

**GULF TO BAY**

**1982**

by

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## LUCK KEY

Florida in the winter  
Is a lucky place to be.  
You will find us at Gulf-To-Bay  
On Manasota Key.



### RETURN TO GULF-TO-BAY

We enjoyed our summer in the North  
Right up to the very day  
That we packed the car and headed South  
For our spot at Gulf-To-Bay..

While miles were slipping under us,  
And hours slipped through our driving day,  
We talked of all the happy things  
That people did at Gulf-To-Bay.

We wondered if some plants had lived;  
If our roof was still okay;  
If many boats were in the slips  
Down at the docks on Lemon Bay.

We guessed more condos had been built;  
And winter's traffic's still a fright;  
We knew the moon shone ever on  
The wavy gulf and bay at night.

We talked of those who might be back,  
And of things they used to say;  
And thus we grew more anxious to  
Get down the road to Gulf-To-Bay.

We arrived to find that all is well,  
Cleaned, unpacked, and put away.  
We look to have more fun this year  
With all the folks at Gulf-To-Bay.



## JANUARY AT GULF-TO-BAY

The weather news is full of snows,  
But never here at Gulf-To-Bay.  
Here, we play in light shirt sleeves,  
Enjoying sun 'most every day.

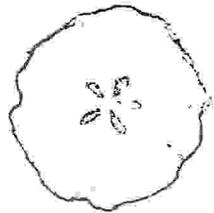


The North can have its snow and ice;  
Its overcoats and ski-ing boots,  
While here we dress in cool, cool shorts;  
Enjoy the beach in bathing suits.



## FEBRUARY AT GULF-TO-BAY

If you sent to Sears and Roebuck  
For a scene from Paradise,  
It'd look more like our Lemon Bay  
Than a scene of arctic ice.



## OUR WINTER HOME

I'm glad to say that Gulf-To-Bay  
Has now become our winter home.  
We're settled here without that fear  
Of those who must forever roam.

I'm glad that I am well enough  
To be out doors; to take my walks;  
To say, "Hello!", as on I go,  
Or stand with folks and hear their talks.

The weather's fine and I have time  
To visit others who are out;  
And get to know as winters go,  
What fellowship is all about.

## SNOWBIRDS

We've known the northern winters;  
We worked there many years  
Before retirement brought us South  
To spend our winters with our peers.

We've known the slush, the ice, the snows,  
Thick fogs where people look like ghosts.  
We're glad to spend our winters here  
Where sunny Florida is our host.



## GULF OR BAY

The Florida sun is good for us;  
Its winter weather suits us fine;  
We know we're lucky to have found  
This spot to spend our wintertime.

The day is rare without the sun;  
We're out of doors 'most every day.  
Enjoying life and having fun  
On gulf or bay at Gulf-To-Bay.



## DRESS UP THE SHED

At the rear of the trailer  
We built a large storage shed  
To take the things in the car  
And beneath the double bed.

We then enclosed the distance  
'Tween the trailer and the shed,  
And moved all those many things  
In this smaller space, instead.

We finished off the building  
With nice panels and some trim,  
And found we had created  
A good writing-room for him.

## WHAT DO YOU DO AT GULF-TO-BAY?

I have been asked, "What do you do  
All winter down at Gulf-To-Bay?"  
So listed here are just a few  
That can be done 'most every day.

Once each month, together all,  
We celebrate a holiday  
With dinner given at the hall,  
Except the one of Christmas Day.



That one marks the brand-new year  
With dancing starting just at dark  
To welcome back those living here  
By the owner of our mobile park.

There's valentines and honorees,  
Some pot-lucks and some sing-a-longs,  
And special anniversaries,  
For us, and guests we bring along.

Think of beaching, swimming, shelling;  
Think of fishing, shrimping, boating;  
Think of shuffling, walking, talking;  
Think of touring, seeking, gawking.

Add crafting, reading, writing;  
Evening games of cards and bingo  
To this list of entertaining,  
Which notes the many things we do.



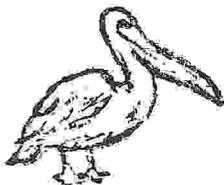
There's even more, as you will see.  
We are retired and have the time;  
We have ourselves and our T V's,  
To help us pass our wintertime.

We've classes here of every kind,  
Of many things that people do,  
For those with interest and the time,  
And I have listed but a few.

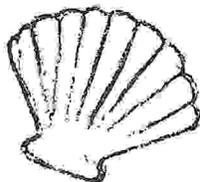
But then, we do not need a one;  
Can add more to our deepening tans,  
Or sit and soak the tropic sun,  
Or lie out on the ocean's sands.

We're seeing very lovely sights,  
Complete with moons across the bay;  
Swaying palms and surfs at nights,  
And migrant birds here every day.

And so you see, there's much to do,  
As any place or anywhere,  
Where people seeing winter through,  
Enjoy their lives together there.



#### ADDING TO



In addition to the things we do  
For exercise; to pass the time;  
We've dreams to dream; thoughts to pursue;  
At Gulf-To-Bay in wintertime.

#### HONOREES

Couples married fifty years  
Are honored every year  
With a dinner and a Valentine  
In the Rec Hall very near.

We joined this group in '81  
Honored by our family  
Now glad to celebrate again  
This Golden Anniversary.



We were the youngest at this table  
In the decorated hall  
And of the twenty-four then present  
Were the happiest of them all.

EXERCISE CLASS LUNCHEON  
March 1982

Our leader helps condition us.  
We like this loosing fat,  
Hence exercise with ups and downs  
And dance our "Alley Cat."

We hear her say, "Shake, shake it out;  
Stretch high; deep-bend the knees;  
Keep up the count--I cannot shout;  
Let's have more quiet, please."

We credit Jink's leadership  
For any loss of body weight;  
We credit here, these friendship dear  
This chance to celebrate.



THE FIRST BLOCK-PARTY

You could quickly tell all was well  
At the block-party on the bay,  
By all the many people there,  
Who brought their chairs, intent to stay.

Committee did a "bang-up" job;  
With awards for funniest hat;  
With luminaries everywhere,  
The happy crowd of people sat.

With food too much for normal man--  
--The "piggies," sauce, on butter bun--  
With music-tapes and radio;  
And making sure we all had fun.

We hereby thank our leadership,  
With special thanks to Joan and Paul  
For opening up their trailer-home.  
'Twas GOOD A TIME AS I RECALL.



## TO THE BEACH



We're off to the beach today  
To enjoy a day on the sand;  
The ebb and flow; the come and go  
When waves surge up, then leave  
the land

The little birds that run the edge  
As waves recede back to the sea;  
The people walking as a hedge  
Along the shore in front of me.

The gulls that fly, cry, and go;  
Or wheel, return back to their band  
That rest behind the people there,  
Who play or lounge upon the sand.

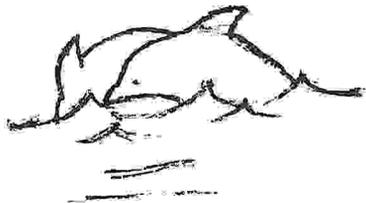
Far out at sea the whitecaps show  
A flash of white in sunbright day,  
On waves that run before the blow  
Of wind that sail the boats away.



Feeding pelicans dive and splash,  
And porpoise, often more than four,  
Put on a show as on they go  
Not very far from the shore.



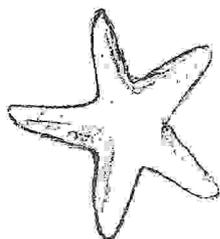
I'm anxious now to get to sea;  
Spread all my things within my  
reach;  
Enjoy once more the ocean shore;  
Enjoy again the sunny beach.



## THEN COMES THE DAY

Then suddenly there comes a day,  
When Spring has come and there's no snow,  
We know it's time to get away;  
Pack up the car so we can go.

That is a very special day;  
It's heat becomes an oxen's goad;  
It urges us to get away;  
Gas up the car and hit the road.



## GOIN' NORTH

We now approach the first of May,  
It's time for us to get up North.  
We hate to leave you, Gulf-To-Bay,  
But now it's time to "sally forth."

Spring has come. That land is green.  
We have enjoyed your winter's sun.  
The time has come to change the scene;  
It's time to make our northern run.

It's time again to pack the car,  
Whatever's left, to store away;  
Say our goodbyes; to lock the door;  
And head up North from Gulf-To-Bay.