



News and Views

Myrtle Trace

A Newsletter by Myrtle Trace Residents for Myrtle Trace Residents December 2024

BOARD BRIEFS

BOARD ACTION TAKEN—At the November 20th Board meeting two modifications to the Capital Contribution and Certified Statement of Assessment were approved. Both assessments are paid by new homeowners at “closing”, the process by which the home sale is completed and title transfers to the new owners. Capital Contribution will increase to \$1,450 and the Certified Statement of Assessment will increase to \$100. The increase is effective on January 1, 2025.

2025 BUDGET AND MONTHLY DUES—The 2025 budget was approved at the November 20th Board meeting. The budget includes an increase in the monthly HOA dues to \$90 per month. The increase will be earmarked to servicing and improving the 15 stormwater retention ponds owned by Myrtle Trace. The detailed 2025 budget will be included in the annual meeting packets distributed to all homeowners on or about January 11, 2025. The increase takes effect on January 1, 2025.

POND DREDGING PROJECT—The Board approved funding for a project to remove sediment from areas where it is most problematic. The Board will establish a regular maintenance schedule in the following years. This year we are servicing the areas identified by our contractor as most in need and that our budget will allow. Please see the Property Committee report inside this issue for more details.

ANNUAL MEETING – FEBRUARY 1, 2025—The 2025 MTHOA Annual Meeting will be held at 2:00 PM in the Burroughs & Chapin Auditorium located at the Horry-Georgetown Technical College, Conway Campus. **REGISTRATION STARTS AT 1 PM. WE ENCOURAGE ALL HOMEOWNERS TO ATTEND THE MEETING.**

Information packets will be distributed to all homeowners. Packets will NOT be available on the day of the meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please give your proxy, which will be included in the information packet, to a homeowner who will be attending. If you will be voting multiple proxies for other homeowners, you are encouraged to pre-register on **Friday, January 31, at the Clubhouse between 3 PM and 5 PM**. All homeowners will receive the official ballots at the meeting. All voting takes place at the meeting.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS—Annual Meeting Written Reports must be delivered to Mary Schaeffer no later than **December 13th**. Preferably one page. If the report exceeds one page, it must be two separate pages, not front and back.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE—The Nominating Committee has identified 3 residents who will be candidates for the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting which will be held February 1, 2025. The names of the candidates will be announced at the December Board of Directors meeting and their resumes will be included in the Annual Meeting packets which will be distributed on or about January 11, 2025. They will be introduced and will be able to make some comments at the January Board of Directors meeting.

Continued on page 5

News & Views

Newsletter Coordinator

Carol Blonowicz

585-880-8925

carol.blonowicz@gmail.com

January Deadline—12/21/2024

January Delivery—12/31/2024

Table of Contents

1. Board Briefs
2. Club Outings/Safety/
Directory Updates/2025
Talks
3. Activities Committee/Other
activities
4. Property Committee
5. Board Briefs-*continued*
6. Artist of the Month/MT
Mart
7. Flier—Illuminate Our
Community
8. Flier—Ladies Coffee
9. Flier—MT Dining Out
10. Flier—Christmas Music
Bingo and Trivia
11. Flier—House/Mailbox
Xmas Decorations
12. Clubhouse Calendar

TRACERS ON THE GO!

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Thursday, December 5

5:30 pm

THE CLUBHOUSE

R O M E O'S

Friday, December 20

Time: 7:45 am

CRACKER BARREL

Coastal Grand Mall

1208 N Retail Ct

Myrtle Beach

**NO TRAVEL CLUB
MEETING IN DECEMBER
NEXT MEETING IS
JANUARY 12, 2025**

Thank You

I wish to thank my friends and wonderful neighbors on Cottonwood for the cards, flowers and food during the recent passing of my daughter, Patty. I have lived in Myrtle Trace for 27 years and the community never fails to amaze me with its kindness and generosity.

Judy Thropp and Family

SAFETY PRECAUTION

Myrtle Trace walkers—if you are walking your dog late at night, please wear brightly colored clothing or a reflective vest so drivers can see you clearly and see you before they approach you. And drivers, please be extra cautious and drive with raised awareness when driving on our roads late at night.

Thank you—the Neighborhood Watch

COMMUNITY DIRECTORY UPDATES—As of 11/25/2024

Additions

Brennan, Deborah	223 Candlewood DR	609-280-8215
Crumley, Linda	102 Laurelwood LN	843-798-0487
Lane, Carol	121 Boxwood LN	843-457-2175
Rohrback, Harold	102 Laurelwood LN	843-421-1303
Turkot, Bill	232 Wedgewood LN	732-581-2241
Turkot, Juliana	232 Wedgewood LN	732-604-6833

Changes/Corrections

Crowley, Michele	847-244-6738
Kongvold, Anne	347-534-7454
Williams, Bruce	wmsjbm@gmail.com

Emails

Brennan, Deborah	debby6@comcast.net
Crumley, Linda	crumley120@gmail.com
Lane, Carol	lanecarolb@gmail.com
Rohrback, Harold	harold.rohrback@yahoo.com
Turkot, Juliana	turkot2@comcast.net

MARK YOUR 2025 CALENDAR FOR UPCOMING TALKS

We will be hosting talks on **Hospice on Sunday, January 26 at 2PM** and on **Wills and Estate Planning on Sunday, February 2 at 1:30PM**. Both talks will be in the Clubhouse. Details and reservation information will be in the January, 2025 issue of News and Views.



ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Thank you for supporting our activities this holiday season! Veterans Day was celebrated this year at the Clubhouse and presented by Deb and Ken Wierman. We are grateful for their generous donations this year and prior years to honor our Armed Forces.

By the time you read this, the annual Myrtle Trace Thanksgiving Dinner will have taken place. Most of the Activity Committee fundraising events throughout the year pay for this holiday meal and community tradition. I would like to thank Cheryl Manzella for taking on the task of the Thanksgiving Dinner. She has devoted many hours to making sure that a delicious meal is offered to our residents, guests and the homebound. Also, thank you to all volunteers and those who donated to the Thanksgiving meal, worked at the Clubhouse, and delivered meals. It is heartening to see and greatly appreciated by all.

NOTE: THE JEFF DiMAIO TRIO WILL BE PLAYING AT THE CLUBHOUSE ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH, FROM NOON TO 3PM. THERE IS NO CHARGE TO RESIDENTS FOR THIS EVENT. SODA AND WATER WILL BE PROVIDED. PLEASE BRING SNACKS AND ANY OTHER DRINKS YOU WOULD LIKE. THERE WILL BE A 50/50.

Happy Holidays to all!

Fred Shields

Friends and Neighbors—

Where has the time gone? When we started the Wednesday Texas Hold'em game 3.5 years ago, we started with 11 players and ended with 17 players with our first session. We thought it would only last for a short period of time, but to our surprise, we are now getting ready to start our 11th session with 28+ players that compete on a regular basis. We laugh, have fun and look forward to every Wednesday.

Our 11th session will start on January 8th, 2025, and run for 20 weeks. (It's not necessary to play every week.) We have room for a few more players (6) and we will have an introduction to Texas Hold'em on December 11th at 5pm. We will go over the rules and how it works. Good for new players and a good refresher for others.

On December 18th and January 1st, we will have a strategy clinic at 5pm for those who wish to improve their game.

So, if you are looking for something different to do on Wednesdays, come and check it out. You may find yourself a regular!

For more information, contact Russell Clark at 301-875-7381 or russc56@verizon.net

MYRTLE TRACE MINI-GOLF

The Myrtle Trace mini-golf group finished up our fall 2024 season on Tuesday November 19. We met at Logan's Roadhouse for an end-of-season lunch after a round of mini-golf that day.

This season we had 30 people on the roster. We recorded 252 games with 282 hole-in-ones scored. Our top hole-in-one score went to Jim McGill with a total of 19. Second place went to John Conner with 17 and third place went to Judy McGill with 16. Scoring 5 hole-in-ones in a single game were Sandra Main and Tom Bocchino. As always, we all had a great time getting out with neighbors and friends. Our spring season will begin in March of 2025. We will be switching our game days from Tuesdays to Wednesdays this spring. Watch the February and March issues of the News and Views for details and schedule. Just a quick note, many of our players purchase a season pass which is cheaper than paying for single games. These passes are only available online from late December to early March.

If you have any questions about the season pass, you can call me at 843-246-9221, or you can go online to: myrtlebeachfamilygolf.com for more information. Good for unlimited play.

The Coopers

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

◆ Pond Maintenance

The stormwater ponds in our community serve two primary functions: to catch excess rainwater and release it in a controlled manner, and to allow sediment to settle in the calmer waters of the pond and not flow into natural water bodies and ultimately the ocean. Naturally, over time the ponds will fill with sediment and no longer be as effective in holding excess rainwater and sediment. Also, nutrients wash into the ponds and can contribute to excessive plant and algae growth. There are several areas where the sediment needs to be removed, especially in the coves and inlets.

The HOA Board approved funding for a project to remove the sediment from areas where it is most problematic. The project is broken into 3 phases: an access path along Cormorant Pond, dredging the ponds, and hauling the pond spoil (sediment) to a landfill.

◆ Access Path Along Cormorant

Cormorant is the largest pond in our community. There are several areas badly in need of dredging but are inaccessible due to large trees or houses being too close together to allow equipment to reach the pond. An 80 inch-wide path was cut between the berm that runs along Myrtle Ridge Drive and a drainage ditch behind Ashwood Circle and Juneberry Lane. In addition to providing access to Cormorant, it allows our landscape contractor to clear the drainage ditch that is overgrown with weeds. The path starts at the back gate where 2 Bradford pear trees were removed. The area at the back gate will be landscaped after the project is complete. I ask residents not to go back on the path. It is **not** intended as a walking path and currently there are many tripping hazards. I apologize for not notifying residents in advance of this project. The contractor had an opening and this phase of the project needed to be completed before dredging could happen.

◆ Pond Dredging

We signed a contract with a company that will dredge the ponds using a hydro-rake. A hydro-rake is a piece of equipment that floats on the water being propelled by side paddlewheels. It has a large rake (pitchfork) on the front that will scoop the pond soil and dump it on the shore. The contract is

for 10 business days to address the worst areas in the ponds in phases 1–7. The intent will be to establish a regular maintenance schedule in the following years to keep ahead of the sediment issues. This year we are doing what are the areas most in need and our budget will allow. The dredging is scheduled to happen this December. There is only a short window when the contractor is available.

◆ Removing the Pond Spoil

The contractor who performs the dredging does not remove the pond spoil from the shoreline. We signed a contract with a company that will remove the pond spoil and haul it to a landfill. There will be containment barriers set up using hay bales to allow the excess water to drain out of the pond spoil. This material will be saturated, and the county will not allow a truck on a public road with dirty water leaking out. The material will need to stay for a period (a few days) to have the excess water drain away. The contractor will have 2 primary pieces of equipment: an excavator and a dump truck. The excavator will move the material and the dump truck will haul it away. To save money some of the pond spoil will be spread on the newly cut path. Some will also be placed on the berm along Middle Ridge Drive to lessen the noise coming from the traffic on the road as well as the lights coming from the newly constructed warehouses. This pond spoil is very nutrient rich and can be processed into valuable topsoil.

I ask all residents to be patient with the execution of this project. We made every effort to minimize the inconvenience, but given the scope of the work, there will be noise and some disruption. The goal is to keep the ponds functional as well as aesthetically pleasing.

Joe Bastian

BOARD BRIEFS—*continued from page 1*

DEVELOPMENT BEHIND MYRTLE TRACE DRIVE NEAR WALMART—Residents have noted that most trees near Walmart have been cleared. The Board contacted Horry County Planning as well as Stormwater departments. The properties are zoned **Highway Commercial**. These zones are typically located along major roadways such as Highway 501 and Highway 17 Bypass. **Building permits still are not issued for the site.** The stormwater plan specifies commercial development including retention ponds. We will continue to monitor the situation and notify the community of building plans when they become available. We also reached out to our County Council representative and expressed our objection to this process. Masking the development from county residents is certainly not transparent government.

GRAND STRAND WATER AND SEWER SURVEY—Several residents reported receipt of a voluntary survey from Grand Strand Water and Sewer. The survey seeks input from recipients to help determine the presence of lead pipes in the region. The Board and the Architecture Review Committee contacted the architect of phases 1-7. As early as 1984, specifications for constructing Myrtle Trace homes featured “copper water lines.” Please note that lead water pipes, solder and flux were banned beginning in 1986 by an amendment to the clean water act.

DEBRIS ON COMMON GROUND—The Board received several complaints regarding residents placing large amounts of yard debris on common ground. Placing such material on common ground is only permitted in the week following a named storm. The last such storm occurred in August, 2024. The community pays a disposal fee for debris hauled from our property by the maintenance contractor. Please refrain from depositing yard waste on common ground including our streets.

INSURANCE UPDATES REQUIRED—The Board reminds all homeowners that Article VI, Section 5 of the Covenants requires each homeowner to maintain insurance for each property. Evidence of insurance for both new policies and renewals should be provided to Debi Perry, the Administrative Consultant for Myrtle Trace. Homeowners may provide a paper copy of the policy summary or scan and e-mail the information to Debi at: hoa040123@yahoo.com

CLUBHOUSE USE FOR PRIVATE EVENTS—The Board approved a fee for private events scheduled at the Clubhouse. The non-refundable fee of \$50 is required for any use of the Clubhouse for a private event. The increase is effective on January 1, 2025. However, private events already booked and on the community calendar prior to November 21, 2024 are exempt from this charge.

SOLICITING IN OUR COMMUNITY—Recently the Neighborhood Watch drivers have had complaints from residents that several roofing companies are openly soliciting residents, even though we have posted “No Soliciting” policies. One resident has had 3 roofing companies approach him for a free roof inspection. When this happens, please contact Neighborhood Watch.

Some companies want residents to sign contracts that authorize the roofing company to make a claim with your homeowner insurance, but **the contract has a cancellation fee should you change your mind.** One of the reasons they give is hail damage to your roof, however, all insurance companies review this type of claim by requiring proof.

Please think it over before you let someone try to sell you a new roof. Do you want someone climbing around on your roof to find problems so he can sell you a new roof? Do not get pressured into a new roof that you do not need.

Horry County Police Non-Emergency Number: 843-248-1520 or call 911

Bob Ebling

December Artist of the Month

Pat Hosford

I love to travel, and photography helps me to remember and share my experiences. My hope is that it inspires others to travel and see our country and the world.

History and nature are amazing.

See Pat's artistic works on display at the Clubhouse during the month of December



MYRTLE TRACE-MART

SELL—QVICX Q25 Treadmill. Excellent condition. Regular price \$699.00. Asking \$150.00 Call Joe at 610-417-2729 or 610-417-3196. (12)

SELL—Gold, 8'x10' oriental area rug. Large coffee table with wood shelf below, beautiful sculpted brass legs and beveled glass top. Willing to negotiate price. Call Diane at 843-234-1499. (12)

SELL—2 blue, Queen Anne chairs—make an offer. Christmas ornaments, glasses and knick-knacks—make an offer. Call 732-859-9328. (12)

SELL—New Ball 1/2 pint canning jars with lids and bands, 10 quilted crystal jars—\$8.00. 11 fruit design jars—\$9.00. 12 golden harvest design jelly jars—\$10.00, 5 freezer jam jars with plastic snap-on lids—\$4.00, 3 four-ounce quilted crystal jars without lids or bands—\$1.00. 3 jumbo plastic portable file boxes with handles, letter size, used—\$5.00 each, 1 plastic file tote with snap lid, letter/legal size, used—\$5.00, 48 skeins of yarn, assorted colors, new—.50 cents each, 37 partial skeins of yarn, assorted colors, .25 cents each, vintage Swedish angel chime set includes candles, gold metal finish, 9.5" tall, used—\$5.00. Call Catherine at 843-347-5306. (12)

SELL—Hardwood oak finish slat Cracker Barrel porch rockers, 2 @ \$75.00 each. Good condition. Call Lynda at 724-301-1424. (12)

SELL—Upholstered, yellow sofa, glass-topped wooden side table. \$250.00 or best offer. Call Dennis at 603-303-9765. (10)

BUY—Electric trains and train items. Call Ron at 843-421-4466 or 843-234-1814. (10)

FREE—Queen bed frame, white with sleigh headboard. Easy assembly. Call Jules at 845-551-0500. (12)

FREE—LG refrigerator filters for CLCH 108. Call Doris at 843-347-3814. (10)

ILLUMINATE OUR COMMUNITY

TO CELEBRATE

THE HOLIDAY SEASON



Date: Saturday, December 7, 2024

(Rain Date: Sunday, December 8, 2024)

Time - 6:00 PM

(Set up: 5:00 PM, Lighting of Candles 6:00 PM)

Let's work together to get 100% participation this year.

Bags should be set up on each corner of your driveway or line the yard edge. TOPS OF BAGS SHOULD BE TURNED OVER TWICE (Approximately 1 inch) WHICH WILL PREVENT BAGS FROM CATCHING FIRE. Please extinguish your candles by 10:00 PM or upon retiring for the evening.

Candles, Bags, and Sand may be purchased on November 30, 2024 at the Clubhouse between 10:00 AM- 12:00 PM

You may also purchase supplies after November 30th at the following homes:

Jacqueline Masucci – 230 Cedar Ridge Lane

Mickey Jarossy – 192 Glenwood Dr

Anne Kongvold – 103 Linden Circle

Ann Golden – 141 Myrtle Trace Dr

Supplies will be outside homes with a basket available to leave your money.

Package cost (2 cup sand, 2 candles and 2 bags) - \$1.25 cents

Or Bags - .20 cents each; Candles – .30 cents each, sand .25 cents per cup.



Happy Holidays

MYRTLE TRACE LADIES COFFEE KLATCH

(Limit 70 Residents Only - RSVP)

December 07, 2024

10am-12pm

Must RSVP To:

Pat Paxson 843-331-9284

pathp@aol.com

Must sign up for food, service, and/or door prize

Bring \$ for 50/50 and Raffle

Myrtle Trace Dining Out

Monday, December 9, 2024

4:00 PM

Crafty Rooster

1125 3rd Avenue

Conway SC



Join Your Friends & Neighbors

RSVP to Susan Granger at 518-779-8933 or

susanverbeke@msn.com

I will respond to all RSVPs. If you don't get a response, please contact me again.

Friday December 20, 2024 AT 6pm
CHRISTMAS MUSIC BINGO
AND TRIVIA!

But wait there's more.... Also we will have a

GIFT EXCHANGE GAME!

Bring a wrapped gift (value not to exceed \$10) to play the game.

50/50 Raffle - Bring some cash to buy some chances.

Food - Please bring a snack to share with others.

Drinks - Bring plenty of your own beverages.

Hope to see you there, if not have a very Merry Christmas.

Christmas Music Bingo and Trivia

Friday December 20, 2024

I plan to attend and will bring snack to share. I understand this is BYOB event.

Name _____

Name _____

Guests _____

Drop off reply in the Red Box at 1214 Loblolly Lane.



HOUSE/MAILBOX DECORATIONS

**GET YOUR HOUSES AND MAILBOXES READY TO BE JUDGED BY OUR
NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH VOLUNTEERS (THANK YOU ELVES) FROM
DECEMBER 1ST THROUGH DECEMBER 20TH (FINAL DAY OF JUDGING.)
THERE WILL BE THREE CATEGORIES TO CHOOSE FROM FOR HOUSES:**

Traditional/Classic

Whimsical/Nostalgia

Humorous

MAILBOXES WILL BE JUDGED ON OUTSTANDING DESIGN.

**THE WINNERS WILL BE LISTED IN THE JANUARY NEWS AND VIEWS AND WILL BE
PRESENTED WITH A MYRTLE TRACE HOLIDAY CERTIFICATE IN THEIR CATEGORY.**

**JOIN IN THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT AND LETS GET MYRTLE
TRACE DECORATED FOR THE HOLIDAYS**

MYRTLE TRACE CLUBHOUSE ACTIVITIES

December 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 6:30 Game Night	2 10:00 Bible Study 6:30 Bunco	3 1:00 Mah Jongg 1:00 Hand & Foot 5:30 Men's Poker	4 12:00 Chinese Maj Jongg 12:30 Bridge 4:30 Mt Texas Holdem 6:00 Diflore Card Party	5 1:00 Grove Poker 5:30 Tracers OTG X-mas Party	6 10:00 Line Dance 1:00 Canasta	7 10:00 MTLCK Xmas Coffee 12:30 Hand, Knee, & Foot 5:00 Luminaries
8 6:30 Game Night	9 10:00 Bible Study 7:00 ACT. COM.	10 9:30 PROP. COM. 1:00 Mah Jongg 1:00 Hand & Foot 5:30 Men's Poker	11 12:00 Chinese Maj Jongg 12:30 Bridge 4:30 Mt Texas Holdem	12 1:00 Grove Poker 5:30 Men's Poker 6:30 Mah Jongg	13 10:00 Line Dance 1:00 Canasta 7:00 Bingo	14
15 6:30 Game Night 12-3 Jeff DiMaio Trio	16 10:00 Bible Study 6:30 Bunco & Games 3:00 ARC MTG	17 1:00 Mah Jongg 1:00 Hand & Foot 5:30 Men's Poker	18 9:00 MTHOA BD MTG. 12:00 Chinese Maj Jongg 12:30 Bridge 4:30 Mt Texas Holdem 7:00 Bunco	19 1:00 Grove Poker 5:30 Men's Poker 6:30 Mah Jongg	20 10:00 Line Dance 1:00 Canasta 6:00 Christmas Music Bingo & Trivia	21 12:30 Hand, Knee, & Foot
22 6:30 Game Night	23 10:00 Bible Study	24 1:00 Mah Jongg 1:00 Hand & Foot 5:30 Men's Poker	25 Christmas	26 1:00 Grove Poker 5:30 Men's Poker 6:30 Mah Jongg	27 10:00 Line Dance 1:00 Canasta	28 1:00 Queen's Book Club
29 6:30 Game Night	30 10:00 Bible Study	31	CALENDAR Pat Paxson - 347-1609 Alternate Carol Blonowicz 585-880-8925			