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**Catalina Isles/Skylark Estates
Homeowners Association Newsletter
Spring 2021**

Website: www.catalinaskylark.com Email: micatsky@gmail.com

The General Meetings that were scheduled for April and July have been cancelled due to continued concerns regarding public gatherings during the pandemic.

We are planning to resume in-person meetings and have scheduled a meeting at the library on **Monday, August 23, 2021** starting at 6:00 pm. Details to follow in our Summer 2021 newsletter.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the board or an officer on the board, please email us at micatsky@gmail.com.

WE HAVE A NEW DATE FOR OUR COMMUNITY YARD SALE!!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16th (Rain date: Oct. 23rd)

From 8:00 am to 2:00 pm

Get ready to sell some great stuff!



The HOA will advertise the Community Garage Sale in local newspapers, on our website and on Craig's List. If you plan to participate, please let us know via the website or at micatsky@gmail.com so we can include your address on our website page and on Craig's List. If you have something special to sell, please add the description so we can include it.

THANKS

for taking care of your property!

Your neighbors and your HOA
appreciate all that you do!



Catalina Isles/Skylark Estates
Homeowners Association

We continue to recognize homes that are being improved or maintained by caring residents this quarter by placing a Thank You sign in each yard. Here are this quarter's winners. *Thanks for making our community look good!*

- 450 Bacardi Drive
- 860 Koloa Drive
- 310 Richland Ave

Residents can nominate their neighbors via an email to the Chair of this committee, Louise Parker. Her email address is: loulou4bell@yahoo.com. Or, you can email your nominations to micatsky@gmail.com.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR FUTURE HOA MEETINGS IN 2021:

DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Thursday, July 8th
Monday, October 4th

GENERAL MEETINGS

Monday, August 23rd
Monday, October 25th
December TBD

All residents are welcome and encouraged to attend General Meetings, however only HOA paid members are permitted to attend Director's Meetings.

GET TO KNOW SILVIA BRYAN – HOA'S **TREASURER**

Silvia joined the HOA board in 2016 first as a Director and now as the Treasurer for the past 4 years. She has lived in Catalina Isles for 30 years and thought it was time to get involved with the HOA and give back to what other residents had done for our neighborhood since the start in 1966. One of her contributions is our new website which she helped develop with James Turner, owner of My Island Designs. She encourages everyone to visit the website and browse through all the useful information and appreciates any feedback from the neighbors.

Originally from Madrid, Spain, Silvia moved to the United States in her early twenties. In 1991 together with her husband and 1 year old daughter they bought their home on New Hampton Way. Her second child was born the next year and that's when they planted a Royal Poinciana tree in the front yard whose red flowers continue to delight people during their walks.

Silvia has always been involved with the community. While her children were growing up, she volunteered for many years with the Brevard Schools and the Cocoa Village Playhouse. For the past years she has been involved helping the Sea Turtle Preservation Society with nesting surveys, night walks, and fundraising events. She also volunteers with the Marine Resource Council and the Brevard Zoo, helping restore the Indian River Lagoon and with beach clean-ups.

Silvia loves Merritt island and all the natural wonders it has to offer, our manatees, sea-turtles and our beautiful birds to mention a few. She loves walking on the beach, gardening, discovering new places to hike and is involved with organizations that promote mindfulness, meditation, a vegetarian lifestyle, caring for the animals and the environment.

She enjoys being part of the HOA and meeting new neighbors. She wants to add a new page to the website about the history of our neighborhood and encourages people to send her photos or other information to:

treasurer@catalinaskylark.com or contact her at 321-412-7767.

Feral Cats/Outdoor Cats in Catalina Isles



There are several feral cat colonies throughout both North and South Catalina Isles, and while some residents consider them a nuisance, they are, for the most part, harmless. They keep away vermin and other pests that make waterfront property their home.

Feral cats do their best to avoid human contact. People often confuse outdoor cats – cats that, for the most part, have been dumped by thoughtless people who can no longer care for them. These cats are easy to trap and should be taken to a rescue shelter. Cats who are accustomed to being cared for by humans do not have the skills to fend for themselves outdoors. These cats may have trouble finding a food source, water, and shelter. Putting a cat outdoors permanently, when she has never been the before, is putting the cat into a dangerous, negative situation.

Feral cats should only be trapped to be neutered and then returned to the location where they were initially caught. Relocating a feral cat is highly stressful for the cat and may cause its death.

If you see feral cats multiplying, there are several organizations you can contact: Space Coast Feline (321-631-7729) and the Brevard Humane Society (321-636-3343) are two. They can assist you with trapping, neutering, shots and adoption.

Remember, these cats see our community as a home they share with humans – they should be treated humanely.

REAL ESTATE INFORMATION – *THE HOUSING MARKET IS BOOMING!!*

The current real estate market is crazy! Homes are going under contract before the “For Sale” sign goes up, often with multiple offers and above the asking price. However, deals can fall apart due to appraisal and insurance issues. There is very little inventory, but appraisers may not take into account the rising prices buyers are willing to pay. Sellers may not have had any issues with their insurance; but now more restrictive guidelines are being placed on new policies - making it more difficult for buyers. While each carrier may vary, here are some potential problems: prior claims particularly with water/leaks; prior claims must be closed; roofs must be 15 years old or newer; no cloth or aluminum wiring (Alumicons may have some restrictions); old electrical boxes; and there is a possibility that cast iron pipes may become an issue. If your current insurance seems high, find out if a wind mitigation and 4-point inspection (combined cost of approximately \$200) might help lower your rates.

Please!! Help Preserve Our Indian River Lagoon

One of the most diverse estuaries in the nation, the Indian River Lagoon features an extraordinary mix of wildlife and native plants, fishing and boating opportunities, and beautiful residential shorelines. We are fortunate enough to be able to live here and enjoy it. It’s a unique natural asset worth preserving. But what can we do to help? A lot! Plant a lagoon friendly yard with native plants. Keep grass clippings, fertilizer, and pesticides out of our waterways. Wash your car where soap and dirty water don’t flow into our storm drains. Pick up after your pet as dog waste carries bacteria that sickens the Lagoon. To learn more about what you can do, please check out these websites:

<https://savetheirl.org/get-involved/tips-for-reducing-lagoon-pollution>

<https://befloridiannow.org/homeowner-toolkit>

<https://helpthelagoon.org/htl-how-to-help>

<https://restoreourshores.org/importance>



Important Contact Information

Suggestions or concerns can be directed to Officers, Directors, the HOA email address or website.

President	Dee McKrow	904.891.5463	President@catalinaskylark.com
Vice President	Christine McDonough	321.794.3310	VicePresident@catalinaskylark.com
Secretary	Trish Heyburn	321.305.6208	Secretary@catalinaskylark.com
Treasurer	Silvia Bryan	321.412.7767	Treasurer@catalinaskylark.com

Directors:

Jean Gaudreau	321.449.0500	Judy Townsend Briggs	678.521.7631
Kathy Matson	813.508.8177	Gary Young (Neighborhood Watch)	321.305.5645
Paul Alessi	321.305.6208	Bill & Louise Parker	321.452.5116

Sheriff’s non-emergency number: 321.633.7162

Code Enforcement: 321.633.2086

Fish & Wildlife Hotline: 888-404-3922 or call #FWC or *FWC from your cell phone

Useful Information

Garbage Pick-up: Mondays & Thursdays Recyclable and Yard Clippings Pick-up: Thursdays
(Excess garbage that will not fit in your cart must be bagged (no garbage cans) and set beside the cart so as not to interfere with the arms of the autoloader)

Please call Waste Management Customer Service at (321) 636-6894 for "special collection solid waste"

These items include: • Household furnishings • Appliances • Electronics • Bicycles and other bulk items



Please Pay Your Annual Dues

Dues are used to maintain the HOA, produce the newsletters, mail newsletters through the USPS, pay for beautification projects, maintain the website, advertise our annual garage sale, fund the Holiday Party, provide refreshments and speakers for our meetings, support the Neighborhood Watch Program and other activities that benefit our neighborhood and the community as a whole.

PAY BY MAIL: Please, send a check for \$15.00 payable to Catalina Isles/Skylark Estates HOA, P. O. Box 540401, Merritt Island, FL 32954-0401 together with this form (please include your email address).

PAY ONLINE: You can go online to our website www.catalinaskylark.com and pay with a credit card or with your PayPal account. (The site is secured and protected).

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

I would like to have an Electronic Newsletter sent to my email address. Please indicate email address above.

I would like to get involved with (please check the desired activity):

Being a Director Website Beautification needs Organizing events
 Neighborhood Watch General volunteer



THANK YOU FOR PAYING DUES and SUPPORTING THE HOA!!

*We greatly appreciate the neighbors who paid dues and want to say a very special **Thank You** to those neighbors who went above and beyond by giving additional donations. The money we collected last year came from only 22% of the homes in our neighborhood. We would like to see participation increase as HOA activities and improvements are for the enjoyment of the whole of our community.*

Thanks to our business partners for providing the HOA exceptional service:



My Island Designs is a website design company that is based on Merritt Island. They have a team of professional designers and SEO experts ready to create an engaging, search engine optimized site for your business, church, or non-profit.

Please visit their website for more information:
<https://www.myislanddesigns.com/>



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