



THE MAILBOAT



VOLUME 3 NO. 3 4th QUARTER 1997

The Town of Malabar got its 1st official Post Office and name on December 24, 1883 when R.A. Ward was named Postmaster by President Chester A. Arthur. Two times a week, the boat that travelled down the intracoastal waterway from Jacksonville, would deliver the mail to the palmetto shack post office along the river bank at Malabar. The mail was dumped on the counter for the population of 25 to shuffle through. With the coming of the railroad, in 1893, the mail boat was no longer needed.

4th Annual Malabar Day Celebration

The Fourth Annual Malabar Day was held Saturday, October, 18, 1997, at the Malabar Community Park. Although the weather forecast kept many away, we had a great turnout for this annual community event. It was jam packed with entertainment, competitions, displays and great food.



Cub Scout Pack 37 from Malabar performed an opening flag ceremony and then lent a hand in serving the residents and running the game booths. Mayor Durand inspected the boys and then presented Cubmaster John Hinkleman with a donation of \$25.00. The fishing contest in the Damon-Arnold Lake was much better this year with five trophies awarded. The Space Coast Model Sailing Club competed for First, Second and Third Place trophies. Ron Garrison put together a wonderful

selection of mixed class vehicles for the car show. Trophies were awarded for First and Second place and a plaque for the People's Choice.



Rocky Water Cloggers perform at Malabar Day.

Malabar's own "Up the Creek" again provided music throughout the afternoon and two clogging groups, the Indian River Cloggers and the Rocky Waters Cloggers performed.

Malabar Day is an annual event that will be held the first Saturday in October next year. If you would like to volunteer to help, make a donation to the park fund or just need more information call Town Hall at 727-7764.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Welcome to Mayor Phil Crews and Councilmember Liz Ritter. Both bring unique qualities to our Town and we look forward to working with them with enthusiasm.



Atz Road has been paved between Corey Road and Weber Road at a cost of \$125,000.00 and was funded with Impact Fees. The construction was done by Brevard County Roads and Bridges Department. We will continue to pave Marie Street, Hall Road and Atz Road as more Impact Fees become available.

In October we purchased a new Gradall for \$180,000.00. The Gradall is the machine we use to clean out our ditches. The former Gradall was purchased in 1983 and was getting tired! The other major purchase was an Emergency One Fire Truck for \$180,000.00. This fire truck is capable of pumping 1250 gallons of water per minute and has a 1000 gallon reserve tank of water. The former truck was purchased in 1983. The pump was worn out, the tank was leaking due to rust and the truck no longer met the requirements required to maintain lower Homeowners' rates.

A huge Thank You to Dairy Road Plant Farm and John Kelvington, Chairperson of our Park and Recreation Board, for donating new trees planted at the entrance of our park that are decorated for the Christmas Season and lighted in a Community Event by Mayor Crews.

Malabar Road is scheduled for drainage work and resurfacing in early January 1998. The Florida Department of Transportation has awarded the 1.3 mil contract to Ranger Construction. Ranger anticipates it will take about three months to complete.

Rocky Point Road has been resurfaced along with the final phase of the streets in the Brook Hollow Development. A sidewalk was installed for 700' along Briar Creek Boulevard in the Brook Hollow subdivision for the safety of our children and citizens. The cost of the sidewalk was \$8,314.00, of which \$3,314.00 was funded by the Brook Hollow Community Association.

The Public Works Department is making great progress with the ditch cleaning program. We are currently working in the southwest area from south of Malabar Road to the Town line. We have added one new member to the Department to help with the ever increasing work load.

We wish former Mayor Jerry Durand the best in his retirement from public office. Mayor Durand served as long as our Charter would allow. We enjoyed a great working relationship during his tenure and will miss him. Hopefully we will see him in Town Hall again soon!

On behalf of the staff here at Town Hall I would like to wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season and we look forward to working with the citizens of Malabar in the coming year.

Thank you for your time,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'William Hall', written over a light-colored background.

William Hall

Tree Protection

Removal of Trees Requires a Permit
Trees, as defined in Malabar's Code of Ordinances, are declared to provide or maintain beneficial public resources and it is the intent of Town Council to protect them in the interest of present and future citizens of the Town. It is further intended to perpetuate adequate tree numbers and canopy in order to maintain the economic, environmental and esthetic status of the Town. Permits are required for land clearing and tree removal with limited exceptions. It is in your best interest to check with the Building Department prior to any such activity.

The following trees are not considered protected and can be removed without a permit: Australian pine, Ear-pod tree, Chinaberry, Brazilian pepper tree, Melaleuca, punk or paper tree. If you are in doubt or have any questions please call the Building Inspector prior to removing trees.

Town Happenings . . .

Malabar Volunteer Fire Department

Season's Greetings!

As the Holiday Season rapidly approaches, we would like to remind all residents to check all decorations for wire wear spots and fuse replacements, use only UL approved lighting material, and do not overload electric outlets. Please remember to completely extinguish all candle and/or fireplace flames before leaving the house or retiring for the evening.

Colder weather is forecast and with the many fireplaces in Town, the smell of smoke will also be in the air. Before using your fireplace, please check to see if a chimney cleaning is in order and be sure the damper is open. When using kerosene or gas heaters, a window should be left open for ventilation purposes and a purchase of a Carbon Monoxide Detector should be considered.

Above all, have a Happy and Safe Holiday Season.

Announcements

If you would like to have an announcement printed in the upcoming newsletters commemorating the birthday, anniversary or graduation of a dear one please call Town Hall with the details. We will also publish birth and death information if you wish to share it with us. This is your newsletter. Please let us know what you would like to see in it.

Reminder: Harris Sanitation requires that yard waste be properly put at the curbside. Limbs must be no longer than 4' and bundled or stacked neatly. Yard waste material should not be put in plastic bags; use containers. Their goal is to have all piles picked up prior to the holidays. If you have a pile that requires a special pick up, please call Town Hall so that we can compile a list and fax it to Harris.

Christmas trees will again this year be picked up by Harris on normal yard trash day. Since the trees go straight to the mulcher it is imperative that all ornaments and tinsel be taken off prior to set out. Thanks for your help!

Also don't forget to promptly bring in your trash cans after pick up and keep them in good repair.

Food for thought:

Desire is a treasure map. Knowledge is the treasure chest. Wisdom is the jewel. Yet, without action they all stay buried.

Council Actions

We have applied for grant funds through the Florida Recreational Development Assistance Program in order to construct ballfields in the Malabar Community Park. We should know our position in the ranking sometime in mid December. Of course funding is contingent on the next legislative session appropriations.

Council also adopted Resolution 13-97 and forwarded it to the Brevard County Commission supporting the position that the County retain sole control of the operations and maintenance of the Valkaria Airport. There had been some movement to transfer that obligation to the Melbourne Airport Authority.

Resolution 15-97 adopted the millage rate for the 97-98 Fiscal year. It is 1.3956. A copy of the Town's Fiscal Year 1997-1998 Municipal Budget, which was adopted September 22, 1997 is available for your review at Town Hall.

All meetings at Town Hall are open to the public and you are encouraged to attend and get involved. At the end of the Council meetings there is time allowed for the Public to speak and possibly introduce items for future agendas. Meeting agendas are posted in front of Town Hall and also at the Post Office.

What is your opinion?

Survey Question - Anniversary

December 19, 1997 will mark the 35th year of incorporation. Cake was provided to commemorate the event at Malabar Day event. What do you think we should do to celebrate?

STANDARD MEETINGS SCHEDULE

The Town Council meets the first and third Monday of the month at 7:30 pm.

The Planning & Zoning Board meets the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm.

The Park Board meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm.

All meetings take place at Town Hall. All meeting notices and cancellations are posted on the sign in front of the Fire Department.

Historical Society

Ms. Jorilet Paets, representing the Malabar Historical Society, established by Council in March of last year, is working on a project to produce a booklet recounting Malabar's "days gone by". If you have a memory to share or a picture to contribute, please call Town Hall. As we approach our 35th anniversary of incorporation, please help us update our Honor Roll. If you are a long time resident of the area or know someone who is, please call Town Hall.



Long time residents Mr. Glatter and Mrs. Billie exchange memories at a recent tea held at Town Hall.

A flash from the past

This comes from our scrap book: an article that appeared in the Melbourne Times in describing Malabar between 1913-1915: These memories are from the late Harvey Huggins' remembrances.

Highway U.S 1, called Dixie Highway then intersected with Main Street (now called Malabar Road). Mr. E.B. Arnold lived on the northwest corner of that intersection in a white house he built to replace the log cabin he constructed prior to 1886. Arnold was one of Malabar's earliest settlers who became a Commissioner in the early part of this century. Just west of Arnold's house was the Huggins' residence and west of that, Huggins' general store where the post office was located. The Huggins family held the office of Postmaster from 1927 through 1981 when son Robert retired.

North of Arnold's place was the J.A. Farley's residence (where the Post Office was located in 1900), and then the residence of a family named Koerner. C.M.S. Stovall's house was next along the highway. A little further north was the residence of Charles Comstock, who had a citrus grove and packing house behind his residence. It was in this packing house that many of the community's Saturday night dances were held.

Malabar Business Spotlight

Malabar is a small town, but it is proud to embrace over 80 businesses within its 11 square miles. Each newsletter will focus on one of Malabar's business establishments.

Ace is the place where owner Kevin Parker, 30, provides hardware and garden supplies for sale. While the store at 6715 Babcock Street SE is within the Malabar town limits, the store is formally named Ace Hardware of Palm Bay.

"We're able to serve all people in South Brevard," Parker explains. "A lot of people don't know about how many people live in Malabar and south Palm Bay. Most don't really realize the size of the population."

The Malabar store is the second establishment owned by the Parker family. It was opened in 1985 by then-owner Paul Parker Senior, who started the business at their West Melbourne store in 1977. In the early 1990s, Kevin Parker and his brother Paul Junior, 42, bought out their father who has since retired. Paul Junior was the original manager of the Malabar store and now works at their father's original location.

Today Malabar resident Bill Clegg, 40, works as manager.

"Bill grew up in Malabar," Parker says. "He's worked for Ace for 11 years and has been manager of the Malabar store for seven. We now have 18 people working here. At least 50 percent are full time employees."

Parker describes the Malabar site as "a good old fashioned hardware store." They carry such things as PVC, copper tubing, electrical wire and chicken wire, all offered by the foot instead of bundled precut in packages. Customers may find individual nuts and bolts, nails by the pound instead of in boxes. They offer a wide variety of lawn and garden supplies, including grass seed by the pound, not in bags.

"We try to provide a service customers won't find anywhere else," Parker vows. "We give personalized treatment and provide good honest quality service."

The store is open Monday through Friday 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

A CHANGE OF OFFICE

Farewell and Good Luck to our beloved Mayor Jerry R. Durand who has faithfully served this community since 1988. Due to Charter mandated term limits, it was time to step down. We wish you well in all your future endeavors.



Former Mayor Durand turns gavel over to Mayor Crews

Planning & Zoning Board Commission.

Both Councilmen Tom Eschenberg (District 4) and Henry Dekker (District 5) were unchallenged and return to serve their second terms. Mrs. Elizabeth Ritter qualified and was unchallenged for the District 1 seat due to the resignation of Mrs. Morey.



Tom Eschenberg
Dist. 4



Henry Dekker
Dist. 5



Elizabeth Ritter
Dist. 1

Council members serve for a staggered period of two years (2) with District 1, 2 & 3 up in the even years and 4 & 5 in the odd years. Councilwoman Julane Kikla, District 2, and John Detwiler, District 3, are presently serving the second year of their second terms.

from the desk of . . .



Dear Fellow Residents:

As your newly elected mayor and council chairman, I would like to reaffirm my commitment to the values I enumerated during the campaign. I believe in the dignity and worth of the individual. I believe that government must be open, fair and honest. I promise to work

toward making Malabar a better place to live and raise a family.

Of course, I can only do this within the context of the official role of the mayor. According to the town charter, the mayor is the ceremonial chief officer of the town and must represent the town at various county-wide functions. The charter specifically spells out when and where the mayor is allowed input at town meetings. Keep in mind that the mayor normally does not have a vote on matters before the council. Only when a tie vote occurs, does the mayor have the ability to vote in order to break that tie. The mayor also has the ability to veto an ordinance.

Because the council elected me their chairman, I now preside over the council meetings, and I thank them all for their unanimous vote of confidence. I also encourage citizens to attend council meetings and to get involved in local government as much as possible. Together we can keep Malabar a town which we can proudly call home.

Thank you for your support in my new role.

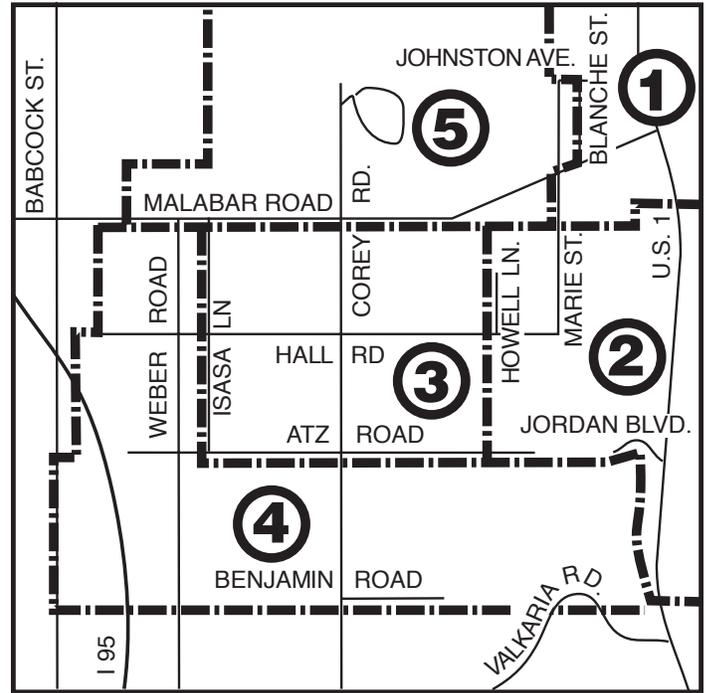
Phillip R. Crews

Malabar Town Hall will be closed on December 25 & 26 and on January 1 & 2nd. If you have an emergency you can page the Town Administrator, Bill Hall at 459-8195. Have a Happy and safe Holiday Season!

Know Your Representatives on Council

The following Council members represent these districts:

District 1	Elizabeth Ritter 350 Camelot Circle	723-5845
District 2	Julane Kikla 2730 Rocky Point Road	676-3698
District 3	John Detwiler 1780 Eva Lane	725-7759
District 4	Tom Eschenberg 2835 Beran Lane	724-1007
District 5	Henry Dekker 1260 Hollow Brook Lane	722-9717
Mayor	Phillip Crews 2480 Johnston Ave.	951-0422
Town Administrator	Bill Hall Town Hall	723-3261
Town Clerk/ Treasurer	Susan Kilian Town Hall	727-7764
County Comm.	Nancy Higgs, Dist. 3	952-6300
State Senator	Patsy Kurth, Dist. 15	984-4951



Town Administrator - WILLIAM HALL 723-3261 FAX 722-2234 Editor - John Detwiler, Council Vice-Chairman

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