

## ANDREW'S NEWS – End of 2nd Quarter 2013

**QUICK NEWS** – New LED light bulbs have been installed throughout the building, saving us thousands in electricity each year and, in some locations, even making it look like the interior was repainted! Thank you Al Hoodbroy and Joseph Loiacono: great job ☺ Summer rains started early (in May) ☺ Terzetto has four buildings under construction and Cielo has one ☺ Two decorator units remain at La Scala (both 04s) ☺ 7 to 11 hurricanes (with 6 being major) are predicted for 2013. Let's hope they are wrong again for Florida, as they have been for the last 7 years ☺



### **BLACK BEAR TRIES OUT NEW POOL FURNITURE**

Okay, it only strolled around the pool deck and played in the fountain - but I had you going, didn't I? June 5 was a normal day for the crew re-painting La Scala. Except that someone left the gate open that connects the dog-walk area to the pool deck. A curious young black bear came through the open gate, ambled up the stairs and took a look around the pool deck. Pilar took a video and also this photo. The police were called and they arrived with a dart-gun. Although *Bwana Andrew* was 'in', he was sadly not called down to participate. Having been chased by all manner of large African animals, I could have added "chased by a black bear" to my exotic resumé, but Jackie and I

missed it all. Eventually, the bear was shooed back down the stairs to the dog-walk area, the gate was closed, the police departed the scene, and bipeds were once again masters of the La Scala domain. Update: this bear was recently spotted with a smaller bear at the Hyatt next door, dining at Tanglewood on the bears' favorite pasta: tagliatelli (okay, the Tanglewood/pasta part is not true).

**ANNEXING PELICAN LANDING & THE COLONY** – I can explain exactly how Hitler annexed Sudetenland from Czechoslovakia, but I cannot explain the Annexation Fever gripping Bonita Springs City Council. Voters are to decide in early 2014 whether unincorporated Pelican Landing and The Colony are to be annexed into the city. Old wounds are reopening, sides are being taken for and against, and lines are being drawn in the sand, although blood has not yet been spilled. Politics is a honey-and-baloney sandwich, and you will be reading all about it in the local papers when you return. But for now, you can go back to your summer pastimes, like picking blueberries and sipping Chardonnay.



**CHLORINE IN OUR WATER** – One very perceptive owner asked me in May why our water was suddenly tasting of chlorine. Since I only drink high-ph Louisiana artesian bore water and I brush my teeth with an '88 *Nuits St. George*, I was at a total loss to respond. But I was feeling lucky, so I gamely clicked on the Bonita Utilities website and immediately saw the answer: they had just chlorinated the water. It's official: *you* really do have a great palate (you know who you are).

**THIS MAY SEEM INSIGNIFICANT**, but Castle Management has installed a water line, hose bib and hose at the end of the wooden fence in our canoe/kayak park next to Palermo. We aquaticos have been awaiting this aquatunity for many months now. It had been much promised, but faith in its actual delivery was fast dwindling. There's nothing like a good hose-down, after kayaking.

**COLONY HELLS ANGELS** – I have owned and ridden motorcycles for over 40 years, but it wasn't until a fellow La Scala resident told me about the Gang, also inviting me to join a ride, that my interest was rekindled. Started by Bill Alberts - a wonderfully generous man who lives in Bellagio in The Colony and owns two beautiful bikes – the Gang rides twice-weekly in season. It is casual (and not just the dress code). There are no members, no signups and no e-mails. Instead, you just turn up before 10 a.m. on Tuesday and/or Thursday in season at the AmeriFuel gas station (south-east corner of 41 and Corkscrew). Gang bikes line up in a phalanx and then roar off at 10 sharp. I just like saying 'The Gang', but there is no Gang; it's a *virtual* gang. BTW, I was the youngest Gang member by a decade. The oldest (85) had just transitioned from a 2 to a 3-wheeler, his buddies whispering to me with much head-shaking that he "keeps dropping the 2-wheeler". Even with him now sitting sedately on a trike, I still kept my distance.



Colony and owns two beautiful bikes – the Gang rides twice-weekly in season. It is casual (and not just the dress code). There are no members, no signups and no e-mails. Instead, you just turn up before 10 a.m. on Tuesday and/or Thursday in season at the AmeriFuel gas station (south-east corner of 41 and Corkscrew). Gang bikes line up in a phalanx and then roar off at 10 sharp. I just like saying 'The Gang', but there is no Gang; it's a *virtual* gang. BTW, I was the youngest Gang member by a decade. The oldest (85) had just transitioned from a 2 to a 3-wheeler, his buddies whispering to me with much head-shaking that he "keeps dropping the 2-wheeler". Even with him now sitting sedately on a trike, I still kept my distance.

Anyway, I rented a Harley from Naples Harley Davidson and joined my kind La Scala friend and the rest of the Gang (there I go again). 14 bikes with 14 riders (no biker babes) headed out in convoy on the back roads to Lake Placid near Lake Okeechobee for a country club lunch (no one knows who paid), 125 miles each way. I had forgotten the smells you experience on a bike; exhaust, new-mown grass, smoke, wildflowers, exhaust again, French fries (honest!), tree blossom and restaurant BBQ. Cruising at 65-75 with occasional catch-up bursts of speed after semi-trucks sought to partition us, we terrorized tomato farmers, frightened fruit-pickers, blasted bicyclists and panicked pedestrians. After breaking heads & stools in a bar-fight and then leading police on a high-speed chase across three counties, we stopped at a Circle K for a fountain drink. No, truthfully, we compared arthritic ailments, some guys whined that they were missing golf on tv, and three of us compared The Colony and Bonita Bay. But I did nick one fingernail, narrowly missed a dead alligator on the road, and I swear I swallowed a fly. Still, at least my manliness is no longer in question. Wanna ride, anyone?

**OUR LONG-SUFFERING BEACH** - The Beach Park did sustain some damage from T.S. *Andrea* during the first week of June. Two sections of the emergency wall were ripped off. However, the section in front of the septic tank stayed intact. The section in front of the well ripped off and while the pump house needs some work, the well is still intact. Orion started pumping sand again after a hiatus of only a couple of days. A Beach Restoration Project page has been set up on the PLCA website, providing project information, explaining what can be expected during construction, answering frequently asked questions and including the historical updates on this 5-year project. The site is designed to keep residents informed and will be updated weekly with new information and pictures showing the latest progress: <http://www.pelicanlanding.org/view/beach-renourishment-updates.aspx> The restoration is under way, with Orion pumping 75,000 cubic yards of sand onto the beach. Once that is finished, the seven perpendicular king-pile groynes will be built. Find out more at <http://www.pelicanlanding.org/view/beach-renourishment-updates.aspx>. See the 2 photos at end....

**NEW RESTAURANTS** – The heading is becoming somewhat of a tease, since we have not had a chance to try anywhere new that was worth mentioning, except for Inca's Kitchen for Fine Peruvian Cuisine. Is there any other kind? It is a little closer than Macchu Picchu, in that it is in North Naples at the northern end of Collier Boulevard (a.k.a. U.S. 951), in a shopping center on the west side: 11985 Collier Boulevard, Suites 8 & 9, Naples, FL 34116. Tel: (239) 352-3200. What is Peruvian Cuisine, you ask? Actually, it is delicious. Since their website is useless, just have faith in the recommendations of your most-likely Mexican server and be bold. Our meal was delicious and we will definitely be returning. Open for lunch and dinner, closed Mondays.

**HERTZ IS RELOCATING THEIR WORLD HQ TO ESTERO** – If you missed it in the news, Hertz is coming. Their temporary office will open in early 2014 in the Fifth Third Center (the tower next to Mercato) and their new permanent building will be located at the south-east corner of US 41 and Williams in Estero. The area is gripped with *Yellow Fever* as busloads of Park Ridge (NJ) employees start to arrive to scout the area and make the decision on whether or not to relocate. Hertz is the world's largest airport-based car rental company and it is an exciting time for Southwest Florida.

**LA SCALA WEBSITE** – Don't forget to have a look at La Scala's magnificent website at [www.LaScalaAtTheColony.com](http://www.LaScalaAtTheColony.com). Recent newsletters are located in a password-protected section of the website, under the 'News' heading.

What a time we live in. Watching the tv news has become tedious as one tawdry mess after another is exposed. And let's face it, each party is as bad as the other. Smokey The Bear's rules for fire safety seem to apply rather well to government:

- Keep it small.
- Keep it contained.
- Keep an eye on it.

*Enjoy the Summer.....*

*Andrew*

Cell: (239) 405-3455 (voice & text) ~ E-mail: [acfentiman@comcast.net](mailto:acfentiman@comcast.net) ~ Fax: (239) 390-1721



**June 18, 2013**

## **BEACH RESTORATION HIGHLIGHT**



**June 21, 2013**