

The Rainbow Times

Number 31 • Winter 2022

**Rainbow Bay Property Owners Association,
Eleuthera, Bahamas • Founded 1979**





The Rainbow Times

Newsletter of the Rainbow Bay Property Owners Association

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The Rainbow Times

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Cover: View from Twin Beach Road

Photo Credit: Roberta Updegraff

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President's Corner



I am going to try and keep this very short. As you can see, for the second time we have a "real" election for the new Board. In November we reached out by mail, email and via the web site in an effort to get volunteer to run for the Board of Directors and we now have 8 volunteers to fill 7 positions. The ballots are enclosed, so take the time to read them carefully.

Also, there are 2 excellent articles by Roberta Updegraff and Matt Hoopes. I want to refer you to our web site (www.rainbowbay.org) for an article written by Perry Attfield about the on-going litigation. He gives a compelling rationale why this had to occur. There have been many, many queries about this action.

As far as I am concerned, we will go ahead with an in person Annual General Meeting this March at the Maintenance Building site, outdoors. There is currently a 30-person limit on outdoor gatherings, so if need be we will hold a morning and an afternoon meeting to stay in compliance. It will be your chance to meet with the new board as the election results will be made known.

Finally, "Jersey Joe" Depalo and his son Mike have made three cement park benches that will probably be in place by the end of January. There is also a good possibility that we will have 4 more up as well. Three of these will be place in Nentwig Park on the high ground for sunset viewing. Another two will be in front of the parking lot and another two will be placed along the sea wall adjacent to the boat ramp at the maintenance building site. Thank you, Joe and Mike!

You can expect an email blast to come out in February as well.

All de best.

Terry Clark



James Ryder with Jersey Joe DePalo

Wistful Recollections

Those who have read “Rainbow Rising”, the journal of Rainbow’s early days, know just how different the community was from what it’s become. Those 25 or so hardy souls who settled in during the 70’s and 80’s worked together with a lot of camaraderie. The houses they built were modest “winter cottages”, which they did not rent. May had retired early and spent 4 and 5 months on the island. They chatted on CB radios, held a lot of community events, tennis and volleyball tournaments, and weekly potluck dinners in the maintenance building. When someone threw a party, everyone was invited. When the residents became unhappy with the maintenance they were provided by the manager of the subdivision, some got together and in 1984 met with the manager and formed the Board and Association and took over the maintenance of the community. The Board members and volunteer residents did a lot of the road and park work themselves.

During the 90’s things began to change. Lots more houses were built, some mainly for rentals. More residents came, but for shorter periods, and spent more time with personal projects, and spent less time volunteering for the community. Over time, more seemed to be expected from the Association.

As we see retiring Bahamians leave Nassau for Eleuthera and folks able to “work from home” leave Canada and the United States, Rainbow will continue to grow, probably rapidly, it will become more difficult for volunteers to run the larger community. Hopefully new and successive Boards will have more Board members who are able to reside in Rainbow full time. There are daily tasks that require oversight such as building repairs, road signs, and equipment maintenance to say nothing of emergencies such as fires and hurricanes.

Being a Board member requires a lot of personal time and often the work can be difficult. Things like reviewing building plans, explaining and maintaining the By-Laws. Again, there are many areas where the Board members could use help from volunteer residents willing to serve on various committees. In the past there have been misunderstandings that could have easily been avoided by simply asking questions of Board members. It would lighten Board members’ spirits to hear an occasional “Thanks for all you do”.

No doubt there will come a time when our growth outgrows the ability to manage the community by a volunteer board of seven and a management team will have to be hired. Attempts have been made over the recent years to collect back fees and all residents should encourage others to pay their maintenance fees as then the community could put those funds into more road work. Meanwhile, it would be really nice to see community spirit with more of the camaraderie of Rainbow’s “early settlers”.
– Matt Hoopes



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Mark Your Calendar

Annual Litter Pickup

Feb. 12, 2022, 9 am,
meet at Poehlmann Building.

Light brunch at the
Updegraff place on Moonraker
upon completion.

Community Yard Sale

March 12, 2022, 9 am - 3 pm
POA Community Building

Contact Rosie Graham
and Bobbi Updegraff
to donate and help.

robertaupdegraff@me.com
rosie_graham@comcast.net

Available Again!

Rainbow Rising, a history of
Rainbow Bay, \$35. Laminated
color maps of Rainbow Bay from
the original developer’s brochure,
\$30. Contact Matt Hoopes
(page opposite).

Changes of Address

Please notify our Accounts
Manager, Vicki Collins, if
you relocate or change your
RBPOA mailing address:
vickicollins2013@yahoo.com

Get Your Rainbow Times by Email:

If you’d like your copy
by email, notify
vickicollins2013@yahoo.com

Emergency Numbers

Police

- Governors Harbour: 911,
919, 332-2111 or 332-2117.
- Hatchet Bay: 335-0086

Clinics

- James Cistern: Mon-
Wed, 9am-2pm.
 - Hatchet Bay: Mon-Fri,
9am-5pm, 335-0091.
- Resident nurse: 335-0620.



Board Nominees

Stan Daciw



Stan is a time served Carpenter / Shipwright with 40 years of project management experience in construction, building some of London's most

opulent homes. Stan and his wife Nicky have been in Rainbow Bay since 2006, they are now spending retirement on the island overseeing the build of their second home, and if time allows, he will be pursuing his passion for sailing.

Jerry Reynolds



After vacationing in Eleuthera for years, Jerry Reynolds and his family, including his wife Paula and their three children, moved full-time to

Rainbow Bay in 2014. For three years, the Reynolds lived in Rainbow Bay, enjoying the community and amenities Rainbow Bay has to offer. While living there, they bought two lots on Overhill and designed their dream vacation home. Now living in San Antonio, Texas, Jerry and his family visit Eleuthera as often as possible, enjoying the comforts of their own home that they built together as a family, one nail at a time. Currently, Jerry is a Captain with United Airlines and recently retired as a reservist in the US Air Force. Though Texas is his home, half of Jerry's heart always remains in Eleuthera, namely Rainbow Bay, where his home-away-from-home is always waiting. Jerry wishes to serve on the Rainbow Bay board of directors to help facilitate direct and honest communication between homeowners and the

board and achieve neighborhood goals and solve community problems. Jerry believes in the vision of Rainbow Bay, where both homeowners and visitors can live and vacation while enjoying the benefits of a united community. With his years of professional leadership and deep love of Eleuthera, Jerry would be a great asset to the community of Rainbow Bay as a member of the Rainbow Bay Homeowner's Association.

Peter Webster



A Canadian, Peter's roots in the Bahamas date back to 1989 when he joined NatWest in Nassau, working in the Trust and then Investment

Departments, before transferring to the Cayman Islands in 1993. Peter grew up in the Quebec City area, received a Bishop's University B.B.A, and assembled diversified work experiences in Calgary, Vancouver and Toronto before heading south. More recently, retired as Chief Compliance Officer of a Toronto-based portfolio manager, and having lived in a downtown Toronto condominium, led to serving on the condo board for just over 9 years, including roles as Secretary and President. Peter is a Past-president of the Cayman Islands Society of Financial Analysts, holds the Chartered Financial Analyst designation and is a Multi-Engine Instrument rated pilot (having learned to fly in the Bahamas!)

In 2015 Peter purchased two unfinished Ipe wood buildings on Spyglass Road which were transformed by local tradespeople into a new cottage. Now able to spend more time on Eleuthera he enjoys fishing, diving and boating and would welcome this opportunity to get involved with the Rainbow Bay community.

George Chuilli



Retired USAirways Captain

Family home in Rainbow Bay since 1978

Previous RBPOA Board President 8 years

Previous RBPOA Board member 16 years.

With the worst of covid behind us, back to every other month on island. Time to participate.

Mark Poole



I own Lot #46 Block 19 Section B. Also, have the two adjacent lots, Lot 17 Block 19 Section B, Lot 16 Block 19 Section B, under contract

for the purchase and "Coco House" on Treasure Hill Road, under contract for purchase. I have a long history with Rainbow Bay, having owned a house on Shipsighter Road for a number of years many years back. I was also involved with a company (Island Homes) my mother put together after her first visit to our home in Rainbow Bay, which built many homes in Rainbow Bay. I am a Harbor Pilot for the Port of Miami and reside in Miami, FL. I have been involved in the maritime industry for 36 years, having sailed throughout the ranks on Tankers and other types of U.S. ships. I have served Merchant Marine in all positions, including Master for six years before receiving my appointment from the State of Florida to the position of Harbor Pilot I have held for the last ten years.

My life partner Alexandra Soterakis and I are on the island quite frequently. My work schedule is one in which I work 26 weeks a year, and hers as a teacher in the Miami Dade public school system allows

us to have plenty of time to become involved as necessary. Once we complete the purchase of Coco House, we intend an even more frequent presence.

Ron Ormond



Ron Ormond found Eleuthera and Rainbow Bay through an ad in the back of a sailing magazine. After a quick trip to the island, he and

his wife, Bess, purchased property on Man O War Road, built a home, and have been enjoying Eleuthera since 1993. Ron loves the laid-back lifestyle, getting to know the Bahamians and swimming, and talking to people at Rainbow Beach.

Ron has extensive experience in city government and public service. He was elected mayor of Butte Falls, Oregon, and served over 20 years in that position. During his tenure, he gained funding for and oversaw the installation of a new sewage system and wastewater treatment plant. He also led the town through the challenge of installing a new water system. He started a city-owned water company, selling spring water to larger bottling companies while using the proceeds to better the life of the Town residents. Under his management, the town maintained low taxes while increasing services. Ron has a hands-on approach, never hesitating to do whatever work is needed. Ron's goal of meeting the needs of all residents, common sense, and fiscal responsibility has made him a respected leader throughout his years of public service.

An avid boater, Ron is a US Coast Guard licensed Captain. He has been a boat painter, a charter boat captain, ran a ferry boat in the Seattle area, is an ABYC certified marine electrician, and operated his yacht maintenance service. Ron was responsible for the small boat operations (less than 100') at Texas A&M University

at Galveston. He taught cadets the basics of boat maintenance and operation, educating and inspiring the next generation of Captains for the commercial and recreational fleets.

Ron wants to bring his years of experience to the Rainbow Bay board. His goal is to balance the needs of the Rainbow Bay residents without losing what brought us all to Eleuthera in the first place.

Robert Kjerulf



Hailing from Oregon, Robert "Bob" and his wife Linda Kjerulf purchased their home on Honeycreeper Road in 2006.

Linda introduced

her husband years earlier to the island where she collected childhood memories, and he, too, fell in love with Eleuthera. He and Linda have passed that love to their children, who also enjoy spending time on the island. Over the years, he has developed long-lasting friendships with his neighbors.

Bob is well known around the island by ex-pats and Bahamians alike as a friendly, generous man, always willing to give a helping hand to a neighbor. Island friends know him as Bob-O appreciated for his self-effacing wit and wisdom. Bob loves deep fishing and puttering about their property in Oregon and Eleuthera. Bob spent his life as an entrepreneur raising cattle. He is a capable businessman and good at negotiations. Respected among his former clients and associates, Bob will utilize the skills that made that possible.

He brings a level disposition, love of our Rainbow Bay community, and business management skills to the board. He seeks to preserve and enhance what makes Rainbow Bay a wonderful place to live.

Birdie Crosby



Birdie Raymond Crosby and his wife, Laura, from Summerville, SC, discovered the Bahamas in 1997 and purchased their home, Seaglass

Cottage, in 2001.

Birdie worked 26 years as an Agricultural Extension Agent for Clemson University Extension Service. He served one term as president of the Extension Senate (similar to the faculty senate). He received several state awards and two national awards for his programming efforts. After retiring from Clemson, he worked eight years as a home repair specialist and five years as an adjunct professor for Trident Technical College teaching horticulture at a local prison.

Over the years, Birdie worked for Dorchester County, SC, as a hearing officer resolving disputes overcharges for Dorchester Public Works and EMS. He also served as a director on the Dorchester County Library Board.

Birdie's educational background is a BS from Clemson University in Agricultural Mechanization and Business. He also holds a Master of Public Administration degree from the College of Charleston. By nature, Birdie is a frugal person who believes in addressing the essential needs of Rainbow Bay as prioritized in the Association By-Laws and the Bahamian law upon which they are based. He believes in keeping members abreast of information that will affect the whole community. He would like to see a plan developed to allow property owners in arrears a reasonable method by which outstanding fees could be paid, allowing them to participate in the Association/elections. Perhaps then we could reduce the dues we all pay and get more done regarding roads and other necessary projects. Birdie is also interested in the demographics and diversity of the Rainbow Bay population. ♦



Rainbow Bay Property Owners (RBPOA) – 2022 Election Ballot

VOTE FOR ONLY 7 CANDIDATES

You get one ballot for each property you own, so place the number of votes to match the number of lots on the line beside each candidate you desire. ***Ballots must be returned by February 28th, 2022.***

HOW TO VOTE

Mail signed ballot to: RBPOA, PMB 8068
411 Walnut St., Green Cove Springs, FL 32043
(Mail by Mar 10, 2022 to allow for forwarding)

Rainbow Bay Property Owners Association
P.O. Box 25145
Governor's Harbour, Eleuthera, Bahamas
(Local mail only)

Email: Attach scanned, signed ballot and send to:
vickicollins2013@yahoo.com
or **Robertaupdegraff@me.com**

In-person voting box: The drop box will be at the maintenance building every M-F, 9-5 until Mar 18.

CANDIDATES

☐ **George Chuilli**

☐ **Ron Ormond**

☐ **Birdie Crosby**

☐ **Mark Poole**

☐ **Stan Daciw**

☐ **Jerry Reynolds**

☐ **Robert Kjerulf**

☐ **Peter Webster**

**You must be a member in good standing as outlined in RBPOA Covenant and Bylaws.*

Your name: _____

Your property address (Section, Block, Lot#) List each that qualifies for a vote: _____

Your signature: _____

Rainbow Rising Redux

Although we are not Rainbow Bay Pioneers, we bought the home of Cy Oches, well known among those old-timers. We referenced our home as Cy Oches' place for many years—yes, that would be the second one he built. Now that we have been here 16 years, I wonder if ours is finally Long Reach, the Updegraff place?

We have also seen changes in this little close-knit community in which we found ourselves outsiders, early on. There were a couple of holidays we were alone and going for a walk knew neighbors were celebrating together. We were the new kids on the block with only a few weeks to spend in the house we hoped would become our retirement place. But what had attracted us to this area was the Association, the camaraderie the inspired all the big and little projects that made Rainbow Bay an attractive place to settle.

As years passed and we could spend more time here, friendships blossomed. We found ways to get involved and became part of the community that seemed early on not to notice us. We also discovered how much work gets done behind the “seens.” A small brigade of ladies planted flowers around the signposts and Trash Mahal. A few were out regularly cutting back overgrowth, filling in rain trenches, repairing leaks and breaks on our buildings, even gathering up the trash deposit outside our waste station.

I'd heard about the pot luck dinners at the community building, game nights, happy hours, active tennis courts, but all that seemed wistful remembrances, as Matt Hoopes called them. We all seemed content in our small circle of friends. But that contentment, I discovered during my pursuit to document the locations of all the completed homes' locations and match them to contact information, is superficial.

I've chatted with a lot of you either on social media or in person. Some of you feel like outsiders. Many of you are confused and frustrated by the seemingly contradictory actions of the Board, which, mixed with disgruntled sip-sip, has caused some community schisms. Has the Board hidden information? Have they not been honest about finances? Are some members of the community more equal than others? And what about that lawsuit?

We've organized a hospitality committee and hosted happy hours, a brunch to complement our annual litter pickup, and a telephone game to while away the 2020 lockdown. Glance out your window along the

Queen's Highway, and you will notice a difference in our stretch of highway. There is another behind the “seens.” How many of you realize there is also a diligent little brigade trash pickers? Ahh, and how about those reflectors down the center of the highway?

The other day talking to tourists on Rainbow Beach, Tommy was putting up the final thatched roof on a picnic table. The visitors assumed the local Bahamian government provided those on the public beach. They were renting in our community because of the beach and its conveniences. I smiled, thinking of the negative attitude projected toward the Association by that homeowner. I remembered other homeowners who rent to tourists out on that beach helping Tommy, as our son helped with this placement. I thought of the resident building benches for the park. So many behind the scenes we take for granted.

There's always going to be clicks and sip-sip. Dealing with and solving problems will be as frustrating as satisfying. It's just part of living in a community. As we work it through issues, we learn to tolerate each other a little bit better—even those we thought we didn't like. Those pioneers started something and stuck to it. They gave us a volunteer Home Owner's Association.

It's our turn now. We are the generation to preserve and improve this little piece of paradise that has become our second home. And whether you plan to retire here or only use your home for income purposes, it is in our best interests to protect our investments. So, here's a toast to the new year and another Rainbow Rising! – *Bobbi Updegraff*



Rainbow babies. Granddaughter of Roberta and Mark on Rainbow Beach.



Rainbow Bay Property Owners Assn.
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PREFERRED PROPERTY OWNER:

Rainbow Bay Property Owners Association

2022 Annual General Meeting

As we prepare for this year's AGM there are several factors we have been considering. First, is the current Bahamian Government limitation on group gathering. At present, outside gatherings are limited to thirty people. Insider gatherings have a much smaller limit. So, with that in mind the AGM is scheduled for Saturday March 26, 2022. It is planned to be held outside the Maintenance Building. This means those who desire to attend should bring a lawn chair or something you feel comfortable sitting on.

Since there is a group size limitation, we will hold a morning meeting and if necessary, an afternoon meeting as well on a first come, first served basis. The plan is for an 11 AM and 2PM brief.

There is a lot to talk about, not the least of which is the slate of new Board Officers. The past two years have been difficult in respect to banking issues as many changes had to be made. Virtually every bank account or payment process had to be changed some due to internal problems and some due to external issues. The legal issues have been large, but not insurmountable. Road issues continue to create a problem, but we think there might be a long-term solution in the offing.

So, if you can, please try to attend. ❖

