

Chairman's Notes

March 22, 2024

It's hard to believe that it's already March 22nd, where did our season go? It seems like only yesterday when all our seasonal friends and neighbors returned to The Great Outdoors, and now it's almost time for them to return north. I will share a few updates with you that may be of interest.

I will start with the golf course. We are now only three weeks away from the start of the golf course renovation. The irrigation contractor will be on-site next week to begin joining the pipes into 400-foot sections to be ready for April 15th project start. You will see some heavy equipment arriving shortly. To my knowledge, we are all set to start renovating on April 15th.

I am sure you noticed the areas on our golf course that are "browned-out", especially around the greens and some fairways. This is because we have sprayed to kill the grass, so we can put down new grass after these areas are reshaped by our contractors. We will be spraying at least one more time before shaping work begins. All of the spraying is done by our in-house personnel and we are using environmentally friendly chemicals.

Again, I want to remind everyone to be careful around the heavy equipment that will be arriving and operating soon. Also, please be aware there will be several large trucks bringing in materials for our golf course. We need to be careful and very conscious of our speed over the next six months.

Let me briefly discuss Blue Heron Restaurant. As all of you are aware, we're going into a slower time at the restaurant following Easter, then as the golf course will be closed. We need your support to be able to keep our restaurant running during this slow season.

Currently, we are relying on two assistant managers to operate the restaurant, but we have just hired a General Manager who will coordinate the front and back of the house activities. This new manager will bring better coordination and communication between the front and back of the house. He will also ensure we see consistent service and food quality.

Finally, he will use this slow period to offer further training for our staff to ensure we have the skills to meet our owners' expectations as we prepare for another high season and the re-opening of our golf course. With consistency and fair prices, we want to encourage our golfers who are temporarily playing at other golf courses to return to our restaurant after golf to enjoy food and drinks here.

Another area of concern that I have is with our pets. It seems that a few people have decided to allow their dogs to roam off leash which is a violation of our rules, and we cannot permit this to continue. Our rules plainly state that all dogs must be on a leash when outside with the exception of when they are in Doggie World. If you choose to allow your dog to be off leash when outside you are subject to citation and fines. So, I will ask you to please comply with our rules and keep your dogs on leash at all times.

I recently signed a Proclamation for Gopher Tortoise Day which is April the 10th. Please watch the Happenings for additional information on this proclamation and some associated activities on this afternoon.

I need to remind everyone that safety is my #1 concern and I have had several complaints lately about traffic violations, people not stopping at stop signs, speeding, and not using signals when turning. Please obey all traffic laws.

Please remember that our wildlife are wild animals and very unpredictable. Wildlife is wonderful to look at, but from a distance and I stress, from a distance. Do not approach a wild animal and be extremely cautious when around the water's edge. I ask you, please, do not feed any of the wild animals, let them continue to be wild.

Should you have an issue with an alligator who shows aggressive behavior, please let the CSA office know as soon as possible and they will contact Florida State Wildlife Program SNAP who will arrange to have the animal removed.

I have one sad issue I would like to make you all aware of. It seems that we have a few people in our community who feel it is necessary to send me

anonymous letters, two to three times a month, making some very inappropriate allegations and inappropriate statements about me, our Board of Directors, and our employees. It is sad that we have people like this in our community. If you have an issue with something I am doing or not doing, please politely communicate with me without the use of profanity, and I will be glad to address any issue you have. I would also encourage you, if you feel this strongly about the CSA employees or the management of TGO, that you run for office so that you can make the changes that you think should be made. My term ends this year and I welcome you to run for office.

The rules I decided to share with you today come from our Declarations of Covenants.

10.3 Offensive Conduct. No behavior or practice shall be permitted on the Common Properties that endangers or unreasonably annoys an Owner or other authorized user of the Common Properties or that might cause the premiums for insurance on the Common Properties to be increased, and no immoral or unlawful use shall be made of any part of the Common Properties.

10.4 Animals. No animal owned by (or in the custody of) an Owner or its tenants or guests shall be permitted on Recreational Common Properties such as tennis courts, swimming pools, recreation buildings, mail facility, bathhouses, Association offices or other areas as designated by the Board of Directors. **Animals are permitted on other outdoor Common Properties and roadways provided that the pet is at all times leashed.** When doing so, it is required that the Owner keep the pet close to them and out of private yards unless prior permission of the yard owner has been given. Dogs are not permitted on the nature trails. All pet excrement must be picked up and bagged for disposal at the owner's home or at any place formally designated for that purpose. The Board may temporarily or permanently ban from all Common Properties and roadways any animal that is dangerous or that becomes obnoxious by reasons of aggressive or intimidating behavior. No animal may be kept on the Properties for commercial or breeding purposes.

10.6 Security Stops. The Association's security personnel, if any, shall have the right to stop and question persons on the Common Properties and to require satisfactory evidence of any such person's right

to be where he is stopped. Any such person who fails to establish that right may be required to leave the Common Properties (even if he actually is entitled to be where he is stopped but fails to satisfactorily prove that he is).

To all of our friends and neighbors who must return to their permanent residence we wish you a very safe trip, and a safe return to TGO in the fall.

Cliff