

The Rainbow Times

Number 25 • Winter 2018-19

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



DAISY DOG'S GARDEN

**NOTE TO MEMBERS: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?
MAINTAINING THE BAY • HOW RECYCLING WORKS
MINUTES: 2018 ANNUAL GENERAL METING**



The Rainbow Times

*Newsletter of the Rainbow Bay
Property Owners Association*

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Cover: Daisy Dog's Garden, Rainbow
Beach, named in memory of a friend.

Photograph by Matt Hoopes

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Note to Members

Change is Coming: What Turn Do We Make?

*Ron Nentwig cedes his President's space to
board member Carlotta Willis for a message of
interest to all....*



Readers of Matt Hoopes's *Rainbow Rising* know the pioneering community spirit amongst the original members who built Rainbow Bay in the late Sixties and early Seventies. Many of the early homebuilders did much if not all of the construction themselves, spending a good deal of time here. The lovely Bahamas Out Islands, a slice of paradise—that was their dream, their vision, their life project. People gave their expertise and many long hours to building the Association and establishing guidelines by which the community still abides. A spirit of camaraderie also grew through the generosity of spirit among welcoming Bahamians. We are very grateful to our early residents, Bahamians and off-islanders alike.

For nearly fifty years, many played a part in the development of Rainbow Bay. Some served on the Board, others helped with building projects, cleaned trash from the roads and beaches, started recycling programs, created a Neighborhood Watch, rescued abandoned animals, and in general acted as good friends and neighbors. We are fortunate still to have community members who spend a good deal of time helping to make our tropical haven so special.

But the community is changing. Many who own homes here are only around for brief vacations. An increasing number rent their property for much of the year. Some are getting to that phase in life when climbing up on roofs and clearing brush are things of the past. Some new homeowners are Nassauvians, here to take a break from the congestion of the city on weekends of peace and quiet. Many full-time Bahamian residents are busy with work, family, church and school activities. That said, we are still a strong community, and RBPOA will continue to be a strong association—as long as we can adjust to the needs and expectations of our members.

As you know, the Association's responsibility is primarily to maintain our nineteen miles of roads, beaches, buildings and the tennis court. This is hard work. It requires skills and equipment. We have a history of Board members, especially Presidents, who spend long, long hours doing the physical work. This has been a wonderful thing, but unfortunately, difficult to maintain. At this point, it seems that we need to hire out the bulk of the skilled and unskilled work that our mandate requires.

continued opposite...

Carlotta continues.....

We have a devoted part-time maintenance supervisor, Tommy Pinder, who does an excellent job. He also performs a fair amount of equipment repair, saving us vast expense. We have a part-time landscaper, Max Brave, and we hire crews to cut brush and patch roads.

All this work requires oversight and input from the Board. President Ron Nentwig does the bulk of this, with Matt Hoopes, James Ryder and others helping out, especially when Ron is off the island. Nor could we manage the continued expansion of homebuilding without the efforts of Perry Attfield, who oversees building permits and construction.

Finance and Communication: What can I say? Matt Hoopes does it all. He has been, and is currently, our treasurer and secretary. He estimates that he spends three hours a day, not including trips to the bank, answering owner questions, solving day to day problems, providing information to any and all who ask, and doing a hundred other things you'll never think of.

Fortunately, Matt lives on the island and is here pretty much full-time. James Ryder and Linda Knowles are also here most of the time as well. (When not here Linda is in Nassau, which is helpful to us.) The rest of us come and go, relying (and indeed taking advantage) of those who are here to do the work. Some board members are here all winter, but not the rest of the year.

Most non-profits or community associations reach a point where the founding members are no longer involved or wish to retire. Meanwhile, the mission may have changed in response to changing situations. That is a critical time for most organizations. I think Rainbow Bay has reached such a point. Costs are rising fast and volunteer efforts, while extremely beneficial and necessary, cannot meet all the needs of our growing and changing community.

For the past several elections we have not had enough people willing to run for the Board to put up a full slate. We don't see anyone on the horizon who might be able and willing to take on the most demanding volunteer positions: President, Secretary-Treasurer, and Answer-All-Questions person. Maybe I am missing someone? If so, we would love you to join the Board. Some of us are willing to take pieces of these jobs, but the core positions require a level of dedication and time that may seem like a lot. Perhaps things could be better distributed. But a couple of core people need to be "in charge," so to speak.

It is time for us residents and property owners to ask: "Who will be able to take on the necessary tasks? What are our options for management in the future? How can we transition to an effective operation which acknowledges the changing nature of our community? Do we need to hire an executive director or operating officer? Are you members willing to foot the bill for such a manager? What are the alternatives? What is the best way for the Rainbow Bay Association to go forward?

I am hoping that you all, as members, will give the Board some input on what you see for the future of RBPOA. We hope to do some strategic planning over this winter, to develop options for our future, and lay them before you at the March meeting. Suggestions and comments are very welcome. Please put your ideas in writing (rather than tell us on the beach) and submit them to any board member. Our contacts are on page 2 opposite. ❖

Note to Readers:

As electronic subscribers were advised, we skipped the summer issue to save funds.

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Calendar 2019

- March 9, 9am:** Roadside trash clean-up morning.
 - March 16, 10am:** Annual General Meeting.
- Both at Poehlman Building.

Get Your Rainbow Times by Email:

105 members receive *The Rainbow Times* (and special messages like hurricane alerts) email as a .pdf attachment, saving us \$200 per year. Triple that would save plenty. If you'd like your copy by email, notify richard@langworth.name (include zip or postal code).

Your copy will arrive six weeks before print copies. Your email address will not be passed to anyone, nor used for any other purpose.

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.
- Governors Harbour: Weekdays 9am-5pm, 332-2774, 225-1406. After hours your call is re-directed to the nurse on duty.
 - Palmetto Pt: Thursdays, 9am-5pm, 332-1520.
 - Information supplied by Health Association of Central Eleuthera (HACE).



What's Happening

SPRING FUN AND FUNDS

As you all know, costs keep rising, but this year, we have extra dollars for road maintenance work and to contribute to help local schoolchildren, thanks to increased fundraising efforts.

Under the leadership of Sue Nentwig, James Ryder and this writer, another successful raffle was held at the pool party following our annual meeting. There were lots of fun prizes (fishing trips, beautiful arts and crafts, bottles of wine)—and multiple winners, some more than once! We raised over \$1000 to be split between the road and education funds.

Special thanks to our donors: Big Rock Store, Bristol Wine and Spirits, Deke's Reef Fishing, East and Final Liquor and Food Stores, Lee's Cafe, Leo Rose Sunset Beach Bar and Grill, Miracle Wash, Mr. Bones Wine and Spirits, Rainbow Inn, Shawna's on Cupid's Cay, Triple TLC and Twin Brothers restaurant. Individual and family donors: Judie Attfield, Matt Hoopes, Lilli Koelbl, the Levitt family, Jim and Deb Marshall, Julia Motti, Mike Norris, James Ryder and the Schilowitz family.

On April 7th-8th we held a highly successful tag sale on the triangle by the Queen's Highway and Lazy Shore Drive. Residents cleaned out their closets and contributed great items. This was a popular event, attended by many neighbors from nearby towns. Items of interest included household goods, pots and pans, furniture and clothing. The big prize was a boat, which is now in the water catching fish for a family.

We hope to do this again and urge you all to find useful items in good condition to contribute. Your clutter is someone else's treasure.

—*Carlotta Willis*

THANK-YOU CHRIS GOSLING

After forty years of teaching and volunteering on Eleuthera, Chris and Allison Gosling have retired and returned to their children and grandchildren in the UK. A farewell and

appreciation party was held for them September 21st at the Sunset Inn, attended by fellow teachers, business people, local leaders, friends and well-wishers. Chris is best known to Rainbow residents as the ambulance driver and caregiver for HACE (Health Association of Central Eleuthera). He and Allison helped form HACE and spearheaded numerous fundraisers to maintain ambulances and related emergency equipment.

Nurse Bernardette Colbrooke of James Cistern and Hatchet Bay, who worked with Chris for years, continues to raise funds for this outstanding organization. Over the years Bernardette has spoken at Rainbow's March meetings, securing donations for needed medical equipment. Rainbow residents who were not at the September fundraiser are welcome to contribute to HACE. You may drop donations off at Big Rock Store where Bernardette will collect them. —*Matt Hoopes*

OUR SPELLING CHAMP

It was Johnathan Randall's third year competing in the National Spelling Bee, and as Central Eleuthera High School Principal Marie Galanis said, "The third time was the charm—the winner!" Johnathan, who has lived in Rainbow Bay with his parents David (recently deceased) and Stella for most of his life, won the March 18th event representing our island. The first young Eleutheran to win in recent times, he went to National Harbor, Maryland, to represent the Commonwealth of the Bahamas in the 91st Scripps National Spelling Bee in May.

Greeted at Governor's Harbour Airport, Johnathan told well-wishers: "It feels good that I can finally bring the trophy home to Eleuthera for the first time." He went on to tell the *Rainbow Times* about trip to Maryland, where he tied for 42nd out of 500 competitors: "I loved the visit. It was a once in a lifetime experience. Now my Spelling Bee days are over and I will move on to a different hobby."



VOLUNTEERS! At work on Poehlman Building cement repairs: Above, James Ryder, George Chiulli, Ron Nentwig. Below, George with Skip DeGiovanni.



NATURE'S CHALLENGE. Above, Ocean Drive, a headache; we try to clear a path. Right: RBPOA helped ease "rage" effects on Queen's Highway.



Left, Johnathan Randall brought home the gold, to the cheers of local residents. Right, Johnathan with Prime Minister Dr. the Hon. Hubert Minnis, Nassau.



HOT WORK. Above, George and Ron tackle the effects of sea, storm and sun. Below, gathering for our highly effective March roadside trash pickup,



DISCOVERED BY INDIA

MUMBAI (BOMBAY), APRIL 24TH— Maybe you have never heard of Eleuthera, but there are several reasons to make a trip to this secret island, touted as the “Pineapple Capital of the World.” You can enjoy contrasting views of the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean, often only a short walk apart. Home to Glass Window Bridge, Eleuthera boasts of pineapple farms and historic sites. There are lush acres of pink sand beaches and several resorts as well as oceanfront boutique villas. It is famous for those beaches, and big waves. Depending on what you are looking for, the options are truly endless here. Whether one is seeking an off-the-beaten-path trip or Bohemian vibes, Eleuthera has the sun, sand, and sea experience. It is an ideal location for complete relaxation. There are plenty of hotels, excellent restaurants, a supermarket and miles and miles of beaches, all to yourself!

—*The Indian Express*

BTC INTERNET

For many years we (and maybe you) “turned off” DSL internet service during long absences from the island. This temporary turn-off, known as “Cease and Retain,” kept your account but without a monthly charge while away. It was often handled via friendly Monique Cooper at BTC’s Governor’s Harbour office. Alas all good things end, and this summer we were advised that BTC will no longer allow Cease and Retain. DSL users will have to pay the full monthly rate all the time you are absent, or reapply for DSL service all over again when you return.

Needless to say, this was bad news. But there is an alternative: “Aliv,” the new private telephone and internet satellite service with offices in Governor’s Harbour. Aliv will not only allow seasonal turn-offs, charging you nothing when you are not present; they have also lowered their prices, from \$125 to \$80 per month for the highest speed service. And the modem required to “tune in” to their satellite is now provided free of charge.

In my opinion BTC will cost itself customers and Aliv will eat their lunch. If you are not sanguine about

paying \$35 a month for a service you can’t use because you’re not here, drop in on Aliv—there’s a better deal available. —*Editor*



WINSLOW HOMER’S GLASS WINDOW PAINTING

Eleutherans have long sought quality reproductions of Homer’s famous portrait of the Glass Window, painted when the bridge was in its pristine natural state, not the mélange of cement and guardrails it is now, after numerous hurricanes and “rages.” The 1st Art company offers oil-on-canvas, hand-painted reproductions, no two alike. Prices range from \$305 for a 20x16” to \$1187 for 72x48.” Sizes which maintain Homer’s original proportions sell for \$376 to \$740. A video on the creation process, and ordering details, may be found at 1st Art’s website: <http://bit.ly/2RJ5fmV>.

DON’T MESS WITH MOTHER STICK BUG

Last year I encouraged a stick bug out of my garage and back into the wilds by poking the slow-moving critter with my finger. I then touched my eye and endured a five-minute jolt of knife-like pain, fearing I’d need medical attention. Washed out with water, it slowly dissipated. Wikipedia says the bugs “are equipped with a pair of glands at the anterior (front) edge of the prothorax that enables them to release defensive secretions, including chemical compounds of varying effect. Some produce distinct odors, and others cause a stinging, burning sensation in the eyes and mouth of a predator.” Moral: poke your stick bug with a stick, not your finger. —*Editor* ❖



PHOTO BY LAURA CROSBY

Minutes, 2018 AGM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The meeting was called to order on March 17th at the Rainbow Inn, with seven board members and thirty-three property owners attending. President Ron Nentwig asked for silent prayers for three Rainbow residents who died in 2017: Dave Chiulli, Patrice Bethel, and Bob Poehlman, Sr.

Inspector Newbold of the Royal Bahamian Police introduced new Eleuthera Superintendent Fredrick Sands. Both gentlemen assured Rainbow residents that they would be keeping an eye on the subdivision and that Sergeant Sands of Hatched Bay would be patrolling the area. (A break-in recently occurred on Panorama Drive, where thieves absconded with a television.) If any resident has questions, or notices anything out of the ordinary, please contact any these: Governor's Harbour Police: 332-2111 (or dial 991 or 919); Insp. Newbold's cell: 470-6276; Supt. Sands's cell: 427-4024.

Inspector Newbold introduced Glenda Johnson Ingraham, Assistant Manager of the Ministry of Tourism, who offered residents help in any way possible. She can be reached at any time at her cell number, 470-2777.

The Treasurer's Report and budget for 2018 were approved. Current finances: Royal Bank of Canada \$18,000; Pay-Pal \$10,672; Sun Trust Bank \$36,078; Money Market \$65,000; total \$129,750

President Nentwig introduced new residents Brad and Adrienne Harum, Bridget and Charles Gibson, David Whaley and Sheila Reed; new board member Mark Updegraff; and website coordinator Bobbi Updegraff.

Ron reported the current house count: 202 homes completed, twenty-two under construction; no new 2018 building plans had as yet been submitted. Legal expenses over the Association's lawsuit over two building sites in violation of the building covenants are awaiting court action.

Poehlman Building Dedication, April 25th

Maureen Poehlman was guest of honor, unveiling a plaque naming our maintenance building for her late husband Bob, whom we remember with love and gratitude.



Expenses so far were \$19,395, most of which will be recoverable if we win next May. (Note: expenses have since exceeded \$50,000, but we seem to have little choice if we want rules that apply to everyone equally.)

Volunteers were thanked for painting and cement work on the Poehlman Building, which has new lights and roof coating and a new water pump. Perry Attfield and Tommy Pinder were thanked for installing two new overhead garage doors. The Association purchased new tires for the tractor and needs to budget to repair the dump truck.

For the second time in a row, there were not enough volunteers to serve a two-year term on Rainbow's Board, so the election was cancelled to save time and expense. Mark Updegraff volunteered to replace Erica Mowen, who resigned. Volunteers are badly needed since there is much work to be done.

Other progress: Ron Nentwig has been making new road signs to

replace those lost to weather and age. Four Neighborhood Watch signs were purchased and placed throughout the subdivision, the watch program being headed by James Ryder. James also spoke regarding our recycling program, which is back after some confusion with Nassau. At present we are recycling plastic and aluminum cans only—glass bottles maybe later. (See article, page opposite.)

Community News: Twenty residents showed up for the annual trash day clean-up. A bronze plaque was purchased and placed in the garden near Rainbow Beach in memory of "Daisy Dog." (See cover.)

The annual raffle will take place after this meeting and a yard sale is scheduled for April 7th and 8th. (Report on page 3.) The Maintenance Building will be dedicated in memory of Bob Poehlman, Sr. on April 25th (left and page 8).

New Business: Perry Attfield commented that the money spent on legal fees to maintain the force of our by-laws and covenants is well spent.

Alan Fischl thanked the Board for their hard work, particularly Sue Nentwig and Perry Attfield.

Leigh Harvey announced that her daughter Brooke is a full time resident and home owner in Rainbow, having purchased and renovated the former Ferguson residence.

Questions were answered about power line setbacks, height restrictions, and liability insurance

Ron Nentwig expressed thanks and gratitude to the Rainbow Bay team: Maintenance Manager Tommy Pinder, Building Inspector Perry Attfield, list compilers Enid Morris and Linda Kjerulf; Editor Richard Langworth—and to Matt Hoopes (for remaining alive).

Ron also thanked everyone for coming, urging more residents to "get involved." He noted the neighborly turnout that moved Stew Morrison's emergency boat engine from the dock to the marina as an example of community spirit, and invited all to the afternoon pool party. The meeting ended at 11 am.

Respectfully submitted
Matt Hoopes, Secretary ❖

Recycling: How It Works

The Rainbow community has two bins for plastics and cans, adjacent to our garbage building. Some people are careless, so we may get garbage and glass in the bins. Every week volunteers empty bins into "sugar bags" WasteNot provides for cans and plastic. When we have several bags, confirming that the *Island Link* can take them, we drop them at Hatchet Bay dock. We call WasteNot to say they're coming, and call again to be sure the bags are picked up. Recycling information is regularly posted in the *Rainbow Times*. Those from Canada and the U.S. know the drill! I asked WasteNot for the following report. —*Julia Motti*

From: Ginny at WasteNot, Nassau:

We collect bags from the Family Islands at the dock at no charge, usually two days a week. They go to Wastenot's yard. Plastic gets stockpiled, since baling and shipping is not presently available. When the local landfill is privatized this year, plastics will be accommodated.

Cans are processed by hand, removing all contaminants (straws, paper, stones, cigarettes, ferrous cans). Then they are fed to the "Densifier," which compresses them into 25-pound briquettes, 100 to a pallet.

The Densifier shapes them with a groove for metal straps we use to hold them tightly and neatly.

When we have collected eight pallets, we order a 20-foot container from Tropical Shipping. We fill this with pallets and any other aluminum we have. We pay for brokerage, trucking, customs inspection and associated shipping charges. Tropical Shipping donates the cost of freight.

In Florida we clear containers through a broker and truck them to West Palm Beach, where our buyer weighs and assesses them for contamination. The contamination level sets the price they pay per pound, which varies according to the market.

Our buyer Fedexes a bank draft payable to "Cans for Kids," which we send for collection. Payments are put into our account.

We pay our collectors 20¢ per pound right now but have paid as high as 40¢ when we were receiving 70¢ per pound. High diesel prices are raising our collection costs. Higher processing and shipping charges, coupled with the lower price being paid for our shipments, have lately kept it to 20¢. If we can get more cans collected and are able to send out 40-foot containers, the volume will help lower our costs and we can pay more to our collectors.

We are working with Coca-Cola to engage a coordinator. With the markets for aluminum being soft, we had to let our last coordinator go. Coke will help with money, advertising clout and its worldwide corporate image geared toward engaging and inspiring particularly youth. Once we have a coordinator again we can really push the schools. We hope to inspire more Family Island communities to join in and collect.

With the advent of private management of the New Providence landfill, we are very hopeful about handling the plastics. But the price for plastic is much lower than aluminum. The price paid for recycled plastic will not even pay for its processing, let alone shipping. I only mention this because people think there is more money in plastics and expect some payment once we're shipping it out. If alternative technologies are proposed, we may see plastic actually being used as a feedstock here in Nassau. But that (and bottle recycling) is in the future.

The management of Family Island "dump sites" also will be getting attention, since we were invited to offer improvement solutions. ❖

ADVERTISEMENTS

HOMES: Caribbean Waterfront. Two-bedroom, two-bath concrete home in south side waterfront with unobstructed panoramic views, large cistern, furnished, \$265,000 net. Telephone (242) 357-9998.

HOMES: Signal Light Road. Spacious two-bedroom two-bath home in Rainbow Bay, offering great views of the Atlantic Ocean, solar power, fully landscaped, furnished. \$265,000 net. Telephone (242) 357-9998

LOTS. Use www.rainbowbay.org to locate on map. All prices are in U.S. dollars unless otherwise stated.

Section A, Block 5, Lots 20-21, Ship Sighter Road facing Little Twin Beach and the Atlantic, \$49,500 for both or \$27,225 individually. Contact G. Keene (k3coyote@earthlink.net).

Section A, Block 6, Lot 15, Ocean Drive near Smugglers Beach, 9600 square feet (80x120) on sloping lot, 50-70' elevation at rear, safe from ocean surges, facing Atlantic lots unlikely to be developed. Must see, photos on request. \$27,000, negotiable, split legal and transfer fees. Andy Geohegan (onewag@hotmail.com), cell (816) 377-0924

Section A, Block 8, Lots 12-13, Twin Beach Road between Smugglers Beach and Little Twin Beach, 180 degree Atlantic view, beautiful, each lot 80x120', gently sloping fro 45-60' above sea level. A place to build your "Island Time" home. Many photos available. \$42,000 together or \$22,500 each, negotiable. Katy Nelson (tarankata@yahoo.com) tel. (239)-595-3610 (cell).

Section A, Block 13, Lot 7, fronts on Lazy Road backed by Queen's Highway, 11,230 sq. ft., 60-70' elevation. \$37,000, split legal and transfer fees. Michael Costic (citsoc39@sbcglobal.net), tel. (505) 872-0358.

Section A, Block 15, Lot 4, Lazy Shore Road opposite Lazy Road, 90x150', beautiful sunsets overlooking Hatchet Bay; walking distance to Rainbow Inn, tennis court & boat ramp. \$110,000, split closing costs (harmony1@coralwave.com), tel. (242) 698-2762 (home), (242) 427-9598 (cell).

Section C, Block 42, Lot 70, Beach Lane off Ocean Drive. Anxious but not desperate to sell, hence \$19,500. John Griffin (griffijt@embarqmail.com), tel. (252) 987-2332. ❖



Rainbow Bay Property Owners
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PREFERRED PROPERTY OWNER:

Greetings from Rainbow Bay, Twenty Years Ago

Members held a debate about the new “city” water line and controls to access it. Though some at first felt the Association should not be involved in the installation process, a consensus favored a systematic approach to installation, and road maintenance is necessary. There was discussion about boat ramp improvements and a request to improve the area around the trash site. Members expressed considerable concern over property owners who do not pay fees, and several members felt fees were too low and should be increased.

The sultry summer is passing into autumn, time to spruce up the neighborhood. Brush trimming is handled by a crew hired to cut any overgrowth. Our Kabota tractor is still in need of repair. Finding a way to improve road conditions remains a major priority. The cost of resurfacing roads puts this option out of reach at the present time. We continue to explore alternatives. —AUTUMN 1998 ❖



MEMORIES: Maureen and Bob Poehlman at home on the island. On April 25th in Bob's memory, Maureen unveiled a plaque at the newly named Poehlman building. More photos on page 6.

The Rainbow Times, No. 6, Ten Years Ago

President Perry Pinder called the 2008 Annual General Meeting to order at the Maintenance Building on March 8th. Perry asked that those who rent their houses be certain to give renters the Association rules regarding garbage disposal, etc. He also asked that abandoned cars, building containers and trailers be removed from Rainbow's roads. Perry will

meet with Rep. Alvin Smith to discuss property assessments and revaluations presently underway in Nassau. Among the suggestions: building contractors should be responsible for repairing damage to roads; those who rent continuously should pay additional fees; the Board needs a speedy procedure to stop construction on buildings not complying with RBPOA building requirements. Outgoing President Pinder was thanked for his efforts. The May board meeting was attended by John Kavali, Matt Hoopes, Dick Longchamps, Pat Morrison and Perry Pinder. —WINTER 2008-09 ❖