

Orchid Island Golf & Beach Club is bordered by the Indian River to the west and the Atlantic Ocean to the east.

VERO BEACH, FLORIDA: Nineteen years ago, when Bob Niederpruem rode up the elevator to the third floor of Orchid Island's Beach Club, he was filled with excitement. With only a handful of homes sold, Orchid Island was on the verge of a development boom as people from all over the country discovered this piece of paradise on what is called the Treasure Coast. As the elevator door opened, he was taken aback by the breathtaking view of the Atlantic Ocean.

"The view is the best in Florida," said Niederpruem, president and broker-in-charge. "Orchid Island has it allwith its Beach, Golf and Fitness Clubs and the beauty of the homes—it captures your heart."

This year embarks the club's 25th anniversary and, since its inception, hundreds of thousands of dollars of real estate has been sold as the club has grown to a still intimate community of 376 residences.

"Our club is now member owned and debt free with a solid financial base," said Niederpruem. "To this day, every time the elevator door opens to the third floor of the West Indies inspired Beach Club, I still have the same level of enthusiasm I got the first time I walked out and knew this was where I wanted to work, because selling beauty like this is not work. I have the gratification of knowing that when someone buys at Orchid, they are truly buying a treasure and I have helped them find a one-of-a-kind paradise."

Orchid Island is one of Florida's few barrier island golf courses. Last year, the club's Arnold Palmer Signature design hosted the South Florida PGA Championship and Florida State Women's Net Championship. Just recently, Orchid Island has been chosen by the United States Golf Association to host the 2018 U.S. Senior Women's Amateur Championship. "The community is located in one of the nicest spots along the Treasure Coast. It's simply outstanding," lauded Arnold Palmer.

The layout integrates lakes with undulating serpentine fairways and expansive TifEagle greens, all set to the backdrop of century old oak trees. It's common to share the course with flocks of white pelicans basking in the sunshine.

LOW KEY, LOW DENSITY

The greater Vero Beach area limits the height of buildings to three stories. "Congestion isn't an issue in our parts," stated Niederpruem.

Screened pool enclosures are not permitted and homes only line one side of each fairway. "This creates for a more natural, private environment," said Niederpruem.

"There are numerous communities in Florida that offer both golf and beach amenities—but they require a drive between the two. At Orchid Island, with a brisk walk you can access our Audubon certified course or be surf fishing on our quiet beach." ■

For more information on membership opportunities, please visit OrchidIslandGolfAndBeachClub.com.

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DID YOU KNOW? THE EIGHT-MILE HISTORIC JUNGLE TRAIL WINDS PAST ORCHID ISLAND. THE HARD-PACKED SANDY ROAD, ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, WAS BUILT IN THE 1920S SO CITRUS GROWERS COULD HAUL THEIR PRODUCE OFF THE BARRIER ISLAND.