

CCA NEWS

CAPTIVA CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

SERVING CAPTIVANS SINCE 1936

The Captiva Civic Association's Mission is the preservation of the quality of life, ambiance, and environmental integrity of this unique barrier island community.

WINTER
2010

They're Here!

While the 2010 ABC Sale may be a few short months away, those great ABC commemorative T-shirts are here in time for the holidays. This year the T-Shirt design features popular Island artist Lauri Kaihlanen's images of famous local landmarks. These Tees, available in a soft yellow haze and traditional white with a full range of adult and children's sizes, incorporate the Island Store, the Ding Darling House, the Chapel-By-The-Sea, the Captiva Civic Center and Lauri's unique Captiva icon painted mailbox at the Post Office.

If you'd like to surprise family or friends this Holiday season, visit the CCA office weekdays between 10 AM and noon and your request will be filled. Shirts sell for \$20. Please phone first to make sure someone is available to help you. Shirt sales at the post office will begin this week. *(continued on page 2)*



Picture of Sharon Brace by Jane Brickley

Deck The Halls And Spread The Cheer!

CCA Holiday Party Supports Salvation Army "Christmas Cheer" Campaign

Deck the hall and spread the cheer were the watchwords at the Captiva Civic Association's Dec. 3rd Holiday Social at the Captiva Civic Center. It was the Captiva way to renew old acquaintances and make new friends while enjoying favorite beverages and sharing homemade

hors d'oeuvres. The evening was one of shared warmth and generosity by all in attendance.

This year's social was also a great way to spread a bit of holiday cheer with less fortunate families through the Salvation Army's "Christmas Cheer" campaign.

"Christmas Cheer" is a community-wide effort of the Salvation Army and its largest annual outreach event. The program organizes and distributes donated toys, food and gifts to those in need throughout Lee County during the holidays. Last year they reached over 4,700 families and their goal for 2009 is 6,000. The need has never been greater.

CCA members and friends helped spread "Christmas Cheer" by



The Wells' grandkids, Corey & Devianna Pethers, admiring Christmas Cheer at the Holiday Social.

bringing new unwrapped toys and gift cards to the party while others made cash donations. An estimated \$700 in contributions and gifts were raised at the Holiday Social. The Salvation Army thanks all who participated for their generosity.



Crystal, Alan & Amber Falde helping to kick-off the CCA's Holiday Social Christmas Cheer Campaign

WELCOME BACK!

Dear Members,

By now, many of you are enjoying Captiva's balmy weather; having exchanged a frosty climate and worse for tropical evenings under the stars. It's also great to meet and greet neighbors and friends whom we have not seen since spring. For the most part our beaches were spared from storm damage with a quiet season. It's hard to believe that we are now five years removed from Charlie. Yet incredible as it might seem, some of the old satellite photos of Captiva still show blue tarps. Thankfully that memory is growing more distant and moreover, many homes have been upgraded to withstand nature's fury.

This summer and fall has seen us make a few improvements to our CCA facilities. We have upgraded our hall lighting to provide better illumination of the wonderful upcoming art exhibitions this season. CCA board and committee volunteers are now busy with preparations for Captiva's winter season. We encourage all to enjoy our CCA activities and events!

The most significant news concerning the CCA in the off season arrived in September in a letter from the Internal Revenue Service granting tax exempt status under section 501(c) (3) to the new CCA Foundation Inc. As stated in the Foundation bylaws, this Foundation is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes. Through grants and operating directly, the

Foundation will support education and community awareness of current and future issues affecting the quality of life on and around Captiva Island. The successful creation of this entity is the result of many hours of volunteer effort during the past year. I am joined on the Foundation board by a four person informed and engaged policy-making Board of Directors: Stella Farwell, Bill Fenniman, Bill Kiser and Gaye Pigott. Bill Fenniman was also elected Foundation president.

The Foundation expects that the ability to seek tax deductible donations to further its mission along with its grant making ability will benefit the interests of Captivans who care about Captiva's fragile environment. We are grateful to everyone who made this Foundation a reality and expect that we will work with other island organizations including the CCA to promote our mission. We welcome assistance from all Islanders who care about Captiva's welfare. This is a developing story and we are very enthusiastic about the future of our new Foundation.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our social functions and business meetings.

Best Holiday Wishes,



Tobe Deutschmann, Jr.
CCA President



2010 ABC "T" CAPTURES CAPTIVA LANDMARKS

(continued from page 1)

Nothing captures the flavor of Captiva like artist Lauri Kaihlanen's designs for the CCA's signature ABC T-Shirt line. For 2010, Lauri weaves together a sampling of the Island's most notable and visited landmarks into a colorful tapestry certain to stir fond memories for Island residents and visitors alike. Lauri's Captiva-inspired and sought after art has graced many of the annual ABC Event T-Shirts in a decades long series that has become traditional high season wear.

The original art for the 2010 T-Shirt will be a featured painting up for bid at this year's ABC Auction Event on March 6, 2010.



MORE BARS COMING TO CAPTIVA

Captivan's can really use more bars - of the wireless coverage indicator variety. In just a few short weeks, two of several major wireless carriers will be providing clearer local cell phone coverage thanks to a new communications tower coming on line at South Seas Island Resort. The cell tower project construction started last September after the granting of several Lee County Land Development Code variances to allow a 170 foot high mono pole with antennas in addition to an accessory wireless communication equipment building platform above the flood plane with a height maximum of 25 feet.

The Captiva Civic Association Land Use Committee and CCA attorney authored height exception language five years ago to begin the lengthy rezoning approval process to allow a communication tower on Captiva Island for use by commercial wireless providers and to also make sure public safety and emergency management communications equipment could be placed on the tower. The CCA also worked to guarantee the proposed facility would be located on and over existing impervious areas in the maintenance area of South Seas Island Resort so as not to impact wetlands and mangroves.

We can all look forward soon to finding five bars on Captiva Island no matter the location inside or outside.



Left pictures: Tower top and base with elevated equipment building at the SSIR maintenance area.

Right : Cell tower viewed from South Seas Road

CAPTIVA LAND USE POLICES UNDER CRITICAL REVIEW

The Captiva building height policy which limits maximum building heights to 35' above average grade or 42' above sea level, whichever is less, has been in existence for over a decade. It was made part of the Lee County Comprehensive Land Use Plan for Captiva several years ago with guidance of the Captiva Civic Association and support of the Captiva Community Planning Panel. It requires both local county and state review authorization to change. The Captiva Height Policy has long been credited as a key element in the preservation of the Island's unique "low rise" ambiance.

Recently, a number of CCA members have posed questions and raised concerns about changes to the height policy they hear are being considered by the Captiva Panel in their attempt to review existing land use regulations and draft new county codes for Captiva, including, possibly altering regulations in the Comprehensive Land Use Plan. As the CCA and its members were responsible for establishing the current height policy, we will attempt to clarify what is now taking place.

The Community Planning Panel for Captiva is a self-appointed ten member group administered by the Captiva Property Owners Association and sanctioned by Lee County to represent Captivans in land use planning mat-

ters. The panel began a review of existing code language last year that carried over into this year. The Panel chose to focus on height, signage, estate zoning, including the separate rental of guest houses, and mangroves/wetlands protection issues. Drafts of proposed land use changes are to be developed in part from monthly public workshop sessions.

The first meeting this year specifically addressing height took place in December at South Seas Resort. Certain panel members expressed the view that, as times change, codes should be altered to keep pace. They contend for example that current height restrictions constrain building design, size, and architectural freedom and therefore should be re-evaluated. They also suggest that current restrictions on the separate rental of accessory use guest houses within estate-zoned properties could be relaxed or eliminated.

Your Captiva Civic Association has long championed Captiva-specific development rules, including the current height policy. We do so in fulfillment of our mission to protect the Island from more intensified development. We encourage all CCA members to stay informed and involved on the panel's review of Captiva's land use codes and comp plan policies.

**Captiva Civic Association
Board of Governors**

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UPCOMING ART EXHIBITIONS



Upper Left: Painting by Karen Stone. Exhibition opens Jan. 14th.

Lower Left: Painting by William Whalgren. Exhibition opens Jan. 14th.

Right: Chapel By The Sea painting by Myra Roberts. Exhibition opens March 18th.

Island Contemporary III Exhibition opens Feb. 12th

WELCOME NEW CCA MEMBERS!

Ralph W. & Carolyn B. Clark of Sanibel, FL

Hans DeVaughn of Sanford, FL

Gilbert K. McCurdy & Lynda M. Hotra of Rochester, NY

Robert & Cynthia Sargent of Chicago, IL

Jerry & Cathy Swerdlick of Westly, RI

Marcel & Betsy Ventura of Sanibel, FL



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NEW CCA CAPS

Just in and looking great. Embroidered CCA Logo caps are available for \$20 and can be purchased at the CCA office or wherever the 2010 ABC T-Shirts are sold.



**Save this date for a very sepecial ABC Event!
Saturday Evening - March 6th**