

VOLUNTEERS SHOW UP FOR RECENT WORK DAY

Despite a cold and damp north wind that blew in Saturday morning, close to thirty property owners showed up to lend a hand in getting some of the debris dragged out to the street that Ike deposited behind many of the homes on Laguna. Most of the volunteers worked for at least five hours and many worked longer than that. The Terramartian's Social Club had hot dogs with all of the trimmings and hot chili to serve to the workers. Cold beer, sodas and water were also served. Thanks to Wendy Majewski for preparing all of the food!

There is still much to be done to get Terramar Beach back on track after Ike, so we will be scheduling more of these workdays throughout the year. Come join us for the next one! The date will be posted on the web site soon.

Thanks to the following volunteers who gave up their Saturday to help. (I hope I didn't leave anyone out!!)
Bob and Wendy Majewski, Linda Vacarro, Chris and Lynn McMullin, Lloyd Pepper, Anne and Reif Hedgcoxe, Tom Hendricks, Bill and Pat Kirk (and unfortunately Bill damaged his truck by backing into a fire hydrant), James Hill, Bonny English, Bill and Sylvia Sullivan, Charles and Phyllis Clary, Fred and Judy Duncan, Richard and Monica Clark and their grandchildren, Kyle and Michaela, Kim Saxon, Greg Stoerner, John and Kathy Ringrose and Frank Helfrich.



Chris McMullin hauling debris with golf cart



Phyllis Clary, Anne Hedgcoxe, Kim Saxon with Kim's four-wheeler. That helped a lot!!!!



Judy Duncan lending a hand.

The area of the Bay just off of the corner of Laguna and Chiquita had a tremendous amount of debris after Ike. Kathy Ringrose removed a lot of it by hand and the rest was removed by the volunteers.



John Ringrose, Bob Majewski, Bill Kirk and Greg Stoerner pull pieces of a barbeque grill out of the Bay.



Bill Kirk, the head of the "Chain Gang" gets ready to pull more debris out of the Bay.



Just one of the many piles of debris on the street ready for pick up.

PROJECT UPDATE FROM RACHEL RUIZ

Project coordinator – City of Galveston

The completion of the Terramar Project is estimated to finish tentatively in about 1-1/2 months from now. The contractors, E.P. Brady will be starting up again on Monday, February 2, 2009 and will resume setting

the drainage boxes for Terramar. This will include grading the ditch (Terramar Drive) and installing culverts. At this time, as of today, the following areas may start hooking up to City Sewer; Buena, Camino, Fresca, Temprano, Verano, and Valer. Thank you for all of your patience in this situation. Rachel Ruiz.



POOL AND MARINA NEWS

The pool and marina have been the focus of our community efforts after Hurricane Ike. We have cleaned out the pool and the pump house. Frank Helfrich has worked diligently on the marina, and he still needs more volunteers to help. The spring and summer weather will be here soon and it will be very gratifying to see our efforts coming to fruition as boats head out to the Bay to fish and families gather around the pool for fun and fitness.

This summer we will be offering water aerobics on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Phyllis Clary has taught water aerobics for eighteen years in Dallas and Amarillo. These classes will be discounted for property owners. Guests will pay to participate and the funds will help generate income for our pool. It is the single most expensive item to maintain and the repair work after Ike was necessary to be in compliance with the Health Department. Water Aerobics is the perfect exercise for all levels of fitness. The water displaces 90% of your body weight so there is very little stress on the joints. The water also acts as a form of resistance so your muscles receive a weight workout. You can lose inches, gain cardiovascular endurance, and strengthen your body in a beautiful setting. We hope you will join us. More information and a specific schedule will be released in the next issue of the Terramar Times.

BOTTLE REEF ON BEACH BEHIND WOODY'S

Submitted by Willa Nadalin

The January issue of The Islander magazine included an article about a glass "reef" that Ike had uncovered located just west of the seawall. On a recent cold and blustery day, Willa Nadalin and Wendy Majewski decided to check out this unusual area. It mostly resembles a dump, rather than a reef, and the question that comes to mind is who might have thought that the beach was a good place for a dump! It was fun to climb around the broken concrete and pilings and bricks to see if we might find something interesting. We did find some old bottles no longer made and a lot of melted glass from the bonfires that were apparently held at this spot. If you have noticed an extraordinary amount of glass on our beach here in Terramar since Ike, it can be traced back to this dump.



Wendy with one of the bottles



Willa with a large animal bone and a brick

TERRAMARTIAN'S DONATE NEW BULLETIN BOARD

As mentioned in the last issue of the Terramar Times, the Terramartian's Social Club donated a new bulletin board to replace the one that Ike claimed. If you would like to have something posted, please contact Wendy at 737-5932.



Nice new bulletin board!

ARE YOU RECEIVING THE OCCASIONAL E BLASTS?

If you are not receiving the occasional "E Blasts" from Willa Nadalin and would like to be added to the list, please send Willa an e mail with that request. Her e mail address is wilanad@aol.com.

DREDGING COMMITTEE CRAWFISH BOIL FUNDRAISER

Please mark your calendars for the first Dredging Fund Raiser to be held at the Terramar Pavilion March 7 noon - 5pm....featuring crawfish and all the sides. The Social Committee, Alice and myself, welcome any volunteers. Bonny English



February 13-24, 2009

Submitted by Marilyn Leidal

Most of us are probably pretty tired of talking about Ike and how he's ruined our lives. So here's what you do.....par-tay!!!!

Like we need a reason.

But Mardi Gras Galveston is coming soon and going on 98 years. More than 200,000 people attend this event. Whether it's just bead throwing in the streets, enjoying live entertainment, shopping vendors, the carnival, watching the parade and the best food in the world or the many beautiful galas...there's something for everyone. Families included.

Mardi Gras is the traditional festival of feasting & fun that precedes Lent and has been observed on Galveston Island as early as 1867 and later revived in 1985 by Galveston BOI, developer George Mitchell and his wife, Cynthia. Unfortunately, the only tradition that won't happen this year will be the location of Mr. Mitchell's annual party on February 21. The Tremont House is scheduled to open in June due to extensive hurricane repairs. This themed Gala will take place at the Hotel Galvez on 2/21/09 and will still be as fun and festive.

2/21/09 The San Luis will be hosting their popular costume contest. In addition, they will host several black tie galas throughout the Mardi Gras season.

2/22/09 Moody Gardens Convention Center has a wonderful ball for people with special needs, along with their immediate family and caregivers. Festivities are free.

The number of activities are too many to put in this article, but go directly to www.galveston.com and you will find all of the events and you will no doubt find something that suits your celebrating taste.

And let's face it, we need to celebrate. So "Laissez Les Bon Temps Rouler"!



BOB'S BYLINE

*Submitted by Bob Majewski
President TBCIA*

Dear Residents,

I hope that everyone had a good holiday season and I look forward to a better year ahead. We have seen a lot of progress in the last month here in Terramar. Many of the streets have been paved, debris has been cleaned up from a few houses that hadn't been touched since Ike came ashore, power poles have been installed on the beachside, the repair of the pool fence is almost complete and after a very successful neighborhood cleanup day much of Terramar Beach looks a lot better.

We still have a long way to go and with the continued support of the City of Galveston we will get there. The paperwork has been turned in and approved by the City for canal cleanup. We still need FEMA to approve the project before they will proceed. The City has also been notified about our boulevard and the lack of drainage due to accumulated sand. We hope to have that cleaned out along with the rest of the sand that is piled up around the entrance.

Thanks to all for your help getting Terramar back in shape. If you see other items that need our attention please let your section leader or another member of the board know about it.

Thanks and Happy Mardi Gras!

Bob Majewski
President TBCIA

CITY OF GALVESTON WEB SITE

The web site for the City of Galveston is a very good source for answers to any questions you might have. You can bookmark this site and reference it when you have a need for information. It is also just a good place to learn more about your city. You can also register for the Emergency Notification program. The web address is www.cityofgalveston.org



RESTAURANT REVIEW

Submitted by Wendy Majewski

Las Brisa Mexican Bar and Grill

My goal has been to support locally owned restaurants following Hurricane Ike but sometimes you have to cross the Causeway Bridge. Many businesses in Galveston County were hard hit as well so the decision was made to dine elsewhere while on a mission to visit a UTMB satellite facility near Clear Lake.

La Brisa is located at 4001 Highway 146 (281-559-2415) in Bacliff and although their facility was mostly unscathed, their clientele has been diminished due to the catastrophic damage at neighboring San Leon. Don't let the Day-Glo yellow steel palm tress in the front fool you. This is a top notch Mexican restaurant! The outdoor patio is always packed with families enjoying the best quality, very affordable food and drinks that this pearl has to offer, and it's heated during cold snaps and provides ceiling fans when the weather turns warmer. During our lunch visit, we were treated to an explanation of the unique artwork on the walls by one of Galveston County's finest, and checked out the game room and outdoor play area, limited but adequate for antsy kids. The décor is Mexican Bohemian, if there is such a term, but overall the environment is very welcoming, warm and pleasant.

On to the food. This was not my first rodeo at La Brisa. My son and his family live in League City and we have dined there many times. Today's Tortilla soup was divine, the fajitas to die for. The lunch menu is extensive and nothing will break your wallet when the most expensive item is the Fajita platter at \$7.99. Dinner prices are a bit higher but no sticker shock here. In the past we have sampled Queso Flameado, Guacamole Salad, Shrimp Cocktail, Enchiladas of every kind, Tacos, Carne Guisada and the many seafood entrée's offered and have never been disappointed. The house margaritas are recession priced at just \$2 from 11 AM to 7 PM and they are not the 'I-have-a-headache-from-the-cheap-margaritas' margaritas. The waitstaff is attentive and the complimentary, very thin tortilla chips and two kinds of salsa (one a delicious avocado based green salsa, the other a just spicy enough salsa rojo) set the tone for a delicious experience. For the sports lover, several big screen TV's broadcast the most popular games.

All menu items are available to-go in microwaveable containers and a new La Brisa is opening soon near Sudie's on I-45.

Next time you are craving a Mexican fix and don't mind the drive, La Brisa is a must visit!



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Submitted by Wendy Majewski

NO FLOUR PEANUT BUTTER COOKIES

1 CUP PEANUT BUTTER
1 CUP SUGAR
1 EGG

COMBINE ALL INGREDIENTS, USE ABOUT 1 TABLESPOONS WORTH OF DOUGH TO FORM A BALL AND PLACE 2 INCHES APART ON A COOKIE SHEET. PRESS DOWN WITH A FORK TO MAKE A CRISS CROSS PATTERN. BAKE AT 375 FOR 8-10 MINUTES OR UNTIL BROWN AROUND THE EDGES. THESE BURN QUICKLY SO WATCH CLOSELY. LET COOL ON THE COOKIE SHEET. MAKES ABOUT A DOZEN.



HAPPY VALENTINES DAY!

Voltaire

Love is a canvas furnished by Nature and embroidered by imagination.



BIRD OF THE MONTH

Submitted by Jim Stevenson

Founder of the Galveston Ornithological Society

White Pelicans are one of North America's largest birds, considerably larger than our common Brown Pelican. They sail into our area in early fall and leave by late spring. Flight is easy for them with a 110-inch wingspan!

White Pelicans forage by swimming in formation through shallow water, herding fish toward shore. When the fish finally try to escape, they are scooped up by the pelican's cavernous bill. By contrast, Brown Pelicans feed over deeper water, diving out of the air for their piscine fare.

White Pelicans don't breed around our area, but rather in large lakes up North, and especially out West. There are thousands of pairs in the Great Salt Lake every year. They join many gulls, loons, grebes and waterfowl as winter residents in the Galveston area. They are most easily seen on the ends of the Island, or soaring overhead.



Jim Stevenson has a free e-mail bird list where he sends out pictures of birds along with some commentary about them. It's low-resolution, name-suppressed and absolutely free. It also has announcements about his inexpensive birding tours and other opportunities. You can try it and get off any time you wish! E-mail Jim at galornsoc@earthlink.net

FISHING REPORT FOR FEBRUARY

Submitted by Captain Joe Kent

As this article is being written, reports of excellent trout fishing are coming in from Terramar residents. What appears unusual for this time of year is the action in the canals. The January 28th edition of the Reel Report featured a picture of Richard Guidry showing off a nice stringer of trout caught in a Terramar Canal. Guidry was the guest of Mike Dye and the action occurred between 8 and 10 a.m.

Nighttime fishing is supposed to be best in canals and with fish like that hitting during the day must indicate a good stock concentrating around the deeper waters of the canals.

Similar reports were received from residents fishing canals in Harborwalk and Jamaica Beach.

Lower West Bay is holding some nice schools of trout and reds. Several guides reported taking nice quantities of trout along with a few reds and scattered flounder during late January. Most of the reports came from the vicinity of where Chocolate Bay enters West Bay.

During one of my conversations with Capt. Lloyd Pepper, A/K/A the Mayor of West Bay, he indicated that reds are being found in the upper reaches of some of the creeks and other waterways feeding into lower West Bay. A friend of his was fishing somewhere in around the Intracoastal Canal and caught and released a trout estimated to weigh well over ten pounds. The angler fishes the lower Coast often and is familiar with the sizes of big sows. No mention of the bait used to catch the big fish.

It is hard to predict what will take place in February, however for now I would enjoy the action afforded in your canal.



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