

Beach Vacation 4 Me

Make your Plans, let's go to the beach...

It's hard to believe the summer vacation season has ended and we just celebrated Labor Day. I hope you had a wonderful summer and found time to do things you love with the people you love. As I write this newsletter it gave me time to savor those summer memories and hang on to that summer feeling, even as time forces on.

I just returned from a week in SW Florida. This trip was filled with touring properties, meeting with homeowners, as well as talking to property managers and service providers. We have some fabulous new properties that I will be introducing in this newsletter. In addition, I have a wonderful monthly rental in Naples to introduce. Make sure to check out the luxurious Casa Granada.

Reservation trends continue to change and guests are reserving earlier and earlier each year. The days of waiting to reserve one or two months prior to arrival are few and far between to find the house you really want.

As I share with you often, owning a beach house requires a team to enhance your experience. Homes with hands-on owners working with their property managers will provide you the best quality beach house. In this newsletter, I will share some of the homes with excellent partnerships between owners and property managers. On North Captiva and Boca Grande, there are different property managers for each property. In addition on North Captiva, each home has different arrival/departure experiences as specific water taxis are sometimes required.

My goal is to help you navigate the travel to North Captiva and Boca Grande as well as assist you in finding the perfect beach house you are looking for. With over 13 years' experience both owning an island home and being a licensed Florida Real Estate broker, I can provide you a wealth of trustworthy information. Think of me as your travel coach. I care about the entire experience and value your vacation time.

What are you waiting for? This year plan to escape the cold with a trip to SW Florida. Come with me.....Grab your flip flops and don't forget your sunscreen, let's go to the beach.

Sarah

Slip into a Summer State of Mind this winter!

Increasingly I am assisting guests with month long stays on North Captiva during the winter months. They are all seeking the warmer climate and look forward to island life. I still remember the first time I stayed on the island for a month. Before I left for my trip, I thought "what am I doing staying on an island accessible by boat for a month." Let me tell you it was an incredible experience. The month went by way too fast. I embraced each day enjoying the un-crowded beaches and enjoyed the evenings with sensational sunsets over the gorgeous Gulf of Mexico.

Groceries were a concern to me, but I found it easy to grocery shop as needed. The North Captiva Island Club has a water taxi you can take mid-week. They drop you at the grocery store (Winn Dixie) and pick you up on the return trip. The bonus, of course, is the ride over and back.

So why just survive winter? Come live it, in a vacation rental on North Captiva Island. I have some wonderful monthly options available.



Sept 2015



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Stay Tuned, Coming Soon

New and returning homes ready for reservations!

I am excited to share within the next month we have some exciting new properties available for reservations.



Silverseas Cottage – This luxury cottage located just steps to the beach features 3 BR/2 BA with a private pool which will accommodate up to 6 people. Membership to the North Captiva Island Club and two golf carts are included you're your stay. The heated pool and large screened in porch are surrounded by lush tropical foliage, creating a private oasis for relaxing and entertaining. There are lounge chairs and a dining table surrounding the pool, and the screened porch has a seating area and a dining table with seating for six. We have some preliminary photos on our website now and are accepting reservations. This is truly an island treasure.



The New Island Queen – This island favorite is having a facelift inside and out. Situated on three lots, this 4 BR/4 BA spacious luxury home is just steps to the beach. Some of the new updates will include a full bathroom at the poolside, pool bar with a large flat screen TV, ping pong, corn hole, etc. Early poolside check in is available with every reservation. You can relax poolside while the house is prepared for you. Refrigerator available poolside for your perishables.

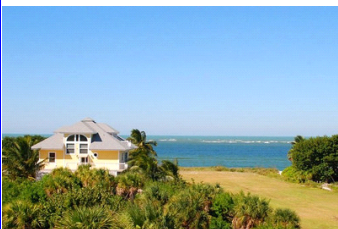


Four Islands – If you visited North Captiva years ago, you might remember the Four Islands beach house. The remodeled kitchen will knock your socks off. The Four Islands beach house is an immaculate 4 BR/3.5 BA home that sleeps 10 in beds. Private pool, two golf carts, Captiva Castaway private beach access and membership to the North Captiva Island Club are included with your stay. This home will only be available for rent Feb 13- April 29th. New photos coming soon. We are accepting reservations now for your memorable stay at the Four Islands beach house.

Kaya Del Sol - Escape to a magical island paradise! New to the rental market, this quintessential family or couples' retreat inspires a relaxed, peaceful ambience of days gone by. Nestled in tropical landscaping and fruit trees, it is a "hop, skip and a jump" to the beach. Kaya Del Sol is a 4 BR/2.5 BA that will accommodate up to 8 people. Membership to the North Captiva Island Club and two golf carts are included with your stay. The views are breathtaking from this island home. We will be accepting reservations for Thanksgiving and the Christmas holiday weeks. Pictures coming soon



Shore To Please – Under new property management, the Shore To Please has been spruced up inside and out. This is a great family vacation home. The Shore To Please is a 4 BR/3 BA home that sleeps 10 in beds. Membership to the North Captiva Island Club and two golf carts are included with your stay. Located approximately 700 feet from some of the finest gulf beaches and approximately 700 feet from the North Captiva Island Club, this home is the perfect location for your next island vacation. Thanksgiving week and Dec. 19th holiday week are available.



Casa Paterna – The Casa Paterna is back! This magnificent 3 BR/3 BA beach house has breathtaking views from almost every room. The Casa Paterna will sleep up to 10 people. Along with the private pool and hot tub at the house, your stay will Included membership to the North Captiva Island Club. The décor is exotic Polynesian, designed to pamper your every need. Equipped with marble floors, granite countertops, state of the art appliances, Jacuzzis, flat screen TVs with DVD/VCR players and a game and video library, this home is designed to pamper your every need. Accepting reservations for Thanksgiving and Christmas week holidays. Stay tuned for new photos soon.

Rods, Reels, and Recommendations....

I am a **novice** fisherman compared to most anyone else in Southwest Florida. I have rods, reels, tackle box, etc. but I would not have known any of this except for my first fishing guides, Dennis Realy and Gretchen Falk. Dennis was our first fishing experiences with Tarpon, Shark, and fish for dinner. He assisted and educated me with my first set of equipment, fishing knots, and a little bit of how to rig up the equipment. That started my family's interest in fishing which trumps almost every other "to-do" while on the island. The word "novice" is because the gear is one piece of the equation, but the local knowledge is what is needed if you want fish for dinner or sport. Thus, we have used fishing guides to help us actually bring fish to the table and for sport fishing like sharks and Tarpon. Sadly, Dennis has passed away but a small token of his fishing knowledge is still with me.

We have found other guides that have a different way to find the catch and I pick up new knowledge on every trip. Bo Johnson and his first mate Deidra of Tenacity Guide service are on their honeymoon elk hunting (Good Luck team) and because of their efforts, Sarah has her Tarpon on May 13th. They are true outdoors team and if you want to have some fun, they are awesome. Bo has shown me a couple ways to fish for the Tarpon famous in the Port Charlotte area. Mat Haag is another awesome guide (Friends with Bo) and he has guided us and friends of mine on several successful trips.

I recently tried Mike Herzog and learned how to tie a particular knot I really like and had fun catching snook near Pine Island. North Captiva has a local On-shore guide, Joanne Damico (the "Fishing lady") and she brings home some awesome fish and provides tips and knowledge for on shore fishing. Needless to say, Sarah and I enjoy using the local guides and it is always fun and a learning experience. Give a local guide a try and see if you catch the bug.....Mike



Dennis Realy with a hammerhead



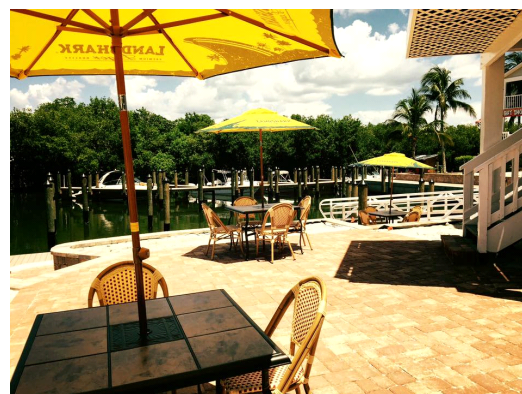
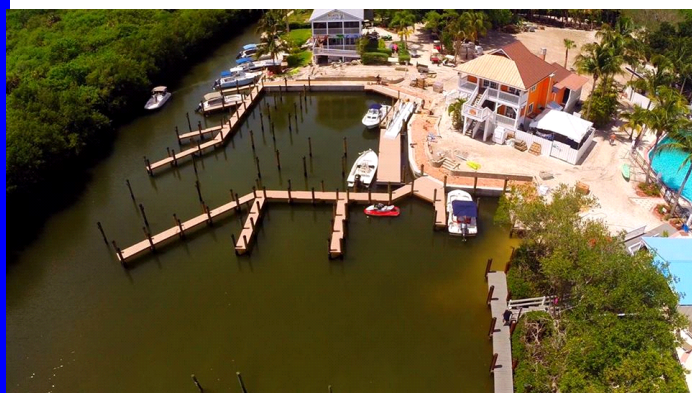
Bo and Deidra with a tarpon



Mat with a client's catch

North Captiva Island Club Marina

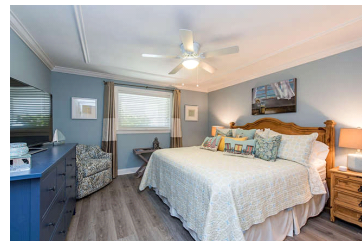
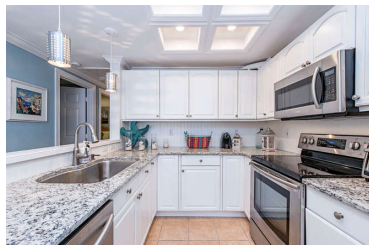
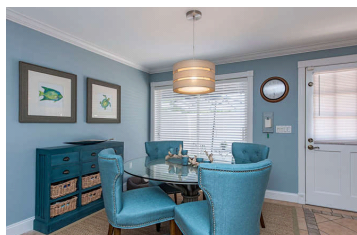
The North Captiva Island Club has had a busy year with construction of the new marina. It looks beautiful! Congratulations NCIC! Great job done. Thank you to all our guests who were patient while the construction was going on. Hope you can visit this season to see the progress.



Introducing the Casa Granada - Luxury Monthly Rental Naples, Florida

Luxury 2 BR/2 BA Cottage Style Condominium – Walking distance to Old Naples

This charming completely renovated 2 bed, 2 bath waterfront condo located in Royal Harbor makes it your perfect Naples escape! The renovation included an updated kitchen with all new appliances, updated bathrooms, flooring, lighting, fresh paint and more creating an elegant beach style. Features include driftwood laminate flooring throughout, coffered ceilings, updated kitchen, custom millwork, boat dock and communal picnic area. Ideal location on the water, minutes to the beach and famous 5th Avenue/3rd Street shopping and dining.



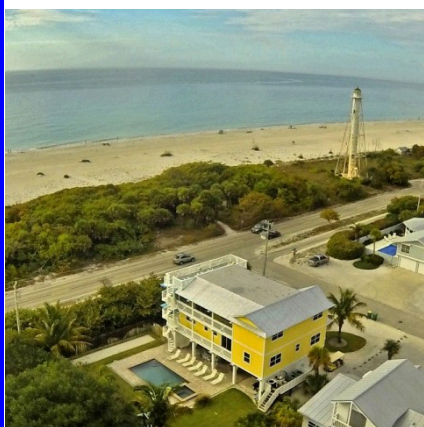
Punta Gorda Airport

I am frequently asked what the most convenient airports are to fly to when traveling to Boca Grande. Both Ft. Myers (RSW), Tampa (TPA) and Punta Gorda (PGD) are convenient for Boca Grande. Additionally Ft. Myers (RSW) and Punta Gorda Airport (PGD) are the most convenient when traveling to North Captiva. The Punta Gorda Airport (PGD) is conveniently located close to I-75 and US 41 on the Southwest coast of Florida halfway between Sarasota to the north, and Ft. Myers to the south. Because of the airport's location and size, the airport has attracted several low cost carriers. The low cost of flying, ease of getting to the airport, fast check-in times and convenient parking with low rates has made the Punta Gorda Airport a great alternative to the busy airports to the north and south. The Airlines offer both non-stop and direct flights.

FLORIDA LIGHTHOUSES

Lighthouses played an historic role in making it possible to explore, settle and develop Florida using its 1350 miles of coastline (second only to Alaska in shoreline lengths among states). Boca Grande is home to two of the historic lighthouses.

Port Boca Grande Light house and museum is known as the Gasparilla Island Light Station. Located at the post southern end of the island, the lighthouse is the oldest construction on the island and been a beacon to mariners since 1890. The house-dwelling style lighthouse is home to a comprehensive museum that opened in 1999. I encourage guests staying in Boca Grande to visit this historic beauty.



The second historic Gasparilla Island Light house, typically referred to as the **Range Lighthouse** was built in 1888 in Lewes, Delaware. It was later moved and reconstructed in 1927 on Gasparilla Island. It is one of the few remaining original rear range light structures in the state and possibly the only one that has resided in two states. This lighthouse is right across the street from the spectacular **Tarpon Tales**. This 5 BR/ 5BA beauty sleeps 14 and books quickly. We have some availability remaining for 2016.



The Rum Cove Experience

Our team – I have the great fortune to work with Joe & Barbara (owners) and Beulah, Tom & Autumn (property managers). We are a team and provide you a great experience at the Rum Cove. The house is immaculately maintained. It features 4 BR/5 BA (sleeps 10 in beds)– Private Pool – 2 Golf Carts – Boat Slip at the House – Landing Privileges – Pool Bar – Ping Pong table and early poolside checkin (See page 6). The Rum Cove has it all.

The arrival experience - Imagine pulling right up to the house in your own boat or private water taxi with Boats and Fun. You are greeted by one of our property managers to assist with your belongings all the way into the house. This is one of the few homes where you can pull right up to house. If you arrive early, you can enjoy poolside at the house until the house is ready.



The Beach Therapy Experience

Our team – Along with some very special homeowners that genuinely care about the comfort that their guests experience, I have the great opportunity to work with Tortuga Property Services. Tortuga Property Services provide the finest personal service for our Beach Therapy guests. Our guests enjoy a warm, relaxed, yet refined ambience. **The Beach Therapy Arrival Experience** - A staff member from Tortuga Property Services will meet you upon arrival of your water taxi. They will bring you to the house and assist you with your belongings inside the home. All you will need to do is unpack and let

Beach Therapy begin. Beach Therapy is an immaculate 3 BR/2.5 BA, sleeps up to 8 with a private pool and hot tub. Remember, Going to the beach is cheaper than going to a therapist. Isn't it time you had some Beach Therapy! Early Poolside checkin in.



The Viva La Playa Experience – NEW NEW NEW

Our Team – We have some wonderful new homeowners for the Viva La Playa. They have enlisted the North Captiva Island Club as their property managers. I feel lucky to work with this team to bring a seamless experience in traveling to the Viva La Playa. The Viva La Playa is a 4 BR/2.5 BA home that sleeps up to 9 in beds and is just steps to the beach. 2 golf carts are included with the weekly rental. The views are just breathtaking from the great room and lanai. The homeowners have completely remodeled and furnished this home. **The Viva La Play Experience** – The North Captiva Island Club Express check in water taxi service is exclusive water taxi for this home. Your check in begins at the North Captiva Island Club check in center at St. James City. The friendly staff will get all paperwork taken care so when you arrive on the island you are ready to enjoy. From the check in center you will be taken to the marina where you will take the water taxi directly to the island. Your golf carts await upon arrival. Your belongings will be delivered to the bottom deck of you home. On occasion, your belonging will be at the house when you arrive, but on busy days they could arrive later. My recommendation is to pack a small carry on with your beach gear so you can get your vacation started.



What is early poolside check in?

You will see in this newsletter that there are a few homes offering a special new amenity – Early Poolside Check In. What this means is you can arrive at the house prior to the typically scheduled check in of 4 pm. Entry in the house will not be allowed until the housekeepers are completed. This will be strictly adhered to, but you can start your vacation poolside. Typically these homes will have a bathroom or changing area poolside. Some homes even refrigeration for your perishables. So book your early water taxi and get your vacation started at the homes with Early Poolside Check – IN. The Rum Cove, Island Queen and Beach Therapy offer this amenity to their guests only.

Pictures Please! Beach Vacation 4 ME is on INSTAGRAM

I have always loved when guests have sent pictures from their trips to Boca Grande and North Captiva. Please remember when you have that beautiful shot from your trip to share on Instagram to #Beachvacation4me We love seeing your photos of beautiful sunsets, beach houses, fish, boat trips, etc. Remember to #Beachvacation4me



Let's Rapp it up

BOOK NOW – Weeks of March 19 and 26, 2016 are almost sold out. Don't miss your opportunity to reserve your beach house for Spring Break 2016.

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Sunset Cottage – Owner offering great discounts

The owner of this lovely 2 BR/2 BA home which features a private pool and hot tub is offering discounted rates for the remaining dates in 2015 as well as 2016. It is the perfect home for a small family or two couples.

From the home's rooftop terrace, you have sweeping views of the Gulf of Mexico and the nature preserve. The rooftop terrace is a spectacular location to view our breathtaking sunsets.

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BOCA GRANDE CHRISTMAS 2015 (WEEK OF DEC. 19TH) Banyan Bend – 6 BR/6 BA – sleeps up to 12 – recent cancellation – accepting reservations

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Wit's End – NEW OWNERS – Private Pool coming soon.....

This breathtaking 4 BR/2.5 BA beachfront home not only has very special new homeowners, but very soon will have a private pool too. The owners have recently added a whole house reverse osmosis system – this means great water everywhere in the house. In addition to a new hot tub, new washer and dryer, the list continues. The house has always been amazing, but the owner upgrades make this beach house dazzle. The Wit's End will sleep up to 10 people and offers breathtaking views throughout the house. I do expect the rates to increase when the pool is in.

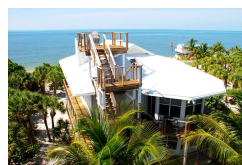
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THANKSGIVING 2016 – We have a great number of homes on North Captiva available for the Thanksgiving holiday 2015.

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Osprey Nest – Location, location, location

Located just 50 paces from the beach, this 2 BR/2 BA home features a private pool, Jacuzzi and membership to the North Captiva Island Club with your stay. This is a wonderful family home or for big parties, a great separate space for the grandparents. Both Christmas weeks are available. Why not reserve an entire month? The Osprey Nest is the perfect getaway from the winter months.



CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY WEEKS 2015 (NORTH CAPTIVA) – I WILL HAVE SOME NEW HOMES FOR THE WEEK OF 12/26. 12/19/15 HAS SEVERAL HOMES ARE STILL AVILABLE.