

GCEA Secretary <goldcoastestates2012@gmail.com>

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Good morning GCEA:

Happy Monday to all.

This past Friday, we had a great happy hour at Ron & Dawn Steedman's. They had the event on their lanai, and it was very nice. We were fortunate to have a great weather and a nice turn-out. We all noted that the food everyone brought was some of the best we've seen at a Happy Hour. Many thanks to Ron & Dawn for welcoming all of us into their beautiful upgraded outside space.

We followed that Saturday morning with the GCEA community garage sale. I have to say that being a first timer to the event, Melissa and I were somewhat apprehensive about what would be involved. In spite of somewhat dreading it, I can say with all honesty that we came out of the event warm and heartened to see how a community comes together. The good news is that we made \$1661 dollars. There were a few expenses such as advertising as well as donuts and pizza, but no matter what, we will clear about \$1500. That's great news for our budget. Also, we donated everything that we didn't sell to Parrott's Hidden Treasures. This group's motto is Pay It Forward. They resell items to benefit disabled veterans and homeless hurricane victims. Jessie and Kevin run the operation and came to us and picked up all that was left. Kevin also advised that several garage sales he knew of in Cape Coral were shut down, so we were fortunate to complete the event.

So many people contributed to the success of the event! Melissa and I would like to Thank Susanne, Carolee, Peggy, Dorothy, Terry, Gary, Lisa, Joan, Mike, Richard, Charlene, Donna, Helen, Janice, Joe, Karen, Neil, Guido, Susan, Alex and Uli. Melissa and I discovered what a lot of you GCEA yard sale veterans already knew is the ability of the community to rally for a common goal. Melissa and I are happier than ever before to be a part of such a great community. We really do have something special here at Gold Coast Estates.

With all of that said, we do have a disappointing announcement to make, but one that aligns with recent CDC guidelines surrounding the COVID-19 virus. Due to the week-end recommendation and previous guidance to cancel all gatherings of over 50 people, we will be cancelling the spring fling and the April happy hour. Richard and Charlene were scheduled for April and have graciously agreed to move their event to May. It is scheduled now for May 15. We will evaluate the situation as it gets closer to determine if that event is still safe to have. We don't see any point in trying to reschedule Spring Fling since so many leave after Easter. Our plan at the moment since we have excess funds is to have a bigger and better fall fling to welcome everyone back and hope that the world has returned to normal by then.

In the meantime, it's going to be hard to not have the social interactions that we all love so much, but it makes sense in this unprecedented environment that we find ourselves. Please do not panic but follow the recommendations from our local leaders as well as the CDC. I'm confident that while it's going to be a tough road for a bit that we will all get through it and hopefully things will get back to normal sooner rather than later because of the actions we take now.

We'll be in touch soon.

All the best,

Kurt Godwin

President

Gold Coast Estates