

Island's Beauty Matched by Generous Spirit and Dedication of CCA Members

Spring Greetings from Captiva!

As the Captiva "high season" begins to wind down we can note the passing of a very warm winter which was enjoyed by members on their Island home. Soon, the beaches will return to a peaceful time when our shore birds will outnumber sun worshippers. The CCA's social season was extremely successful with strong member participation. We are fortunate to have a dedicated group of members who expend time and effort to bring a variety of activities and events to our busy hall.

Our season kicked off with a fall social in early December with a large turnout. Moving the fall social past Thanksgiving seemed to increase our attendance at the beginning of the holiday season. The January event, *Mama Mia, "Thatsa" Good Potluck Supper* was a spectacular success with 115 joining for a fun evening. The food and camaraderie were enjoyed by all.

January also marked our first general meeting of the season. Our members approved some changes in our bylaws which were recommended by the Assessment and Mission Review Committee. Some of these changes facilitated the creation of the "CCA Foundation". This new organization is currently a separate corporation that includes directors from the CCA Board as well as outside directors. The CCA Foundation will focus on important parts of the CCA's mission which include education and island preservation. Many Thanks to Sharon Brace, Bill Fenniman, Peter Koury, Bob Lloyd, and Paul Garvey for the many hours of work on this effort.

Other significant events included an exhibition in February: Robert Rauschenberg- Poster Retrospective. Also in February, the CCA hosted the premier showing of the WGPU Public Media's production "Paradise or Paradise Lost? The Story of Captiva Island". Each attendee received a DVD copy.

At the February General Meeting SCCF scientists provided an update on their efforts to evaluate water quality around our islands. Popular island artist Lauri Kaihlanen exhibited his unique artwork on March 3rd. Shortly thereafter we held our ABC Event. This year's chairperson, Sue Sherlock deserves praise for running a super event with the assistance of many other volunteers and donors. Thank you all. Following the ABC event, we hosted a two week Island Contemporary Art Exhibition. This show brought fine works up from a Naples gallery for Captivans to enjoy.

Finally, the membership elected members to the Board of Governors at our March General Meeting. Congratulations to those elected and welcome to new governor Bill Kiser. We were also updated on the latest happenings at C.R.O.W. by staff members.

On a more serious note, the CCA continues its lengthy and unwavering opposition to the proposal to develop luxury condominiums in the South Seas Resort at Harbour Pointe which would destroy acres of precious mangroves. We are joined in this effort by the SCCF and other local environmental advocates. The CCA continues to monitor island construction and supports strict adherence to County Codes.

This is only a topical summary of the CCA's winter of 2009 which incidentally continued the water drought in southwest Florida. The CCA continues to be the largest interactive, networked association on the Island. We communicate at socials, events, general meetings, and on the beach. Our board is elected and the formula has worked for 70 years. With the recent self assessment the CCA should continue to be a useful and relevant institution for all of Captiva.

Tobe Deutschmann, Jr.
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The "Crafty Ladies" along with artists Jan Markle, Kym Nader and ABC Chair Sue Sherlock create winning Art Works for the ABC Auction Event.



Mark Wells displays his Bubble Room Bird House while ABC Auctioneer Extraordinaire Warren Schwab works the capacity crowd for bids to benefit CCA & SCCF.



Mike & Flo Frascati admire the "Vino" Scooter, an ABC Auction item.



Geckos, latest critter to invade Captiva. Members Michele & Jack Cunningham's daughter and family sport 2009 ABC Gecko wear.



World-renowned artists and emerging island greats paired in recent history-making exhibition at CCA. Works by CCA members Stella Farwell and Darryl Pottorf and pieces by legends including Robert Rauschenberg, Frankenthaler and Picasso draw never before seen crowds. Other Art Exhibits by ever-popular Lauri Kaihlanen and newcomer Brenda Higginson garner rave reviews.



Members flock to memorable "forget the calories" socials including "Mama mia, Thatsa Good Potluck Supper" among the mouth-watering themes. Queenie hams it up on her Squeeze Box while Stella Farwell & Phill Urion brought "Chicken Parmesan" to the Potluck.



CCA and Edison Ford Estates team up to teach Orchid Care. Members were encouraged to bring their orchids to class.