

SandScript

Casa Ybel Resort Spring Newsletter 2018



Pickleball Comes to Casa Ybel

After the conversion of one of the resort's tennis courts, Pickleball has come to Casa Ybel and is ready for Owners to play on their next visit. This is a fun-filled game that is a combination of tennis, badminton, and ping-pong.

Although it has gained a tremendous following among all age groups, its strongest growth area is players age 50 and up, who are moving to the sport from tennis because Pickleball offers the chance to use similar skills on a smaller court and with less wear and tear on joints.

At Casa Ybel, Pickleball is played on a tennis court, which is marked (22' x 44') across two sides to create two courts. It is played with a smaller tennis-type net, 2" closer to the ground and the equivalent of large ping-pong type paddles and a large plastic softball-size "whiffle" ball with holes.

The game can be played with two or four people. You don't need a lot of strength to play Pickleball nor do you need major physical stamina. Seniors with arthritis, diabetes, physical disabilities or other ailments find it challenging and pleasurable to

play. It is also enjoyed by younger people and is being played at many schools.

Fascinating Fact: The Minto US Open Pickleball Championships were recently held in Naples, breaking previous year's records, with more than 2,000 athletes coming from 17 countries and 47 states. The tournament sold out in all registration categories in only three hours, something no other racquet or paddle sport can claim. The youngest registered player was 10, and one is 91 years of age. The player traveling the greatest distance came from Mumbai, India — a distance of 8,750 miles. The event was covered by CBS Sports Network and live streamed on CBS Sports Live.

According to Kerry Kendrick, Tennis Pro, instruction will be made available to guests, so please check the activities schedule when you arrive at the resort. See you on the courts!



Coconuts Provides Owner Therapy



As residents of Bainbridge Island in Washington State, Stephan and Kim Miller might deserve the award for Coming the Greatest Distance for the Most Years to Casa Ybel Resort!

Kim has been a regular visitor to Sanibel since the mid-1960s and Stephan began coming in the mid-1970s while in high school. Kim's parents – Harvey and Pat Wilmeth – and Stephan's parents – Jane and Bill Miller – were both full-time Sanibel home owners for decades. The family has plenty of Sanibel connections, having been heavily involved with numerous Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation projects over the years. Most recently Kim and her sister Dr. Sally Wilmeth completely funded SCCF's purchase of the "Wilmeth Cottage" adjacent to J.N. Ding Darling for use by visiting research scientists.

The Wilmeths owned four weeks at Casa Ybel since the early 1980s which four generations of family members have used and enjoyed every year since as a gathering place. Kim and Stephan and Sally and her husband Terry purchased those unit weeks in the 2006. Today Stephan is a real estate attorney specializing in open space and conservation transactions and Kim is involved in water quality monitoring projects.

"The resort management has done an excellent job of continuing the special essence of Casa Ybel over the years and keeping the essential staff who have become almost like family. Kudos to the hardworking crew and a big thank you to our friendly 'therapists' at Coconuts poolside bar who always deliver great food, drink and interesting conversation! We enjoy the familiarity of returning to the same place every year and the camaraderie

we have developed with other returning families. With family members now scattered from the West coast to the Midwest to the East coast, Casa Ybel is the ideal spot for annual vacation reunions! It has been a very special place for four generations!"

Room Moves

Owners who are scheduled to move to a different unit on Fridays are reminded to have their food and belongings packed and ready to move by 10 a.m. You do not have to check out at that time. Although we are unable to provide you with the exact time your unit will be ready, room moves are normally conducted between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. and they take priority.

Please remain in your unit until we call you and let you know your next unit is ready. If you prefer to go to the pool or beach, let the front desk know where they may find you and provide them your cell # if possible. If you plan to leave the property, please stop by the front desk so we can make arrangements to move your belongings for you.

Please consider allowing housekeeping to come in and start cleaning your room prior to your move so we may provide the next guest with a timely check in.



Sales Update

Greetings from the resale office! Winter is over, but I still need more weeks to satisfy the people waiting for them. I also need June weeks as there are not many for sale. If you think you might want to sell yours, let me know. If

you want to see what is for sale, go to my website at casaybelsales.com or call me at 239-472-1531. This is the number to use for all your needs, including information on joining the Hilton Grand Vacations Club. If you want to know prices at our

three sister resorts – Sanibel Cottages, Hurricane House or Tortuga Beach Club – I can help you with that also. Have a great spring and summer!

Rita Slaughter

New Kitchen Appliances and Bed Coverings



During your next visit, Owners will prepare meals in kitchens with entirely new stainless steel appliances. This includes microwave, refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, and microwave. Owners will also find totally new bed linens. Bedspreads have



been replaced in both master and guest bedrooms with “triple-sheeting” bed coverings. This is the current design in all major hotels and is cleaner and more practical because now everything goes straight into the wash after every guest visit.





Tapas Now at Thistle Lodge

Thistle Lodge Executive Chef John Wolff and his award-winning food and beverage team have created a new Tapas menu – featuring small plates – that is certain to please the most discerning palates. At the same time, the bar area is being rebranded as The Bar with an upbeat atmosphere in a mini-transformation.

Added Chef John, “We are typically closed between lunch and dinner but decided to change that by creating a ‘happening’ kind of place for Owners, guests, and locals who want lighter fare and longer opening hours. The new Tapas menu will be served in conjunction with Happy Hour and will roll into a late-night venue on weekends. We’ve been planning the bar remodel for some time and knew this would be the ideal time to feature little

bites while extending the hours, adding high-top bar tables and weekend entertainment.”

The new bar menu will feature about a dozen “little plates” ranging in price from \$10 to \$13. Items include Seared Duck Breast Salad, Spicy Ahi Tuna Wedge, Baked Risotto Carbonara, and Singular Sensation Scallop paired with craft beers and specialty cocktails.

“Our intention is to create an attractive indoor space with extended weekend hours for guests to enjoy delicious bites and tasty beverages including local craft beer with entertainment. We hope you’ll join us,” said Froilan Ramiriz JR, Resort General Manager.



FGH Board of Directors

PRESIDENT:

Vance V. Van Drake, Jr.

VICE PRESIDENT:

Susan A. Walter

SECRETARY/TREASURER:

Brenda A. Pommerenke

DIRECTORS:

Nathan Breen
John W. Demos
Richard Jackson
Patricia Sweeney

IJK Board of Directors

PRESIDENT:

Ronald D. Miller

VICE PRESIDENT:

Terry C. Williams

SECRETARY/TREASURER:

Daniel J. Pierce

Board Member contact information

may be found at the resort's website:
www.casaybelresort.com
or by calling the Interval Management Office
at 239-395-1876.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Hilton Grand Vacations Owner Services

407-613-3144

Mon-Thurs 8 a.m. – 10 p.m. EST

Fri -Sat 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. EST • Sunday closed

Interval Management Office at Casa Ybel

239-395-1876 (Chris & Lisa)

chris.cain@hgv.com // lisa.diggins@hgv.com

Mon-Fri 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. EST

FAX: 239-395-2298

SALES: 239-472-1531

Rita Slaughter

rita.slaughter@hgv.com

Casa Hospitality Services

Resort Rental Contracts

239-472-3145

FAX: 239-472-2109

Emergency Info

In the rare situation when your resort may be closed due to weather issues – such as a hurricane – you may check for resort updates at:

www.casaybelresort.com (PASSWORD:paradise)

<http://casaybel.hgv.com> (HOA updates)

1-800-761-8940 (Recorded Informational updates)

mysanibel.com (Sanibel website)

<http://www.nbc-2.com>

Avoid Scam Calls

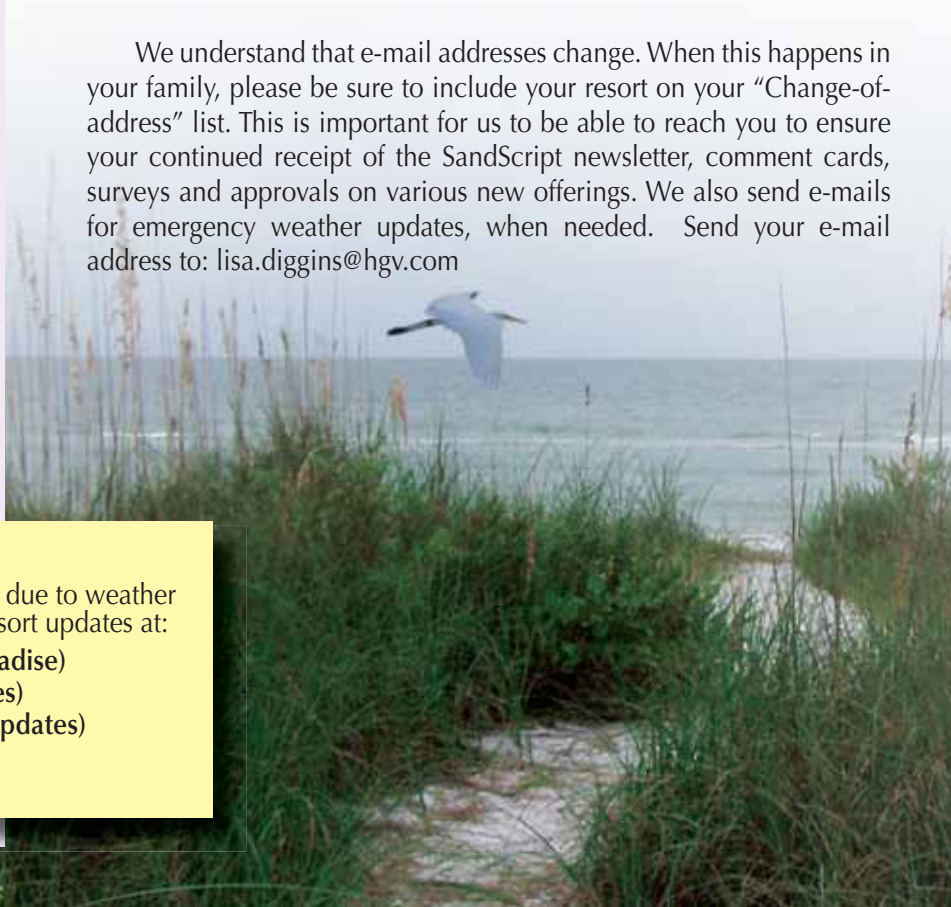
We urge you to use caution if contacted by unsolicited callers that say they have located buyers or renters for your timeshares. Illegitimate calls can range from fake surveys to people imitating timeshare sales representatives who often ask for advance broker fees, closing costs, title searches and other “administrative” fees in order to facilitate the sale of the timeshare property. Some even promise that the fees will be returned after closing. Once the victims of these scams have paid the requested fees, the real estate transactions do not occur and the “business” never communicates with them again. Sadly, newspapers are filled with this type of story as fraudulent companies are charged and arrested - some for as many as 20 years of imprisonment with hefty fines.

Using Debit Cards

Like every hotel, when you check in to Casa Ybel, a credit or debit card must be presented to secure services that may be charged to your unit's account. Having your credit card on file allows you to use it to charge meals, beverages, bike/beach rentals, etc. The resort authorizes (but does not charge) \$50 per day to cover these incidental expenses. The amount that is actually charged to your card is performed at check out. We recommend a credit card as debit cards are tied to your available checking balance and those funds will not be available to you until after checkout when your bank releases the authorization.

Send Contact Data

We understand that e-mail addresses change. When this happens in your family, please be sure to include your resort on your “Change-of-address” list. This is important for us to be able to reach you to ensure your continued receipt of the SandScript newsletter, comment cards, surveys and approvals on various new offerings. We also send e-mails for emergency weather updates, when needed. Send your e-mail address to: lisa.diggins@hgv.com





c/o Hilton Grand Vacations Interval Management
2255 W. Gulf Drive, Sanibel, FL 33957

Presorted
First-Class Mail
US Postage
PAID
Permit #4834
Orlando, FL

Checking Out

We are requesting Owners and guests to faithfully respect our 10 a.m. checkout time on Fridays. Please remember that AFTER 10 a.m. on Fridays you are no longer the Owner of the unit – unless you also own the next week.

With almost all of our 74 Timeshare units checking out at the same time, and another 74 families checking in on Friday afternoon at 3 p.m. just five hours later, this leaves a very small window for housekeeping to complete their duties in a timely fashion.

This can be accomplished by starting your packing the night before and having everything ready for a 10 a.m. checkout. This will enable us to fulfill incoming guests' expectations of a timely check-in by 3 p.m. We understand that you and your guests expect and deserve the same courtesy! Thank you in advance for your understanding and assistance.

