



The Orchid Cove Connection



2026

Vol. 14 No. 5

ORCHID COVE BOARD MEETING

The last Board Meeting was held on:

April 2 @ 3:00pm
Preserve Community Center & ZOOM



❖ Orchid Cove Board Election

At the **March 19 Annual Membership Meeting**, an election was held to fill all three positions on the Board of Directors. Board members serve a one-year term. For the three positions on the Board of Directors, there were five names on the ballot:

Rob Maguire **Jane Schneider**
Eric Schneider **Heidi Nyland**
Gayle Vogel (who then withdrew)

Our property management company, **Pinnacle**, had the results reviewed by a lawyer. Based on FL Statute 718, it was determined that because there were more than three candidates, co-owners of a unit could not serve as members of the board of directors at the same time. Therefore, Jane Schneider – and NOT her unit’s co-owner, Eric – was elected, along with Rob Maguire and Heidi Nyland. However, Heidi subsequently withdrew, so the Board then legally appointed Eric to fill the third seat on the Board. We will thus have the same board that we had for 2025-26.

Congrats to the 2026-27 Board of Directors! Our entire community greatly appreciates your continuing, dedicated service! Thank you so much!!



Eric & Jane Schneider, Rob Maguire

MAINTENANCE MATTERS

❖ Fire System Inspections

The Board of Directors has decided that next year, **Total Fire Protection** will be our vendor to perform annual inspections of our:

- Fire extinguishers
- Fire sprinklers
- Fire alarms



❖ Power Washing

Our buildings are due for a power washing. Three bids have been received and it looks like **Gorilla Kleen** will be selected. However, the work must wait until this fall when we hope the County’s water use restrictions are lifted.



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❖ Fire Sprinklers

At the April 2 Board meeting, it was noted that state law requires that the indoor fire sprinklers undergo a 20-yr. functional inspection.

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In each unit, one sprinkler head will be removed and sent out for testing. If it fails, all the sprinkler heads in that building will need to be **REPLACED**.

If the tested sprinkler head passes, that building will get a 10-year extension for the next inspection/testing.

This work will be scheduled for **2027**.

❖ Painting Our Buildings

To be done in **2027**, it is once again time to re-paint our buildings. One sign of the need: the paint is “chalking” (coming off). Due diligence has been done to update the specifications used for the 2016 re-painting project. The



Board will be soliciting a “budget” bid from [Siesta Key Décor](#) to get an estimate of the cost,

to be used for 2027 budgeting. We currently have \$68,000 in reserves for painting.

❖ Marsh Orchid Circle Road Reconstruction

It is also time to reconstruct our private street’s roadbed. The need is apparent, just by looking at the surface. It has exceeded the normal life span. Our Board has contacted the [Cypress Strand Condominium Association](#) in Tara



Preserve, which also plans to reconstruct

their private roads. Orchid Cove and Cypress Strand will unite to combine the projects, working with an engineering company to prepare plans & specifications, solicit bids and oversee the work. Timing has yet to be determined.

❖ Roof Maintenance

The Board is waiting to get bids for this work.

❖ Bulletin Boards

You have probably all seen the two new bulletin boards added to the Mail Center and pool locations. They will allow posting of required information as well as info on current events, such as Board agendas, meeting notices, etc. Our handyman Aaron did a nice job, don’t you think?!

❖ Palm Tree Trimming



A bid was received in April for pruning of our palm trees, from [Dave's Integrity Tree Service](#). There are 51 sabal palms and 9 queen palms. The sabal palms have loose debris that has not been removed in prior pruning.

In addition to these palms, there are 19 royal palms which are generally self-cleaning. They currently have seed pods that are due to open but should be removed beforehand. The bid for all this work was \$3,300.

CAUTION: Please be careful where you park, since a hanging palm recently decided to take a “break” – it fell on a car and shattered the rear window!

ORCHID COVE UNITS FOR SALE



Three units in Orchid Cove are currently listed for sale:

- [7532](#) \$259,900
- [7518](#) \$279,500
- [7527](#) \$250,000

Unit 7520's sale is “pending.”

ORCHID COVE COMMITTEE CHANGES

At the April 2 Board meeting, **Jola Gates** was approved as a new member of the Landscape Committee. Following **Larry Hiither's** resignations, there are openings on two other committees:

- **Rules Compliance Committee**
- **Pool Committee**



If you are interested in volunteering for these (or any other) committees, please fill out the [volunteer application form](#) and send it to our Assistant Property Manager,

Priscilla Tricoche, at Priscilla@PinnacleCam.com.



"Being a mom has made me so tired. And so happy."
-- Tina Fey



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ORCHID COVE POOL SOCIAL

Alas, the monthly pool socials have ended for the season but will resume in November. Many thanks to **Colleen & Keith Dangerfield** and **Larry & Suzanne Hiither** for all of their efforts in organizing (and cleaning up after) these events! **Much appreciated!**

Here's a pic from the April pool party.



BULK TRASH PICKUP

From the Manatee County [Facebook page](#), April 23:

BULK COLLECTION BEST PRACTICES

Limit (2) Bulk Items Per Month

Garbage 3 ft. Recycling 3 ft. Yard Waste 3 ft. Bulk Items

NOTE: Household hazardous waste and electronic scrap (including rechargeable batteries) should NOT be disposed of in regular or bulk pickups. Visit mymanatee.org/hhw to learn more.

NOTE: Separate bulk items by type: white goods, tires, household bulk items, etc.

COMMON BULK ITEMS ACCEPTED

- Furniture
- Grills (NO Propane)
- Appliances*
- Tires*

*Tires & appliances must be scheduled in advance via the CSS Portal (mymanatee.org/css) or by calling 311

mymanatee.org/bigbin

Bulk collection starts May 1, and your monthly schedule is now available at the [Resident Information Tool](#) on the website!

As part of the Bulk Collection Pilot Program, residential customers can place up to two bulk items at the curb **once per month** on a predetermined, zone-based pickup day (*Ed. Note: for Orchid Cove, **first Thursday of the month***) that aligns with their regular service day. Each property can also schedule one annual large-bulk pickup of 10 cubic yards or less.

Some items, including tires, appliances, and annual large-bulk pickups, must be scheduled in advance through the Customer Self-Service Portal at mymanatee.org/css.

Find your pickup day and get full program details at mymanatee.org/bigbin.

❖ What Can and Can't Be Put on the Curb

Collection is limited to two bulk items per month and one on-demand pickup per year.

Allowable items include but are not limited to:

- Furniture
- Mattresses
- Carpets and rugs
- Small household items

Prohibited items – these must be delivered to the Lena Road Landfill:

- Household hazardous waste (included but not limited to paint, gas, motor oil, propane tanks, batteries, fluorescent bulbs, fertilizers, ammunition and non-empty aerosol cans)
- Electronics
- Televisions
- Medical or biological waste

Items that require a scheduled pickup by calling 311 or visiting MyManatee.org/css :

- Appliances
- Tires
- Annual bulk pickup up to 10 cubic yards of the same material (household bulk items, construction debris, unprepared yard waste, white goods or tires)

"I am sure that if the mothers of various nations could meet, there would be no more wars." -- E. M. Forster

"Our flag does not fly because the wind moves it. It flies with the last breath of each soldier who died protecting it."
-- Unknown



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TREASURER'S REPORT

On the [Orchid Cove website](#), see the complete financial statement for [March 2026](#) for more details.

Assets		March 31, 2026	
Checking Account			\$133,569
Money Market Account			72,621
Certificate of Deposit			247,687
Prepaid Insurance			36,007
Receivables & Other Assets			7,634
Total Assets			502,390
Income and Expenses		Jan - Mar 2026	
		Budget	Actual
Income		\$49,427	\$51,221
Expenses		49,427	46,063
Jan - Mar 2026 Net Income			\$5,158

BOOK CLUB MEETINGS

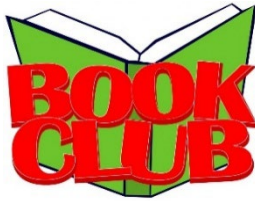
Tara Preserve Book Club

meets at the

Preserve Community Center

Third Tuesday of the month

4:30pm



The dates and books for upcoming meetings are:

- **May 19 – [Demon Copperhead](#),**
By Barbara Kingsolver
★★★★☆ (rated 4.6 out of 5)
- **June 16 – [The Correspondent](#),**
By Virginia Evans
★★★★☆ (rated 4.6 out of 5)

For more information, please contact **Barbara Pfaff** at 908-230-1159 or babsswim@comcast.net.



RULES AND REGULATIONS

Individual sections of the [Rules and Regulations \(R&R\)](#) are regularly reviewed in the **Connection**. This month's subject concerns **Hurricane Preparedness**. Here's what the R&R say:



K. "**Hurricane Preparedness**

1. *Hurricane protection on the first-floor units may be installed seven (7) days in advance of a warned hurricane and must be removed no later than seven (7) days after the "all clear" notification.*



The approved coverings are:

- Aluminum panels/shutters
- Astro Guard Hurricane fabric panels, or similar brand hurricane fabric panels.

Unit owners are responsible for:

- The maintenance of the hurricane coverings
- The installation and removal of the hurricane coverings, regardless of whether they are on-site or not.

2. **In the event of a hurricane warning, all unsecured items such as furniture, plants, wall hangings, and all personal items must be removed from the front porch, screened lanais, and lanais with non-hurricane windows. In a hurricane, objects like these can easily become projectiles that can damage both the owner's and neighbors' property.**
3. **For seasonal owners who are not present in their condos during hurricane season (June 1 to November 30), all items as listed in the above Section 2 must be removed from the front porch, screened lanais, and lanais with non-hurricane windows before they leave for an extended period."**

If you have any questions, email our **Pinnacle Assistant Association Manager, Priscilla Tricoche**, at priscilla@pinnaclecam.com

If you have a suggestion for a new rule or revision to an existing rule, contact the [Documents Committee](#) or Priscilla.



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TO ALL YOU MULCH RAKERS – THANKS!

Speaking of volunteers, a dedicated number of our neighbors answered the “call to duty” to rake, remove & pile up the old mulch from the fronts of our buildings – to **save \$\$\$\$ we’d have otherwise paid to Green Tech**. These folks deserve our sincere thanks!

- James Ross
 - Lynn Houlihan
 - Larry Hiither
 - Sue Hiither
 - Palma Terranova
- Jola Gates
 - Rob Maguire
 - Kim Loskota
 - Dave Loskota
 - (see some pics below)



Jola Gates, James Ross & Lynn Houlihan



Lynn Houlihan, Rob Maguire, James Ross & Kim Loskota

"God could not be everywhere, and therefore he made mothers." -- Rudyard Kipling

CONTRACTOR LANDSCAPING ACTIVITY

The first of three planned landscaping projects by **Green Tech** was completed on April 21 at the community’s front entry. This phase included the installation of new plants, flowers, and mulch, along with new sod at the front entrance and a portion of the north side of Orchid Cove, as you enter from Wingspan Way.



Work continued the week of April 27 with enhancements to the pool area. This phase included the removal of Ixora plants along both sides of the fence, as well as updates to the garden beds along the walkway leading to the pool. In addition, lower unit garden areas along the walkways were refreshed. Existing sod and weeds were removed, and three new plants were installed in each designated area.

The final phase of the project will focus on adding mulch throughout much of the community, including the fronts of buildings. Please note that mulch will not be added to the rear of any condo units.

Thank you to the Board for supporting these improvements and continuing to invest in the beautification of Orchid Cove!

TARA MASTER ASSOCIATION



Next Meeting:
May 22 – 10:00am
TGCC Pro Shop Conference Room
Members via Zoom only

❖ April 24 Board Meeting

The Board is preparing for the transition in association management from Condominium Associates to **Resource Property Management (RPM)** on May 1. **Kaitlyn Morkus**, who will be the TMA’s Property Manager from RPM, announced that TMA members will soon be receiving a second email, which contains login information to RPM’s web portal.



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OUR OWN GOLDEN-AGERS!

- **Maurie Houlihan**, long-time neighbor at **Unit 7510**, turned **85(!)** on April 26. Hope you can wish him a belated **Happy Birthday!**
- **Gerri Bernadic – 97(!)**, another long-time neighbor at **Unit 7527** (now up for sale), has moved to a more comfortable, assisted-living residence nearby, east just across I-75. You won't see her walking with **Barb Dalgaard** anymore, but you can visit her at:



Geraldine Bernadic
[Inspired Living](#)
 5424 Lena Rd Apt 115
 Bradenton FL 34211
 Phone 941-807-8190

TARA CDD UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS



Preserve Community Center – 10:30am

- May 19
- June 16
- July 21
- August 18
- September 15

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

This is the last issue of the **Connection** till October or November



– we're now in "**summer recess.**" But in the meantime, check the Orchid Cove website's [Announcements page](#) for any news that may pop up. Check out the **TMA website's** [News & Events page](#), too!

- Dave Loskota, Chair DLoskota@comcast.net
- Kim Loskota KLoskota@comcast.net

"A man loves his sweetheart the most, his wife the best, but his mother the longest." -- Irish Proverb

ORCHID COVE WEBSITE PROBLEMS

In April, you may have noticed that our website was temporarily down. It was discovered that our previous property management company, **PCM**, who owned our domain name – orchidcovecondos.com – had failed to make the necessary subscription renewal payment. As of April 28, we now own the domain, and we're still working on domain subscription transfer. **But our website is finally up and running again! Whew!!**

RECOMMENDED VENDORS

If you've recently used a vendor which you'd like to recommend, please forward pertinent information to **Dave Loskota** – DLoskota@comcast.net:

- The vendor's name and phone no. (and contact person if available)
- Briefly describe what the vendor did for you and when, how you rate their services and cost (0 – 5 stars), and whether you'd use them again.



Your recommendation will be included in the next **Connection** and added to [Orchid Cove's Recommended Vendors List](#) on our website.

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

All the predictions are coming together for the **Hurricane Season in 2026**. This year, the [Climate Adaptation Center](#) in Sarasota is forecasting **12** named storms – **FIVE** to reach hurricane status with **TWO** to become **Major Hurricanes**. Hurricane season runs from **June** through **November** annually.



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- **First-floor Owners:** Make arrangements **NOW** to have help, if necessary, in erecting and removing your **hurricane shutters** in case of a hurricane.
- **All Residents:** be sure to **remove everything** from your **lanai** if your unit is vacant at any time during hurricane season.

What can you do right now?

- Check your insurance coverage.
- Be sure you have all your important papers readily at hand, so you can take them with you in case evacuation is necessary.
- Where will you go? **Plan for that now.**
- Know your evacuation routes. Will they be drivable if a big storm develops and approaches without much warning?
- Plan to leave low-lying areas if a storm is coming.
- Where will you park your car to ensure it doesn't get damaged in flooding?
- Sign up for the [Alert Manatee](#) notifications to receive emergency updates from government and public safety officials.
- Download the Red Cross [Hurricane Preparedness Checklist](#).
- Read the **attached 10 Action Steps to Take** from the Sarasota [Climate Adaptation Center](#).

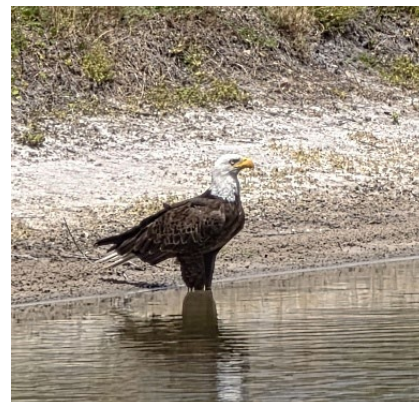


May 10

PHOTO CORNER



This blue heron decided to pose for a pic in the tree right outside our lanai. A bit nosy, don't you think?



Near a tee-box at Greenfield Plantation, this eagle was just cooling off, unafraid of ANYONE.

DID YOU KNOW?

- **Aaron Taylor**, who had recently been hired as the CDD's new Field Manager, abruptly **resigned** – his last day was April 17. Temporary Field Manager **Mason Leon** is at the Preserve Community Center office Tuesday – Friday, 1:00-3:00pm. He can be reached at **(941) 756-2416** or fieldmanager@taracdd.org.

- **Memorial Day Week Garbage/Recycling**

Collection will be delayed one day that week:

Trash & recycling will be picked up on Friday, **May 29.**

GARBAGE & RECYCLING



"How important it is for us to recognize and celebrate our heroes and she-roes." -- *Maya Angelou*



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FRONT ENTRANCE IMPROVEMENTS

These pics show the changes just made to our front entrance by **Green Tech**. The new plants include Panama Rose, Dazzle Dwarf Schefflera, Java White Copperleaf and seasonal annuals with Pink Pentas. The weedy turf was replaced with all new sod.



Out with the old...



...and in with the New!

LAST MINUTE NOTIFICATIONS

- **Total Fire Protection** will be at Orchid Cove on **Monday, May 4** to replace a tamper switch and flow switch at **Unit 7552**.

They will also replace (14) 5ah 12v batteries on the local fire alarm system at Units:

7522,7528,7552,7622,7640, & 7654.



May 25

We remember your service with humble hearts.

- **Just one more thing:** you may have noticed the County is in the process of upgrading our water meters. For more information, click on this link: [Learn More About the WaterWise Manatee Program](#)

Orchid Cove Board Members 2026-27

President – Jane Schneider

orchidcovepresident@gmail.com

VP & Treasurer – Rob Maguire

orchidcovetreasurer@gmail.com

Secretary – Eric Schneider

orchidcovesecretary@gmail.com

Website: www.OrchidCoveCondos.com

(Owner page password: orca)

Connection Editor – Dave Loskota

DLoskota@comcast.net 612-327-9743

Pinnacle Community Association Mgmt.

3307 Clark Rd, Suite 201

Sarasota FL 34231

Website: www.PinnacleCam.com

Priscilla Tricoche, Assistant Property Manager

Priscilla@PinnacleCam.com

941-444-7090

Preparing for the Storms: Top 10 Actions to Take

Preparedness is the key to safety during hurricane season. Here are the top 10 steps recommended by the CAC to ensure that you and your family are ready:

1. Create an Emergency Plan:

1. Know your home's elevation and evacuation zone.
2. Establish a meeting place for family members in case you get separated.
3. Identify a safe room in your home, ideally an interior, windowless space.

2. Build a Hurricane Kit:

1. Stock at least seven days' worth of food and water (one gallon per person per day).
2. Include medications, first aid supplies, cash, important documents, flashlights, batteries, portable phone chargers, and a battery-powered radio.

3. Secure Your Home:

1. Install hurricane shutters or impact-resistant windows.
2. Trim trees and clear loose debris from your yard.
3. Reinforce garage doors and secure outdoor furniture.

4. Review Insurance Policies:

1. Check your flood, wind, and homeowners' insurance coverage.
2. Note that flooding can occur outside designated flood zones, so consider adding flood insurance.
3. Take photos of valuables and property for potential insurance claims.

5. Prepare for Power Outages:

1. Stock up on extra fuel for generators (always operate them outdoors).
2. Charge all electronics before the storm.
3. Have extra propane or charcoal for cooking if needed.

6. Know Evacuation Routes and Shelters:

1. Familiarize yourself with evacuation zones in your area.
2. Identify nearby hurricane shelters, including those that accept pets.
3. If evacuating, leave early to avoid traffic congestion.

7. Protect Important Documents:

1. Store copies of IDs, insurance papers, deeds, and financial records in a waterproof container.
2. Keep digital copies in cloud storage or on a USB drive.

8. Prepare Your Vehicle:

1. Fill up gas tanks early, as stations may run out.
2. Check tires, brakes, and oil changes before hurricane season.
3. Keep an emergency kit in your car with food, water, maps, and first aid supplies.
4. Park your vehicle at a safe elevation if flooding is a concern.

9. Sign Up for CAC Storm Updates:

Stay informed by subscribing to the CAC's newsletter for storm forecasts and emergency updates. Listen carefully to storm information, evacuation orders and other lifesaving information when a storm approaches. Listen to the experts!

10. Have a Post-Storm Plan:

1. Avoid floodwaters and downed power lines after the storm.
2. Document any damage for insurance claims.
3. Be cautious of scams related to cleanup and repairs.



Orchid Cove Condominium Association, Inc.

Seasonal Leave Checklist

Several unit owners use Orchid Cove as a second home, leaving their condominiums vacant for extended periods of time. Below are some preventative measures that owners can choose to take prior to leaving for the season. Please feel welcome to **use this checklist** as a tool to help protect your Orchid Cove home while you're away.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shut off main water valve to unit and/or:
shut off valves to: <input type="checkbox"/> <i>toilets</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>sinks</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>water heater</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>washing machine</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Check windows and doors to be sure that all
are secure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Close sink drains | <input type="checkbox"/> Place toilet seats down and seal or place
heavy object on the toilet seats |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Turn off water heater | <input type="checkbox"/> Turn off refrigerator ice maker and empty ice
bin |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Verify that a neighbor or nearby relative has a
key to your unit, in case of emergency | <input type="checkbox"/> Unplug lamps, toaster, coffee maker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Turn on and leave A/C on; set your
thermostat – Florida Power & Light (FPL)
recommendations | <input type="checkbox"/> Turn off circuit breakers to washer, dryer,
water heater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Replace A/C filter and check overflow | <input type="checkbox"/> Bring in everything from your lanai (in case of
a hurricane) |

It's always a great idea to have a neighbor, relative, or friend periodically check your unit. **If you have someone checking your unit, it's good to have them review the items below.** Additionally, you may want to check with your private insurance carrier to see if there are any conditions on having a unit inspected when vacant for a period of time. Some individual policies have exclusions if the unit is not checked every couple of weeks. Your insurance agent will be able to review your policy and provide you with any details needed for your protection.

- Check pipes for water above and below cabinets and/or any other water intrusion in unit
- Verify that A/C is working and filter is clean
- Check dishwasher for any leaks or standing water
- To help avoid any odor from the pipes, run water through the pipes including sinks and toilets.
- If above is completed, be sure to shut off valve(s) again
- Check refrigerator for operation
- Check water heater for leaks and verify that it is turned off

If you are leaving for the season, have a great trip and we will see you upon your return. We appreciate your help in protecting your home at Orchid Cove in the best manner possible.

Orchid Cove Condominium Association