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President's Message



Happy 2025 to everyone!

As the re-elected president of the Gold Coast Estates Association (GCEA), I'm happy to usher our community into its 47th year of continuous operation. GCEA, established in 1978 by a dedicated group of residents, has always aimed to enhance the

beauty and foster the social spirit of our neighborhood, making it one of the best places to live in Cape Coral.

During a recent walk with my lab, Gypsie, I was reminded of the community's gratitude for the efforts of myself and Bill Boyd in ensuring we have a robust board to keep GCEA thriving. We're fortunate to have three former presidents on the board, with Terry Spitzer continuing as VP and Bill Boyd stepping into the role of treasurer. We'd like to also welcome Paul MacPherson as our new board member and membership committee chairman.

Our first meeting of 2025 took place on Monday night, and I'm pleased to report that Dan Carney has returned as our secretary. I would like to extend a special thanks to the Steedman's for hosting our first social gathering, which saw a great turnout and welcomed several new residents. Along with two upcoming Happy Hours in February, we are excited to bring back our fun Spring Fling event.

One of GCEA's founding purposes was beautification, and we're committed to maintaining that focus. Bill Boyd has highlighted the need to complete the curbing for our six cul-de-sacs, which the city does not maintain—this task falls to our association. A workday will be scheduled soon to address this.

I'd also like to thank Paul MacPherson for volunteering to lead our membership drive. To make his job easier, please send in your voluntary \$25 dues, which will help us continue to beautify our neighborhood and strengthen our sense of community.

If you have suggestions to further enhance Gold Coast Estates, please contact me or any board member on the 2nd Tuesday of next week. 🙏 Alternatively, you can leave a note in our box on the side of my garage.

Enjoy our piece of paradise!

Neil Wiley

Happy Hours



We had a great turn out for the January 10th Happy Hour at the Steedman's. Thank you, Ron and Dawn, for hosting.

Photos from the happy hour are on page 3.

We will have two happy hours in February. Peggy and Buzz Talbot are hosting on Friday, February 7th and Bill and Mary Kenny will host on Friday, February 28th.

Please bring a dish to share, your favorite beverage, and a chair to socialize with your neighbors. We'll do 50/50 and have our usual food drive to benefit the Cape Coral Caring Center.



Dues

GCEA \$25 dues are voluntary but help fund our beautification efforts for the neighborhoods as well as our Spring Fling. Dues may be sent directly to Bill Boyd at 2255 SE 26th St. Cape Coral, FL 33904

Beautification Efforts



We will be scheduling a workday soon to help maintain our neighborhood cul-de-sacs. Special thanks to John and Vicki Reczkowski for using their yard man to keep up the cul-de-sac on

22nd Ct, and to Gary Younne for maintaining the cul-de-sac on 27th St. Your efforts are greatly appreciated!

Poker Run



Save the date! We're excited to announce another Poker Run! After the success of last year's event,

we're bringing it back on March 18th, with a backup date of March 20th in case of bad weather. To participate, please contact Doug Shaw at 419-822-7113. 2239 SE 27th St. More details will follow.

Spring Fling



Join us for the Spring Fling in April! It's a fantastic event to gather with neighbors, enjoy delicious food and drinks, and listen to great

music. Don't miss out on the fun!

LOCAL EVENTS

Tour de Cape



Jan 17, 2025 -
Jan 19, 2025

The Cape
Coral Parks
and
Recreation

Department is proud to host the 34th Anniversary of Tour De Cape! The event includes a 5K, a Mini Kids Ride, and 15-30-62-100 mile bike tours in the northwest and southwest regions of Cape Coral. The weekend will begin with a kick-off celebration on Friday from 4 - 7 p.m. Participants can pick up packets, maps & t-shirts!

Cape Bike Night



Feb 8, 2025
5:00 PM to 10:00
PM
The City of Cape
Coral Parks and
Recreation
Department is
proud to bring

you Cape Bike Night! Motorcycle enthusiasts can get together on 47th Terrace in the South Cape, listen to live bands, eat great food, and just have fun at this great event!



Photos from the January 10th happy hour





GCEA Historical Page



We invite you to share historical photographs of our GCEA and its surrounding area. Please email your photos, along with descriptions, to laryan01@gmail.com.

These contributions will be featured in upcoming newsletters.



Gold Coast Estates Entrance 1979



Gold Coast Estates first sign



The first 10 years or so of GCEA were focused on the 23rd Ave median to plant trees and curb them.



First planting of cul-de-sacs in 1995 before curbing by GCEA.



Gold Coast Estates: Neighborhood unites to beautify area

By MAUREEN DOWNEY
Cape Coral Bureau

A barren strip became a palm-graced lane and a Cape Coral neighborhood became a community when the Gold Coast Association was born.

The Gold Coast Estates Association began in 1978 when 38 residents banded together to beautify the S.E. 23rd Avenue entrance to their homes. Since then, the association has grown to a united community spanning 12 streets with 98 members and a large activities schedule.

Success marked the group from the start. When it was decided trees were needed along the empty stretch entering the neighborhood, the group collected \$6,000. Founder and now Vice Chairman Bert Hamilton explained that \$3,000 was donated by the Chamber of Commerce and discounts were given by Pottinger's Nursery to aid the cause.

The association's work has resulted in civic improvements such as street lights and street signs, Chairman Bill Munger said. Plans remain to add trees along the residential side streets off of 23rd Avenue.

To give their community an identity, the association decided on the name Gold Coast Estates. A

log-supported sign at the start of 23rd Avenue announces "Gold Coast Estates" to motorists.

Beyond the tangible evidence of the group's efforts are the friendships that have developed between neighbors in the association. Dinners and picnics are held and new residents are visited by street directors of the association.

Hamilton said future plans are to purchase an empty lot in the area and build tennis courts.

An April 19 rummage sale at 2343 S.E. 27th St. is planned, according to Secretary Imelda Zuhorski.

The proceeds will go the association.

All 98 members are kept informed of the association's monthly directors' meetings through a hand-delivered newsletter.

For any other Cape Coral communities interested in initiating a community association, Hamilton advised perseverance. "Stay with it because it takes people a while to realize they can go ahead and do it."

Munger added his community's geography enhances the group's efforts. The streets share S.E. 23rd Avenue as a common access route to Everest Parkway and canals bound the community on three sides.