

# La Casa del Sol

*Your Home at the Coast - on North Padre Island*

Winter Newsletter

website: [www.lacasaresort.com](http://www.lacasaresort.com)

January 2015

## 2014 BOARD MEMBERS:

**President ..... Vicki Vannatta**

**Vice President. Steve Gandy**

**Treasurer ..... Dennis York**

**Secretary ..... Candy Lamel**

**Director ..... Jerry Cigainero**

**Director ..... Ben Harbour**

**Director ..... Ray Leidig**

To speak with any of the Board members, please call the Reservations Office at (817) 341-1488, and leave a message and contact info for the Board Member you wish to speak with, and your call will be returned.

## **A Message from the President:**

Happy New Year La Casa owners!

2014 was a very busy year. We completed many projects as well as repairs and replacements, new staff at the resort and reservation office, one unit completely remodeled and the office updated and spiffed up.

In 2015, your board will continue to focus on getting all deeds recovered from non-paying owners so that they are available for transfer to new owners. The continued strong financial position of La Casa depends, in large part, upon us getting new owners paying dues along with the rest of us. We are exploring ways of marketing our resort to new and younger owners, through social media and other means.

We will continue our efforts again this year to mitigate any tax increases in the appraised value of our resort. Schlitterbahn will be completed and in full operation this spring along with other growth on The Island which will make this a high priority for this and future boards.

In 2015 we will continue to evaluate our costs and expenses and make every effort to save where we can. The board approved a small increase in maintenance fees for this year which, along with transferring deeds to new owners, will help us to remain financially healthy. The key, once again, is getting new owners.

As always, your board is interested in hearing from you. Positive feedback, as well as suggestions for improvement, are welcomed. Please contact the reservations office with any questions or requests for information. I hope to see you at the annual meeting on February 28<sup>th</sup>.

*Vicki Vannatta, [lacasapresident@yahoo.com](mailto:lacasapresident@yahoo.com)*



**WHAT: 2015 ANNUAL OWNERS' MEETING and ELECTION**

**WHEN Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup> beginning at 1:30 p.m.**

**WHERE: Brookside Center – 1244 Brookside Dr., Hurst, TX (see map on pg. 2)**

**WHO: All owners are invited to attend or please cast your vote by proxy.**

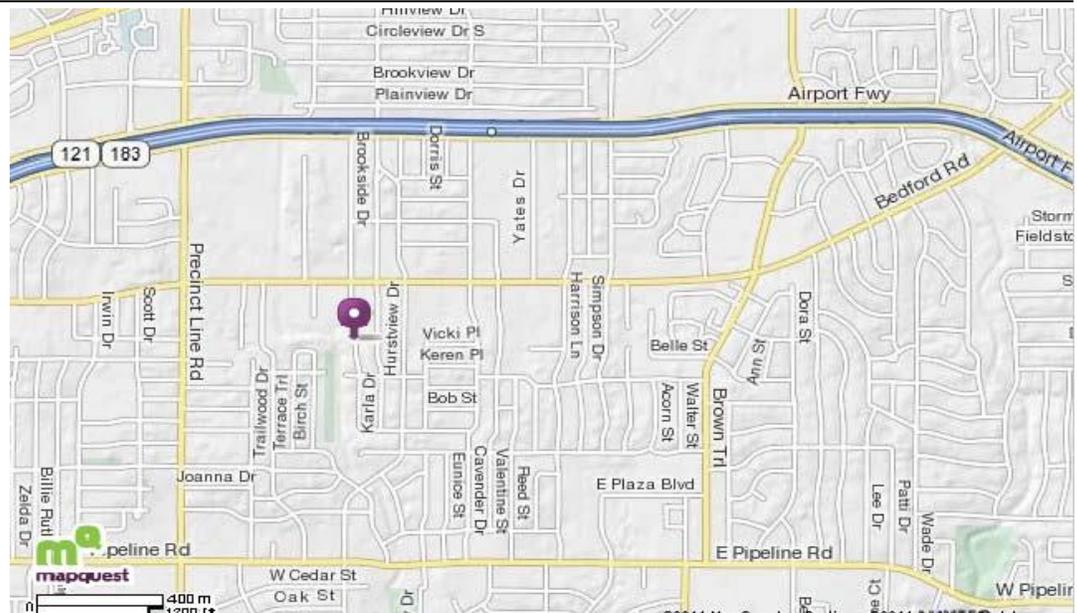
**HOW: Be sure your 2015 dues (and any fees owed) are paid, and mail the enclosed proxy by no later than February 20<sup>th</sup>**

One lucky Owner unable to attend the meeting will win a free week at the Resort by sending in their proxy. Another owner attending the meeting will also win a free week at the Resort. Please send in your proxy even if you do plan to attend. Proxies will be returned to owners when they check for the meeting.

## **Directions to the Meeting:**

From east or westbound HWY 183/ 121 Airport Freeway, take the exit for Precinct Line Rd. and go south, and then take a Left onto W. Bedford Euless Rd. (going east), and turn right onto Brookside Drive.

Brookside Center will be on your left and the parking lot will be across the street on the right.



## **Election of Owners to the Board of Directors:**

Four (4) owners submitted applications to run for a position on the Board of Directors in time to publish their information in this newsletter. There are 3 positions open for election at this time, so you will cast your vote for no more than three (3) people. If other owners would like to serve, they need to notify President Vicki Vannatta by email as soon as possible so their nominations may be considered at the Owners' Meeting and their names can be written in before the final votes there are tallied. Below, presented in alphabetical order, are letters submitted from each candidate:

### **Robert Barron**

I'm Robert H Barron, I'm 68yrs old. My Wife(Kathi Light) & I have been married 32yrs. We live in Whitney, Tx  
We own two units for a few years.

We enjoy our days at the condos.

We've owned several business's over the years. We currently own B&L mgnt, B&L Boat Yard an Drifters Center.

I have the skills to help The Board make the decision that are best for the Owners La Casa de Sol. I believe that the owners should have a say so in the day to day business of their investment.

I think you for your vote.

If you have any questions please call.

Robert Barron  
575 HCR 1231  
Whitney, Tx 76692  
254-978-1539

### **Gaylen Cox**

Hello fellow owners - my name is Gaylen Cox and I am excited to be considered for a position on the board of *La Casa del Sol Council of Co-Owners*. I'm a lifelong Texan, currently residing in Desoto (right outside of Dallas). I am retired from AT&T, and a U.S. Army and Navy veteran. I am active in my neighborhood crime watch and a hospital volunteer. My husband of 33 years, Ronald, is retired from Dallas Fire Rescue and we have one adult daughter, Courtney. We have been *La Casa* owners for more than 30 years and if you have met us at the resort you will probably remember our passion for fishing.

Throughout my life I have always been involved in various non-profit organizations, most of which I held an elected position as board member or executive officer. As a member of the Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship Church for more than 25 years, I have served in a leadership role in our Children's Ministry.

As owners, I believe we should not just wait for others to contribute time and resources to make decisions for *La Casa*. It is up to all of us to do our part to protect and maintain our property for many years of enjoyment for our families. For this reason, I have decided to seek election to the board of directors. We can all share the responsibility of managing our beautiful vacation property. I encourage all owners to consider taking an active role on our board.

Candidates' Letters (continued):**Ben Harbour**

My name is Ben Harbour, an Austin native with San Antonio roots, and a candidate for re-election to our Board of Directors, an owner since 1985.

After the Navy, I earned a Sheet Metal Journeyman Certificate, and Bachelors' Degrees in Wildlife Biology and Range Science. Served 21 years as an Administrator with the U.S. Forest Service where I managed multi-million dollar budgets, did land use planning, purchasing, contracting, and oversaw thousands of acres of public land, including all associated natural resources and millions of our hunting, fishing, hiking, and etc. recreating publics. After Graduate School, I taught Building Trades and Ag. Science in Texas public high schools.

I believe one can see from the preceding that I have the broad based knowledge, skills, abilities and other attributes one needs to be a viable candidate for re-election to our hard working Board.

In addition to the accomplishments made collectively as a Board over the last three years, I want to improve security such as insuring keys fit only your room, keep maintenance fees down while making our 30 year old Resort all it can be, buildings and landscaping. I also believe we need a recycling program for furniture items, and etc. we replace each year, and better clarity of our rules and regulations.

I ask for your vote or proxy for a second term on our Board of Directors at our 2015 Annual Meeting. I can be reached at (817) 733-7469 as questions come up about our Resort.

**Candy Lamel**

Owners since 1986, my husband Jerry and I spend between 6 and 12 weeks at the resort each year. I was asked to complete the end of Jerry's term on the Board when he resigned due to health issues. Initially involved with the remodel of Unit 110, the reduced prices on appliances, materials and other items I sourced for that unit are now used for updates and replacements in all units. I was appointed Secretary last summer, when Steve Gandy took over management of Resort Operations after the new resort staff was hired. This was not difficult, as I had set up the LCDS newsletter template years ago, and I have several years of experience actively serving on other volunteer boards, following a 19 year career in corporate finance.

I am excited about efforts we are making now to try to attract new owners. Operating Expenses increase but Income has not kept up in recent years. It is very important for us to attract new families to invest in our resort, and I feel that can be accomplished through promotional efforts, continued improvements to the property, and a capable and responsive resort staff who take pride in their jobs.

I believe my education, experience and attitude will enable me to continue to be an asset to the La Casa del Sol Board, and I ask for your vote in the election on February 28. Please contact me at (817) 567-1381 or at candylamel@aol.com if you have any questions.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE TO OWNERS:**

REMINDER: The unit/week you own is real property. When an owner dies or is divorced, the deed needs to be updated! We have owners that need to update their deeds to reflect the life changes that have occurred.

If the property was in the parents' name and one or both is deceased, the will(s) need to be probated and the deed changed by an attorney.

If the property is awarded to you in a divorce settlement, the attorney(s) will need to update the deed.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Reservations and Accounting Office.



In this issue:

- President's Message
- 2015 Annual Owners' Meeting Info.
- Letters from candidates running for election to the Board of Directors
- Proxy insert for you to return to vote, or assign to another to vote for you
- Important Notice to Owners from the Reservations and Accounting Office

**Fraud Alert:**

Many different scams exist associated with timeshare sales. Please be very cautious if you are approached with a scheme for renting, selling or trading your timeshare ownership. **NEVER PAY UPFRONT FEES.** Pay only after your transaction has been completed. **You may want to contact your Attorney.**

**La Casa del Sol (the resort):**

15113 Leeward Dr., Corpus Christi, TX 78418

Phone: 361-949-6050

Resort Manager: Abram Garcia

**IF YOU WILL BE ARRIVING LATE:** you must call the RESORT OFFICE before 8:00 p.m. on Friday to make arrangements for obtaining a key to your unit.

**Reservations and Accounting Office:**

P.O. Box 130, Weatherford, TX 76086

Phone: 817-341-1488 or toll free: 888-949-6027

Fax: 817-594-2770

Office hours: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (Monday – Friday)

**TO MAKE A RESERVATION:** call AT or AFTER 9:00 a.m. (CT) and leave a message and contact phone number. Calls will be returned beginning at 9:15 (CT) in the order received. **BE SURE TO BE AVAILABLE – if you do not answer, a 2<sup>nd</sup> attempt will be made only after the others on the list are called first.**

Visit our updated website at [www.lacasaresort.com](http://www.lacasaresort.com) and LIKE US on FaceBook too!

Note to RCI Members: Visit the link <http://app.rci.com/landing/InsideRCI> for their latest information online.