



Palm Beach County Planning Congress

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PALM BEACH COUNTY PLANNING CONGRESS, MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Rick Miessau

Sr. IT Project Manager,
South Florida Water Management
District

(www.sfwmd.gov)

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Members are encouraged to submit news for the Newsletter by 5pm, the first Monday of each month to scoughan@sfwmd.gov

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM

Annual Family Picnic & Challenge Volleyball Tournament

Food, Fun and a Chance to Chill Out With Good Company

Saturday, August 23rd – Noon to Dusk
Ocean Cay Park in Jupiter/Juno Beach

Make plans now with your family to join fellow Planning Congress members and guests for some "fun and sun" at another of Palm Beach County's exemplary ocean side beaches! This year's picnic will be held at the new Ocean Cay Park located on the south side of Marcinski Road between US 1 and AIA. The Park has easy access to the beach, a playground, volleyball courts, and lots of parking. It is just north of the Juno Beach pier and about 1/2 mile north of Loggerhead Park. Take the Donald Ross Road exit on I-95 to US 1 and then head north approximately 1/2 mile to Marcinski Road. Look for the Planning Congress banner hanging on the large pavilion.

The menu will include the usual picnic fare of "all you can eat and drink" fried chicken, hot dogs, baked beans, salads, chips & snacks, desserts, soda, juices, water and beer. Cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children aged 6 to 17 (no charge for children 5 and under), or \$25 for a family. Please RSVP to Dave Flinchum at 233-5230 or dflinchu@co.palm-beach.fl.us by Wednesday evening, August 20th with your name, the number of adults and children, and a contact phone number.

This year's picnic is being co-sponsored by the Palm Beach County Planning Congress and the Treasure Coast Section of the Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association (FAPA).

Rather than the Planning Congress – FAPA Challenge Softball Game we've held in the past, we thought we'd try something different this year – a Volleyball Tournament!! We encourage everyone to see if they can't be the one to field our winning team! Criteria: Common Interest (all planners, architects, attorneys, engineers, same company or agency office, etc.); Minimum 5 members; Maximum 7 Members; Coed (at least one player must be of the opposite sex). Call or email Dave Flinchum with your team name, members' names, and a contact name and email and/or phone number.

Join us for some good food, great fun, and a chance to relax and chill out just before the State APA Convention at the Breakers in Palm Beach.

Rick Miessau SPOTLIGHT (cont.)

Hometown: Hamden, CT

Education: AS Oceanography, AA Engineering, BS Information Technology

One Work-related Accomplishment

You Are Proud Of: Initiating An Enterprise View to Data Management

One Personal Accomplishment You

Are Proud Of: I Flew A Kite From the Top of the World Trade Center (7/2001).

Things You Do In Your Spare Time: Fly Kites, Build Websites, Landscaping

Family: Wife – Cordella, Sons – Troy (11) and Eric (10)

Favorite Movie: Pacific Heights

Favorite Book: Walk In The Light, by Leo Tolstoy

What's In Your CD Player Now? "Get Goin'" Nathan & The Zydeco Cha Chas

In His Own Words: I've been working at the Water Management District for almost 19 years. I spent my first 10 years in the Planning Dept. That's how I became involved with the Planning Congress. I find it rewarding applying my information technology skills to the widest array of activities I can find – my church (www.bbts.org), my sons 4th grade class, genealogy, or publishing The Planning Congress newsletters and member database. My career challenge is to help organize the data supporting the restoration of the Everglades. That takes a lot of planning and persistence. I co-authored the Everglades Data Management Plan and now lead the implementation effort.

I also enjoy flying kites and exploring the world with my wife and two sons. My kites range from indoor zero wind to 13 meter surf kites. And my exploring has gone from bullfights in Spain to Killer Whale watching in Vancouver.

I'm proud to say I married my highschool sweetheart who I met in 8th grade. We'll be celebrating our 20th in 2004 – in Hawaii we hope!

I'm finished with School for now but I plan on getting certified in Project Management and Planning.

NEW MEMBERS

WELCOME! to the following new/renewing members since our June Newsletter...

Jim Barnes (Village of Wellington); **Dodi Glas** (Urban Design Studio); **Blake Guillory** (Post, Buckley, Schuh & Jernigan); **Marty Hodgkins** (Duncan Associates); **Vicki Silver** (Project Manager and Grantwriter)

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Convention Center Tour

Mark your calendars now so you don't miss out on this opportunity for a special "behind the scenes" tour of the new Palm Beach County Convention Center that is scheduled for completion this fall.

The brand new \$80 million Palm Beach County Convention Center sits on a 19 acre site at the corner of Okeechobee Boulevard and Florida Avenue, opposite the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts and City Place. It has a total of 350,000 square feet, including a 100,000 square foot Exhibition Hall on the first level. The 25,000 square foot Grand Ballroom will accommodate 2000 people comfortably and includes a pre-function area and outdoor Terrace. There is also 23,000 square feet of meeting rooms and breakout space.

After the Tour we will reconvene at the new offices of Urban Design Studio in The Lofts at City Place on the southwest corner of Rosemary Avenue and Clematis Street for a post-tour Reception.

Since the Convention Center will still be under construction, please note the following: no children allowed; you will need to sign a waiver prior to the tour; you will need to be able to climb stairs (no elevator access will be available at this time); hard hats, long pants, and closed toe, leather type shoes (no sneakers; but they do not need to be steel toed) will be required.

Legislative Update

Due to the special legislative sessions this summer and vacation schedules, the Legislative Update that was tentatively scheduled for Thursday, July 24th was cancelled. We are attempting to reschedule it sometime during October between legislative committee meetings and other legislative activities in Tallahassee. Look for a special email announcement once our speakers, date, and location are confirmed.

Keysfest 2003 @ The Breezy Palms

Friday, October 3rd – Monday, October 6th. Don't delay in making your reservations – or you might miss out on all the fun! For more information, see the Keysfest article in our May newsletter or visit our web site at www.pbcplanningcongress.org/special/keysfest.htm.

For those of you who may not have been there before, Breezy Palms has a wide range of accommodations, including hotel rooms, efficiencies, bungalows and one and two bedroom poolside and oceanside rooms ranging in price from \$60 to \$185 per night. Visit their web site at www.breezypalms.com or call (305)664-2361 for more information and pictures. When making your reservations, be sure to mention you are with the Palm Beach County Planning Congress.

2003 EVENT SCHEDULE

DATE	SCHEDULED EVENT
January 6, Monday	Philippe Pierre Cousteau
February 20, Thursday	South Florida Science Museum Expansion
March 8, Saturday	Winter Equestrian Festival
April 24, Thursday	Robert Gibb Lecture at Abacoa
May 22, Thursday	Trump International Golf Course Clubhouse Tour
June 19, Thursday	Riviera Beach Redevelopment Program Discussion and Mobile Tour
July 24, Thursday	<i>No Event</i>
August 23, Saturday	Annual Family Picnic – Ocean Cay Park, Juno Beach/Jupiter
September 18, Thursday	Palm Beach County Convention Center Tour
October 3 – 6	Keysfest - Breezy Palms Resort, Islamorada
November 1, Saturday	Glades All-Day Agricultural Bus Tour
December	Annual Holiday Party

JOB POSTINGS

Palm Beach County has the following positions available. For more information on all these jobs, visit the County's Job Postings web site at www.pbcgov.com/erp/Jobs.

- **Senior Site Planner**, Facilities Development and Operations Department, Property and Real Estate Management Division;
- **Assistant Director**, Property and Real Estate Management Division.
- **Engineering Landscape Coordinator**, Streetscape Program, Engineering and Public Works Department;
- **GIS/CADD Technician**, Traffic Division, Engineering and Public Works Department.
(Note: All the above positions close August 15, 2003)
- **Construction Plans Examiner I, II, and III**, Building Division, Planning, Zoning and Building Department

The **South Florida Water Management District** is currently accepting applications for the following positions. For more information on these jobs, visit their web site at www.sfwmd.gov/caree/gisopp.html.

- **Lead Planner**, Planning & Development Division, Water Supply Department (Ft. Myers Service Center);
- **Staff Geographer**, Resource Assessment Division, Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Department;
- **Deputy Department Director** – Regulation, Environmental Resource Regulation Department;
- Environmental Analyst, Water Use Regulation Division, Water Supply Department;
- **Senior Supervising Environmental Analyst**, Natural Resource Management Division, Environmental Resource Regulation Department.

LAST MONTH'S EVENT

Riviera Beach Community Redevelopment Area Tour

On Thursday, June 19, 2003, Planning Congress members took an extended bus tour of the Riviera Beach Redevelopment Area. Dr. Rockefeller P. Herisse, Assistant Executive Director of the Riviera Beach Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA), and Judith Thomas, Planning and Zoning Administrator for the City of Riviera Beach, hosted the tour and provided a running commentary on various facets of the redevelopment plan. Together, Dr. Herisse and Ms. Thomas provided an historical overview of the planning efforts by a 14-member consulting team over the last several years which culminated in the current Master Plan. Throughout the tour, they explained how infill and redevelopment improvements would occur within the 858 acres of the master plan over the next 10 years.

The intent of the initiative is to build a livable and sustainable community and re-energize the existing blighted areas along the U.S. 1 corridor and waterfront areas. Accordingly, Dr. Herisse and Ms. Thomas believe that the CRA will bring Riviera Beach closer to its goal of being "the best waterfront city in which to live, work, and play."

The CRA includes the Port of Palm Beach and portions of Singer Island. It is bounded on the north and south by Silver Beach Boulevard and the Skypass Bridge, respectively. The entire 858 acres have been "parcelized" into six development districts, and developers will have the opportunity to purchase land by the parcel. The tour drove by nearly every parcel in the CRA. It gave us a very clear picture of how the CRA would impact the infrastructure, parks, recreation centers, transportation, marinas, housing, and the environment. During the tour, Dr. Herisse pointed out the CRA's many significant locations, including the expanded lagoon that will be dug to a level of 9 feet, where US 1 will be relocated, the new entrance to the Port of Palm Beach, and where Singer Island's Ocean Mall will be rebuilt.

Dr. Herisse also discussed the impacts to the existing residents and businesses that will be relocated, although he indicated that the number of persons who will be dislocated is expected to be much less than originally estimated.

Naturally, planners want to seek the highest and best use of property within the CRA, which does not currently occur in the blighted neighborhoods or where undersized homes are located on waterfront properties. The proposed economic impact of this project is expected to be significant. The existing assessed value of properties in Riviera Beach is currently \$167 million and the projected assessed value is \$2 billion (in present dollars). If these estimates are correct, then Riviera Beach has a great deal to gain through this extensive project.

Many thanks to Dr. Herisse and Ms. Thomas for a very informative and enlightening program on the Riviera Beach CRA redevelopment efforts. Those Planning Congress members and guests in attendance were impressed with the City's accomplishments to date and will be watching as the CRA implements the various components of the City's Redevelopment Plan. For more information about the CRA and its plans, visit their web site at www.rivierabeachcra.org.

MOVERS & SHAPERS

Cherie Akers is now a full-time mom to her two children, Jared Tennyson, age three, and Madelyn Rose, age one. Cherie was a Planner for Palm Beach County for three years prior to working as a Planner for Kilday and Associates starting in the mid-1999's.

Jim Barnes, AICP, formerly a Projects Manager with the Palm Beach County Facilities Department, is now Assistant Director of Community Services for the Village of Wellington. He is responsible for overseeing the Planning, Zoning, and Building and Parks and Recreation Departments.

Belated Congratulations to **Jim Bell, AICP**, a Senior Planner with Palm Beach County and dedicated Gator, who recently passed up March Madness to go on his honeymoon!

Congratulations to **Henry Bittaker** and **Pat Walker**, planners at the South Florida Water Management District, who recently passed the AICP exam.

Wes Blackman, AICP, recently established his own firm, CWB Associates, providing services in the areas of planning, zoning, historic preservation projects, applications, expert witness work, and project and construction management activities. He can be reached at (561) 308-0364 or at wesblackman@earthlink.net or by fax at (561) 586-5609. For the past ten years, Wes served as Director of Projects at the Mar-a-Lago Club and Trump International Golf Club for the Trump Organization in Florida. He also serves as Chairman of both the Palm Beach County Citizens Task Force and the City of Lake Worth Planning, Zoning and Historic Resource Preservation Commission.

Jane Bucca, formerly a Senior Economist with the South Florida Water Management District, was recently named Senior Supervising Planner, in charge of the Water Conservation Section of the Water Supply Department at the District

Aimee Craig Carlson, AICP, formerly a Senior Planner with the Palm Beach County Zoning Division, and Immediate Past President of the Planning Congress, is now Land Entitlement Project Manger with Centex Homes. Aimee served over six years with the County working in both the Planning and Zoning Divisions on a variety of projects, including Comprehensive Plan amendments, the County's award-winning Managed Growth tier System, the Western Northlake Corridor Study, and a revision of the County's TDR Program. For the last three years, she was the lead staff to the Citizens Task Force and headed up the County's Code Revision Section and comprehensive rewrite of the Unified Land Development Code. Aimee is now managing due diligence and entitlement projects for Centex Homes. She can be reached at (561) 536-1025 or acraigcarlson@centexhomes.com.

Paul Schofield, AICP, was recently promoted to Director of Community Services for the Village of Wellington as a result of a reorganization of the Village's administration to meet the growing needs of its population. Since 1990, the Village of Wellington has grown from 21,000 residents to over 47,000. Community Services is responsible for the administration and operation of the Planning, Zoning, and Building Department, including Code Enforcement, as well as the Parks and Recreation Department. It also includes the intergovernmental coordination functions for Police (provided by the Sheriff's Office), Fire-Rescue (provided by Palm Beach County), and Education. In addition to joint planning, design, construction, and operation of school and park facilities, the Village Council and staff, together with its Education Committee, are actively involved in activities with Wellington schools, including the funding of special programs and activities with Village funds.

Bruce Thomson has been promoted to a Senior Planner with the Palm Beach County Planning Division. As a Planner II, Bruce previously analyzed many of the County's transportation element amendments. He is now working on an economic base model and a fiscal impact analysis model for the County in addition to other data related projects.

Marcie Tinsley, formerly with Kilday and Associates for over 15 years, is now Director of Planning and Design for the Karl Corporation. Congratulations!

Charlie Walker, a Planning Congress founding member, recently retired after 27 years as Director of the Palm Beach County Traffic Division. He served as Assistant Traffic Director in Toledo, Ohio before coming to Palm Beach County in 1975 as Assistant Director of the Traffic Division. A year later he was named Director of the Traffic Division. Over the years, Charlie has been responsible for many changes in the Traffic Division. When he arrived there were approximately 400 traffic signals throughout Palm Beach County – now there are almost

1000! During this same period the county's population tripled from 400,000 to 1.2 million. Under his direction, Palm Beach County now has one of the most modern and finest signal and sign shops in the country.

Charlie has also been in the frontline of local growth control through his administration of the County's Traffic Performance Standards Ordinance. One of his most significant accomplishments was developing the basis for the County's Road Impact Fee, which was first approved by the Board of County Commissioners in 1979. It was the first Road Impact Fee to be legally upheld in Florida. Since then approximately \$240,000,000 has been collected and used to build the County's major road system.

On a personal note, Charlie has been happily married for over 37 years to the same woman, Pat. In addition to raising their two now-grown daughters, Patrice and Carol, they have hosted 4 exchange students over the years, and Charlie has been part of the Big Brother Program taking on a Little Brother, Justin, when his youngest daughter graduated from high school and went off to college. Charlie is also known as a tireless dance machine, a man who can really use the word "ludicrous," and an expert water skier. Although he received his Masters Degree from Northwestern University, he received his B.S. degree from the University of Tennessee and definitely considers himself a "Vol"!!

Charles Wu, Palm Beach Gardens Planning Director, was one of 42 participants in the Leadership Palm Beach County Class of 2003 recognized at the annual reunion, graduation and installation dinner held on June 4th at the Sheraton at City Place. *Leadership Palm Beach County* was established to provide information to emerging community leaders and impart knowledge of local issues, needs, challenges, and initiatives. Participants meet once a month for 10 months to learn about health and human services, education, public safety, the environment, marine industries, business and tourism, agriculture, and media and the arts. Each class undertakes a project that makes a difference in the community. The 2003 Class Project involved completely renovating a dorm for homeless men, previously known as Joshua House, and now called Broadway Gardens, with new appliances, furniture, dishes, linens and other furnishings, and landscaping.

JOKE CORNER

An Engineer, an Architect and a Planner are standing before God at the throne of Heaven. God looks at them and says; "before granting you a place at my side, I must first ask you what you believe in." Addressing The Engineer first he asks, "what do you believe?"

The Engineer looks God in the eye and states passionately, "I believe engineering to be for the good of all. Nothing else brings such unbridled joy to so many people from the slums of Rio to the bright lights of Barcelona. I have devoted my life to bringing joy to people through good engineering."

God looks up and offers the Engineer the seat to his left.

He then turns to the Architect, "and you, my son, what do you believe?"

The Architect stands tall and proud, "I believe that good art and design are the fundamentals to an enjoyable life and I've spent my whole career seeking to become a living embodiment of the quest for the best of these." Moved by the passion of the speech, God offers the Architect the seat to his right.

Finally, he turns to the Planner, "and you, a planner, what do you believe?"

"I believe", says the Planner, "that you're sitting in my seat!"

HAPPENINGS

Wednesday, September 3rd – Thursday, September 4th – 2003 South Florida GIS EXPO. West Palm Beach Marriott. No Charge. For registration and more information, visit their web site at <http://www.sfrpc.com/gisexpo.htm> or contact David Rafaidus at (561) 355-4705. The program includes a special session on Thursday afternoon (3 – 5 pm) called GIS for Planners. You must register in advance to attend.

Wednesday, September 3rd – Friday, September 5th – 28th Annual Water Management Conference.
“Perspectives on Water Asset Management: Supply & Demand; Resource Protection; Cost.”
Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel. Co-sponsored by Florida’s five regional water management districts and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. For more information, call (850) 906-0099 or visit the Annual Conference on Water Management web site at <http://www.mcraeco.com>.

Wednesday, September 3rd – Saturday, September 6th- Florida Chapter, American Planning Association, 2003 Annual Conference. The Breakers, Palm Beach. For more information, visit their web site at www.floridaplanning.org or call the FAPA State Office in Tallahassee at 1-850-201-3272.

Wednesday, September 17th (8:30 am – 5:30 pm) - Agro-Ecology Conference “Can We Keep Agriculture in the South Florida Ecosystem?” Indian River Research & Education Center, Ft. Pierce, Fla. For more information or to register, contact Doreen DiCarlo at the Florida Center for Environmental Studies at ddicarlo@ces.fau.edu or (561)799-8553 or visit their web site at www.ces.fau.edu.

Wednesday, September 24th – Friday, September 26th – Annual Florida Government EXPO 2003.
Tampa Convention Center. Sponsored by the State of Florida and the Department of Management Services. For more information about exhibits, sponsors, workshops, and/or attendance, visit their web site at www.floridagovernmentexpo.com.

MEMBERSHIP REMINDERS

- ❑ If any of your contact information (agency/firm name, job position, postal/email addresses, phone/fax numbers, etc.) has changed, please be sure to contact our Vice President, Susan Coughanour, at scoughan@sfwmd.gov or (561) 682-6519 promptly so we can update our records.
- ❑ The 2003 Membership Directory is being finalized this month and we want to be sure we include your most current information.
- ❑ Look for an email from us later this month with your assigned membership number - it will serve as your password and allow you to log onto the Planning Congress web site, access member only features, and review your directory information. If you have any questions about your membership dues, please contact our Treasurer, Carol Wallace, at cwallace@aol.com.
- ❑ And, as always, please share this newsletter and our web site information (www.pbcplanningcongress.org) with any of your colleagues who may be interested in the Planning Congress and its activities.

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P.O Box 1371

West Palm Beach, Florida 33402