

Saint James Civic Association Newsletter

January, 2010

sjccapi.org

For Membership Call 283-8794

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2010 !

The New Year brings us into our busiest and most enjoyable part of the Civic Center year. Check your Calendars for the activities you will most enjoy and Come On Down!!!

Time again for the latest Darwin Awards – citations given (usually posthumously) to folks who have found creative ways to remove themselves from the gene pool. Like the man who decided to surf down a rain-swollen spillway on a sponge rubber mattress Emphasis on “sponge”..

A GREAT TIME (BURP!)

Judged by the compliments and contented smiles, our Holiday Dinner was a success. We devoured most of 12 turkeys, gallons of side dishes and a bunch of pies. Apologies to those who had to stand in line, despite my promises of an express lane. That was necessary to get our membership list in better order. It won't happen again. How about those surprise mimosas and whatchamacallits??

How about the two would-be robbers who WAY overestimated the amount of dynamite needed to blow apart an ATM machine and wiped out themselves and the entire building~

IMPORTANT BUSINESS

At this month's Membership Meeting, we will be electing the Board of Directors for the coming year. Four on the current Board have agreed to stay on and we have one new candidate, Linda Selleck (see below) We still need at least one additional volunteer to come forward. So, get your hat in the ring – don't make us get out the thumbscrews. Nominations will be accepted from the floor.
Linda Selleck: Originally from northern New York State, Linda is a retired science/health educator, who taught 31 years at middle and high school levels in NY and MA. As a team leader and curriculum planner, her skills encouraged cooperation and consensus within her school system and classroom.

As a Pine Island property owner since early 80's and a long time member of SJCCA, Linda has been a strong supporter and volunteer at sponsored activities

As a potential board member, Linda believes that respect for a wide variety of activities is essential and long term members must continue to be valued as the board explores new activities that will appeal to wider spectrum of community residents. .

Or the addict who jumped out of a moving car to get injured and get free drugs at the hospital, DOA!

YOU NEED TO KNOW:

☺Our SJCCA Center gets more than 21,000 user visits annually, including YOUR visits.

☺Not one cent of government money or taxes goes to SJCCA. Our only source of funding is user fees, memberships and donations. That's right! Our funding source is YOU!

☺SJCCA has no paid employees. Except for the weekly floor and yard cleanup, our labor is strictly “volunteer”. For the Association to run, it relies on volunteers like YOU.

☺SJCCA needs nearly \$30,000 each year to operate, covering the bills for utilities, insurance, supplies, upkeep, etc. -- and that doesn't address the need for reserve capital for unexpected major repairs or improvements.

☺The past year, our income fell short of this amount, hence the need to raise our user fees. Moreover, recent major expenses like AC repair, new ice machine, etc. have demolished our cash reserves.

The St. James City Civic Association Board has two goals:

☺The first goal is to adjust our annual operating income upward to cover operating expenses.

☺The second goal is to obtain the necessary funds for the replacement of reserves which will address capital expenses and significant repairs. This fund raising effort will be ongoing, and our immediate goal is \$25,000.

YOU can help by becoming a Century Club member.

☺☺Your gift of \$100 to SJCCA assures continued availability of this important place and begins to fund reserves for SJCCA. By becoming a Century Club member, you'll find out that you are helping SJCCA, your user group of friends, and you will be benefiting yourself as well. Donors will be recognized in the Newsletter.

Or the erstwhile bandit who sprayed his face with gold paint, despite the warnings on the can, to rob Sprint store employees. He was recognized anyway and was found dead of solvent poisoning when the cops came to his home.

☹ Uh-Oh, Department ☹

After more years than most of us can remember, Naomi Brewer has announced her intent to “pass the rummage sale baton” after the Spring Festival. This is a real loss, though we can all appreciate her need for a rest. I will describe the magnitude of Naomi’s (and Jim’s) contributions in the February newsletter. Meanwhile, however, we need to find a replacement SOON, so training can start with the upcoming Winter Festival. Ideally, the task could be shared by a team of 2, 3 or 4 people. This is an absolutely crucial role. We’re asking all members to search their hearts and think about stepping into this crucial role.

After an evening of beer drinking, “Joe” was desperate to “go” but in a huge traffic jam. He leaped from the car and vaulted over a freeway wall for some privacy---to the RR tracks, 65 feet below

HOBBY CLUB NEWS

Our Vendors’ Venture Sale is January 16th. from 8:00 until 1:00: at the Civic Center. We will be serving the Traditional **Big Breakfast** from 8 to 10”ish”, and a **Light Lunch** from 11 to 12:30. There will be a wide variety of crafts and merchandise for sale by local vendors and our own members. If you want to rent a table call Kathie Smith 282-6206 before 5 pm. Hobby made some stuffed animals for the children coming into the ER at Cape Coral Hospital. WE know these provide a bit of comfort to the kids in a very scary situation. If you are interested in joining our Hobby Club we meet on Wed. morning from 9 to 11:30 just come down to the St. James Civic Center, any Wednesday morning or call Dixie Smegal 283-7253 for more information. You don’t even need a hobby - we have several ladies playing cards, cutting coupons for the soldiers or just visiting.

P.S. Remember to save your pull tabs and Campbell Soup labels.

Think of the pair that were killed at a ski resort when they collided with a safety barrier at the end of the slope after sliding down on – you guessed it – the padding they stole from the safety barriers.

Need a Job??

The U.S. Census Bureau is looking for people in the SJCA area who would like temporary employment with the bureau. They need Census Takers and Census Clerks. Salary is \$12-15/hour and hours are flexible.

A written exam is required prior to employment. The exam will be given on **January 15, 2010 at 10:30 AM at the Civic Center**. Applicants must be on time - the doors will close once the test starts.

For more information, call 866-861-2010 or 941-347-3220. **Proof of citizenship is required** (how refreshing!), **so call one of these numbers before showing up for the test!**

His expensive Porsche SUV was trapped between gates on a railroad track. To save his beloved vehicle, he ran toward the onrushing train, waving his arms frantically. Didn’t save the SUV either.

E-Mail Newsletters

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to receive their SJCCA newsletter via e-mail. For each member who volunteers to use this service, the Association saves about \$5.00 per year in printing and postage expenses. As of Nov. 30, 2009, new and renewing members have saved the Association approximately \$250 of expenses for the 2010 budget year. If you’d still like to sign up for e-delivery, send your request to: membership@sjccapi.org

Thanks again, Shari Perkins, Membership Chair

Beck Boats Biography

Beck boats biography is the program topic by Jack Orzalli at the **January 18th SJCCA evening meeting**. Jack lives in Matlacha where the first Beck boats were built in the 1960s. He owns, repairs, and has studied the history of these trout trolling “rowboats, with an air cooled engine amidships”. If you’re lucky enough to have seen a Beck boat fishing the flats, it was fiberglass if old, wood if really old.

Jack, a retired Navy captain, will educate us on when and how Beck boats were made, how they were handled to commercially fish trout, and who owns the few surviving boats in the Pine Island area.

Don’t miss this enlightening, historic and entertaining program with a Q and A session at the St. James Civic Center, Monday, January 18 at 7PM. Tell a friend because all persons are welcome. This is the beginning of a great 2010 season.

Hard to feel sorry for the guy who was pursuing a jackrabbit on his snowmobile, all the way into a culvert – at least the rabbit went into the culvert, along with parts of the snowmobile and parts of its pilot

Pot Luck

Turnout is improving for the Pot Luck supper held every 1st and 3rd Monday of the month. Along with lots of great food, we enjoy a lot of social time. On the 1st Monday there's playing card bingo and the 3rd Monday, we just horse around until, the membership meeting and program. Bring a dish and/or dessert to share, your eatin' tools and plate and arrive about 5:30 for dessert-snitching.

And lastly there's the intrepid hunter who decided to discipline his dog by grabbing the barrel of his shotgun and taking a swing at the dog. Missed the dog, hit the ground and BOOM. Dog;s problems were over!

AARP Tax Aide Program

Beginning in Feb., the SJCCA will host the AARP Tax Aide program. Volunteers will be at the Civic Center on Tuesdays to help low income, elderly, and disabled individuals file their income taxes. Appointments are necessary, and can be made by calling the Civic Center 283-0242, press #2 after the message, and leave your name and phone number; someone will call you to set up a Tuesday appointment.

Bridge Lessons

Dennis Ward is planning to teach "Bridge Classes" on Thursday mornings, from 8:30 to 10:30, beginning Jan. 7, for 5, maybe 6 weeks. They will be held in the small room (Exercise in the large room).

Editorial: Am I the only one fed up with reading and hearing all the drug ads? Have a problem? Tell your doctor you want **this pill**. Never mind the "serious, sometimes fatal side effects".- you **need this pill!** But it's some of the Over the Counter stuff that **really** amuses me. Every time I see one, I'm reminded of Hadacol.. If you don't remember, that was a cure-all tonic highly popular in the '50s. It contained more alcohol than cheap wine, was safer than rubbing alcohol and tasted better than vanilla extract. It became the tonic of choice among the Carrie Nation genre. And, of course, there were Carter's Little Liver Pills and Doane's Pills, neither of which could ever be proven effective. The new ads are smooth and usually include "Clinically Proven", apparently a catch phrase for "nobody has died so far". And now the biggie seems to be "Colon Cleansing". Are they serious? They want me to take that stuff and it will do **what??**

Don't Forget

Membership Meeting

Monday, January Eighteenth

Program: Beck Boat Biography

By Jack Orzalli