



Jan 2011

Sarah Rapp

Happy New Year

It is great to be writing to you again. I have enjoyed the many notes I received from families that vacationed over the holidays. Our family had the great pleasure of spending the Thanksgiving holiday on North Captiva Island. Let me say the weather was just glorious, friends and family were abundant and yes.....we all ate too much turkey.

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My extended family stayed at the Crew's Nest on North Captiva Island. What a spectacular home this is and it was featured in our last newsletter. This is truly an island gem. There are so many nooks and crannies in this home and the kitchen is to die for. Both my sister-in law and I enjoyed preparing our family feast in this fabulous space. I must say sitting on the screen porch relaxing after dinner listening to the waves break with a glass of wine was the best!

As always, my goal is to provide personalized vacation planning to both North Captiva Island and Boca Grande. I know I share this sentiment in each time I write. My goal is to listen to your needs, match you with the perfect beach home and guide you through the travel maze. I do this from my thorough knowledge of each property and experiences I have had doing just what you will be doing.....traveling! Whether you want to go low budget or all out, I have the answers to fit your needs. You can think of me as your travel coach. I am customer focused, open to feedback and truly want your vacation experience to be wonderful. Being a licensed Florida Real Estate broker and having over eight year's experience, I can bring you a wealth of knowledge to plan the perfect vacation.



I hope one of your resolutions for 2011 is to plan that family vacation you have been thinking about for so long. Why not plan to Revive, Refresh and Decompress this year on Boca Grande or North Captiva Island. I promise I will find the perfect home to fit your needs.

So grab flip flops and don't forget the sunscreen. Let's go to the beach! I look forward to your call!

Happy New Year



The Tarpon Tales is probably one of the most requested vacation rentals around. Located just steps from the beach and a five minute walk to the heart of Boca Grande; the Tarpon Tales will comfortably sleep 14 in beds. There are so many amenities and the house is well equipped for large family gatherings. We are now accepting reservation for the 2012 calendar year. Rates vary from \$2995 - \$6,495 plus sales tax (11%). In addition, there is a one time cleaning fee of \$275. To reserve this spectacular home, a deposit of \$500 is required with the remaining balance due eight weeks prior to arrival. We do require a Saturday to Saturday stay. Our weeks fill up quickly. Now is chance to book your vacation for 2012 at the Tarpon Tales.

Inquiries and reservations for North Captiva and Boca Grande:

- Toll free (866)587-6420.
- Mobile (740)334-8840
- Our guidance and information is from experience. We know the drill! We know what works. We look forward to assisting you with your vacation plans.

The Island Queen – North Captiva Island – Her name says it all!



If you are looking for the best in luxury, the Island Queen should be your next vacation destination!! This lovely 4000 square foot home features four bedrooms, four bathrooms and a private pool set amongst beautiful gardening. Two of the bedrooms feature king beds and the other two have two twin beds. The twin bedrooms can be converted to kings as well making this home have four king bedrooms. Furnished with the highest standards, this retreat is like no other. The Island Queen is located just off the beach

with unobstructed views of the Gulf of Mexico and direct beach access. This home is truly a great retreat for those looking for the best in luxury!



866-587-6420

Toll Free

Reservations,

Information and

Quality Customer

Service

How do I rent a second golf cart?

Probably the most frequent question I am asked is "How close is this house to the beach?" The second frequently asked question is "Can I rent a second golf cart?" I am happy to say for question number two, you now have options. The North Captiva Island Club will rent additional golf carts if they have these in their inventory and there are private owners that will rent additional golf carts as well. The good news is we have a new provider on the island that will take reservations and reserve golf carts (this is for vacation rentals only). Bob's Island Adventures rents beautiful golf carts like the one shown in this photo.

Visit <http://www.bobsislandadventures.com> or call directly at 877-777-7262. Reservations required.

Isla Vista – Panoramic Views and Ultimate



Located on a private lane, Isla Vista has it all. This is a spectacular four bedroom, three bath home. Cathedral ceilings in the impressive upstairs kitchen and great room create an open and airy feeling. The adjoining screened porch brings the outdoors in, and is perfect for entertaining family or just enjoying the refreshing island breezes. Walk up to the third story lookout to gaze at the beautiful gulf and bay views while you work on your tan. Pack your bags for a vacation you'll

never forget. Recent additions include an amazing outside enclosed shower with changing room, gas grill and flat screen TV's. The Isla Vista is a wonderful family vacation home!

News from Boats & Fun - North Captiva Island

Matias Barbero just informed me that Boats and Fun is now operating from Saint James City, Pine Island as well as North Captiva. You can now rent a boat from either side with docking included on both sides. Boats and Fun offers free overnight parking for their customers of multiple day boat rentals or water taxi. They now have a new water taxi boat that can accommodate everyone comfortably on the inside cabin in case of cold or bad weather! Included is a complimentary soft drink during the trip.

In addition to the new service provided, Boats and Fun still offers variety of other great things. Some of these include: wave runner rentals and tours; scuba diving trips and certification; banana boat rides; parasailing; wakeboarding as well as water ski lessons; tubing; and fresh fish delivery.



James Griffith Salon – Boca Grande

Located at 451 Gilchrist Ave, Boca Grande, the James Griffith Salon is open Monday – Saturday from 9 am. to 5 pm. The salon offers a variety of services including haircuts, pedicures, manicures, skincare services and facial treatments. They carry Aveda, Bumble and Bumble as well as Julique products. Appointments are required. 941-964-4557. Why not pamper yourself while vacationing on Boca Grande.

<http://www.jamesgriffithsalon.com>

Let me know when booking your vacation rental I have coupons for \$20.00 off your salon service.

The Boat House Restaurant – North Captiva Island

I was excited to visit the Boat House restaurant during our Thanksgiving stay on North Captiva. The reviews I had been hearing about the new executive chef, Alicia Rutter, were excellent. This is one of the fun parts about my job, actually experiencing this myself. My husband and I were joined by some good friends who also brought along their 5 year old daughter. Our meals included the baked (not fried) children's dinner were fabulous. We had scallops and our guest had steak. I am embarrassed to say there wasn't anything left remaining on our plates. The food was exceptional. Our real bonus was meeting Alicia. She is delightful. You could tell the pride she had in her food. She wanted feedback and shared some great ideas.

A little history on our new Executive Chef. Alicia has 17 years experience in the Food & Beverage industry. She started her career as a bus person and dishwasher at age 15 and at a young age developed a passion for the industry. After realizing this was the career path she wanted, Alicia enrolled in the Restaurant School of Philadelphia and majored in restaurant management. She took extensive courses in chef and pastry chef training and after graduating, trained under the expertise of Chef Claudia Robinson, Chef Robert Scanlon and Chef Gustav Bast. Her experience eventually led her to the Chesapeake Bay area where she eventually worked her way to Executive Chef. She spent three years mastering local seafood specialties which included rockfish, flounder, catfish and Maryland blue crab.

Welcome Alicia. I know you are going to delight many folk's taste buds. For reservations call (800)576-7343.

Reservations, Reservations, Reservation – the time is NOW!

I am frequently asked "how soon in advance should I book this house." Though this is a difficult question to answer, I can tell you sooner is better than later. There has been a significant increased volume in reservations for March, April, Memorial Day weekend and summer months. My recommendation is to lock with your deposit so you will get the house you really want. Though the dates might seem far away, your vacation will be here before you know it. I still have some great February deals, but they are going quickly.

A few owners have just notified me of some openings they have. Surf's Up beach house is a spectacular 3 bedroom home with a pool – Available 3/26/11 and dates during April. Wind-swept – breathtaking panoramic views await – largest private pool on the island – available week of 4/9/11. Solitude – this is a treasure – 4 bedrooms, 4 baths; sleeps up to 14 with a pool and hot tub. Early March is available. Let me know your dates and I will find you the perfect beach house.

January 2011

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16	1	1	1	2	2	22
23	2	2	2	2	2	29
30	3					

"Exciting News ~ Another reason to visit North Captiva!"

Fitness Retreats coming in May.

Meet Amy Keenan and Robyn Coleman of Adventure Fitness Retreats at www.getoffyourwhoopeeandgo.com Yes! they want you to get off your whoopee and join them at North Captiva for a 5-day or 7-day Adventure of Health and Wellness. They would love to have Y.O.U. as a guest. Stay tuned for more news.



Should I rent a car?

This is a great question I am asked frequently for both locations. My recommendation for traveling to Boca Grande would be to rent a car. Though you can navigate about on bikes and golf carts, it is nice having a car when you want to go off island.

My answer for North Captiva would be just the opposite. There really is no reason to rent a car when traveling to the island. There are many different airport shuttle services available which will take you to the marina. I recommend two: The Pine Island Taxi (this is actually a van or car service – not an actual taxi like New York City) and Superior Shuttle. Both provide excellent customer service and know the drill about travel to the marina via the grocery store.

As the Pine Island Taxi advertisements states “Your Friendly Island Connection!” This is so true. These folks let you sit back and relax on your way to the marina. They provide a wealth of information about the island and you don’t need to worry about finding your way. The Pine Island Taxi is a family owned and operated business based on Pine Island serving North Captiva Island and other barrier islands for over 20 years. They are a full service transportation company which is licensed, insured and smoke free.

Snail’s Pace has slashed their prices!



Don't miss out on this fabulous deal! Rarely do you hear of a special like this. The Snail's Pace is a wonderful island home. Technically it is a three bedroom, however there is addition sleeping in a forth room. Because this room does not have a closet, it is not called a bedroom. The home features three and half baths. Two of the bedrooms have their own bathroom. Decorated with an island flare, peace and tranquility await. Snails Pace is now offering a high season rate of \$2025.0 plus sales tax for a 7 night stay. Housekeeping, all NCIC privileges and one golf cart are included in the price. This is a rare opportunity for a great home.

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Casa Paterna (“Family Home”)– Stunning Island Home with many amenities!!



Casa Paterna is the ultimate island vacation rental on North Captiva Island. Decorated in a Mediterranean style, this three bedroom two bath home has one of the best locations on the island. It has breathtaking views from almost every room and private pool and Jacuzzi. You won't want to leave this tropical beauty with its own Zen rock river garden and beautiful sitting areas surrounded by lush tropical Britannic gardens. The home was built with the highest quality building materials such as travertine marble floors, granite counters in the kitchen, marble & stone baths. And if you want, there is a private butler who will pamper you and whip up delicious meals or a poolside bar-b-cue. There are so many intimate places to relax and unwind at Casa Paterna. As one guest shared with me, “I don't know exactly what it is... but Casa Paterna renewed my spirit. We walked away with the memories of a lifetime.”

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