



Homeowners Association
Newsletter

January 2018
Vol. 6 Issue 1

Household Hints 1

Pole lamps

On returning from a holiday trip, a neighbor found that her car battery had died. The mechanic who replaced it told her that batteries don't last long in our hot humid Florida climate.

So what has this got to do with pole lamps? The fittings for the bulbs also deteriorate and corrode in our humid climate. The next time you check or change a bulb, have a close look at the fixture itself to ensure that it is not corroded and limiting the life of your light bulbs by shorting out.

Bravo to all those who have replaced burnt-out bulbs thus making Wisteria Park safer at night and our streetscape more attractive after dark!

Generators

Signs of Hurricane Irma are still with us and the aftermath is making news four months later. One result is that a number of Wisteria Park homeowners have decided to install permanent emergency generators. These machines can literally be lifesavers. However, their installation is regulated by Manatee County and a permit must be obtained before installation. Usually the generator contractor handles this but see <https://www.mymanatee.org/home/government/departments/building-and-development-services/building-permitting/app-forms.html> for details. In two recent cases, generator installation that had been provisionally approved by the Architectural Review Committee was turned back by the County because the plans encroached on property easements (areas that must remain clear to allow access to utilities like water, irrigation, wires and cables buried underground). Contact the County at 941-749-3047 or the Wisteria Park property manager (address on next page).

2018 Calendar of Events

PLEASE NOTE TIMES AND VENUES

January 22 (Monday) – **3:00 pm Annual General Meeting**
(2:30 pm sign-in)
4:00 pm New Board Meeting

Palma Sola Botanical Park
9800 17th Ave NW Bradenton

February 26 (Monday) – 3:00 pm Board Meeting
Bradenton FL 34209 West Manatee Fire and Rescue
District Annex Building Meeting Room, 6417 3rd Avenue
W, Bradenton 34209.

(ARC meetings are on an 'as required' basis)

All meeting notices and agendas are posted on the Wisteria Park notice board at the community pool a minimum of 48 hours in advance.

Landscape Lore

East side homeowners awoke a few days ago to the buzz of hedge trimmers. January is an "ornamental trimming" month according to the West Bay schedule that can be found at <http://www.wisteriaparkhoa.com/landscaping/> although over the winter months a less active schedule will focus mainly on turf maintenance.

It is just a year since a new landscape maintenance contract was awarded to West Bay and the results show a much improved Wisteria Park. Although problems do arise from time to time, the common areas, especially around the community pool, have been enhanced and better reflect the flourishing community that is Wisteria Park.

A Word from the Editor

Straight from the Twilight Zone - One evening in mid-October we arrived home, after dark, and found that our remote garage door openers in the car and next to the garage door were inoperative – dead! However, the hard-wired opener button inside the garage worked. On investigation the next morning, all the remotes worked normally, but that night – DEAD AGAIN!! The garage door opener shares a circuit with the front lawn pole lamp. By plugging the door opener into a different circuit, we had normal operation after dark. At this time our next-door neighbor reported the same problem. He had recently installed some outdoor landscape lighting using LED bulbs. The timing seemed to coincide with our garage door problem, so he consulted his electrician. After some experiments the electrician swapped out the LED bulbs for another brand of LED bulbs. Guess what – the remotes for both of our garages work fine now. Problem solved – mystery continues. Might be fun to know if anyone has had similar experiences and / or explanations for this phenomenon.

My farewell to this Newsletter - With my retirement from the Board and this Newsletter on Monday I will be exploring new volunteer opportunities in our area. There are many to consider. However, I would like to take this opportunity to record, again, my affection for Wisteria Park. Its physical attributes provide true beauty and tranquility. And then there is the quality of the people who live here – most recently visible during our preparations for Irma last September. I also want to extend kudos to Gail Larose. Even though my name has been listed as Editor, Gail has been the spark plug, doing the research on many issues, but especially plant materials and landscaping, and contributing the lion's share of our content. Gail will also be retiring next week. All our best wishes to those who will pick up the reins and carry on with new perspectives and fresh ideas for this Newsletter!

2017 Architectural Review Committee

Steve Moyer – Chair
Gail Larose – Secretary
Mike Zelle – Member at large

Wisteria Park Homeowners Association Newsletter

Published Bi-monthly
Bob Harcourt, Editor

Question? - Contact our Community Association Manager

Nicole Banks – nicole@sunstatemanagement.com, 941-870-4920, ext. 204
Visit the Wisteria Park website at www.wisteriaparkhoa.com to access Governing Documents, Newsletters, meeting agendas, minutes, financial reports, rules, forms and other community information.

Board Bits

Annual General Meeting

The Wisteria Park Homeowners Association Annual General Meeting will be taking place at 3:00 pm on Monday, January 22, 2018 at the nearby Palma Sola Botanical Gardens. Sign-in is at 2:30 to enable a quorum to be established so that the meeting can begin. If you do not plan to attend, please complete the proxy form that you received in the first week of January (or ask the property manager – address below – to e-mail a form to you) and hand it over to someone who will be there. A completed form can also be dropped off for the Board Secretary at 8513 17th Drive NW.

New Board

The composition of the new Wisteria Park HOA Board of Directors will be formally announced at the Annual General Meeting (see above for details) but congratulations are already in order for those who have decided to serve. It is a gesture of respect for your neighbors and a sign of your consideration for the entire community. Your time and effort are much appreciated!

Household Hints 2

Roofs

And another bravo to those who responded to requests from the property manager and cleaned their roofs! East side houses have tile roofs while many west side roofs are shingle. Both types need periodic cleaning, especially if tree branches are near to or overhang roofs. Given our humid Florida climate, roofs need more frequent cleaning to remove moss and mold that could shorten the life of your roof.

2017 Board of Directors

Mike Zelle – President
Bob Harcourt – Vice President
Donna Burbidge – Treasurer
Gail Larose – Secretary
Steve Moyer – Member at large