Get Ready to Bid: All Charities Auction is Next Weekend

More Ways to Get Involved Than Ever Before

What began in 2008 as a single auction day has evolved into one of the most anticipated weekends of the winter season: All Charities Auction Weekend, February 11-12.

The All Charities concept came about as a reaction to “auction and volunteer fatigue,” a general consensus in the community that there were too many fund-raising functions and not enough time to support them all during the increasingly busy, but short, winter season.

In the past three years, the success of All Charities Weekend has surpassed all expectations, and provides members with the chance to support charities on and near The Reef with this one fundraiser under the auspices of the Ocean Reef Foundation. The Foundation, which hosts the event each year, reported that last year’s All Charities Auction Weekend raised $1.36 million, well above the anticipated total of $1.2 million. Monies raised support all the Ocean Reef charities, including the Medical Center, the Art League, the Cultural Center, the Academy and environmental causes, as well as nearby off-the-Reef charities. “Forty percent of the auction proceeds benefit the neighborhoods outside our gates,” says 2011 All Charities Auction Chairman, Kathie Markel. “These are the communities in which our wonderful employees work, and it’s so important that Ocean Reef support our neighbors.”

Pet Grooming to Garias
Markel emphasizes that the All Charities Auction Weekend is the opportunity for everyone in the Ocean Reef community to support the causes that we value. “There are auction items in a wide variety of prices,” she explains. “This is not exclusively a high priced auction. You can bid on everything from gift certificates to services around the club to pet grooming.” One of the areas that the All Auction event really shines is in travel auction items. “No one needs to stay home this summer,” she jokes. “There are travel offerings to every destination you can imagine.” In addition, the auction will be an excellent opportunity to bid on one of two golf carts—a Club Cart and Garia are both up for auction. “These are offered through special arrangement with the Ocean Reef Golf Cart Sales, which has provided them to us at cost. All proceeds above their wholesale cost will be added to our monies raised,” explains Markel.

Touch Screen Bidding
With the mission to get the entire community involved, the silent auction is free and open to the public, with bidding open through the end of the live auction Saturday night. Perhaps most exciting is the debut of new bidding technology this year. Instead of writing down bids on paper, auction bidders can use computer touch screens. “Best of all, you can enter your maximum bid, see AUCTION, page 2

Photo by Stacey Szymanski
Reef Cup Champs: Guyon Moseley, Eddy Arazoza, Bill Haugland, Chester Sims, Carlos Smith and Tyler Morris. Read more about the Lights Out team on page 20.

Reef Cup 2011 Sees 431 Releases

Lights Out Wins Tournament with 23 Sails

Reef Cup 2011 started out slow and finished big. With an unfavorable forecast looming on day one, only four of the 61-boat fleet headed out, including Bill Haugland’s Lights Out, which ended the day with 5 releases out of 8 bites and took the top spot for day one with Captain Chester Sims at the helm. Lights Out’s Carlos Smith was the top angler for the day with two releases.

After one of the least productive first days in the Reef Cup history—a total of just nine sails—the action picked up fast and furious. Fifty-three of the fleet’s 61 boats chose to fish on day two, releasing a whopping total of 222 sails. At the end of the day, Double Take led the fleet with 11 releases, followed by Off Key, also with 11, and Finish Line and Lights Out tied at 10.

Everyone Gets Caught Up
To help keep up on all the scores, friends and family could stay current on all the catches on www.CatchStat.com. From computers and phones, fans could see at click all the releases by boat and angler. It was for the first time the Reef Cup had used the technology and it was a huge success. Daily updates were still posted next to the Dockmasters office, but with

See REEF CUP, page 20
Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Event Feb. 12

Batteries, Solvents, Telephones, Welcome

Monroe County Solid Waste is offering a Saturday drop-off for old electronics and hazardous waste.

The free event is for residents only, not businesses. The following items will be accepted: computers, televisions, monitors, printers/copiers, fax machines, telephones (cell and land), DVD/VCR players, radios/speakers, discs/cassettes, paints, stains, preservatives, resins, solvents, roofing compounds, adhesives, corrosives, automotive fluids, waste oil (maximum 5 gallons), cleaning products, fertilizers and fluorescent CFL bulbs.

For Key Largo, the drop off event is Saturday, Feb. 12 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Key Largo Recycling Center at 300 Magnolia Street. Call Colleen Murphy at 289-6037 or email murphy-colleen@monroecounty-fl.gov for more information.

Sonoma Style in the Cooking School Kitchen

Experience the flavors of two of Sonoma’s most celebrated food and wine personalities, Chef Colleen McGlynn and Ridgely Evers in our Wine Country Cooking class. Since 1995 Colleen and Ridgely have been the owners of DaVero Farms, a biodynamic farm in Sonoma County’s Dry Creek Valley. Their farm is one of the most highly regarded producers of award-winning extra virgin olive oils, wine and other artisan food products in the country. Gather in our kitchen Monday morning, Feb. 7, as Colleen and Ridgely create and demonstrate a California Wine Country menu paired with DaVero’s exquisite wines and olive oils. Call the Cooking School at 367-5933 for reservations.

A hundred hearts would be too few To carry all my love for you...

Dannels Jewelry

PLAZA BUILDING SUITE B-200, 2ND FLOOR
10-5 MONDAY-SATURDAY
305-367-4669

Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Event Feb. 12

Batteries, Solvents, Telephones, Welcome

Monroe County Solid Waste is offering a Saturday drop-off for old electronics and hazardous waste.

The free event is for residents only, not businesses. The following items will be accepted: computers, televisions, monitors, printers/copiers, fax machines, telephones (cell and land), DVD/VCR players, radios/speakers, discs/cassettes, paints, stains, preservatives, resins, solvents, roofing compounds, adhesives, corrosives, automotive fluids, waste oil (maximum 5 gallons), cleaning products, fertilizers and fluorescent CFL bulbs.

For Key Largo, the drop off event is Saturday, Feb. 12 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Key Largo Recycling Center at 300 Magnolia Street. Call Colleen Murphy at 289-6037 or email murphy-colleen@monroecounty-fl.gov for more information.

Sonoma Style in the Cooking School Kitchen

Experience the flavors of two of Sonoma’s most celebrated food and wine personalities, Chef Colleen McGlynn and Ridgely Evers in our Wine Country Cooking class. Since 1995 Colleen and Ridgely have been the owners of DaVero Farms, a biodynamic farm in Sonoma County’s Dry Creek Valley. Their farm is one of the most highly regarded producers of award-winning extra virgin olive oils, wine and other artisan food products in the country. Gather in our kitchen Monday morning, Feb. 7, as Colleen and Ridgely create and demonstrate a California Wine Country menu paired with DaVero’s exquisite wines and olive oils. Call the Cooking School at 367-5933 for reservations.

A hundred hearts would be too few To carry all my love for you...

Dannels Jewelry

PLAZA BUILDING SUITE B-200, 2ND FLOOR
10-5 MONDAY-SATURDAY
305-367-4669

A View from Your Terrace?

Two Issues Under Consideration by ORCA and ORC Involve Maintaining or Improving A VIEW

by Joan Birsh

Trimming on the Hammock

Residents who have homes bordering the Hammock feel they have a right to A VIEW of that evermore beautiful golf course. Golfers, on the other hand, believe that what makes the Hammock unique is that it is a natural, not a residential, course. They want the houses hidden behind a wall of foliage.

The ORCA Architectural Committee in connection with the Club has done an extensive study of this issue and has come up with a compromise that involves controlled cutting of small viewing areas in the foliage, as well as other approved ways of thinning the trees. Once the new rules are in place, every resident, whose property abuts the Hammock Course will receive a letter from ORCA, spelling out the rules and regulations. But keep in mind, until that proposal is reviewed and approved by the ORCA Board, the existing rules are still in effect. This means an ORCA permit is required for any proposed thinning of trees. So keep your machetes in the garage until you are informed of the new regulations.

Proposed Docks Along AngelFish Cay and Pumpkin Cay

The condo associations involved are seeking a variance to install floating docks that would accommodate 100 assigned moorings to resident boat owners. Currently about 45 boats can and do moor along the bulkhead.

Once again part of the controversy revolves around A VIEW. Neighboring homeowners, even some who are not directly facing the proposed docks, feel that the relatively unobstructed view they enjoy of the channel and the ocean beyond, would be impeded by what they believe will be another marina. Other concerns, including increased boat traffic, have also been raised. You see the problem. So did the Ocean Reef Club Board, who felt they needed more time to study the facts of the application for a variance. Consequently ORCA’s Architectural Committee/Open Community meeting to discuss this issue has been rescheduled. The new date is February 14 at 2:00 at the Town Hall. At that time ORCA and the Club Board will meet with all interested parties to attempt to clarify the issues and the problems.

Auction

Continued from page 1

and the computer will automatically raise your bid incrementally, much like eBay,” explains Markel. “You can also increase your bid at any time, but now you don’t need to hover at the bid table!”

Another first this year is the inclusion of the auction catalogue as an insert in this issue of the Reef Press. “Instead of mailing it, we thought we would gain a wider distribution,” explains Markel. “The enclosed catalogue is yours to keep and use.”

Preview Party Next Friday

The two-day event kicks off with a Wine Tasting & Auction Preview Party on Friday, an Auction Day Celebration Saturday afternoon and Gala Wine Dinner & Live Auction on Saturday evening.

“Ther e really is something for everyone,” says Markel. “Make a donation, bid on wine or other silent auction items, play the new Whine and Wine Ring Toss at the Friday night event, help select the new member’s choice wine for the Club, or attend the Saturday night Auction Dinner. At the end of the day, we want the community to walk away knowing that we are the common denominator supporting the causes we value—and that we had fun doing it!”

Tickets for Friday, February 11 are $25 at the door. If you are attending the Auction Dinner, admission Friday night is included. Only a few seats remain for the Auction Dinner. Contact Lesa Crayne, Auction Administrator at 305-367-6303.

The Mangrove

A Most Important Tree in South Florida

On Wednesday, February 9 at 7:30 p.m., Dr. Martin Roessler will conduct a lecture on the functioning of mangroves, their importance to us, and the threats they face.

Dr. Roessler has studied mangrove systems from New Smyrna through the Keys, up the Gulf Coast to Anclote, as well as islands and countries around the Caribbean, and Brazil. A former professor at the University of Miami, he was involved with research that began the present focus on the importance of mangrove systems. The presentation will be at 7:30 PM in the Visitor Center inside John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park.