

# Sugarmill Woods Civic Association

March 2010  
Newsletter



108 Cypress Blvd West  
Homosassa, FL 34446

## Congresswomen Ginny Brown-Waite Addressed Annual Meeting

While admitting the American health care system is not perfect, US Representative Ginny Brown-Waite (R,5) described the legislation before Congress as “a pig in a poke”. Her position is: fix what’s wrong with the system, don’t try to reinvent it.

Speaking to a crowd of Sugarmill Woods residents, she admitted Republicans “messed up” and share some of the blame for the economic downturn, but she voted against the “stimulus” legislation because she said the only thing it stimulated was more spending in Washington. She expressed disappointment in the lack of oversight from the Security and Exchange Commission.

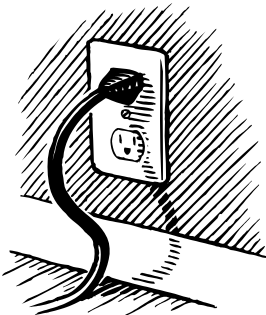
She also opposed the creation of the Department of Homeland Security, again, preferring to fix what was wrong with the security system rather than create one more huge bureaucracy. Her district embraces all of Citrus, Hernando and Sumter counties and parts of 5 more. Her 900,000 constituents include the largest percentage of veterans and medicare recipients in the country.

Ms. Brown-Waite said she “did not go to Washington to increase people’s taxes and though she agrees this is a critical time for the country, she expects to see some improvement in the economy later this year or in early 2011.



## Save Energy? A Provider Shows How

Record electric bills this past winter have prompted residents to look for ways to save.



A good resource is Progress Energy. It offers a free home inspection for its customers to offer suggestions and an energy efficiency staff to explain simple steps to take.

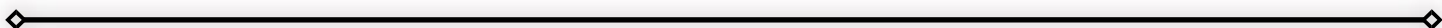
Company advisor Russ Parke spoke at a Civic Association Community Outreach Program in January and offered many ideas to conserve.

Heating, cooling and hot water make up about 75 percent of the monthly bill. Parke explained that warm air moves toward cold air. It costs about \$6.00 per degree, per month to lower the thermostat to cool the house; about \$3.50 per month to heat it. Thermostat settings of 78 degrees in the summer and 70 in the winter are recommended unless health or other conditions apply. Change the filter every month and weatherstrip windows and doors to increase efficiency.

Many homes have air conditioners and hot water tanks that are larger than necessary. In these instances, bigger is not necessarily better. For example, a 40 gallon hot water tank should be sufficient for a household of two people, and when replacing an air condition/heating system, question how big a unit is really required.

Simple things can lower usage: turn off ceiling fans in unused rooms; wash laundry in cold water; run the dishwasher at night and let the dishes “air dry”; shut the computer off, not to sleep, when not in use; use fluorescent light bulbs throughout the house.

For a free inspection and to receive a host of recommendations on how to conserve, call Progress Energy at (800) 700-8744 or (352) 694-8818. An inspector will make a study of your house and offer suggestions. There is no obligation to comply with the recommendations. In some instances, the company offers financial assistance for improvements. Progress Energy offers additional options for finding home energy saving ideas. These are the Phone Assisted Energy Check, the Do-It-Yourself Mail-In Energy Check and the Online Home Energy Check.





## **FDS Recycle Service Expands on March 1<sup>st</sup>**

Local trash company F.D.S. will begin "single stream" recycle pickup beginning March 1<sup>st</sup> for its customers in Cypress Village and Oak Village. "Single stream" means all material (paper, glass, plastic, cardboard) may be placed in a single bag for pickup at the side door one day of each week.



Randy Messer, F.D.S. recycling manager, offers details of the new service to Sugarmill residents Dan and Helen Hillen at a recent workshop sponsored by the Civic Association and F.D.S Disposal, Inc.

## **Community Outreach Program Schedule**

Tuesday, March 30	County Commissioner Dennis Damato
Tuesday, April 20	Sheriff Jeff Dawsy
Tuesday, May 4	Supervisor of Elections Susan Gill
Tuesday, May 18	Citrus County Emergency Operations Director Captain Joe Eckstein

## **Water Conservation Seminar Scheduled**

The Civic Association has arranged for a number of county and state employees to conduct a Water Conservation Workshop at the Sugarmill Woods Country Club on Wednesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> from 1 PM to 4PM.

Citrus County Water Resources personnel and experts from the University of Florida and IAS Extension Services will present suggestions on ways to conserve water and, at the same time, preserve the lifestyle and physical ambience that Sugarmill Woods residents desire.

The workshop is free to all Sugarmill Woods residents.

## **Phone Directory Errata**

Geraldine Carlson, 57 Cypress Blvd. W  
382-2282

Salvatore & Nora Cina, 9 Knotwood Ln.  
382-3250

William & Ellen Eriksson, 1 Holly Ct.  
382-2815



## **2010 Civic Association Board of Directors**



Left to right: Charlie Hoke, Ed Schiller, Francesca Paar, Mike Howard, Nancy Weber, Warren Blodgett, Duane Dueker, and Richard Eisner. Not pictured: Richard Hirsch, Ross Knudsen and Tom Paslay

## **As Growing Season Nears, a Water Reminder**

Water restrictions continue to apply in this area. Lawn irrigation is limited to one day per week and only before 8 AM or after 6 PM. The weekly schedule is 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



No watering on weekends.  
Please contact Citrus County Water Resources to understand limitations on irrigation for new or replacement lawns.

*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 ~ Ed Schiller  
Treasurer ~ Charlie Hoke  
Secretary ~ Warren Blodgett

### **Board Members**

Richard Eisner ~ Richard Hirsch  
Michael Howard ~ Ross Knudsen  
Francesca Paar ~ Tom Paslay ~ Nancy Weber

### **Consultants**

Skip Christensen ~ Norm Wagy

### **Newsletter**

Content - Norm Wagy  
Design - Madelyn McCorkle

[www.sugarmillcivic.org](http://www.sugarmillcivic.org)

## **Message from the President**

The Civic Association Board has gotten off to a fast start and is focusing on a number of activities and issues that are important to the community. We started the year with our Annual Meeting on January 18 and followed that with an organization meeting on January 20 to elect new officers. We elected one new Board Member, Mr. Richard Hirsch, who will focus on Public Relations activities for the Civic Association. I encourage you get to know Mr. Hirsch and the rest of the Board members. Let them know what your issues and concerns are so we can address them real time.



The Civic Association Board has finalized committee assignments. Look for additional information on these committees and a listing of the committee members in a future Sugarmill Woods Bulletin. The listing of the various committees and members will be posted later this month on our web site at [www.sugarmillcivic.org](http://www.sugarmillcivic.org).

We have already kicked off our Community Outreach Program meetings for 2010 with many more excellent speakers lined up. The details of whom is speaking, when, and where can be found in Sugarmill Woods Bulletins emailed to all residents who signed up for the free service, on bulletin boards around the community, and via the various village web sites. If you are not on the distribution list for the Sugarmill Woods Bulletins and wish to be added, please send an email to [DuaneDueker@aol.com](mailto:DuaneDueker@aol.com).

We continue to be engaged with Citrus County Water Resources and the Board of County Commissioners on water related issues. Areas needing focus include improved education for individual residential customers with high water usage, education for lawn maintenance company personnel, a more aggressive action plan to identify and resolve the cause of the Unaccounted for Water Losses, and an accelerated plan to renew the SMW Water Usage Permit. We are investigating some resident suggestions and ideas for walking paths and bike paths in the area. We will continue to promote residential pickup of recycling materials and encourage all waste haulers to participate in and support such a program.

This month we will be sending out a reminder notice to please consider joining the Sugarmill Woods Civic Association for 2010 if you have not done so already. We need your support and your active involvement to help us meet the challenges of this year. On behalf of the SMW Civic Association Board of 2010, we look forward to working with you and serving you throughout the year.

*Thank you,  
Duane Dueker*