

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT SUMMER 2010

Dear Fellow Members,

This letter carries on a tradition of CKA Presidents reporting on what has happened during the first part of each term.

However, the stage was set for what happened this year by the actions taken last year, beginning in the Spring of 2009. The Winter of 2008-2009 found much divisiveness on the Key over various issues, including incorporation, perceived rulemaking by the CKA Board, etc. In April, 2009 President Mike Turillo asked me to form a task force of individuals of divergent views in an effort to find common ground to unite the Key. We quickly determined that the erosion of private property rights by Sarasota County was the main issue that concerned everyone and united us all in this fight to preserve our rights. Our initial focus was reversal of the Flood Prone Area Ordinance # 2008-084, which had virtually stopped all renovations of older homes and caused at least 6 home sales to fall through. We also thought that reaching out to the other barrier islands, we would have strength in numbers facing the County (about 30% of the property taxes come from the barrier islands). With the help of Dick and Connie Davis, I formed the Barrier Island (Defense) League (BIL) consisting of the CKA, the Manasota Key Association, North Manasota Key Association and the Siesta Key Association. Together, we have achieved the successes this Spring and we now have the ear of the Board of County Commissioners (BCC), who have come to support most of our efforts.

Here are the achievements so far:

Ordinance # 2009-060- Replaced the onerous #2008-084. We got 85% of what we wanted in the new Flood Prone Area Ordinance. It restored the FEMA FIRM elevation of about 11 feet on most of the Key instead of 19.4 feet required in 2008-084. This elevation is for making renovations of older homes without regard to the FEMA 50% rule. Where the 50% rule applies (homes below the FEMA FIRM elevation), successive, independent projects can be done, each based on the current appraised value and a new appeal process for appraisals has been established. Several other benefits have also been achieved in this change, approved by the BCC in their April 14, 2010 meeting. You can thank our team, consisting of Linda Bohane, Walton Beacham, Rod Jacobson, David Macrae, Architect George Merlin, Attorney David Levin and myself for this success.

WORK TO BE DONE- While the FEMA compliance issues have been addressed in the new ordinance, for modifications to properties seaward of the Coastal Construction Control Line (CCCL) Florida Building Code rules apply. These are subject to the interpretation of the County Building Official who disagrees with our interpretation

regarding the extent of modifications to existing properties that keep their original foundation. The fight goes on and we will keep you informed.

Ordinance # 2010-042- The so-called Beach Access ordinance. When changes were initially proposed to Ordinance # 2007-102 in December, 2009, it came to light that this 3 year old ordinance was flawed because it applied restrictions designed for public beaches and parks to private beaches as well. As an indication of our new voice, the BCC asked the BIL to write its proposed changes. Casey Key and Manasota Key have different circumstances from Siesta Key; so we wrote the changes for our two keys. They were accepted by the BCC, who approved the new ordinance in their meeting on June 23, 2010. Once again, you can legally throw a frisbee, drink a glass of wine and walk your dog on your beach. Please thank Linda Bohane and Dennis Doughty for their efforts to get these changes made.

SECURITY- Thanks to the efforts of John Moore, we are making more creative use of the supplementary security we pay for. By redeploying the off-duty Sheriffs' deputies we employ, we hope to reduce the amount of trespassing and provide greater deterrent to crime on the Key. To prevent crimes, it requires everyone's cooperation. The Key is especially vulnerable in the summer when most of us are gone. So, please report promptly any suspicious activity and/or trespassing to the Sheriff's Department at 941-316-1201 (or 911 in an emergency) and keep John in the loop at 941-966-3158 or johnwittemoore@comcast.net

Other Items- During the winter and spring we facilitated the Salvation Army toy drive at Christmas (thanks to Julie DeRice), linked to help lines for the Haitian earth quake and helped raise money for our Nokomis Volunteer Fire Department. We will continue to be a communications link whenever helpful. As you know, the Casey Key Association is not a homeowners association. We don't issue rules and regulations and we don't impose fees. We are purely voluntary. We do ask that all our residents work in a cooperative effort to maintain the Key as a desirable and safe place to live. Please keep your shrubbery cut back from the road to prevent scratching passing vehicles and provide greater visibility.

THE OIL SPILL- At this point, we can only monitor what is happening. I receive daily updates from Ed McCrane, head of Sarasota County Emergency Management. I will continue to send you website links for information. So far, the oil is about 240 miles from our coastal area and it has not entered the loop current, as far as the experts have determined. We are all concerned about the enormous unknowns involving the spill and hope that our beautiful beaches and the wildlife on our Key are not harmed. If the worst happens, the CKA will work diligently to aid the recovery efforts.

Thank you for your support of our efforts.

Bob Metzger, President

CASEY KEY ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS