



**MARCH  
2025  
GATE POST**



## **News from the Board**

### **Joyce Jalbert, President**

**Electricity on Sand Ridge:** As everyone is aware the electricity, thus the light illuminating our sign, has not been working for several months now. After obtaining three bids, we decided to hire Elite Electric to fix the problem. They have done work for us in the past and we have found them to be dependable and cost efficient. I am happy to announce that work was completed on February 17th.

The original bid quote was \$1367.00. When Bill from Elite called to tell me that the job was done, he told me that the break was exactly where he thought it was and the job turned out to be quicker than he anticipated so.....he is working up a new LOWER priced invoice for us. Needless to say, I was surprised and very thankful. So, thanks so much to Bill and his crew for a job well done!

**Roof:** Recently the Clubhouse was inspected by our Insurance Company (in anticipation of our renewal). The Inspector found that we needed to have our roof inspected for possible replacement. So, Cristina and I went into overdrive and reached out to 4 roofers for an inspection. The inspector only gave us 30 days to respond back to her findings. Well...what an adventure we went on. 2 companies gave us a quote on replacement and 2 companies said "hold the phone you don't need a new roof".

So, upon more digging by Cristina, it was discovered that our roof was replaced in October of 2019 by Coastal Roofing for \$7700.00.

I would like to thank both Baker Roofing and Monarch Roofing for being honest with us and telling us the roof was OK. And not just out to make a quick buck at our expense. Monarch did send us many pictures of our roof and did discover that some of our corner eave drip edges are in need of repair, as illustrated below. We have contracted with them to complete the work. The cost is **\$973.00**.



# News from the Board, continued

**A Thank You:** I would like to take a moment to thank Cristina from Waccamaw for all her hard work over the last couple of weeks on our community. I have probably talked to her a dozen times recently not only regarding this roof business but negotiating and tweaking our insurance renewal. She has multiple properties to take care of and her time with us and hard work on our behalf has not gone unnoticed. Thank You, Cristina.

**A Personal Note:** This a personal note only not a BOD opinion....Contractors whether it be electrical, roofers, or general maintenance companies can be hard to find. Over the last couple of months I have dealt with Cruz Maintenance, Elite Electrical, and now Monarch Roofing for work to be done around the neighborhood. I have found these 3 companies to be honest, dependable, great quality of work, and cost effective. Just Saying!



**Be Kind.. Be Calm..  
Be Happy... Always**



**Open House for Sharon Gilbert  
hosted by the Aquarobics girls**

**Date: Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Time: 1-3 pm**

**Place: Clubhouse**

**Sharon will be moving to Florida to be nearer her family.**

**Come to the open house and wish her well  
and tell her how she has touched your life.**

**We are sure there are many stories you can share with her.  
No gifts, please.**



### **CLUBHOUSE POOL COMMITTEE**

***Kathy Nadler, Chair***

On February 22nd we boarded the Riverboat Queen for a 1 1/2 hr lunch cruise, with entertainment. 20 people attended.



**March 12 from 9-2 pm** "A Sharper Edge", the knife sharpener guy, will be in the clubhouse parking lot for your sharpening needs.

**March 15th at 5:30 pm** we will have a St. Patrick's Day pot luck dinner. See flyer for details.

**March 25th at 6:30** pm is Bingo .

The grills have temporarily been moved inside the pool fence 10 feet from the building, due to insurance regulations. A more permanent location is being worked on.

If you are looking forward to the pool opening on April 15th, we need help cleaning the pool furniture on Saturday, **April 12th at 10 am**. Bring cleaning supplies.

Even though Sharon Gilbert is leaving our community, Aquarobics will continue on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 9 am starting when the pool water warms up. Sharon has taught us well and we have learned her routines. We welcome new members. Any questions, contact Kathy Nadler 843-591-0185. We will miss you Sharon.

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

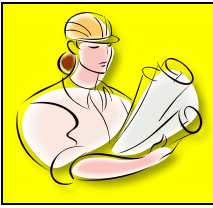
***Ellen Witalis and Nancy Thornburgh***



Every year the MTS Nominating Committee reaches out to all our neighbors to ask for volunteers for our Board Of Directors. This year we need to fill 2 open positions. Nominations are due in June for our election in early August.

Every resident can be considered to serve. As a group of 5 we always work together as a TEAM. There are no decisions made by 1 member. As a team we discuss every issue that comes to us even if we disagree and then come to a group decision. We work with monthly and workshop agendas at each meeting. The staff at Waccamaw provides advice and help as we need it.

We hope to have dedicated people who will serve by contributing their skills and interests for the continued support of our MTS neighborhood. Please consider being a part of what makes MTS a successful and beautiful community.



## **MODIFICATION COMMITTEE**

***Don Nadler***

We have some sad news to report from the Modification Committee. One of our stalwart members who has been on the committee for many years is moving to Florida. Sharon Gilbert has been an active member of the committee, a close personal friend and a confidant. She will be hard to replace but we wish her all the best in her move to Florida to be near her family.

Hopefully, after spring arrives we can all get out and do our outside maintenance and upkeep.

Remember there is a list of what needs to have Committee approval available on the MTS HOA website or in your Guideline manual.

As always, if in doubt, fill it out! We are always willing to advise you if your project does or does not need an application.

**Think spring!**



## **MTS DIRT BAND**

***Glen Daniels***

I would like to let our neighbors know that Paul Witalis has stepped down from his chairmanship on the Grounds Maintenance and Beautification Committee effective at the end of February. I have offered to assume that role, and at the next Board meeting I hope to be accepted by the Board. I'd like to thank Paul for his leadership and guidance the past 2+ years (and especially his golf cart when it's clean up time. 😊)

We will continue with our current members; myself, Rick Thornburgh, and Dennis VanderRyk. If you like the idea of contributing some of your time to keeping MTS looking as good as it does, we would welcome another volunteer or two, or three... We meet weekly and are usually able to accomplish our tasks in an hour or so. In addition to our weed control and fire ant offensives, we spend time pruning bushes at the common areas and around the Clubhouse, putting out the Christmas decorations at the entrances, and various other projects.

If you would like to come and help out but can't make an every week commitment, that's no problem. We gladly accept additional hands on a part-time basis. To become a member of the GMBC (aka : Dirt Band,) please call Me at 330-907-1074 e-mail me at [glen.daniels2814@gmail.com](mailto:glen.daniels2814@gmail.com). Thanks for your time, and hope to see you out there.





## **BOOK CLUB**

*Ellen Witalis*

At our February meeting we selected our book for March.. But first we reviewed our February choice which was **The Secret Life Of Flora Lea** by Patti Callahan Henry. MS Henry is the bestselling author of 18 novels and is also a pod cast host plus a public speaker. Our Book Club has read several of her books plus listened to her in person. We gave this story an 8 1/2 rating.

March's book will be **The Lion Women of Teheran** by Marjan Kamali. MS Kamali is an Iranian-American novelist whose books have been published in translation in more than 25 languages. She's now a writer in residence at Brandeis University in Massachusetts. This book is the story of 2 Iranian girls who enjoy their lives together as they grow into adulthood and experience different social classes and political leanings all against the violent background of modern day Iran.

The MTS Book Club meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 6:30 P.M.. All of our neighbors are invited to attend even if you've not read our book of the month. Come out to join us and enjoy good conversation plus good book reviews.



## **MTS LADIES SOCIAL**

Please join us for our monthly Ladies Social on March 13th at 2 pm. We are inviting everyone to wear their green for Irish good luck! Come enjoy a great time with your friends and neighbors.

Mary Ann Lockyer and Debbie Moffitt will be your hostesses for the afternoon. RSVP to either Mary Ann at [javamlock@gmail.com](mailto:javamlock@gmail.com) or (610) 304-3865; Debbie at [djmoffitt2853@yahoo.com](mailto:djmoffitt2853@yahoo.com) or (703) 731-9175.

See you all there.





## **SUNSHINE COMMITTEE NEWS**

***Jean Grady***

We are sending best wishes to several of our neighbors, including this Committee's own Berri Lowman who is recovering from surgery. Also Gail Allen Jones recently had surgery as did Donna Burns. We hope that everyone is recuperating quickly and will be good as new in no time. Also, we hope that Joan Warden is recovering from her recent hospitalization.

There are other residents of our neighborhood that we know have had hospitalizations but prefer to maintain their privacy, and we always respect that.

Additionally we extend our heartfelt condolences to Candyce McLeod on the recent deaths of her mother and brother. Please keep Candyce and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

If you are aware of anyone in the community who might be in need of a little Sunshine, please reach out to one of the members of the committee: Berri Lowman on Trawler Bay, Janet Pechalonis and Ginni Boam on Sandridge, Eileen Sause on Rudder Court and Linda Downes or Jean Grady on Helms Way.

## **A NOTE OF THANKS FROM Mark and Berri Lowman**

Heartfelt thanks to all those who have mailed cards, flowers and brought food to me. It's been a tough road so far and hopefully gets better soon. As I have always attested, a great community.

Our thanks.



## **MEDICAL SUPPLIES**

***Janet Pechalonis***

Often times, when an injury occurs or a special need arises, medical equipment may be necessary for a short period of time. Many of our residents have walkers and wheelchairs as well as other items in their homes which they no longer use. These very generous folks are willing to lend, on a temporary basis, to those in need, when a family is in a situation of caring for others.

If you are in need of borrowing, please contact me **Janet Pechalonis** by phone: **843-349-0093**, Text **203-558-4013** or email [petchco@sbcglobal.net](mailto:petchco@sbcglobal.net).

Although, I do not have the equipment in my home, I will direct you to the person who may have what you need. Thank you for your donations.





## **FIREWISE COMMITTEE**

***Colleen Meitzler***

We hope you are staying safe and warm during this cold winter weather. We have some good news and some bad news to share. We are once again an approved Firewise Community for 2025; however, we did not receive any grant funds. Due to the federal cuts and the increasing number of new communities, there is just not enough funding. The Forestry Commission has decided to do two rounds of grant funding (provided the government doesn't make further cuts). We were declined first round funding, as they decided to focus on the Western and Northern parts of the state that incurred damage from all the storms last year. We can still possibly receive a small grant in July during round two funding.

We informed our BOD, and they have graciously decided to continue our Firewise efforts for the Spring Clean-Up. They will continue to have Hardee come pick up all yard waste during our clean up week, which will be announced in next month's Gatepost. We will not, however, be able to provide any bags or gloves at this time.

Please take a moment to review our Firewise Safety Gatepost flyer on Pet Safety. Stay warm! Stay safe!



**Remember to  
change your clocks  
one hour ahead on  
March 9<sup>th</sup>.**



## **EDITOR'S CORNER**

# **HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY**

## **ITEM FOR SALE**

Singer Sew Mate sewing machine Model 5400 – Never used – excellent condition .Touch button stitch selection -- \$80.00. Please contact Suzanne Gilman @ mtsgatepost01@aol.com.



## **GREETINGS NEIGHBORS.**

The semi-annual community yard sale will be held on **SATURDAY, APRIL 26<sup>TH</sup>** this spring.  
(usually held the first Saturday in May)

Detailed information to follow.

Contact Barbara Volante at 843-234-2852 home or 843-421-2513 cell.



## **NANA'S CLOSET**

***Ellen Witalis***

Our winter has truly been an old fashioned winter this year. Several residents have already had visitors from colder states and have borrowed from the Closet. Who knows what March will bring for cold weather this year, and can you expect more company looking to warm up here in SC? If you anticipate young visitors please let me know as soon as possible. I already have items booked for the last week of the month.

We have a high chair, pac n' play, stroller with a hood, games and books, some Hot Wheels, and several other toys for golf and the beach.

Contact me at:

Ellen Witalis

843-347-7101

843-503-1662

elplusp@aol.com



### **MARCH**

- 1 – Wally Burke
- 1 – Dick Custer
- 4 – Nancy Guinto
- 5 – Dawn Tucker
- 5 – Peggie Szmagalski
- 8 – Felisa Stanich
- 8 – Betty Tynes
- 11 – Naty Saenz

### **BIRTHDAYS**

- 12 – Bob Williams
- 13 – Martha Hall
- 16 – Kathy Mathewson
- 18 – Jerry Mazurkiewicz
- 23 – Janet Roche
- 23 – Carmen DenDanto
- 24 – Frank Ricupero
- 26 – Barry MacGregor
- 27 – George Bertolet

### **MARCH ANNIVERSARIES**

- 2 – Dennis & Joan Vander Ryk
- 7 – Mike & Ginger Bubniak
- 9 – Joseph & Janet Pechalonis
- 22 – Ed & Connie Huyer
- 28 – Jim & Amanda Gray
- 29 – Walt & Beverly Cashdollar
- 31 – Naty & Flower Saenz





# March Ladies Birthday Luncheon



**Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> ~ 12:00 noon**  
**The Famous Toastery**

2005 Oakhurst Road  
Carolina Forest

## **Happy Birthday to all these Ladies**

4<sup>th</sup> – Nancy Guinto

11<sup>th</sup> – Naty Saenz

5<sup>th</sup> – Peggie Szmagalski

13<sup>th</sup> – Martha Hall

5<sup>th</sup> – Dawn Tucker

16<sup>th</sup> – Kathy Mathewson

8<sup>th</sup> – Felisa Stanich

23<sup>rd</sup> – Janet Roche

8<sup>th</sup> – Betty Tynes (Cheryl Simmons Mom)

*We hope you can join Us!!*

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**If you are you planning to attend, please contact:**

**Char Martins – (763) 221-0133 (cell) or**

**Janet Roche – (843) 457-3374 (cell)**



**by March 14<sup>th</sup>**



Pets give us comfort, friendship, and unconditional love. Our connection to them can be among the strongest relationships in our lives. But pets can cause fires. We need to be careful with pets in the home.

### SAFETY TIPS

- Pets are curious. They may bump into, turn on, or knock over cooking equipment. Keep pets away from stoves and countertops.
- Keep pets away from candles, lamps, and space heaters.
- Always use a metal or heat-tempered glass screen on a fireplace and keep it in place.
- Keep pets away from a chimney's outside vents. Have a "pet-free zone" of at least 3 feet (1 meter) away from the fireplace. Glass doors and screens can stay dangerously hot for several hours after the fire goes out.
- Consider battery-operated, flameless candles. They can look and smell like real candles.
- Some pets are chewers. Watch pets to make sure they don't chew through electrical cords. Have any problems checked by a professional.

### SMOKE ALARMS

- Have working smoke alarms on every level of the home. Test your smoke alarms at least once a month.
- If the smoke alarm sounds, get out and stay out.
- Never go back inside for pets in a fire. Tell firefighters if your pet is trapped.

## Pets and Wildfires

Make sure pets are included in your family's wildfire evacuation plan. Build an evacuation kit for each pet in your household. Ensure each kit is a size and weight that can be quickly and easily loaded into a vehicle when packing to evacuate.



### FACT

Pets or wild animals have a part in starting about 750 home fires per year. These involve cooking equipment, fireplaces and chimneys, space heaters, lamps, bulbs, wiring, and candles.



**NATIONAL FIRE  
PROTECTION ASSOCIATION**

The leading information and knowledge resource  
on fire, electrical and related hazards

**JOIN US AT THE  
CLUBHOUSE FOR A**



**ST. PATRICK'S DAY  
POT LUCK DINNER**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 15<sup>TH</sup>  
SOCIAL HOUR 5:30 TO 6  
DINNER SERVED AT 6**

**RSVP TO KATHY NADLER  
AT (843) 591-0185 BY 3/12  
WITH NUMBER ATTENDING  
AND THE DISH YOU WILL BRING**

**(PLEASE BRING A NOTE WITH POSSIBLE ALLERGENS  
ALONG WITH YOUR DISH- I.E. NUTS, ETC.)**

**WATER AND COFFEE  
WILL BE PROVIDED  
BYOB  
50-50 RAFFLE**



## FIREWISE ACTIVITIES MATCHING FUNDS RECORDING SHEET

*Can be used to record activities for matching funds and other Firewise Communities/USA*

What qualifies for matching funds for Firewise grants? Any time or money you spend on your home and/or surrounding property for the purpose of reducing the probability of wildfire loss. Examples of activities that will qualify related to homes and outbuildings are:

Dryer vent cleaning, pruning, mulching, tree trimming/limbing, weed abatement/spraying, replacing combustible mulches with stone/gravel, leaf raking and removal, pine needle/pine cone removal, cleaning gutters, grass cutting, grass irrigation, edging, time spent hauling vegetation to landfill/dump sites, meetings, presentations, cost for purchase or rental of chain saw/hedge trimmers, cost or protective eyewear/earplugs.

Volunteer activities also qualify for Firewise matching funds. Volunteer activities can include: attending Firewise Board Meetings, attending Firewise community events and preparation for wildfire.

To record **your time**, please fill in the following:

ACTIVITY	DATE PERFORMED	AMOUNT OF TIME (HRS : MINUTES)
<b>Total Number of Hours/Minutes</b>	→→→→→	

To record **your costs**, please fill in the following and **attach a copy of any invoices** from stores, contracted personnel, etc.

ACTIVITY	DATE PERFORMED	COST OF ACTIVITY
<b>Total Costs of Invoices</b> Please attach a copy of invoice(s)	→→→→→	\$ _____ .__

I affirm that the information I have provided on this form is accurate.

Print Name

Address

Date

Signature

Phone/E-mail

Return this form to your Firewise Board contact at a Monthly HOA meeting, community event or mail tube:

Colleen Meitzler 721 HW\*\*Dennis Vander Ryk-1044 RC\*\*Gail DiMaio-787 HW  
Glen Daniels-1020 RC\*\*Bruce McConnell 721 HW

Rev. 9/2024



## MYRTLE TRACE SOUTH

### MODIFICATION REQUEST APPLICATION FORM

HOMEOWNER MUST RECEIVE WRITTEN APPROVAL BEFORE WORK CAN COMMENCE. THE MODIFICATION COMMITTEE AND/OR BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BOD) WILL REVIEW YOUR REQUEST AND RETURN AN ANSWER WITHIN 45 DAYS OF RECEIVING THIS WRITTEN REQUEST.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ LOT#: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

PRIMARY E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

SECONDARY E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX #: \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIBE THE MODIFICATION PROJECT (use additional pages if necessary):

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DESIRED START DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ EST. COMPLETION DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

### PROVIDE THE PERTINENT INFORMATION LISTED BELOW

LOCATION OF PROJECT: \_\_\_\_\_

PROVIDE: MARKUP, SURVEY, HOUSE PLANS, PHOTOGRAPH, LANDSCAPING LAYOUT OR OTHER APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTS

MATERIALS: \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION OF THE MATERIALS, BROCHURES, WEBSITE INFORMATION AND/OR SAMPLES SHOULD BE PROVIDED

COLORS: \_\_\_\_\_

A LISTING OF THE COLOR(S), SWATCHES, BROCHURES OR SAMPLES ATTACHMENTS MUST BE NOTED AND AN APPROVED COLOR WHERE APPLICABLE. \_\_\_\_\_

PLANS: ATTACH LAYOUT, DIAGRAMS, SURVEY AND/OR PLANS FOR THE PROJECT IF CONSTRUCTION RELATED

ATTACHMENTS: PLEASE CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX FOR ANY ATTACHMENTS: YES ☐ NO ☐

By signing this application, you are accepting full responsibility for the modification project and acknowledge that: a) the HOA may not be held responsible for any injuries or damage resulting from the modification being done; b) any commercial contractor(s) used is/are licensed and insured; c) All applicable permits that may be required by law are obtained prior to start of the modification; d) The Modification Committee, at its discretion, may ask to view permits, proof of insurance and licensing for construction, re-roofing, retaining walls, drainage alterations and other substantial modifications by contractors; e) The Modification Committee has the right to conduct on-site inspections of the modification project.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Homeowner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Homeowner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Please deliver this completed form to: **Don Nadler - 518 Sand Ridge Rd**





# MYRTLE TRACE SOUTH

## COMMITTEE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

\_\_\_\_\_ would like to be considered to serve as a  
(Print Your Name)

member of the following committee(s) of the Myrtle Trace South Homeowners' Association, Inc.

Please place an **X** next to the committee(s) you have an interest in:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pool/Clubhouse Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Grounds Maintenance Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Modification Committee   | <input type="checkbox"/> Nominating Committee          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Firewise Committee       | <input type="checkbox"/> Ponds Committee               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunshine Committee       | <input type="checkbox"/> Welcoming Committee           |

Your OCCUPATION: (if retired, former occupation) \_\_\_\_\_

Your EXPERIENCE: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What TALENTS/GIFTS do you have that lead you to apply to serve on the above committee(s)?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

***Please complete and return this form to:***

**Ellen Witalis - 1023 Rudder Court - 843-347-7101 - [elplusp@aol.com](mailto:elplusp@aol.com)**

On behalf of the BOD of MTS, thank you for "stepping up" to serve in our community!

Rev. 8/30/24

# MARCH

# 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Poker 6PM	55+ Exercise 9AM	Board Mtg 9AM	55+ Exercise 9AM CHCP Mtg 10:30AM Poker 6PM		Open House for Sharon Gilbert 1-3 PM
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Poker 6PM	55+ Exercise 9AM	Knife Sharpening 9 to 2PM	55+ Exercise 9AM Ladies Social 2PM Poker 6PM		St. Patrick's Day Pot Luck Dinner 5PM
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Poker 6PM 	55+ Exercise 9AM Ladies Bday Lunch 12 Noon	Book Club 6:30PM	55+ Exercise 9AM Poker 6PM		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	Poker 6PM	55+ Exercise 9AM Bingo 6:30 PM		55+ Exercise 9AM Poker 6PM		
30	31					
	Poker 6PM					