



Citizens for Ponce Inlet

Newsletter

Dedicated to improving the quality of life in Ponce Inlet

VOL. XCVII

Spring 2014

2014 Citizen of the Year Award Ceremony and Dinner

You are cordially invited to the annual Ponce Inlet Citizens of the Year Award Ceremony and Dinner to be held **Thursday, April 10th** at the Community Center. The award is given to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the community over the years and deserve to be recognized.

This year we will also be presenting a “Lifetime Achievement Award”. This very special award has only been given three other times to citizens that have made a lifetime of serving the Town of Ponce Inlet.

We look forward to your attendance at this year’s event. It’s a celebration of the tradition of community service that makes Ponce Inlet such a great place to live. Your support and appreciation of these outstanding Ponce Inlet citizens will be appreciated.

A BYOB happy hour will begin at 5:00 pm. to be followed at 6:00 by a presentation from Fire Chief Dan Scales on the Ponce Inlet non-emergency transport program. Following that the Citizen of the Year and Lifetime Achievement awards will be presented. The lasagna dinner will be served at approximately 6:45.

Tickets for the event and lasagna dinner are only \$7.00 dollars and are on sale at the Community Center. Please see the flyer on page 25 for complete details.

The yearly general membership meeting of the Citizens for Ponce Inlet will be held on Tuesday, April 22nd, at 7pm at the Community Center. This meeting to elect Board members and the officers is usually held during the Citizen of the Year Award event . Some members of the organization have expressed a desire to have input on several issues and the Board felt that it would be best done at a separate meeting. We look forward to hearing from the general membership and a separate meeting will allow time to fully hear from anyone interested in expressing an opinion about the organization and its activities to the Board.

Additionally at the April 22nd meeting officers and board members will be elected.

The slate for 2014—2016 Board members are: Don Hampton; Jim Hinson; Mary Lou Hinson; Kristi Drumheller.

One year officer terms are:
Don Hampton – President; Jim Hinson – Vice President; Kristi Drumheller – Secretary; Judy Huggins – Treasurer and Membership.

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PICCI Board Irish Night 2014

The Citizens For Ponce Inlet Newsletter is published four times yearly to inform the citizens and businesses of Ponce Inlet about matters which may be of interest or have an impact on them. The newsletter is not a public forum and no editorial articles or letters will be accepted for publication.

The Town of Ponce Inlet's arrangement with the Citizens For Ponce Inlet organization is that the Town of Ponce Inlet covers the cost of the printing of the newsletter in exchange for running information from all of the Town's departments. The Citizens For Ponce Inlet organization puts the newsletter together to include articles from all of the various organizations within the Town. The Citizens For Ponce Inlet organization also pays for the mailing and handles other local distribution. Though the printing varies from one issue to the next based upon its size, the Town of Ponce Inlet spent \$5,522 in total for the four issues published last fiscal year.

The newsletter does not accept paid advertisements so please consider becoming a member of the Citizens For Ponce Inlet by completing the form on the last page of this publication. Your membership helps defray the costs of the many activities of this organization including postage for the newsletter, the annual Candidate's Forum, and the Citizens of the Year awards event.

All comments, questions, and articles for submission should be directed to:

Citizens For Ponce Inlet
4670 South Peninsula Drive
Ponce Inlet, FL 32127
Or:
ponce.newsletter@gmail.com

2013 Citizens For Ponce Inlet Board Members

Kristi Drumheller
Mary Lou Fillingame
Don Hampton
Jim Hinson
Mary Lou Hinson
Judy Huggins
Ellen Pagliarulo
Mary Ann Redinger
Margi Richard

This years PICCI Board's Irish Night celebration and dinner was a sold out event and a good time was had by all!



Town Manager



...From
Town Manager
Janeen Witt

With the roar of the Speedway and Bike Week we have welcomed in the Spring of 2014. Ponce Inlet has a lot to offer those who enjoy the outdoors during this time of year. Using our pristine view of both the ocean and the intercoastal waterway as a frame for our lovely island home, we provide many wonderful parks, trails, and boardwalks for your enjoyment and offer access to some areas that would otherwise be out of reach. Our latest boardwalk at Timuccuan Oaks is open for your enjoyment, though work on the front of this park will continue through this year. Improvements to the *Happy Tails* Dog Park rose to the top of our priority list and we hope that you and your canine companion are enjoying this park even more. The organizers of this year's *Mardi Claws* pet parade dedicated proceeds from the event to equipment for the park, so you should see even more improvements in the future.

On February 15th, the Town proudly co-sponsored the highly publicized and well-attended historic beach racing parade – highlighting another aspect of the Town's rich history. This parade traveled along the course of the original beach racing track, which began at the North Turn on South Atlantic Avenue to the South Turn / Beach Street, where it trav-

eled onto the beach and headed back up to the North Turn. The Town in conjunction with Volusia County made façade improvements and marked these historic locations with are used as two beach access points in 2012. Monuments commemorating historic beach racing were put in place at that time, along with checkered flags and a checkered walkway.

Ponce Inlet proudly co-sponsors numerous events in the coming months – a Children's Easter party, Corvette show, Turtle Release Day, and Ice Cream Social. We never slow down in our efforts to improve your quality of life here in Ponce Inlet.

In January, the Town Council completed its bi-annual Goals workshop and then in February they reviewed and adopted goals for the coming two years. The objectives that have been set are as follows:

Priority Objectives:

- Keep taxes responsibly level overall while maintaining a high level of service, providing citizens with the greatest value for their tax dollar.
- Develop a Capital Improvement Program for each Department.
- Complete the following LUDC priorities (review, discuss, possibly revise):
 - ◇ Tree preservation regulations;
 - ◇ Parking requirements;
 - ◇ Courtyard requirements;
 - ◇ Minor replats;
 - ◇ 5,000 s.f. size limit for non-residential buildings;
 - ◇ Variance criteria.
- Parks and Recreation (planning, programming, uses).
- Parking Study.
- Maintain Home Rule Authority.

Additional Objectives discussed:

- Improvement/replacement of aging infrastructure (water, stormwater, sidewalks).
- Review sign regulations.
- Review Code for areas of contradiction and areas needing definition / simplification (all departments).
- Employee development and retention.
- Continue to improve outreach and communication.
- Explore removing utility poles from Lighthouse Park.

Town Regular Election – 2014.

Ponce Inlet's election is scheduled to be held on **Tuesday, August 26th**. Two seats will be up for election on the Town Council this year. Seat 2 and Seat 4 will be open for two year terms. Qualified candidates must be a resident of the Town for at least twelve (12) months and a registered voter in Volusia County for six (6) months prior to qualifying period. Qualifying period will begin on Monday, June 16^h at noon and will end on Friday, June 20th at noon. If you are interested in serving your Town in this manner, please contact Deputy Town Clerk Kim Cherbano at 386-236-2150 for more information.

Spotlight on Christopher Ballinger, Fire Driver Engineer...



Please welcome Firefighter/Paramedic Christopher Ballinger to the Ponce Inlet Fire Depart-

ment full-time Ranks. Chris started his career 22 years ago in his hometown of Bozrah, CT as a volunteer firefighter for the Bozrah Volunteer Fire Department, volunteering there for 6 years while going to school for firefighter and EMT. During that time, he started working for various transporting ambulance services while attending school for his paramedic certification. Always wanting to move out of the cold and with the firefighting jobs being scarce, he applied to EVAC ambulance in Holly Hill and was hired in the summer of 1998. He worked there while going through fire school in Daytona Beach. In September of 1999, he was hired by Port Orange Fire Rescue and worked there for 13 years as a firefighter/ paramedic. While working at Port Orange, Chris was involved in with SWAT team and Honor Guard; he also filled in as Lieutenant and Driver when needed. Chris left Port Orange and went to work for Orlando Regional Medical Center in downtown Orlando for a little over a year. Missing the fire department, Chris started to look for a job back in the fire service and was very happy and lucky for Ponce Inlet Fire Department to hire him in January 2014. Chris loves Ponce Inlet and looks forward to many years here. Chris currently lives in downtown Orlando with his wife, Alexandra, where she works as a nurse at Florida Hospital. They both look forward to moving back to this area and buying a house in the near future. He volunteers at the Marine Science Center and enjoys working with the marine life. He and his wife enjoy diving, cooking, going to the theme parks and just relaxing with

friends in our spare time.

Hurricane Season Is Only A Few Months Away

Make sure your information is up-to-date in our **CodeRED® Emergency Notification System**. The system will distribute emergency messages via telephone to targeted areas or the entire Town at a rate of 1,000 calls per minute. CodeRED® employs a one-of-a-kind Internet mapping capability for geographic targeting of calls, coupled with a high speed telephone calling system capable of delivering customized pre-recorded emergency messages directly to homes and businesses, live individuals and answering machines. Ponce Inlet residents and businesses are welcome and encouraged to enter their contact information for home, business, and mobile phones so they may be contacted by the system in the event of an emergency. It is important for town residents and businesses customers to register, especially if they use unlisted numbers, cell phones, or VOIP. Those who do not register their address and phone number may not be notified with CodeRED® in the case of an emergency. Registration is confidential, free, and easy. Please go to the Town's web page at www.ponce-inlet.org and click the CodeRed® link for more information and to register.

Town Holiday Closings. Town offices will be closed on Monday, May 26, 2014 in observance of President's Day and Friday, July 4th, 2014 in observance of Independence Day.

Town Businesses on Website. Please check out our webpage for a directory of Ponce Inlet businesses. You'll be surprised

by the variety of services so close at hand. This is a compilation of those within the Town limits who have obtained the required business tax receipt (formerly known as occupational license). This business directory is updated once each year following the renewal of licenses and can be found as a link to the Town's home page – www.ponce-inlet.org.

Wanted: Interested Citizens to serve on Town Boards. The Town Council seeks interested citizens to serve on our advisory committees. To view the current vacancies, you can visit our website: www.ponce-inlet.org or call Town Hall. Please note that you must be a resident & a registered voter of the Town of Ponce Inlet in order to be appointed to the various boards. We appreciate your interest in serving as a volunteer in your community.

Town Council & Board Meetings. Unless notice is provided otherwise, the Town Council meets the third Thursday of every month, 6:00 p.m. at the Council Chambers, 4300 S. Atlantic Avenue. Special meetings are scheduled and noticed as needed. The agendas are for all Town Council and Town Boards are posted at Town Hall, and on the website. For your convenience, all Town Council and Town Board meetings are now live-streamed so that you may listen from the comfort of your home through the Town's website. The audio of all meetings is also archived on the website. Both the live and archived meetings can be found by clicking on the audio streaming icon on the front page. Live streaming plays through Windows Media Player. If you come to meetings at the

Council Chambers, enjoy free Wi-Fi while you're there.

Please visit our website www.ponce-inlet.org for all public meeting notices and minutes, general information, and status of current or upcoming projects. Further, be sure to read the back of your utility bills for special announcements and important information. If you haven't already done so, please sign up for our email list through the website. Just please be informed that in doing so your e-mail address becomes a public record and we must provide it to anyone upon request.

Police



.....With
Chief Frank Fabrizio

Pet Registration



The Town of Ponce Inlet has a Pet Registration Ordinance (Sec. 10-61) that requires Ponce Inlet dog and cat owners to register their pets every January 1st with the police department. This program is "Free of Charge" and will assist the Police Department in the event your pet is lost, stolen or escapes. You can register your pets at the Police Department any time between the hours of 9am and 4pm Monday through Sunday. You must show proof of your pet's current vaccinations. If you have any questions, please call the Police Department at (386) 236-2160.



Dangers of Dog Waste

Dog waste contaminates the ground and becomes a means of passing intestinal parasites and infections to dogs and people. It is unhealthy for you, your family, your dog, your community and the ecosystem, of which we are all a part. Picking up after your dog isn't a choice, it is your responsibility. Per Section

10-36 of the town's ordinances, you are required to clean up after your animals. We have received complaints at the Police Department that some individuals are not abiding by this code.

Be a good neighbor and pick up after your animal. Picking up shows pride in your community, in yourself and in your dog. You set a great example for others and help keep our pets and their people healthy.

Ponce Partners



Are you OK? The Ponce Partners Program is designed to be a safety net for those who are elderly, live alone, disabled, or have a medical condition that is potentially incapacitating. Any resident of Ponce Inlet can become a member by completing a short request form.

When you become a Ponce Partner, you simply agree to contact the Police Department by phone each day any time before noon. If we do not hear from you, we will call you to ensure that you are all right. If we are unable to reach you by phone, we will send an officer out to your residence to check on your well-being.

All too often, those who are ill, elderly or live alone injure themselves and can't call for help. This pro-

gram is set up to ensure some form of communication each day, and, best of all, the program is offered to you “Free of Charge”!

If you or anyone you know is interested, all you have to do is contact the Ponce Inlet Police Department or go to the “Forms” link on the Town of Ponce Inlet website to get a copy of our application.

Top 10 Garage Door Security Tips To Prevent Break-Ins



Garage doors are a common weak point in home security and an easy target for thieves. Garage doors can also provide criminals a shelter once inside. To the casual passerby, an open garage with a work truck pulled up to it doesn't look out of place or scream “break-in”.

To Keep Your Home Safe:

1. **Don't leave your garage door remote in your vehicle** – If a thief breaks into your car and steals the remote, he has a direct access into your home.
2. **Invest in a Keychain Remote Opener** – Stop using that remote you clip to your visor and get a **keychain remote opener** that you can leave on your keys.
3. **Secure your garage door emergency release.**
4. **Keep it locked** – Put a deadbolt on the door between your house and garage; using a key each time you come home is worth it.
5. **Make sure the door from your garage into your house is as secure as your front door** – En-

sure that you have a strong, sturdy door made out of solid-core wood or reinforced steel and install an Anti-Kick device on it.

6. **Don't leave your garage door open** – It amazes me how many people in our neighborhood just leave their garage door open all the time. It's just inviting someone to pop their heads in and grab something. It doesn't matter how safe you think your neighborhood is, good neighborhoods are the first place criminals like to drive through to case houses.

7. **Install a wide-angle peephole in the door between your house and your garage** – You'll at least be able to see what's going on if you hear a strange noise, rather than opening the door to find out.

8. **Frost or cover your garage windows** – Don't do thieves any favors by enabling them to see when your vehicle is gone. You can also replace the garage door with one that lacks windows.

9. **Padlock the throw latch on your garage door when you're out of town** – If you don't have a manual lock on your garage door, you can use a c-clamp tightened down on each side of the door track to effectively lock down the door. It's similar to those small window track locks you can buy for your home interior windows.

10. **Don't neglect maintenance on the mechanical parts of your roll-up garage door** – Keep an eye out for corrosion. Don't forget the door from your garage to your house; check the frame, locks, hinges and any replaceable items.

S.A.F.E.



(Self-Defense Familiarization Exchange)

Our S.A.F.E. classes continue to be a great success. On February 25, 2014, we offered our seventh Self-

Defense Awareness and Familiarization Exchange (S.A.F.E.) class. The two-hour program introduced women to the concept of physical self-defense and educated them in ways to reduce the risk of becoming victims of violent crime.

We will be offering another S.A.F.E. class in the near future. Keep checking the Town's website for additional information or contact the Police Department at (386) 236-2160.

The Ponce Inlet Police Department wants to keep you and Ponce Inlet safe. Always remember that safety comes with staying **AWARE** and **ALERT!**

Fire and Rescue



SUMMER SAFETY

As the weather warms up, more residents will be going to the local beaches.

Please be aware of the dangers, take appropriate safety measures and make sure that family members and babysitters are trained in First Aid and CPR.

Beach Safety

- Children should be monitored **constantly** on the beach.
- Take small children by the hand when crossing traffic.
- Do not sit, lie or place personal property in the driving or parking areas.

Ocean Safety

- Always swim in front of a life-

guard.

- Ask a lifeguard about surf conditions and rip current risks. Watch children carefully when they are in the ocean.



Rip currents are channels of fast-moving water that can pull even the most experienced swimmers from shore.

- If you are caught in a rip current, remain calm and do not fight the current. Swim parallel to the shore until you are out of the current and then swim to the shore.
- If you are unable to swim out of the current, calmly float or tread water. If you are unable to reach shore, draw attention to yourself by waving or yelling for help. If you see someone in trouble, don't become a victim too. Get help from a lifeguard or call 9-1-1.

Jellyfish Stings



Jellyfish are common in Atlantic waters and sometimes wash ashore. Jellyfish stings are rarely serious, but they may require first aid treatment. If you are stung by a jellyfish, go to the nearest lifeguard for assistance.

Lightning

Lightning can strike as far as 10 miles from where it's raining. As



soon as you hear thunder, leave the beach and take shelter in an enclosed vehicle or building. Stay off the beach for 30 minutes after the last clap of thunder.

STROKE AWARENESS

Stroke is the 4th leading cause of death in the United States. About 795,000 Americans suffer a stroke each year (that's a stroke every 40 seconds). Some interesting facts about strokes...

- 77% are new strokes and 23% are recurrent strokes
- Stroke kills more than 137,000 people in a year. (that's a death every 4 minutes)
- **Twice as many women die from stroke every year than from breast cancer**

Early recognition and treatment of stroke greatly enhances your chances of survival and successful rehabilitation. The Ponce Inlet Fire Department would like you to go to our website at http://www.ponce-inlet.org/Pages/PonceInletFL_Fire/index and check out our presentation on stroke, its' causes, and what you can do to recognize, and maybe prevent one.

As always, the Fire Department is pleased to still offer free blood pressure checks, fire station tours and fire safety presentations to our residents. We also offer CPR courses at a nominal fee when there is interest from the community.

THE CLOCK IS TICKING... ...WITH AFIB, IT'S A RACE AGAINST TIME.

EVERY HOUR 15 PEOPLE WITH AFIB WILL SUFFER A STROKE

3 WON'T WALK WITHOUT ASSISTANCE

3 WILL HAVE TO GO INTO NURSING HOMES

4 WILL DIE

TIME TO ACT

CHANCE OF DEVELOPING AFIB INCREASES WITH AGE

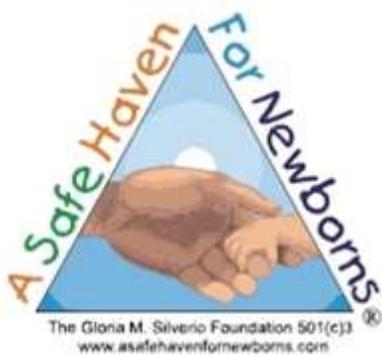
AT 40 YOU HAVE A 25% CHANCE OF DEVELOPING AFIB IN YOUR LIFE
BY 65 YOUR CHANCES DOUBLE EVERY DECADE YOU LIVE

THOUSANDS OF STROKES COULD BE PREVENTED

12 MILLION PEOPLE COULD HAVE AFIB BY 2050

TIME TO SPREAD THE WORD

Ponce Inlet Fire Department is now “A Safe Haven for Newborns”



Baby abandonment is a tragedy that is happening in the United States - It does not have to happen. A Safe Haven for Newborns began in response to the tragedy of infant abandonment in Florida. We see and read about abandoned babies all too often – it is heart breaking. The Safe haven law is a safety net for both the mother and the newborn infant. Instead of abandoning a newborn to an almost sure death, it allows mothers, fathers or whoever is in possession of an unharmed newborn, approximately seven days old or less, to leave them at a Safe Haven facility: which the Ponce Inlet Fire Department, located at 4680 South Penin-

sula Drive, A Safe Haven For Newborns location. Additionally, any hospital, or staffed 24/7 Emergency Medical Service Station, may also serve as a safe haven for newborns. The program is totally anonymous, with no questions asked. For more information about this program, please visit www.asafehavenfornewborns.com or call 877-767-2229, or contact the Ponce Inlet Fire Department at 386-322-6720.

Prepare Now for Hurricane Season 2014

Now is the time to make preparations for upcoming hurricane season. Even though it was a quiet 2013 hurricane season, every year is different. We know that we could enter into a busy cycle for future hurricane seasons (with past years being very busy) and for this reason I would ask all of you to check your kits to be sure you have a fresh supply of batteries as well as other necessary items. Remember, we are a short time from the next hurricane season (starting May 1). For more information about how you can be prepared, please visit: <http://www.volusia.org/services/public-protection/emergency-management/> or <http://www.ponce-inlet.org>, and

clicking on the Emergency Management link.

Non-emergency Transport Program Update

In August 2012, the Ponce Inlet Fire Department began transporting non-emergency patients to the hospital.

To date, the fire department has transported over 200 patients, and all transports have occurred with no operational issues. The feed-back from patients and our firefighters



continues to be very positive. The most obvious benefit our patients continue to experience is getting to the hospital quicker with Ponce Inlet transporting. Another significant benefit that our patients now enjoy is what we call “continuity of patient care”. This is where the EMT or paramedic that initiates patient care continues it throughout the entire transport process. This results in no loss or degradation in patient care information when they arrive at the hospital. Also, our staff knows the patient outcome at the receiving facility and the results of the care we provide, which helps improve future patient encounters. If you have any questions about the non-emergency transport program, please contact the Fire Department.



Help Us Find You!



In order to help locate your residence quickly in case of an emergency situation, the Ponce Inlet Town Council, Ponce Inlet Fire Department and Ponce Inlet Police Department are encouraging all residents to purchase address number identifiers. Nothing is more frustrating than not being able to locate the address for which we are being called to render aid.

The Town Council recommends the purchase of the blue signs since they have a better long-distance appearance.

The vendor that the Town Council has identified as having the best quality sign and color is Smart Sign. They can be found at www.smartsign.com/911-signs. The signs cost approximately \$22.

The signs can be mounted on the mailbox either vertically or horizontally. Arrangements can be made, for those who need assistance with installation, but residents must provide all installation hardware.

For more information, feel free to contact the Ponce Inlet Fire Department at 386-322-6720.

Links to Smart Sign do not constitute an endorsement by the Town of Ponce Inlet or their products and services. This link is provided solely on the basis of Council recommendation.



Stay informed about the Town's Issued Emergency Notification Alerts

Did you receive the alert when the Town sent out a boil water notice on Monday, March 10th? If not, then you are not in the Town's emergency notification database. Please take the time to sign-up/update your current contact information to ensure you receive future emergency notifications from the Town of Ponce Inlet. This system has been strictly used for notifying residents about emergency situations, so you can feel confident that you will not receive other types of phone calls based upon your sign-up for this.

The Town of Ponce Inlet uses CodeRED, a mass notification system, to inform residents of emergency and general notifications. This service is free of charge to residents and businesses. The system is only used by Town officials to provide residents valuable information that will keep the community safe and informed. To sign-up to receive notifications visit www.ponce-inlet.org and click on "Register for CodeRED Emergency Notification System" under "Links for Residents and Businesses." Those without Internet access may call (386-322-6720), Monday through Friday, (8 am-4:30 pm) to supply their information over the phone. Required information includes first and last name, street address (physical address, no P.O. boxes), Town, state, zip code, and primary phone number, additional phone numbers can be entered as well.

CodeRED provides an easy and secure method for inputting information. Again, the data collected will only be used for emergency notification purposes. Questions should be directed to Fire Chief Dan Scales, Emergency Management Coordinator at dscales@ponce-inlet.org.

Residents are also encouraged to download the CodeRED Mobile Alert app which delivers Ponce Inlet CodeRED alerts directly to those specifically located in the area of alert. As residents travel to other communities throughout Florida and the United States that also use CodeRED, they will receive any emergency, general and missing person notifications pertinent to their location. The app is available for download on iTunes and Google Play.



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT



...with Aref Joulani, Director

Planning and Zoning Division

Ponce Inlet Historical Museum

The Ponce Inlet Historical Museum (PIHM) has been making great strides in the New Year; the unofficial motto for 2014 is “productivity.” Museum staff and the Historic & Archaeological Preservation Advisory Board have been working together to produce quality programming, exhibits, and events that will energize the Ponce Inlet community and foster a greater alliance between the museum and the citizenry.

The goal is to make the Ponce Inlet Historical Museum a shared, community space where one can learn about the history of Ponce Inlet and participate in writing it.

Ponce Inlet relies on oral histories held for posterity in the minds and hearts of those who live here. To this end, the Museum has designed a presentation series that looks at Florida and Ponce Inlet History as well as the methodologies in researching, writing, and exhibiting the Town’s history. Upcoming presentations are:

March 27 – “A Florida Shipwreck through Time, Based on the book: Shipwreck: Leap through Time” presented by Ryan Harke, Outreach Coordinator of the Northeast Region Florida Public Archaeology Network.

April 9 – “Myth-busting: Looking Closer at Accepted Historical Beliefs” presented by Tom Baskett, Volusia County Public Historian.

April 23 – “RICHES Mosaic Interface™: An Interactive Digital Collection of Central Florida History” Presented by Connie Lester and Tiffany Rivera of the University of Central Florida.

April 30 – “Why local history matters: Preserving the Past in your Hometown” presented by Monica Drake, Museum Coordinator.

An audio file for previous presentations can be found on the PIHM webpage located on the Town’s website.

The presentation series is one of the many projects on which the PIHM staff is developing. Other projects include building the collection, creating outreach programs, organizing events that recreate and educate about Ponce Inlet’s past. Please visit the Town’s website.

If you have an interest in local history and a few hours to spare, please consider joining the volunteers at the Ponce Inlet Historical Museum at 143 Beach Street. Applications are available at the Historical Museum (Mon-Fri, 12:30 pm-4:30 pm), at the Town Hall, or from the Town’s website.

Volunteers Needed To Serve on Town Boards

The following list includes information on current vacancies and duties of various Town volunteer boards. If you are a registered voter living in the Town of Ponce Inlet, you are invited to apply for appointment to one of these boards:

Planning Board: 2 alternate seats. The Planning Board sits in both a quasi-judicial and legislative capacity, depending on the application before them. The Board reviews applications for development plans, variances, special exceptions, rezoning, and amendments to the comprehensive plan. The Board also reviews ordinances and amendments to the Land Use and Development Code (LUDC). Further details on the Board’s duties can be found in §6.2.2 of the LUDC. Meetings are held at either 10:00am or 5:30pm on the fourth Tuesday of the month.

Historic & Archaeological Preservation Advisory Board: 1 alternate seat. The Historic Board is responsible for review of applications and making recommendations to Town Council regarding historically significant properties. The Board is charged with nominating historic properties to the National Register of Historic Places. The Board also provides oversight to the

Ponce Inlet Historical Museum. Further information on the board’s duties can be found in §6.2.3 of the LUDC. The Historic Board meets at 10:00am on the first Thursday of the month.

Parks, Recreation & Tree Advisory Board: 1 alternate seat. The Parks, Recreation and Tree Advisory Board is responsible for reviewing the removal of specimen trees 12” DBH and higher, and making recommendations to the Town Council regarding parks. Further information on this Board’s duties can be found in §6.2.4 of the LUDC. Meetings are held at 6:00pm on the first Tuesday of the month.

Code Enforcement Board: 1 regular seat and 2 alternate seats available. The Code Board sits in a quasi-judicial capacity. The Board hears cases, renders decisions, and prescribes orders based on the testimony and evidence presented at the hearing. Further details on the Board’s duties can be found in the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2, Article V or FL Statute 162. Meetings are held at 9:30am on the fourth Monday of the month.

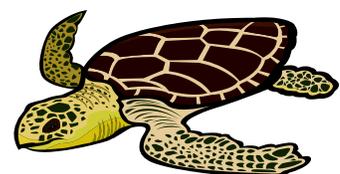
Upcoming Events – Save the Dates

April 19th - 10 am to 11 am – Easter



Egg Hunt & Party, sponsored by the Children’s Activity Committee of Ponce Inlet, Kay & Ayres Davies Park next to the Lighthouse;

April 19th - 10 am to 3 pm – “Turtle Day” at the Marine Science Center, 100 Lighthouse Drive;



May 4th – 1pm to 4 pm – Garden Club's Ice Cream Social at the Community Center, 4670 S. Peninsula Drive;



May 10th – Ponce “Preserves” the Planet at the Ponce Preserve;

May 18th - Vettes at the Light Corvette Show in the Kay & Ayres Davies Lighthouse Park (next to the Lighthouse);



May 26th – Memorial Day ceremony, at the Veteran's Memorial located in the Kay & Ayres Davies Lighthouse Park (next to the Lighthouse).

Town Sponsored Event

Save the date – Saturday, May 10, 2014 for **Ponce “Preserves” the Planet** at the Ponce Preserve.

Please check the Town's website for more information.

LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT CODE (LUDC) UPDATES

The Town's effort to update the LUDC continues in 2014. So far this year, the Park Board and Planning Board have begun conducting the final series of workshops on the Landscaping and Tree Preservation section of the code. The boards' recommendations in this process will make the regulations easier to under-

stand and provide greater flexibility to meet their intended purpose. These recommendations will be provided to the Town Council for direction, from which a final ordinance will be drafted for consideration. This project constitutes the first major update of these regulations since 2002.

Future workshops will focus on the following topics, in order of priority:

- Parking
- Courtyards
- Minor replats
- Maximum size of non-residential buildings
- Variance criteria
- Signs.

For more information about upcoming workshops, check the calendar on the Town website at www.ponce-inlet.org, or contact the Planning and Zoning staff at (386) 236-2181.

Building & Code Enforcement

Property maintenance: It is important that property owners periodically inspect and repair all structures and vegetation located on your property. An inspection ensures the safety of your family, friends, guests, and neighbors. Please note that some maintenance and repairs may require a building permit. With hurricane season quickly approaching, it is imperative that repairs be made in a swift manner.

Archived permits available on line: Permits for single-family properties have been scanned and are now available on our website. Multi-family and commercial are currently being processed and will be available online later this year. To view permits issued for a single-family residential property, visit the Building Division of the Town's website.

Questions/Concerns?

If you have a permitting question, wish to report a violation, or suspect a violation, please call 386-236-2182 or visit our website to file an on-line complaint.

Thank you for maintaining your property, which ensures the safety of your community while promoting the town's unique character and charm. Happy spring!

Public Works



.....with
Keith Gunter,
General Manager

How to Contact Us:

Office: 4875 S. Peninsula Drive
Phone: 322-6729 / Fax: 322-6718
Hours: Mon – Fri, 8:00am – 3:30pm
E-mail: kgunter@ponce-inlet.org

Leaving Town?: If you are leaving town, we recommend that you turn off the water supply to your residence. This prevents any leaks from occurring within your property, and will avoid a high utility bill and costly repairs. If you contact the Utility Billing Department with this request, staff can also lock your meter to prevent meter tampering and theft. There may be a fee for this service. Contact 236-2151 for more information.

Staff News:

In the upcoming weeks the Public Works will be contracting out the annual tree trimming throughout Town. This year we will be concentrating on removal of the dead Bay trees that are located in the right of way.

As of march 28th Ann Rebello will be retiring for the Public Works Department. I would like to say thank you for your many years of service. Ann's replacement will be Suzanne Barrow I would like to welcome her to Public Works

For more information about Public Works click on the Public Works link on the Town's web site.

<http://www.ponce-inlet.org>

Please view the Public Works video “So Community Works Better – APWA Florida Chapter”.

Water Meter Access: Please keep your water meters clear of vegetation, vehicles, and other obstacles as this hinders meter readings and repairs. Ready access to your meter is a **must**. **Meters that need to be re-read due to blocked access are subject to additional fees.**

Solid Waste, Yard Waste & Recycling:



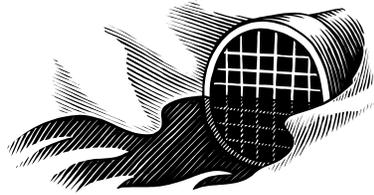
Household trash (solid waste), Yard Waste, and Recycling services are provided by Waste Management. If you have questions, they can be reached at 673-0800, x-331 during normal business hours. Please keep in mind that large piles or special pick-ups may be assessed additional fees. The regular schedule for pickups in the Town is: **Monday** and **Thursday** house hold trash, **Tuesday** recycling and yard trash, and **Wednesday** large piles of yard trash. Please make sure all items are to the curb before 7 am on the day of pick up.

Call Before You Dig:



It is required by State law that you contact Sunshine State Locates at **1-800-432-4770** before doing any digging (hand or machine). This will prevent damage to buried cables, water lines, sewer lines, etc. and an unnecessary expense to you should you damage a utility.

Stormwater Maintenance:



Please visit the Town Hall or the Public Works Yard to pick up information on storm water runoff or visit www.sjrwmd.com or epa.gov/npdes/stormwatermonth.cfm Please do not blow lawn clippings into the road and bag up all leaves as they will clog up the storm water drains in our neighborhoods and help keep our storm water systems clean and working properly.

The county landfill is closed on Sundays.

Backflow Device Information

What is back-siphonage? Back-siphonage is the reversal of normal flow in a system caused by a negative pressure (vacuum or partial vacuum) in the supply piping.

What factors cause back-siphonage? Back-siphonage can be created when there is stoppage of the water supply due to nearby fire-fighting, repairs or breaks in the city main, etc.,. The effect is similar to the sipping of a soda by inhaling through a straw, which induces a flow in the opposite direction.

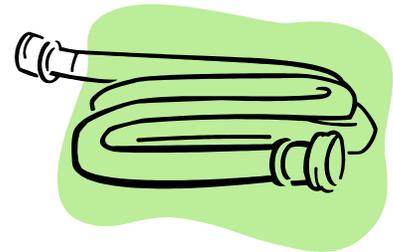
What is backpressure flow? Back-pressure backflow is the reversal of the normal flow in a system due to an increase in the downstream pressure above that of the supply pressure.

What factors can cause a backpressure-backflow condition? Backpressure-backflow is created whenever the downstream pressure exceeds the supply pressure which is possible in installations such as a heating system, elevated tanks, and pressure-producing systems. An example would be a hot water space-heating boiler operating under 15-20 lbs. pressure coincidental with a reduction of the city water supply below such pressure (or higher in most common boilers). As water tends to flow in the direction of least resistance, a backpressure-backflow con-

dition would be created and the contaminated boiler water would flow into the potable water supply.

What is a cross connection? A cross connection is a direct arrangement of a piping line which allows the potable water supply to be connected to a line which contains a contaminant. An example is the common garden hose attached to a service sink with the end of the hose submerged in a tub full of detergent, supply lines connected to bottom-fed tanks, supply lines to boilers.

What is the most common form of a cross connection?



Ironically, the ordinary garden hose is the most common offender as it can be easily connected to the potable water supply and used for a variety of potentially dangerous applications.

Water Fact

Tap water from your local supplier is treated to eliminate harmful chemicals, minerals, and pathogens that may occur in the source water. Chlorine is commonly thought to have contributed to a nearly 30-year increase in life expectancy during the 20th century.



PICCI POINTS



by Susie Hagey

SPRING is on its way and we're looking forward to the coming beautiful weather it offers. We have had

some great events since January. Our community day chaired by Bill Hibbert with the help of Peter Finch was a super day. We thank all of our businesses here in P.I. for coming in, setting up their wares, and offering some great treats to our residents & visitors. It seemed that all had a good day checking out what our town has to offer.

In February we had 'THE PICCI BBQ SHOWDOWN' chaired by Kristi Drumheller. We had 11 entrants for the event. The samples of meat/seafood/chicken were delicious including our cole slaw, baked beans (donated by Mary Ann Redinger), Faye McHugh & helpers' cucumber salad, Mary Lou & Jim Hinson's banana pudding. What more could you want and all for \$10. People caught up with all the news in the town and had such a great time. It was such a great success that PICCI will probably continue on with a similar event each year. Thanks, Kristi, for a job well done and for such a fun day.

The Winners were:

1st Place = \$100.00 and Top Chef Traveling Trophy - "Barbe-Cuties" serving "Tummy Yummy Sliders" – Diane Bell, Joyce Henley, Faye McHugh and Mary Ann Redinger.

2nd Place = \$50.00 - "Blue Ribbon BBQ" serving "Steel City Blue Ribbon Pulled Pork" - Mary Hoss

and Howard Paritsky

3rd Place = \$25.00 - "Ponce Porkers" (Ponce Inlet Police Department) serving "Oh Deer" – Officer Mark Walker and Chief Fabrizio

The first week of March we held our flea market. It was a great success. Carolyn Sprague has been chairing this event for 42 times and it's always been a great success. Carolyn and her committee work for six months putting it all together. The flea market brought in over \$3,000 this time. Now, it starts all over again. Carolyn will be taking donations now for our next flea market in October. Don't miss it – you will find many great bargains at our flea market.

Of course, it is too early for reports on our St Patrick's Day Dinner/Dance – but we can say this – IT HAS BEEN 'SOLD OUT' SINCE THE BEGINNING OF MARCH. We know it will be a fun night as well.

In March this year, PICCI will be giving a luncheon for our office volunteers at Inlet Harbor Restaurant. It is our small way of thanking all the women who tend the phones & business of the day.

We thank the Garden Club of Ponce Inlet for their generous donation of \$1900. This money is designated for plants and other items for our back yard. It will enhance the back of the center.

We want to remind you of our election dates which are held at the community center. August 26, 2014 – Town elections (if needed) November 4, 2014.

We would like to congratulate our town manager, Jeaneen Clauss (a board member) and Chip Witt on their recent marriage. We wish them much happiness.

Upcoming Red, White, Blue Dinner/Dance – May 17 (which is

Armed Forces Day). If you're a vet, bring a picture of yourself in uniform or some memorabilia when you come (all will be returned). All are urged to come, vet or no. We've had three straight 'sell outs' so be sure and buy your tickets early.

Do you know that the Community Center can be rented for receptions, weddings, parties of all kinds? We have the best rates going in this whole area. There is a special rate for residents of P.I. If interested, please call Faye McHugh at 386-846-0814 – she's our hostess with the mostest!

The FLOW (Florida Licensing on Wheels) Van will be at the Center May 12th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Here, you can renew your driver's license and tags for your car.

We had an i-pad (i-phone) class this past month. The instructor was Suzanne Barrow. There were 18 attendants who have had nothing to say but good things about the class. Another class is in the works, so keep watching for when that will be.

Keep up with what is going on at PICCI by picking up a calendar of events each month, by checking the sign out front and by reading our bulletin boards located on the walls on either side of the front doors outside. We are now putting our calendar on our website – go to ie explorer, google 'ponce inlet community center', when the page comes up click the first entry which is Ponce InletFL, Community Center, Town of Ponce Inlet. This sends you to the PICCI website – scroll down to 'additional links' then click on 'Calendar of Events.' You can then print out the calendar. Send us your ideas and suggestions....and enjoy our beautiful town.



PICCI BBQ SHOWDOWN 2-22-14



BARBE-CUTIES—1ST PLACE



Mary Lou Hinson presents 1st place trophy and prize money to team Barbe Cuties. Left to Right: Mary Lou Hinson, Mary Ann Rodinger, Diane Bell, Faye McHugh, Joyce Hanley and Kristi Drumbeller

PONCE PORKERS 3RD PLACE



Mary Lou Hinson, Officer Mark Walker and Chief Frank

BLUE RIBBON BBQ—2ND PLACE



Mary Lou Hinson, Mary Hoss and Howard Paritsky



CAROLINA PRIDE



FIGWINA AND THE PIGLETS



SHRIMP ON THE BARBIE TWO

THE PICCI BOARD WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE 11 ENTRANTS, OUR CELEBRITY JUDGES AND OUR 120 TASTING TICKET HOLDERS FOR THEIR SUPPORT!



TEAM LIGHTHOUSE & PONCE PORKERS



R-L Teams: Team Lighthouse, Ponce Porkers, Mean Marina BBQ, Team Tom, Shrimp on the Barbie Two

CELEBRITY JUDGES



Robert Parker, General Manager of Port Orange Steakhouse, Dan Smith, Columnist for the Hometown News and Chef Tom Papa of Chef Papa's Cafe and Catering



TEAM TOM



BEACH BABES BBQ



TEAM PONCE DE LEON REALTY



Submitted by Kristi Drumbeller

Ponce Inlet Women's Club



By Sandy Wester,
Publicity Chair



Anne Jacobs and Cathy Bauerle ready for the wine tasting

PIWC Pink Lady Talk

Greetings and welcome to Spring, 2014
The Ponce Inlet Women's Club has supported many fund raising activities in the past few months, and there is still much ahead.

Jeanette Kellum hosted an appreciation outing for the PIWC members on January 29. She set up a tour and tasting at the Lakeridge Winery followed by lunch and shopping in Mt. Dora. PIWC members enjoyed all the activities and the day ended in a little excitement when the bus driver realized he could not start the bus engine to return us to Ponce Inlet. The ladies waited patiently and comfortably in the lounge of the Mt. Dora Lakeside Inn, enjoying a few beverages and hors d'oeuvres while the bus company sent a mechanic to get the bus started, returning a little later than planned to Ponce Inlet but with an "unexpected" experience to share with family and friends.



Jeanette Kellum and Marlene Heiden at Lakeridge Winery



Waiting in the Lakeside Inn Lounge for bus repair

Hats off to the team members of the Ponce Inlet Women's Club who donated their time to the outstanding production of the *Great Gatsby Soiree*, the new PIWC Valentine's Benefit, hosted by Lynda and John Hodgson at their lovely waterfront estate. The event was completely sold out. The elegant aphrodisiac courses and champagne libations were provided by Jeanette Kellum, Dianne Hand, Linda Shade, Ramona Thomas, Angela Molpus, Kristi Drumheller, and Co-Chairs Dr. Kay Brawley and Joann Doyle. Jazz Age music entertained all throughout the evening.

The Museum of Arts & Sciences Executive Director Andrew Sandall received the 7th annual PIWC Donation to the Museum and its Guild for the Children's Center activities. (L to R) Dr. Kay Brawley, MOAS Guild Past President; Andy, PIWC Treasurer Pam Quillian, Host & Hostess of the Great Gatsby Valentine's Soiree Benefit John & Lynda Hodgson, PIWC Benefit Chair Joann Doyle.



Patrons **John Hakemian, Milla Yerakhants & Mike Mullins**

On March 20, it will be Show Time for the premier *Puttin on the Ritz* Fashion Show Luncheon Benefit of the Season, a benefit for the Ponce Inlet Women's Club Scholarships and Charity programs, at the Halifax River Yacht Club. Ticket sales have been brisk.

Highlights:

The House of Fashion is *SteinMart*, featuring the latest spring/summer fashion collections from casual, chic to simple elegance, starring new member models with **Leslye Gale of Magic 107.7** as the Celebrity Guest Emcee.

Puttin On the Ritz Parade of Hats by the Patrons, showcasing footwear as well as hats to add that special elegant touch to attire...finale grand prize for Best in Parade.

Schedule:

Doors open at 10:30 am for traditional social with friends, as well as preview of the fabulous auction items, and grand raffle prizes.

Show begins at 11 am, prior to a special gourmet luncheon at noon.

The PIWC objective is a united effort for the welfare of the community. The Club invites all women in Ponce Inlet, especially those who have just moved here, to come and check-out our Club and perhaps become members. The Club meets the second Wednesday each month September through May at 10:30am in the Ponce Inlet Community Center. Please stop by the Community Center to pick up an application for membership.



The Museum of Arts & Sciences Executive Director Andrew Sandall (2nd from left)



Guild member Dianne Hand



Jazz Singer Loreale Ruland



6TH ANNUAL MARDI CLAWS DOG PARADE AND COSTUME CONTEST A FUNDRAISER FOR “HAPPY TAILS” DOG PARK

The 6th Annual Mardi Claws dog parade and costume contest was held on Saturday, February 22, 2014, from 9 am to 12 noon. The Mardi Claws Committee consisted of: Rene’ Higelin, Coordinator, and members: Barbara Davis, Liz Finch, Pete Finch, Diane Higelin, Patio Romano Vagts, and Wayne Vagts. The committee was up bright and early to setup and decorate for the event at Kay & Ayres Davies Lighthouse Park in Ponce Inlet, Florida. For a \$5.00 donation, an entry for the dog costume contest and a goody bag was provided to each registrant. Police Chief Frank Fabrizio and Officer Suzanne Barrow offered free pet registrations. The Halifax Humane Society had 3 adoptable dogs that also walked in the dog parade. The parade started around 10 a.m., and it consisted of a couple of laps inside the park. The Mardi Claws parade banner was carried by Macy Shivaec and Amber White of Ponce Inlet, followed by the Mascot “Blaze,” who was the dog that was adopted from the 5th Mardi Claws dog parade. He wore lavender and gold beaded costume, which was

made by Committee Member Barbara Davis, and was walked by his owner Diane Higelin. After a couple of laps, the dogs lined up in front of the red carpet to be viewed by the three judges: Tina Browne of Chole’s Paw; Nancy Epps, President of Ponce Inlet Animal Welfare, and Lions Club, and former mayor of Ponce Inlet; and Mel Stack, Esq., President of the Halifax Humane Society. There were 51 entrants for the judges to look over. While the judging was going on, the raffle ticket winners were announced for the six specialty basket raffles (which were put together by Liz Finch, Kathy Cannon, Gail Archetto, and Kristi Drumheller), and also numerous gift certificate donations from individuals, local businesses, and restaurants that participants purchased. There was also a biscuit guessing contest and the winner received a \$15.00 gift certificate from Inlet Treasures and the 234 biscuits in the biscuit jar. There were donuts provided by Krispy Kreme, bagels by Entenmann’s bakery outlet, and beverages by Barbara LaVelle, Owner of Ponce De Leon Realty. There was a little rain that didn’t put a damper on any of the fun and didn’t last too long. Edwina Knox, Grand Marshal of the parade, presented dog medals to all dogs that were viewed by the judges. The dog costume winners were: Small: “Bently” – Owner, Ray Butler; Medium: “Ruari” – Owner, Katie Smith; Large: “Misty” – Owner, Joann Hamilton; Senior Dog: “Ms. Emma II” – Owner, Sue Isaacson; Best Owner/Dog Costume: “Daisy” – Owner, Gracie Smith; Best in Show: “Kiwi” – Owner, ReRe Anderson; and lastly, Honorable Mention: “Amy & Oili”- Owner, Valerie Arnaud. The event raised \$665 for future exercise equipment for “Happy Tails” Dog Park. The Committee would like to thank all who contributed to this fun and successful event, especially for the donations of money, gifts, time, and participation in the 6th Annual Mardi Claws Dog Parade. Photos and a video can be viewed at the website: www.your-snapshot.com.



Garden Club

by Mary Ann Redinger

The membership of the Garden Club of Ponce Inlet is bursting at the seams and everyone is thrilled to watch it grow. This growth is a testament to our excellent leadership over the years and to the commitment of our members in achieving all of our goals throughout each and every year. Our scholarship program is a great benefit to local Ponce Inlet students and so many of our other projects help to beautify our Town. As members, we are proud of our contributions to our community and so honored to be an asset to our Town.

The "High Tea", capably chaired by Mary Ann Opperud and Diane Bell, was held in January. The Community Center was transformed into a beautiful pastel, flower laden "tea room". The "Thyme and Again" shop was stocked with donated items of "gently used" purses, scarves and jewelry. Many of us found treasures we "couldn't live without" and this boosted our treasury in a nice way! Several members got together and baked teapot and hat shaped butter cookies which they shared with everyone attending. The tea was a grand success and this writer has definitely been enjoying the scarves she bought. They kept me warm in the cold

weather this winter!

The annual Garden Club bus trip is coming up soon. This year includes a scenic boat trip on the river in St. Augustine. Each year the Club sponsors a bus trip which thanks members for their hard work throughout the year. A different, interesting location is chosen by the chairperson and it most often includes a visit to a gardens, gallery or historic spot. After that, members are off for lunch and shopping...how much better could it get!

In March we were all captivated by an interesting talk given by Ponce Inlet Lighthouse Association's Director of Operations Mike Bennett. Mr. Bennett has vast knowledge of the history of our area and how that history played a part in the evolution of the Lighthouse into the one we all know today. Our Lighthouse is one of the premier lighthouses in the country and attracts over 140,000 visitors each year. We are so fortunate to have this historical landmark in our Town and to have the benefit of Mr. Bennett's expertise.

Plans are underway for our Annual Arbor Day event to be held in April. Over the years, the Garden Club has donated trees and shrubs to help beautify many various locations in Ponce Inlet. Arbor Day is a national holiday and gives the Garden Club a special opportunity to contribute.

The object of our club as stated is as follows: The general object

of this Club shall be to promote the beauty of the world around us and especially of our Town. We will strive to educate and support beautification and environmental efforts. We will be a working, social, non-political club.

May brings with it one of our most enjoyed events! Our Ice Cream Social is scheduled to be held on Sunday, May 4th from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. This year's theme is "Pick a Flavor". There will be a Kid Zone with crafts, raffle baskets, a White Elephant room, bake sale and, of course ice cream, cake and drinks plus a few "surprises"! The raffle baskets will have different themes with great items and gift certificates. Please join us for this fun and yummy event! It is one of our major fund raising events of the year, so we appreciate your support. Please look for a full page poster advertising the Ice Cream Social elsewhere in this newsletter.

Spring has finally sprung and now is the time to plant annuals, bulbs, vegetables and herbs. It's also time for pruning and fertilizing and feeding. Be sure your sprinkler systems, if you have one, are ready for summer. And remember "the seeds you plant today become the flowers of tomorrow".



Ponce Inlet Animal Welfare (PAWS)

By Nancy Epps, PAW President

Why Is Ponce Inlet Animal Welfare (PAW) Important to Our Community?

We live here in Ponce Inlet because we know that we are blessed to live in a little piece of paradise on earth. But, even in paradise on earth, creatures are born into their circumstance at no fault of their own, and they sometimes find themselves homeless and helpless.

PAW was formed to trap, neuter and return as many free-roaming cats as possible. Neutering a female cat can prevent as many as 100,000 births that would otherwise result from the mother and her multiple offspring. That's a pretty staggering number! On a different note, unneutered males are most likely to be fighting and incurring serious injury while also disturbing your peace with their plaintive wailing, aside from fathering numerous unwanted cats.

In 2009, the town authorized qualified volunteers to trap, neuter and return back to the environment free-roaming cats in Ponce Inlet. These volunteers then make sure that the neutered animals are well-fed and cared for until they die. This program is intended to be tightly controlled, so please do not feed any cats that are not your own. Caregivers who are authorized by the town care very much for these sweet, furry friends, and they are well-fed, have fresh water daily and are treated for fleas regularly. If we recognize that one needs medical care, we do our best to trap it and take it to one of the vets who participates with us at discounted rates. Many of us have also given one or more of them loving homes with us. All three of my cats

are Ponce Inlet "natives".

If you know of a cat that might need our attention, please notify us at nancyepps@cfl.rr.com or call Jo Ellen at 386-316-2991.

News flash! Our police chief responded to requests to help bring closure to grieving pet owners whose fur-friends inexplicably disappear. Our law enforcement officers now have a form to fill out if they identify a domestic animal that has met an untimely death on our roads. If you are missing a pet, you can call the Police Department to see if an animal matching your description has been identified. It's a sad thought, but I can tell you from experience that it is far better to know than not.

That brings me to my final point – please keep your pets inside as much as possible. Cats can definitely be trained to stay indoors if you give them enough stimulus.

Finally – volunteers and donations are always welcome. Please contact us if you would like to volunteer or make a donation, or if you want more information. We are a 501(c)(3) organization, so donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.



Turtle Patrol

by

Beth Libert

Sea Turtle Season

It's almost sea turtle nesting season again. Nesting season is officially May 1 through October 31. There are four species of sea turtles that nest on our beaches. The most common is the loggerhead which is the only sea turtle listed as threatened, they are named for their very large heads. The other species are listed as endangered. We

leathery skin instead of a shell. Occasionally we have the very rare Kemp's Ridley nest here. There have been two documented Kemp's nests in Ponce Inlet and one in Wilbur by the Sea. One of these mamas was a repeat nester. The most interesting thing about the Kemp's Ridley is they only nest during the day and usually during blustery conditions. They are the smallest sea turtle, olive green in color and round. They glide across the sand like a hovercraft and leave almost no track or evidence of a nest.

Kemp's Ridley nesting in Ponce Inlet

We are very fortunate to have these ancient creatures nesting in our backyard. In



also have green sea turtles named for their green body fat. Then there is the leatherback, the largest of all the species which have a mosaic of small bones covered by a

2013 there were 323 sea turtle nests laid on the beaches north of the Ponce de Leon Inlet. Ponce Inlet had 33 nests and there were 13 in Wilbur by the Sea. We also relocate nests from other areas to Ponce Inlet.

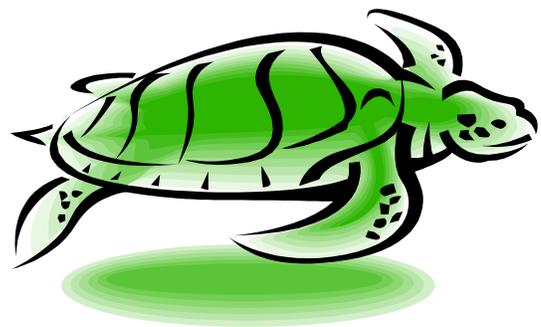
There are many things you can do to help protect sea turtles and their habitat :

- Keep artificial lighting from shining on the beach at night. If you can see the light source or if it is illuminating the beach it is potentially harmful to nesting sea turtles and hatchlings. Draw your drapes and turn off porch lights. Use only flashlights with red lenses.
- Do not burn fires on the beach during nesting season. Nesting females and hatchlings are disoriented by lights, even from fires. Sea turtles use the natural glow off the horizon to guide them out to sea.
- Keep fireworks off the beach. Not only are they illegal, but they discourage nesting females and the debris from them can harm sea turtles, other marine life and birds when ingested.
- Do not release helium balloons. What goes up must come down and that is often in the ocean. Sea turtle can mistake balloons for jelly fish and pieces of balloons are often ingested by hatchlings and other marine life. Even land tortoises have been known to ingest balloon pieces and ribbons. Birds also pick up pieces of balloons and can become entangled in the balloon strings or ribbons.
- Remove beach furniture, cabanas, tents, chairs etc. from the beach at night. Do not store it in the dunes. Not only are these items an obstacle for sea turtles but are hazardous to people walking on the beach at night. Items left on the beach or in the dunes overnight will be removed by Volusia County staff.
- Fill in your holes after you are done playing. Holes are dangerous to turtles

and people. Nesting females have died from falling into deep holes and hatchlings get trapped in them.

- Keep catamarans off the dunes. They are a potential hazard for nesting females and destroy dune vegetation when dragged back and forth over the dunes.
- Do not disturb dune vegetation. Use walkovers. This is critical habitat for many animals as well as sea turtles. The dunes are also our first line of defense against high tides from storms.
- Take your trash with you when you leave the beach. Pick up trash on your beach walk. This is good exercise and a nice thing to do for the environment!

Another thing you can do to help the sea turtles is support the Volusia Turtle Patrol by purchasing sea turtle shirts, adopting a sea turtle nest or volunteering with us. For more information visit our website at turtlepatrol.com or email us at seaturtlepatrol@bellsouth.net



Art Guild of Ponce Inlet

The Guild has had a very busy and interesting year to date. The Members held their annual Art Show on February 15-16. We had a very successful turnout from the town and visitors to the area. The Guild wants to thank all who attended and to the members who worked very hard for this event to be successful. Winners: Deborah Boyd (1st prize), Peter Keller (2nd prize), Dianne Hand (3rd prize); and Honorable Mentions: Kay King, Jocelyn Leupold, and Michael Shamat. Our programs have been very informative and interesting with our refreshments adding to enjoyable meetings. Every meeting is highlighted by two artists of the month who share their special talents. Our next program, March 25, will feature a demonstration by Sandra Lloyd in watercolor. The

public is invited. Meeting will begin at 1:00 with refreshments served first, then the business meeting, followed by the demonstration. March 18 will be our Pot Luck Luncheon which has been well attended in the past. An Oil Painting Workshop will be held on Tuesday, April 8 from 10:00 – 4:30 at the Community Center, presented by Frank Ferrento. The cost is \$50.00. If interested please call Michael Shamat (313-506-3039). On Tuesday, April 22, we will have a demonstration by Tad, Wood and Metal Sculpture. Once again the public is invited. A “Free to the Public Workshop” in various art techniques will be held on Tuesday, May 6. Please call Michael or Dianne to sign up. (763-3892). Our last meeting of the year will be our Luncheon and Installation of Officers on May 13. Our meetings are held on the 4th Tuesdays at 1:00. Every Tuesday at 1:00, the Guild paints together and shares their latest artwork. Come and visit the artists at work!



TURTLE FEST

FLAGLER BEACH

APRIL 5, 2014

10 AM - 4 PM

VETERANS PARK

FREE ADMISSION

Possible release of a rehabilitated turtle!

Music & Food

Environmental Exhibits

Kids Activities

Raffle Prizes

Giant Tortoise Races

seaturtlepatrol@bellsouth.net



Citizens for Ponce Inlet 2014

Citizen of the Year Awards Dinner & Ceremony

Let's all celebrate with our new Ponce Inlet Citizen of the Year

Thursday, April 10, 2014

5:00 Happy Hour—BYOB

6:00 Speaker & Presentations

6:45 Lasagna Dinner

Tickets \$7.00

Make checks payable to Citizens for Ponce Inlet



Speaker Fire Chief Dan Scales
Update on Non-Emergency Transport Program

**Tickets on sale at the
Ponce Inlet Community Center**

Everyone Welcome

Cut-off date for purchasing tickets is Friday, April 4th

Ponce Inlet Veterans Memorial

Bill Wester, President



On Monday, May 26, 2014 at 11:00 AM the Ponce Inlet Veterans Memorial Association will celebrate Memorial Day with a ceremony at the Memorial at Davies Lighthouse Park. Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in our nation's service. Memorial Day was officially proclaimed in 1868 when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Con-

federate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. To help remind Americans of the true meaning of Memorial Day, a Moment of Remembrance was passed on December 2000 which asks that 3 p.m. local time, for all Americans be set aside to voluntarily and informally observe in their own way a moment of remembrance and respect, pausing from whatever they are doing for a moment of silence or listening to Taps.

The Ponce Inlet ceremony will include a color guard, speakers, a fly-over, dedication and wreath laying, a firing squad and taps. All are invited to join us for this very special event.

The Ponce Inlet Veterans Memorial wants to thank all of you for your continued support. We are still selling commemorative brick pavers to help fund our effort to maintain the Memorial. As we receive orders we add about 10 pavers each month to the site. The commemorative brick pavers are 12"x12"x3" and cost \$125. They can contain up to nine lines and have a seal of the appropriate service. Pavers can be ordered to commemorate family members or friends and would be a wonderful birthday or memorial gift. The donation is deductible. Order forms for the pavers can be obtained from a box at the Memorial.



Ponce Inlet Lions Club Presents Pancake Breakfast for Sight



Saturday, April 19, 2014

8:00 am—11:00 am

\$5.00 per person

**Pancakes
Sausage
Orange Juice
Coffee**

**Ponce Inlet
Community Center**



**Proceeds to help Lions Charities
(Sight, Diabetes, Conklin Center, Hearing)**

Ponce Inlet Lighthouse

Mary Wentzel
Programs Manager

We capped a cool winter this year at the Ponce De Leon Inlet Lighthouse, by warming it up with some very exciting events. Hordes of guests visited Florida's tallest, most complete, and best preserved light station, while marveling at our beautiful grounds and incredibly informative museums and exhibits. Right now, as we are writing this, we have "bikes" of every size and description in our parking lot. No question we are a top-drawer destination for Bike Week. Three weeks ago, we saw NASCAR fans, taking some time to soak up our history during Race Week. Today, north along the Halifax River, the Christopher Columbus replicas, Nina and Pinta, are docked and open for visits at the Inlet Harbor restaurant. These were busy times. Looking ahead, the lighthouse staff and our VIP Volunteers are gearing up for a spectacular spring and early summer with plenty of events scheduled with visitors of all ages in mind to share the story of our lighthouse, its history, and the contributions that lighthouses made to the chronicle of American success.

Girl Scout Day on January 18 was a smashing success with over 262 Girl Scouts, Brownies, troop leaders and their families in attendance and vying to earn those special Lighthouse Badges.

This year we celebrated our Beach Racing heritage with two events. February 16th was our History of Beach Racing Day with a special address given by noted author and beach racing historian William P. Lazarus. Mr. Lazarus was again featured on February 21st with an engaging lecture on The History of Women in Racing. Both day-long events gave visitors opportunities to actually see original historic Beach racing cars

displayed on the grounds of the lighthouse, and learn, first-hand, from the men and women who really made that history by owning, driving or repairing the cars along our beach in the 1930's, 40's and 50's. There were photographic opportunities galore, and many visitors walked away with the autographs of those early heroes, the famous Beach Racers. The Ponce Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association would like to thank Racing's North Turn Beach Bar and Grill and The Living Legends of Auto Racing Museum for their partnership in these events.

Our multi-talented volunteers returned to local classrooms the first week of March, reading during the 17th National Read Across America celebration. They visited twelve schools and read to over 2300 children across Volusia and Flagler counties. Their book of choice was the charming *Nelly the Lighthouse Cat*. In some schools, the kids even had a visit from Nelly, herself, in the person of a VIP Volunteer, dressed in our six-foot Nelly costume. High fives and high paws were exchanged with many excited kindergarten, first and second graders. Was that really Nelly? We'll never tell. She does get around.

Upcoming in April, May, and June are:
Florida Lighthouse Day on April 19th from 10a.m. – 2p.m. with special workshops for adults and children. A presentation called *The Lighthouses of Florida and The Three Lighthouses of Volusia County* by Ponce Inlet Lighthouse Docent John Mann will be held at 1:00 p.m. Check our website at www.ponceinlet.org for more details. Of course, all workshops and programs are included with regular admission.

International Museum Day on May 17th from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. This year the theme for International Museum Day is "*Museum Collections Make Connections.*" The Ponce Inlet Lighthouse is proud to be a part of the international museum community.

Nationally, we are recognized for our collection of artifacts and lenses, and our careful documentation of the American Lighthouse story. As a National Historic Landmark, the highest designation given to historic US monuments, we proudly recognize that we are the area story-tellers of our lighthouse National and International cultural heritage and collective memory.

Come join us for Family Fun Activities and workshops designed for children and families. A special presentation slide show will be offered at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. by Ponce Inlet Docent John Mann called *Where Navigation Began – The Lighthouses of Southwestern France, Spain, and Portugal*.

Family Fun Days held on May 20th and 21st will have workshops devoted to pirates of all ages. Come explore the *East Coast Florida Pirates* and shiver your own timbers.

Our breathtaking (that's a joke, folks)

Climb to the Moon event, held on the first night of the full moon every month is one of the lighthouse's most sought-after RSVP offerings. Participants are given the unique opportunity to experience the historic Ponce Inlet Lighthouse by the light of both the full moon, and the flash of our own Third Order Fresnel Lens, up close and personal, as they say. Visitors to this special event are treated to an escorted tour to the top, witness the sunset and the moon rise over the river and the ocean from 175 feet in the air, and also tour the lantern room, open only during these special events. We have to thank our special partners, the folks at Inlet harbor, who have sponsored the food for the monthly Climb to the Moon, since its inception. Due to the incredible popular demand, individuals who are interested in participating in this event are encouraged to purchase their tickets well in advance. Contact me, Mary Wentzel, at mwentzel@ponceinlet.org or by phone at (386) 761-1821 Ext. 18 for

details. The dates of the upcoming Climb to the Moon events are April 15th, May 14th, June 12th, July 13th.

Congratulations to our *Ponce Inlet Lighthouse Volunteer of the Quarter*: Ponce Inlet resident **Tom Hellem**. Tom takes tireless dedication and generosity to a new level. Tom can relate to what it was like for keepers and their families, living at the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse. He grew up in rural Northwestern Indiana and experienced firsthand what it was like prior to the introduction of electric lights and indoor plumbing. Tom can relate to visitors that some of his chores, games and activities as a child were the chores of the lighthouse children as they grew up. Tom had a full and varied working career. He went from installing the front wheels on tricycles to working on the world's first Nuclear Powered ship, the S.S. Nautilus. Tom attended the Submarine School in Groton, and served on the S.S. Blenny, the aforementioned Nautilus, the S.S. Triton, and finally worked in the field of Deep Submergence Rescue for Lockheed. Tom's last command was aboard the Sea Cliff DSV4 taking oceanographers to great depths to study marine life.

Tom is a proud father of four children, grandfather of eight and the great grandfather of four. When Tom isn't volunteering at the lighthouse he can be found volunteering at "Save the Animals" thrift shop in Port Orange or as a volunteer chef at the VFW. Tom can often be seen walking his two Cairn Terriers, Abigale and Dorothy in town. Thanks, Tom, for all you do!

If you would like to work with Tom or any of our wonderful volunteers, or are interested in a learning more about the rewarding opportunities for volunteering at the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse, contact me, **Mary Wentzel**, at mwentzel@ponceinlet.org or by phone at (386) 761-1821, ext. 18.



THE GARDEN CLUB OF
PONCE INLET'S
ICE CREAM SOCIAL

"PICK YOUR FLAVOR"

Cake, Ice Cream, Bake Sale
Games, Kid's Zone, Prizes
Raffles, White Elephant Sale
\$ 2.50

Sunday, May 4, 2014
1-4 pm

Ponce Inlet Community Center
4670 S. Peninsula Dr.
(386) 760-0615





PICCI
Invites you to
Armed Forces Day

Red, White, Blue
Honoring all Veterans



ARMY



MARINES



NAVY



AIR FORCE



COAST GUARD

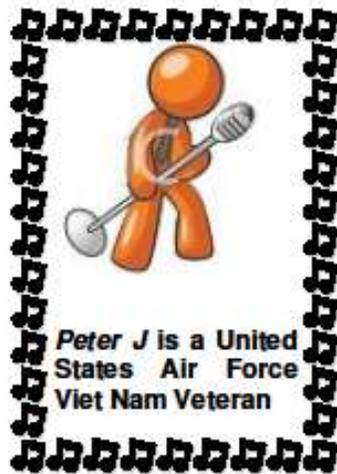
Saturday, May 17, 2014

Dinner/Dance
\$15.00

BYOB Cocktails 5:00—6:00

Dinner 6:00—7:00

Musical Memories
with Peter J
7:00—9:30



Menu

Pork Chops

Au Gratin Potatoes

Vegetable

Salad

Rolls

Dessert

Please drop off a framed photo of yourself in uniform at the Community Center prior to the event. We will hang these on the "WALL OF HONOR" for this event.

WE SALUTE OUR VETERANS

*Purchase tickets at the Community Center starting April 16, 2014 with the cut-off date of May 14 or 120 tickets sold whichever comes first
760-0615*

Citizens for Ponce Inlet
4670 South Peninsula Drive
Ponce Inlet, FL 32127-7134

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Did you enjoy this newsletter?

If so, please consider supporting this organization by becoming a member of the Citizens For Ponce Inlet. Your financial contribution will be used to help defray the costs of this newsletter as well as the annual Candidate's Forum and the Citizens of the Year Award event.

2014—2015 Membership Registration Form

I wish to become a new member _____ ; renew my membership _____
Enclosed is \$10 ___ \$15 ___ Other _____ (We can hope) contribution for my annual membership.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State ___ Zip _____

Please make all checks payable to Citizens For Ponce Inlet. Detach and mail to:

Judy Huggins
44 Coastal Oaks Circle
Ponce Inlet, FL 32127-6901
(or leave in the Citizens For Ponce Inlet box at the Community Center)