

Orchid Oaks Notes

March 2022



March Social Event!

We had a great turn out for our Saturday, February 6th wine and cheese party! Please join us for the next community wine and cheese party on:



Saturday, March 19
3-5pm



Electronic Voting Initiative



We are excited to offer our community the opportunity to switch from paper balloting to electronic balloting- but we need your support! There are many benefits to using web-based voting:

- Increases voter participation
- Saves time- no more filling out and mailing in paper ballots (unless requested, which is allowed)
- Guaranteed election integrity- voting is safe, secure, and in compliance with [FL Statute rules for condominium association voting](#).
- Affordable and easy to use (read more at [ElectionBuddy.com](#))

In order to offer electronic voting to our community, we must have a 2/3 approval vote from owners- paper ballots will be sent out in April and the board will be making phone calls and offering phone and in-person conversations to answer any questions you may have.

Please help us improve voter participation and vote
YES for online voting in April!

Orchid Oaks Community Email Group

We now have a Google Group for all residents to ask your neighbors questions, buy/sell/trade items, share information, create social opportunities and interest groups, and more. If you would like to be added to the group, please email me at orchidoaksnotes@gmail.com and I will send you an invitation. Please note that this is a private group for Orchid Oaks owners and renters only.

Landscape Committee Update



Ron Van Fleet has accepted a new job and can no longer perform grant writing or grant management work for our community (and we will not be pursuing an additional \$10K grant from Sarasota Bay Estuary Program for this year). He will manage our \$18K in grants from last year (plantings and bioswale installation begin soon) and will continue to monitor invasive species growth on our property. We are in the process of identifying a new specialist who can assist us with future grants.

Sandy Wison, 203A, organized a meeting with a member of the local Bromeliad Society and many interested residents attended. They assessed our community's lovely bromeliads and will create a plan for their continued care and maintenance. Thank you, Sandy!!

A very special thank you to John Burgstiner Ben Homola, Brian Timmons, and Henry Alberico for repairing our bridge and restoring access- their hard work saved us a lot of money! Also, the fence between our community and Windom Allergy was in very poor condition and has been removed. The committee is working with them to identify a new barrier.

Website Updates



I am volunteering my technical skills to update the [Orchid Oaks website](#). The current directory and meeting minutes are now available (password protected owner's portal), all issues of Orchid Oaks Notes are posted publicly, and other improvements/additions are on the way.

Paws Park



The proposed area for the Paws Park has been marked by orange cones behind Building D. Please review the area and send us your comments.