

September 2011

Shorelines

A PUBLICATION OF THE INDIAN BEACH-SAPPHIRE SHORES ASSOCIATION

NEWS AND VIEWS TO SHORELINES

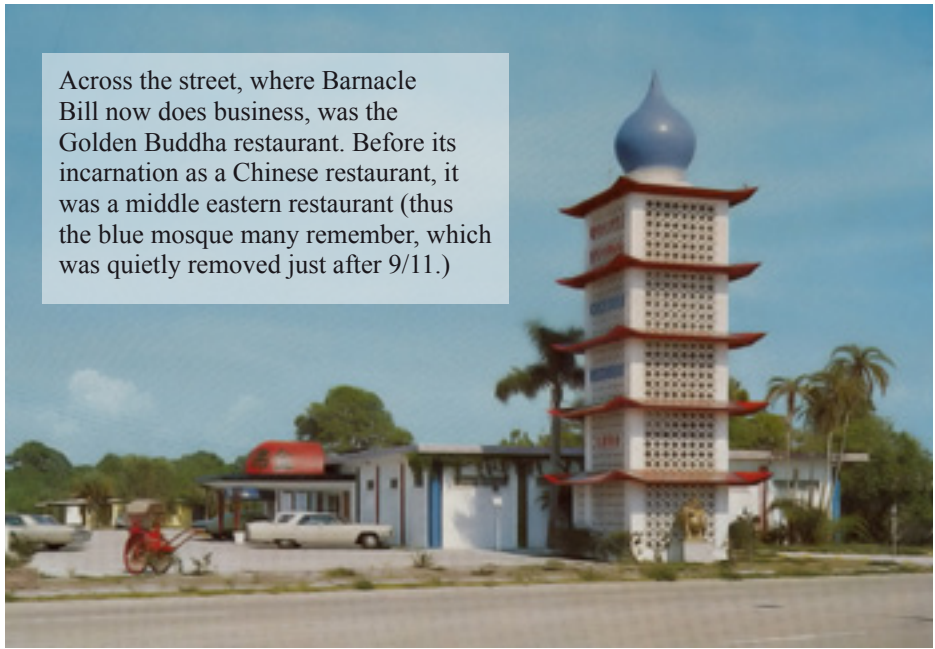
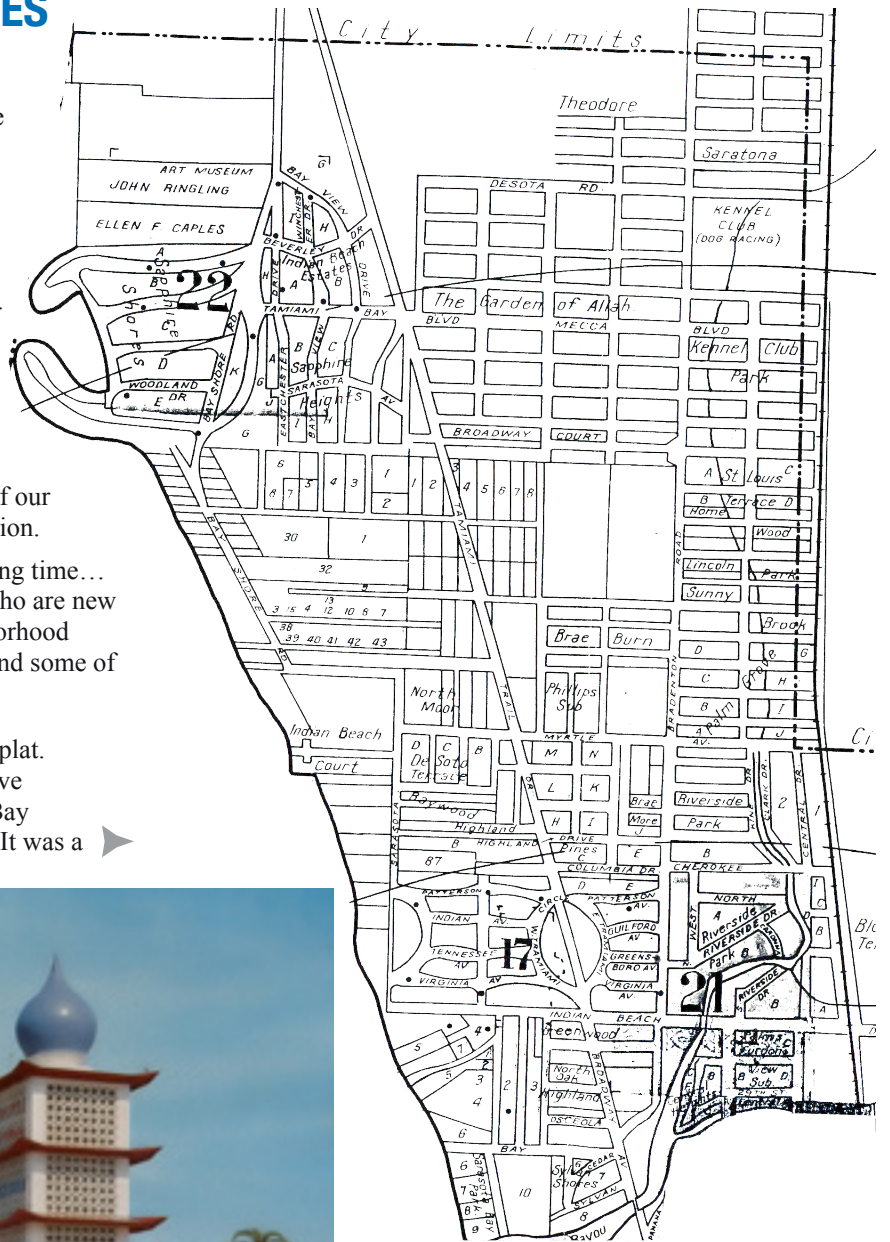
Our Newsletter - The First 12 Years

This is IBSSA's first digital-only newsletter. In the interest of going green and also saving money, the board is considering publishing some of our newsletters only on the web site. We do intend always to print and mail at least one newsletter a year. And we will work to deliver copies of the digital newsletter to anyone who is not online. More about that in the future.

For this inaugural digital newsletter, we've decided to do a retrospective—the first 12 years of our newsletter. Dick Clapp and Gretchen Serrie offered to peruse some of the Association's archives and remind you of some of the issues covered in early newsletters. Dick also has shared some images of the earlier years of our neighborhood taken from his extensive postcard collection.

For those of you who've lived in the neighborhood a long time... we hope this will rekindle some memories. For those who are new to the neighborhood... this offers not only some neighborhood history, but the story of our neighborhood association and some of its many accomplishments.

Amongst the treasures in the IBSSA files was the 1929 plat. Check out your property in 1929. For instance, if you live on Mecca Drive, you'll notice it was called "Tamiami Bay Boulevard." Ever wondered why that street is so wide? It was a



Across the street, where Barnacle Bill now does business, was the Golden Buddha restaurant. Before its incarnation as a Chinese restaurant, it was a middle eastern restaurant (thus the blue mosque many remember, which was quietly removed just after 9/11.)

planned boulevard. (Quite possibly would have been "The Boulevard to Nowhere.") And on Mecca Drive (Boulevard) on the east side of the Trail, you will see the "Garden of Allah" subdivision. No homes were ever built in that subdivision, but some of us remember the "Garden of Allah" sign, still there in the seventies.



INDIAN BEACH
SAPPHIRE SHORES
ASSOCIATION

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit #771
Sarasota, FL

Volume I, Issue 1

SPRING 1988

NEWS *and* VIEWS

PUBLISHED BY INDIAN BEACH/SAPPHIRE SHORES ASSOCIATION

Spring 1988

In "A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT," newly-elected Bart Cotten announced that one of his goals was a newsletter for the neighborhood. A few months later, our first newsletter appeared in everyone's mailbox. Bart wrote, "Ed and June McVeigh and their committee have done a tremendous job in getting this publication in your hands. For years the association board felt that we needed a newsletter to keep you informed. These great people took the challenge and got the job done." Here's what that four-page newsletter included:

- 1) **Candidates for City Commission Head Program for Membership Meeting**
- 2) **Neighborhood Crime Watch:** In 1983 our neighborhood was the first in the city to institute a Neighborhood Watch Program. There have been detailed Neighborhood Watch reports in every newsletter since.
- 3) **Beautification Committee:** This group easily wins the prize for most proactive of all our Sub-Committees and details of projects undertaken and accomplished continued to unfold throughout each newsletter. In Spring 1988, the Beau Comm Chair was Isabel Lillie, wife of soon-to-be long-time chair Alan Lillie. Attending the first committee meeting were David Smillie, Jane Lyons, Charlene Langer and John Hargreaves. Their initial goals were "clearing the area of litter and enhancing the landscape of public spaces not cared for by private individuals."
- 4) **Board Action Highlights:** Parking during the Medieval Fair was a big neighborhood problem, alleviated when the Museum, working with the neighborhood, provided off-site parking. Decision to always have an annual audit of accounts...continued to this day. Working with owner of proposed Adventure Gold (miniature golf) project.
- 5) **Volunteers Needed:** A never-ending newsletter theme and plea.
- 6) **North Trail Eyed by Planning Committee:** The constant struggle to upgrade the Trail is a continuing subject of discussion and much work over the years by dedicated neighbors. Association initiatives and neighborhood involvement in the larger planning efforts of Gateway 2000, Innovation 41 and the current North Trail Redevelopment Partnership are worthy of a whole newsletter of their own.
- 7) **Meeting Your Neighbor:** Brad and Norma Kwenski were featured in the first newsletter.
- 8) **Campaign to Increase Membership:** In 1988 Family Membership was priced at \$5 and Single Membership at \$3. Although total membership generally has averaged 350 over the years, during Bart Cotten's dynamic presidency we did reach 500 members in the winter of 1996.



Seminole war-period fort, and early pioneer sites from the mid-19th century spurred interest in the investigation. Neighbor Walter Verizzo encouraged residents to participate.

Winter 1989

Gift of an Oak Tree given to Bart Cotten at the end of his term as president, “to replace the oak tree in the Cotten’s front yard that had suddenly toppled over, crashing into the roof of the house and one side of the master bedroom where Mariana Cotten was taking a nap.” The article continued, “Incidentally, that was Chris Lang and Kelly Kirschner who carried the tree up on the stage. We want to thank them because we had a sneaky feeling that their mothers `suggested’ they undertake the job. Thanks.” Neighborhood “kid”

Kelly Kirschner was thirteen then, and at 31 became Sarasota’s youngest ever city commissioner. The family lived on Bay Shore Road. His dad, Kerry, also a City Commissioner and mayor at this time, is frequently mentioned as assisting with neighborhood problems and initiatives that needed city attention.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS - ANNUAL PICNIC
NOVEMBER 6, 2011- CAPLES**

Autumn 1988

Annual Picnic: October, 1988 at Caples. Touted as “the first of its kind in the recent history of the community,” our president promised “no boring program...and no long speeches.” Each year the newsletters advertise and celebrate this much-loved annual event. Afterward, each picnic is proclaimed the “best ever.” 2011 will be no exception!

Airport Noise Abatement Board: Alan Lillie appointed our representative. Airport noise issues were much-discussed at this time.

Advertising: The Association wished to publish a summer issue, but did not have money to do so. Thanks were given to John Lyons, who made the fall issue possible. Reference is frequently made to need for money for the newsletter and advertisers increased their presence and support in subsequent newsletters. The Association continues to be grateful to our advertisers and, in recent years, for the City of Sarasota Neighborhood Enhancement Grants, perhaps on the chopping block this year, which made our expanded newsletter and its ultimate quarterly publication possible.

Spring 1989

Even Nice People and Gentle Dogs Can Cause Problems: was a request to pick up after pets.

Indian Beach: Problems with public behavior.

Sun Circle Basin: New landscaping planned.

Indian Beach area archeological project:

Information was to be sought on the occupation of the Indian Beach area beginning 5,000 years ago. Stories of Cuban fishing ranchos from the 16th to early 19th century, Fort Armistead, a second

February 1990

Sapphire Shores Park To Be a Reality: “Alan Lillie and Bob Bell deserve lots of thanks for all the hard work they have been doing for our new neighborhood park. The city has run water to the park...This will be a lovely spot from which to watch sunsets.”

Bridge Anyone? Eileen Linxwiler offers to organize “short term flights of bridge marathons.” Over the years we see inquiries about who is interested in a gourmet cooking group, a kayaking group, networking moms... “If business people can do it, we can do it...let’s get together and talk about coping. While parenthood has its infinite joys, it can be exasperating and exhausting. You are not alone. For details about joining the new group...”

How many of us remember this large and popular restaurant located just north of the site of the current New College Library?



Sapphire Shores Park before “Beautification”



neighborhood doors. The board took a survey.

A year later our weary president wrote: “Our part, at the present time is over, it's done! We will have our park.

...to forgive is divine. My wish is that the people who were opposed to the park would not bear grudges and would come back into the membership, this is my formal invitation to them to join us in our future endeavors to strengthen and beautify our neighborhood.”

The survey and commentary are below.

April 1990

Slow Down: Jack Martin wrote: “Please Neighbor, SLOW DOWN, the life you save may be your own, our neighborhood children or my grandchildren. I know that some of the cars that travel on our streets are driving faster than the 30 mph speed limit for our neighborhoods.” In later newsletters the point is made that THE MAJORITY OF THE SPEEDERS ARE US.

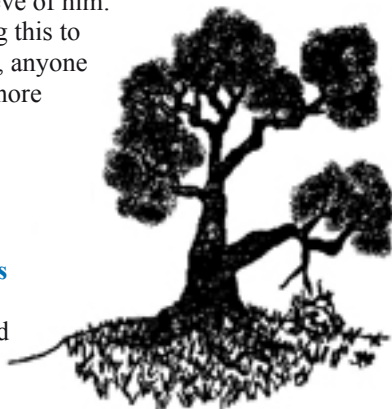
Gateway 2000 Initiative to Upgrade the N Trail

Crime: “Thanks to quick action on the part of **Bill Mikoda** and **Rommel May**, the police were notified of unusual activity after Rommel heard glass breaking behind his home. Rommel asked Bill to call police so that he could watch the man. Bill ended up chasing the suspect on foot for four blocks. Because the police were already in the area, the phone call helped them zero in on the suspect leading to his arrest. Good work Bill and Rommel!”

Bay Shore Road...Spell It Right: “Bay Shore Road was platted in 1926 and is the main street in IBSSA. Bayshore Road is located in Venice and Bradenton. Don Price wrote to let us know that many people err in the telephone book address-listings and elsewhere. The mistake-word is a pet peeve of him. Thanks, Don, for bringing this to our attention. Meanwhile, anyone want to retype our Bay Shore Road address labels?”

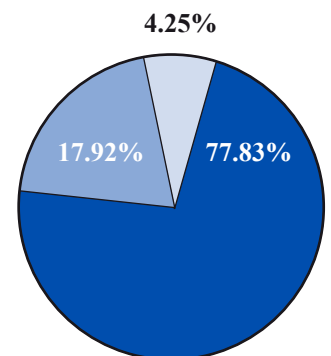
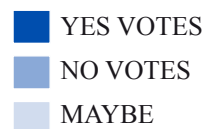
1990 - new logo - David temporarily replaced by slash pine

Oops!!! Sapphire Shores Park: Some people are worried about a beautified Sapphire Shores Park. Will it attract vagrants and prostitutes? Will there be condoms strewn all over the park, as was suggested in an anti-park flyer distributed to



**INDIAN BEACH
SAPPHIRE SHORES**

Post Card Survey Results



Update On Sapphire Shores Park

I promised you this info in our last newsletter.

Post card survey results:

165 Responded with YES votes.

38 Responded with NO votes.

9 Responded MAYBE.

Eight maybe's have been called upon, and vote YES after they had their questions & concerns answered.

106 of the YES vote, were paid members of the Association.

18 of the NO vote, were paid members.

As a result of this survey the Board, which acts as a majority of its paid, voting members, will continue to negotiate with the city in an attempt to accomplish the beautification of the park. If the majority of the Association's members had voted against the beautification of the area, we would have discontinued our efforts. Believe me when I say we wish we could please everybody, and that there would not be dissention regarding this issue; but, that's not the case.

At the present time, the Parks Board is to make a recommendation to the City Commissioners regarding the project.

We have been told that the \$30,000 is to come from the LOST (Local Option Sales Tax) fund, which is money collected from sales tax, and not our ad valorem taxes. It is a special fund. The monies could not be used to house the homeless or feed the needy. It must be used for specific purposes and

the beautification of our park area meets these requirements. If we don't use it, the money will be spent someplace else for beautification, etc.

Captain Carter, Patrol Division Commander, met with our Board, with the code book in hand told us that there were plenty of codes already in existence that could control any of the fears addressed by the group in opposition to improving the park. Having designated parking areas, and getting the Commissioners to allow us to post a park closing time would make the enforcement much easier for the police.

Four members of the Board met with four members of the opposition in an attempt to reach some sort of agreement as to what improvements or changes should be made at the park site. The Board suggested that we plant no shrubs, that we plant one-half as many trees as in original sketch, and that we leave the existing grass in place (not level and scrape the area and put in new sod or plugs). We did state that we wanted the two walkways in place, benches, bollards (low posts) to mark designated parking areas (one on the North and South ends, and one in the middle), one-half the number of trees (tall enough that they would not obstruct anyone's view), a very minimal irrigation system (Swiftmuds low volume recommendation), and some ground cover (native plants that would not require much watering). The end result of the meeting was that the opposition wanted absolutely nothing done to the park. They want to leave it just as it is.

1991

An Apology for New College Noise:

“Dear Bayshore Area Residents,

I am a New College student, and I am writing you to talk about noise. First, I'd like to apologize. The 3:00 A.M. “parade” down Bayshore about a month ago was really a bad idea. I understand that some of you thought that we were rioting, or that we were coming after people who had complained about the noise. Thinking back to the sights and sounds of a hundred students with pots and pans and garbage can lids, the fear is understandable. We are very sorry. It was nobody's intention to scare you that night. We were angry, not with you, but with the Sarasota Police and our own administration. The march down Bayshore happened after two hours of protesting on our own campus went unnoticed.

Secondly, I'd like to apologize for the noise in general. I don't know how many of you have been consistently bothered by our Walls (that late-night parties that until recently we had most Friday and Saturday nights). We really have no desire to wake anybody up at night or to disturb anyone's peace. While we've known for a long time that we have a problem with “noise complaints,” only during the face-to-face conversations some of us have recently had with disturbed residents did it really hit home just how bothered people have been by our noise. Some courageous neighbors have recently told us with passion and eloquence just how angry they have been made by the incessantly thumping bass of our week-end revels. We chose to remain oblivious to how real the noise problem has been for some of you...

1991

Free Tickets: Asolo tickets continue to be a perk of membership and also “While we were talking at the general meeting, good neighbor Paul Wolfe asked if I felt that IBSSA would appreciate a block of tickets to the opening night Sarasota Music Festival performance on Jun 7th at 8:15 at the Van Wezel. Of course I jumped at the opportunity...!!!

September 1991

Mailbox vandalism

May 1992

Targeting Indian Beach for beautification

Fall 1994

Address Labels: “We often receive complaints from members that the correspondence they receive is impersonally addressed ‘Neighbor’. We don't like it either, but it would be an impossible task to keep up with the coming and goings of 1,200 residences. If someone out there is offended enough to take on that task, you would be more than welcome to do so.”

Dual Taxation: From the president: This is about the “County's right to tax us for services we do not receive. This will be a long hard battle. HELP ME.”

Beach Cleanup

Regulate Adult Entertainment: Lingerie modeling and porn shops were a big N Trail issue. It took a long time, lots of citizen complaints, and much legal wrangling before the city was able to clean it up. But clean it up they ultimately did. 1995 saw passage of the city Nuisance Abatement Ordinance and later there finally was an Adult Entertainment Ordinance that eliminated porn and blue video shops on US 41.

Indian Beach, General View Beach and Cottages, 1920's



Winter 1994

Concerts: First ever IBSSA concert in the park - The Yellow Dog Jazz Band

Whopping Rise in Property Assessments:
Meet the tax collector

There's Trouble on 58th Street: Will New College develop a "loop road" on 58th Street. [It did not.]

Christmas Decorations Dismal: "As the song goes, 'Tis the season to be jolly,' but alas, our neighborhood has always been amongst the most dismal, in the holiday decorating department, that we have ever seen. And so, to help you get into the Christmas spirit and show some holiday pride in our neighborhood, the association is sponsoring a 'HOLIDAY LIGHT UP' contest. A contest for best..."



Winter 1995

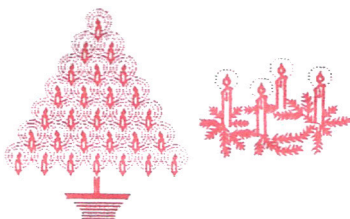
Docks: RE proposal for a long dock 300 feet into the bay: "Your board felt that such a dock would infringe on the rights of the adjoining neighbors. We therefore had to oppose one of our own. This is one of your board's most unpleasant tasks, and we pray that we won't have to face it often."

Spring 1996

Closing N Trail Publix: From the President: "At the time of this writing, the big news around the neighborhood is the closing of the Publix store in North Trail Plaza. Your association made many phone calls, signed petitions, appeared on television and wrote many letters as did the North Trail Association, The Downtown Association, Gateway 2000, The Ringling School of Art and Design, the City of Sarasota and many others, but to no avail. It now appears the decision to move out was cast in stone and deals were in progress for subleasing the space and selling the equipment months before the announcement was made. Therefore, we were never given the opportunity to plead our case. If you are looking for someone to blame, fingers can be pointed all around."

Prizes for Christmas Decorations: Obviously the neighborhood was no longer dismal at holiday time.

LET THERE BE LIGHT



Autumn 1996

Hallelujah! Membership over 500: President Cotten wrote, "I realize that this is only one half the number of households in our neighborhood, but I also realize that association membership is not important to a lot of folks. To some, knowing their neighbors next door is not important, neither is maintaining their property, caring about the concerns and welfare of those who live around them, improving public areas, guarding property values and neighborhood safety...etc. These folks just want a place to live where they are not bothered by the association or anyone else. They just want their home to be an island of comfort away from the rest of the world. I can understand this, I respect their right to live as they please, and I hope the association never intrudes upon their privacy. As for myself, I could not live anywhere where I did not feel I had at least a voice in what happens within the community. I would not like someone else making the decisions that affect my property values, taxes, neighborhood ambiance, and way of life without having some input. My ideas might not always prevail over the majority, but I can accept that. It is not having the opportunity to voice my opinion that I could not accept. I have served on the association board for four years and another five years as your president, not for an ego trip, but because I wanted to be part of the neighborhood life and felt that I should give something back to the community I love. It is not always easy being "involved." I have anguished over the few times when neighbor has been pitted against neighbor. These are the times when I wish I could turn my back on the whole thing and join those in isolation, but at these times one has to consider what is best for the neighborhood as a whole and continue on. I know there are some of you out there who would like to become more involved. If so, just contact one of the officers and let it be known. But be careful, it may be habit forming and who knows it might even be fun."

Winter 1996

Another Long Dock: “I regret that we have had to oppose yet another neighbor who was seeking to install a 350' dock in our bay. Sometimes we have to decide what is best for the neighborhood in general, and stick to that decision...but it hurts.”

Spring 1997

Going Classical: “At our December general meeting, an overwhelming majority voted for a more “classical” group to play at the Spring Concert. The program will include a mix of standard quintet literature and pops selections, from the clarion sounds of the Baroque to contemporary Jazz by the Florida West Coast Symphony Brass Quintet”

Summer 1997

Voting - Shame on Us: There was only a 11% turnout for the city election. In Autumn 1998 Jane Kirschner warned that every vote is important. Her husband Kerry won his race for City Commission by a “mere” 57 votes. We did improve. In 2007 the vote was 22.45% and the runoff in District 2 was a 28% turnout.

CAUTION Speed Bumps: “Your board of directors and most association members with whom we've talked, are not in favor of marring our neighborhood streets with speed bumps. However, most agree that we do have a problem with speeding traffic within our neighborhood, especially of Bay Shore Road and Indian Beach Drive... We have been told by the police department, that 80% of the drivers stopped for speeding, reside in our neighborhood. Obviously, this is a problem we could very well solve within ourselves without any obtrusive traffic abatement devices, if we would all just slow down.”

Fall 1997

Eckerd's parking and architecture: Eckerd's (now CVS) was allowed a special exemption for parking areas both on Trail and Myrtle sides of the building. Don Kraft appeared before the Planning Board representing the Association and requested that this exception not be granted. “I also took the opportunity to articulate to Eckerd's that the Neighborhood Associations in the area genuinely would appreciate their changing the exterior architecture from their standard model found all over the city. I don't believe that they were at all sensitive to this request.”

Bingo Parlor: A request to place one in the former Publix space in Trail Plaza was denied unanimously by the Board of Adjustment. “All members of the Board of the Association had also been in agreement that we did not want this type of gambling.”

*Point Welcome - the Highway 41
northern entrance to Sarasota* ►

Web Site: “In October, IBSSA will become the first neighborhood association in Florida to establish a community oriented, interactive communication, with decision making capabilities, and political effectiveness and security. Editors will be Kafi Benz, Sylvia Knight, Pat Taylor and Laura Scahill. Charlie Hegener and Marcia Ente provide advisory assistance.”

Fall 1999

40th Street Access: The Florida Native Plant Society gives First Place award in the Restoration/Community Project category for the 40th Street Bay Access Reclamation. Assisted by many residents, the neighborhood resolved to reclaim the Sarasota Bay access at 40th Street from accumulated trash and overgrowth of Brazilian Pepper and other non native destructive plants.

Summer 1999

Planning and Development Committee (PDC): provided ever more complete articles on land use issues including: Tamiami Trail Redevelopment, Adult Business Control, Bay Shore Road Enhancements, Neighborhood Pocket Park, Mega-house Development, Large Mega-Dock Development, Traffic Concurrency Exception Area, City Responsiveness and Follow-up, Rental Property Management.

Spring 2000

New Masthead/Name: SHORELINES DEBUTS!!!

History: Jane Shea contributes our first article on neighborhood history. Later David Jennings will become our regular “history” reporter.

Sculptures: The first of several articles on various sculptures procured by our Public Art Committee and placed in the neighborhood.

Bay Shore Triangle Planted: \$4,850 Grant for Marlin Conservation Square

Thanks to all who have worked and continue to work so hard for our beautiful neighborhood



Membership Application and Dues Renewal Form



Indian Beach-Sapphire Shores Association

Membership type: New Renewal

I can volunteer:

- Beautification
- History
- Membership
- Neighborhood Watch
- Newsletter
- Picnic/Special Events
- Web-site

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

PLEASE PRINT new or changed

Checks payable to: IBSSA
Mail: P.O. Box 49673, Sarasota, FL 34230

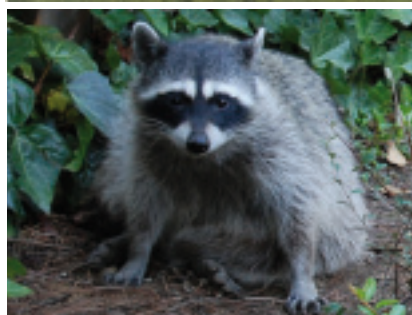
2012 Dues Payment:	\$20.00
Voluntary Contribution	\$ _____
Total Enclosed	\$ _____

If you have a question about your dues status, please contact **Greg Shea, Treasurer, 355-8966** or **gmshea@hotmail.com**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



①



②



③

- ① Indian Beach 1910, through the pines and palmettos
- ② Indian Beach 1920, The Boat Landing
- ③ Circus Hall of Fame and Zinn's