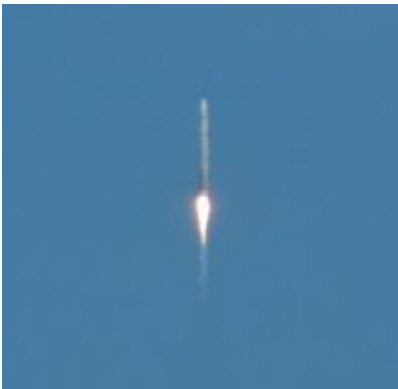


WHITLEY BAY

The Whitley Bay Condominium Newsletter

February 2016

Scenes around Whitley Bay to share with you...



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Mike Angel (#505)	Jan. 1
Denise Olinger (#705)	Jan. 3
Don Verner (#805)	Jan.13
Alan Kvares (#1104)	Jan.29
Chris Lacano (#PH1)	Jan.30
Sheila Bonvallant (#1202)	Feb. 2
Linda Rosiska (#1002)	Feb. 6
Tom Jensen (#504)	Feb.23
Mary Ellen Mervis (#605)	Feb.24
Coralie Betz (#804)	Mar.23
Terry Yates (#1105)	Mar.27
Stan Bowers (#606)	Mar.31
Mark Bonvallant (#1202)	Mar.31
Sandy Jacobs (#901)	Apr. 8
Michael Broadmeadow (#1004)	Apr.10
Jon Rosiska (#1002)	Apr.17
Betsy Clark (#501)	Apr.16

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

Kerri & Mike Ouellette (#1106)	Jan. 3
Elisa & Alan Kvares (#1104)	Jan.29
Sarah & Joe Donnelly (#304)	Mar. 3
Laurie Spencer & James Pringle (#801)	Mar.15
Liz & Scott Brooks (#1103)	Apr.25
Ed Pont & Michael Broadmeadow (#1004)	Apr.27

If we did not mention your birthday or anniversary please update with one of the Co-Editors of the newsletter.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW NEIGHBORS...

Please welcome Linda and Jon Rosiska who moved into Suite 1002. Linda writes: "We are so happy to be living at Whitley Bay! Jon accepted a position at KSC in 2010. In 2014, he was sent to Birmingham, England to help with a company project where I joined him. We returned to KSC in September and bought our condo here. Jon and I started dating in 1990, on a remote little island named Johnston Atoll, where we destroyed chemical weapons. How romantic was that? We married on April 24, 1993. I have 2 children and 2 grandchildren. We love to travel and have visited many places. We hike and ride bikes. Jon is a photographer and some of his work hangs in the Clinton Library and is published in The Arkansas National Forest Handbook. He also loves electronics and Fiction. I graduated with a degree in Education and taught for many years. I then became an interior designer and loved every minute of it. I enjoy painting and the Arts. I am now happily retired."

Also, please say hello to Morgan Reinman, who moved from Melbourne into Suite 406. Morgan was born in Lapeer, Michigan, grew up on Merritt Island, and has spent the last 50 years in Brevard County. Morgan is a circuit judge who was appointed to the bench by Gov. Bush in 2003. Morgan has a 19 year old son who attends the University of Alabama. Although he roots for the Gators when they aren't playing Bama. Morgan says: "I look forward to meeting my neighbors."

We are happy to say “Hello” to Basil Gumina---please call him Joey--- who moved into Suite 403. Joey was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He moved to Cocoa from Long Island, NY where he resided for 24 years. Joey is single and is an ardent fan of the New York Yankees and the Greenbay Packers. His hobbies are biking and swimming. Joey said he is very happy to be living at Whitley Bay.

HAPPENINGS AROUND WHITLEY BAY...

THE INDIAN RIVER QUEEN CRUISE...Lindsay Leinss (Suite 1003) Chairman

At 2pm on a sunny October 4, 2015 day, a dozen Whitley Bay residents set sail for a special scenic cruise on the paddle wheel boat, The Indian River Queen. This cruise included a professional narration by a naturalist featuring the Indian River Lagoon and the historic communities of Cocoa and Rockledge, which were established in the 1800's. After the cruise, a dinner was enjoyed at Ryan's Pizza and Pub.



Photos courtesy of Donna Meligi (Suite PH-02) and Stan Bowers (Suite 606)

The Annual WBCA Holiday Party ...Loretta Bowers (Suite 606) and Lindsay Leinss (Suite 1003) Co-Chairs

Dinner and Dancing with Alfie Silva was held on December 6, 2015, at the Rockledge County Club. There were 80 residents and guests attending with plenty of conversation, great food, and dancing with Alfie performing his “Christmas With Alfie” show. Thanks to Tom Jensen for taking such super pictures of the event.





Photos courtesy of Tom Jensen (Suite 504)

Super Bowl 50 Party...Loretta Bowers, Chairman (Suite 606)

The Annual Super Bowl 50th Celebration was held on February 7th. This year we had 51 WB cooks, guests, and friends who provided an array of special, delicious, and creative appetizers, desserts, and finger foods! This year we had a special treat, homemade ice cream in 10+ flavors made to a refrigerated perfection by Scott Brooks (Suite 1103). The Super Bowl Pool was a big hit thanks to Jim Jacobs (Suite 901) and Stan Bowers (Suite 606). Our appreciation and hats off to our talented WB chefs, guests, and Social Committee who always make this a fun gathering regardless of the final score ---Denver Broncos 24 and Carolina Panthers 10.



Meet and Greet Event ...

Hosted by Jim Jacobs (Suite 901), Frank Sullivan (Suite 1201) and Mike Ouellette (Suite 1106)

The Meet and Greet was held on November 15th to provide an opportunity for our residing residents to welcome our newest residents & neighbors to Whitley Bay. Lots of delicious food, refreshments, and laughter contributed to a fun evening for all!



A Special Thanks...

As usual, the Decorating Committee (Diane Verner Suite 805, Chairperson) did an outstanding job decorating the lobbies and Recreation Room. She was assisted by Don Verner (Suite 805), Loretta Bowers (Suite 606), Lindsay Leinss (Suite 1003), Carol Jensen (Suite 504), Pilar Sullivan (Suite 1201), Becky Sanders (Suite 503) and Cametta Isom (Suite 502).



Cocoa water tower crowned 2015 Tank of the Year



Cocoa's 156-foot-tall landmark water tower, which features three painted American flags, all of which are 25 feet tall, beat out more than 200 other entries to win the 2015 Tank of the Year.

The American flags on the Cocoa water tower recently were repainted as part of a resurfacing project started last year. The flags originally were painted on the tank in 1976 by a Greek immigrant to celebrate the nation's Bicentennial.

Cocoa's legged tank has sustained its patriotic theme over the past 40 years, thanks to a series of renovations designed to fight the Space Coast's salty, coastal environment. The tower was repainted in 1991, 2003 and 2014.

In 2012, Cocoa city officials rejected a rebranding consultant's recommendation to get rid of the painted flags on its water tower.

The 1.5 million-gallon tank, which was built in 1957, is used to maintain constant pressure in the Cocoa water distribution system, which supplies more than 22.7 million gallons of drinking water a day to about 80,000 customers in Central Brevard County, including Kennedy Space Center, Port Canaveral and Patrick Air Force Base.

Christmas Market Cruise...Loretta and Stan Bowers (Suite 606)

On December 9th we departed Cocoa for our cruise. Having been to Europe several times before, we had never been in the winter, therefore, this was going to be a new experience for us. Living in Florida now for 13 years, we were without any winter clothes, to speak of. This necessitated having to make some purchases for weather that certainly would be a shock to our bodies. We were looking forward to possibly having some snow in the markets to put us in the Holiday spirit. Alas, there was none to be seen. In fact, we were told that we were lucky, it was 15-20F degrees warmer than normal. Temperatures ranged from the upper 30's at night to the low 50's during the day while on the cruise.

Landing in Munich, Germany, we were greeted by fog so thick you could not see the ground until we touched down. Little did we know this was a sign of things to come. After a layover in Munich we continued our journey to the wonderful city of Prague, capitol of the Czech Republic.

After four days of exploring Prague and the surrounding area, we were bused to Regensburg, Germany where we embarked on our river cruise down the Danube. Our next nine days were spent on the river with stops in Passau, Germany; Linz, Austria; Melk, Austria; Vienna, Austria; Bratislava, Slovakia; and ending in Budapest, Hungary. Having mentioned fog earlier, we experienced it all the way down the river, with Budapest having the most. At times, visibility was very reduced even after noon.

Each city along the way had similar Christmas Markets, but each was unique in the food and handicrafts that were available. We thoroughly enjoyed the markets, partaking of many native foods and drink. From the hot wine, breads, pastries, sausages, roast pork, goulash and the many ways the people prepared potatoes, we consumed our share. Some of the larger cities had many markets scattered throughout the city. Decorations varied in every town, but each had a large, elaborately decorated Christmas tree in the main square.

Our cruise company provided most informative tour guides in each of the cities we visited. Sometimes, local performers came onboard to give a presentation. In Budapest we hired our own tour guide for a one and one-half day private tour before flying to Rome. Here we had more reasonable temperatures, around 50 at night and lower 60's during the day with glorious sunshine. We had been to Rome several times previously and one never tires of Rome. There is so much history and sights to see there, not to mention the food!

Loretta has family residing in Rome; so, we were able to spend a lot of time with them while there, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Years Eve and several days between. We also had arranged for two food tours while in Rome, as if we really needed more food! Pasta and more pasta was the norm, along with long walks about the city. We visited the Vatican one evening and were able to view a nativity scene set up outside the main entrance. We spent ten days in Rome, before returning home on January 2, 2016.

We both agree we will return to Europe, but not in the winter! We took many pictures (2,000+) and have assembled some of them into a book chronicling our wonderful journey. The weather did not dampen our spirits (no pun intended).



Old Town Square in Prague, the tree in the main market and a sample of a Christmas decoration and the weather we experienced.



In Linz, Austria: hot eggnog (you have to ward off the chill!), street decorations and a gingerbread making demonstration.



The bridge connecting the old Regensburg, Germany with the new (note the fog), enjoying some hot wine, market decorations, keeping warm by the fires provided throughout the market and an example of the frescoes on the buildings.





Our ship, preparing to leave Linz and travel to Passau, Germany. As we enter the lock, the pilothouse is lowered into the deck to allow for clearance to pass under the bridge. As you can see, more fog, as Loretta takes a stroll on the promenade deck.



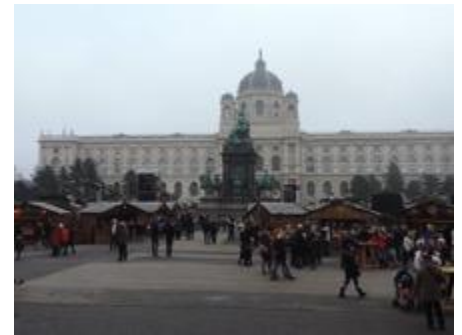
Passau had a small market, but one of our favorite foods was found there, Raclette Cheese. They would heat a half round under an infrared burner until it started bubbling and then spread it on fresh sliced bread.

The next stop on our voyage was Melk, home of the famous Melk Abbey, built in the early 1700's. The monastery is over 900 years old with over 700 students.





Returning to our ship, we continue our journey down the Danube to Vienna, Austria. Oh, did I mention the fog?



Vienna, the crossroads of Europe, where East meets West. Originally Celtic and taken over by the Romans until the 4th Century. Many different countries and families have controlled it since that time. Since the downfall of the Iron Curtain in 1989, Vienna has found a new purpose as the gateway city between Central and Eastern Europe. The above pictures depict the larger of many Christmas Markets scattered throughout the city.



Next stop Bratislava, Slovakia. A small market, but a nice town and very reasonable economy.



Our arrival in Budapest was delayed by a few hours. Can you believe it?



A view of the Pest side of the city as seen from Fisherman's Bastion on the Buda side.



Street decorations, the Jewish synagogue and the main tree in the central market in Budapest.



Above are some sights around Rome that not everyone would normally see: the main entrance to the Vatican without throngs of people; the ring road around Rome clearly visible at night and Castel Gondolfo, the summer home of the Pope.

Parking by our residents at Mariner's Square.....

The Board of Mariner's Square is graciously allowing our residents who have additional vehicles, over the two allowed to be on our property, to use their lot during the overnight hours. **If you should need to use their lot, please ensure you move your vehicle by 8:00 AM.**

Editorial Contacts:

**Loretta Bowers, Co- Editor lorettabowers@aol.com
Lindsay Leinss, Co- Editor lindsayleinss@hotmail.com**