

Volume 2/Issue 1
1st Qtr 2023

Etched in WindStone

Welcome to the newsletter for our neighborhood. The intent is to provide a vehicle to keep homeowners informed of quarterly events, address issues in the neighborhood and communicate information from the POA Board of Directors, ARC Committee and related Committees.



2023 POA Board of Directors

From left to right: **Laura Beronsky, Laura Baird, Erin Dardis & Bob Kraft.** Not pictured, **Rosemary Metal**

President's Message

by **Erin Dardis**



WindStone's annual meeting was held on February 28, 2023. Thank you to all the homeowners who attended or turned in a proxy. As some of you are aware, we need a certain number of people (or proxies) in attendance for the annual meeting to take place. Thankfully, this year's meeting went off without a hitch and a new board was seated. In addition to myself, our current board members include **Bob Kraft, Rosemary Metal, Laura Baird, and Laura Berounsky.** I would like to thank these folks in advance for agreeing to volunteer their time and energy to our neighborhood for the next year. I look forward to working with you!

I would also like to thank the members of our Architectural Review Committee for all that they do. The ARC consists of **Mary Emerton** (chair), **Rob Tinley, Mark Griffin, Ryan Fonash, and Gary Metal.** The ARC meets twice as often as the board (and frankly, does twice as much work!) and is instrumental in helping to keep our neighborhood looking like something out of *Southern Living*. I know that the neighborhood appreciates the ARC's efforts and its great work, including its fast turn-around time!

Finally, I would like to thank the other neighbors who volunteer their time for WindStone: **Cindy Crooks** (Swales and Preserves Committee), **Lisa Kraft** (WindStone Newsletter), and **Kathy Stauffer** (Beautification Committee). Kathy does an amazing job at keeping our common areas looking the way that they do. My family and I have lived in WindStone for 10 years, and I am telling you, it never gets old driving through our front gates and into our beautiful community. I think that we can all agree that WindStone is an absolute gem, and much of that is due to the efforts of our amazing volunteers. Get out and enjoy it before it gets too hot!!

Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant. – Robert Louis Stevenson

ARC Report

by **Mary Emerton**

Happy Spring WindStone!!

The Board of Directors elected at the Annual Meeting held on February 28th reappointed the Team for another year. One of our valued teammates, **Laura Baird**, was elected to the Board creating a vacancy on the team. After posting for written “applicants” in advance of the meeting held on March 7th, the vacancy was filled by **Gary Metal**. The WindStone Architectural Review Committee (ARC) is comprised of **Ryan Fonash, Mark Griffin, Robert Tinley, me** and now Gary. Gary brings a wealth of knowledge in the landscaping area and we’re happy to have him join us.

Many of you were not able to attend the Annual Meeting when a comprehensive report was given, but in short - our primary focus is professional customer service to our community property owners. That resulted in very good metrics:

- 33 applications were reviewed in a timely and professional manner in the year. Those all resulted in approvals. We hope those approvals reflect a clear and consistent application of the pretty user-friendly process.
- Applications were moved on at an overall average of 4.41 days, far less than the 15 days required in the Covenants.

Since the last article in the January Edition, we’ve met 7 times (including a 5th Tuesday Social hosted by the Baird’s). We reviewed each of the 8 applications submitted well within the timeline required in our documents. We continue to meet by video conference on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month and the infrequent 5th Tuesday results in a social, in-person meeting.

We are continuing to review the Guidelines to ensure they are the best version reflecting our extraordinary community.

Please let us know what we may be able to do to assist you with your project ideas or the community and the Guidelines we all follow.

Best,

Mary Emerton and your WindStone ARC Team

A Bit of History from our Management Company

By **Beth Goin**

Coastal Community Management Association

The C-23 Canal, located in Palm City, Florida, was originally constructed in the 1920s as part of the Okeechobee Waterway project, the canal was created to facilitate drainage and water management in the region. The canal was later expanded in the 1960s by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to meet the growing needs of the local agricultural industry, as well as to prevent flooding during periods of heavy rainfall.

The purpose of the C-23 Canal is multi-faceted. Primarily, it serves as a vital component of the regional water management system, helping to control water levels and prevent flooding in the surrounding areas. The canal plays a crucial role in supporting local agriculture by providing irrigation water to farms and ranches, which are vital to the economy of Palm City and the surrounding region. The C-23 Canal also serves as a recreational resource, offering opportunities for boating, fishing, and wildlife viewing, which contribute to the local tourism industry. Overall, the C-23 Canal is a critical piece of infrastructure that has played a significant role in the development and sustainability of Palm City, Florida.

Welcome to the Neighborhood!

Anna & Travis Goldbach
Chester & Jenni Krupiarz
Dustyn & Arielle Shroff



Winter BBQ in WindStone

By *Rosemary Metal*

Last February Anne and Stuart Porter hosted a BBQ at their home. Stuart is an expert smoker and showed his skills with Ribs, Brisket and Chicken. A nice neighborhood crowd enjoyed a lovely evening outside and got to know each other. It was wonderful of them to open their home to everyone. Here are a few pictures to remember the evening.



*Anne Porter, Rosemary Metal,
Stuart Porter*



*Gary Metal, Mary Jane Ingram, Coco
and Kimberly Rappold, Renee Mabry*



*Mary Jane Ingram, Frank Lento, Coco
and Kimberly Rappold*

We will be looking forward to our second annual Holiday Progressive Dinner sometime in December. If anyone in the community would be interested in hosting one of the courses (there will be three) please contact Rosemary Metal, rmetal3@gmail.com.

Spring PotLuck

By *Lynn Graff*

On Saturday, April 22nd Diane and Frank hosted a neighborhood potluck. They were amazing hosts with a special drink of the night that went down very smoothly and was yummy. It did not last long. In the back of their house, they had three beautiful tables set up with tablecloths, candles, and flowers. The setting was beautiful. Frank lit beautiful votive candles all around the pool. The entrées were fried chicken and salmon, both were delicious. The appetizers were amazing, especially the Onion and Parmesan dip. The crabcakes were fabulous too. There were many side dishes. And the icing on the cake was literally a magnificent chocolate cake. It was a beautiful night with perfect weather.



Take a Book. Share a Book.

WindStone has a free little library located at the end of Lake Rush Court. It is always in need of your used book donations and kids' books seem to be the most popular genre. Thank you for helping!



Out and About on the Treasure Coast

By *Lisa Kraft*

Since moving to Florida just 4 years ago, my husband, Bob, and I have enjoyed discovering a variety of interesting places in the area, places we like to go back to regularly as well as places we like to show visitors. We recently had friends visit from out of town, so I thought I would take this opportunity to share some of the amazing spots we have found so far. I would also love to learn about your favorite spots to highlight in future newsletter issues (and to visit myself), so please share! Send your suggestions to lisadkraft@gmail.com.

I'll start with my favorite spot, the **Wakodahatchee Wetlands in Delray Beach.**

Open since 1996, the 50-acre Wakodahatchee Wetlands provide a wonderful opportunity to observe an abundance of wildlife in an otherwise suburban area. These man-made wetlands include open-water ponds, tree islands, and marsh areas that foster bird nesting and roosting every year. In fact, Wakodahatchee is part of the South section of the Great Florida Birding Trail. More than 178 bird species, including songbirds, ducks, and wading birds, have been identified at Wakodahatchee, and if you visit in the morning, you're sure to see some of the avid local birdwatchers and photographers. In addition to birds, you'll likely see turtles, alligators, iguanas, fish, and frogs. You may even see some snakes, rabbits, and raccoons. The wetlands are easily accessible via the three-quarter-mile boardwalk, which has informative signage as well as gazebos with benches.

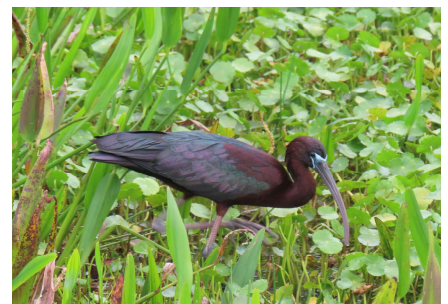
In addition to being a marvelous refuge for nesting birds and other wildlife, the Wakodahatchee Wetlands provide an important service to Florida's water resources. Every day, approximately 1 to 2 million gallons of highly treated wastewater (free of organic contaminants) are pumped into the wetlands, which act as a percolation pond. The water is purified by the wetlands' aquatic plants, which take up the excess minerals in the water as part of their nutrient cycle. Through this water reclamation process, billions of gallons of water are filtered back down to the water table, a key water source in South Florida.

Location: 13270 Jog Road, Delray Beach, FL 33484

Tips for your visit:

- Best time of year to see nesting birds: November to April.
- Be sure to take a camera. I highly recommend taking a camera with a good zoom lens, so you can take some up close and personal photos of the birds.
- Wear sun protection (hat, sunglasses, sunscreen) and take water with you. Most of the boardwalk is not shaded.
- Although the boardwalk is less than a mile long, expect to visit for at least an hour as you'll want to stop regularly and look at all the birds. We usually spend 2 to 3 hours there but that's a really slow walk around.
- There is a restroom available in the parking lot.
- No pets allowed on the boardwalk.
- Please remember to take any trash with you when you leave.

Here is just a sampling of the wildlife we saw during a visit on April 23:



Top Row (left to right): Anhinga, Green Heron, Glossy Ibis

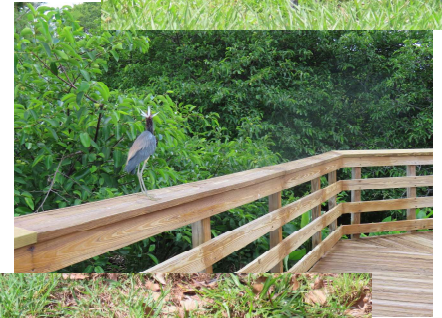
2nd Row: Baby Wood Stork, Baby Tricolor Heron





3rd Row: Snowy Egret on Nest, Wood Storks on Nests, Great Blue Heron

4th Row: Anhinga feeding babies, Tricolor Heron on Boardwalk Railing



5th Row: Alligator, Iguana



Beautification Committee Report

by Kathy Stauffer

Not much happening in the 1st quarter. We had been in a drought until recently. I did have all the street stone monuments cleaned as they were covered in rust. Now that the weather is starting to look better for planting, I'll start planning projects for the lake and other locations.

*Residents of WindStone know that our low-speed limit of 25 mph is for the safety of our children and our wildlife (especially the Sand Hill Cranes). **However, do your contractors know that?** Probably not. When you hire someone to work at your home, please remind them why the speed limit is important!!*

WindStone Community Garage Sales

After further discussion the WindStone Board decided there would be **no further garage sales**. The key reasons were low participation, significant traffic and especially parking issues, and concerns about current and future security.

County Water Installation Update

By **Bob Kraft**

I spoke with Phil Keathley who is the Martin County person who is responsible for our County water project. He told me that the project is delayed due to large price increases for the kind of work that needs to be done for our project. His hope is the economy will cool and they can get more reasonable bids. Currently they do not intend to put the project out for bid until early next year. I will follow up in the fourth quarter of this year and provide an update at that time.



Buttonbush:

Cephalanthus occidentalis is a species of flowering plant in the family *Rubiaceae* that is native to eastern and southern North America. Common names include buttonbush, common buttonbush, button-willow, buck brush, and honey-bells.

Garbage Pickup Days & Policy

This will be published in all newsletter issues this year to serve as a reference for new homeowners and those who use the bulk waste service infrequently.

1. *Please do not place your garbage or recycle bins on the curb more than one day before pickup.*
2. *Do not blow your leaves and lawn detritus into the street and leave it there.*

Garbage Pickup Days:

Monday: Recycling and Garbage

Wednesday: Yard Debris in cans or tied in bundles

Thursday: Garbage Only

Please Note:

Bulk Trash and Green Waste piles that require the claw machine **must be** called in **(772- 546-7700)** to arrange pickup. It will then be picked up the **next Tuesday**. To be clear, if you call in on a Tuesday, it will not be picked up that day. It will be picked up the next Tuesday.

Another new policy from Waste Management is **they will NOT pick up bulk green waste in common areas or empty lots**. To be picked up, the waste must be in front of a home with an address.