

BILTMORE II CONDOMINIUM MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



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November 2019

BILTMORE II CONDO

600 Biltmore Way
Coral Gables, Florida 33134

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OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday..... 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.



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MANAGER'S CORNER

Covenants Applications and Approvals

Biltmore II Condominium Association's governing Documents (Declarations, By-Laws & Rules and Regulations) require all owners to submit and receive approval by the Building Committee for major unit renovation before work can commence. The purpose of this process is to:

- Ensure compliance with Local, State and Federal laws and regulations;
- Ensure compliance with Biltmore II Condominium's governing Documents and to protect Association property values. Here are some common renovations which require an application and approval:
 - o Flooring replacement
 - o Replacement of HVAC (Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning) system and/or water heater
 - o Replacing windows
 - o Relocating electrical and/or plumbing
 - o Removing non-load bearing walls.

Remember, easy access to all of Biltmore II Condominium Association policies and rules are found on our website. Completed applications are considered by the Building Committee each month at their regularly scheduled meeting.

IMPORTANT TIP: Get your completed applications to the management office early so they may be reviewed. All pertinent information required **MUST** be submitted. Incomplete applications will not be accepted. We want to work with you and help you submit a flawless application! Give us sufficient time to work with you so that your chances of receiving an approval are good. Hard copies of the application forms are available in the Management office. If you have any questions, please contact us. **305-448-4765**



A LIFE OF INTELLECTUAL AND SPIRITUAL ACHIEVEMENTS

By June Frost

One way or another, Olga and Ignacio del Valle have always been involved in intellectual pursuits either for their careers or for pure interest. Both of them have easily changed professions and fearlessly moved around the academic world acquiring degrees.

They came to Miami from Cuba in their teens and were educated in the United States. No matter what careers they chose, their goal was always to live in Miami and be near family and friends. They were able to achieve their dream, as their two children also settled here.

Olga's father was one of the first exiles to escape Castro's Cuba, and he brought his family to Coral Gables. Hence Olga was in 1959 the first Cuban girl to enroll in Coral Gables High. Their home soon became a gathering place for fellow exiles, and she remembers Ignacio from those days, as he enrolled in Coral Gables High in 1960.

But they went to different colleges. Olga had originally planned to study pre med but switched to organic chemistry



Celebration of the del Valle's 50th wedding anniversary in Cancun, Mexico. Nicolas, Joe, Julian, daughter Betty, Ignacio, Olga, Kara, Mia, son Jorge and Luke.

when she discovered an aptitude for the subject. "I love chemistry, and the professor who inspired me was excellent," she says. She graduated from the University of Miami (UM) with a Bachelor of Science in chemistry *cum laude*.



Olga and Ignacio at home

She and Ignacio married and moved to Pensacola where he was a chemical engineer for a Monsanto Chemical Plant. But soon after, Ignacio accepted an offer from Exxon Research Labs in Baton Rouge. This was familiar territory to him, as he had a Bachelor of Science in chemical engineering from Louisiana State University (LSU). By now they had two children, and he went to night school at LSU to get a master's degree in chemical engineering.

But Miami beckoned and in spite of much success at Exxon, Ignacio moved here to a consulting engineering firm that specialized in the sugar industry. At last Olga found work in a chemistry lab! Her first job was in quality control developing a program to identify all incoming raw materials to ensure the accuracy of their labels. Then she transferred to the challenging area of research.

Because of an economic downturn in the sugar industry circa 1970, Ignacio decided to pick another career and went to UM law school to get a Juris Doctor degree. He joined his father-in-law's law firm which specialized in the sugar industry but later branched out into real estate and banking.

Throughout his career Ignacio became a partner in various law firms specializing in real estate and banking. He

Continued on page 3

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Fabio Masato

Spiritual Achievements

(cont. from page 2)

was head of the real estate departments representing investors, municipalities, public-private partnerships, etc. And he has been recognized for many years in the South Florida Legal Guide “Top Lawyers in South Florida.”

Olga went back to study theology at Barry University and ended up with a master’s degree in Pastoral Ministries. She also enrolled in graduate work at Florida International University to bring herself up to date with developments in chemistry. “My two loves,” she says, “are chemistry and theology.”

She acquired two more careers, one as a top realtor with Coldwell Banker and the other as a teacher of theology and chemistry. She taught seniors theology at her daughter’s school,

Our Lady of Lourdes Academy, for 11 years. She taught at the Archdioceses of Miami. She was also recruited to teach chemistry and world religions at Miami-Dade Community College.

Both Ignacio and Olga experienced spiritual development in their lives and each had a mission to fulfill. Ignacio dedicated 18 years to the Kairos Prison Ministry, a Christian faith ministry that is ecumenical and addresses the spiritual needs of imprisoned men, women and youth and also includes their families. Community service was always a big factor.

Pinecrest was home to the del Valle family for 27 years. Their two children, Jorge and Betty, grew up there, and they were surrounded by cousins and friends. In 2001 they downsized to a smaller home in the Gables to be closer to their now married children and babysit the four grandkids. “I was always available

to do transportation,” says Ignacio, “sometimes there were four different schools.”

They downsized again in 2015 and moved to Biltmore II where Olga’s mother had previously lived. At that point Ignacio retired. Olga quit all her jobs in 2006 to help with the grandchildren.

Today their intellectual curiosity has not diminished. They both take courses at UM’s Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI). They still chauffeur the grandkids. They are blessed with a large family of cousins that takes turns hosting holiday family reunions. They volunteer their services in Biltmore II. Ignacio participates in the Violations Panel, and Olga organizes the concerts for the Social Club. And they enjoy all their social activities in the building which include the Domino and Canasta groups!

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Residents: If somebody you know is sending packages to your address, please note that unless your name and unit number are indicated on the package, it will be returned to the driver of the delivery truck. We will accept names "in care of" (c/o) however, it is mandatory that the resident's name be on the package.



Retired nurse looking for part time work caring for elderly patients. Has own car for help with transportation to and from doctor's appointments, shopping and errands.

786-486-9022

Excellent References
Resume Available on Request

AROUND TOWN

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event November 16th

Stop by the Coral Gables City Hall Parking lot to recycle your old electronics, dispose of household hazardous waste in an environmentally friendly manner, and shred any sensitive documents safely and securely. Any electronic item that has a plug or takes batteries is eligible to be recycled. You can drop off household hazardous waste such as paint cans, fluorescent light bulbs, cleaners, oils, and batteries.

Opening night at the Nightgarden – November 15th

This Winter, Fairchild transforms into The Nightgarden: an enchanted, illuminated experience full of fantasy and wonderment where things like the Wise Talking Tree and Flying Fairies come to life. Come marvel at unbelievable live effects such as holographic butterflies and floating orchids throughout multiple acres of dazzling magic. For more information fairchildgarden.org

Merrick Festival Caroling Competition December 4th - 8th

The Caroling Competition takes place over five nights on the steps of 550 Biltmore Way. Beginning on Wednesday, December 4th, performances run through Sunday afternoon, December 8th. Different schools appear every half hour, each evening. Middle Schools perform on Wednesday and Friday. Senior High performances are on Thursday, Saturday and Sunday afternoon from 3:00 to 6:00 pm. Evening performances run from 7:00 to 10:00 pm. Winners return on Tuesday, December 10th.

Annual German Christmas Market Sunday, December 1st

This fun holiday market is a traditional German Advent Celebration and features authentic German food, home-made cakes and cookies, and spiced wine. Vendors sell Advent wreaths, ornaments, crafts and jewelry. Coral Gables Congregational Church, 3010 DeSoto Blvd. Hours: 12:00 – 6:00 pm

Fair at Church of the Little Flower and St. Theresa Catholic School – Dec. 6-8

Rides, games and international foods. 2701 Indian Mound Trail. Hours: Friday 6:00-11:00 pm, Saturday 3:00-1:00 pm and Sunday 12:00-8:00 pm.

Saint Philip's Episcopal School Annual Holiday Bazaar Dec 6

This festive event features local vendors selling jewelry, accessories, home goods, baby gifts and unique gift items. 1121 Andalusia Ave. Hours: 8:00 am – 3:30 pm





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THE PIANO CONCERT WAS A BLAST!

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SOCIAL CLUB ACTIVITIES

PLEASE NOTE, NEW DATE!!

Wednesday, November 20th – Movie Night, 7:00 pm
“CASABLANCA” (1942)

Rick Blaine (Humphrey Bogart), who owns a nightclub in Casablanca, discovers his old flame Ilsa (Ingrid Bergman) is in town with her husband, Victor Laszlo (Paul Henreid). Laszlo is a famed rebel, and with Germans on his tail, Ilsa knows Rick can help them get out of the country. The winner of the 1944 Academy Award for Best Picture and Best Director (Michael Curtiz), Casablanca also features the well-known song “As Time Goes By”.

TREE LIGHTING CELEBRATION

Sunday, December 1st – 6:00 pm

Come and help us light the tree and have a glass of bubbly – all residents invited!

Wednesday, December 11th – Movie Night, 7:00 pm
“POLAR EXPRESS” (2004)

Tom Hanks and director Robert Zemeckis (“Forrest Gump”; “Cast Away”) reunite for “Polar Express,” an inspiring adventure based on the beloved children’s book by Chris Van Allsburg. When a doubting young boy takes an extraordinary train ride to the North Pole, he embarks on a journey of self-discovery that shows him that the wonder of life never fades for those who believe.

BILTMORE II HOLIDAY COCKTAIL PARTY

Sunday, December 15th, 6:00 pm



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