

The Ventana Views

ACTIVITY DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The Activity Meeting held on February 9th was poorly attended, but it provided a lively discussion about the events at the end of January and the beginning of February. The Desert Aires Barbershop Chorus had 69 residents in attendance, and all had a great time. The Big Band Dance Night was sold out at 160 participants. It will be looked into as to how many of the participants were not residents of Ventana Lakes. This will provide information as to whether there should be a different price for non-residents. The Super Bowl party was successful with 50 residents attending. Next year's party should see an increase in attendance, as the Super Bowl will be here in Arizona.

There have been many activities planned for March. These activities are posted on all bulletin boards, in the newsletter, and on our website (www.ventanalakespoa.com).

I have had suggestions for day trips, better entertainment, and information pertaining to events outside of Ventana Lakes. With this in mind, I have had an additional bulletin board placed in the Management Office to accommodate information on day trips and outside events. As for better entertainment, I have been in discussions with M & M Productions. This company books entertainment for other Activity

Directors in the area, such as Paradise RV Park, Pebble Creek and Sun Village. It is my hope that we as a community will support these higher-end and better performances that have been requested. I know that there are lots of choices outside of Ventana Lakes for entertainment, but wouldn't it be fun to support our community planned events first. Another idea that will be put in motion around late March to early April, is a card similar to the ABC-Channel 15, "Smart Shopper Card." All you would have to do is show your Ventana Lakes Badge to receive a discount or special feature for the month. The businesses chosen for the month would be able to use the glass display case located at the Management Office and schedule a few hours to talk to residents about their business. I believe that this can be a win-win situation for everyone. If you have any businesses that you would like to recommend, please contact the Management Office at 566-6001. The next Activity Meeting will be Sunday, March 4th at the Yacht Club, at 2:30 pm. One of the topics for this meeting will be the kitchen, and how to proceed, since we do not have any volunteers to take over the wonderful job that George Horton has done.

Barb Jennings, Activity Director

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LANDSCAPE REPORT

After three nights of freezing temperatures, we are seeing a lot of damaged landscape. With the temperatures rising, most of this will recover in a few weeks. By the time you receive this newsletter, you will be able to start cutting back the damaged growth. We have some concerns for some of the plants which were put in last fall. They have been checked, and some of them are showing signs of recovery. Planting of trees and shrubs will start again in mid-March, when the danger of frost damage is past. Fertilization of grass areas is taking place at the present time. Pre-emergence for weed control will begin soon, along with adding Bermuda seed to some of the grassy areas.

Some preliminary work has been done for the proposed grant application to the City of Peoria. This would provide for re-landscaping of the area along Beardsley Road from 104th Avenue to 106th Avenue, and from Beardsley Road to Yukon along 106th Avenue. One of the next steps for this proposal is to obtain estimates and drawings from landscape contractors. On-going projects include the retaining wall behind the former Shea model homes on the east side of Lake #9. This includes replanting of trees and shrubs damaged by the El Paso Gas project. The next meeting will be March 15th at 1:30 pm at the Management Office.
Don Holtzee
Landscape Committee Chairman

LAKES

The meeting for March is scheduled for March 29th at 3:30 pm in the Management Office.

The Lakes Committee would like to welcome three new members: Jerry Blouin; Dave Pitt; and Don Sexton.

Bill Barton, Lakes Committee Chairman

ARCHITECTURAL

All changes to your property, including painting your house (even though it may be the same color as previously painted), require prior written approval. Verbal approvals, from anyone, are just that, verbal, and cannot be put in your "lot file" or be acted upon.

Requests received at the Office by 4 pm, Wednesdays, will be on the agenda for the following Monday meeting at 10:30 am. Our meetings are always open, whether or not you have a pending request.
Ken Hunstad, Architectural Chairman

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MAINTENANCE

We have had only minor tasks to perform this month, changing light bulbs and repairing toilets.

We will be busier in the near future with changing lights in the Billiards room.

Several other jobs are being planned and scheduled for early summer.

Our next meeting will be held at the Management Office on March 27th, at 9:30 am.

Dave Bracken, Maintenance Chairman

BOARD MEMBER ELECTION

HAVE YOU VOTED????

Absentee ballots need to be at the Management Office by 3 pm on Monday, March 5th. In-person voting will be held at the Yacht Club from 1- 4 pm on Tuesday, March 6th.

Please remember to bring your Ventana Lakes Badge or other ID showing a Ventana Lakes address, if you vote in person. If you have lost your ballot you will be given a new one at the poles on March 6th. If an Absentee Ballot has

been submitted from your property, you will not be allowed to vote in person. At 7 pm, a Special Meeting will be held to announce the voting results for the petition request to increase the number of Board members. Immediately following this, the Annual Meeting will be held, and the results of the election for the two Board member positions will be announced.

Pat Bracken, Election Committee

BALLOT AMENDMENT

A group of homeowners petitioned the Board to enlarge the Board from 5 to 7 members. They requested that the amendment to the Bylaws be voted upon at our Annual Meeting, and that, if passed, the persons receiving the 3rd and 4th highest votes would be added to the Board. Working out the mechanics of how to accommodate the Petition has cost the Association \$2,277.50 in legal fees, as of the end of December.

Following is the answer drafted by the Board's attorney:

Dear Petitioners:

The Board of Directors is in receipt of the Petition to Enlarge the Ventana Lakes Board ("Petition") that was submitted to the Board on or about December 13, 2006. In this petition, you request that the Board change the Association's Bylaws, by putting the question before the Association membership of enlarging the size of the Board from five (5) to seven (7) members in the form of a simple "yes" (to enlarge) and "no" (not to enlarge) ballot. The petition further requests that this issue of enlarging the Board be combined with the Annual Meeting and

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election already scheduled for March 2007. In light of the Association's governing documents and applicable law, it is improper for the Board to do exactly what you request in the Petition. However, the Board will make every possible effort to meet your requests, as discussed below.

Article IV, Section 1 of the Association's Bylaws requires a five- (5) member Board. Therefore, the Bylaws would need to be amended to increase the size of the Board to seven (7) members. Amendment of the Bylaws requires a majority vote of the entire Voting Membership at any annual or special meeting. Although you request that this issue be brought before the members in the form of a simple "yes" (to enlarge) and "no" (not to enlarge) ballot, the actual language of the amendment would need to be voted on by the members. It is not sufficient to vote "yes" to enlarge, or "no" not to enlarge, as you suggest. Therefore, a ballot has been prepared for this vote that includes the necessary language for the proposed Bylaw amendment.

Although your petition requests that the issue of enlarging the Board be combined with the election at the March 2007 Annual Meeting, this request cannot be complied with, since the Association's CC&Rs require the Association to allow cumulative voting in the election of Board members. In order for members to exercise cumulative voting, the Association needs to know how many Board members are to be elected. Each member then gets to cast a number of votes equal to the number of memberships they hold, multiplied by the number of candidates to be elected. The members cannot exercise their right to cumulate votes if the Association does not know how

many candidates are to be elected to the Board. Therefore, it is not feasible to combine the Bylaw amendment vote with the election, since the result of the Bylaw amendment vote will determine the number of candidates to be elected. Furthermore, due to time constraints, it is not feasible to hold a special meeting for the purposes of voting on the Bylaw amendment prior to the Annual Meeting in March 2007. Therefore, the Association plans to hold the vote on the Bylaw amendment at the 2007 Annual Meeting. However, if the amendment passes, it is not possible for the members to elect two (2) additional directors, due to the cumulative voting requirement, as discussed above. As such, if the amendment passes, the Board will appoint two (2) additional directors to serve until the 2008 Annual Meeting. At the 2008 Annual Meeting, the Association will then elect a total of four (4) directors. Three (3) of these directors will serve for a three- (3) year term, and one (1) of these directors will serve for a one-(1) year term. The Bylaws require that directors serve three-(3) year staggered terms. The first amendment to Article IV, Section 1 of the Bylaws provides, "The Board of Directors may cause a director to be elected for a one-year term or a two-year term to re-create staggered terms." Accordingly, the Board has the authority to cause one (1) director to be elected for a one-(1) year term as discussed above to re-create staggered terms, so long as the Board members elected with the fewest votes receive the shortest terms. While your petition requests that two (2) directors be elected for a three- (3) year term, and two (2) directors be elected for a two- (2) year term, an election for such terms would dismantle the staggered terms. Therefore, the Board has the

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authority under the Bylaws to cause a director to be elected for a one- (1) year term to preserve the staggered terms mandated by the Bylaws.

In summary, the proposed Bylaw amendment will be presented to the membership at the upcoming Annual Meeting held in March 2007. If the amendment passes, the Board will be

increased to seven (7) members via the appointment by the Board of two (2) additional directors. These two (2) appointed directors will then serve a one- (1) year term until the 2008 Annual Meeting, at which time a total of four (4) directors will be elected to serve such terms discussed above, so as to preserve the staggering of terms.

ITALIAN AMERICAN CLUB

The Italian American Club of Ventana Lakes had 150 members and guests in attendance at our Valentine's Dinner Dance on February 1, 2007, at 6:00 pm at the Yacht Club, for a great dinner of Italian sausage and peppers, salad with Italian dressing, baked beans with bacon, Valentine-decorated cupcakes for dessert, and coffee. The "Dallas Dan Band," a local couple who play standards, R&B, country, top 40's, etc., provided great music for both our dancing and listening pleasure. This Club and its friends sure love to dance! That floor was never empty! Three beautiful Valentine theme baskets designed by **RoseAnn Fiebig** were raffled off and won by **Martha Baker, RoseAnn Fiebig and Jeanette Hamel**. Our next meeting, on March 1, 2007, at 6:00 pm at the Yacht Club, is a Members Only "Soup Night." Those members/couples who have volunteered to bring soup or dessert for eight people

will have no charge for this meeting; otherwise, tickets are \$2.00 per person to cover incidentals, such as bread and butter. As always, this is BYOB.

For our meeting on April 5, 2007, at 6:00 pm at the Yacht Club, guests are invited to join members for our "Spring Fling." Entertainment will be provided by the On Stage Dance Academy. Food items and ticket prices will be announced in future issues. Remember to BYOB.

Members are reminded that nominations for new officers will be held in May 2007. The current officers have served for many years, and new officers are necessary for any group to stay vitalized and current.

We welcome new members of Italian descent to join us for a continuing year full of food, fun and camaraderie, Italian style. For information about the Italian American Club, please call **Tony DeMont** at (623) 566-3894.

SHALOM CLUB

The March meeting of the Ventana Lakes Shalom Club will be held in the Crafts Room on Thursday, March 8 at 7:00

pm. Members will receive telephone notice confirming exact date and time. If you have any questions, please call

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Trudy Fleishman at 623-566-1970 or Eileen Grossman at 623-566-0006. New members are always welcome. If you are thinking of joining our group or

would like to find out more about us, Eileen or Trudy **would love to hear from you.**

FLYING SOLOS

We invite everyone who lives in Ventana Lakes to join our meetings and social outings. There is a general meeting the 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:30 pm in the Yacht Club. We have an assortment of speakers and entertainers. You bring your own beverage, and we usually have snacks or dessert. Join us and have fun with your new friends! On the last Thursday of the

month, we meet in various restaurants for a social get-together at 4:30 pm to eat and be merry.

If you are new to Ventana Lakes or just want more fun in your life, please visit. We are a caring club and try to assist each other and remember special occasions. For more information, call Brenda H. at (623) 215-8687 or Yvonne K. at 566-3353.

LADIES LUNCHEON

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY! Please join us Wednesday, March 14th, 2007, 12:30 pm at the HAMMERHEADS Ocean Grill restaurant, located at 6718 West Deer Valley Road, Glendale (Basha's shopping center in the northwest corner of 67th Avenue and Deer Valley Road). Take Beardsley East to 91st Avenue; North (left) on 91st Avenue to Deer Valley Road; go East (right) on Deer Valley Road to 67th Avenue. Hammerheads is on your left in the Basha's Strip Mall and faces 67th Avenue. Their specialty of the house is Atlantic Ocean Scallops; or, try the Louisiana Po'Boy, or grilled Portobello sandwich. A popular appetizer is the fried calamari. There are also a good

number of "non-fishy" entrees as well. The bar and dining areas are separated by two 800-gallon saltwater fish tanks loaded with tropical fish, including eels and stingrays. COME JOIN US! We will order from the menu and receive separate checks. Everyone is welcome. This is a great way to meet people if you are new to Ventana Lakes! PLEASE INVITE YOUR NEIGHBORS! Be sure to call the Management Office (566-6001- talk to a real person, do not leave message on the answering machine) to add your name to the reservation list. If you need a ride or further information, please call Sharon Crafton at 566-3191 or Camille Willcoxon at 566-4792.

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CELEBRATING LIFE

I wish to thank you all for your love and support during this most difficult time. Your generosity and thoughtfulness have helped me more than you can ever know. Your prayers and love mean the world to me. I am so fortunate to live in such a

wonderful and caring community as Ventana Lakes. Joseph Cusmano passed January 20, 2007.
Fondly,
Corinne Cusmano

DATES TO REMEMBER

March 5th: Absentee ballots need to be at the Management Office by 3 pm.

March 6th: Voting in person will be held at the Yacht Club from 1 pm-4 pm. Please remember to bring your Ventana Lakes Badge or other ID showing a Ventana Lakes address if you vote in person.

March 10th: Coffee Forum at 9 am at the Yacht Club.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Cell Phones: DO NOT CALL LIST

As of January 24, 2007, all cell phone numbers are being released to telemarketing companies, and you will start to receive sales calls. You will also be charged for these calls. To prevent this, call the following number from your cell phone: 1-888-382-1222. This number is the National DO NOT CALL list. It will only take a minute of your time, and it will block your number for five (5) years. You must call from the cell phone number you want to have blocked. You can't call from a different phone number.

From Ventana Lakes Library Staff:

Please, do NOT remove books from the library unless you plan to return them. Books are LOANED on the honor system. They are here for all residents to read, enjoy and return! Thank you.

The Library Staff

From Tony DeMont:

If you have any luminaries that you would like to donate, please contact Tony at (623) 566-3894.

From the Election Committee:

Ed Poorman has withdrawn his name as a candidate for the Board Election. (He is listed on the ballot).

From Pickle Ball: Starting this month (March), there will be an instructional video for residents to check out for 24 hours at the Management Office. Also, for check-out are paddles and balls to play Pickle Ball. The Management Office will have handouts of the rules of the game and a list of players. For more information, residents can call the

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Management Office or one of the following residents: Jackie Wray at 362-1305, Gail Hellquist at 516-2752, Tim or Sheila Willems at 376-9804, Burrie Steward at 566-1730 or Sally woods at 376-9188.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Saturday, March 3rd: Show/Dance with Electric Blue. Mr. E. will perform from **7-10 pm** at the Yacht Club. His show consists of costume changes, singing, dancing, acrobatics, magic, and audience participation. During the show, you'll see comedy impersonations of Elvis, Dean Martin and many more. The cost is \$6.00 per person, which includes light refreshments. If you would like to reserve a table reservation of 8, you can do so at the Management Office. Don't delay; purchase your tickets early, as this show is sure to sell out. *****Please Note: The tickets don't indicate the time that this event starts.**

Sunday, March 4th: Monthly Activity Meeting at 2:30 pm at the Yacht Club. Everyone is invited to give your suggestions for future events. Sign up at the Management Office, as light refreshments will be served.

Sunday, March 4th: Pickle Ball meeting for Beginners 4 - 6 pm at the Yacht Club. For more information, contact Jackie Wray at 623-362-1305.

Friday, March 9th: Ventana Lakes proudly presents its 2007 Spring Variety Show, "After the Ball", at 7 pm at the Yacht Club. The cost is \$5.00 per person, which includes light refreshments. Tickets are available at the Management Office. This event is open to the public.

Saturday, March 10th: Coffee Forum at 9 am at the Yacht Club with Board meeting to follow (9:30 am). The cost is \$1.50 per person and \$2 at the door for the Coffee Forum. Sign up at the Management Office by **Friday, March 9th, by Noon.**

Saturday, March 10th: Ventana Lakes proudly presents its 2007 Spring Variety Show, "After the Ball", at 7 pm at the Yacht Club. The cost is \$5.00 per person, which includes light refreshments. Tickets are available at the Management Office. This event is open to the public.

Thursday, March 15th: Laughlin Turnaround. The bus leaves from the Yacht Club at 6:15 am. The cost is \$5 per person, with movies on the bus. Sign up at the Management Office.

Friday, March 16th: HealthScreens will be at the Yacht Club from 11:30-6:30 pm. It is required that you call them at (480) 854-4735 to make an appointment.

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Saturday, March 17th: St. Patty's Day Dinner and Dance at the Yacht Club at 7 pm. The doors will open at 6:30 pm. Dinner will be served starting at 7 pm, and will include the following items: Corned beef on a Kaiser roll, potato salad, coleslaw, chips, a pickle, coffee and dessert. The entertainment for the evening will be provided by Chuck Bene' — "Show Time." Chuck has performed with Frankie Lyman and the Teenagers, The Skyliners, Del Shannon and Gene Pitney. He has written tunes for Ricky Nelson and the Hullabaloo TV Show. He is also a member of the Rockabilly Hall of Fame. Show Time will start performing at 7:30 pm until 10:30 pm. The cost for this Dinner and Dance is \$7.00 per person, and can be purchased at the Management Office. Table reservations are available as well. Don't delay, as all our dances sell out fast.

Friday, March 23rd: Costco Wholesale will be at the Yacht Club from 2-4 pm for those residents that would like to sign up to have a Costco card. When you join you will receive a Costco sampler tote filled with full-size samples from the Kirkland Signature line.

Saturday, March 24th: The Swing Sisters will be performing at 7 pm at the Yacht Club. This group was formerly "The Honeybuns", a female vocal trio specializing in the music of the 1940s and 1950s. Songs such as "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy", "Sincerely", and "Lollipop", their three-part harmony is reminiscent of the Andrews Sisters and the McGuire Sisters. They are masterfully accompanied by a digital keyboard which creates an amazingly authentic band sound. This event hasn't sold many tickets at this time, and may need to be cancelled. To avoid cancellation, purchase your tickets at the Management Office as soon as possible. The cost for this event is \$6.00 per person.

Tuesday, March 27th: Trip to the Mazatzal Casino. The bus leaves from the Yacht Club at 8:00 am. This trip is FREE, as you receive \$10 upon arrival. If your birthday is in the month of March, you will receive an additional \$10. The Casino has Bingo which starts at 12:45 pm. The bus leaves the Casino at 3 pm. On the trip home, you will receive a bottle of water and a scratch-off ticket valued between \$4 and \$10 to be used on a future trip. Sign up at the Management Office.

Friday, March 30th: Karaoke with Darrell at 6:30 pm at the Yacht Club. The cost is \$2.00 per person, and, as always, BYOB & Snacks.

Bridge Club Coordinators for March: Wanda McCann, 566-8767.

Tuesday Pinochle Host/Hostess for March: Richard and Phyllis Barbe, 566-4894.

OUTINGS AND TRIPS

Friday-Sunday, March 23rd-25th: All About Me Weekend. This trip is Little America's first annual exquisite women's weekend packed with fun, food, cocktails, beauty treatments, shopping, and ending with some well-deserved rest and relaxation. The cost

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is \$348 per person, double occupancy, or \$549 per person, single occupancy. For more information, see the flyer in the All Aboard America book at the Management Office.

Saturday, March 24th: Algodones, Mexico. Algodones is a little town located just past Yuma, AZ. The scheduled departure time is at 6:30 am (subject to change). There will be a stop at a fast food restaurant in Gila Bend in the morning for breakfast, as well as stopping in Gila Bend on the return. The motor coach parks on the U.S. side and you walk about 100 yards to cross the border into Mexico. At the border, you will need **Proof of Citizenship**. The cost for this trip is \$45 per person. For more information, see the flyer in the All Aboard America book at the front desk.

Monday, April 2nd: Take a tour of Luke Air Force Base and have lunch at the Officers' Club. The morning starts at the Air Park, where you will be able to walk around and look at the planes of yesteryear, see F-16 jet squadrons, the flight line and the runway up close, as well as base housing and operations. You will likely see takeoffs and landings of the jets. The cost for this trip is \$39 per person. For more information, see the flyer at the Management Office. This trip has been arranged by Promenade Travel Services.

Friday, April 6th: Monsters, Inc. Disney on Ice at US Airways Center. The tickets are in section 103, rows 12-14. The cost is \$42 per person. This would be a great event for the grandkids to attend. For more information, see the flyer at the Management Office. This trip has been arranged by Promenade Travel Services.

Saturday, April 7th: AZ Opry Super Show. This is an evening performance and includes dinner. The cost is \$59 per person. For more information, see the flyer at the Management Office. This trip has been arranged by Promenade Travel Services.

Tuesday, April 10th: Discover the Mysteries under your skin. The Arizona Science Center Presents "Body Worlds 3." Science has discovered a method of preserving and displaying the human body as never seen before. The cost is \$49 per person. For more information, see the flyer at the Management Office. This trip has been arranged by All Aboard America.

Thursday-Sunday, April 12th-22nd: Wildlife Adventure: Amazon Jungle and Galapagos Islands. This is a great opportunity to explore the incredible Amazon Rain Forest and experience its amazing, yet vanishing lands and people. The cost is \$5,069.28 per person, double occupancy, and \$6,978.52, per person, single occupancy. For more information, see the flyer at the Management Office. This trip has been arranged by All Aboard America.

Friday, April 20th: Shopping in Scottsdale at the Borgata and Kierland Commons. The cost for this trip is \$31 per person. For more information, see the flyer at the Management Office. This trip has been arranged by Promenade Travel Services.

Sunday-Wednesday, April 22nd-25th: Canyon de Chelly---Monument Valley and Lake Powell. The cost for this trip is \$764 per person, double occupancy, and \$998 per person,

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single occupancy. For more information, see the flyer at the Management Office. This trip has been arranged by All Aboard America.

OCTOBER

Sunday-Tuesday, October 28th-30th: The Dead Sea Scrolls Exhibit and the Museum of Man. Start planning to take this wonderful trip! You will spend 3 days/2 nights in beautiful San Diego. For more information, see the flyer at the Management Office. This trip has been arranged by Promenade Travel Services.

All outings and trips require ten residents to sign up in order to have a pick-up stop at the Yacht Club. Residents can pay their fees and sign up at the Management Office. Keep in mind that most of the scheduled outings and trips include a gratuity. There are a lot of trips available, so pick one or two to get away for a few days, or just a few hours.

Board of Directors: Lois Owen, President; Chuck Hellquist, Vice President; Vada Bowers, Secretary; Bob DellaPia, Treasurer; Bill Keitel, Director.

Office Staff: Jack Donovan, Manager; Corrine Cowles, Assistant Manager; Barb Jennings, Activity Director; Karen Carr, Front Desk (morning); Irene Hart, Front Desk (afternoon).

Office Phone: (623) 566-6001

Website: www.ventanalakespoa.com

As a reminder, articles need to be submitted by the 12th of the month prior to be included in the newsletter.

Newsletter: Barb Jennings, Editor