

# Emerald Gardens Jewel

www.EmeraldGardens.org

Fall 2017



## From the Desk of the President:

Hello Emerald Gardens Residents,

I wanted to start by saying how fortunate we all were with Hurricane Irma. It was heartwarming knowing how neighbors were helping neighbors to get through this stressful situation. In talking with Sarasota County, it may not be until December that the debris is removed. I would suggest to those who have remaining debris piles, to cut into smaller pieces to either tie, bag or put into cans and allow the weekly collection to remove the debris.

While walking the neighborhood, I have noticed quite a few deed restriction violations, but before getting into those violations, I just want to recognize the homeowners who take great pride in their property.

1. Front Post lights—when Emerald Gardens was originated, the homes were built with dusk to dawn sensors. As there is no street lighting, this is important not only for lighting, but for safety. There has been vandalism and theft in the neighborhood and the lighting would assist in reducing this activity.
2. Mailboxes—It is the homeowners responsibility to maintain the mailbox. Some are dirty and moldy, and others are rusty and falling apart. Please take appropriate measures to comply.
3. Outward appearance of the home - There are quite a few homes that show signs of neglect. This includes trimming of landscaping, pressure washing, and or painting. Sidewalks should be edged and maintained.
4. Parking—it is not only a deed restriction, but also a Sarasota County violation to block the sidewalks. Please be courteous and park legally.

Moving forward the board of directors will act quickly on these violations. We have reestablished the fine committee and it has been suggested, we shorten the warnings and to set fines accordingly. The Board has recently been successful in collection of fines for such violations. It costs each one of us every time a letter has to go out informing the homeowner of a violation. There have also been inquiries with regard to damage from the storm, such as downed fences and debris not yet cleaned up. Keep in mind; if it is visible from the front, it is a violation. Please remember your Board of Directors are here to enforce the deed restrictions and make sure our subdivision is well maintained in order to keep the property values the highest possible.

I am wishing everyone a great upcoming holiday season.

Regards,  
John Kelner

## Board of Directors



President ..... John Kelner  
 Vice President..... Phillip Lucia  
 Secretary ..... Melanie Marsh  
 Treasurer ..... Virginia Phillips  
 Member at Large ..... Chuck Berster

Business Manager:  
 Kevin Billingsley, CAM37024  
 Newsletter Editor: Kevin Billingsley  
 Webmaster: Kevin Billingsley



## EGHOA Annual Community Garage SALE

*Details on back*



*Welcome to our  
newest homeowners!*

**Zachary & Brittany Wierzba**  
4484 Diamond Cir E

**Michael & Barbara Kearney**  
4447 Diamond Cir S

### SAVE THE DATE – ANNUAL MEETING [DATE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE]

The Emerald Gardens Annual Meeting is scheduled for Thursday January 25, 2018 at St. John's United Methodist Church. Please plan to attend, or please return your Proxy to us. The doors open at 6:30 and the meeting will start promptly at 7:00pm.



# From the Management Desk

Hello and while many of you are most-likely still looking out of your windows at large piles of yard waste, I hope everyone is in agreement, we were very lucky on September 10 & 11th. At one point and time, Sarasota County was in the direct path of hurricane Irma and our daily lives were about to be changed. Personally, I spent time on my back porch during the storm, hoping my roof would stay attached to my home. I was pleased the next day to see the roof was intact!



What is the current state of the association post Irma? Very good for late 2017. We did not sustain any major damage and not only is real estate on the move again; homes are selling at record high prices. Along that line, I have a few quick updates. First, on the Rental Property discussion started just prior to the Semi Annual Meeting in July. The post cards were collected and tallied. The vast majority of homeowner's support the Board moving forward with this agenda item. That being said, the Board has continued its discussion at the last few monthly meetings. While no decision has been made, the Board hopes to have something firmed up in the next month or so. We will keep you informed. When a decision is made, we hope that all homeowner's will participate in the voting process. We must have a majority of homeowners respond. Next, I wanted to commend the Board on the changes at the Jade entrance. The lights look great! This process took a bit longer than we anticipated, but the results speak for themselves. We received a lot of positive feedback and the Board appreciates the comments.

The next big project is the pond. It is the hope of both the Pond Committee as well as the Board, that in 2018 we will be in compliance with our plantings and can apply for county grants. The groundwork is also being laid to move forward with an Aeration system. The benefits of pond aeration include: improving water quality, reducing the likelihood of excessive algae growth, and enhancing the fish habitat.

Thank you again to all who attended the Semi Annual Meeting. Many productive discussions took place and the Board is appreciative of the feedback.

Thank you and have a wonderful holiday season.

Kevin Billingsley

Community Association Manager, CAM37024



## Parking Solution? (Reprinted from the 2016 Fall Jewel)

At the Semi Annual Meeting in July, the Board of Directors expressed concerns over the folks who park in the street and most notably, directly across from another car. The Board has received a few complaints from folks who either did not like weaving in and out of the cars in the street, or from a delivery driver who could not travel through because of two cars parked directly across from each other. It was suggested we pass along a suggested parking solution to our residents. That solution is called Alternate Side Parking.

The Alternate Side parking works as follows. On EVEN number days, residents who park on the street, should park on the EVEN house numbered side of the street. And thus, on the ODD number days, residents who park on the street, park on the ODD house numbered side of the street.

This puts all cars on the same side of the street and no weaving in and out of cars is needed. The Board has no control over the streets and this is by no means a requirement or a rule, just a voluntary option.



# HALLOWEEN!

Halloween is around the corner and the Board of Directors asks all homeowners please make sure your yard light is lit! We expect many little ones in the neighborhood. Please drive safely and watch out for trick-or-treaters.

**Emerald Gardens HOA**

**PO Box 21401**

**Sarasota, FL 34276-4401**

## ***Time to clean out the garage.***



**The date is set. November 4, 2017.**

**Everyone is welcome to participate.**

**Time: 8:00 am until 1:00ish.**

During the morning of the sale, you are permitted to park your vehicle in the grass between the street and the sidewalk. (It was decided at a meeting of the members, that we set the date for the first weekend of November every year. This allows families to plan.)