

ADDRESS TO THE MEMBERSHIP ON FEBRUARY 23, 2017

YEARLY, IT IS THE PRESIDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO ADDRESS THE MEMBERSHIP REGARDING THE STATE OF THE PEACE RIVER WILDLIFE CENTER.

I CAN REPORT, WITHOUT HESITATION, THAT THE PRWC IS STRONG, SOLVENT AND POISED TO ENTER INTO ITS NEXT CHAPTER.

LAST WEEK THE PUNTA GORDA CITY COUNCIL VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO LEASE AN ACRE PARCEL IN PONCE PARK SO WE CAN RELOCATE AND BUILD OUR NEW CENTER. TERMS OF THE LEASE INCLUDED A FIFTY YEAR RENEWABLE LEASE WITH AN ADDITIONAL FIFTY YEARS; PREPARATION OF OUR SITE; AND PAYMENT OF OUR UTILITIES WITHOUT A CAP.

WE HAVE RAISED MORE THAN FIFTY PERCENT OF THE CAPITAL NEEDED TO REBUILD. CONSTRUCTION IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN IN APRIL OF 2018 CONCURRENTLY WITH THE PONCE PARK REDESIGN. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT WE WILL MEET OUR FINANCIAL GOAL IN A TIMELY MANNER.

OUR BOARD IS FOCUSED AND COHESIVE. A BOARD HAS MANY DUTIES BUT NONE IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN ITS FIDUCIARY RESPONSIBILITIES. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THIS BOARD MAKES DECISIONS THAT GUARANTEE THE FISCAL FUTURE AND SUSTAINABILITY OF THE PRWC. THE DECISIONS THIS BOARD HAS MADE UNDERSCORES THAT RESPONSIBILITY. WE MUST BE VIGILANT AS WE CONTINUE TO RAISE ADDITIONAL CAPITAL TO REBUILD OUR HOME AND ENSURE PRUDENT DECISIONS ARE MADE THAT WILL KEEP THE CENTER FINANCIALLY SOUND AND SUSTAINABLE.

THERE ARE CAREERS THAT ARE CHOSEN AND THERE ARE VOCATIONS THAT CHOOSE US. THIS DESCRIBES OUR STAFF. WE ARE BLESSED WITH INDIVIDUALS THAT ARE HARD WORKING, COMMITTED AND LOYAL. WE HAVE AN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WITH VISION, A VETERINARIAN WHO POSSESSES EXPERT KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL, REHABBERS THAT HAVE A THIRST TO INCREASE THEIR EXPERTISE AND APPITUDE AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF WITH A DESIRE TO REACH OUR GOALS.

OUR CORE VOLUNTEERS ARE STEADFAST AND DEPENDABLE. THEY ARE THE LIFE BLOOD THAT ENABLES US TO SUCCEED AND MAKE OUR MISSION STATEMENT A REALITY. OUR MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS ARE ALWAYS THERE WHEN NEEDED TO DELIVER ASSISTANCE BOTH MONETARILY AND POLITICALLY. TOGETHER WE ARE ALL THE PRWC'S FAMILY.

Pat Campagna, President