



TaraNotes

Spring Issue 2014

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear TaraNova Members:

This winter seemed to be particularly colder and longer than other years. The ice and snow storms that brought hardship to many left our members wanting to escape! Whether it was fleeing to the sun or taking advantage of the great snow conditions, we had more members looking for extra vacations this year. Your club service department was very busy assisting our members either by banking more weeks or upgrading memberships to take advantage of holiday weeks.

The weather conditions also influenced the amount of weeks that have been booked for next year. We already have many members that have prepaid their 2015 weeks in order to reserve their vacation at one of our own resorts and many are banking their 2015 and 2016 weeks into their RCI accounts. I would suggest that you take a look at the RCI information guide in this newsletter as it may assist you in planning your exchange destinations.

If you looked around this past month, you would have undoubtedly seen many people cutting fallen trees and raking debris from their gardens. A lot of work still has to be done due to the ravages of this winter. Why not take some time to relax? There are still many vacation weeks available through RCI for the summer months or book a vacation for the fall and enjoy the foliage before another winter sets in. See inside for more information on over 25,985 weeks that are currently available for the summer through RCI. Please keep your Resort Reports coming into the Club. The comments are particularly helpful in ensuring the on-going maintenance to the units.

Please take note of the Annual Meeting notice below. If you cannot make the meeting, we would be happy to set up an appointment to meet with you to discuss any questions you may have with respect to your TaraNova membership. I would also like to thank the Board members for all their hard work and congratulate Clarence Clarke and Michael Sudbury who were both re-elected by acclamation to continue serving on the board until June 2017. If you are interested in volunteering your time to serve on the Board, please contact me for more information.

This year we said a final farewell to one of the founding members of TaraNova. Unfortunately, Bernard Fratkin passed away this March. His dedication to TaraNova was unsurpassed and he will be greatly missed by all of us here at the head office. We offer our sincerest condolences to his family and we thank him for all the years of dedicated service to TaraNova Vacation Club.

As always, TaraNova customer service representatives are eagerly waiting to assist you in all your TaraNova vacation needs. I hope you enjoy a beautiful safe summer season.

Regards, Teresa Knapp

TARANOVA ANNUAL MEETING

Date: June 7, 2014 Time: 10:00AM – Noon

Place: TBA (near TaraNova head office, North York)

The meeting is open to all members in good standing and the purpose is to review the Club's financial status and outline future plans. Please advise the Club in writing on or before May 9, 2014 of your intent to attend. *(Space will be reserved to accommodate only those members who RSVP by May 9th) Confirmed members will be notified of the location. (In order to avoid unnecessary financial costs, the meeting will be cancelled if less than 5% of the membership base intends to attend.)*



Letters from Members

Congratulations Ken & Jessie Jessop, the WINNERS of an RCI week!!! We love to hear from our members. Just mail, fax or e-mail telling us about your vacation. We will enter your name into the draw. You too may win a week into your RCI account courtesy of TARANOVA!

Many of our members write asking us to assist them with their membership, from banking weeks, to transferring names. Many letters come to us detailing what they require, and then at the end of the letter express some wonderful words of thanks. This year we also received many letters of thanks for being able to keep the dues the same for 3 years in a row!

Congratulations on keeping our membership fees the same with no increase. We do appreciate the continued efforts of your staff and board in keeping our club successful.....Thank-you for your continued work in helping us enjoy our vacations...Ken & Jessie Jessop.

As always, I have enjoyed staying at clubs associated with TaraNova and RCI. Thank you for your assistance in making these vacations so memorable... Christine McMahon.

No increase for 2014. Congratulations on this most pleasant and agreeable achievement! Please keep up this good work. It is welcome news.....Nicholas Satosek.

We appreciate that even our long-term members may have questions pertaining to their membership. By sending your requests by e-mail, we will be able to respond quickly to each question you may have.

*Hello, As a member for about 8 1/2 years now, since 2005, I just wanted to take this opportunity to get more familiar with our club and our membership. Note that most of our questions are not urgent. They go from the more general to the specific. The most important question is the one marked at the end with***. Of course, the answer to that question will be most meaningful in the context of answers to many of the other questions.... Solomon Mayer*

Dear Pam... we enjoyed Costa Rica and may go back. Thank you for your wonderful service!... Heather & Yorrick de Souza

The letter below was received by our tour operator, Sol Tropical, in Costa Rica:

Hi Mark, I just wanted to let you know that me and my family had a wonderful time. Christian and Roberto were both excellent tour guide and driver. Christian is such a good ambassador for his country and Roberto is a great driver. We enjoyed all the tours and the food was incredible. When I was on the plane going back home, the Canadians I sat beside who went to an all inclusive did not have as much fun as we did. It was nice that our group was intimate and we felt we received special treatment. Thanks so much for accommodating me and my special needs because of my knees. Even though my body is aching now, I do not regret a thing. I had a trip of a lifetime. The timeshare was also excellent and fulfilled our needs. We have reached home safe and I will gladly recommend your tours to anyone visiting Costa Rica. After listening to our story, my brother wants to see it for himself. Perhaps in the near future. Thanks so much to Mark, Christian and Roberto.....Jody Persaud

Although we have advised our members many times, please read the information at the end of this newsletter with respect to Resale and Third Party Transfer Companies.

RCI Information

A summarized note from RCI

This month RCI announced the unveiling of the newest version of RCI.com. They stated that as the exchange industry's most popular website with more than 48 million visits each year, RCI.com now features a fresh look and feel, extensive travel guide-style content, and improved functionality. Members can explore a deep and comprehensive set of travel and destination information. The new layout and content should help members to see the world of possibilities available with their timeshare ownership. Visitors can browse and book their vacations for a streamlined exchange process. This new site is a result of years of hard work and millions of dollars of investment by RCI, which will benefit members and affiliates. We hope it makes the vacation planning process even more fun and fulfilling than ever before.

RCI now allows you to combine all your deposits together and extend your travel dates for 2 years. You may combine two or more weeks to increase your trade value and to extend your travel dates. Once the weeks have been combined, you may use the trade value in any way you wish. Perhaps you would like to take a vacation in a dream destination that required more than your week value – now you would have the trade value. Perhaps you would like to take more vacation weeks in different locations. You may also combine weeks that expire within the next month and have a 2 year window in which to use them. For more information go to rci.com, click “home” and click “combine deposits”.

A few TaraNova members have experienced some difficulty when trying to log into the new website. Please contact RCI if you encounter any problems. We have been advised that some of the older computer software is not compatible with the new system and RCI suggests you try downloading Firefox; Google Chrome; Internet Explorer or Apple Safari which should enable you to log in the new RCI system.

RULES TO FOLLOW TO BANK YOUR WEEK INTO RCI

1. You may prepay your TaraNova dues up to 2 years in advance and request to bank into your RCI account.
2. Current years' weeks must be banked on or before November 15th of each year of entitlement.
3. Indicate the year of the week you wish to bank. Those with multiple weeks must indicate the number of weeks requested to bank for the specific year.
4. Your name, TaraNova number, RCI number and expiry date must be on the request to bank.
5. Your RCI membership must be paid through the date of the week you are banking.
6. TaraNova does not hold requests. TaraNova maintenance fees must be paid with, or prior to, your request to bank. If not paid, you will need to send in another request at a later date.
7. If you do not receive a confirmation from RCI within 10 days of banking your week, contact RCI directly at 1-800-338-7777. If you provide your e-mail address to RCI, they will send the confirmation to your e-mail address.

RCI Summer 2014 Availability

As you are aware, the availability of RCI exchanges may change at any moment. Confirmations and deposits are made continually. The following is a small sampling of the units and resorts available for the dates of check-in between May 31, 2014 and August 31, 2014 as at 8:00am Friday April 25, 2014. At that time, RCI was reporting that there were 25,985 units available world-wide.

Resorts from Quebec to BC have availability. There are units available throughout the USA and across the globe. Take a trip to Australia, China, India, Mexico, The Canary Islands..... Just log in at www.rci.com and click on: “Search for a Vacation” – then click on: “Advanced Search”. Enter the dates you wish to travel. Everything available all over the world will come up – you just have to choose! On the following pages are just a very few of the different resorts available. These are mostly Gold Crown resorts, with 2 bedrooms, and the majority may be exchanged for a trade value of less than “15”.

[Atrium Beach Resort and Spa \(#3179\)](#)

JDD, Sint Maarten,
ST Maarten Dutch Caribbean



Rating: ★★★★★☆

Check-In Date Range 07-Jun-2014

Exchange Trading Power 16

[Al Club Velas Vallarta \(#2688\)](#)

Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco 48354, Mexico



Rating: ★★★★★☆

Check-In Date Range

31-May-2014 - 31-Aug-2014

Exchange Trading Power 9 - 12

[Bluegreen Club 36 \(#A851\)](#)

Las Vegas, NV 89169, USA



Rating: ★★★★★☆

Check-In Date Range 24-Aug-2014 -

Exchange Trading Power 10

[Bryan's Spanish Cove \(#1613\)](#)

Orlando, FL 32821, USA



Rating: ★★★★★☆

Check-In Date Range

07-Jun-2014 - 30-Aug-2014

Exchange Trading Power 8 - 11

[Elite Apartments at
Fairways Club \(#3596\)](#)

San Miguel de Abona,
Tenerife, Canary Islands 38639



Rating: ★★★★★☆

Check-In Date Range

06-Jun-2014 - 26-Aug-2014

Exchange Trading Power 9 - 11

[La Cote D'Azur \(#1338\)](#)

Manaba Beach, KZN 4276,
South Africa



Check-In Date Range

20-Jun-2014 - 08-Aug-2014

Exchange Trading Power 8 - 13

[Mizner Place \(#7559\)](#)

Weston, FL 33326, USA



Rating: ★★★★★☆

Check-In Date Range

25-Jul-2014 - 31-Aug-2014

Exchange Trading Power 7 - 10

[Ocean Manor \(#7553\)](#)

Cabarete, Dominican Republic



Rating: ★★★★★☆

Check-In Date Range

31-May-2014 - 31-Aug-2014

Exchange Trading Power 6

[Palace View by Spinnaker \(#4067\)](#)

Branson, MO 65616, USA



Rating: ★★★★★☆ (72)

Check-In Date Range

09-Aug-2014 - 30-Aug-2014

Exchange Trading Power 10 - 16

[Royal Goan Beach Club
at Benaulim \(#3726\)](#)

Goa, GA 403716, India



Rating: ★★★★★☆

Check-In Date Range

07-Jun-2014 - 30-Aug-2014

Exchange Trading Power 8 - 9

[Smugglers' Notch Resort \(#0300\)](#)

Smugglers' Notch, VT 05464, USA



Rating: ★★★★★☆

Check-In Date Range

31-May-2014 - 31-Aug-2014

Exchange Trading Power 8 - 16

[Stonebridge Village Condominiums
\(#3402\)](#)

Reeds Springs, MO 65737, USA



Rating: ★★★★★☆ ()

Check-In Date Range

09-Aug-2014 - 31-Aug-2014

Exchange Trading Power 10 - 16

[The Cliffs at Peace Canyon \(#6389\)](#)

Las Vegas, NV 89147, USA



Rating: ★★★★★☆ (227)

Check-In Date Range

31-May-2014 - 30-Aug-2014

Exchange Trading Power 10 - 13

[The Crown Suites at LHVC Resort
\(#A107\)](#)

Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic



Rating: ★★★★★☆

Check-In Date Range

31-May-2014 - 30-Aug-2014

Exchange Trading Power 5

[The Suites at Fall Creek \(#3037\)](#)

Branson, MO 65616, USA



Rating: ★★★★★☆ (30)

Check-In Date Range

29-Aug-2014 - 30-Aug-2014

Exchange Trading Power 11

[The Summit at Massanutten \(#3640\)](#)

McGaheysville, VA 22840, USA



Rating: ★★★★★

Check-In Date Range

04-Jul-2014 - 30-Aug-2014

Exchange Trading Power 8 - 12

[Tree Tops Resort \(#2208\)](#)

Gatlinburg, TN 37738, USA



Rating: ★★★★★ Check-In

Date Range 13-Jul-2014

Exchange Trading Power 17

[The Georgian Manor Resort and Country Club \(#1761\)](#)

Collingwood, Canada L9Y 5G4



Rating: ★★★★★

Check-In Date Range

31-May-2014 - 21-Jun-2014

Exchange Trading Power 8 - 11

[The Wharf \(#1923\)](#)

Hot Springs, AR 71913, USA



Rating: ★★★★★ (38)

Check-In Date Range

16-Aug-2014 - 30-Aug-2014

Exchange Trading Power 12 - 14

[Club Geopremiere at Lac Morency \(#2040\)](#)

St. Hippolyte, Canada J8A 2N4



Rating: ★★★★★

Check-In Date Range 30-Aug-2014

Exchange Trading Power 16

[Privilege Mont-Tremblant-Voliere \(#2272\)](#)

Mont-Tremblant, Canada J8E 1K4



Rating: ★★★★★

Check-In Date Range

31-May-2014 - 13-Jul-2014

Exchange Trading Power 8 - 17

[Chaudiere Lodge \(#5756\)](#)

Monetville, Canada P0M 2K0



Rating: ★★★★★

Check-In Date Range

31-May-2014 - 16-Aug-2014

Exchange Trading Power 7 - 26

[Club Vacances Toutes Saisons \(#2621\)](#)

Beaupre, Canada G0A 1E0



Rating: ★★★★★

Check-In Date Range

31-May-2014 - 31-Aug-2014

Exchange Trading Power 5 - 15

[Condo-Québec Au Scandinave \(#3034\)](#)

St Ferreol les Neiges, Canada G0A 3R0



Check In Date Range:

31-May-2014 - 30-Aug-2014

Exchange Trading Power 6-14

[Club Geopremiere at Lac Morency \(#2040\)](#)

St. Hippolyte, Canada J8A 2N4



Rating: ★★★★★

Check-In Date Range 30-Aug-2014

Exchange Trading Power 16

[Condo hotel Le Celeste \(#D504\)](#)

Beaupre, Canada G0A 1E0



Check-In Date Range

27-Jun-2014 - 29-Aug-2014

Exchange Trading Power 8 - 16

[Privilege Mont-Tremblant-Village \(#6957\)](#)

Mont-Tremblant, Canada J8E 1G7



Rating: ★★★★★

Check-In Date Range

13-Jun-2014 - 29-Aug-2014

Exchange Trading Power 7 - 15

If you are planning on Purchasing, Selling, Transferring, or using a Resale/Transfer Agent, please contact the club directly at club@taranova.com

TaraNova strongly recommends that you check with your Club before agreeing to any sale or transfer of your membership from a third party company. This includes any trade-in that a new company may offer you. The trade-in may ONLY be accepted on certain TaraNova terms. If the transfer cannot be completed, it may result in you owing the trade-in company any funds they credited you for your TaraNova membership and you will still be legally responsible for the on-going TaraNova maintenance fees.

TaraNova understands that some of its members may wish to Transfer or Sell their membership. Family dynamics change! There may no longer be little ones to take on vacation; some of our members are reaching an age when they want to stay home; they may have lost loved ones; financial constraints; and there are many other different personal reasons. However, in order to protect the rest of the members, TaraNova does not take memberships back that would reduce the number of members to share in the costs of annual maintenance expenses while retaining units available for our members. TaraNova upholds its commitment to provide space for each entitled member, and the members must uphold their commitment to pay their share of yearly maintenance fees. TaraNova still must maintain properties, whether or not they are fully used by the members.

To ensure that the maintenance fees are continued to be paid, TaraNova does not allow corporations to take over a membership. We require that the membership must be in a personal name as many companies can close down leaving the Club no recourse to ensure that the dues continue to be paid. For the same reason, we do not approve transfers to people outside of Canada as it is difficult to collect any outstanding amounts from foreign members. Unpaid maintenance fees would negatively impact the financial status of the Club. Even for those transferees living in Canada that the club might consider, we require photo ID, proof of residence, and a detailed credit application must be completed before the Club considers approving the transfer.

If you are considering dealing with any Resale or Transfer Company, we urge you not to advance any funds to them upfront. Until TaraNova approves any new member, the membership will remain yours and you will continue to have all the benefits and obligations pertaining to the membership. Our "TaraNova" transfer papers must be duly executed and approved by TaraNova before a transfer may occur. Even if you pay upfront to a resale company and sign a third party transfer or purchase agreement, you will still be required to pay your continuing obligations to the Club until such time as the Club has, if appropriate, approved the transaction. Some Resale or Transfer companies may find a transferee that will not or cannot pay the on-going maintenance fees. Several Resale/Transfer companies close down once they have received your funds, and many just reopen under another name.

Your TaraNova membership is yours to sell. However, TaraNova must be able to ensure that the new purchaser has the resources to continue with the membership for the full term. We have transferred many memberships to family, friends and other individuals once we have been satisfied that the transferees are willing and able to assume both the benefits and the obligations of the membership.

Unfortunately, we cannot stop companies from contacting our members, but we try to educate our members on the conditions that a transfer may or may not be processed. If you are contacted, please forward us the e-mail address. We will be happy to contact them and directly provide them with the TaraNova transfer information.

Important Information For Transferees:

1. The membership CANNOT be transferred into a company name.
2. The third party transfer fee must be paid directly to TaraNova.
3. Five year's dues must be paid up-front to TaraNova.
4. A credit application and credit check will be done by TaraNova and only those potential members that show the ability to financially continue with the membership may be accepted by the Club.
5. Only after the necessary funds are received by the Club and the acceptance of the new member by Club, may the membership be transferred.
6. There are no closing costs to third parties that are incurred. Your membership is not deeded. (Many companies claim their fee is for the closing costs. TaraNova charges only the transfer fee and the prepaid dues.)

If a company states they have a "cash buyer" TaraNova would be pleased, at no cost to you or them, to speak with them on your behalf and have our legal department review any bona-fide offer they may have received. If a company has a legitimate offer, we are sure they would have no hesitation in providing the information in writing directly to you or us. If a company states they have a "cash buyer" TaraNova would be pleased, without cost, to speak with them on your behalf and have our legal department review any bona-fide offer they may have received. If a company has a legitimate offer, they should have no hesitation in providing the information in writing directly to you or us.