Fall 2011 Fall 2011 A PUBLICATION OF THE INDIAN BEACH-SAPPHIRE SHORES ASSOCIATION

IBSSA Annual Picnic — November 6, 2011 from 3-5pm by Vald Svekis



Infortunately, none of our neighbors have first hand memories of the hardy souls that landed here and pitched lean-tos off scrub pines. But all is not lost. Back then potluck and local fish were mainstays of social life. Just about every year we celebrate those activities with our potluck picnic. Well, this year we are adding hot, smoked mullet like no other. Robert will bring his famed smoking apparatus down from the Manatee River environs where he has regaled pioneer parties for years with his uniquely smoked mullet. I have had it on a number of occasions and all I can say about it is "Yummy!"

Chicken and hot dogs will also be provided. And, of course, we will still have our traditional, very pioneer, potluck dishes brought by you, the neighbors who make all this possible. We will need some traditional sides like cornbread, beans and other dishes of the pickled tripe and braised beef brain variety (just kidding about the last two).

Mike Minks will once again provide musical entertainment. Face painting will delight little 'uns. And, a bigger surprise yet awaits them.

Our events committee responsible for all the arrangements and led by Jane Johnson and Roger Barkin will once again put together fantastic deals and products for a Chinese auction. Bring some dollar bills. Proceeds from the auction will go to a worthy neighborhood cause.

As always, the picnic is free to paid members of the association. So, please send in your \$20 membership for this year and tell us how many in your family will want mullet at the picnic. We might need to order more. You will be able to pay for membership at the picnic, but we still need to know before then how many mullet dinners will be needed for your family.

For membership, go to our web site www.ibssa.ws to pay by PayPal or simply fill out the form on the back of this newsletter and send with a check to: IBSSA, PO Box 49673, Sarasota, FL 34230. Please make the check out to "IBSSA" and note "membership 2011." And, remember to write on check "mullet number" — the number of mullet dinners for your family. Please call or email the information if you pay through PayPal.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help with the picnic, please call Jane Johnson: roady number 605-256-9840, Sapphire Shores number 351-1920 or Roger Barkin: 802-388-7442 until the latter part of October. Or, if you are really scraping the bottom of the barrel: Vald Svekis at 359-0683 or via email: vsvekis@gmail.com.

Let's party!!!!!



Bay Shore Mennonite Church

by David Jennings

Our neighborhood is made up of an eclectic bunch. How often have you heard that? Well it's true and it makes us pretty special. But one of the more special groups in our neighborhood has never received a great deal of attention and they seem to like it that way.

Bay Shore Mennonite Church has been a central focal point in IBSSA since the 1940's. But first a little background....

Mennonites are a Christian denomination named after Frisian Menno Simons (1498-1561). They fled persecution in Europe by Catholics and Protestants for centuries and have migrated around the world.

Today there are 1.5 million Mennonites. They range from "plain people" to those indistinguishable in dress and appearance from the general population.

Daniel Kurtz, a member of the "Old Order Amish" denomination from Geauga County, Ohio made his way to Sarasota by 1928. He brought his family, which included three sons. By 1930 he helped establish Amish services held in German at the Tatum



LAFAYETTE CABINS, U. S. 41 N., SARASOTA, FLA.



Ridge school house. In 1934 a small group of Mennonites began attending as well. The group continued to grow and services were moved to the Fruitville school house where Old Order Amish. Conservative Mennonites and Mennonites met for worship until the school house was severely damaged by a hurricane in 1944.

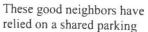
Most Sarasotans know the Amish moved to Pinecraft, where they are still quite distinguishable from the general population. Many Conservative Mennonites made this move, too. But many of the Mennonites moved to the northwest side of Sarasota and started meeting in the recreation building of the Lafayette Tourist Camp...a North Trail motel.

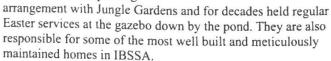
The Lafayette (one of my oldest North Trail postcards) was owned by Henry Brunk, a member of the Mennonite congregation that was quickly becoming a year 'round community, as snow birds were reluctant to flock back north in the spring.

Eventually these permanent residents organized a church recognized by the Ohio Conference on April 17, 1945, five days after the death of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Early members included the Cossgroves, Eichers, Yoders, Millers and Hershbergers. A several acre site previously used for cattle was purchased near Jungle Gardens and a building completed by 1946. Five hundred people showed up for the dedication of a church prepared to hold 300 worshippers.

Recorded occupations of this Mennonite community included carpenters, painters, masons and several general contractors who were responsible for building hundreds of homes in our neighborhood and throughout Sarasota. Many of these families are still active in the trades today.

The old church is gone now and a new sanctuary was built in 1961. Other significant changes to the property occurred in 1984 and then again in 1994, creating what you see today.





So the next time you find yourself on Chapel Drive, Iroquois or upper 40th Street, look a little more closely for the name plate hanging on a mailbox or porch welcoming you to the home of the Millers or Yoders and appreciate all those who have helped make our neighborhood special.

Editor's Note: We are very grateful to the Bay Shore Mennonite Church for providing space for the IBSSA semi-annual membership meetings and monthly board meetings.

Upcoming Events
Annual Picnic: Sunday, Nov. 6

North Trail by Richard Clapp

Something new is happening on Sarasota's North Trail. For the last two years a group of dedicated volunteers has been working diligently to improve this gateway into our city. Instead of complaining about the blight they have taken action.

The North Trail Redevelopment Partnership (NTRP) was formed in late 2009 as a grass roots effort to create positive change on N Tamiami Trail. Using the 2006 plan, Innovation41, as a starting point, the group focused on actions to improve conditions for redevelopment.

Today this organization is a registered, 501c(6), non-profit composed of a broad based group of N Trail stakeholders. Regular participants include representatives of the four neighborhood associations abutting the Trail, all the cultural and educational institutions, land owners and businesses, plus city and county officials as well as architects, planners, developers, realtors and other interested persons.

NTRP meets regularly on a monthly basis to tackle issues. So far these have included incentives for redevelopment, crime perceptions, land parcel cost and size, need for consensus on quality projects, demographic perceptions, land use regulations, communications, and need for professional expertise focusing on redevelopment on the North Trail.

This group engineered an expansion of the Enterprise Zone, resulting in additional incentives for redevelopment in blighted areas. They raised funds for the installation of a HD security camera at the Myrtle intersection. One member pulled together a demographic study indicating purchasing power within in three, five and ten minute travel time from the center of the North Trail. When the members saw the need for a business group, they helped form the active North Trail Business Alliance. To help tell our story, a web site was launched mytamiami.org and a business directory for our rebranded Tamami Cultural District was published.

Over the past two years, Ringling College of Art and Design, New College and the Ringling Museum have completed significant building projects. USF has announced an expansion to include four year degree options in a number of areas. Additionally, a new museum, the Marietta Museum of Art & Whimsy, opened and several new businesses have located near the Indian Beach intersection. Most recently, Wal-Mart announced their intention of opening a new Wal-Mart Neighborhood Market on the shuttered former Winn-Dixie site and across Myrtle from this location a new Family Dollar store is operating. Also, many of the older motels have spruced up their properties. This is a lot of activity for a period of recession and minimal economic growth.

What's next? Jay Patel, Chair of the NTRP says, "We are at a point where we need to step even higher." This means that professional expertise in redevelopment is needed. Members have talked with city and county commissioners and property owners about potential funding strategies.

IBSSA Board Members

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Mike Lasche	544-7788		

Neighborhood Communications

Website - www.ibssa.ws_ Contact David Morriss (355-1212) with questions

Newsgroup - go to website for instructions on how to join and participate. Contact Gretchen Serrie (355-2560) with questions.

Newsletter - Please contribute an article or volunteer to be a newsletter writer.

Writers Fall 2011 Newsletter

mikel.modem@verizon.net

Richard Clapp	Gretchen Serrie
David Jennings	Chris Shamsey
Jane Nutter Johnson	Vald Svekis
Debbie Muller	

We know that building on the current successes will require more focus. While Innovation41 provides a framework for action, dedicated expertise is needed is required to make the transformation happen. Recently the City of Sarasota and Sarasota County have shown their confidence in the NTRP by allocating matching funding to hire a dedicated professional to help reach our goals. NT landowners are also providing significant funding.

Our future is bright and with dedicated stakeholders we can continue toward our goal—a Sarasota Gateway of which everyone is proud.



Mark your calendars for the IBSSA Semi-Annual Meeting. It will be held at the Bay Shore Mennonite Church.

JOHN J. LYONS ATTORNEY AT LAW

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Museum of Whimsy Grand Reopening

On October 22, from 6-9 pm, the Museum of Whimsy will hold its Grand Seasonal Reopening. There will be catered food and valet parking. The event is free and neighbors are invited.

The Museum has been closed for major construction during the summer. Owner Mary Lee has recently purchased the Southland Motel on the Trail just north of the Museum and that will provide additional parking. It is such fun to see this delightful place continue to emerge. Some of the west wall is being prepared for mosaics. Don't miss the pumpkins and toadstools in the north parking area. There's a new snowman out front, and lots more, including evolving, charming new signage.

We are so fortunate that Mary Lee has chosen to bring this asset to our community and especially to our Tamiami Cultural District. Attend the Reopening Party and take your friends to the Museum throughout the year.



Nominating Committee Accepting Applications by Chris Shamsey, Chair

If you would like to serve on the IBSSA Board of Directors and help your neighborhood, the Nominating Committee is accepting applications. Elections will be held at the membership meeting on December 6, 2011. The term of service is two years. Only IBSSA members can apply.

The Board's purpose, succinctly, is: To preserve and protect the environment, history, safety and property interests of those who own property and/or reside within its boundaries, and to promote good will and a sense of community among the previous.

Our Board is all volunteer, dependent on the individual board members' contributions to the overall goals. We don't have paid staff. Board members serve on committees or perform other Board tasks as needed.

If you have questions about the Board positions or would like to be considered for the same, please email rcshamsey@verizon. net or call Chris at 351-1884. Application deadline is October 14, 2011.



A big thank you to all those who have joined or participated in the IBSSA this past year!

To those who are new to our neighborhood, the Indian Beach Sapphire Shores Association (IBSSA) is a non-profit, nonpolitical organization whose goal is to protect the environment,

neighborhood safety and property interests of those who own property or reside in the area bounded on the west by Sarasota Bay, on the east by US Highway 41, on the north by the Sarasota/Manatee County line and on the south by Whitaker Bayou. A further benefit is to promote good will and sense of community among our neighbors.

In the months ahead you may get a knock on the door from one of your neighbors, a flier left at your door or a phone call encouraging you to join your neighborhood association. We would like many more of you to join IBSSA. WE WANT YOU! There is power in numbers. Our collective voices as a neighborhood association make a difference in influencing local government decisions on issues affecting *Our Neighborhood*.

We are very aware there currently are economic stresses and understand membership fees may be a challenge to some. We are sensitive to your situation and still appreciate any input or help that you can give to the neighborhood. To this end, we have tried to hold administrative expenses down and hence managed to keep the annual membership rate at \$20.

We are certainly blessed to live in such a beautiful neighborhood and each one of us has capabilities and talents that can be used to promote and preserve the beauty and community integrity that surrounds us. Please consider joining the IBSSA and ensuring a strong community feel and representation.

WE WANT YOU!

IBSSA Membership Benefits:

Free admission to neighborhood picnic Eligible to vote in semi-annual membership meetings Access to IBSSA website

Free classified ad listings on website

IBSSA Services to our Community:

- Coordinating and publicizing neighborhood events such as our Annual Garage Sale
- Funding & producing the IBSSA Newsletter "Shorelines" (distributed to all without charge)
- Providing a newsgroup for e-mail alerts on crime, lost pets, and for neighborhood discussions
- 4. Funding of 2010 Neighborhood Crime Watch meeting
- 5. Compiling area crime reports and communicating neighborhood concerns to SRQ police
- Creating opportunities to meet neighbors from all areas of Indian Beach-Sapphire Shores
- 7. Providing organized representation and input to governing bodies, including the City/County (continued on pg 6)



Reminders:

Don't speed! BE a safe driver and obey the 25 mph speed limit throughout our neighborhood and the 15 mph speed limit in all school zones.

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Services to our Community (continued from pg 5)

Active Committees include: Neighborhood Beautification, Land Use (zoning, variances, code changes, violations), Special Events, Communications (newsletter, newsgroup, web site).

Join the Association by completing the application form on the last page of the newsletter or going to the IBSSA website: www.ibssa.ws. For any questions, contact: Carlos de Quesada at cdequesada@omearaferguson.com or Chris Shamsey at 941-351-1884.

Meet Your Neighbor by Richard Clapp Carlos de Quesada

Carlos de Quesada was elected a Director of IBSSA at the last semi-annual meeting.

He is a first generation American of Cuban parents, born and raised in Miami. After attending FSU, Carlos served as a Marine Corps officer in the US and abroad. While in the Marine Corps he met his wife Cynthia (a fellow officer) and they have been married for 19 years.



The de Quesadas have two children (Carlos at Booker Middle and Miranda at Bay Haven). Carlos earned an MBA and has a career in financial and business management for non-profit organizations.

The de Quesadas love living in IBSSA. After growing up in Miami, Carlos says "The environment here is like Miami 40 years ago, much less traffic and lots of green space. We feel blessed to be here and enjoy the natural beauty of this area and often kayak, go to the beach, fish and bike ride. Culturally, we also enjoy and support local institutions such as the Ringling Museum, Mote Aquarium, Jungle Gardens and GWIZ."

We welcome the de Quesadas to our community and thank Carlos for his willingness to volunteer for the IBSSA Board to help make our neighborhood a better place to live.

IBSSA Book Club by Jane Nutter Johnson

The book club started January 2011 on the worst possible evening. It felt like a hurricane in January. Water everywhere, and Pat Richards and I couldn't see to drive or find Cheryl Evans house. Cheryl initiated this group following multiple e-mails and exchange of ideas. There were 20 plus women initially interested, it is now down to an active group of 4-7, depending upon the season. We meet the last Thursday of the month at each other's homes. There is no pressure to host. The conversation is stimulating. The books chosen are diverse and usually different than what I would pick. If life gets busy and you have not been able to read the book, you are still welcome to soak in the conversation.

A few of books we have read are: The Things They Carried, Tinkers, Little Bee, Light in August.

Our next meeting is September 29 at 7 pm, 428 Sapphire Drive We are reading *Salimar The Clown* by Salman Rushdie and *Sick Puppy* by Carol Hiassen.

All are welcome. Please email carolecrosbyjd@gmail.com or call 351-2421 if you are coming.

Ainsley Place Beautification

by Vald Svekis

Seldom has synergy been as clear-cut as when the city, neighbors and our Beautification Committee pooled resources and efforts to create the little oasis of a public space where Bay Shore Road curves past the Cuneo property just south of Corwood. The city, for its part, put in the plants. The Cuneos provided mulch and ran an under-road water line for irrigation. Mr. Murray, another neighbor, has taken on the task of maintenance. There is also a sculpture that was anonymously donated by a neighbor.

Our Beautification Committee, led by Cynthia Bernstein and Alan Lillie, worked tirelessly to make all this happen. The accomplishment is a little jewel for our neighborhood. The picture shows Cynthia and Alan at the Ainsley public space.



Our First Web Site Newsletter

by Gretchen Serrie

In the interest of being green and also conserving resources, IBSSA has produced its very first web site-only newsletter. It is the board's intention always to send at least one printed newsletter (or more) a year, but periodically you will be notified, as well, when a web site-only newsletter has been posted.

Our first web site issue features highlights from the first ten years of our newsletter ("From News and Views to Shorelines") and some choice postcards [thank you Dick Clapp] of our neighborhood dating back as far as 1910. You'll see the old Golden Buddha restaurant, replete with its signature blue mosque, Zinn's Restaurant, which did a thriving business on a site just north of New College, the old Sapphire Motel, Point Welcome, and Indian Beach in the early decades of the twentieth century.

We hope you'll enjoy the story of the struggle over the "beautification" of Sapphire Shores Park; the 3:00 a.m. march down Bay Shore Road by New College students upset over administration attempts to tone down their Friday and Saturday evening revels that had generated many complaints from sleepless neighbors; the closing of the Publix store in Trail Plaza...and a little later, the attempt to put a bingo parlor in its place; the long, drawn out process to rid the N Trail of porn shops and lingerie modeling establishments; and our "dismal" Christmas decorations.

Please go to www.ibssa.ws and read a brand new "Shorelines"... online (and in color).

6 www.ibssa.ws

Membership Application and Dues Renewal Form



Indian Beach-Sapphire Shores Association

Membership type: ☐ New ☐ Renewal

I can volunteer:	Name:	
 Beautification 		
☐ History	Address:	
☐ Membership		
 Neighborhood Watch 	Phone:E-mail:	
☐ Newsletter	PLEASE	PRINT ☐ new or ☐ changed
☐ Picnic/Special Events	Checks payable to: IBSSA	2011 Dues Payment: \$20.00
☐ Web-site	Mail: P.O. Box 49673, Sarasota, FL 34230	Voluntary Contribution \$
	oout your dues status, please contact	Total Enclosed \$

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



SEE IT! HEAR IT! REPORT IT!

Report all crime and suspicious activity...

IMMEDIATELY!

- 1 Call the police...for emergencies call 911, for nonemergencies call 316-1199 or 316-1201.
- 2 Inform your block captain or Neighborhood Watch Coordinator – DON'T FORGET THIS STEP
- 3 Alert your neighbors

Your call could stop a criminal act, prevent an injury or save a life.

Neighborhood Watch News

by Debbie Muller

It is so encouraging to live in a neighborhood where people are genuinely concerned for one another and dedicated to keeping our community safe. Even though crime is an unfortunate reality, our residents do their utmost to make our neighborhood less vulnerable to crime by being aware of suspicious activity and reporting it to the police. We also face, on a daily basis, the illicit activity occurring along US 41. Mere blocks from our homes, and for some of our neighbors, just outside their front doors, prostitution and drug activity is rampant. When reviewing crime statistics for areas along North Tamiami Trail, it is somewhat alarming to see the number of violent crimes taking place. We know that crimes of prostitution and illegal drugs often lead to burglaries and thefts. but robberies, assaults and attempted homicides also occur.

Again, residents of our neighborhood are fighting the battle along with the help of the police. Now if the owners of the businesses along North Tamiami Trail would truly commit to cleaning up their establishments and calling the police every time suspected criminal activity is observed, we could finally have an entrance of our city that represents the Sarasota that we all love. Working together we can rid these criminals from our community

Reminder: Back to School Time! Students of all ages are bustling throughout our neighborhood going to and from school. From Bay Haven Elementary to New College, our streets have an increase in vehicular, bicycle and pedestrian traffic. So please have an extra awareness of these young people and a special regard for their safety. In the vicinity of Bay Haven there have been reports of speeding, blocking of driveways and vehicles not coming to complete stops at STOP signs. As a possible remedy to these concerns, it may help if parents of students attending Bay Haven would set a good example by not zipping through neighborhood streets, rolling through STOP signs or being inconsiderate of nearby residents and their property. Hopefully others will learn by your example. Making the drop-off and pick-up of students a pleasant and safe experience is the primary goal. Don't forget, they are our most precious cargo!

If parents, faculty and neighbors remember that thoughtfulness and patience go a long way to help resolve most problems, I think the children will be learning a wonderful lesson.

ALERT: Two cats were killed by roaming dogs within the past few months. These incidents occurred on Alameda Avenue and Caloosa Drive. Dog owners must realize the importance of having their pets under their control at all times. An unleashed dog can be very frightening to some people and may cause unnecessary upset or harm to an individual or other animal.



Indian Beach Sapphire Shores Association P.O. Box 49673 Sarasota, FL 34230

Annual Picnic, Sunday, November 6 December Semi-Annual Meeting, December 6 Neighborhood Yard Sale, January 28 & 29, 2012

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The newsletter is even better in color. Check it out on the IBSSA web site: www.ibssa.ws

Neighborhood Watch Coordinators:

Sapphire 1 58th Street - 47th Street Debbie Muller 355-5743

Sapphire II 47th Street - Myrtle Street Barbara Cherry 351-7906 or BarbaraCherry@comcast.net

Sapphire III Myrtle Street - Indian Beach Drive Fred and Joanne Gonet 358-8529 or jgo87@verizon.net

Sapphire IV Indian Beach Drive - Whitaker Bayou Yvonne Lacey 365-7063 or Lacey. Yvonne@yahoo.com

Helpful Numbers:

Narcotics Hotline:

Sarasota Police Department:

Sarasota Fonce Bopan	316-1199 or	316-1201
Non-Emergency:	310-11770	954-7025
SPD Front Desk:		954-7002
Chief Mikel Hollaway:		364-7360
Lt Randy Boyd (N. Dist):		501
SPD Website: www.sarasotapd.org		861-9500
Animal Services:		316-1201
Boat Noise:		210 1201
Citizen Volunteer & Project Life and Crime Prevention: Officer Fo	saver ord Snodgrass	954-7056
and Crime Prevention: Officer 1	J(1110 - 2)	954-4125
Code Compliance:		364-7327
Gang & Graffiti: Kim Laster		954-7050



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What can the IBSSA website do for you? If you have internet service, lots of things!

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