

"No-Butts-Left-Behind" Zone – SBCA Beach Clean Up Committee

What, you may ask, is a "No-Butts-Left-Behind" Zone? Is it some kind of catch phrase to remind us not to leave a buddy, or a child, or our wife/husband or girlfriend/boyfriend behind? No, it is not. Is it a new City Planning and Zoning designation? No, not really. Is it another beach restriction? Nope – and please, I think we can all agree that we don't need any more restrictions. Does it have anything to do with beach re-nourishment? No, you're way off base with that guess – you're cold, cold, cold. Does it have something to do with smoking on the beach? BINGO! Basically, those of us who participate in the monthly beach clean-up effort our Sunset Beach Civic Association sponsors have noticed a reoccurring theme in our clean-up efforts and that reoccurring theme is that we continually pick-up a great number of cigarette butts & plastic cigar tips– and I'm talking about a number in the hundreds. We have picked up so many "butts" that some of us have decided that we need to try something new and different to get a message out to those smokers who must be completely oblivious of the consequences of their actions (I say oblivious because I flat-out find it hard to believe that so many smokers consciously throw or put out their butts in the sand and leave them for the rest of us to deal with). The SBCA's Beach Clean-up Committee has come up with the idea to designate our beach as a "No-Butts-Left-Behind" Zone and put out some information to encourage those who smoke and leave their "butts" behind to not do so. Please be advised that the Beach Clean-up Committee is announcing that we are officially declaring Sunset Beach to be in a "No-Butts-Left-Behind" Zone. So, if you're reading this and you're a smoker, and you are one of the many who, consciously or unconsciously, leave their "butts" behind, to please refrain from doing so because you are now doing so in a "No-Butts-Left-Behind" Zone. And, if you're a non-smoker, I hope you don't find this idea of ours too outrageous. In fact, we're trying to use a little humor here to "remind" those who do leave their butts behind, to no longer do so. Another way we will be attempting to get information out to smokers is that we will be posting "No-Butts-Left-Behind" Zone signs. The Association has targeted the Beach Pavilion area as our testing grounds where, working with the City, we will be erecting signs that indicate that you are entering a "No-Butts-Left-Behind" Zone. The signs will help explain who the target audience is – after all, this is not a cheeky effort to keep people from leaving people in the sand, we're talking about nasty cigarette butts here! The sign will include our website for clarification as to what a "No-Butts-Left-Behind" Zone. In closing, over the past two years I have actively participated in the SBCA's beach clean-up efforts. Dutifully, many of us volunteers have shown up on the second Saturday of each month (beginning at 9:00 in the morning) to canvas the beach and dunes to pick up trash. We have picked up lots of things, but the overwhelmingly most picked up item we continuously find ourselves picking up are cigarette butts and plastic cigar tips (and it shouldn't be this way). And, although we are not all convinced that this effort to designate Sunset Beach as a "No-Butts-Left-Behind" Zone will make a difference, we are all in agreement that something needs to be done and some additional effort needs to be undertaken to bring the situation to the attention of our residents and guests who smoke and who don't seem to understand the consequences of their actions because nobody, and I mean nobody – not me, not my neighbor, nor any of our guests – likes an unclean beach. **Steve Yost, sly_yost@yahoo.com**

Sunset Beach BBQ on the Beach – April 4th, 2014 @ 6:30

Join your neighbors for a Finger Lickin' Good Beach BBQ with your Toes in the Sand as you dance Friday night away to the music of Sunset Beach Resident Musician Charlie Morris. The SBCA Annual BBQ on the Beach will take place on Friday, April 4th at 6:30pm at The Lion's Club on Sunset Beach (9300 W. Gulf Blvd.) On the Menu: BBQ Chicken, Pulled Pork, Beans, Slaw & Dessert. Tickets are \$12 per person. RESERVED Tickets will be available for pick up on Sunday 3/30/14 from 11am-1pm or Monday 3/31/14 from 5-7pm at 8101 Bayshore Dr. Please contact SunsetBeachPres@gmail.com or Call (727) 687-2522 to reserve your tickets.

2014 Beach Clean Ups

Second Saturday of the Month from 9am-Noon. Meet at The Pavilion. Contact **Steve Yost** if you would like to help: sly_yost@yahoo.com.

April 12th May 10th June 14th
July 12th August 8th Sept. 13th

2014 Calendar of Events

Sunset Beach BBQ	4/4/14 @6:30pm	The Lion's Club
Ti Blues Bash	4/26/14 @ 11am-10pm	Ti Community Center Park
Potluck	5/5/14 @6:30pm	Sunset Beach Pavilion

*Treasure Island Events will be added to our website over the Summer. Stay Tuned.

April 2014

www.SunsetBeachCivicAssociation.org

President's Message

Hello Sunset Beach Neighbors, It is that time of year again. We will be holding our Annual Beach BBQ at The Lion's Club on Friday, April 4th. Smokin J's will once again be serving up their famous pulled pork and BBQ chicken. Our music for the evening will be Sunset Beach's own, Charlie Morris. We will be selling 150 tickets, so get them while you can. Call Dawn 727-687-2522 for your tickets. This should be a fun night of good food, good music, and great neighbors. This is our second to last event as our Associations year is coming to a close. The last scheduled event will be our Pot Luck on May 5th. As this year wraps up I would like to say it was a pleasure serving as your President this past year. We had a lot of fun putting together all the events this past year. From the Bonfire to the Holiday Stroll to the Luminaries, to the Rockin' Italian Night, to the Island Wide Garage Sale; We had a blast. A special thanks to all the board members who make all this possible, without them, we would be lost. This is a volunteer job and my hat goes off to each one of them. Thank you board members. We are all so lucky to call this little island home. We live in a great place, just stop telling people. We want to keep it our secret. Thanks, Patrick Fitzgerald

Commissioner's Corner, Alan Bildz

Hello Sunset Beach! I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your continued confidence by re-electing me for another 2 years, albeit by an unopposed race. Speaking about elections, that was quite the ad campaign for the open US house seat formerly held by Bill Young wasn't it. Are we ready to do it all over again in November, and add in a governor's race? God help us! Beach re-nourishment is going to happen this summer, which is good news, but it won't be as fast as originally thought. Should be in July now, instead of June. There will be opportunities for volunteers to re-plant the beach afterwards. My guess is sometime around September, but that is just a guess. How much sand would be left if we didn't plant those sea oats? Not much, that's for sure! The commission is always looking for ways to save money, but this time we are going in a direction that is divisive and I do not believe for this that there is majority support. The commission is going to see how much could be saved if we abolished our police department and contracted with the sheriff's office. If Treasure Island were to do that, our charter requires not only a vote by the commission but also a vote by the voters so stay tuned. If it would happen, it will make headlines so it will be hard to miss. Our charter was designed in this fashion to make it hard to abolish either the police or fire departments for solely financial reasons. Treasure Island's biggest financial drain, as you probably could guess, is our drawbridge. That is why I support a return of a bridge toll, even though it would be a long shot to implement. It looks like it is going to be a very busy summer!

Alan Bildz

End of the Year Potluck - May 5th @ 6:30pm

The SBCA End of the year Potluck will be held on May 5th at the Sunset Beach Pavilion. The event will begin at 6:30pm. Please bring your signature hot or cold dish to share. The SBCA will provide the protein. This is the last scheduled event of our year. Come on out, catch a Sunset, enjoy good food & libations and bid the snowbirds a farewell until the fall. Come out and meet your new SBCA Board Members. Please RSVP to SunsetBeachPres@gmail.com so that we can get an accurate headcount.

Stay Tuned to www.SunsetBeachCivicAssociation.org for News

Over the Summer we will continue to update our Website with News and Events. If you would like to receive emails and you are not on our emailing list please contact SunsetBeachPres@gmail.com.

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