

BELLE HAVEN Newsletter

Our Community News

12/1/2023

Edition 7, Volume 12

PASSING OF BOB GARDNER, LONG-TIME BELLE HAVEN RESIDENT

Bob Gardner, a long-time Belle Haven resident, passed away in November. Bob and Becky Gardner were some of the first residents here in Belle Haven, and Bob was on the Board of Directors, in one capacity or another, throughout the early years of this complex. He worked tirelessly for our community. Family will gather at 10:00 AM on Monday, December 4th, at St. Anastasia Catholic Church, A1A South, St. Augustine. The 11:00 AM funeral will be presided over by a family friend, Father Dan Beeman, to celebrate Bob's life.

CHILI PARTY / FRIDAY MINGLE AT THE CLUBHOUSE ON DECEMBER 8TH!!

The Clubhouse will be open from 5:30 – 9:00 PM for a Chili Party / Friday Mingle on Friday, December 8th. December's mingle is being held on the 2nd Friday in December! It will be a Chili Party, with Chili, Cornbread, and Dessert being served. Bring your own drinks and any snacks you want. We will return to the Mingle being on the first Friday of the month in January. We are looking for volunteers to open and close the clubhouse (and a bit of clean-up) each month during 2024. Please contact a Board Member or Maria at Coastal if you would be willing to do this on a Friday Mingle night during 2024.

Clubhouse Events

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Monday – Bingo 7 p.m.
Book Club - 3rd Tuesday Monthly, 7 p.m.
Wednesday–Cards 7 p.m.

DATES FOR DECEMBER
Thursday, December 7 thru
Friday, December 15
Hanukkah, begins nightfall on December 7th, ends with nightfall on December 15th

Thursday, December 7
Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

Sunday, December 10
Human Rights Day and, Nobel Prize Day

Thursday, December 21
Winter Solstice @ 5:00 PM

Monday, December 25
Christmas

Tuesday, December 26
Kwanzaa and, Boxing Day

Sunday, December 31
New Years Eve

“Happy December! May the month bring you warmth, love, smiles, and things that fill your heart with Peace.”

Unknown

NIGHTS OF LIGHTS

The award-winning Nights of Lights in St. Augustine is already lighting up the Ancient City, and will continue until January 28, 2024. Nights of Lights is described as honoring the Spanish tradition of displaying a white candle in a window during Christmas. In its 30th year, the city is aglow with some three million white lights on buildings, landmarks, trees, and along the Bridge of Lions.



Enjoy some of the many ways to view this light display; take a carriage ride, sunset sail, or just walk the streets.

<https://www.visitstaugustine.com/event/nights-lights>

BELLE HAVEN HOLIDAY DECORATIONS

A big THANK YOU to all the volunteers that helped decorate our community for the Holidays, but especially to Pam & Will Vetter, Donna & John Kozol, and Dave Crosbie! Also, a huge thank you to Catherine Brotman, who donated her fully assembled Christmas tree on wheels to Belle Haven. Please visit the clubhouse

during the holiday season to see the tree, and enjoy the beautiful decorations there. Chairpersons, Betty Battaglia and Pat Godfrey (who are retiring after this holiday season) appreciated the help of all volunteers to help to make this another successful decorating season.

Taking down the outdoor decorations and transferring them to storage will start on Friday, January 5th, and the clubhouse decorations will be taken down on Saturday, January 6th beginning at 10:00 AM. Volunteers, and some vehicles, will be very much appreciated to help with this. If you are interested in taking over the Decorating Committee, please join us to see what needs to be done; talk to Betty or Pat.

2024 BELLE HAVEN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President – Phil Quirin

Vice President – Gabe Enriquez

Treasurer – Marcia Smith

Director – John Hansen

Director – Cindi Burns

BOOK CLUB MEETING

Book Club will meet Tuesday, December 19th at the Clubhouse at 7PM. Discussion will be on *Violeta by Isabel Allende*, as well as *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine by Gail Honeyman*

MANY HOLIDAY EVENTS DURING DECEMBER

The Annual Christmas Parade on December 2nd, St. Augustine Yacht Club Holiday Regatta of Lights on December 9th between the Bridge of Lions and Castillo de San Marcos. St. Augustine Winter Spectacular at Flagler's Lewis Auditorium on both December 9th and 10th. EMMA Holiday Pops Concert is on December 12th, also at Lewis Auditorium. St. Augustine Ballet presents the Nutcracker December 15th – 17th. St. Augustine Lighthouse Illuminations December 6th through January 13th 2024; 6 – 9 PM. This website can give you more information on these and many more events. <https://www.floridahistoriccoast.com/events/holidays/christmas/>