

The Melrose Business and Community Association, Inc.

# *The Melrose Alert*

**M B C A**

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**March 2010**

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[www.afn.org/~mbca](http://www.afn.org/~mbca)

**Mission:** *To promote and support the Melrose Business Community  
and improve the quality of life for all area residents.*



**March 10, 2010**

**MONTHLY MEETING**

**11:30 am**

**BUSINESS MEETING**

**Visitors Always Welcome!**

**Melrose Methodist Church Fellowship Hall  
Hampton Street**

**Melrose, Florida**

## *President's Corner . . .*

Another large turn-out for our first evening meeting of the year. And, again we had a large attendance by guests. Let's keep it up and everyone plan to bring another person with them to the March Meeting.

Some interesting thoughts from author and philosopher, George Santayana, "That life is worth living is the most necessary of assumptions." And, Alexandra Stoddard went on to say, "This is it! There is no other possible life. We have to work with what we have and make our efforts worthy, and if we're fortunate, they'll have lasting power." Let's all keep these thoughts in mind as we continue to plan and develop Melrose "for the Benefit of all."

*Tom*

## *At The Meeting . . .*

Note: Here, we'll cover the highlights of the meeting. For a complete copy of the Minutes, download them at: <http://melrosefl.com/mbca/2-10min.pdf>. Copies will be at the meeting, too.

Our guest speaker was Yvonne Parrish, Head of the Complete Count Committee for the 2010 census for Putnam County. Yvonne said that it is vitally important that everyone be counted in this year's census as this will effect our representation in the local and federal governments as well as how federal and state funds are distributed. In the last census (2000) only 55% of Florida's population was counted. This means that Putnam County lost \$2,200.00 of funding per person per year.

Census forms will be sent out about March 15. They will be sent to street addresses only, not Post Office Boxes. Most people will receive the short form with only 10 questions on it. Others may receive the long form which is much more detailed. She stressed that the information on the forms is for the use of the census people only – no one else. She urged us all to fill out the form and mail it in and to urge others to do also.

Yvonne also announced that people are needed to help with the census and that full and part time jobs are available. They would involve visiting people to help them with their forms, clerical work etc. She handed out information about the jobs and how to apply for them. Her phone number is (386) 326-2799

### Reports:

William Chiappini announced that signatures were needed a petition in Alachua County for a curfew on air boats on Lake Santa Fe. He urged those in support of this to please sign.

Ed Sherwood told us plans were being made for Melrose to have a "Wings of Spring" festival celebrating butterflies on April 17th at Melrose Heritage Park. Greathouse Butterfly Farm tent, arts and crafts, food, and other entertainment are planned. Contact Ed for more information.

### Old Business:

Tom Lucas announced that the dates have been set for the remaining MBCA evening meetings for this year. They will be on May 13, August 12, and Annual MBCA Banquet on November 19.

All will be held at Trinity Episcopal Church Parish Hall.

There will be a public hearing on the Sturgeon Farm at St. John's River Management offices in Palatka on February 25th at 5:00 pm. All are urged to attend. Also, Tom talked to Claire Muirhead and she said she has asked for more information from the sturgeon farm developers. They have 180 days to respond.

### New Business

Tom requested input from the community on their ideas for Melrose to help the MBCA plan their activities into the future. He handed out questionnaires to those present and asked that they be completed and returned.

### Announcements:

Jennifer Pritchett announced that there will be a meeting of the Successful Aging in the Lakes Area group on February 18. Also, she is working on the possibility of a sidewalk from Keystone Heights to Melrose.

### *At The Meeting . . . (continued)*

Jill McGuire reminded us of the Northeast Florida Water Supply Plan meeting sponsored by the Suwannee River Water Management District. It will take place Monday, February 22 at 6:30 pm at the Keystone Heights High School Cafeteria. The Water Supply Plan will set the guidelines for water usage in Florida for the next 20 years. Jill urged all of us to attend.

The tentative date for the groundbreaking for the new Senior Center is March 5 at 3:00 pm. There will also be a fund raiser for the Senior Center on May 1 at Mitch and Mary Prugh's.

Jeff Knee reminded us of the Open Air Arts Festival next month.

### *Recent Happenings . . .*

We've had two meetings about our area water supply in the recent past. We're seeing restrictions on our water useage, yet applications are still being processed for major users to possibly further deplete our water levels which in turn will reduce our quality of life. Go to the "Melrose Grapevine" at <http://melrosefl.com/blog> for details about these meetings and recent comments. And, the application for the sturgeon farm is still alive in spite of 70 - 90 peop[e appearing in Platka on 2/25 and strongly speaking against this project for our neighborhood. Let's use the Melrose Grapevine as the location to make our thoughts known. I'm encouraging the St. Johns River Water Management District personnel to stay up-to-date on our community feeling about this project.

We're getting comments and suggestions on the Melrose Blog – thanks, folks. If you haven't been there, that's where we release announcements, etc. It's at: <http://merosefl.com/blog>  
Reminder - We have a place for ideas for the Senior Center on our web-site at: <http://melrosefl.com/seniorcenter/ideas.html>. Let us hear from you.

### *Future Happenings . . .*

The Melrose Community Farmers Market will be held this Friday and each subsequent Friday at Melrose Heritage Park, starting at 3:00 pm, weather permitting. BE THERE!

Always check the Melrose Grapevine at <http://melrosefl.com/blog> and the Community Calendar, either here in the newsletter and/or on-line at <http://melrosefl.com/calendar.html>.

Between these sources, we can stay abreast of all up-coming events.

### *Editorial Comments . . .*

We're requesting feedback from all interested citizens. What have we been doing right or perhaps wrong?

Tell us what you would like to see the MBCA consider for this year. We seriously want to know what you all are thinking about the continuing development of Melrose. It ain't going to stand still. We're either going to progress or regress. And, it's no fun to go backwards.

### *Today's Humor . . .*

Mistakes aren't so bad, Columbus found America by mistake.

Thought for the day

*"How about appointing a plumber to Secretary of the Treasury?  
We've got to do something about all this money going down the drain ."*

*Anonymous*

## Businesses of the Month

Advanced Planning  
Florida Institute for Work Force  
Frank Fields, Attorney  
Haase Design Studio  
[Jeremanda Garden Farm](#)

## Reminder

2010 Dues are now due.

Application available on-line at:  
<http://melrosefl.com/mbca/mbrapp.pdf>

Welcome, New Members!

KiteRiders

### *Board of Directors – 2010*

President	Tom Lucas
Vice-President	Jo Harben
Corresponding Secretary	“Doc” Harris
Recording Secretary	Susan Lucas
Treasurer	Fabrizio Passalacqua
Director at Large	Chris Carson
Director at Large	William Chiappini
Director at Large	Jeff Knee
Director at Large	David Haase

### *Committee Chairpersons*

Alert Editor	Tom Lucas
Christmas Parade Melrose Bay Park	Steve Thrift Sunny Corr William Chiappini
Membership	“Doc” Harris
Photographer	Cornelius Clayton
Planning	Felicity Trueblood
Publicity	Jeanne Hill
Spiritual Director	
Web Page	Tom Lucas

### *Calendar*

Every Wednesday	COFFEETALK – ShakeRag Artists Collective, Bellamy Ave. (SR26) 10:00 am to 12:00 pm
Every Friday	<a href="#">Melrose Community Farmers' Market</a> , 3:00 pm, Melrose Heritage Park
March 5, 2010	Groundbreaking for Senior Center 3 pm
March 10, 2010	MBCA Meeting -- 11:30 am, Melrose Methodist Church Fellowship Hall
March 20, 2010	Open Air Arts Festival Wrap-up – all 3 galleries
March 27, 2010	Santa Fe Lake Festival, Melrose Bay Park
April 4, 2010	Easter Sunday
April 14, 2010	MBCA Meeting -- 11:30 am, Melrose Methodist Church Fellowship Hall
April 17, 2010	Wings of Spring Festival, 10 – 3, Heritage Park
May 13, 2010	MBCA Meeting -- 6:30 pm, Trinity Parish Hall
May 31, 2010	Memorial Day
June 9, 2010	MBCA Meeting -- 11:30 am, Melrose Methodist Church Fellowship Hall
July 4, 2010	Independence Day
July 14, 2010	MBCA Meeting -- 11:30 am, Melrose Methodist Church Fellowship Hall
August 12, 2010	MBCA Meeting -- 6:30 pm, Trinity Parish Hall
Sept 6, 2010	Labor Day
Sept 8, 2010	MBCA Meeting -- 11:30 am, Melrose Methodist Church Fellowship Hall
Oct 13, 2010	MBCA Annual Meeting, 11:30 am, Melrose Methodist Church Fellowship Hall
Nov 12, 2010	MBCA Annual Awards Banquet -- 6:30 pm, Trinity Parish Hall
Dec 11, 2010	Merry Melrose Festival -- 9:00 am till ... , Melrose Heritage Park
Dec 11, 2010	Merry Melrose Christmas Parade -- 10:00 am, Bellamy Avenue (SR 26)

**MBCA**  
P O Box 1301  
Melrose, FL 32666