

the
Caroler

*Happy
New Year!*

January 2016

A Monthly Publication of the Carrollwood Civic Association



Notice of Board Meetings

CCA: Monday, January 11, 2016, at 7 p.m.

CRD Executive Meeting: Monday, January 11, 2016, at 6 p.m.

CRD Monthly Meeting: Monday, January 11, 2016, at 6:30 p.m.

Carrollwood Rec Center - 3515 McFarland Road • Residents welcome to attend

**Colorful
News**
Page 2

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by Jim Powell, CCA President



Hello friends and neighbors. Happy New Year and best wishes for an awesome 2016!

Our December meeting included our annual Board election with the following Board members being re-elected for the 2016 term: Jim Powell, Mark Tempest, Amy Cariello, Jimbo Woodroffe and Jackie Lais. Thank you so much to all for your continued support and commitment to our wonderful Community!

We discussed the continued low levels of crime in the neighborhood with our report from Brian Hughes. Brian, keep those good reports coming! Jimbo Woodroffe and Amy Cariello discussed standards and building with us. Thank you both.

By the time you read this, our Community Christmas and holiday-time events will have taken place: the lighted boat parade, the luminarias on Christmas eve and the fireworks show at White Sands Beach on New Years Eve. This is such a great time of year to be an Original Carrollwood resident

with all the great things we do. A special thank you goes out to Neil Norden and Joe Costa for working with the Boy Scouts on the Luminaria effort again this year, thanks so much! Thank you Neil for the great pizza and refreshments at the boat parade, and thank you Jackie Lais for your work on the New Years' fireworks show!

Finally, we would like to acknowledge our excellent Caroler editor, Roxanne Clapp. Roxanne has done an outstanding job for our Community and brought some amazing news to us at our December meeting. David Comar from Samara Drive has donated his monthly printing services from his business, Genesis Direct, to print *The Caroler* in color! If you see David in the neighborhood, please give him a hearty thank you. This is a wonderful donation that he has provided to Original Carrollwood and we really appreciate it!

Our best wishes from the CCA Board to you and your families during the New Year!



The Caroler is Colorful!

by Roxanne Clapp, Editor

Oh... my OC friends, I have spectacular news! Thanks to the generosity of one of your neighbors, David and Jen Comar, *The Caroler* will be in full color every issue! David saw the plea I put in last month's issue and thought this would be an excellent way he could do something to give back to the Community. David owns Genesis Direct, a direct-mail printing company here in Tampa, and will be providing the printing and mailing of *The Caroler* to you at a ginormous discount from other print quotes. He has wanted to do something to give back to this wonderful

Community, but he works so much, his schedule prevents him from giving time to attend meetings or be a part of the Board. So, he is going to give back in product instead.

When I received the email from David, I couldn't believe what I was reading. Naturally, I jumped on the phone and called him right away. Within two days, I had toured his entire facility and knew without doubt his company and staff could handle this job, and so much more. Just wait until you see what we will be able to do in the future! Keep

(Continued on Page 8)



by Mark Snellgrove, CRD President

The CRD Board members were pleased to meet Caroler editor, Roxanne Clapp, at the December Board meeting. We learned that Roxanne and the CCA planned to go full color with the January edition of *The Caroler*, thanks in large part to Samara resident, David Comar, who owns a printing company. If you know David, be sure and thank him for his contribution.

When you visited White Sands Beach during December, you should have noticed new sand on both sides of the pavilion. Board Member, Kevin Shidler, replenished the sand leading up to the CCA boat parade and New Years Eve fireworks.

Additionally, the Board plans to research the cost and feasibility of a surveillance system for all the neighborhood properties. The technology would allow Board members to monitor activity from our smartphones and the cost has become affordable in the last couple of years.

Lastly, Board member Mickey Jaap is looking into some needed cosmetic repairs to the large meeting room at the Recreation Center (drywall repair, paint, base board repair.)

Best wishes from the CRD Board for a prosperous 2016!

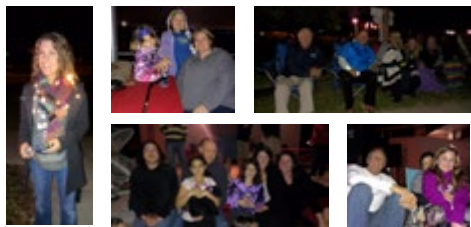


Happy New Year!

by Jackie Lais, Special Events

Original Carrollwood Residents, I just wanted to give you a taste of the photos from last year's New Year's Eve Celebration (on the cover)! Of course the photos for this year will be in next month's issue. As I write this article I anxiously await the fireworks for 2016. So, as you read this, you will have already celebrated 2016. Again, just a sample of the photos of what's to come next month!

Happy 2016 from your friend's on the Carrollwood Civic Association!



10914 Carrollwood Drive The Aucoin Family



Aucoin family



"The house lights up the street and puts smiles on people's faces."

~ Juliette Aucoin

The Aucoin family: Billy, Juliette, Isaac, Eli and Owen. We have lived here for nine years; but, Juliette grew up in the neighborhood, also on Carrollwood Drive. We are outside a lot with our two dogs, Bolt and Tank. We also have a cat, Capone, who doesn't venture outside. We love Carrollwood, especially during the summer where you can either find us down at White Sands with our boat or hear us in the backyard in our pool. We tried another neighborhood before we bought this house, but eventually came back home to O.C. We love the holiday traditions and are so happy we can raise our family here.

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- Address of nominated yard
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- Your name
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- Your email address

If possible, please include a photo of the yard with your nomination. Thank you!

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Nominations can also be made at the Community Center, in person at Board Meetings or by visiting www.OriginalCarrollwood.com

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jimblanco@originalcarrollwood.com

Office Manager
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You can email your information also!
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Thanks for your help.



TRAVEL IMPRESSIONS The Myths and Mystique of Cruising

by Claire A. Modarelli

Cruise and Europe Specialist & Original Carrollwood Resident

Admit it. Cruising isn't on your travel bucket list because you hate forced fun, despise crowds and don't dine like it's your last day on earth. Granted - the mega ships with 4,000+ passengers are a cross between adult summer camp and the Las Vegas strip. Consider the options:

Start small. Short cruises of 3-5 days represent great value with a minimal investment for first-time cruisers. You'll be surprised how quickly, 3, 4 and 5 nights go!

Sail local. We Floridians have a staggering number of vacation option from drivable ports. Our Port of Tampa boasts 4, 5 and 7 glorious days onboard Royal Caribbean, Carnival, Holland-America and Norwegian, each with its own personality (which an agent can match to your travel style).

Disconnect. My first experience at sea was on the tiny 25,000 ton Raffaello from New York to Naples in 1966.

(continued on Page 9)

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(continued from Page 2)

Colorful Caroler

reading *The Caroler* for more information on that in the coming months. Just think how great all the neighborhood photos will look in the future, and our graduates in July, too!

What has transpired in the past two weeks has been incredible and I am so happy to be able to pass on this gift from The Comar's to you. This will allow us to print in color AND keep the advertising rates the same as they have been for the past several years.

For being an example of how this Community is so wonderful, thank you David and Jen Comar!



SHARE YOUR STORY

Want to share your story or photos, or know someone that deserves to be highlighted in a future issue of *The Caroler*?

Let us know! Send information to the editor, Roxanne Clapp, at
Caroler@roxc.graphics
or mail to: 26504 Whirlaway Terr., Wesley Chapel, FL 33544



Thank You

for your generous Lake Donations!

- The VanWingerden family
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Please include this form OR donate through PayPal on the OC website: www.originalcarrollwood.com

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(continued from Page 6)

Cruising

Trading the city pace for seven days of pure indolence, crisp Atlantic breezes and an unblemished horizon was the first of 50+ adventures at sea. (Wifi is standard if you simply can't bury the cell phone.)

Try it all. There are 25 new ocean, river and specialty ships scheduled for 2016. The latest vessels offer new onboard experiences from bumper cars to zip lining and "dueling" water slides. The "menu" of activities is yours to choose.

Cruising to connect the dots. Itineraries such as the Greek Isles and Scandinavia by ship are infinitely more efficient than trains and ferries. Unpack once and spend your day enjoying the destination and sail through the night to the next port.

Educate your taste buds. Celebrity chef Jacques Pepin's first restaurant debuted on Oceania (the foodie cruise line) Marina. Try a new item - if it's not to your liking, the waiter will bring you another dish. Sample the buffet and a myriad of dining venues. Healthy options abound so you don't have to gain a pound a day at sea. Or pay a dinner check.

Indulge in Pampering. No hotel provides this level of service: after breakfast your bed is made and towels changed. Perhaps a nap after lunch followed by a stroll on deck? You return to a room refreshed and the ice bucket filled. A little snack before dinner? Call 24-hour room service. Towel animals, chocolates and tomorrow's agenda welcome you back after an evening of entertainment or simply star-gazing.

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OC REAL ESTATE SELLING YOUR HOME 101

NEW YEAR TO-DOs

*by Wayne Wilson, Realtor & 43-year
Original Carrollwood Resident*

With the start of a new year, it's always a good idea to assess your home and its needs.



Taking stock of appliances, home systems, and other items that make a house a home will help guide you to home improvements needed, appliances that may be near the end of their lives, and any other updates that can help to boost your home's worth. Listed below are major home systems to evaluate in the new year to help give you peace of mind.

HVAC

Filters should be replaced monthly. This is also an excellent time to schedule your annual cleaning and maintenance with a licensed contractor. Flushing or vacuuming the overflow is essential to avoid overflow damage to ceilings in the home.

Smoke Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Checking alarms and detectors to insure operation is important and typically simple to do. Also, this is the perfect time to replace old batteries with new. Yes, they may be working but they are old now and subject to failure without warning.

Check and Test GFCI Outlets

Ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCI) are a 'must-have' in your home. These are normally found in kitchens and bathrooms. These special outlets protect people from electric shock by monitoring the amount of current flowing through the outlet. If there is an imbalance of current, the outlet trips the circuit of the appliance, cutting off the electricity. You can test GFCI outlets with a circuit tester that has its own GFCI test button. GFCIs do wear out, and their lifespan is about 10 years. Replace GFCIs that no longer function properly -- these outlets save thousands of lives each year.

Preventative maintenance will not only save you money and keep your home safe, but houses that do not keep up with maintenance have been known to lose up to 10% to 12% off their appraised value. The US Census has estimated that annual maintenance can cost between 1% and 3% of a home's initial costs dependent upon the geographic location of the home. With the new year, getting a head start on yearly to-dos and anticipating yearly maintenance will

put you ahead of the issues and have you prepared for any upcoming and unforeseen fixes.

Current OC Listings as of *Caroler* deadline:

10812 Carrollwood Dr	1,967 sf	\$340,000
11745 Lipsey Road	2,894 sf	\$349,900
10909 Orange Grove Dr	1,546 sf	\$259,900
3017 Peacock Ln	1,853 sf	\$380,000
3039 Samara Dr	3,781 sf	\$950,000
3410 Valencia Road	2,447 sf	\$379,000

YOU'RE INVITED! OC BRIDGE CLUB

The OC Bridge Club meets the **second and fourth Friday. Game starts at 9:30 a.m.** at the Rec Center.

There is no charge to play, but your RSVP is required. To RSVP or for more information, call Michele Shahnasarian at 931-4356, or Dorothy Miller at 932-9819.

Join us!



Hillsborough County Democratic Women's Club

Hillsborough County Democratic Women's Club will meet Monday, January 4, 2016, at 6 p.m. at Village Inn. The restaurant is on N. Dale Mabry Highway at Humphrey. There will be installation of new officers and brief talks by Democratic candidates. The public is welcome. Annual dues (\$25) are now due. For information call Lula Dovi at 932-6944.



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Christmas Hats Galore at Middle Lipsey Christmas Party



The "winners," pictured left, are Jerrod Mills wearing the reindeer hat and Stephanie Georgiades. Jerrod ended up with the most sought-after hat and will keep the Snowman yard sign on display in his front yard for a month. Stephanie Georgiades, host of the party, is the giver of the reindeer hat, and won the decorated flamingo to display in her front yard for the month.



Email the Editor at Caroler@roxc.graphics before January 14 with your answers. All that reply will have their name, along with the solution, posted in the February issue of *The Caroler*!

MIND BENDER

On the journey ABCD, it is 10 miles further from A to B than from B to C; it is 10 miles further from B to C than from C to D; it is 390 miles from A to D. How far is it from A to B?

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S REINDEER BRAIN TEASER

CONGRATULATIONS!

Thank you for submitting answers to the December puzzle!

Curtis Moreau

Tom and Chase Ure

Bill Koehler

Mary McCall

Tom Shea

Roger Clapp

Marney Murin

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