



The official newsletter of the Cypress Isles Homeowners Association November 2011 Edition – Published Quarterly since 2001 http://www.CypressIsles.org

**Cypress Isles News** 



# Holiday Lighting Contest December 11

No money, just fun!

The 11<sup>th</sup> annual Cypress Isles Holiday Lighting Contest will happen on Sunday December 11th at 7:00 p.m. Anyone whose lights are on is automatically entered.

Again this year, we'll have awards in various categories, such as Most Enchanted, Most Original, and Most Joyful.

Winners will be posted on our website shortly after December 11<sup>th</sup> and published in the February 2012 *Cypress Isles News*.

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# 2012 Cypress Isles Fees Down 1.5%

Finally, some economic good news.

On September 20<sup>th</sup> the Cypress Isles board of directors approved a \$28,700 operating budget for 2012, reducing quarterly fees to \$50.50 per quarter. The complete budget is listed separately under "Cypress Isles 2012 Budget."

Use separate coupons for WLCA and Cypress Isles. Each homeowner should receive two payment coupon books during December – one for Cypress Isles and the other for WLCA. Each payment (with its coupon) goes to a different address.

**Pay quarterly or all at once.** In both cases, you can either pay the first payment by January 1, or you can pay off the entire year at once and get it over with.

Dennis Horazak, Secretary

# And They Said it Wouldn't Last!



He was a 16 yr-old lad, she was a 14 yr-old lass. They met at the church youth group in their hometown of Chicago. He fell for her right away and claims to have gotten rid of 15 boyfriends. He courted her till he won her over, and they married in his last year of college.

We know these lovebirds as Dick and June Glesener of Crystal River Drive, who celebrate 70 years of wedded bliss this month. Yes, *seventy*! That's more years than a lot of us have been on this planet. They were married on November 30, 1941, just one week before Pearl Harbor. Dick claims that they started the war, so it was only fitting that he would help win that war.

He joined the United States Marine Corp during his senior year at Drake University. Then he graduated with a degree in Engineering. They first went to Quantico, Virginia, and then Dick was shipped out to the Pacific for three years. After he returned they were stationed at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. Dick retired from the USMC as a Major, declining a promotion to Lieutenant Colonel.

By 1954 they had moved back to Chicago, where they both grew up; then to San Diego in the early 60's, and then to the Washington DC metro area in the late 60's. Dick worked for the Department of Labor until he retired, and June taught in the Maryland school system. They moved to Florida in 1998, and settled in Cypress Isles, where Dick served on the first CI Board of Directors for two years.

While these spry youngsters at ages 92 and 90, respectively, continue to be energetic and remain quite active, they each claim to have only one hobby: June loves to cook and Dick loves to eat! They are very involved in their church and with the senior group at church. They enjoy getting away to their favorite spot, the JW Marriott Grand Lakes. They go often, and never miss June's birthday weekend in June, Dick's birthday weekend in September, their Anniversary in November and New Year's Eve. They also still take trips to visit family in Chicago and North Carolina, chauffeured by daughter and son-in-law, Kathi and Bill Snook, of Spring Island Way.

Dick and June have three children, Ron, Bob, and Kathi, five grandchildren (four of whom are married) and four great-grandchildren.

Thank you, Dick, for your service to our country, and for your service to Cypress Isles. Thank you, June, for being a supportive wife during those years of service, raising a fine family, and for your contribution to education. We salute you both on this milestone anniversary!

Sandy Horazak, Romance Editor

Thanks to Kathi Snook for providing the history.

## Waterford CAN!

...and you can too!



You may have noticed the Waterford CAN signs at our entrances for the past few months. Here's what it's all about.

The Waterford CAN food drive is a monthly event that officially began in June, with Waterford Lakes volunteer drivers and collection folks from each neighborhood.

Carole Bowman and 11 year-old son, John, of Cedarwood Court, are the Cypress Isles representatives for the food drive.

Here are the facts about the food drive:

- 1. The food goes to needy East Orlando residents.
- 2. Donations should be non-perishable canned and/or boxed foods, paper items, cleaning supplies and even pet food.
- 3. Please check expiration dates and only donate "in date" items.
- 4. The drive is the 1st Saturday of each month.
- 5. Place the bagged food at the end of the driveway before 9 a.m.

Plastic bags are easiest as the handles make it easy to grab and throw in the back of the car. They are not picky though; anything will work.

The collection volunteers meet back at the cabana where the food is checked for current

http://www.CypressIsles.org

sell-by dates, numbers are tallied by neighborhood and then it's taken to Spirit of Joy church where it gets distributed to East Orlando recipients.

It's easy, simple and 100% of your donations go to help others who are in need. No administration costs, no salaries to pay. Waterford CAN make a difference!

It can't get much easier then that!

A shopping tip: you can go to our local grocery stores and purchase BOGO (Buy One Get One "Free") items. Keep one BOGO for yourself, and donate the other. Every little bit donated goes a long way in helping someone locally have a meal. Please, consider participating in this monthly event.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Carole Bowman at (407) 306-7817.

Help others have a...



#### Hey, Where Are the Trees?

Six trees were recently cut down in our front / west / south entrance. Here's why.

Cypress Isles is responsible for its two entrance walls, the strips of land around them, and the trees on those strips.

Five of the trees at the front entrance were planted too close to the wall, so when their roots grew under the wall they caused cracks that would eventually lead to more wall damage. A sixth tree was planted too close to the sidewalk and its roots were heaving the sidewalk.

The board likes trees, as we all do, but these were planted in the wrong places. The

choice was to either remove the trees now or wait until the roots cause more damage, then fix the damage PLUS remove the trees, which would be even bigger. The board decided to remove the offending trees before things got any worse.



Coincidentally, Orange County is currently repairing sidewalks, including the portion that was damaged by the tree.

The board is also mulling over various landscaping options for both entrances, such as planting better-suited trees not so close to the wall, planting permanent colorful bushes instead of constantly replacing annuals, and coordinating with WLCA's irrigation people to water our entrances better. WLCA is in the middle of a massive upgrade of their entire irrigation system, so this adjustment would come at a good time.

Things are much better at the rear / north / east entrance, where none of the trees are threatening either walls or sidewalks.

Denny Horazak, Arboreal Reporter

### **Early Decorations Brighten Season**

Once again the Janoskes have enhanced our neighborhood with their beautiful fall decorations behind our front entrance wall. The bright orange lights in their trees add a nice touch to our entrance for all to see, and show up even better this year with the frontof-wall trees down. (Just sayin...) Thank you Bob & Bam!

Thank you, Bob & Pam!

#### No WLCA Fee Increase in 2012

Internal changes in the budget canceled each other out.

On October 19th the WLCA board of directors approved a \$2.2 million operating budget for 2012 and \$156.00 quarterly fees for homeowners. This fee is the same as the current quarterly fee of \$156, making this the first budget since 2008 without a fee increase.

The same-sized budget was the result of reductions in general and administrative expenses that offset increased expenses in all other areas. The largest G&A reductions were in collection fees, bad debt, and acquired property expenses. "We sure hope this trend continues," came the voice of WLCA General Manager Ken Zook from behind a pile of delinquency notices.

The 2012 budget was approved at the publicly noticed budget meeting on October 19th, but it still must be ratified at the regular Board meeting on October 24th.

The entire budget is posted on the WLCA web site at www.mywaterfordlakes.org. Click on "resident," then click "Documents," choose the category "2012 Approved Budget," then click on "2012 Approved Budget." This budget will also be mailed to all 3,380 WLCA homeowners at the end of the year.

Dennis Horazak, WLCA Correspondent

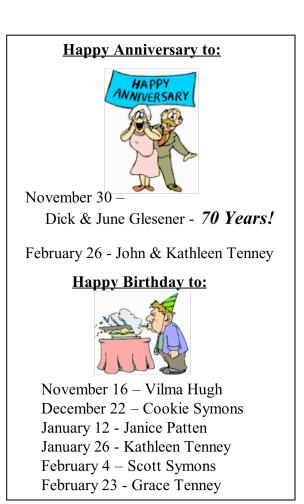
#### Whatcha Gonna Click?

www.ocso.com - Click on "E-Reporting" - to report certain types of crime online, such as lost property, theft, vandalism, and vehicle burglary.

www.ocso.com- Click on "Property Crimes and Robberies in Your Zone" - to find out what types of crimes are occurring in your area.

www.cfcrimelinewarrants.com - to check individuals for warrants.





#### Dates and Figs

#### Who Ya Gonna Call?

WLCA Office (answered 24/7) 407-380-3803 453 Mark Twain Blvd. wlca@bellsouth.net Orange County Sheriff's Office Non-emergency 407-836-HELP (4357) Animal Control (unleashed pets, etc.) 407-254-9140 Progress Energy Streetlight Repair or Power Outage 1-800-228-8485 www.progress-energy.com Call before you dig (Sunshine Network) 811 www.call811.com

#### **Cypress Isles Contact List**

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HOA or the Cypress Isles News. We do not guarantee the accuracy of the advertisements or the performance or proper licensing of our advertisers. We recommend that consumers check references.

Thanks...

...to the Symons', the Engolds, and the Gallaghers for delivering the newsletter to our homes.



...to our Webmaster Dennis Bode for maintaining the best website in Waterford Lakes – http://www.Cypressisles.org



Sandy Horazak, Editor

### **CIN Publication Schedule**

*Check out our website - www.cypressisles.org to see your newsletter in color!* 

The *Cypress Isles News* is published quarterly by the Board of Directors for the residents of Cypress Isles. We welcome non-commercial articles and paid advertising from our neighbors. Send email submissions to Sandy Horazak sanden@bellsouth.net. Copy deadlines are February 1 for the February issue, May 1 for the May issue, August 1 for the August issue, and November 1 for the November issue. Articles may be edited for length, clarity, or content. Advertisements are subject to approval of the Cypress Isles News staff and the Cypress Isles Board of Directors. Have a safe and enjoyable holiday season, and a healthy, Happy New Year!



# Cypress Isles 2012 Budget

140 Homes	2011 Budget	2012 Budget	Quarterly		
			Fee		
INCOME	51.25	50.50			
Assessments	28,698.00	28,280.00	\$50.50		
Newsletter Reimbursement		-	\$-		
Total Income	28,698.00	28,280.00	\$50.50		
GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE					
Management Fees	8,126.70	8,370.50	\$14.95		
Legal Services	2,093.08	500.00	\$0.89		
Payment Coupons	576.80	560.00	\$1.00		
Postage	450.00	300.00	\$0.54		
Insurance - Liability	1,060.48	1,649.00	\$2.94		
Insurance - D&O	0.00	1,250.00	\$2.23		
Office Supplies	168.89	150.00	\$0.27		
Telephone / FAX	7.80	10.00	\$0.02		
Copying & Printing	820.00	800.00	\$1.43		
Newsletter	50.00	250.00	\$0.45		
Corporate Annual Report	61.25	75.00	\$0.13		
Bad Debt	725.00	800.00	\$1.43		
Meeting Room Expense	150.00	160.00	\$0.29		
Miscellaneous	0.00	50.00	\$0.09		
G&A Expenses	\$14,290.00	\$14,924.50	\$26.65		
GROUNDS MAINTENANCE					
Grounds Maintenance	10,788.00	9,800.00	\$17.50		
Lakes/Ponds/Waterways	1,116.00	1,188.00	\$2.12		
Lighting-Repairs	0.00	300.00	\$0.54		
Electricity – Entry Lights	1,000.00	900.00	\$1.61		
Grounds Maint. Expenses	\$12,904.00	\$12,188.00	\$21.76		
<b>RESERVE EXPENSES</b>					
Entrance Signage	300.00	81.50	\$0.15		
Entrance Landscaping	950.00	650.00	\$1.16		
Entrance Masonry	30.00	0.00	\$-		
Entrance Electric	148.00	100.00	\$0.18		
Retention Ponds	40.00	300.00	\$0.54		
Conservation Areas	36.00	36.00	\$0.06		
Reserve Expenses	\$1,504.00	\$1,167.50	\$2.08		
Total Expenses	28,698.00	28,280.00	\$50.50		
Excess / Deficit	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$(0.00)		