



Plantation Living

Newsletter for Residents of Hilton Head Plantation

Volume 19/Issue 1 – January 15, 2005

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Special Report to the Board

At a special meeting of the HHPPOA Board of Directors on November 30, 2004, the members passed a resolution to undertake a fact-finding effort focused on four specific matters raised in the November 28, 2004, "Gated Issues" article in the *Island Packet*. The Board appointed Tom Hoppin, Chair of the Communications Committee, to conduct this fact-finding effort and to report back to the Board. The four specific matters were –

1. Comments attributed to the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) that admonished the community's private security force for how the HHP Security Department (HHPSD) had handled home invasion and prowler incidents over the years;
2. The protocol set up by BCSO and HHPSD on May 17, 2004 for how the HHPSD would respond to future such incidents or events;
3. Events that led up to and followed a written directive issued to HHPSD by BCSO on July 28, 2004; and
4. Concerns expressed by BCSO representatives and others, including HHP residents, regarding communications about these matters.

The fact-finding effort included interviews or discussions with more than two dozen people involved in various aspects of the Peeping Tom/prowler cases and the investigation leading to the BCSO's arrest of Levy on October 7, 2004. These people included some of Mr. Levy's victims, the Sheriff of Beaufort County, a number of BCSO personnel, HHPPOA General Manager, Chief of HHPSD, security chiefs of two other gated communities on the Island, security officers from HHPPOA and other communities, members of the HHPPOA Board, and a number of HHP property owners.

The resulting report, distributed to the HHPPOA Board members on December 10, 2004, is now available – IN TOTO – to the entire community on HHP's website – www.hiltonheadplantation.com. At the menu page, click **Documents, Forms & Minutes** on the left-hand column. In the Documents section, click **A Special Report to the Board_121004**. This document requires that you have Adobe Reader loaded on your computer, also available at no cost on that same page. This document may be printed in its entirety.

This fact-finding report into relationship-related matters associated with the 11/28/04 *Island Packet* "Gated Issues" article found that the BCSO and HHPSD agreed on a vast majority of the facts and that the characterizations in the article which seemed to indicate the two entities were at odds with each other were the newspaper's, not the Sheriff's Office or HHP's Security.

"A fairer and more balanced article," said Peter Kristian, "would have reported on the relationship, not made an effort to characterize it. In fact, our relationship with the Sheriff's Office and the Sheriff Office's relationship with our Security Department is excellent."

Beaufort County Sheriff P.J. Tanner, who met with representatives of the POA Board and its administrative and security staff twice in the week following the appearance of the article, concurred with Mr. Kristian. "We have an excellent relationship with Hilton Head Plantation's Security Department and we are working hard to make it even better." *Continued on page 16...*



Hilton Head Plantation

Property Owners' Association

7 Surrey Lane – PO Box 21940
Hilton Head Island, SC 29925

Board of Directors

President	Frank Wilcher
Vice President	Merry Harlacher
Secretary/Treasurer	Mary Goodrich
Members	Guy Bettarelli Charles Cherrix Tom Hoppin Paul Kopelcheck Tom Kuczkowski Mary Ann Strayer

POA Staff

General Manager	Peter Kristian
Activities	Arlene Reisner
Administration	Todd Lindstrom
Communications	Linda Helgerson
Community Relations	Dick Wirth
Maintenance	John Ehlers
Security	Art Benoit
Tennis Pro	Keith Ferda

Important Phone Numbers

POA Service Center	843/681-8800
Accounting	Ext. 235
Activities	Ext. 226
Architectural Review Bd	Ext. 231
Bd of Directors Hotline	Ext. 8
Covenant Enforcement	Ext. 242
General Manager	Ext. 233
Maintenance	Ext. 241
Tennis Hotline	Ext. 300
Vehicle Decals	Ext. 223
Communications	816-5955
Dispatch	681-2459
Dolphin Head Building	681-8019
Pass Line	342-9980
Plantation House Schedule	681-8090
Security Office	681-3053
Spring Lake Pavilion	681-3707
Spring Lake Pool Information	689-6473
Spring Lake Tennis	681-3626

Emergencies

Fire & Ambulance	Dial 911
Main Gate Security	681-2477

President's Report

Your Board of Directors has been busy in December following up on an article that appeared in the *Island Packet* on November 28 and then subsequent articles. These articles dealt with our relationship with the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office, other Plantations' security departments, and, most importantly, our residents.

Our relationship with the Sheriff's Office has been and remains very good. Sheriff Tanner and his staff, as we have worked through this, could not have been more cooperative and helpful. As a result of Sheriff Tanner's and our efforts, I am confident we will be working even closer together to protect the safety and well being of our residents as well as those throughout the Lowcountry community. We also have improved our relationship with other of the Plantations, especially Sea Pines.

Most importantly, we have and will continue to work very hard to expand our communications efforts with our residents significantly. We know that this must have been an extremely traumatic experience for the victims. We empathize with the victims whose homes and persons were violated. However, we must try and balance the needs of victims as we protect certain information essential to those investigating crimes and prosecuting criminals. We may not always get this balance right, but I want everyone to know that we will continue to work very hard to retain your confidence and trust as our Security Department protects your safety.

Our goal is to further improve our relationship with the Sheriff's Office through periodic meetings and the exchange of information. We plan also to enhance our dialogue with other gated communities on the Island. In exchanging information an area of particular concern to our Board is the safety of single women. To deal with this issue and other safety matters we plan to enhance our communication efforts through our website, *Plantation Living*, and the Bulletin Boards at the gates.

One of the benefits of our recent increased dialogue with the Sheriff's Office is their plan to develop guidelines for all gated communities on the use of "internal reports" vs "State reports." This will be a significant benefit for all security departments in the County.

Turning to other actions taken by the Board in December -

- A contract with PSD #1 to expand the RV and boat storage area was approved.
- The \$25.00 inspection fee for the removal of dead Red Bay trees was waived through June 2005.
- Bill Best was appointed as a regular member of the Maintenance Committee.
- The Board had a special meeting with our auditors to review plans for the 2004 audit.
- A report on guest passes issued at the Cypress Gate was reviewed as the Security Committee and the Board will continue to consider ways to improve traffic flow at that gate. One option that will be tried shortly is to have pre-printed passes available for visitors going to golf courses, restaurants, marina, etc.

Happy New Year.

Frank Wilcher

General Manager's Report

Safety Information

In December 2004, we introduced a new feature on the POA's website called "Safety Information" that is displayed at the bottom of the **Plantation Events** section on the main page. Normally, the words are black in color. When you click on "Safety Information," you will view safety tips to help protect your home, motor vehicles, and yourself. When the words "Safety Information" appear red in color, it means that there is a particular safety concern on the Plantation. Clicking on the words " Safety Information" when the words are red will provide you with information about this safety concern.

For those Plantation's residents without Internet access and to alert those with Internet access, beginning in February, we will place the words " Safety Info" on the bulletin board at the Main Gate when we have a safety concern. If you do not have Internet access, you can pick up a "hardcopy" of the same information that appears on our website at the Dispatch Office (located adjacent to the Visitors Gate) or at the POA Service Center on Surrey Lane. This new system is designed to get Safety Information out to the community rapidly so you can be kept better informed.

Lessons Learned

Please know that keeping Hilton Head Plantation a safe environment for you, your guests and those conducting business on the Plantation is a top priority. We have learned several lessons from the experience that lead to the arrest of Mr. Levy. These lessons have been turned into action items, many of which have already been implemented with still others in the works by the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office (BCSO).

Let me start out by taking responsibility for the actions or inactions of the POA's staff. We have an organization to be proud of; however, there are always items that, after a review, we could have preformed better or approached differently. Where staff did not perform to expectations or we could have handled a given situation better, corrective action has been taken. Here is what we have accomplished or put in motion to date:

- **Communications with BCSO**- We have requested that all protocols from the Sheriff's Office be put in writing to avoid future misunderstandings.
- **Rapid communication vehicle to the community**- We have established a means of getting information out to the community in an expeditious manner. Please note the *Safety Information* feature on our website and the "Safety Info" initiative that has been put in place for the Main Gate bulletin board.
- **Asking BCSO for assistance**- All Officers have been briefed on the acceptable time parameters to be employed to call for appropriate BCSO back up.
- **State Reports**-Until we receive detailed guidelines from the Sheriff's Office, HHP Security will err on the side of writing a State report on any suspicious activity.
- **Amount of information**- We will continue to rely on the Sheriff's Office to provide us with guidance on the amount of detailed information on a given incident that should be publicly disseminated. The final decision on the details of an incident will still need to be weighed in light of its impact on solving or jeopardizing the prosecution of the case. However, the general nature of the incident, such as time, location, incident type, and suspect description will be publicized to the community unless the Sheriff's office notifies the POA that the release of such information will have a detrimental effect on their ability to apprehend or prosecute a suspect.
- **Collection and disbursement of information among all POAs on suspected criminal activity.** Because the Sheriff's Department is the receiving point for all criminal activity reports, we believe that the Sheriff's Office is best suited for the role of collecting and disbursing information to the greater community. Accordingly, we have asked that the BCSO take on this function. Until BCSO takes on this task, HHP and Sea Pines have agreed to share appropriate information on criminal activity in their respective communities.

COFFEE with PETER



Date: February 17th
Time: 10:00 am
Place: PH

Meet the Candidates

**ASSESSMENTS
 ARE DUE
 WITHOUT
 PENALTY
 BY...**



JANUARY 31, 2005

**NOW is a Good
 Time to check
 the Expiration
 Date on your
 Car's Decal...**

**To renew out-of-date
 decals, you will need
 these three items:**

- **Your Driver's License**
- **Your Vehicle Registration &**
- **Proof of your Auto Insurance**

Back Gate

As you may be aware, the Security Committee and the POA Board have been studying the need to expand the Cypress Gate. As these two groups considered the expansion of this facility, it became evident that several issues needed to be answered, including:

- What is the magnitude of the actual problem (i.e., the wait time)?
- What is the actual cost of expanding the gate (rough estimate is in excess of \$250,000)?
- Since HHPPOA does not own the land adjacent to the gate, do we need to acquire easements or purchase additional property to enlarge the complex?
- Are there less costly interim steps that could be taken to reduce the reported back-ups at the gate?

The Board has directed that we try to reduce the wait time at the Cypress Gate by preprinting commercial passes (with written directions) for the commercial destinations close to the back gate, such as the Country Club of Hilton Head, Old Fort Pub, the Marina, Fort Mitchell, and Windows on the Waterway. These steps have already been implemented and will be in force through the end of February. The program will then be evaluated for impact.

Another interim step that the Board **may consider** is having all guests requiring an on-demand printed pass go through the Main Gate. Once the pass is issued, these visitors may then use the back gate. This option is only under consideration at this time. We will keep you posted as we go through our evaluation process.

Coffee with Peter

Our next Coffee is scheduled for Thursday, February 17, 2005, 10:00 AM at the Plantation House. Besides our usual updates and a Q&A period, we will use part of the meeting to introduce the Candidates that are running for one of the three open seats on the Board. If you are new to our lovely community, these coffees are a great way to get up-to-speed on the operations of the Plantation. As usual, the coffee will be hot and fresh, and the donuts and other goodies plentiful.

Security Services

Just a reminder... With the colder weather, our Security Department provides the following services that are not always well publicized: jump starting your car, providing a gallon of gas if you run out somewhere on the Plantation, turning off your water in an emergency, and checking your home when you leave for an extended period.

Old Glory

Many patriotic residents continue to display our flag as a sign of their reverence, resolve and unity. As with all objects exposed to the weather for long periods, flags begin to fade and become tattered. If your flag has been on display for an extended period, please take some time to examine your flag for wear and, if appropriate, replace it with a new flag. You can drop off your old flag at the POA Service Center where it will be disposed of in a dignified manner.

Catch and Release

Just a reminder... The Fishing Club in conjunction with the POA stocks certain fresh water lagoons each year with fish. In order to maintain a good supply of fish, we ask that those fishing in the fresh water lagoons practice catch and release. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Outdoor Hose Bibs

When temperatures drop below freezing, don't forget to take steps to protect your outside hose bibs from freeze damage. There are devices that you can purchase to cover your hose bids to protect them from freezing temperatures or you can simply drip your outside faucets.

Projects

- The POA staff is presently working with a Land Planner to acquire the necessary permitting from the Town of Hilton Head to allow further expansion of the RV/Boat storage area.
- The last phase of the Beautification project between Manor Court and Seabrook Drive has been completed.
- Bids are presently being evaluated for our 2005 road-resurfacing project. A list of roads being considered for paving was published in the December edition of *Plantation Living*.
- Several subdivision signs will be replaced during the month of January.

Holiday Decorations

A hardy WELL DONE to all of you who took the time to adorn your homes for the Holidays! Your decorations were a gift to your neighborhood and helped spread the holiday spirit so prevalent in our fine community. As with all things, there is a season. If you have not done so already, please take down your holiday decorations by January 23rd and pack them carefully away for next year so they can once again brighten our neighborhoods.

Stay Safe.

Peter Kristian

Nature Notes: Lagoon Ducks: Hooded Merganser & Bufflehead



Many ducks come to Hilton Head Island for the winter, just like many people. The most beautiful duck in this area is the Wood Duck, the only duck that lives here all year. The two ducks that are most

frequently seen on the lagoons and marshes in residential areas during the winter are the Hooded Merganser and the Bufflehead.

The Hooded Merganser is the more common of these two. His fan-shaped white crest bordered by black feathers easily identifies the male. He raises the crest into a wide fan shape when he sees an attractive female—and there are always plenty of those in the group. His back and tail are also black and the breast and under parts are white. The female's appearance is less striking. She has a loose reddish-brown crest on her head that sometimes reminds you of a "bad hair day." Her back is dark gray with light gray under parts. The bill of both sexes is very distinctive because it is small and very thin. The edges of the Merganser bill are serrated (birds do not have teeth), which makes the Hooded Merganser a very efficient fisherman. They are sometimes called "saw-bills" because of the bill. The ancient *Archaeopteryx*, the oldest fossil that is considered a direct ancestor of modern birds, also had a serrated bill.

The Hooded Merganser belongs to a class of ducks called diving ducks. These ducks have short legs that are attached far back on their bodies. This arrangement makes them awkward when walking on land but gives them more power under water. The principle diet of the Hooded Mergansers is small fish, crayfish, frogs, aquatic insects, and roots and seeds of aquatic plants.

In the spring they fly to the northern United States and southern Canada to breed. Nests are built in tree cavities that are 10-50 ft. off of the ground. Within 24 to 26 hours after hatching, the mother encourages her chicks to leap to the ground, and she then leads them off to the nearest water. Another couple of weeks pass before they acquire their flight feathers and make short flights.

The second duck that is frequently seen on our lagoons is the Bufflehead, which is the smallest diving duck in North America—ranging from 13 to 16 inches long (the size of a large dove). The unusual name comes from the head shape of the male, which in profile can be described as looking like a "buffalo head." He has a large white patch on his head that extends from the eye to the back of the head. The body is mostly white with the black wings covering the upper sides. The female's body is gray-brown with white under parts and a small white patch on her cheek. Both sexes have a stubby bill.

At first glance, Hooded Merganser and Bufflehead males may look somewhat alike. They both have white on the head; but, the white patch on the Bufflehead doesn't expand, and the distinctive bill shapes help separate the two.

When groups of Buffleheads are diving, one or two always remain on the surface to watch for danger. They are very buoyant and pop-up like a cork when they surface. Their diet consists of aquatic insects, midges, mayflies, snails, small fish, and seeds of aquatic plants.

Buffleheads nest in the northern United States in tree cavities. The female usually chooses an old Flicker hole that measures only 3 ¼" across and 8" deep. The nest site is usually within 220 feet of a body of water and from 5-20 feet above ground level. Just like the Hooded Mergansers, the young leap from the nest and are led to the nearest water.

For the past three years on the Hilton Head Audubon Society Christmas Bird Count, watchers reported more Hooded Mergansers than any other diving duck, and Buffleheads were second. If you have these ducks in your lagoon, you may want to keep them around through the winter. The secret to making them stay is "cracked corn" that can be purchased at the local bird stores. Throw this into the water every day and they are very likely to stay in your lagoon.

-- Mary Bess Mulhollan

What Are They Doing? And, How Did They Do It?



Want to know what went on with the construction for our new Distributed Cellular System? Why all those flags? Why TWO conduits – orange and black? And, what were they used for? What were the men doing with those metal detectors? What were those machines doing that were sitting beside the road? Why were men digging trenches in some places? Why did they need a water truck? How did they get the wires in the ground? How did they connect the wires? Furthermore, why was traffic being held up when you had to get to the office?

First, a bit of background... For a typical cell tower, coaxial cable goes from each carrier's hub at the base of the tower up the tower to the antenna. But, with a Distributed Antenna System, it's different. Instead, the carrier's hub is connected to the system, which is connected to all seven antennas by groups of fiber optic cable buried in the ground. Picture a tree on its side, larger at the bottom and with branches going out to each antenna.

As of Friday, December 17, 2004, seven 70' Radial Access Nodes (i.e., antennas) are now installed and fully operational in HHP. During November and December, Byers Engineering, prime contractors to Crown Castle, and ComTran, the general contractor responsible for constructing the network, laid miles of conduit from the hub to each of the seven antennas. And, the job is done. But, how did they do it?

First, each of the local utilities – Palmetto Electric, HH#1 PSD, Hargray Telephone, and Adelphia Cable – placed flags along the roads where the conduits to the antennas were to be laid to indicate where their respective cables and pipes were buried – obviously so that the boring would not interfere with existing utilities. The different colored flags represented the different utilities. In some cases, ground-penetrating radar was used to locate underground pipes.

Next, eight crews with eight Directional Boring Machines went to work, drilling horizontal holes three feet deep along the various paths from the hub to the seven antennas. Working from sun up to sun down, six days a week, they positioned the boring machines using a hand-held steering mechanism (occasionally holding up traffic). The fellow on the boring machine would have a two-way radio to another fellow down the street who was actually determining where the drilling bit should go. He would walk along the road where the drilling bit was located and, using a metal detector, would tell the fellow on the Directional Boring Machine which way to steer the end of the drilling rod in order not to affect the existing utilities.

The steering mechanism is quite simple yet effective. From the water truck, water is pumped through the hollow steel rod with the pressure adjusted so that the drill bit would go left, right, up or down. The water would soften the soil on the appropriate side and the drill bit would then follow this path. And, because water cuts down on friction during drilling, the drilling progress is faster and safer.

However, in those places where many different utilities were in one spot and a clear path for boring was undecipherable, then the digging crews got out their shovels and dug trenches.

With the exception of steering the drilling bit, the Directional Boring Machine is fully automated. When another drilling rod is needed, a 10' hollow rod is automatically released from the vertical storage crib and screwed to the former drilling rod, and the machine just keeps on drilling. When the drilling work gets to an intersection or at a certain distance down the road, they dig down to the drilling bit, attach the two orange and black conduits along with a metal wire to the end of the drilling rod and start pulling the conduits and wire back along the same horizontal drilling path. In addition, bentonite (a concrete-type substance) would also be pumped with the water. Once it hardens in the ground, it protects the conduits from erosion or collapsing soil. The Directional Boring Machine automatically puts away each 10' rod and out comes the two conduits and the wire. Then, it is on to the next section to drill.

The obvious question here is why TWO conduits. There are multiple reasons. If something happens to the first one (the orange one), then they have a back-up conduit to use during maintenance and repair or permanently if services are expanded and more fiber optical cable is required on one or more of the antennas. Because the major cost of this construction is the drilling, the cost of installing two conduits initially far outweighs the cost of a second drilling effort.

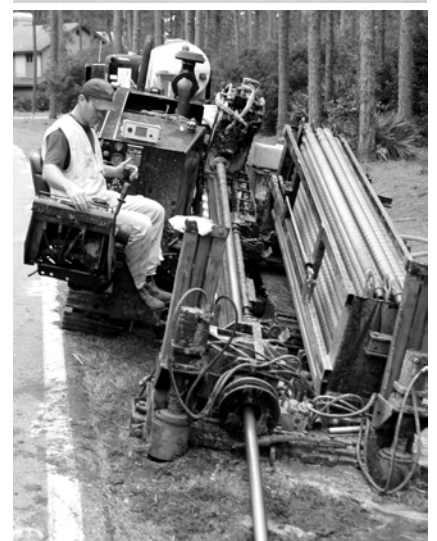
After two consecutive pairs of conduits are laid, they then must be connected. Cement handholes (as opposed to manholes that are large enough for a person) are placed in the ground at the location where two sets of conduits come together. One pair of conduits comes in through a hole on one side of the handhole, and the other pair comes into the handhole through a hole on the other side. The fiber optic cable that runs through the conduits are exposed in these handholes. At these "intersections" the fiber optic cable can be tested or repaired as needed. For that reason, extra coils of fiber optic cable are also located in the handholes.

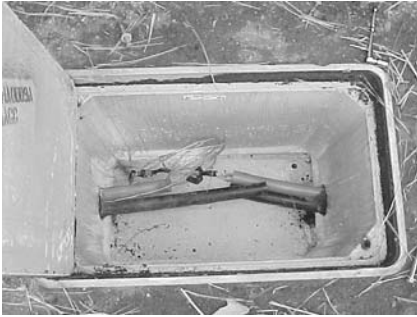
The wire that is also pulled back through the drilling hole is used for marking and later locating the conduits once they are buried. In those drilling locations between the Radial Access Node (i.e., antenna) and a nearby electric transformer, a 4" PVC pipe is also buried for the electrical wires needed to power the antenna.

Once the drilling was completed and the conduits and manholes were in place, then the fiber optic cable was spliced together. At this point for each such "intersection" every single fiber is checked using an Optical Time Delay Reflectometer (OTDR). Fiber optical cable comes bundled in sets of twelve. From the hub, 144 fibers start out, branching down to 96, then to 24, and finally to 12 dedicated fibers at each Radial Access Node. Each fiber was checked at each "intersection" for the entire path of each fiber. Of note, one fiber is capable of carrying a signal effectively for 10 miles.

As each section of construction was completed, the soil and sod were replaced, the debris and equipment was removed, making it difficult to see that work had been accomplished that day.

Continued on page 8...





Did you happen to see one of the poles being installed? Now that was a finely tuned, highly precise, smooth operation. Very impressive... The treated wooden utility poles are 70' long. During the construction planning phase of the project earlier this year, Byers Engineering conducted a geotest, which is a sample drilling to determine how the pole would be best secured in the ground. In some soils, a sleeve must first be placed in the ground with gravel around it. However, this was unnecessary in our sandy soil, so instead the 70' poles were buried 9' in the ground (Equivalent to 10% of the length of the pole, plus two feet) and only dirt was used to stabilize them.

Much of the equipment was bolted to the pole before installation. Once the pole was stabilized, some fearless fellow climbed the pole or was hoisted in a bucket to connect the antenna.

At the base of the pole, an electric meter was attached along with a transfer switch for a portable generator in case electricity is out for more than eight hours. The RAN cabinet at the base of each pole contains a battery backup that will provide power for 4 to 8 hours.

Back at the hub, first a concrete slab was laid and the utility hut was installed. The hub for the Distributed Antenna System also has a provision for a generator – a far larger one than is needed at the RANs.

So, now that you know more about HOW they did it than you thought you wanted to know, the next obvious question is HOW does it work. The whip at the top of the Radial Access Node communicates with your cell phone. The signal goes to the box at the base of the antenna, is converted to a digital signal, and sent via fiber optic cable back to the Distributed Antenna System hub. There, the signal is converted back to analog, sent to the carrier's base station then to a mobile telephone switching office (MTSO) via high-speed digital cables. The process is reversed for a signal coming back to the hub, through the fiber optic cable, and up the Radial Access Node close to your cell phone. And, this all happens in REAL TIME!

The construction work began on November 8th and ended December 17th. On the following Monday, December 20th, Crown Castle's technical team arrived to conduct a drive through during which the signal strength was tested throughout the previously dead or dark areas of the Plantation. After minimal adjustments and more testing, our Distributed Cellular System is in place and fully operational.

Crown Castle Solutions and its contractors are to be congratulated. The entire effort was well thought out with every activity having a precise purpose. Despite the considerable construction, our Plantation is once again peaceful and beautiful. And now, it is also high tech!

If you are interested in learning whether your cellular provider intends to be part of our Distributed Cellular System, we encourage you to call your provider directly. Here are the toll free numbers.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Alltel | 1-800-255-8351 | Sprint | 1-800-480-4727 |
| Cingular | 1-866-246-4852 | Suncom AT&T | 1-800-786-7378 |
| Hargray | 1-843-842-4000 | T Mobile | 1-800-937-8997 |
| Nextel | 1-800-639-6111 | Verizon | 1-800-922-0204 |

Safety First

As described in the General Manager’s column this month, the POA is taking concerted, proactive steps towards informing HHP residents of incidents in the Plantation that all should know. One such step is the use of HHP’s website to alert residents to specific occurrences.

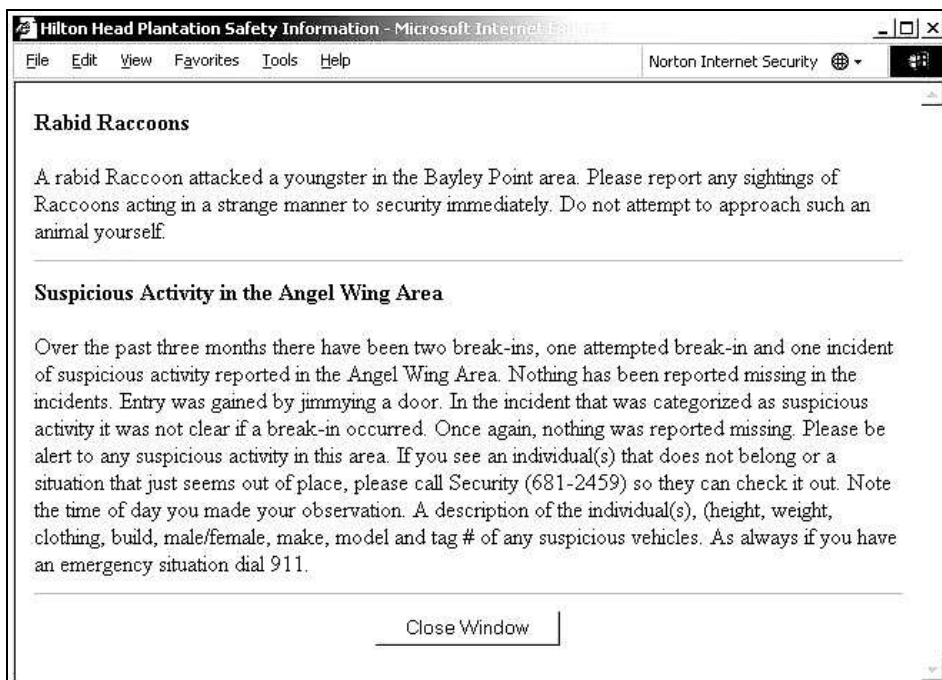


On the menu page of HHP’s website – www.hiltonheadplantation.com, beneath the Plantation Events box on the right of the page are the words **Safety Information**. If the words are black, then no activity has occurred that needs to be conveyed to residents rapidly. In this instance when you click the **Safety Information** link, general safety tips will be displayed. If, however, the words **Safety Information** are red, then the POA has information it considers important for all HHP residents to know.

Click the words **Safety Information** to display the message. Click the **Close Window** button to close the window.

Simultaneously, the words **Safety Information** will also appear on the bulletin boards at the Main and Cypress Gates. For those who do not use a computer, you are cordially invited to stop at the POA Service Center to receive a hardcopy of the same message(s).

The safety messages displayed on HHP’s website at the time of publication of this newsletter are shown below.



FILE OF LIFE
 Please update your **FILE OF LIFE** for 2005. Include any new medications and health conditions. The **FILE OF LIFE** helps you in an emergency and helps the Emergency Medical Team provide effective care.

SMOKE DETECTORS
 Make a New Year’s Resolution to check and replace batteries in your smoke detectors. Be smart... Be safe.

Notice
 When speaking to a member of the Security Department, your conversation may be recorded for quality assurance.

FREE-FREE-FREE
 HHP residents can advertise items for sale or rent, services offered or wanted on HHP’s website at no cost! **EMAIL** the text of your classified ad to... hppoa@adelphia.net
 Questions? Call 816-5955

Disclaimer
 Advertisements in the *Plantation Living* newsletter should not be viewed as an endorsement from the Hilton Head Property Owners’ Association, Inc.

Bridge Winners**PH Dinner Bridge
December Winners**

1. Billie Hodges
2. Syd Hodges
3. Lil Fisher

PH – 1st Tuesday – 6:00 PM. Call Evelyn Kowtko – 681-6338 or Syd Hodges – 689-6142.

**PH Ladies Bridge
December 10th Winners**

1. Charlotte Winter
2. Hettie Collins
3. Maxine Polhill
4. Hulda Norman

PH – 2nd & 4th Friday – 10:30 AM. Call Mary Priestman – 342-6244 or Ingrid Zenker - 689-5040.

**SL Dinner Bridge
December Winners**

1. Diana & Frank Fitzgerald
 2. Ellen Winston & Rick Perrini
 3. Mary Lou Fisher & Lil Fisher
- SL – 2nd Tuesday – 6:15 PM. Call Lil Fisher – 689-6858 or Mary Lou Fisher 689-7767.

**SL Ladies Bridge
December 7th Winners**

1. Jeanne Napier
 2. Sigrid Peters
 3. Char Folk
- SL – 1st & 3rd Tuesday – 10 AM. Call Fran Anderson – 681-2554 or Jeanne Napier – 681-1866.

Crafters Night Out

Crafters Night Out will meet on Tuesday, January 25th at 7:30 PM at Spring Lake Pavilion. We will be planning our activities for the coming year. We invite anyone to come and share her talents with us and have a relaxing evening with friendly conversation. If interested, call Martha Spruetz, 342-2935.

Culinary Cut-Ups

Culinary Cut Ups will be held on February 3rd at 12:00 at Flora's Italian Cafe (formerly Cafe Maxx). Flora will demonstrate a variety of her award-winning desserts and offer helpful culinary tips. Lunch will be served including salad and a choice of three entrees. Dessert will be a sampling of the demonstrated food items.

The cost for this event (including tax and gratuities) is \$20. Details regarding the program will be mailed early in January to all current members of Culinary Cut Ups. Reservations must be made no later than January 28th.

You must be a member of the HHP Women's Club in order to participate. Please call Beverly Gackenbach 342-5858 or Lois McCue 342-5032 with any questions regarding our program or membership.

-- Beverly Gackenbach

Bunco Groups

Bunco...a game of dice, luck and prizes! It's fun! It's easy! It's a great way to make friends.

Three groups to choose from: 2nd Monday of the month 7:00-9:00 or 3rd Monday of the month 2:00-4:00 or 7:00-9:00 at the Dolphin Head Recreation Building.

For more information and/or to join a group, please call Carolyn Simmons at 689-2647 or email to caroldsimm@aol.com.

Woodcarvers

Woodcarvers have many projects in the works – birds, figures, bas-relief, etc. Come spend some time with us. Experience is not a factor; we learn from one another.

Days: Every Monday

Time: 7:15 PM

Place: Spring Lake Pavilion
Call Jim Gorddard at 689-3273.

Island Hoppers

"Shop 'Till You Drop" will be the first Island Hoppers trip of 2005 – an overnight trip to Charlotte, NC dedicated exclusively to an activity so many of us enjoy – *shopping!* We will be staying at the lovely "Four Diamond" Park Hotel in the South Park area, adjacent to the fabulous South Park Mall and within walking distance of other upscale shopping opportunities. There are many wonderful places to eat in the area.

The cost of the trip is **\$135.00** and includes the bus and hotel. Food is entirely on your own. A poll will be taken of those attending to determine if we stop for dinner on the way home at **Diane's on Devine**, a wonderful Italian restaurant that delighted our pallets on our Columbia trip last January. **DEADLINE for reservations is JANUARY 17th.**

Also in 2005:

March 3. Day trip to Summerville, SC for lunch at the famous Woodlands Resort and Inn, time around Mt. Pleasant to explore and shop, and then on to the Coliseum Theater in North Charleston to see the two-man show of Harvey Korman and Tim Conway from the Carol Burnett Show.

May. An overnight trip to Flat Rock & Hendersonville, NC for the Flat Rock Playhouse and a tour of Carl Sandburg's home.

To join Island Hoppers, send a \$10.00 check payable to "Island Hoppers" to Barbara Clark, 6 Oyster Shell Lane. PLEASE NOTE: To join Island Hoppers, you must first be a current member of the HHP Women's Club and have separately paid your Women's Club dues.

Questions or comments? Please contact one of our chair ladies, Nancy Graham 689-2631 or Shirley Mitchum 681-6746.

-- Julie Burroughs

Newcomers Club

All those who participated in the Island Ambassador Program (we had a full house) on November 16th should have received their certificates in the mail to go with the pins they were given at the meeting. You will be contacted to continue the second stage of the program. Our thanks to all of you that ventured to sign up and attend a program that was unknown to most of us. We certainly learned a lot about our Island in a very entertaining way from Tony Knapp, who represented the Hospitality Association's Ambassador Certification Program.

Next, there is still time to sign up and come Wednesday, January 19th to the scheduled program, "Meet the Mayor," at a reception hosted by the Country Club of Hilton Head. They provide cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and desserts as only the Country Club can do so well. Note this program is on a Wednesday, not the usual third Tuesday, and it starts at 6:30 PM.

Now to get to the Fabulous February meeting on Tuesday, February 15th at the Plantation House beginning at 7 PM. You are invited to come celebrate your Birthday as everyone else celebrates yours and you celebrate theirs at the UNBirthday Party. There will be games and contests, with lots of prizes awarded along with door prizes. Real Birthday Cakes will top off the celebration of everyone's Birthday at the UNBirthday Party. Another activity for this fun evening is a wrapped gift auction. John Cavedo will auction off all the wrapped gifts. These items can be funny, functional, of little value, or very valuable. A list of all the gifts will be available before the bidding begins. This is a cash auction (bring extra money, for you can bid on every item) for unknown wrapped items; the way they are wrapped may

disguise the contents. So come join us for an evening of fun and celebration! The 15th of February is the usual 3rd Tuesday. Please reserve by February 11th by calling Barbara/Ben LaMontagne at 682-2371 or e-mailing Sandy/Jon Sherwood ssherwoodmv@cs.com. The cost is only \$3 per person to celebrate yours and others' Birthdays at the UNbirthday Party (you can win lots of prizes) and participate in a very unusual auction. Don't miss the fun! Call or email today.

Remember, you are automatically a member of the Newcomers Club if you have lived three years or less in Hilton Head Plantation. This is a chance to meet your neighbors and make new friends. The Board Members will be there to greet you. Mark your calendar for February 15, 2005!

-- Lois Knox

Green Thumbers

Green Thumbers will meet on Monday, February 14, 2005 at 10:00 at Spring Lake Pavilion.

Diane Middleton will discuss camellias and demonstrate how to wax beautiful camellias.

Guests are welcome. Refreshments will be served. For more information, please call Charlene Johnson, 682-4875 or Sharon Peterson, 681-2005.

-- Marty Waltz

Big Wheels Club

The Big Wheels Bicycle Club is a wonderful way to get out in the fresh air, get some exercise, and socialize with friends. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Thursday every month. The 1st Thursday we bike to Dolphin Head, bringing a brown bag lunch, meeting at 11:30 AM until 1:00 PM. At that time, we decide what restaurant we will meet for the 3rd Thursday. Please contact Joan Henry at 689-5649 or Kathleen Krizner at 681-2929.

Out-To-Lunch Bunch

The Out To Lunch Bunch will enjoy a tasting menu at the Sage Room on Wednesday, February 16th. Cash bar at 11:30 and a 12-noon luncheon. Please send a check for \$22.00 to Barbara Mainenti, 14 Eagle Claw Lane, HHI, SC 29926. The deadline for reservations is February 9th.

Reminders: Charlie's L'Etoile on January 19th. Please car pool, as parking spaces are limited.

Previews:

March - Mulberry Street Trattoria
April - La Normandie

Questions? Please call Jane Hudson at 689-5785.

Cheers by the Sound

Come greet dear friends and make new ones at Dolphin Head Recreation Area. Bring a hors d'oeuvre for eight, a serving utensil, your favorite beverage, paper plates, cups, and napkins.

Day: 4th Tuesday of the Month

Time: 5:00 – 7:00 PM

Place: Dolphin Head

No reservations are needed; just show up. For information, call Pat Owen at 342-7800.

Dance Club

Dance Club meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. All HHP residents are invited to join our group.

We have a certified dance instructor, Jennifer Brown, who teaches all levels of dance from beginner to experienced. Our sessions are fun and we can all use the exercise. If you would like more information you may contact Joan & Charlie Forton (681-4761) or Karen & Frank Anderson (682-3107).

Dates: January 13 & 27
February 10 & 24

Place: Plantation House

Time: 7:20-9:00 PM

Cost: \$4.00 per person

Gun Club

In addition to its regularly scheduled monthly meeting on November 28th, the Gun Club hosted an Antique and Collectible Fire Arms and Knife Show on Sunday, December 5th at the Plantation House. The subject of the November 28th program was handgun hunting. Alan Heidenrich was the speaker. He gave an informative presentation on the subject, displaying the types of guns and accessories available and the loading tools and equipment necessary to develop handloads tailored to each gun and specific hunting application.

Participation and attendance at the December Gun Show exceeded expectations. Club members displayed items from their personal collections and were available to provide information and answer questions for visitors at the show. Thanks are extended to the following local resources for their displays and participation: Leonard's Shooting Supplies (Lenny Ciliento), Dos Lupes Gun Club (Russ Keep), Projx Custom Gunstocks (Paul McCue), Peacock Cabinetry Gun Safes (Hunter Peacock), and Palmetto Indoor Range and Sporting Goods (Ed Soto). Contributions from participants resulted in a \$110 donation from the Gun Club to the Whooping Crane Pond Conservancy Foundation. The Gun Club is planning to host another show in June. For further information, contact Ray Faust at 689-9179.

The next regular meeting will be on Sunday, January 23rd at 6 PM at the Spring Lake Pavilion. The scheduled speaker is Paul McCue. Paul is a Bluffton woodworker who specializes in gunstocks. He will talk about the benefits and applications of custom-fitted stocks for shotgun sports – skeet, trap, sporting clays and hunting. Club meetings are open to all Hilton Head Plantation residents and their occasional

guests. The February 27th meeting is tentatively scheduled in conjunction with a field trip to Broxton Bridge Plantation for one or two days of shot gunning. For information about club activities, contact Dick Berman at 681-9484.

Yacht Club

Our first meeting of the New Year will be January 20th at 7:00 PM in the Plantation House. At this meeting we will have the annual Pizza Party and get a chance to hear from the recently installed officers about what kind of activities are planned for the coming year.

There is no cost for the pizza but you need to make your reservation so we know how many pizzas to get. Look for your notice and respond promptly.

This will also be a chance to catch up with old friends and meet the new members that will be joining the Yacht Club.

For those members who have joined the Yacht Club within the last year, there will be a new member cocktail party from 2:00 to 5:00 PM on February 6th at the Plantation House. This will be a chance to meet other new members and socialize with Club officers.

Stay tuned, we have lots of exciting activities planned for this year and we are looking forward to your participation.

-- Dick Sell

Men's Pinochle Card Club

Are you interested in joining a Men's Pinochle Card Club so you can enjoy good fellowship and casual fun without a great mental workout? It will also be a good opportunity to meet new friends and smell the roses, rather than chase after that little white ball.

Interested? Contact Bill Morris at 689-5952 for more information.

Fishing Club

The next meeting of the Fishing Club will take place on Wednesday, January 26. This will be our annual Super Bowl Tailgate Party. Our speaker will be member Dave Morse, who will present a slide show covering his trip to Alaska to fish for salmon and halibut.

The Kid's Fishing Tournament has been scheduled for Sunday April 3rd. Please set that day aside and plan to volunteer to help out. We hope to be able to obtain an adequate supply of fish to stock the Kid's Pond at a reasonable cost. Unfortunately, the many hundreds of fish we have put into that pond over the past several years seem to have disappeared. The simple truth is that people have not been respecting the catch-and-release status of that pond and are keeping fish.

Club members have also reported seeing non-residents with large numbers of below-legal-size red fish and sea trout removed from Bear Lake. Folks, these are your fish. It's up to all residents to insure that only residents and their guests fish in any of our ponds. Also, remember that when fishing in any salt-water lagoons, ie. Spring Lake, Bear Lake, and Wild Turkey Run, or at Pine Island, State regulations apply to size and catch limits.

Thanks to Ronald Jack for donating some fishing gear to the Club. We'll add this to our stockpile of equipment, available to Plantation Residents to borrow when your grandchildren visit, and you don't have your own fishing gear.

It's that time of year again. Please consider volunteering to fill one of our offices or committee chair positions. The Club does a lot of good work around the Plantation and it needs your help.

We welcome new members. Call Richard Austin at 689-6841 for information.

-- Earle Nirmaier

HHP Women's Club

Amelia Earhart's short, dramatic life and untimely death will be the focus of the February 8th meeting of the Hilton Head Plantation Women's Club (HHPWC). Maya White, an actress with an extensive background in television and stage will present a costumed portrayal based on her ongoing research of women of distinction.

There will be refreshments and time for socialization at 2:00 PM followed by a brief business meeting and the program at 2:30 PM. To make a reservation, call Theresa Schneider at 689-5272 or Judy Sturm at 689-3214. Email your response to HHPWC1@yahoo.com. Please sign your email with both your first and last name. Copies of the HHPWC Directory will be available for members who have not already received one.

Beautiful note cards featuring photographs of our wonderful Plantation will be for sale. The proceeds will benefit the HHP Conservancy Foundation's campaign to raise funds to replace the boardwalk in the Whooping Crane Conservancy. Call Martha Spruetz at 342-2935 for information about any of the interest groups.

It's not too late to join the HHPWC. To join, send a \$5 check (half a year's dues) payable to HHP Women's Club to Judy Sturm at 40 Cypress Marsh Drive, HHI SC 29926. Please include your address, phone number, email address, and spouse's name. Call Judy at 689-3214 or email HHPWC1@yahoo.com for additional information.

-- Anne Cohick

Yoga with Ruth

The weekly Yoga exercises and positions are varied each week to address the group's needs. This program includes gentle stretches and positions to help people survive with their pain. Every Thursday, 9:00 AM at the Plantation House.

Curtain Calls

The good friends, the good food and especially the GOOD HOSTS Ginny and Bob Heidrich once again made the December meeting of the Curtain Calls a happy and festive occasion. With Christmas greetings, holiday readings, and toasts to the New Year, the members of the Curtain Calls enjoyed their holiday party and look forward to welcoming new members to join their good times in the year ahead.

The first meeting will be held on Sunday, January 16th.

Years ago when Ayn Rand's play, *The Night of January 16th* was popular, people were asking each other, "Where were you on the night of January 16th?"

We would be most pleased if you will answer this question by being at the Plantation House to join us as producer Lorna Bonner presents Louise Kinnie and Jim Fannon reading *The Gin Game*.

This is a poignant and funny play made popular on Broadway by Jessica Tandy and Hume Cronyn. We will start at 5:30 PM with drinks (B.Y.O.B.) and hearty hors d'oeuvres (bring some to share). A charge of \$1.00 per person will cover the cost of set-ups and tableware.

See you on the night of January 16th!

-- Grace Nealy

Happy Times Society

The Happy Times Society is a social group open to all HHP residents. Happy Times Society meets each month at Dolphin Head for refreshments.

Date: 4th Sunday of the month

Time: 5:00 - 7:00 PM

Place: Dolphin Head

Attendees are asked to bring a hors d'oeuvre for eight and their own utensils, plates, cups, napkins & beverage.

Craft Workshop

Oh, what magical conversations abound when we meet to discuss new ideas for the coming year - not only Christmas, but Spring, gardening, birthdays, graduations, weddings, Mother's Day, Father's Day - all kinds of gifts, including wonderful things you will want to purchase for yourself.

Next month, I may be able to share with you some of the exciting things we will be planning to do. Right now, things are in the conceptual stage and heaven only knows where they may go from here.

Hopefully, many of you who may have thought about coming to see who we are and what we are all about will no longer procrastinate this year, but will check us out. We really do have a great time together and are always looking to welcome new members.



For those of you who are new to the Plantation, we meet on the second and fourth Thursday of the month at the Spring Lake Pavilion at 9:00 AM. You can bring your own project to work on or join one of the group projects. We have a short business meeting about 11:00 AM and break for lunch about 12 Noon. After lunch we clean up and head off in all directions. Our dues are \$5.00 per year and we request that each member bring either a main course or a dessert for just one luncheon.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, January 27th. Beginner or experienced, all are welcome. See you there.

-- Charlotte Ward

The Avid Gardeners

Now is the time to use flowers to cheer our homes. January 21 at 9:30 AM, we will meet at Spring Lake to pick up some everyday arranging tips from Joyce Geiger.

Any resident of Hilton Head Plantation interested in joining us for the day or for all meetings, please call our membership chairman Pat Rapp at 342-7474.

We would like to thank all The Avid Gardeners, their spouses, friends and neighbors for the wonderful job they did in decorating the Plantation for Christmas. We would also like to thank the POA Maintenance Department for their assistance in decorating the main entrance and their support in keeping the lights shining. Betty Edwards, Rosemary Kratz, Mary Jane Major, and Mary Slothower comprised The Avid Gardeners Christmas Decoration Committee.

-- **Suzy Baldwin**

Dog Club

The Dog Club meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, at 7 PM in the Plantation House. Come on January 11th to meet our Dog of the Month, 'Savannah' Lagomarsino, a Wheaten Terrier, and an alumnus of the HH Human Association. Our February meeting will be Tuesday, February 8th.

The Dog Club is proud to sponsor another shelter dog in 2005. If you are thinking about getting a dog, please consider helping us take care of our foster dog. (Our first one "Hannah" has been adopted.)

When you are out and about, please remember to pick up after your dog. Let's keep our Plantation looking beautiful.

Did you ever walk into a room and forget why you walked in? I think that is how dogs spend their lives.

~ Sue Murphy

-- **Rosemary Sparacio**

Tennis Social Club

You will not want to miss the Spaghetti Dinner hosted by Gary Turner and Bob Yates coming up on February 19th. It will feature morning tennis and dinner in the evening. Sign up in the Pro Shop soon.

Information on the bus trip to Amelia Island for the Bausch and Lomb Tournament in April will be appearing soon. Because last year's trip was so well attended, this year we have reserved two buses. Check out the bulletin board for the particulars.

Spring Lake Tennis would like to welcome new members: Terry and Judy Kinard, Pauline Caplan, and Nancy Penny.

Jo McMullan leaves our social committee after three years of hard work and great fun. Thanks Jo! Thanks also to the outgoing committee officers and good luck to the new. They are: Chair - Peg Wojcikiewicz; Vice-Chair- Tom Myers; Treasurer - Jim Rathan; Secretary - Carol Muller; Social Activities Chair- Peter LaBeck; Vice Chairs- Sharon Nesbitt and Dave Dockum; Publicity Chair - Jeanne Greco; and Vice Chair - Sally Price

The Tennis Social Club made a donation to the Whooping Crane Conservancy for the rebuilding of the boardwalk in 2004.

-- **Peg Wojcikiewicz**

Travel Club

The Travel Club will meet at 10 AM on Tuesday, January 25th at the Plantation House. If you are interested in finding out about the history, culture, and what there is to see in our great State, we would like to have you join us for a fun get-together. Call Doyt Shimer at 689 3876.

Artists Association

Our January 5th meeting provided a very different subject matter by T.J. Murray, a well known and award winning artist who lives on the Island. T.J. won an award at the HHI Art League juried show this year in the medium of colored pencils.

Many of us were not familiar with the medium and found T.J.'s presentation very interesting. She explained the preparation of a painting using colored pencils and the types of paper that can be used and the different techniques. All in all, the members came away with an insight into a medium not widely practiced around this artists' community.

It's just wonderful the exposure we get through our Artists Association to the many possibilities that are out there to be tapped into for the expression of art.

The change of paintings at the Plantation House was on Monday, January 3rd. Anyone who has had the time to create and prepare a painting for exhibit, we are forever grateful to you. It is a point of pride that we have such wonderful paintings on display for the HHP community to see and enjoy.

Another point of pride is having the opportunity in this publication to toot our own horn about our artist members. The latest note of pride is our very own Joyce Nagel, who won the National Juried show here with her painting "Hanging Out" done in pastels, which is being featured in the *International Artist* magazine (Dec/Jan 2005).

Interested in joining our group? Call our President, Kathy Quarles at 342-5927.

Don't forget to visit our website, maintained by Camille Avore, at www.hhpartists.com.

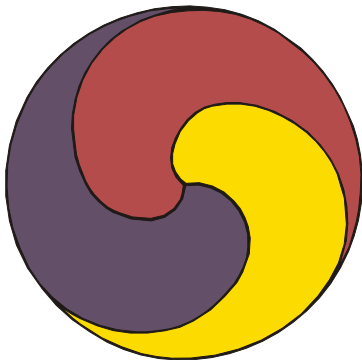
-- **Sandra Campoli**

***China:
The Sleeping Giant
Wakes***

**A FREE Lecture Program
for ALL HHP Residents
Tuesday, January 18th
7:30 PM
Plantation House**

On Tuesday, January 18th, HHP's Travel Club will host an evening at the Plantation House for the entire Plantation, featuring Professor Edwin Williams, President of the TravelLearn organization.

Professor Williams' lecture is **China: The Sleeping Giant Wakes**. He will describe one of the least understood and most powerful nations in our world today. This program is not to be missed. Treat yourself.



This **FREE** lecture will be extremely interesting and educational. Spread the word and bring your friends.

The Travel Club invites all Plantation Clubs to pick up copies of Professor Williams' lecture flyer, pass them out at your meetings, and urge your members to attend.

Questions? Please call Doyt Shimer at 689 3876.

**The Children's'
Christmas Party**



**The Cypress Club
Clinic is now
Available to
Eligible HHP
Residents**

**8:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Monday-Thursday**

The Cypress of Hilton Head is offering the services of its walk-in Clinic to Medicare Part B eligible residents of Hilton Head Plantation. The Cypress Club Clinic, which is staffed by a Family Nurse Practitioner, is not intended to replace the patient's doctor. Rather, it is available as a convenience for a range of services, including general complaints of not feeling well, injections, suture removal, wound care, ear leavage, blood pressures, and toe nail clipping.

Patients must bring evidence of Medicare and secondary insurance. Once the Medicare deductible has been met, Medicare typically pays 80% of billed charges. The Cypress bills the client or the secondary insurance provider for the remaining 20%.

The Cypress Club Clinic is located in the Ashley Wing of the Preston Health Center, 87 Bird Song Way. As you enter The Cypress, take Bird Song Way straight ahead. The Preston Health Center will be on your right.

Since The Cypress is a friend and neighbor to HHP, Pauline Jenkins, Resident Services Director, is extending this service to all HHP residents. Call 689-7011 with questions.

Continued from page 1...

Excerpts from 12/10/04 Report to the HHP Board

From the *ISLAND PACKET*: While investigating two home invasions in Hilton Head Plantation this year and numerous reports of a prowler over several years, the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office said it admonished the community's private security force for how it was handling the incidents.

The HHPPOA Board was especially concerned about the state of the current relationship between the Hilton Head Plantation Security Department (HHPSD) and the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) and was also concerned (if in fact HHPSD had been admonished) that the HHPPOA General Manager had not advised the Board of this.

Careful interviews of HHPSD Chief Benoit, Sheriff P.J. Tanner, and other officers of both organizations, clearly indicate that BCSO officers had not used the word **admonished** (or any other word that implied that level of corrective action) in their conversations with Chief Benoit or with the *Island Packet* reporter.

Further, interviews conducted separately and later jointly with HHPSD and BCSO leadership and officers indicate that the current relationship between the two departments is very good and that both departments have and will continue to work together successfully and cooperatively.

From the *ISLAND PACKET*: On May 17, the two agencies set up a protocol for how private security should respond (to reports of a home invasion or intruder), according to Sheriff P.J. Tanner and investigators with the county agency.

HHPSD and BCSO agree that personnel from both entities had a number of meetings and conversations after an intruder grabbed an elderly woman in her home on April 19, 2004. These meetings and conversations continued throughout the spring and summer.

While BCSO firmly believes the date of the agreement was May 17th, HHPSD does not recall the date with that degree of specificity. HHPSD, however, does agree that at some point during those meetings and conversations (probably in mid-to-late May or early June) HHPSD and BCSO officers agreed on to at least two matters, one of which did result in a written instruction to HHPSD officers.

First, it was agreed that HHPSD officers would "keep track" of the movements of a person of interest pertaining to the 4/19/04 incident, record their observations, and pass that information to their shift supervisor who was to keep a written log of all activities of the subject within Hilton Head Plantation for review by investigating officers of the BCSO and HHPSD.

This instruction was formalized and transmitted in a written instruction from then HHPSD Sgt. Berman to all HHPSD officers on June 13, 2004. Neither HHPSD nor BCSO officers have noted any exception to HHPSD compliance with this instruction.

Also with regard to this matter, Chief Benoit notes that he did not request and to his knowledge HHPSD was not offered any assistance from BCSO, such as undercover support, to assist HHPSD in keeping track of the subject. Chief Benoit notes that such assistance was not required to meet the assignment from BCSO. Basically, the Chief stated, what BCSO wanted was for us to document his arrival and departure times and his initial destination. Our mission was not close surveillance, according to Benoit.

Further as part of this agreement, Chief Benoit noted that the suspect would not be asked to remove the expired Hilton Head Plantation decal from his vehicle and/or be denied guest pass access to Hilton Head Plantation if it was requested on his behalf by a HHP resident.

Second, it was agreed that HHPSD officers (in the event of another home intrusion or Peeping Tom report) would notify BCSO as soon as possible after confirming the report of such an event. Basically, what this meant was that a HHPSD officer, upon arrival at the scene of such a reported event and getting a verbal report from a victim or witness indicating a home intrusion or Peeping Tom incident, was to call BCSO immediately. There is no record of this instruction having been formalized and transmitted as a written instruction to HHPSD officers. Chief Benoit, however, noted that this is a standard operating procedure and stated it is his belief that this instruction was then and is now routinely briefed to all HHPSD shifts as they come on duty.

Unfortunately, HHPSD officers responding to the July 4 event (initially believed to be a burglary) did not call BCSO until 23 minutes after the arrival of the officer in charge, which was 36 minutes after HHPSD patrols were dispatched to Hilton Head Club Villas. Even though there are plausible reasons for the 23-minute delay (such as the officers using the time to hear out the victim's account and do what they could to comfort her), HHPSD agrees with BCSO that taking 23 minutes to notify BCSO was an exception to the agreement with BCSO. This exception to the May-June agreement was one of the reasons BCSO states for giving HHPSD what has become known in the *Island Packet* as "the July 28 directive." A third element of this agreement -- firmly believed by BCSO -- is the only basic disagreement between HHPSD and BCSO. BCSO believes it also was agreed that HHPSD (upon responding to another home intrusion or peeping report and as soon as possible after confirming the report of such an event) would not only immediately notify BCSO but also request K-9 response by BCSO as part of that notification. HHPSD asserts it has no

recollection of this being part of the May-June agreement and believes written instructions (similar to those issued regarding BCSO's request that HHPSD "keep track" of a suspect) would have been issued to its officers had such an instruction been understood by HHPSD to have been included in the agreement. Chief Benoit notes this belief because requesting K-9 response, as part of the notification of BCSO, was not then standard operating procedure for HHPSD for peeping or home intrusion events.

With regard to these three matters, HHP General Manager Kristian notes that Chief Benoit informed him of the "keep track" request of BCSO but that he has no recollection of being advised of the second or, by BCSO accounts, the third element of the agreement. While he would not expect Chief Benoit to advise him as to the second element (i.e., immediate notification, because he considers immediate notification of BCSO standard operating procedure), Mr. Kristian states he has no doubt Chief Benoit should have notified him regarding the K-9 response had Chief Benoit understood that requesting K-9 response was part of the agreement. Mr. Kristian also notes that he did not advise the HHPPOA Board of the "keep track" request, as per instructions from the BCSO.

Finally with regard to the May-June agreement, it should be noted at this point that there have been two instances since July 28 when HHPSD responded to burglary, peeping, or intruder events and followed, without exception, all three of the instructions thought by BCSO to have been agreed to by HHPSD on May 17, 2004. Those responses were also fully compliant with the July 28 directive. In both cases, although HHPSD requested K-9 response in accordance with the agreement as understood by BCSO and the directive issued by BCSO on July 28, after a BCSO officer evaluated the scene of the incident, a K-9 unit was not dispatched by BCSO.

From the *ISLAND PACKET*: *Late on the evening of July 4, another woman reported a home invasion at her High Bluff Road home. Worried that security personnel didn't respond adequately, the Sheriff's Office sent a directive later that month (July 28), outlining how it wanted the force to handle home invasions.*

"We were of course concerned about the way it was being handled (by) Hilton Head Plantation Security," Tanner said recently. "The memo pretty much dictated what they will do. It was pretty much A, B, C."

HHPSD and BCSO agree that the July 28 directive was given to HHPSD Chief Art Benoit at a meeting at the Sheriff's Annex on the afternoon of July 28. Neither HHPSD nor BCSO view the directive as an admonishment. BCSO noted, "that is the reporter's

word" when reflecting on the November 28 article. This was confirmed by sources at the *Island Packet*.

Accordingly, while the issuance of the July 28 directive is not considered an admonishment by BCSO or by HHPSD, the fact that it was issued clearly indicates that there had been a failure to effectively communicate in the May-June timeframe. Otherwise, there would not have been any reason for the July 28 directive. Subsequent meetings between the two agencies have successfully addressed that issue.

HHPSD and BCSO also agree that BCSO officers (at the July 28 meeting when the directive was handed to Chief Benoit) discussed two BCSO concerns with Chief Benoit relating to the response and conduct of HHPSD officers on July 4.

First, they discussed the length of time BCSO believed it had taken HHPSD to notify BCSO. Initially, BCSO believed it had taken HHPSD nearly two hours to notify BCSO. However, a further review of their computerized audio log indicated BCSO was notified at 00:11, not 01:22. The 00:11 time was 23 minutes from the time of arrival of the officer in charge and 29 minutes from the time of arrival of the first officer to respond. Still, Chief Benoit and the BCSO officers agree (once the actual time of notification was determined) that BCSO notification should have been within very few minutes of the arrival of the officer in charge. Chief Benoit advised that he took corrective action and pledged to BCSO that future notifications would be as expected. All subsequent notifications of BCSO have been without exception.

Second, BCSO officers advised Chief Benoit that HHPSD's officers at the Hilton Head Club Villas scene had been heard discussing a prior case within possible earshot of the July 4 victim. The BCSO officers stated (and Chief Benoit agreed) that this was unprofessional and that he would take corrective action.

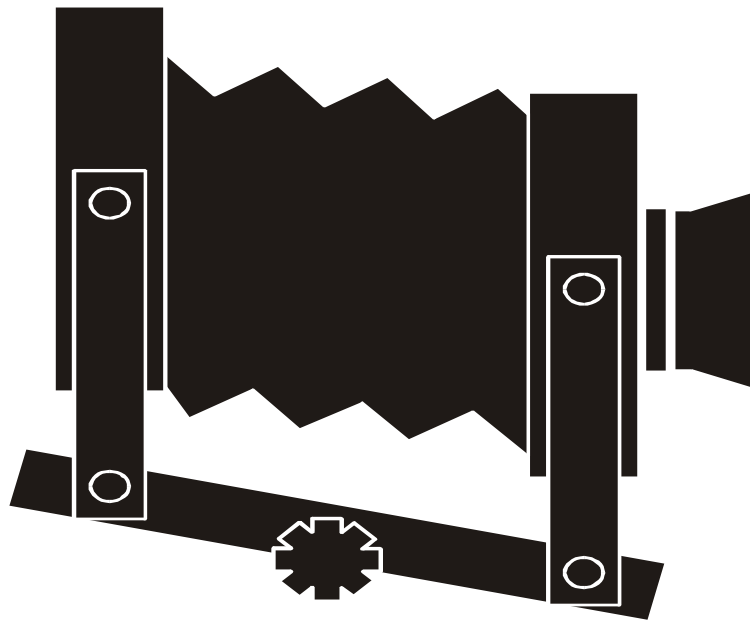
Chief Benoit immediately placed a copy in the departments "Read & Initial Binder", personally briefed each of the next three shifts, and arranged for follow-up briefings for HHPSD officers, especially new hires. As noted earlier, there have been two notifications to BCSO since July 28 involving incidents/events covered by the directive and both have been handled without exception.

Finally with regard to the July 28 directive, Mr. Kristian confirms that Chief Benoit advised him of it and briefed him on its contents late in the afternoon of July 28. Both felt that the directive offered HHPSD an expanded range of services from BCSO, including K-9 response.

*The entire report is available at the POA Service Center or from HHP's website – www.hiltonheadplantation.com. At the menu page, click **Documents, Forms & Minutes** on the left-hand column. In the Documents section, click **A Special Report to the Board 121004**.*

Attention...

All Amateur Photographer Aficionados



The Communications Committee is sponsoring the ...

HHP Photography Contest

Photography Contest Rules

You must be a Plantation resident to enter the HHP Photography Contest.

Any subject matter is acceptable: Wildlife, People, Scenery, Activities, Etc.

Only ONE submission per resident will be accepted.

The photograph must taken INSIDE Hilton Head Plantation.

All photographs become the property of Hilton Head Plantation.

All submissions must be 8"x10" on glossy paper.

All submissions will be on display at the Plantation House.

Submit your photograph to the POA Service Center.

The deadline for submitting your photograph is Wednesday, June 1, 2005.

Winners will be announced in the August issue of *Plantation Living*

KIDS KAMP 2005



Established in 1987, Kids Kamp has grown to accommodate more than 200 of our Plantation children each summer. Based at the Spring Lake Recreation Area, our expansive Kamp grounds provide a safe and comfortable environment where Kampers can play, learn, and grow together.

Children are grouped according to age and grade. Each group’s Counselor Team plans the daily activities according to a weekly theme and the group’s ability. Previous Kids Kamp themes include Around the World Week, Mystery Week, It’s Showtime Week, Tropical Island Week, Olympic Week, and Holiday Week. On Wacky Wednesdays, all Kids Kampers and staff show off their creativity by

dressing according to the theme. On Fridays, the entire Kids Kamp comes together for a special event to wrap up the week with an exciting theme activity. Regularly scheduled activities include swimming, arts & crafts, performing arts, field games, and fishing. Cooking, music & nature are also incorporated into group schedules. Counselor to Kamper ratio = 1:10.

KIDS KAMP Registration

You may register your child at the POA Service Center for the entire camp (8 weeks) or for one or more weeks. Full payment is due at registration.

- Dates:**
- Week 1: June 13– June 17
 - Week 2: June 20 – June 24
 - Week 3: June 27 – July 1
 - Week 4: July 6 - July 8 (No Kamp 7/4-7/5)
 - Week 5: July 11 – July 15
 - Week 6: July 18 – July 22
 - Week 7: July 25 – July 29
 - Week 8: August 1 – August 5



- Time / Days:** 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM; Monday – Friday
- Pre-Registration:** March 1 – March 31 at the POA Service Center
- Registration:** After March 31 at the POA Service Center
- Non-Refundable Deposit:** Full Session – \$50.00 per child; Weekly – \$25.00 per child
- Applications:** Available at the POA Service Center or on HHP’s website
- Age/Grade Requirements:** Children who will enter Kindergarten in the Fall 2005 or who will be five years old by November 1, 2005, to children who will enter eighth grade in the Fall 2005

Fees	Full Season	Weekly		KIDS KAMP Refund Policy
Pre-Registration March 1 - 31	1 Child: \$400. 2 Children: \$650. 3 Children: \$775. 4+ Children: \$900.	1 Child: \$70. 2 Children: \$130. 3 Children: \$190. 4+ Children: \$250.		
Registration After March 31	1 Child: \$450. 2 Children: \$700. 3 Children: \$825. 4+ Children: \$950.	1 Child: \$80. 2 Children: \$150. 3 Children: \$215. 4+ Children: \$280.		

**Sign up for POA Activities at the Scheduling Office in the Plantation House.
Questions? Call Amanda at 681-8090.**

HHP's Health & Fitness Programs

Program	Instructor	Date/Days	Time / Minimum #s	Place	2005 Fees One Hour Classes
Hatha Yoga	Gloria Bergeron	Monday 11/22/04 – 1/31/05	Moderate: 6-7 PM Gentle: 7:15-8:15 PM (10 Minimum)	PH	\$5 – 1 class \$50 – 10 classes \$80 – 20 classes
Total Fitness	Beverly Perfect	Mon-Wed-Thurs No class: 1 st Thurs/mo.	5:30-6:30 PM (10 Minimum)	SL Pavilion	
Tai Chi Chuan	Molly Carrington	Thursday 2/17/05 – 3/4/05	8:30-10:00 AM (10 Minimum)	DH	\$60 – 10 classes
Land Aerobics	Suzanne Thomas	Mon-Wed-Fri	8:00-9:00 AM (14 Minimum)	PH	\$4 – 1 class \$39 – 10 classes \$68 – 20 classes \$87 – 30 classes
Weights	Taida Muechen	Mon-Wed-Fri AM	9:15–10:15 AM (14 Minimum)	PH	

Coupons for these classes can be purchased at the POA Service Center or the Plantation House.

Summer Job Opportunities

The Activities Department is hiring KIDS KAMP counselors and lifeguards/shift supervisors for Spring Lake Pool's summer season. Counselors should be college students majoring in Recreation or Early Childhood Education.

Previous experience is preferred, but not required. Employment begins June 6th and ends August 5th. A workweek is Monday to Friday, 8:15 AM – 2:00 PM, plus additional hours for meetings and special events.

Lifeguards, Shift Supervisors, and Head Guards should have current Red Cross Certification, CPR, and WSI and be at least 18 years old. Lifeguards work 30 to 40 hours per week. If interested, contact Arlene Reisner at 843/681-8800, Ext 226.

KIDS KAMP Sponsorship

The HHP Forum for the Humanities Committee, now disbanded, has program money available to sponsor two children for two weeks in the HHP Summer KIDS KAMP Program.

To be eligible, the children's parents must be property owners and demonstrate financial need. The HHP Recreation Committee will determine who will be awarded the sponsorships.

Financial Planning For The Surviving Spouse

This **FREE** seminar from the Bedminster Group will focus on advance preparation and strategies for the difficult transition from the role of spouse to that of surviving spouse. Key areas to be covered are:

- Planning issues – being organized and prepared
- Tax issues – income and estate taxation
- Income issues – what you should know & do
- Investment issues – know your plan

Date: Wednesday, March 30th
Time: 7:00 – 9:00 PM (dessert at 6:30 PM)
Place: Plantation House
RSVP: Scheduling Office or The Bedminster Group @ 705-5544 or 1-800-820-6167

2005 Cooking Live Series

Are your palettes ready? Again in 2005, we will be offering the ever-popular **Cooking Live Program** to the first thirty-five hungry people. Each person will be allowed to sign up for four of the six sessions. Look for the list of restaurants in next month's newsletter.

Dates: Wednesday March 23 – April 27
Time/Place: 11:00 AM at the Plantation House
Cost: \$5.00 per person / per session

Housing Needed... Interested in providing housing for our counselors or lifeguards this summer? If you are interested, contact Arlene Reisner at 681-8800, ext 226.

**Sign up for POA Activities at the Scheduling Office in the Plantation House.
 Questions? Call Amanda at 681-8090.**

The Sponge Bob Square Pants Movie



Attention all kids! This is **YOUR** night! There is going to be a FREE kid's movie on Friday, February 11th at the Plantation House. Refreshments will be

provided. We will be showing a Nickelodeon picture, **The Sponge Bob Square Pants Movie (Rated PG)**. Get into those goggles and flippers and dive into the ocean for a great night of Sponge Bob. Don't forget to wear something yellow!

Date: Friday, February 11
Time: 7:00 PM
Place: Plantation House

Children should bring a sleeping bag or blanket, and parents are encouraged to stay with their children. It should be tons of fun, so come out and join us. Also, please let us know you are coming, so we will have enough refreshments. Call Amanda at 681-8090 and don't forget to wear yellow!

Arts Center Tickets _____

Arts Center tickets are available for the production of **PROPOSALS**. From the "the dazzlingly successful, intimidating prolific playwright who changed the very face of American comedy on Broadway" (New York Times) comes this wistfully nostalgic memory play that's as touching as it is hilarious. Neil Simon's 30th Broadway show in 36 years, *Proposals* is classic Simon, with zany characters that draws their humor from the lives and troubles of everyday people. The audience returns to the summer of 1953 and a country cabin in the Poconos where the Hines family has gathered forcing the nine befuddled souls to sort through a labyrinth of romantic entanglements.

Date: Saturday, February 19
Time: 8:00 PM
Price: \$26.00 per person
Deadline: Thursday, February 10
Pick Up Tickets: Wednesday, February 16

Make your check payable to The Arts Center. Only patrons with disabilities will receive seating preferences. There are no exchanges or refunds, and there are limited reservations.

Another BINGO Night! _____

We're having another exciting BINGO Night! A total of ten games will be played, and new Bingo cards will be sold between every game. We will have refreshments available, and cash and/or prizes will be awarded to the winners of each game. It should be tons of fun. You won't want to miss it! Don't forget your BINGO markers!

Date: Friday, March 4
Time: 7:00 – 9:00 PM
Place: Plantation House
Fee: \$2 donation reservation before 2/25
 \$3 donation at the door
 Plus minimum \$1 donation per card

A GREAT Golf Scramble at Oyster Reef Golf Course

Mix and mingle at the Oyster Reef Golf Club Scramble with fellow HHP residents. There will be a shotgun start at 9:30 AM followed by lunch and prizes at the Clubhouse.

Date: Saturday, February 26
Shotgun Start: 9:30 AM
Lunch: Following the Golf Scramble
Fee: \$45 per person, includes lunch, golf, and prizes. Check payable to ORGC at the Plantation House
Register: Return your Entry Form & Check to the Plantation House or the POA Service Center by 4:30 PM, Tuesday, February 22

Oyster Reef Golf Scramble Entry Form

Name _____

Address _____

Phone# _____ Email _____

Home Course with Handicap _____

If No Handicap, Avg Score for 18 Holes _____

Mary Bess Mulhollan

by Larry Waterhouse

What an exceptional and active person she is! Mary Bess has expertise in many fields, especially the love of nature, wild flower and butterfly identification, Southern cooking, gardening, beach lore, as well as preserving the environment. When Mary Bess and Paige, her husband, arrived on Hilton Head Island in 1989, they purchased a condo in Windmill Harbor. At that time, they owned a sailboat and two dogs but only lived here part time, as Paige was still employed in Ohio.

In early 1994, they bought their house in Hilton Head Plantation, which abuts the Whooping Crane Conservancy in Big Woods. Upon seeing the backyard, Mary Bess expounded, "Oh boy, a swamp!" and that was the prime selling point. They have witnessed nesting wood ducks, screech owls, and have numerous species of wading birds, especially when the rain has raised the water level in the Conservancy to their property line.

Mary Bess is a zealous bird watcher, plant, butterfly and beach observer. She has developed these skills over many years, with many hours spent in the field, reading and taking classes wherever she has resided. She is an accomplished wildlife photographer and has taken the vast majority of photos used in their slide programs to school classes and various garden and bird groups. When living in Arizona, she established the first volunteer organization at the Desert Botanical Garden and served as its first president. In Dayton, Ohio, Mary Bess served on the board of the Cox Arboretum and was chair for a year on the Governor's "Keep Ohio Beautiful" Commission. Also, she was a member of the Governor's Litter Prevention and Advisory Council.

On HHI, Mary Bess has been chair of the Stewardship Committee that governs the Whooping Crane and Cypress Conservancies in HHP, served as Treasurer and Publicity Chair for the HHI Women's Association, a board member for The Avid Gardeners, a member of the HHP Maintenance Committee for the past four years, and member of the local Audubon Society chapter. In 2003, she received the Garden Club of SC's highest award for accomplishments in horticulture and conservation. She has a B.S. degree in Home Economics from the University of Arkansas and a B.F.A in ceramics



Paige & Mary Mulhollan – and Punkin

from the University of Oklahoma. Her pottery has won several awards in juried shows, and she still practices her skill at the potter's wheel.

With her husband, Mary Bess has taught Barrier Island Ecology, Shorebirds, Butterfly Identification, and Gardening for the Hilton Head Island Elderhostel forums. She is a Master Gardener and certified Low Country Master Naturalist. She serves as a volunteer for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and The Low Country Institute. She and Paige have monitored 23 Bluebird nesting boxes at the Pinckney Island NWR for the past few years. They have been co-presidents of the Hilton Head Island Land Trust and are avid bird watchers. They travel regularly to watch birds and in 1999 spent the summer at a birding lodge in Australia conducting bird walks for the guests. One outstanding bird trip on which my wife and I joined them was to the Platte River in Nebraska to view the spring migration of the Sandhill Cranes and Snow Geese. The thousands of birds that took flight were captured in a spectacular way on Mary Bess's camera for an exciting slide presentation.

To extend her love of flowers and butterflies and for the benefit of HHP residents, the Mulhollans planted an extensive flower garden at the Seabrook Farm to attract butterflies, which will continue to be maintained by two Avid Gardeners.

With all her interests and abilities, Mary Bess will not lack for something to do or some group to become involved in when they return to their roots in Arkansas. She will be missed but not forgotten for the good she has done for the Low Country.

Mary Bess Mulhollan has been the tireless angel of conservation for over a decade. Her selfless service on behalf of the Whooping Crane and Cypress Conservancies will assure that these rare jewels will be preserved for posterity.

-- Todd Ballantine

Mary Bess has been an outstanding resource for a multitude of nature subjects – wildflowers, butterflies, plants, birds, beach lore, and ecology. With her skills of nature photography and many volunteer hours, she has opened up the world of nature to HH Islanders and Low Country residents and tourists. Her nature related photographs have been an invaluable resource for use in the training program of Master Naturalists. Her expertise will be greatly missed.

-- Chris Marsh

Mary Bess is definitely one of a kind... I would like to share with you how meaningful Mary Bess is to the Coastal Discovery Museum. An integral part of our docent volunteer base for over seven years, she consistently donated her valuable time to the education of our local children, residents, and visitors about the ecology of the Lowcountry.

She graciously imparted her wisdom to us all. Listening to her talk with such passion about so many topics – from butterflies to birds to beaches to wildflowers to salt marshes – you felt you were only getting the "tip of the iceberg" of her knowledge. Over the years, I've called on her expertise many times to lead tours of Pinckney Island National Wildlife Refuge, Burke's Beach, Sea Turtle Talks & Walks, and ACE Basin Nature Cruises. She was always there. -- Kimberly Jones



To *Mary Bess Mulhollan*

*For the birds that use our Island as their home,
For migratory birds that find our wetlands a safe refuge,
For the butterflies that delight our days,
For the floral and fauna that brings us such beauty,
For the fish and fowl, the shells, the turtles that define our waters,
For your thoughtful education of all this for all of us
and your energy for the preservation of all things natural...*

*The Hilton Head Plantation Conservancy Foundation
commends you, thanks you for your unsurpassed contribution
to the enduring natural beauty of a place we call home.*