



Golden Beach Newsletter December 2020

Annual Meeting The Golden Beach Association annual meeting was held at 7:00 pm on Monday December 14 in the City Council chambers at Venice City Hall. GBAI members elected a new slate of Directors and Officers – please see our website (www.goldenbeachassociates.com) for more information. Huge thanks to each of the outgoing Directors and Officers for all you have done to make Golden Beach a very special place!

Pavilion Reservations In keeping with guidelines on minimizing Covid spread via social gatherings, the restriction on reserving the beach access pavilion will remain in place this month. Stay safe and well.



Photo of Missing Water Bowl

Disappearances Water bowls are again disappearing from our shared beach access. Speculation runs high, with these theories in the lead:

- 1) Bowls are being abducted by Space Aliens,
- 2) Bowls are being taken for resale on eBay,
- 3) Someone is making a statement.

If you know one of the above is correct, *please*:

- 1) Take a photo of the aliens for our newsletter,
- 2) Find another source of supply, or
- 3) Come to the monthly GBAI meeting to discuss.

Thank You to all who helped with recent membership-related work preparing ballots, getting out a mailing, creating new parking and guest passes and more! Notably, please recognize these neighbors who gave generously of their time: Karen Calder, Katie Flynn, Dee and George Leatherbury, Mary Marshall, Andrea Segal, Margot Urmano, and especially Elizabeth Virgilio.

Visit from Tropical Storm Eta Golden Beach was fortunate throughout the long 2020 hurricane season, when most storms gave Venice a wide berth. The next-to-last major storm of the season – Eta – was the exception. Passing close by to the west, Eta caused very little damage in Golden Beach but did give us some dramatic weather. Three days in the life of a beach bench tell the tale:



Beach Bench before Eta



Beach Bench during Eta (Photo courtesy Ben Mather)



Beach Bench after Eta

Holiday Lights Team Golden Beach made a beautiful contribution to the Venice Holiday Tree Lighting display in West Blalock Park! A still photo really can't do the dynamic installation justice -- imagine beach surf, with sparkling blue lights rolling towards you, breaking into a foam of white lights, under a tree decorated with ornaments based on the world-famous shark teeth of Venice. Our tree is located in the northeast section of the park. Go enjoy it in person if you can!



GBAI Donation The Covid-19 pandemic has dramatically increased the needs of local charities. Golden Beach neighbors have a history of supporting others in need, with the last charity event sponsored by Golden Beach raising \$2800 for children in foster care. The pandemic prevented us from holding a charitable fund-raising event this year. Also, two factors enabled our treasury to grow: the cancellation of our annual holiday social reduced our expenses, while the beach access custom pavers project generated cash.

As a result, we have elected to make a one-time donation of \$3000 from GBAI to Venice Area Mobile Meals, a 501(c)(3) non-profit all-volunteer organization delivering over 1100 warm meals each week to Venice residents unable to prepare their own meals. Should you wish to learn more about Venice Area Mobile Meals, volunteer your time, or make an additional personal donation they can be found on-line at <https://veniceareamobilemeals.com>