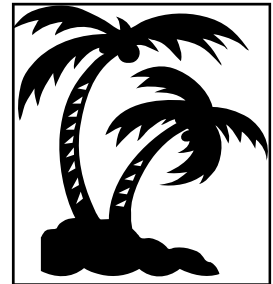


VDMIA  
 Not-For-Profit Organization  
 Founded March, 1965  
 P.O. Box 46404  
 Pass-a-Grille, FL 33741

The  
**Vina View**  
**Vina Del Mar**  
**Island Association**



ISSUE XXI

February 2007

VDMIA OFFICERS

**President:**

Dave Zavac at 363-1064

**V- President:**

Ron Heeter at 360-0690

**Treasurer:**

Becky Walerski at 367-6708

**Recording Secretary:**

Joan Flynn at 360-3210

**Corresponding Secretary:**

Judy Casey at 360-5107

ELECTED DIRECTORS

Philip Holcomb.....367-7722

Bill Pyper (Beautification Committee).....363-6349

Be Milman.....360-0173

Claudine Reece .....363-8401

Robert Smith.....374-0236

DeeLynn Rivinius....360-6910

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Newsletter: OPEN**

**Membership:**

DeeLynn Rivinius ...360-6910

**Hospitality:**

Debbie McCarthy...360-8616.

**Ways & Means**

Dianna Heeter.....360-0690

**Budget & Finance:**

Carol Ballew.....360-7321

**Nominating & By-Laws:**

Dick Livingston....363-3641

**Children's Events: OPEN**



Vina Del Mar Island Association's  
**St. Patrick's Day Dinner / Annual Meeting**

The Vina Del Mar Island Association is hosting our annual St. Patrick's dinner in conjunction with our Annual Board Meeting. As always, the association will be providing a delicious St. Patrick's (Jigs) Dinner. We hope to have some great entertainment as we are trying to secure a "Bagpipe" player for the evening. Get out your Irish step dancing shoes!

To be held on March 14th at 6:00pm at the Warren Webster Building, we will be supplying Corn Beef, Cabbage, Potatoes and Carrots and condiments. The cost is \$6.00 per adult. As part of our Annual meeting, the association will also be holding elections for VDMIA Officer and Director positions as well.

Please call Debbie McCarthy at 360-8616 to place your reservation for you, your family and friends. This is a BYOB event. We've had some great events recently with great turnout. Debbie is our new Hospitality Chairperson and she's looking for a Co-Chair and volunteers for the "Hospitality" committee so if you are interested in getting to know your neighbors and at the same time put together great social events for all of Vina, give Debbie a call. We look forward to seeing you

VINA ELECTIONS

Please make sure that you take time to vote in the very important and crucial St. Pete Beach City election this March 13th which features for VINA the District 4 Commissioner position. Running for this post is Vina's own Melinda Pletcher and Harry Metz of Pass-A-Grille. Additionally, the VDMIA has openings for all OFFICER POSITIONS and three (3) DIRECTOR POSITIONS. If you are interested in volunteering for any of these positions please call Dick Livingston at 363-3641 to either nominate yourself or someone who is interested. Elections are to be held the VDMIA Annual Meeting and St. Patrick's Day Dinner on Wednesday, March 14th (see note above).

DUES DUE NOW / PLEASE DO PAY / DINNER FOR TWO

Please be on the look out for your "Dues" letter to arrive in the mail any day for Vina Del Mar Island Association Annual 2007 Dues. Dues are a very modest \$25.00 per household per year and help fund a number of different projects. We are also asking that you fill out the form enclosed in the "Dues Letter" so that we can record and update your information. Someone asked recently if they could donate more than the requested \$25.00. Of course you can!

New this year, the Association will be raffling a pair of tickets for the Dinner Extravaganza on Saturday (April 28th) at the Beach Goes Pops. A ticket (one per household) can be secured by paying your dues (2007) by our Annual Meeting and St. Patrick's Day Dinner on March 14th, 2007. There will be a tear off "stub" that you can return with your check or bring to the dinner. Thank you to DeeLynn Rivinius who has volunteered to Chair the "Membership" Committee. Questions or comments, call DeeLynn at 360-6910. Also, if you are considering to volunteer or run for a board position, either as a Officer or Director, you must have paid your dues by or on March 14th.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK - DAVID ZAVAC

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This will be my last letter as President of the Vina Del Mar Island Association. After serving on the board for several years I accepted the nomination to be President of this Association two (2) years ago. I am proud of the accomplishments that we, as a board, have achieved but it is time for me to focus my energy and efforts on other endeavors.

I hope that as I depart, I've left the Association in as good "shape" as when I inherited the job from Lynn Heiges. I think that I have, or I should say, I hope that I have. It's always a challenge to move a volunteer group in a forward direction but I think that we've done just that. The forward direction that I refer to was made possible in large part due the group of Vina residents who have worked tirelessly as Executive Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs. As our elections approach next month, we have numerous positions open for nominations including President. If anyone is interested in stepping up to take on this challenging yet fun position of leading our "board" and the Vina Del Mar Island Association, I welcome your interest.

I feel that we have accomplished many things over the last couple of years. We've created a dynamic, interactive web site ([www.vdmia.org](http://www.vdmia.org)) under the direction of Robert Smith of W. Vina Del Mar Blvd. We've worked with outgoing Commission Nancy Markoe to change 21st beyond PAG Way back to a two-way street. We've provided both leadership and many volunteer hours supporting the Beach Goes Pops which is a major fundraiser for the Association. We do hope to see you all again this April 27th and 28th in PAG. What a great event! Speaking of Beach Goes Pops - the Association will be raffling a pair of tickets for the Dinner Extravaganza on Saturday (April 28th) at the Beach Goes Pops for each household who has paid their 2007 dues by our Annual Meeting and St. Patrick's Day Dinner on March 14th, 2007. A dues letter will be sent out shortly to all Vina addresses. Dues are \$25.00 per household and DeeLynn Rivinius heads up our Membership Committee, contact her for further details (see front page for more details).

Our major fundraising campaigns include your "Annual Dues" payment and "Beach Goes Pops" proceeds which supports many projects (Bridge Lights on Vina Bridge, College Scholarship monies for Vina Senior High School students, Southwest Little League, our Christmas Party which supports children who are wards of the Pinellas County Court system). I'd like to take a moment to thank all who helped to put up the Christmas lights and decorations on the Vina Bridge at last Christmas. I know that Debbie McCarthy, Kathie Livingston and Lori Shannon were key in getting this big job done that we all enjoyed so much during the holidays. Also a special thank you to Annette and Stuart Hostetter who donated \$100.00 towards our Christmas Party. Thank you!

Our Hospitality events are wonderful and for those who do attend a great time is enjoyed by all. Thanks to Debbie McCarthy for assuming the ever important Hospitality Chair position. We are looking for someone to Chair our Children's Events. Liz Delgado has decided to step down after several years of great service. Thanks Liz for all that you've done the Association and children of Vina. We've undertaken the major task of reviewing "Traffic Calming, Pedestrian Safety and Speeding" on Vina and while we are not finished with our task, the many meetings, repeated exposure regarding the issues and continued education to create awareness and slow drivers down on Vina has paid huge dividends. Look for updates in a future editions of the Vina View.

Finally, I'd like to say again - that this association is your association and in order for it to thrive (and survive) it requires your ACTIVE participation. Many of the board members have served in their current capacities for many years. They do so tirelessly, their only reward - contributing to make Vina Del Mar Island the best neighborhood in St. Pete Beach and a great place to live. But they need help! So, make a difference. Volunteer. Get active in our neighborhood. Knock on a door. Meet a neighbor you've lived near but never met. Ask an older neighbor if there is anything that you can do for them. Help make Vina truly the best neighborhood that it can be. With your help. It surely will be!

Remember also the St. Pete Beach general elections on March 13th. Our district (4) is up for election. Running for Commissioner is our own (Vina Del Mar resident) Melinda Pletcher and PAG resident Harry Metz. Please Vote! Thank you for allowing me to service Vina for the past couple years!

**Marathoners**  
**By David Zavac**

For those who don't know me, I live on S. Tessier (since 1997) and I am happy to announce that I've just completed my 5th Marathon, the Bank of America Marathon in Tampa, last Sunday, February 18th. I ran the BofA Marathon in lousy weather but I was very satisfied with my time of 4:02:24. You may see me running from time to time. Usually in the morning, occasionally at lunch time and sometimes in the evening. I started running about four (4) years ago. First with Kevin McAuliffe and shortly thereafter, Jim Wilson. In the years since, I've run half marathons and marathons with Vina residents, Jim Wilson, Kevin McAuliffe and Julie Overton. Other Vina residents who are Marathoners are Jim and Mary Cunningham who have run several marathons. Carol Glasscock also runs marathons (and run them very fast). As if you didn't know, we live in a great neighborhood to run. Quiet streets, relatively little traffic (especially at 6am) with a beautiful beach with awesome vistas. Ok, maybe it does get a little warm in the summer. Makes us runners appreciate this February weather even more.

On Saturday morning's it's not uncommon to see anywhere for six (6) to twelve (12) runners at the Circle K at 6:30am getting ready for a run. Some are training for marathon, some are running for fun but regardless of the distances run or speed at which we run, we all enjoy each others company. Gerry Kapfer (E. Vina) often joins us. He's only run a half marathon but he's faster than any of the regulars and could run a marathon tomorrow if he wanted to. He'll often jog along keeping us amused with his stories. We've got PAG residents Gary and Victoria Long running and leading the way with their many years of running expertise. Running the NYC marathon with them (and Jim Wilson and Julie Overton) was truly memorable. Angie Beaver and Frances Mina live in Belle Vista and they run with us as well. In fact, Angie and Frances and I ran the Miami Marathon in January 2006. Since then, Frances has gained the distinction of running the fastest Marathon time of the group. While we all want to continue to improve and compete, what we really enjoy are the conversations and friendships that we've established as a group. Running is something that we all really enjoy and if you would like to join us for a run of any distance or speed feel free to call or e-mail me. For all of those that I've had the pleasure of running with over these past four (4) years, thank you!

**SPOTLIGHT ON AN ISLAND RESIDENT BUSINESS**

VDMIA newsletter is to highlight, recognize, and publicize companies or businesses that are owned or operated by residents of Vina Del Mar. Continuing our "spotlight" on business on VDMIA, we've got multiple entries this month. If you would like to have your company or business "spotlighted" in the Vina View please e-mail David Zavac at dzavac@tte.com or dzavac@tampabay.rr.com. This month our "SPOTLIGHT BUSINESS" belongs to Annette and Stuart Hostetter and Cile both of South Tessier.

**Vacations to Remember, Inc. Annette and Stuart Hostetter 727-360-6425 or 727-492-4479**

Whether cruising is your idea of a vacation or you have never set foot on a cruise vessel, either way Annette and Stuart Hostetter can bring that wonderful experience to you and your family. In 2004 following a brief retirement from a 30 year career in the travel industry Annette and Stuart founded Vacations to Remember. They have always enjoyed traveling to special destinations and preferred cruising as the primary way to visit the world.

Having your ship as your floating hotel and arriving at a port within walking distance of downtown centers of the Baltic, Central Europe or the Greek Isles is without comparison. Or take a leisurely cruise to the Caribbean and just relax read a book, climb a rock wall, or get a spa treatment until you reach your island destination. Regardless, traveling by ship can really make your next vacation one to remember.

Annette and Stuart as independent cruise consultants can design your vacation experience to any destination that can be reached by a cruise vessel. From large blue water cruise ships to small intimate river boats to yacht charters they not only have the knowledge but can find the best value for your budget. So whether it's Alaska, China, the Wine Country of France, the Nile, or Russia we would be excited to help you plan your Vacation to Remember. **\$50 discount on new cruise vacation bookings of 7- days or longer booked and deposited by April 30, 2007. Discount per cabin and combinable with all other discounts and amenities.**

**Brownhunter, Inc., Cile Moreno 727-560-4300 or cile@brownhunter.com**

Cile Moreno of S. Tessier Drive is proud to promote Brownhunter, Inc., a fine wine and spirit brokerage company. We travel all around the world seeking outstanding quality wines to sell to distributors here in Florida. Cile has been in the wine business for over 20 ears and has owned a very successful catering company. She enjoys tearing wine and food pairing classes at "your" home as part of her business. This is a great way to get fifteen or twenty of your friends and family together to share a great evening of wine, food, fun and education.

Cile has also hosted "theme" parties such as the Art of the Martini Marking, Red Wines for the White Wine Drinker, Why do I Smell, Swirl, Slurp and Spit. She will also host a formal sit down wine dinner with four or five courses and wines to match. If anyone has a wine question or is interested in Cile's expertise and services please contact her and she will be happy to assist. She can be contacted at 727-560-4300 or via e-mail at cile@brownhunter.com. Sounds like great fun. She's even offered her services if the Association would like to do some fundraising. All of these sound like a lot of fun. Thanks Cile.

**VDMIA SPRING 2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**March 13th** — St. Pete Beach Elections (District 4)

**March 14th**—VDMIA Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner—WWB—6pm

**March 14th** — VDMIA Annual Meeting/Elections — WWB - 6pm

**March 18th** — PAG Home Tour / Art Show - PAG, FL

**April 27th, April 28th** — Beach Goes Pops - PAG

**Look for details on these and other events on Vina's web-site!**

**Important Notice: At this time, the Association does not have a coordinator for our "kids" events such as Easter, Halloween and Christmas. Unless, we get someone who is willing to coordinate these events, the Association will not be planning a party for these events for our kids. We usually schedule an Easter Egg Hunt and Party for the weekend before Easter (Saturday, March 31st) but we will not be able to have this event without a coordinator. If you would to volunteer to coordinate this or any of these events please call or e-mail Dave Zavac. Thanks!**

VDMIA  
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Founded March, 1965  
P.O. Box 46404  
Pass-A-Grille, FL 33741

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