

The RP Bulletin

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

AUGUST 15, 1996

FROM THE EDITOR

Well, here we go again. Another newsletter editor! However I am only an imaginary editor, and I know it. I will be doing this only as long as it takes me to find and if necessary train someone else to do this! We have created a newsletter committee to handle all the ins and outs. Currently Naim Naqi, myself (Ray Merry) and Margo Stalpes... are it.

Anyone wishing to help give me a call or leave your name at the office. We need help soliciting ads, writing, and editing the newsletter. Any talents will be greatly appreciated!

THE GAVEL UNRAVELS

"Thank you's" are in order for a whole bunch of Royal Park residents. You know who you are. Let me tell you why you need to be thanked.

A condominium is a community that only works if the people who live in it want it to work. This "thank you" is

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for those who are doing their best to abide by the rules, regulations, and common sense things that aren't written down. All of us are familiar with those people who think that rules are made to be broken. Board members have gotten reputations as "Condo Commandos" for merely enforcing the rules that our residents have asked for.

ALL of the owners and lessees in our complex have the same rights. They also have the same obligations. The FIRST, and most important, is do nothing to injure your neighbor. Injury does not mean hurting someone physically. It can mean demeaning their property value, creating a hostile environment, or intimidating someone to the point of panic. We have seen

all of these things occur in the last 6 months. It's time for Royal Park to stand up for itself and say NO MORE!!!!

We have videotapes of one of our resident's ADULT children putting a puppy on the pool tables. We have videotapes of some of our residents drinking, destroying property, and creating havoc in our clubhouse. As I write this, I am watching some young adults roller-blading between parked cars, although it's a banned activity here. They're throwing a football. There is a rowboat parked in the complex. The owner told the gate guard that he was dropping his passenger off. He lied.

Dumb things, right??? No, not really. Most of our residents have invested a good deal of money in their apartments. They did it because they were assured that it would not become "Tobacco Road", where anything goes. The board is REQUIRED to see that the rules and regulations governing our association are enforced. To neglect that duty is to make the board members personally liable. SORRY CHARLIE, I'm not about to be sued because of lack of fiduciary responsibility.

So, now it's up to you, the association members, to insist that the rules and regulations are not just words in a booklet. YOU, let me repeat, YOU, are the only ones who can turn Royal Park back into the community that we bought into. You're angry about a lot of things, and rightfully so, but YOU MUST DO YOUR PART!!!

Why is it that you can INSIST that the board "Do Something", but are afraid to say to your neighbor, "Please don't do that"??? The board is not a police department. You ALL must help to protect your property. Tell the board what you want it to do. Then, stand behind the board when they do what you asked. If you have a complaint, PLEASE, put it in writing. NO ONE will know who complained, unless it winds up in court, BUT, the board, legally, can only act on WRITTEN complaints. We have 15 and 16 and 17 year old kids, and yes, even 19, 20, and 21 year olds wreaking havoc in our community, and YOU ARE AFRAID!!!! How are we going to fix it?

Step number 1. We can insist, and yes DEMAND that everyone abide by the rules. What that means is, that you will NOT be able to ask your favorite board member to IGNORE a violation, because, "Oh, they're nice people". Florida law requires that rules and regulations be enforced UNILATERALLY, without regard to race, creed, color, sexual orientation, or they're related to the board president, VP, or secretary. The rules govern ALL of us.

I, personally, will not be a part of the "Oh, it's okay, it's only for today" school of thinking. Your boat doesn't belong here. Your canoe cannot be on top of your car. Your dog, or cat, was not registered. You have a big wedding planned, and your relatives are going to occupy the un-rented apartment. THE BUCK REALLY DOES STOP HERE!!!

QUIT IT!!! Don't ask us to violate the rules because YOU have a special circumstance. We ALL have special circumstances!!!!

The rules of the Royal Park Condominium Apartments, Inc. are written down. Set in stone, (until they're changed), the board WILL abide by them. If you have a problem with that, you have several alternatives. ONE: Move; TWO: Change the rules; THREE: Elect new board members; FOUR: Consult an attorney. THIS board will do all that it can to insure that the owners and lessees here will be able to enjoy what Royal Park has to offer without fear of retaliation, intimidation, or retribution. We all want to live in peace. We can only do that if we all maintain our vigilance, and our integrity. We also have to accept our responsibilities to our community. It's a tough call. Can you do it????

On a lighter note. The new recycling bins are in. Folks, this is an opportunity to keep our costs down. PLEASE recycle. PLEASE insist that your friends and neighbors do. Please help your friend who can't carry the recyclable downstairs. We may

not see a reduction in maintenance if we do these things, but we won't see an increase, either. Inflation is a terrible constant in our lives. But, IF WE DON'T DO THESE THINGS, we are assured that our solid waste removal fees will go up. I expect a reduction in our trash bills of about \$1000 to \$1200 a month. This will impact our quarterly maintenance. If you need help, call the office. We must help control our own costs. The fact that we're saving our planet is an added bonus.

We're working on a plan to pick up your discarded furniture, appliances, etc.. If it's at all possible, call a charitable organization, or insist that the supplier of the new stuff remove the old stuff. No resident should have to pay to have his neighbor's old furniture or appliances removed, yet, if we have to have the city remove it, that's what happening. Nor do we want the dumpster rooms filled with old furniture, appliances, etc.. Residents are complaining about items left near the maintenance shed. Give us a few weeks to work on this. Meanwhile, watch out for your neighbor, help someone if you can, and remember, this life is all we have. Enjoy it, share it,



CITY WATCH

and thank the good Lord that you had the chance to be here.

The City of Oakland Park has been advertising for volunteers to serve on city boards. The ads run continuously on channel 38, Comcast. If you don't have cable, you're not aware of the need. If you do have cable, maybe you're not reading the community bulletin board. If you are willing to serve, leave your name in the office for me, and I'll call and let you know what is available. A lot of Royal Park residents have come from up north. They're used to serving on boards, volunteering, getting the vote out, etc.. Why aren't they participating in our city??? Retirement is a wonderful thing, BUT, how much bridge or golf can you play??? This city needs the help of Royal Park people. We have the knowledge, the skills. and the determination to make our city exactly what we want it to be. Conversely, we will be STUCK with the city that someone else programs for us. Royal Park is the LARGEST community in the city of Oakland Park. We have CLOUT!!!! All we have to do is EXERCISE THAT CLOUT. Come on folks. you've been there, and done that. Aren't you getting tired of sitting back and letting someone else determine what's going to happen to you????

For all of you who wanted to make your voices heard, who cared about the community in

which they lived, and who are sick and tired of rolling with the punches, NOW'S YOUR CHANCE!!! Call city hall. Volunteer to be on a board. Visit the Oakland Park Library and see how YOU can participate in running our city. ALL of the advisory boards consist of volunteers. Zoning, board of adjustment, pension boards. THEY'RE ALL VOLUNTEERS!!!! Sick of bridge games, canasta, and gossiping??? Get involved. Have a say in your future. It's a neat way to keep your skills sharp. Royal Park has a wealth of knowledge. Our residents have done everything, been through everything, and have survived. It's about time that we let the rest of the community know that WE CAN HANDLE ANYTHING THAT YOU THROW AT US. Not only that, we'll probably spit it back and make you swallow it. We are a tough, unified community.

The city manager's number is 561-6250. Please don't tell him that I gave you the number.

Ask to participate in the running of the city. Royal Park is making waves in Oakland Park, only because we are insisting that we have a voice in the running of our city. YOU must INSIST that your voice be heard. YOU must INSIST that your concerns should be paramount to the city hierarchy. We can accomplish these goals. All we need are determined goal-seekers. Do YOU want to sign up??? All it will do is protect your own property. GO FOR IT!! It will be fun. You

must remember how hard you fought for what you believed in so many years ago. This is back to the future!!! A chance again, to do what we know has to be done!!

Royal Park residents, unite to rebuff the forces of evil!!! We will be strong. We will volunteer. We will prevail over the silent majority.(Not that they're silent, let alone a majority!!!) Oakland Park is where we live. Isn't it about time that we let them know who we are??? Do you want to make a difference??? Do you want to control what's happening in the city??? This is a swan song. I have asked, begged, pleaded, and mortgaged my SECOND grandchild. Folks, ONLY YOU can help Royal Park in this city. As the big ad says. JUST DO IT!!!!

Another thing. There was a semi-job opportunity posted on the bulletin board. It told about possible part time jobs with the city, and if you might be interested, to leave your name in the office for me. For those of you who called the city, there are no jobs, that they knew of, that were available. Please, it was a special deal. If it's offered, FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS. We may have lost out on some valuable opportunities.

Two month postscript. The previous article was written in early July. On Thursday, July 25, 1996, a Partnership meeting was

held at the city library. If you were there you know what is happening, if not, you may have missed an opportunity.

The City of Oakland Park is looking for suggestions to increase participation of its citizens in the actual machinations of the government. When I moved here, I kind of took on the job, on my own. Remember that I work full time. I'm still doing the job, but, I definitely need some help.

What I suggested at the meeting, as far as what I, as Royal Park president wanted, was a disaster plan for Oakland Park, (read Royal Park), residents. I want buses available to transport our senior citizens to a safe place. I want coordination, so that NO-ONE is left to fend for themselves in the face of a killer hurricane.

The City HAS neighborhood participation funds available from last year's budget. We must insist that the city embark on a program, using these funds, to assure safety for the residents of Royal Park, OOPS, Oakland Park. Many of you do not have family living close

by. You all have friends, BUT, in the face of an oncoming disaster, your friends may have their own hands full with their own families or their business responsibilities.

I'm not being honest when I say only Royal Park. There are many senior citizens in our city who are also alone. No one should have to suffer the fear of an oncoming storm by them self. Royal Park is not my idea of the safest place to ride out a hurricane, and I'm pretty mobile. I'm not anchored to oxygen, in a wheelchair, or handicapped to the point of immobility. Many of our residents are. We have a chance to provoke the city to spend money on a plan that may NEVER be used. I think that it's worth it. *I need some help, some support, some input from our residents.*

Are you going to get involved???

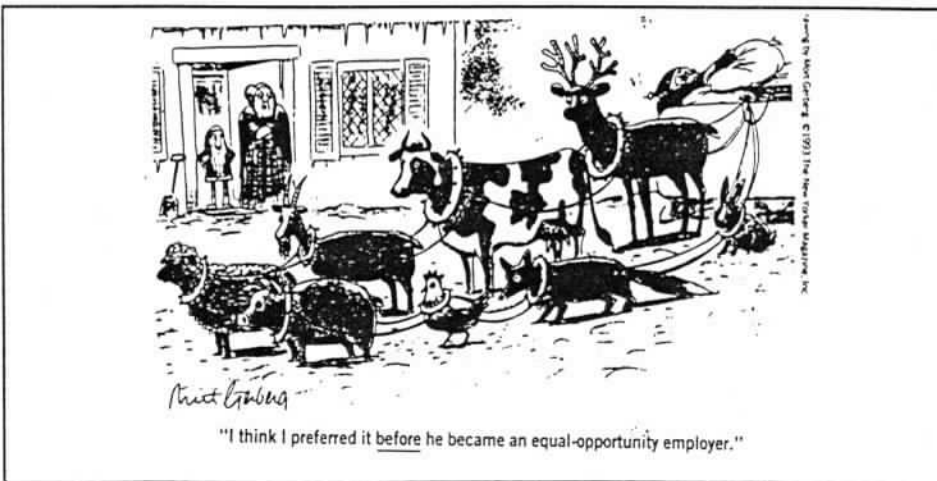
As a last comment, we saved \$1700. in June on our trash removal bills. We would have saved more, had more people been aware of the fact that our trash is being weighed, and USED THE RECYCLING bins. If you need help, call the office. Every penny we save is a direct reduction in next year's bud-

To Tow or not To Tow by Wm. (Sonnie) Shakespeare

Please be aware that the Association has the right to tow, according to your documents. They have no obligation to inform you of these intentions. Consider yourself forewarned that if your vehicle or your guests vehicle is illegally parked, in poor repair, on the property illegally or not properly registered, it will be towed. We must have order in Royal Park and everyone must be treated the same. The Association takes no pleasure in towing vehicles, so please know and comply with all parking restrictions.

Who's Who at the Gatehouse

By now you have probably noticed that the way we are handling "security" has changed. Allied Security was discharged two months ago as they were unable to give us people who could do the job. The guard shack is now called the GATEHOUSE. The uniforms now have a new look and we have security cameras installed in the clubhouse. Many people have questioned how much all of this cost Royal Park. Nothing. Well, at least not a penny more than you paid for Allied. Please try to show patience and courtesy to the employees. This can be a very busy job and it isn't always possible to drop everything and take care of your needs. There will be some changes made to improve our ability to control who comes in and out of Royal



Park. Please don't be resentful of the changes; they are for everyone's benefit. Leaning on the horn at the gate or being rude to a supervisor, accomplishes nothing. Effective August 30, the following rules will be enforced.

(1) You will be required to stop at the Gate stop sign. Shooting the gate without being acknowledged will not be tolerated.

(2) When calling in a guest, you must give your building and apartment number, **your first and last name and your guest(s) first and last name.**

(3) The called in Guest must show photo ID.

(4) If you are being dropped off by a friend, please have your ID ready.

(5) If you leave Royal Park on foot, you must have a photo ID to get back in. Anyone attempting to gain access on foot without an ID, the police will be called for trespassing.

Meanwhile, let's give a tip of the hat to our supervisors, David, Noreen, Al, and Dave.

Handicapped?

There are several residents in Royal Park who are blind or otherwise handicapped. Many of the changes in Royal Park are a hard-

ship to blind people i.e. the new washers and dryers. Though we make every effort to keep everyone informed via the bulletin board and Newsletter, but for the handicapped, this is not enough. If you know of someone in your building who is blind or handicapped, please let the office know. This way, we can help anyone having a difficult time or keep them informed through their building representative.

Decals and photo ID's

Time is running out for auto decals. Everyone in Royal Park must have their decals by August 30 or your car will not be permitted inside the grounds. Decal days will be Tuesdays from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM. and Saturday, August 17 and 24 from 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. Please be prepared to have your Royal Park Photo ID taken at that time. The charge will be \$3.00 for the first ID per family, and \$2.00 for additional family members. I know this is an inconvenience to everyone, but please see the other side of the coin. It is a tremendous amount of work for the staff. You have to get one photo and one decal. We have to give out about 2000.

Pool side chit-chat...the Lippmann's are packing for a wonderful family trip to the Northwest, however, I don't know to the Northwest of what...**Arlene** in the office had a wonderful trip to CT. Glad you're back, Ar, however, a week is much too long to be away when you have to photograph everyone and decal every vehicle in RP. **T. Dayton & B. Potter** are off to visit the kids for a few weeks. **Margot** finally made it back from Germany. **Barbara Carlon** and daughter cruised the Alaskan waters for a fine trip. **Sonnie Kircher** saw some Olympic events in Atlanta. I'm going to Disney World, does that count? Handyman, **Jerry S.** will be back from his annual summer jaunt, which will make a lot of RPer's happy. Happy August birthdays to **Jon B., Eva L., Mike L., Tammi C. and AK.** **Cherie** and **Angel** had a taste of life outside of RP and decided to move back. Are you sure?

Did you know that...boys' intelligence comes from their mothers? Several genes for intelligence are located on the X chromosome. Boys receive an X from their mothers and a Y from their fathers---so only their mothers contribute these intelligence genes. Girls receive an X from each parent, so their intelligence genes come from both. Source...Australian geneticist Gillian Turner, writing in *The Lancet*, the preeminent British medical journal. Hmmm, and my father always said my mother was a dumb dodo. He lied. The #1 cause of death of children is drowning and yet I've seen some parental negligence at our pools. Please folks, keep an eye on your kids.

How about some news for this column, people. Leave a message for Shiloh in the office for next month...you know B-days, anniv., welcome home, sendoffs, etc. Let's put some fun stuff in our little paper.

Short Stuff By Shiloh Shor

Comments heard outside of the office, at the laundry money machine--- I left out the expletives, but feel free to add your own...“Why didn't they lower this stupid machine; I can't see what it says in the little window.”...“I put in five dollars and there's only two dollars on my card.”...“At first, I didn't like it, but now I'm starting to.”...“This is ridiculous; I'm going to the Laundromat where it's only fifty cents and they have a TV.”...“Whose hair-brained scheme was this, anyway?” “What am I going to do with all of the quarters I've been saving?”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BUILDING REPS AND ALTERNATES

I just returned from a wonderful cruise to Trinidad, Tobago, Barbados and Martinique and a 3 day stay in Aruba. If any of you Building Reps are going away, please call me so that I can call your alternate for screenings.

As you probably read in the our last excellent Newsletter, painting of doors that badly needed it began in July. Inform those residents who have complained to you.

Till next month, Jane Baker
Bldg. Rep. Chr.

The next Board of Governors meeting will be held between the last week of August and the first week of September. Watch your bulletin board for the notice and plan to attend.

The Royal Park office will be closed on Monday, September 2, 1996 in observance of Labor Day.

The ID badges are of no use unless there is limited pedestrian access and someone is watching, via turnstile, etc., who goes in and out, the Crank says.

WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Corey Walker | bldg. 101-4C |
| James & Matt Barnes | bldg. 112-2G |
| Alice Fowler and Angelo Terilli | bldg. 101-4G |
| William & Jolene Simon | bldg. 113-4A |
| Nicholas Buenaventura | bldg. 114-1E |
| Carol Catiller | bldg. 118-4E |
| Jack Levitt | bldg. 106-3F |
| Eleanor Samuels | bldg. 103-3G |
| John Justice | bldg. 115-4A |
| Dawn Bugher | bldg. 113-4E |
| Josephine Traina | bldg. 118-1H |
| William Bowdren | bldg. 112-1C |
| Betty Potter & Tommy Dayton | bldg. 114-3G |
| Paulo Rossi | bldg. 117-4D |
| George Strittmatter & Elisa Raspanti | bldg. 114-3E |
| Angel & Mark Nelson | bldg. 101-2E |

IN MEMORIUM

Bessie Young	bldg. 116-1E
Paula Law	bldg. 112-2H
Melita McNicoll	bldg. 101-3G
Stanwood Ray	bldg. 106-1C
Dorothy Alexander	bldg. 120-1E



SAVE CASH !!!!!

The City of Oakland Park has advised us that the fire rating in our city has been improved. This may save you money on your Homeowner's and/or Renter's insurance. Contact your agent to make sure they are aware of this update.

