024 | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| | Actual | Budget | Percent collected/spent |
| Income: Assessments and other | \$ 949,450 | \$1,886,504 | 49.74% |
| Expenses: | | | |
| General and Administrative | \$ 270,920 | 516,250 | 52.48% |
| Common Grounds | 124,866 | 277,948 | 44.92% |
| Access Control/Gatehouse | 186,405 | 391,037 | 47.67% |
| Facilities Maintenance | 64,027 | 157,270 | 40.71% |
| Utilities | 43,502 | 88,100 | 49.38% |
| Reserves Contributions | 232,949 | 465,899 | 50.00% |
| Total Expenses | \$ 922,669 | \$1,896,504 | 48.65% |
| Income over expenses y-t-d | \$ 26,781 | | |

This report reflects financial transactions as recorded under the accrual method of accounting.

Assessments: Outstanding HOA Fees— (2nd Qtr dues became payable in April)

| | |
|--------------|-----------|
| (0-30 days) | \$ 0 |
| (31-60 days) | \$ 5,000 |
| (61-90 days) | \$ 8,534 |
| (91+ days) | \$ 5,159 |
| Total | \$ 18,693 |

For more detailed monthly and annual financial information, dating back to 2015, please visit our website -Myturtlerock.com Resident Only tab. This is a password protected section; please email:

trcommunications@myturtlerock.com

and request the PW by providing your name and TR address.

Cam Corner

by Nanette Thomas, Community Association Manager

We have received complaints this month in regard to solicitation inside the community. As a reminder, solicitation is not allowed within Turtle Rock unless Board approval is received. This includes children in the community who are selling items or offering services.

Complaints have also been received regarding dogs running loose and dogs not being controlled on the leash. This week, a dog was attacked by another dog and injured. As a reminder, the TROM states the following on pets as a nuisance:

Pets: Pets are considered a nuisance when any of the following occur:

- The pet is unleashed or is unconstrained upon the lot of the homeowner.
- The pet can be heard by neighboring residents with persistent, continuous barking.
- Solid pet waste is left on homeowner lawns or public property, sidewalks, or streets, and is not disposed of properly.
- The pet displays unruly, vicious, or threatening behavior.

• Please see Section II, D, Item 9 (Pets in Common Areas) and Section III, B, Item 4 (Pets at Residences) for additional regulations and guidance on pets. Nuisances and hazards in common areas and at residences, are subject to fines.



Nanette Thomas, LCAM
Turtle Rock Community Association
Civix Property Manager
8500 Turtle Rock Blvd
Sarasota, FL 34238
Turtle Rock Office.
941-921-3865

Compliance June 27 – July 24, 2024

15 New violation letters sent out

11 Violations have been closed

43 Violations currently on Hold

19 Violations currently in progress

Compliance Open Issues :

Roof Cleaning : 14

Driveway Cleaning : 16

Pick-up Truck Parking : 17

Pots in landscape, not ARC approved: 2

Outside Nuisance lights: 2

Play equipment: 2

Landscape edging not ARC approved: 1

Mulch needed: 1

Garage door maintenance: 1

Recreational Vehicles: 3

Tree requirement: 4

Dead Palm needs to be removed: 1

Allied will be having a marked patrol vehicle come through the community 2 times per week, on a trial basis, to help with overnight compliance issues.

T.R.O.M. Trivia August 2024

1. The Board of Governors appoints a Nominating Committee that performs several functions regarding potential candidates for the Board. In special circumstances, a candidate can be nominated from the floor on the date of the election. True or False? If true, can you name the circumstance (s)?
2. Floaties, noodles, and other inflatable toys can be used in our community pool as long as they are a practical size and do not interfere with other members and guests. True or False?
3. As needed, the Board may appoint an *Ad Hoc* committee. What does that mean?



DONATE BLOOD

**Turtle Rock on Palmer Ranch
Friday, August 2
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

All donors receive*:

- **\$20 eGift Card**
- **Oneblood Tote Bag**
- **Free Churro Donuts from The Toasted Yolk Café**
- **Wellness Checkup** including blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count, and cholesterol screening.

Fact: Every two seconds of every day, someone needs blood.



Appointments are encouraged, please visit oneblood.org/donate-now and use **sponsor code 73695**

ID REQUIRED

*One offer per donor, per donation. No cash value. Not-transferable. Gifts may vary. For more information please visit oneblood.org/details.

Donors
Receive



- PLUS -



- PLUS -



oneblood
Share your power.

**School is back
in session
soon...**



**Please remember,
Sidewalks are for people ...
Streets are for cars and buses!**

**Visit with other parents
on the sidewalks during
drop-off and pick up in
Turtle Rock.**

Thank You

Hello from the Communications Committee!

By Kim Weiser, Chairperson

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS FOR THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE!

Our new address for the Communications Committee is trcommunications@myturtlerock.com.

This email address has been updated July 1st, and will be monitored by our team members.

Please reach out to us with any questions or comments and send your newsletter articles to this address. When submitting your articles, keep in mind that our focus is to push neutral based news and information out into the community. We report on Board of Governors meetings and actions taken, news from our CAM, treasurer reports, and committee and club news. We also keep residents informed of upcoming community wide events so they can meet their neighbors.

Another way we keep residents informed is through **AppFolio**. Did you know **AppFolio** is a great tool to use to access your property's records, including payment history, ARC requests, and other documents associated with your property? Please call Nan in the office to set up your account on the app soon!



HELP WANTED!!

The Communications Committee is looking for a new team member. Do you have a flair for writing and are good with graphic arts?

Our committee meets the first Thursday of each month at 1:30pm in the Community Center. We usually do not meet in July, due to the 4th of July holiday and vacation schedules. When we have special projects, we may meet more frequently.

If this sounds like something you'd be interested in, please reach out to us at our new email address: trcommunications@myturtlerock.com. Thanks for considering getting involved!

TR's Street Light Dilemma— and Solution!

By: Landscape/Grounds Committee

Many residents over the last few years have complained about the street lights throughout Turtle Rock: they are too dull, and many are in a dilapidated state of repair. This is understandable, as the fixtures are over 30 years old, and were converted from natural gas to solar 15 years ago. The lighting fixtures themselves on top of the pole are wearing out – some are listing badly, others are missing their finials and other parts, most are corroded... as seen from some issues shown here. Maintaining them costs us between \$3K to \$8K annually for



This shows the bottom of a fixture where the bulb socket was rigged to stay in place (and upright) using a brick. While inventive, it's far from ideal.

new components, not to mention the time it wastes that our maintenance crew could be doing more productive things. The lights look shabby and don't do the job intended anymore.

One reason for the malfunction of some of the streetlights is that the wiring is old. In addition, parts (such as batteries and solar panels) are difficult to come by for our system, and they are very expensive. As repairs were made over the years, some "jerry-rigging" (pic on left shows an example) had to be done to keep the lights functioning, which adds to the expense of maintaining an antiquated lighting system. Studies have registered lumens on the sidewalks and streets at nearly zero. While our community was a model for sustainably "going green" (see H-T article from 2008: <https://www.heraldtribune.com/story/news/2007/08/08/subdivision-lightens-up-on-its-use-of-power/28566967007/>), there is a better solution to our lighting needs with technology advances over the

past few years. The bottom line: our streetlights are old, not providing enough light in Turtle Rock, and need to be replaced with state of the art materials.

We have 173 solar fixtures, and another 14 lights at entrances that are AC 120V. The cost to replace 187 units is not trivial, but it is not cost effective to continue maintaining a system that is outmoded and inefficient. The Landscape/Grounds Committee has been researching alternative systems and vendors for over a year, and has put together a proposal for the FIRRMs and Board's consideration. The committee has identified two solutions, and while both options will use existing bases and posts to optimize costs, one is clearly superior in technology, reducing future maintenance cost. Both options will offer more light where it is needed: on our sidewalks and streets. The committee-recommended option will offer components designed to work together, offer a complete 7-year warranty, and practically eliminate any maintenance needs for years to come. The expense is part of our reserves, meaning we have been saving up for the current system's replacement for nearly 15 years. The bonus is that this effort will bring us a tax credit worth 30% of our installation cost!! TR paid nearly \$22000 in income tax last year due to interest earned— this can be a direct offset.

A prototype has been ordered which will be installed along the Boulevard just south of Benchmark so the community can see the overall look and the difference in lighting. It should arrive mid August. It will look like the photo to the right— notice there is no battery box: it's incorporated under the solar panel! The Landscape/Grounds committee hopes that the Board will be prepared to make a decision on the proposal during the August Board meeting. It's possible we may have improved, totally green, solar lights that require no maintenance for years to come by year's end!



A battery that clearly shows corrosion, making an obvious case for a different solution.

from 2008: <https://www.heraldtribune.com/story/news/2007/08/08/subdivision-lightens-up-on-its-use-of-power/28566967007/>), there is a better solution to our



A rendering of the prototype ordered

From the “Watchdog”!



Received an email this morning stating my TSA Pre-check was about to expire:

Hi STEPHEN,

As a friendly reminder, your TSA PreCheck® membership is due to expire on **10/08/2024**. Renewing is quick and easy, and most members can renew **entirely online**. Renew today and keep your benefits for future travel!

The TSA PreCheck scam starts with you receiving an email reminding you to renew your PreCheck membership. It may look legit, but there will be signs of the scam to look out for, such as:

- The sender’s email not from an official TSA address
- Spelling mistakes and grammatical errors
- Formatting issues within the email (e.g., different fonts and sizing)
- External links not going to an official TSA website

Non-TSA branding (these emails can come from third-party companies who charge you a fee to submit your renewal application)

This one looked very official. No misspellings, punctuation, nor grammatical errors. They even cut/pasted the FAQ from Idemia, which is the name of one of the three legitimate partners TSA uses to assist in enrollment. Suspect was the source, i.e. the website address.

I went on-line to the official TSA website and entered my Global Entry number. With Global Entry, TSA pre-check is automatic and is marked as included with Global Entry. Sure enough, my TSA pre-check is valid through August 2029!

Once again my friends, **Beware**, and always do your homework.

Submitted by Steve West



Turtle Rock Women's Club

Co Presidents of the TRWC Joan Miller & Suzanne Placzek

The Turtle Rock Women's Club is not letting the summer heat stop us from planning events for members of our community. We sponsor several events organized by any women's club member that are open to everyone in the community. It might be meeting at the AMC to watch a movie together, going to the beach to enjoy the sunset, or walking along the Legacy Trail. If you would like to find out more about the Women's Club, send an email :

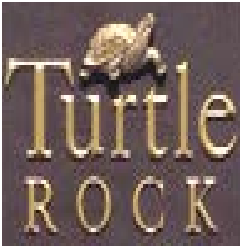
turtlerockwomensclub@gmail.com

We always welcome new members.



If you missed our recent Marina Jack Cruise you missed out on some big time fun. It was open to everyone, you didn't have to be a WC member. But don't despair we will do this and more in the months to come just watch for the email announcements.





Turtle Rock Men's Club

By Ken Rosemann

Summer Luncheon Hiatus

Because many of our members return North for the summer, a formal luncheon will not be held in August. The Board, however, will be meeting for an informal luncheon

August 21st, 12 pm
Twin Peaks Restaurant
3060 Fruitville Commons Blvd.

If you are looking for an afternoon of camaraderie, please plan on joining them.

Weekly Golf Outing

If you are a golfer, consider joining your neighbors for a round at Serenoa Golf Club each Thursday morning. Send an email to TRMCGolf@gmail.com to sign up or for more information.

August Birthdays

We wish the following a **Happy Birthday!** If I have missed anyone, email me and I will update the TRMC website.

Irv Broh, Aaron King

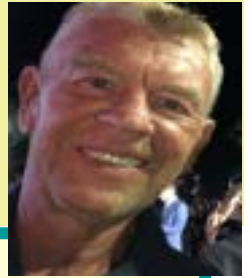


If you know of someone who may be interested in joining the Men's Club, please have them call or text Bill Kozlowski at 630-373-7829 or turtlerock-mensclub@gmail.com.

**WATCH FOR SAVE THE DATE INFO ON
OCTOBERFEST NEXT MONTH**

From The West Corner Of...

By: Steve West, Resident Columnist



SEMANTICS

Americans have a long tradition of rebranding any foods that bear the name of a rival nation during times of conflict. When France refused to support the United States' war in Iraq in 2003, for example, the cafeteria menus in three congressional office buildings in Washington, D.C., changed the name of French fries — which, by some accounts, were actually invented in Belgium — to “freedom fries,” and French toast became “freedom toast.”

The U.S. pulled a similar move while at war with Germany during World War I: Sauerkraut's German origins led Americans to rename the condiment “liberty cabbage.” Other foods that we think of as classically American yet bear the names of German cities were also affected. The word “hamburger” comes from Hamburg, Germany, so during the Great War it was rechristened “liberty steak.” The seemingly all-American hot dog, meanwhile, was called a “frankfurter” at the time, and as the connection to Frankfurt, Germany, couldn't stand, it was rebranded “liberty sausage.” (The term “hot dog” is also sneakily of German origin, as it comes from “dachshunds,” aka “little dogs.”) And speaking of dogs, in 1917, the American Kennel Club changed the official name of German shepherds to “shepherd dog,” and in England the breed was renamed “Alsatian.”

PLEASE BE AWARE...

With the removal of much of the green spaces in our neighborhood and beyond the original inhabitants of this property are trying to adapt and fit it. One of those original animals is the Bobcat.



Some of us have seen him behind our lanai. Or perhaps you have found your down spout ripped to pieces with blood on it. This has happened when the Bobcat chases a small animal up the downspout and tries to reach it by destroying your downspout. We've replaced ours twice.

Just be aware that it's not just the alligators who are living here among us but also the possums, raccoons, buzzards, mice and all the other wild things that can interfere with our daily life and activities.

Some say, “Oh they are more afraid of you than you are of them.” That very well may be, but my little dog and I don't want to test that theory.



Judy Bentz, Editor

Answers to TROM TRIVIA

1. False. There are **no** nominations from the floor on the date of the election. (TROM I, 5, g)
2. False. Toys are not permitted in the pool. (TROM II, 5)
3. *Ad Hoc* is a Latin phrase meaning literally “for this”. In English, it usually signifies a solution to a specific purpose, problem or task. (TROM I, 5, i)

**“You are braver than you believe,
stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think.”
Winnie the Pooh**

The Newsletter Team

The Communications Committee is always interested in input from the community.

If you have a knack for writing, have ideas for a monthly column, or are willing to take photos of interest to the community, please contact us.

Send comments, suggestions and articles for consideration to:

trcommunications@myturtlerock.com

(Text must be in Word, Photos as JPEG.) THANKS for getting involved!

Committee Members

Kim Weiser, Chair
Donna McCarthy , Welcome Team
Penny Lind & Judy Bentz, Special Projects
Cean Cerny, Tech Support
Board Liaison: Grace Boehm

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