

# November



Photo by Ginny Cheatham



# Turtle Talk

## November 2024

### President's Message

By: Grace Boehm, Board President



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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.

It has been an interesting few weeks. The challenges just keep coming! First, mutually agreeing to part ways with our management company. After flooding from Debby and minimal damage from Helene, Milton the Monster arrived. The community didn't suffer devastating damage, but there was a significant impact to vegetation both on common and private land, in addition to some electrical damage. Most of this will not be covered by insurance. This comes at a time when the Association was already grappling with how to fund the repair and maintenance of an aging infrastructure. The Board is charting a path forward, but it will come with a price tag that is still being discussed.

The Board has a fiduciary duty to act in a way that benefits the community and the Association. The Board has an to follow an ethical code of conduct mandated by law. There are three main components of fiduciary duty: **Duty to Care** (which requires the board to make informed decisions), **Duty to Loyalty** (which requires the board to make decisions honestly and in good faith without a conflict of interest) and **Duty to Obedience** (which is the obligation to act within the scope of Board member's authority). The Board is responsible for maintaining the common areas in a way that helps to protect the investment that residents have made in their homes. It's why a great management company is so important, and it's why sufficient funding in both the operating and reserve accounts is so important. The Association is facing an aging infrastructure that needs attention – but the amount the Association has saved over the last twenty plus years is insufficient to meet the needs of the maintenance or replacement of physical assets.

## 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.

The Board is working on reducing operating costs to the extent possible, and developing a plan to meet the immediate infrastructure needs while planning for the infrastructure needs that are looming over the next ten years. Turtle Rock has enjoyed many years of dues that are significantly lower than most other similar communities with similar amenities but a dues increase is inevitable to meet the financial needs of the community. I hope you were able to attend one or both of the Board workshops on the budget.

The Board expects to decide on who our management company will be going forward imminently. An announcement will be made as soon as we know our direction. Rest assured, it is our intention to keep Nanette and Nan managing the Turtle Rock community for as long as they want to be here, which we hope will be a long time.

The Board meeting dates for November and December were changed to accommodate holidays.

The new dates are **November 21 and December 19.**

We hope to see you at the next Board meeting on November 21, at 6:30PM.

# Treasurer's Report

By Susan Birkenmaier, Ed.D.



## Year-to-Date Ending

## September, 2024

	Sep YTD spent	Annual Budget Total	Percent collected/actual of annual budget
<b>Income:</b> Assessments and other	\$ 1,422,233	\$1,886,504	75.39%
<b>Expenses:</b>			
General and Administrative	\$ 415,450	516,250	80.47%
Common Grounds	196,126	277,948	70.56%
Access Control/Gatehouse	301,426	391,037	77.08%
Facilities Maintenance	96,800	157,270	61.55%
Utilities	67,103	88,100	76.17%
Reserves Contributions	349,424	465,899	75.00%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 1,426,329</b>	<b>\$1,896,504</b>	<b>75.21%</b>
<b>Expense in excess of income y-t-d</b>	<b>\$ (4,096)</b>		

Percent of fiscal year lapsed 75.00%

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

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Assessments: Outstanding HOA Fees— (3rd Qtr dues became payable in July. 4th Qtr fees that became due on October 1 are not reflected in this analysis.)

(0-30 days)	\$ 1,360
(31-60 days)	\$ 9
(61-90 days)	\$ 83
( 91+ days)	<u>\$ 10,440</u>
Total	\$ 11,892

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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](mailto:trcommunications@myturtlerock.com), and request the password by providing your name and TR address.

# Cam Corner

by Nanette Thomas, Community Association Manager

Hurricane Milton caused much damage to Turtle Rock. The Association is working hard to get clean-up and repairs completed. Mailboxes that were damaged have either been fixed or have a “temporary fix” until the new parts arrive. Ten streetlights were destroyed. Street signs have been re-adjusted. The tennis court lost three lights. The tennis nets have been re-tied, the gates to the courts have been readjusted and the fence around the courts have been resecured. The pool area has been cleaned and pavers readjusted. The Community Center patio area lost all ceiling fans and 5 lantern lights that will need to be replaced. Bloomings was on property starting the Friday after the storm and completed the initial landscape clean-up. Castro tree service has also completed the initial “Emergency” Tree removal list. Additional tree work is needed.



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

If you see additional mailboxes, that need repair, please email me [communitymanager@myturtlerock.com](mailto:communitymanager@myturtlerock.com)

The Community has recently had some instances of possible criminal activity and/or suspicious behaviors. The Association does not have police powers and has no power to investigate or enforce criminal laws. Please contact the Sheriff’s department with any concerns.

As a reminder, solicitation is not allowed in Turtle Rock. Please advise your contractors of this, as well as those visiting your home. We have recently had complaints of vendor and political solicitation.

## Chalk Art

**Art By:**  
**Donna Wolfson**







The Turtle Rock Women's Club and the Turtle Rock Men's Club  
cordially invite you to our Holiday Party  
Friday, December 13th  
6pm-10pm  
Stoneybrook Golf & Country Club  
8801 Stoneybrook Blvd; Sarasota, Florida 34238

Cocktails will be served at 6pm  
("Cash" Bar – Stoneybrook only accepts credit)  
Dinner service begins at 6:45pm and includes:

**Bread/roll service with Winter Holiday Salad**

*Romaine and baby lettuces, candied pecans, pomegranate arils, feta, tomato, carrot ribbon,  
cucumber, pomegranate vinaigrette*

**Entrees (choice of one)**

**Burgundy Braised Short Rib**

*Pan gravy, asparagus bundle, sour cream mashed potatoes*

**Oven Roasted Salmon**

*Lemon Shallot Dill Sauce, asparagus bundle, herbed rice pilaf*

**Chicken Stuffed with Smoked Gouda, Pistachio and Cranberry**

*Sour Cream Mashed Potato and Asparagus Bundle*

**GF/Vegetarian-Grilled Vegetable Stacker with Roast Tomato Bisque**

**Dessert**

**Crème Brulee**

**Beverages:**

**Coffee Service to include Iced Tea, Hot Tea, Coffee, and Soda**

Wear your best holiday attire and join in on the dance floor with music provided by DJ Hinsome. Reminder: Country Club dress code still applies – collared shirts, slacks, or suit with or without tie for gentlemen and slacks/skirts with appropriate top/blouse or dresses for ladies. No denim or hats, please.

**\$70.00 per adult (no children)**

**Deadline: Sunday, December 8th**

Checks (no cash) should be made out to **TRMC** and dropped in the "newly installed" TRMC mailbox located on the outside of the TR Community Center. **Be sure to indicate attendees' names and entree choices on your check.**

Questions? Contact Ron Contillo ([racontillo@comcast.net](mailto:racontillo@comcast.net)) or Jean Contillo ([jccontillo@comcast.net](mailto:jccontillo@comcast.net)).



SAVE THE DATE

*Tour of Lights*  
*Trolley*

Friday **20** December

Details coming soon!





# Sarasota county-sponsored Hazardous Waste Pick-up February 18, 2025

10-12 am

## Types of items accepted

- Adhesives and glue
- Automotive products
- Fertilizers
- Pool chemicals
- Aerosols
- Cleaners
- Fluorescent lamps
- Propane cylinders
- Antifreeze
- Electronics
- Gasoline
- Rechargeable batteries

# Turtle Rock's Annual Garage Sale

**February 22, 2025**  
from **8-11:30am**



***NO fee required to participate!*** To include your address on the community maps handed to shoppers at the gate showing participant sellers' addresses, simply email your name, phone # and address to

**[trcommunications@myturtlerock.com](mailto:trcommunications@myturtlerock.com)**

*no later than February 10, 2025*

Turtle Rock will place an ad in local newspapers and Palmer Ranch will include information in their monthly newsletter to advertise the event.

Please Note: owners are responsible for their own sale



# Natural Assets Committee

By: Michelle van Schouwen, Secretary NAC



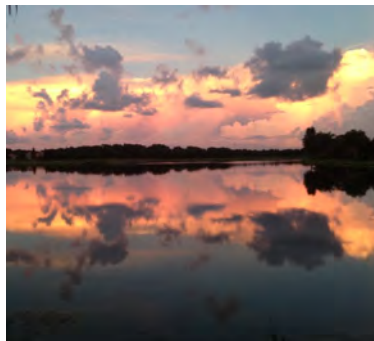
## ...and now, for something refreshing.

After these recent challenging weeks, it's good to celebrate some of what makes Turtle Rock home. Thanks to resident Jim Vaughan for these breathtaking photos.

### Sunset Pond (pond 17)



Details



Grand Sunset

### Turtle Rock Lake (pond 1)



Coming Home

### Wildlife



*Crane Family*



*Small Gator*

### Pond 1



*Garden View*

*Logo created by Barry Domenick, Turtle Rock Resident*

*Photography courtesy Jim Vaughan*



# Natural Assets Committee

Continued Article by Melody Barackman

## Turtle Trail, Post-Milton

Most of Turtle Rock's nature trail fared pretty well after Milton, although there is one section toward the north end that remains impassable due to fallen trees. Volunteer clean-up efforts that began two weeks ago have greatly improved the conditions of the trail. Those efforts will continue as long as debris is present along the path.

If you decide to explore Turtle Trail, here are a few tips to keep in mind:

As always, you walk the nature trail at your own risk.

Sturdy closed-toed shoes are strongly suggested.

Long pants or tall socks will prevent potential scrapes.

Watch for moss, vines, or even small twigs and frond where shoes can get caught or hung up. If this happens, please remove the obstacle from the nature trail to help prevent others from the possibility of tripping.

If you wish to assist with volunteer clean-up efforts, plan to use thick gloves and a heavy metal rake to more easily remove small debris from the path.

### Before



### After



## Watchdog Report:



The text scam: You receive a text from an unknown source. It can be about almost anything, but they always ask for you to “join-in” with them in something. I’ve received them about watching their pooch over the week-end, attending a BBQ, going on a spa day together, etc. If you respond in any way, you are sure to get a return text. They will go on to tell you what a nice person you are to respond with “sorry, wrong number”, and ask additional questions about yourself. They will have all the answers: “Sorry, your number is just one digit different than my friend’s”, or in the case of the dogsitting, they’ll send a picture of the cutest dog you have ever seen! I’ve never gone any deeper with such scammers, but I’d bet it is all about gaining info about yourself and maybe more. Best to tap “Report Junk” and move on.

### The Federal Trade Commission offers these tips to avoid charity scams:

- **Don’t rush** – Take your time, don’t let anyone rush you into making a donation
- **Beware of Thank You’s** - Some scammers try to trick you into paying them by thanking you for a donation that you never made
- **Fake caller ID numbers** - Scammers can change caller ID numbers to make a call look like it’s from a local area code
- **Use credit cards or checks** - If someone wants donations in cash, by gift card, or by wiring money, don’t do it. To be safer, pay by credit card or check.
- **Keep good records** - It’s a good practice to keep a record of all donations and review your statements closely to make sure you’re only charged the amount you agreed to donate – and that you’re not signed up to make a recurring donation
- \* **Know the recipient** - Before clicking on a link to donate online, make sure you know who is receiving your donation. Read Donating Through Crowdfunding, Social Media, and Fundraising Platforms for more information.



## T.R.O.M. Trivia November 2024

1. Hurricane season is generally recognized to begin on \_\_\_?\_\_\_ and end on \_\_\_?\_\_\_ ?  
Can you fill in the dates?
2. Protective hurricane shutters and related hurricane products can be installed \_\_\_?\_\_\_ hours preceding the storm and must be removed \_\_\_?\_\_\_ after the storm. What are these hours?
3. In the case of energy loss, generators are allowed in Turtle Rock.  
To minimize disturbing neighbors, generators should be run in the garage with no more than 1/2 of the garage door left open. True or False?

# Turtle Rock Women's Club

Turtlerockwomensclub@gmail.com

## Women's Resource Center Clothing Donations

November 1st - February 5th



Have you been wanting to reorganize and sort through your closets but just haven't made the time? Are you trying to decide if you should discard all the items you no longer wear or use? Well as they say, there's no time like the present!

The Turtle Rock Women's Club (TRWC) February 2025 luncheon speaker will be a representative of the Women's Resource Center ([www.mywrc.org](http://www.mywrc.org)). The center is a non-profit organization that provides women of all ages and backgrounds with various forms of support, resources, and services. One area of support offered is for women who are preparing to enter or re-enter the workforce. These women can shop at Career Closet, which is a part of the resource center, for little or no cost and select clothing and accessories that will give them the confidence to take the steps that may lead to successful employment and independence.

We would like to support our February luncheon speaker and the nonprofit she represents in the form of donations of new or gently used women's clothing and accessories. Starting November 1st and continuing through February 5th, we will be collecting clothing, shoes, purses, and jewelry for the center. We will sort and organize the items as they arrive. All donated items will be presented to the speaker at the February luncheon.

We ask that donations be dropped off at Debbie Foust's home. If you are unable to make a drop off, a Board member will be happy to pick up the donation at your home. Please text Debbie prior to your drop off as this will alleviate clothing sitting outside in the elements for extended periods of time.

Debbie Foust

4673 Sweetmeadow Circle

(570) 713-8693

Thank you in advance for your generosity!





# Turtle Rock Men's Club

By Ken Rosemann

## Turtle Rock Men's Club

“Danke Schön” to everyone who attended the Oktoberfest celebration at the Community Center!

The turnout exceeded expectations.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **PLAN ON ATTENDING!**

November 20<sup>th</sup> Luncheon

Miguel's Restaurant

6631 Midnight Pass Road

This luncheon will be sponsored by  
Marc Wolff, President/Branch Manager  
Southern Trust Financial Planning

### **SAVE THE DATE!**

December 18<sup>th</sup> Holiday Luncheon

The Frida Lounge at Kolucan

6644 Gateway Ave.

\*\*\*\*\*

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](mailto:TRMCGolf@gmail.com) to sign up or for more information.

\*\*\*\*\*

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 [turtlerockmensclub@gmail.com](mailto:turtlerockmensclub@gmail.com).

# From The West Corner Of...

By: Steve West, Resident Columnist



At birth we boarded the train  
and met our parents, and we  
believe they will always travel  
on our side.

However, at some station  
our parents will step down from  
the train, leaving us on this  
journey alone.

As time goes by,  
other people will board the train,  
and they will be significant;  
our siblings, friends, children,  
and even the love of your life.

Many will step down  
and leave a permanent vacuum.  
Others will go so unnoticed  
that we don't realize  
they vacated their seats.

This train ride will be full of joy,  
sorrow, fantasy, expectations,  
hellos, goodbyes, and farewells.  
Success consists of having a  
good relationship with all  
passengers requiring that we  
give the best of ourselves.



The mystery to everyone is:  
We do not know at which station  
we ourselves will step down.  
So, we must live in the best way,  
love, forgive, and offer the best  
of who we are.

It is important to do  
this because when the time  
comes for us to step down  
and leave our seat empty  
we should leave behind beautiful  
memories for those who will  
continue to travel on the train of life.

I wish you a joyful journey on the  
train of life.  
Reap success and give lots of love.  
More importantly, thank God for the  
journey.

Lastly, I thank you for being one of  
the passengers on my train.

## Answers to TROM TRIVIA

1. Begins June 1 and ends November 30. (TROM III, 5, B)
2. 72 and 72 (TROM III, 5, B)
3. False. Never, ever run a generator in an enclosed area. Gas run generators expel carbon monoxide (the silent killer) and can cause death in a matter of minutes.

**SUNDAY  
NOVEMBER 3  
Turn your clock  
ONE HOUR BACK**



## 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](mailto:trcommunications@myturtlerock.com)**

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

### Committee Members

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Penny Lind & Judy Bentz, Special Projects  
Cean Cerny, Tech Support  
Jennifer Gaines, Graphic Arts  
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