

October 2018

Hello Spicebush owners,

This is the fall edition of the information letter your Board of Directors sends after each of our two scheduled meetings on Hilton Head Island during the year. Our meeting took place on October 14-15 under beautiful skies and with warmer than normal temperatures for October.

During the last two years, September-October saw hurricanes impacting the southeastern United States (Matthew in 2016; Irma in 2017). This year, it was Florence that hit large portions of the Carolinas, coming ashore on Friday, September 14, the check-in day for week 36. On Monday, September 10, the Governor had ordered evacuations for South Carolina's eight coastal counties to begin on September 11, but that order was lifted less than 24 hours later as the path of the storm shifted. Fortunately, Spicebush experienced no damage from Hurricane Florence. But the evacuation order for Hilton Head and the fact that so many roads were closed leading into the area affected the use of Spicebush for some owners. If you were in that group (weeks 35 and 36), we may be able to give you the opportunity to use an available Spicebush-owned week in the future. For details, please contact Mindy Burroughs with the Club Group at 843-671-0409. Subsequently, another hurricane, Michael, came ashore in Florida in early October and moved in a northeasterly direction over land, but it also had virtually no effect on Hilton Head and Spicebush other than blowing of some leaves and other vegetation debris.

Here are a few updates on recent activity on the Spicebush property.

- We have received many very favorable comments from Owners on the new check-in procedure in effect since early June and the keyless entry made possible by the installation of new front doors and coded number-pad locks. The new locks eliminated the need for metal keys so that a stop in Harbour Town to pick up a check-in packet and key is no longer necessary; guests can quickly change the assigned code number to one that can be easily remembered; and the new doors look nice too.
- We contracted for the final phase of the asphalt parking surface repair, and that was completed in October to correct hazardous conditions.

- We have begun a program to replace the conventional incandescent bulbs in the units with LED bulbs that have a longer life and are more energy-efficient. This will take place gradually as the existing bulbs fail.

A new project for this winter and next will be a complete repainting of all the walls and ceilings of the unit interiors. A large part of this project will be the removal of the existing textured or "popcorn" ceiling treatments that have become a maintenance headache over the years. Popular when the units were constructed, they now appear outdated and will be replaced with a smooth-finish ceiling. The units of course cannot be occupied when the work is done, so the work period has to be limited to the low-occupancy November-December months. Twelve units are scheduled for 2018 and the remaining twelve will be completed in 2019.

As a reminder, if you haven't done so already, please provide us with your email address. Most of our Owners have done so, and email is obviously a quick and simple way for us to communicate information to you about your property. For example, we began this year a periodic (approximately monthly) brief email communication about goings on at Spicebush and on Hilton Head. We also send an email message to you right before you arrive that contains the door entry code mentioned above so you can skip the Harbour Town stop. We are now looking to expand use of these communications in the future, so if you aren't already on our email list, please go to www.spicebushatseapines.com, our website, to create an account.

Completing the Comment Card in your unit at the end of your stay is very important. Every one of the cards is read, and the contents are shared with the Board. This is the easiest way to give us your feedback, to make sure problems are identified and corrected, and to guide us in planning for improvements. Many of our decisions are based on your input on these cards.

Rentals continue to be an important part of our operations. If you are unable to use your week, please consider offering it for rent through this program. Or, if you have friends or family members who want to experience Spicebush and all its features, a rental may be a great opportunity. The contact for rentals is Mindy Burroughs at 843-671-0409 or at mindy@htyc.com. For owner Getaways for fall and winter weeks, or for weeks for sale, the contact is Theresa Thomas at 800-785-3070 or email at theresa@villashares.com.

At the Board meeting this month, the Board did approve the tentative operating and reserve budgets that you received in the Annual Meeting mailing notice. As a result, the annual maintenance fees for 2019 will be \$875 per interval week, a \$30 increase over 2018,

the first increase since 2016. If you pay the 2019 dues by December 31, 2018, you are entitled to a \$15 discount in the fee. Complete details are included in owner billing information included in this mailing. .

The Annual Meeting of Owners took place this year on October 15. Thanks to your response in returning your proxies, we had a quorum this year (barely) and were able to conduct the required business as scheduled. Two members volunteered to fill the two vacant Board positions. Owners elected current Board member Kaleb Froehlich to a second three-year term and elected Ron Bennett to his first term.

Thank you for your continued support and interest in your Spicebush vacation home.

Best wishes,

The Spicebush Board of Directors

Paul Anderson, President

Kaleb Froehlich, Vice-President

Helmut Knipp, Treasurer

Ron Bennett

Peter McElroy

Theresa Thomas, Secretary