

SUGARMILL WOODS



CIVIC ASSOCIATION

February 2008
Newsletter

108 Cypress Boulevard West
Homosassa, Florida 34446

Community Outreach Program Meeting

Water Conservation & Management Workshop

Wednesday, February 20, 2008

1:00 PM to 4:30 PM

Sugarmill Woods Country Club

Presenters include:

- ♦ **Dr. Joan Bradshaw**, County Extension Director/Natural Resources Agent, Citrus County UF/IFAS Extension
- ♦ **Audrey Durr**, Florida Yards & Neighborhoods Program Coordinator, Citrus County UF/IFAS Extension
- ♦ **Bernadine Flood-Nichols**, Conservation & Outreach Coordinator, Citrus County Dept. of Water Resources
- ♦ **Debbe Hooper**, Florida Yards & Neighborhoods Program Assistant, Citrus County UF/IFAS Extension
- ♦ **Rivard Reding**, Water Resource Educator/Presenter, Southwest Florida Water Management District

Individual information stations will be set up to focus separately on these major areas:

- ♦ **Irrigation:** Irrigation of lawns, conservation methods and current watering restrictions.
- ♦ **Indoor Conservation:** Conserving water with toilets, showers, washers, etc; home test kits and Rebates.
- ♦ **Outdoor Conservation:** Drought Tolerant & Florida Friendly Plants (on display); Mulching; efficient watering methods and replacement of grass to reduce water needs

Save Water, Save Money

Walkers/Drivers Be Wary

- ☞ *Sugarmill Woods is a large community with many drivers.*
- ☞ *Sugarmill Woods is a large community with many walkers.*

The object must be: never the twain shall meet.

This requires vigilance, patience and courtesy on the part of everyone.

The most dangerous hours are early morning and early evening when visibility is difficult. With the absence of sidewalks, walkers must use the streets. Walking on the side of the road facing the traffic is required. Walking in the middle of the street is foolhardy. And, walkers should wear light-colored clothing and carry a flashlight if it's dark.

Motorists must observe safe driving practices. Be alert, especially on curves, be in control and, most of all, know and observe the speed limits. They vary from 20 to 25 to 35 MPH. Speed on any street in Sugarmill Woods should NEVER exceed 35 MPH no matter how "wide open" it appears to be.

Walking vs. driving is not a competition. Please be respectful of your neighbors!



Local Golf Courses Observe Strict Water Restrictions

The Sugarmill Woods, Southern Woods and World Woods golf courses use of water is monitored closely by the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWIFTMUD). Each course submits monthly reports to the regulatory agency.

"All of us must be good stewards of water use, especially on the golf courses where we are intensely scrutinized," says Stan Cooke, the Vice President and Director of Golf at the three courses. "We must set a good example."

Southern Woods golf course, for example, has a permit to use 261,000 gallons a day, a figure that totals over 95 million gallons annually. Employing conservation measures, the water used on the course in 2007 was 8.6 million gallons beneath its permitted allowance.

Director of Golf Maintenance Tim Gatz, who oversees both Sugarmill Woods and Southern Woods, explains that every green and every fairway receives custom treatment: more watering in some areas, less in others. During dry periods, a wetting agent is pumped through the irrigation system to make watering more effective. Most watering is done at night. If rain is forecast, the irrigation systems are shut down

Frequent aerification and applications of Curfew help establish deep root systems which require less water than shallow roots.

"The Golf Course Superintendents Association (GCSAA) encourages and trains its members to respect the environment with the use of water, herbicides, insecticides and pesticides. We must also be concerned with runoff issues," Cooke added.

"We are fortunate that all 93 holes of our golf holes are under the supervision of GCSAA members," says Cooke.

Annual Meeting



Public Service Commissioner Nancy Argenziano was the featured speaker and Association President Duane Dueker conducted the business meeting during the Annual Meeting at the Elks Lodge in Homosassa in January. Ms. Argenziano represented Citrus County in the Florida House and Senate for 10 years before her appointment to the Commission by Governor Crist last year.

Citrus County Watering Restrictions

Designated Day for House numbers ending in:

- 0 or 1 --- Monday
- 2 or 3 --- Tuesday
- 4 or 5 --- Wednesday
- 6 or 7 --- Thursday
- 8 or 9 --- Friday

- * Water ONLY ONCE on designated day either before 8 AM or after 6 PM.
- * Hand watering or micro-irrigation on non-lawn landscape is permitted.
- * Restrictions apply to all of us, whether we receive our water from public utilities or private wells.

Sugarmill Woods Welcome Committee Expanded

A committee formed last year to welcome new residents to Cypress Village has been expanded to include Oak Village, Oak Village South and Southern Woods.

JoAnn Deckant, Carol Pescodd, Barbara Reedy, Eunice Weatherford and Gail Rogers will greet newcomers to Cypress Village. Barbara Howell and Michelle Eisner will cover Oak Village and Oak Village South and Diane Cwik will contact new arrivals in Southern Woods.

Faye LaVelle will coordinate the activity in all the villages.

New residents are being presented packets that contain a wealth of information about Sugarmill Woods and its organizations, plus maps and guidelines to government and commercial services available in Citrus County. Many businesses have contributed discount coupons.

New owners and renters are identified by deed transactions, real estate reports and neighbors who wish to help.

For more information about the Sugarmill Woods Welcome Committee, please contact Faye LaVelle at fayel@yahoo.com.

This Newsletter is published by the Sugarmill Woods Civic Association as a community service to all residents of Sugarmill Woods.

Board of Directors

President ~ Duane Dueker
Vice President ~ Bob Hettrich
Secretary ~ Jim Roys
Treasurer ~ Charlie Hoke

Board Members

Warren Blodgett ~ Richard Eisner ~ Ross Knudsen
Madelyn McCorkle ~ Ardath Prendergast
Ed Schiller ~ Tom Paslay ~ Nancy Weber

Consultants

Skip Christensen ~ Pat Schuessler ~ Norm Wagay

www.sugarmillcivic.org

Crime Watch



Driver Bob Gay and Crime Watch President Dick Byrnes show a map of the five zones in Sugarmill Woods to Public Safety Committee Chairman Jim Roys after he presented the Civic Association's annual financial gift to the patrol group. Nearly 100 drivers participate in the program which calls for each zone to be covered at least once a day. Money from the gift is used to offset the purchase of uniforms for the drivers who patrol in 2-hour shifts. 6 days a week. Their assignment is to report any suspicious activity to the proper authorities quickly.

New drivers are always needed.

Volunteers may contact Mr. Byrnes at 382-5388.

January Meetings Attract Big Turn-outs

A Community Outreach meeting that featured Citrus County Property Appraiser Melanie Hensley at the Sugarmill Woods Country Club attracted an overflow crowd of more than 180 residents.

Appraiser Hensley explained the pros and cons of the Constitutional Amendment 1 that appeared on the January 29th ballot.

At the Association's Annual Meeting at the Elks Lodge, Public Service Commissioner Nancy Argenziano described the workings of the Commission to a crowd of about 250.

She pledged that she would not be "wined and dined" by the public utilities she is commissioned to oversee, a criticism lodged against some previous commissioners. But, she added she would be fair to the utilities and give their requests a fair hearing.

Visible (invisible) House Numbers

Emergency personnel explain that trying to find an exact address in the complex grid of streets in Sugarmill Woods can be difficult and is often compounded by house numbers that are difficult, if not impossible, to see.

While delivering telephone directories to homes missed during the initial delivery in November, the problem was confirmed. Searching for houses in Cypress and Oak Villages and Oak Village South can be daunting. Some numbers are too small to be read from the street. Some are hidden by shrubbery.

The purchase of large numbers is inexpensive. Placing them in easily visible locations is not difficult.

In an emergency, minutes can count. Don't lose them by being hard to find.

Hoke, Roys & Paslay Join the Board



At the Civic Association's Annual meeting in January, Charlie Hoke, Jim Roys and Tom Paslay were elected to the Board of Directors for three year terms. (See biographies in the December *Newsletter*).

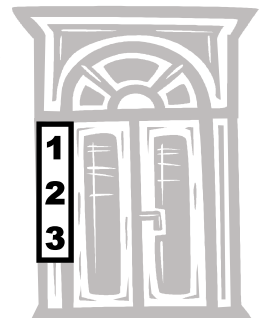
At the organizational meeting that followed, the 2008 slate of officers was elected and committee appointments were made by President Duane Dueker.

Board of Directors

President ~ Duane Dueker
Vice President ~ Bob Hettrich
Treasurer ~ Charlie Hoke
Secretary ~ Jim Roys

Committees

- ◆ **Finance** ~ Charlie Hoke, Duane Dueker, Pat Schuessler (Consultant)
- ◆ **Public Relations** ~ Duane Dueker, Madelyn McCorkle, Ardath Prendergast, Norm Wagy (Consultant)
- ◆ **Membership** ~ Nancy Weber
- ◆ **Community** ~ Bob Hettrich, Duane Dueker, Warren Blodgett
- ◆ **Community Outreach Program** ~ Bob Hettrich, Duane Dueker, Warren Blodgett
- ◆ **Long Range Planning** ~ Richard Eisner
- ◆ **Parkway** ~ Duane Dueker, Tom Paslay. Skip Christensen (Consultant)
- ◆ **Public Safety** ~ Jim Roys, Warren Blodgett
- ◆ **Planning Board** ~ Ross Knudsen
- ◆ **Utilities** ~ Ed Schiller, Warren Blodgett, Duane Dueker



Message from the President

Our annual meeting was held in January and our guest speaker was Commissioner Nancy Argenziano, Florida Public Service Commission. In addition, we elected three new members to the Board of Directors: Charles Hoke, Tom Paslay, and Jim Roys. We also recognized three Board members who completed their terms and thanked them for their dedicated service and many contributions to the Civic Association and the Sugarmill Woods Community: Past President Skip Christensen, Pat Schuessler, and Norm Wagy.



Our Community Outreach Program continues to be very successful. In early January, Citrus County Property Appraiser Melanie Hensley was our guest speaker and attendance was about 180 residents. Her presentation was on the Property Tax Reform Amendment which you know by now passed by a significant margin. I want to thank all of you who voted on January 29. Once again Sugarmill Woods was the leader in Citrus County with 62.7% of its registered voters (7349) who exercised their right and voted (4606). The county overall average was 49.2%.

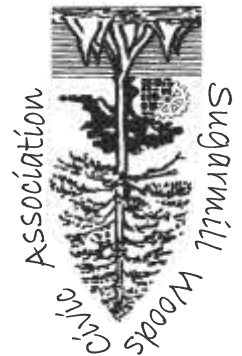
Future meetings for the Community Outreach Program include a Water Conservation and Management Workshop on February 20; Citrus Memorial guest speakers Dr. Peter Kim (Cardiovascular Surgeon) and Diane McDonald Graber (Women's Heart Program) on March 11; and Citrus County Sheriff Jeff Dawsey on May 13. All three meetings will be held at the Sugarmill Woods Country Club. Bulletins will be published giving the times for each meeting. We hope that many of you can attend several or all of these meetings.

The new well and storage tank on US 98 and Lone Pine Street are in the final testing stage and should be operational this month. Both should provide needed capacity for the Sugarmill Woods community. However, we still have a problem exceeding our water usage permit. Some people are not adhering to the county watering restrictions. Included in this newsletter is a restatement of the allowable watering times. Please adhere to them. You will help conserve water and save money.

We solicit your ideas and any issues and concerns that you might have so we can address them. My email address is: president@sugarmillcivic.org

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**RESIDENT OF CYPRESS VILLAGE, OAK VILLAGE, SOUTHERN WOODS
HOMOSASSA, FLORIDA 34446**



**Sugarmill Woods Civic Association
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Homosassa, FL 34446**

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