

NEWS RELEASE from SANDPIPER BAY COMMUNITY
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SANDPIPER BAY COMMUNITY HOLDS 2017 ANNUAL HOLIDAY DINNER DANCE

By Kathy Barrett

What was more spectacular on December 3 than the one and only Supermoon of 2017 Many would say it was the one and only Sandpiper Bay Community's (formerly Sandpiper Bay Homeowner's Association) Annual Holiday Dinner Dance held at the picturesque Santa Lucia River House in Ballantrae. About 114 members and guests of the Sandpiper Bay Community of neighborhoods gathered to celebrate the season.

Festivities began with libations and a feast of fresh fruits, cheeses and crackers. Swedish meatballs were a hit too as neighbors and friends socialized beginning at 6 pm. Shortly before 7 pm, President of SBC Mark Ginsberg welcomed everyone and introduced special guests, Mayor Greg Oravek and District Council Woman Jolene Caraballo. A special time of patriotic pause and honor was given to our veterans in attendance and those in far-off fields, was included in the welcome. Phil Millevolte, SBC Treasurer, gave a word of thanksgiving to our Creator for the many blessings friends and neighbors in the community enjoy.

Before the Mayor had a chance to sit down to enjoy the evening, however, he was asked to stand again - only to be surprised by a warm and hearty chorus of the birthday song. Happy Birthday, Mayor Oravek! Thank you for spending it with SBC.

While the band, Random Play, played on more and more folks crowded the dance floor. It was clear that the variety of music from oldies to disco, classic rock, Motown and even popular hits of today, stirred the memories of magical moments with that special someone. And even if some didn't have a special someone that evening, they definitely were not shy about showing off their own dance moves. Whether they danced with invisible partners or joined in the group for the electric slide, the joint was jumping! Husband and wife duet, Rick and Diane engaged everyone with their musical and vocal talents.

Before folks danced the night away, their taste buds danced to the offerings on the bountiful buffet with carving station and dessert table included. It was fine fare and exceptional service provided by Santa Lucia River House with Events Manager, Maria Bordonaro receiving rave reviews.

Long-time residents and SBC members, Bob and Paula Newsom remarked how much they enjoyed this year's event. Although the room was large, the tables were well placed for a more friendly community atmosphere, Paula noted. They were first on the dance floor when the 60's tune, "Hey, Paula" was sung.

Roseanne Majanis remarked, "Absolutely fantastic! Everyone came in a partying mood. A lot of effort went into the details. The decor was fabulous. Band excellent." She and husband, Ivars, have been Sandpiper Bay residents for some 20 years.

They say actions speak louder than words and that was so true of our beloved Vice President Don Harris. With a smile a mile wide, Don invited whomever cared to to dance with him and many did. He made certain that everyone was enjoying themselves, as well. We are sure that the evening was a thumbs up for Don. Don leads the Community Patrol group, keeping our neighborhood safer. Thanks Don!

Sandpiper Bay residents for just three years, Barry and Sandy Lee were thrilled. "Sandy and I thoroughly enjoyed the Sandpiper Bay Community Christmas party and dance. We had non-member guests with us as well as a new neighbor we met two weeks ago. The location was perfect and the couple that provided the music were spot on as the dance floor was fully occupied the whole evening. The committee that organized this party did a fabulous job – well done." Sandy added, "... It's hard to top Club Med where the party has been held the past couple of years; but, Ballantrae proved to be a fabulous venue. The food was delicious; the décor beautifully in the season... the music enticing. So many people dancing! Who knew there was so much holiday spirit in our souls?"

While the Supermoon of 2017 was a stellar sight to behold, everyone agreed that the SBC Dinner Dance was the event to remember and hopefully to look forward to again in 2018. Thanks and applause go to party organizer, Chairwoman Gloria Dragani assisted by SBC Secretary, Kelly Lee, Carol Taht, Linda and John Carino, Roseanne Mazjanis, and Lavern Millevolte. Phil Millevolte was lead greeter and photographer. Many others, no doubt, behind the scenes contributed to the total success of the event. By evening's end Phil heard from departing guests, "This was really great!"

As a friendly reminder, residents living in the Sandpiper Bay area south of Port St Lucie Blvd. East of the river and West of US Hwy #1 are welcome to attend a meeting as our guest. Join as a member for only \$25 per year, per household. Please join us every 3rd Monday of the month (except August and December) to hear what SBC is about and to listen to our monthly guest speakers from the community. We meet in the 19th Hole Restaurant meeting room at 2601 SE Morningside Boulevard at 7:00 pm. Mark your calendars for Monday, January 15, 2018. We will hold complimentary cocktails and elections of new Board members. Guest speakers will be City of Port St Lucie, Mayor Greg Oravek and Judge Daryl Esenhower.