



March 24, 2026

Bell Tower Park Property Owners' Association

BELL TOWER NOTES II

Published by the Bell Tower Park Communications Committee

What Else Can You Do With Cardboard?

Article and (most) Pictures by John Fuller

A team from Bell Tower Park, led by BTP resident and brand-new grandpa Mark Trail, made a big splash at the Cape Coral Rotary Club's 32nd Annual Cardboard Boat Regatta. It was held on Saturday, March 21st at Seahawk Park, up on the north edge of Cape Coral. It is about a 45-minute drive from Bell Tower Park. The only fee was a single \$5 donation for a carload of people.

Here is a behind-the-scenes glimpse during construction in the shipyards on West Hyde Park Court. (Yes, the beard is gone!! "Didn't want to frighten the grandbaby", says he. What about me, Mark? I was scared (bleep)-less when I first saw you.)



(left)

Final product just after Christening. No, they did not break a bottle of champagne on the duck's beak.



Above are team members Colton Szallar(boat captain & rowing galley slave), Matt & Liz Christie (maritime advisors), Mark Trail (boat designer & builder), and cheerleader Deb Moffat. (Not pictured: “fowl artist” Marian Fuller)

Despite some propulsion system malfunctions causing a second-place finish in the race, Mark’s team won a nice 2nd place trophy for “Best Original Construction” in the “Original Boats” category”.

Yes, it’s made of – what else? – **CARDBOARD!**

Click [VIDEO](#) to get more of the ambiance of the setting and our team as they approach the launch site with their entrant, named “All Ducked Out”.

This is a well-organized event by the Rotary Club which donates funds back to local community causes. Food trucks, entertaining displays, and porta-potties were in ample



Photo courtesy of Liz Christie

supply. Now that I have had the experience, I encourage everyone to consider putting it on your calendar for next year. Clicking the link below will give an interesting overview of the boat building process and outline of events.

[Cardboard Boat Regatta](#)

Having never been to such a spectacle, I didn't know exactly what to expect. Below are a few more participants displaying their wares.





Foot and leg, not "hoof & mouth"

The best kind of mad scientist . . .
Environmentally-conscious



Yeah, it looks like Frankenstein,
but it's still a boat!

