

Emerald Gardens HOA  
PO Box 21401  
Sarasota FL 34276-4401

### The Emerald Gardens Jewel



#### TIME TO CLEAN OUT THE GARAGE...

#### EGHOA ANNUAL COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE IS ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16th!!

The date is set! Everyone is welcome to participate in the Annual Garage Sale on November 16, 2013.

Times: Begins at 8:00am until 1:00ish. During the morning of the sale, it's OK to park your vehicle in the grass between the road and the sidewalk.

#### Tips for a successful Garage Sale...

1. Advertise. - Already done. We've placed ads in the Sarasota Herald Tribune and Craigslist.
2. Place large items in the front. - Easier to get to and load in a car. Plus if some of the big items have good value, people will be more inclined to check out all of your stuff.
3. Have a "free box" or table and keep it towards the rear with a big sign. - People will have to pass all your stuff to see it. Also, free stuff is a temptation to drive over, get out of the car and see everything. Also, people usually feel bad about taking just free stuff and are more likely to buy other items as well.
4. Join forces with neighbors. - We have that worked out for sure by having the community garage sale. The bigger selection of stuff, the greater the draw.
5. Price to sell. - Having a garage sale is the last-ditch effort to make some cash on stuff you are probably going to donate. If it doesn't sell, you will get nothing for it, so price it low! A quarter is better than getting nothing. If you are wanting to make big bucks off your stuff and sell it for what it's worth, list it on Ebay or Craigslist. Garage sales are for just getting rid of the things you don't want any more while hopefully making a bit of cash.
6. Price tag everything! - People don't want to ask, "how much is this?" It takes time to put on prices, but it's worth it.
7. Keep your space organized. - A big disorganized pile of crap is...well a big pile of crap. Keep stuff in some kind of order.
8. Use bags to keep sets together. - Use zip lock bags to keep items with multiple pieces together. They'll be easier to sell, keep organized, and will fetch higher prices as sets.
9. Keep like items together. - Keep kid's stuff with kid's stuff on one table or in one box. Keep tools with tools, etc.



Emerald Gardens  
www.EmeraldGardens.org



Fall / Winter 2013

The Jewel



### From the Desk of the President:

Hello residents. The holiday season is quickly approaching and I know this time of year gets quite busy. I hope that everyone will take advantage of the neighborhood garage sale and our annual meeting. The annual meeting is your time to meet the board and let us know what you think.

Even though everyone is busy, I need to ask for some help from our homeowners on two fronts. First, it has been approximately a year and a half since we had our wall repaired and painted. As part of continuing maintenance and to extend the life of the paint, we need to pressure wash both sides of the wall every two years. For those homeowners that have the wall behind their property, we will need the vegetation cut at least 12 inches away from the wall. If this distance could be maintained year round, it would prevent any unnecessary wear to the paint due to the continual rubbing of plants when the wind blows. We have a seven year warranty on the work that was done, but any damage caused by plants is not covered. I can report that the wall was damaged two times this year and we were able to get the responsible parties to pay for those repairs. Secondly, if the homeowners who live on the lake could limit the grass clippings that are blown into the lake while mowing, it would help keep the algae under control. Grass clippings and fertilizer are the main causes for the algae blooms.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for allowing me to serve as President of Emerald Gardens.

Sincerely,

Anthony Martinez

### Board of Directors

Anthony Martinez  
President

Gavin Christie  
Vice-President

Doug Miller  
Treasurer

Chuck Berster  
Secretary

Jesse Schilling  
Member at Large

Kevin Billingsley, CAM #37024  
Business Manager

Doug Miller  
Webmaster

Gavin Christie  
Jewel Editor/Designer

### Did U Know? Garbage Facts 101 from Sarasota County

Did U Know? Garbage Facts 101 from Sarasota County

- Place waste in closed garbage cans, plastic bags, or tied bundles
- Each can, bag or bundle should weigh no more than 40 pounds
- Each bundle should be no more than 4' long and 18" wide
- Unprepared items, or items weighing more than 40 pounds require a special pick up and separate disposal fee. Call 493-4100 for price quote.
- Items should be at the curb by 6:00 a.m. on your collection day
- Items should be placed at the curb no earlier than 5:00 p.m. the day before collection and empty containers removed by 10:00 a.m. the day after collection and stored inside the garage, beside or behind the house
- All items should be placed within 3' of the roadway
- Separate garbage and yard waste containers by placing them on opposite sides of the driveway
- Do not mix household hazardous waste, motor oil, recyclables, needles, or yard waste in garbage containers or bags
- Auto parts are not accepted - contact a scrap metal dealer or junk yard for disposal
- All items placed curbside for recycling must be placed in the appropriate bins. Items not in bins will not be picked up on the collection day. This is most relevant for large cardboard boxes.



**Helpful Hint:** Did you know that each home is permitted to have two recycling bins for each type of recycled materials? Two for paper items and two for cans, bottles and plastics.

Want to know more? Go to [www.scgov.net](http://www.scgov.net)



### Let Us Contact You!



In order to better contact Emerald Gardens residents the board is hoping to build a database of everyone's email addresses and phone numbers. Don't worry, this list will never be shared with anyone, but will help us to notify you of upcoming events, meetings, and from time to time, request volunteers for various projects.

Please help us out by sending your name, address, phone number and email address to Kevin at: [SRQCAM37024@gmail.com](mailto:SRQCAM37024@gmail.com)

## FROM THE DESK OF THE VICE PRESIDENT – GAVIN CHRISTIE

Due to the fact that my wife and I recently had a baby, I find myself watching much less television than I ever have. It truly is a curious thing. I really like not watching TV. I do have to admit that I sneak a football game or part of one from time to time, but try to have my five month old son Grayson watch with me. He seems generally interested and is definitely a Steelers fan just like his dad. I know that eventually I might fall into the trap of keeping Grayson entertained by letting him watch TV, but wondered what folks did before there was television. It led me to looking into when television broadcasts began. Below is a bit of trivia about television broadcasting and other "related things".

The first public television pictures were transmitted in 1926. The first TV interview was made with Irish actress Peggy O'Neil in April 1930. The first televised sporting event was a Japanese elementary school baseball game, broadcast in September 1931. The first daily broadcast was started by the BBC in November 1936. The first regular TV soap was DuMont TV's "A Woman to Remember", which began its run in February 1947. The first TV commercial was a 20 second ad for a Bulova clock, broadcasted by WNBT, New York during a game between the Brooklyn Dodgers and the Philadelphia Phillies in July 1941. Bulova paid \$9 for that first TV spot. 2013 Super Bowl commercials cost \$3.8 million dollars for a 30 second spot.

This is also interesting about Bulova. It was the first time mechanism in space, where more people have been than to the bottom of the ocean - the deepest point being the Mariana Trench off Guam in the Pacific Ocean; it is 6.77 miles (10.9 km) below sea level. More people have been to the moon (12) than to the Mariana Trench (2). I thought you'd like to know. ☺

## 2014 ANNUAL MEETING on January 23, 2014

### All Residents Welcome at Annual Meeting

The Emerald Gardens Annual Meeting is scheduled for Thursday January 23, 2014 at St. John's United Methodist Church. The doors open at 6:30 and the meeting will start promptly at 7:00pm.

The association's annual meeting is the best opportunity for you to learn about this year's events and get caught up on everything happening in our community. Here are a few agenda items and meeting activities, you won't want to miss:

- Meet board and committee members and the manager.
- Get an update on all current and future scheduled projects.
- Review the proposed budget, and hear the association manager explain how your assessments are being used.

Be an active community resident and attend the annual meeting. Come introduce yourself to the board, the manager and your neighbors and find a wealth of information about your community!

### Do you have what it takes to be a good board member? Chances are you do.

If you have a mix of some of the following traits and skills, consider running for a seat on the board. We'd love to have you.

**Respect.** If you can give others respect and expect it in return, you can help keep board discussions civil, productive and on point. We're looking for people who can lead by consensus, not by command.

**Good listening.** People want to be heard. Can you listen to board members and residents with sincere interest? You may have a few ideas of your own, but everyone benefits by sharing and discussing.

**Thick skin.** Sometimes, residents—even other board members—can be mean and insulting. Are you good at turning a conversation around and finding out what's really bothering people?

**Egos aside.** If you can give others credit, the board will operate better as a team.



### – FROM THE MANAGEMENT DESK –

#### Hello to Emerald Gardens Residents...

Just few notes from my desk –

First, I would like to thank everyone who took the time to either attend the Semi Annual Meeting, or send in their proxy. We continue to exist as an Association, because of your interest in maintaining the community and staying involved. When you send in your Proxy, you insure we have a Quorum to conduct the Association Business.

Having said this, I make the announcement that it's coming up on election time again. January 2014 we will have two board positions available. Directors Doug Miller and Gavin Christie will be ending their terms. These positions are two year terms and we would be happy to hear from you if you are interested. The terms start in January 2014 (after the Annual meeting) and run through January 2016.

We've gone LED. If you haven't already noticed, we recently replaced the lights at the Jade entrance. The new lights are LED. These "Light Emitting Diode" fixtures are energy efficient and have a long life. The expected life span is 100,000 hours. These lights are also Ecologically friendly, durable, have zero UV emissions and run at low voltage. By the time this Jewel is printed, we expect to have the bushes in front of the signs trimmed down, to provide a better view of our entry signs.

Thank you for your support of our community and have a great Holiday Season.

Kevin Billingsley  
Community Association Manager, CAM37024  
Email: SRQCAM37024@gmail.com  
Phone: 941-677-5014

### Earliest Halloween Customs

The earliest documented customs attributable to Halloween proper grew out of the tandem observances of All Saints Day (November 1), a day of prayer for saints and martyrs of the Church, and All Souls Day (November 2), a day of prayer for the souls of all the dead. Among the practices associated with Halloween during the Medieval period were the lighting of bonfires, evidently to symbolize the plight of souls lost in purgatory, and souling, which consisted of going door-to-door offering prayers for the dead in exchange for "soul cakes" and other treats. Mumming, a custom originally associated with Christmas consisting of parading in costume, chanting rhymes, and play-acting. Again,

however, despite the obvious similarities between old and new, it may be an exaggeration to say these medieval customs "survived" to the present day, or even that they "evolved" into modern Halloween practices such as trick-or-treating. By the time Irish immigrants brought the holiday to North America in the mid-1800s, mumming and souling were all but forgotten in Ireland itself, where the known Halloween customs of the time consisted of praying, communal feasting, and playing divination games such as bobbing for apples.

The secular, commercialized holiday we know in America today would be barely recognizable to Halloween celebrants of even just a century ago.



### Is that someone at the door? I don't see anyone.

Halloween is right around the corner and the Board of Directors asks all homeowners to please make sure your yard lights are lit! As always, we expect many little ones in the neighborhood. Please drive safely and watch out for trick-or-treaters. Don't forget to stock up on lots of candy for the kids!

