

Welcome, Clive Burnett of Barlow Group!

A warm welcome to Clive Burnett, who is the new proprietor of The Barlow Group, our management company here in Prestancia! Clive and his family moved to Sarasota in 2001 from Guildford, England after spending 14 years visiting his parents here. He loved the town, beaches, climate, and saw the opportunity for growth in this town and loved the thought of bringing his family up here. His wife is named Zoe and the couple have two boys, Aaron, 10, and Jake, 8. We wish you well, Clive, and know that you have our best interests in mind at all times as the residents continue to appreciate the quality of life here in Prestancia now and always.



*Russ Seifert,
PCA President*

And Now, A Word From Our President

As I sit here writing this column I actually hear rain coming down on a skylight. That is a sound that I haven't heard much lately and it is certainly welcome. We have had so little rain in recent months and to get some in our driest part of the year is a very pleasant surprise. The fact that it is rain and not the snow and ice that has plagued the Midwest and Northeast reminds me of why I live in this little piece of Paradise.

Speaking of the north country, it is hard to believe that the time is rapidly approaching when our Northern friends will start leaving us to return to their summer homes. It seems like only yesterday that I was writing about their arrival here and now they are preparing to leave us. It is true that traffic will be lighter, restaurants will be more accessible, and the beach will once again have parking spaces. However I for one, will miss them and wish them safe journey to their other home and an early return to us for next winter.

I would be very remiss if I didn't give kudos to the TPC for their planting of beautiful flowering shrubs all around the course. So many of them are visible from the streets adjacent to the course which means we all can enjoy them. Thanks TPC.

It is apparent that spring is upon us as can be verified by the newly-born baby chicks following closely behind the sand hill cranes. It is enjoyable to watch the Mom and Dad pecking away for grubs to feed the babies and seeing the babies excitement when they are fed, Once again a word of caution about looking out for them as we drive through our beautiful community. They actually think they own the place.

One last observation. It was beginning to appear that the white pelicans were not coming back this year. Then, one day, about four or five showed up. They must have been the point pelicans because the next day about 75 or 100 came in. What a beautiful sight.

Neighborhood News

The last three months were busy ones for Manors' residents! On the 7th of January, we held a memorial service for Judge John J. Sullivan, a Manors resident of many years.

The last issue highlighted his illustrious life. The Manors held a progressive dinner in November which was a solid success, attracting more than 45 residents. Four courses were served and every host house did a great job, with special kudos going to Micky and Tom Bohan, who held a sit-down dinner for more than 40 people. The progressive dinner was a wonderful opportunity to meet neighbors not yet known and re-connect with friends home from the summer season.

Committee Activities: the document revisions committee mailed out Version IV of the revised Governing Documents for a member vote on January 18. While the committee and the Manors Board strongly endorse this version of the documents, we will continue to work on amendments as necessary, as well as new section for 2008.

Friends of the Manors: This committee was formed last fall to increase awareness of members' activities — for example, formal greeting of new neighbors and acknowledgement of significant events in the lives of residents via cards, small gifts and in-person visits. Planning of other social events will also be coordinated by this committee, including ladies brunches throughout the year. We are very fortunate to have Joan Engel and Meryl Cohen heading up this committee.

Common Services/Pricing: The five members of this committee have been identified as Mel Cohen (chair), Tim Downey, Ed Page, and Barbara and David Leifer. The committee's purpose is to negotiate lower prices based on volume for services common to a sufficient number of interested residents. Based on depth of interest, the first two services have been identified (lawns and grounds maintenance and power-washing). The next steps are to identify potential service providers and to write RPPs which will be the basis for bids by the providers.

Lastly, the Manors says goodbye to Jone Barlow Weist who headed the Barlow Group, which managed our Association for many years. We will miss her intelligence, evenhandedness and knowledge about the business as well as her terrific sense of humor!

— *Barbara Leifer, The Manors*

Beautiful Villa Mirada is in bloom thanks to Grant's Landscaping "artistic eye" and care of the newly redone entrance plantings...truly a Paradise setting. A fun courtyard party was held on March 29 for the residents and our fantastic spring weather complied. A pool party will be shared with

Monte Verde April 2 — in fact the plan is for a roast pig feast. Doesn't that sound great?

— *Ruth Roti*

For the past two years a number of residents have gathered to decorate our mailboxes and the entrance way for Christmas, followed by a BYOB at a neighborhood home. Some other activities enjoyed by our home owners are tennis, golf, card games, mahjong, tutoring and volunteering. We just enjoy celebrating life in Paradise.

— *Ruth Winand, La Vista*

After spending all our money on hurricane-resistant roofs, garage doors, windows, etc., we went through the hurricane season without testing them. Who is complaining? Also, longtime residents Bob and Mary King have left us for a new life at The Fountains of Sarasota. Bob and Mary moved into a beautiful new apartment situated on the lake and are busy making new friends and enjoying the "Good Life." Both Bob and Mary were tireless in their efforts to make VD a wonderful community, and we hope they know how very successful they were.

The Kings are still contributing to Villa d'Este in other ways: They informed us that while visiting a patient at The Springs, they saw a VD neighbor, Dottie Joseph, at the rehab facility. She is recuperating from a fall she had in mid January while exiting a local restaurant. She suffered a broken pelvis and a rather severe blow to her head. Dottie expects to be released from the rehab facility very soon but plans to temporarily stay in an apartment at The Fountains while continuing her long-term therapy. Best wishes to Dottie.

— *Dan Phillips, Villa D'Este*

News from the TPC Club: The 2007–2008 golf season is in full swing at TPC Prestancia. The past 12 months have seen many improvements to the club, namely the greens renovation and conversion to Champion Bermuda grass, as well as the installation of a "state of the art" irrigation system on the Stadium Course. Additionally, we have installed a new roof on the clubhouse and the Comfort Station at #5 green. During the past two months we have been focused on the beautification of the Stadium Course. There were many projects completed in January and even more slated for March and April. We will also be renovating the interior of the clubhouse beginning June 1st.

It is an exciting time to be at TPC Prestancia. As always, my door is open should you wish to discuss any topics.

— *Jim Poole, TPC General Manager*

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Prestancia Designers with Panache!

Painted mirrors transformed into works of art? Faux painting that looks like 16th century marble? Using imagination and creativity, the “new age” interior designers and design consultants can truly weave magic into any space, be it a condo, villa, spacious home or mini-mansion. PipeLineEditor found several designers living in Prestancia who are gifted and visionary. We’ll highlight other talented people in future issues, but in this issue we introduce you to Deborah Bill (Deborah Bill Interiors) of The Enclave. She’s been in the design business for 25 years and hails from Boston. Her background is extensive in complete building renovations and fabulous interiors, however small or large. Larger projects include The Copley Plaza Hotel in Boston and a historic North Shore Mansion. Prior to starting her own business, she worked at Robb and Stucky in Sarasota. Pictured (left) with Deborah is one of her design consultants, Sandy Norton (left), who is a “faux painter extraordinaire” as evident by how she transformed this Mara Villa mirror into a work of art to compliment the interior and theme of the small villa home. Deborah can be reached at 941.350.8293 and Sandy at 941.539.1939.



La Vista Updates Entrances

Anyone visiting friends in La Vista, or using the TPC facilities, has noticed varying stages of activity at our entrances. After over 20 years of stately service to the neighborhood, the old fountains and dated color scheme have given way to a more contemporary and environmentally friendly look. The existing walls, waterfall-type fountains, plantings and lighting were in desperate need of repair. A committee of homeowners worked for nearly one year at the request of the La Vista Board to fine tune a design plan for the new entrances. After approval by homeowners and the Board at their annual meeting, construction was started in early January. With luck, by the time this appears in *The Pipeline*, the final landscaping and lighting will also be completed.



Formella Construction acted as general contractor for the work, and did an excellent job completing the work in a timely manner.

La Vista is helping ensure that Prestancia remains one of the premier communities in our area.

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This time of year is bubbling with activity in Mara Villa! All of our winter family are here for the season and with that comes their children, their grandchildren and friends. The activities in Mara Villa center around our beautiful pool and plantings, it just seems to attract everyone. This creates a wonderful way to meet your neighbors and make new friends. Our latest endeavor to continue improving our community was to change the band colors on our buildings and add an accent color to shutters, chimneys and the individual house numbers. It certainly freshened things up! Mara Villa Management will begin working on the perimeter wall plantings this year. It is a big project, and the first section to be addressed is the North end of Mara Villa along Prestancia Boulevard. We are very excited to begin this major project.

— Dottie Baker, Mara Villa

Palacio just had our road paved and it came out very well.

— John Winter, Palacio

