

QUARTERLY
NEWSLETTER

THE WEST
WIND INN

- Established in 1968
- 500 feet of beach frontage
- 103 units
- On the quiet end of the island
- Guest rooms & kitchenettes
- Meeting space available
- Friendliness & cleanliness

INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:

Volunteerism Pays Off	2
9-1-1 Calls Are Entertaining	2
Interesting Military Quotes	2
Florida's Mangroves	3
The Perspective of Edison	3
Quarterly Recipe	3
Travel Agent Woes	4

West Wind Inn

ISSUE # 31 the best of Sanibel Island

WINTER, 2009

.....*sunshine..... seashells.....and memories*

Sweepstakes Winner

Each quarter we select one entry from our sweepstakes contest on our web site. The lucky winner receives a free one-week stay (off season) at the West Wind Inn. During the last quarter, over 475 people entered our sweepstakes. The winner was **Tom C of Greencastle IN**. A word to the wise - the GM selects the winners by personally reviewing the submission list. Duplicate entries are **never** selected.

Keep those entries coming and you could be a winner as well. Since we started this program in the winter of 2003, **twenty five** people from the UK, Germany, Canada, Switzerland and all over the US have received a free week at the Inn. Is it your turn to win?



Whoever said "the pen is mightier than the sword" obviously never encountered automatic weapons

(General Douglas MacArthur)

West Wind Inn Family

This quarter we feature a "good news — bad news" staff item — the bad news first. Our Sales & Marketing Director, Charlene Staton, is leaving us after almost four years here. She and her husband (Lee) are heading to Santa Rosa, California to try a new life style in the middle of wine country. Charlene has done a great job for the Inn and we are sorry to see her go — taking her wit and wisdom with her. In her time with us she has orchestrated about 250 groups that have booked meetings or other functions here. In addition to that, she creates all of our marketing strategies, coordinates tour operator business, represents us at the Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau and the Sanibel/Captiva Chamber of Commerce, travels for us on out of state sales missions, maintains statistical data, etc. Now for the good news. David Foetisch, our Reservations Manager, with over 14 years service at WWI, is taking over the Sales/Marketing Director position and Ryan Guzzo (4 years tenure) is replacing David as Reservations Manager. This move will keep the experience and talent base in house as we continue forward.

Volunteerism Pays!



"The taxpayer is someone who works for the government but doesn't have to take the Civil Service exam!"
Ronald Reagan

Outside England's Bristol Zoo there is a parking lot for 150 cars and 8 busses. For 25 years its parking fees were managed by a very pleasant Attendant. The fees were \$1.40 for cars and \$7 for busses. Then one day, after 25 solid years of never missing a day of work, he just didn't show up. The zoo management called the City Council and asked them to send over another parking

attendant. The Council did some research and replied that the parking lot was the zoo's own responsibility. The zoo advised the Council that the lot attendant was a City employee. The City Council responded that the lot attendant had never been on the City payroll.

Meanwhile sitting in his villa somewhere on the coast of Spain (or some similar scenario) is a man who'd appar-

ently had a ticket machine installed completely on his own — and then had simply begun to show up every day, commencing to collect and keep the parking fees, estimated at \$560 per day, for 25 years. Assuming 7 days a week, this amounts to over \$7 million (tax free).

And no one even knows his name.

(Source: London Times)

Two Actual 9-1-1 Calls

"I have wondered at times what the Ten Commandments would have looked like if Moses had run them through the US Congress"
Ronald Reagan

Dispatcher: 911, what is your emergency?

Caller: I heard what sounded like gunshots coming from the brown house on the corner.

Dispatcher: Do you have an address?

Caller: No, I have on a blouse and slacks, why?

Dispatcher: 911

Caller: Yeah, I'm having trouble breathing. I'm all out of breath. Damn, I think I'm going to pass out.

Dispatcher: Sir, where are you calling from?

Caller: I'm at a pay phone. North & Foster.

Dispatcher: Sir, an ambu-

lance is on the way. Are you an asthmatic:

Caller: No

Dispatcher: What were you doing before you started having trouble breathing?

Caller: Running from the police!
 (Actual 9-1-1 calls in Memphis TN)

Interesting Military Quotes:



- It is generally inadvisable to eject over the area you just bombed.
- The only time you have too much fuel is when you are on fire.
- If the enemy is in range, so are you!
- If you see a bomb technician running, follow him — and do keep up.
- There are more planes in the ocean than submarines in the sky.
- Mankind has a perfect record in aviation — we have never left one up there.
- You know that your landing gear is up and locked when it takes full power to taxi to the terminal.
- (Basic Flying Rules): Try to stay in the middle of the air. Do not go near the edges—the edges can be recognized by the appearance of ground, buildings, sea, trees, etc. It is much more difficult to fly there.
- Any ship can be a minesweeper — ONCE



Florida's Mangroves

We have seen the bumper stickers proudly displaying "Florida Native" but one of the true natives to Florida is the mangrove. These mangroves thrive in salty environments because they are able to obtain fresh water from saltwater — some by blocking salt absorption at their roots or secreting it through their leaves.

Florida's estimated 469,000 acres of mangrove forests contribute to the overall health of the State's coastal zones. This ecosystem traps and cycles various organic materials, chemical elements and nutrients. The interaction between the mangroves and marine life is phenomenal. They provide protected nursery areas for fishes, crustaceans and shell fish — as well as providing a food source for a multitude of species — snook, snapper, tarpon, jack, sheepshead, red drum, oyster and shrimp.

Florida's important recreational and commercial fisheries would drastically decline without these healthy mangrove systems. Other animals count on these mangroves as a habitat as well — they are nesting areas for coastal birds like brown pelicans and roseate spoonbills.

While there are more than 50 species of mangroves, the red and black are the more common ones in our area. The black tend to be a bit more upland, while the red (most common) are at the waters edge and have

tangled, reddish roots (prop roots).

It is easy to see why governmental agencies are taking steps to protect these mangrove systems. Charlotte Harbor (the least urban of the estuaries) has lost considerable mangroves — 59% of the total loss, due primarily to the waterfront development around Punta Gorda.

It is up to us to ensure a place in Florida's future for one of our most valuable coastal resources — Mangroves.

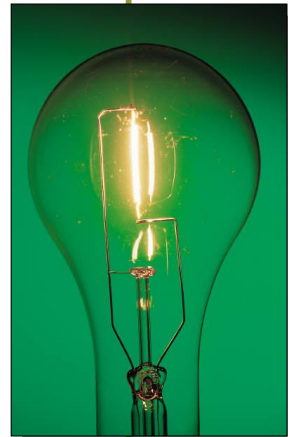
The Perspective of Edison.

He had only 3 months of formal schooling, but had 1,093 US patents — including the phonograph, the kinetoscope (movie camera), the alkaline battery and the incandescent light bulb. Thomas Alva Edison was famous for both his inventions and his irreverent perspective, exemplified by his remark,

"Hell, there are no rules here; we're trying to accomplish something!" His inventions transformed the world, and his perspective revolutionized everyone in it. He held the status quo in disdain. He broke the rules. He recognized that risk-taking and failure were the

only ways to truly advance society. When asked why he was not discouraged by his many failed attempts to invent the light bulb, his direct response was "There is no failure here. I've learned 10,000 ways how not to make a light bulb".

Now that's perspective!



Featured Recipe of the Quarter

Blue Cheese Wreath

Ingredients:

- 2 8oz pkgs softened cream cheese
- 1 lb crumbled blue cheese
- 1 Tbl milk
- 3/4 cup chopped green pepper

- 1 finely chopped onion
- 1 4oz jar pimentos—(drained & finely chopped)
- 1/8 tsp salt; 1/4 tsp white pepper
- 1/2 cup dried parsley flakes
- Whole pimento

Preparation:

In a large bowl combine cream

cheese, blue cheese & milk; Beat till smooth; Add green pepper, onion, chopped pimento, salt & pepper. Mix till combined. On large serving platter, shape cheese mixture into a wreath. Sprinkle top & sides with parsley. Use whole pimento to make the ribbon. Chill till served. Serve with crackers or party rye bread.





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Quarterly Newsletter

3345 West Gulf Drive
Sanibel Island, Florida 33957

Phone: 239-472-1541

Fax: 239-472-8134

E-mail: wwinn@westwindinn.com

Web Site: <http://www.westwindinn.com>

The West Wind Inn has been serving its guests who have been coming to the island since the doors opened in March of 1969. It is the perfect place to relax, decompress, unwind, chill out or to get reacquainted with your family. Our goal is to make each guest's stay a most pleasant experience.

You are on our mailing list because you requested it at check in or from our web site. If you would like to be removed from the list, please send an email to wwinnmktg@cyberstreet.com and in the subject line put the word REMOVE.

....sunshine....seashells....and memories



What Travel Agents Put Up With!

* A call from a woman from New England who didn't want a window seat on the plane because her hair would get messed up.

* A call from someone who wanted to go to Cape town. The agent started to explain the length of the flight and passport information when the caller interrupted and said "I'm not trying to make you look stupid but Cape town is in Massachusetts." The agent politely said "Cape Cod is in Massachusetts — Cape town is in South Africa". The caller hung up.

* One caller was furious about a Florida package the agent had done. The agent asked "What was wrong with your vacation in Orlando?" The caller complained he was expecting

an ocean-view room. The agent tried to explain that is not possible since Orlando is in the middle of the state. The caller replied "Don't lie to me. I looked at the map and Florida is a very thin state!"

* A senator's aide (believe it or not) called and asked about a trip package to Hawaii. After going over the cost, she asked "Would it be cheaper to fly to California and then take the train to Hawaii?"

* One caller asked "Do airlines put your physical description on your bag so they know whose luggage belongs to whom?" No, Why? asked the agent. "Well, when I checked in at the airport, they put a tag on my luggage that said 'FAT' and even though

I'm overweight, I think that's rude." The agent (holding his laughter) explained the tag is an airport destination code — **FAT** being "Fresno Air Terminal" in California.

