

# *The Ventana Views*



## **President's Message**

The election is over and it is back to work with a warm welcome to our new Board Members, Sue Alandar and Tony Fiore. I want to thank Lois Owen for her incredibly hard work on the Board over the past three years and Bill Keitel over the last year.

**Please remember that we are accepting nominations for the two additional seats on the Board. You may indicate your interest in the Board positions by sending a signed letter to the Management Office. The deadline for submission of the letter is 3:00 pm, April 6.**

At the Annual Meeting, a list of what has been achieved for Ventana Lakes during the past year was handed out. Copies are available in the Management Office – so please pick up a copy and review what really has been done for this community.

Although there will always be different opinions on even the most trivial decisions that the Board may need to make, I believe that all decisions are made with an honest pursuit to do what is best for our residents. It is unfortunate that all too often the “Board” as a whole is criticized and usually in general terms like “The Board should be removed” or “The Board causes all the problems”. I would like to make 2 points:

First – the Board is made up of 5 individual volunteers (soon to be 7), who are not close friends, do not socialize with each other but make independent decisions on each agenda item, just hard working neighbors helping our community.

Second – those who habitually condemn rarely are specific, only offer their part of the story, or are misinformed. They ignore all the good that is done, seldom volunteer, seldom attend any function and contribute very little to our community. Unfortunately, their negative rhetoric demoralizes our volunteers, is a distraction to our professional office staff and is certainly hurtful to individual Board Members. The Board may not do everything to everyone’s satisfaction but we all work hard to insure every decision is in the best interest of Ventana Lakes and are in accordance with our responsibilities to use the CC & R’s as our guide.

We have a great community, wonderful neighbors and great volunteers – Let us all try to keep it that way.

Chuck Hellquist, President

## Manager's Corner

As you may be aware, Barbara Jennings, the Activity Director is no longer on the staff of the Management Office. We are currently searching for an Activities Director and would be happy to get your recommendations for the position. We are looking for someone who has from 2 – 3 years experience in the activities field. So please keep your ears to the ground and an eye out for possible candidates.

The elections are over and the ballots have been counted.

Total ballots counted were:

Absentee Ballots	889
In Person Voting	81
Spoiled Ballots	73

The result of the Amendment to the By Laws, increasing the Board from 5 members to 7 members was:

For the Amendment	– 567
Against the Amendment	– 300

The Amendment passed.

Board Candidates Results:

Anthony Fiore	400
Sue Alandar	311
Jim Williams	285
Joe McCord	283
Chuck Schumm	282
Lois Owen	175
Chet Homan -	47
Ed Poorman -	5

The Management Office is currently taking written requests from residents interested in being appointed to the Board. If you are interested, write out your request and drop it off at the Management Office. The deadline for applying is April 6th.

The April Board Meeting will be held on Saturday April 14<sup>th</sup> after our 9:00 am coffee Forum.

As a reminder, in accordance with the regulations of the community, residents are required to display their badges when using any of the facilities. Residents may not give their personal badges to guests or visitors for their use, as the badges are not transferable. Guests or visitors must obtain a visitor's badge from the Management Office to use any of the facilities.

Jack Donovan, Community Manager

## Election Committee

Newly elected Board Members are Tony Fiore and Sue Alandar. The vote to increase the number of Board Members from 5 to 7 passed. The Board will be appointing two people to fill the positions. We would like to thank the 28 people who assisted us with mailings and with the counting of the ballots on Election Day.

Dave and Pat Bracken  
Carl and Rose Ann Fiebig

## Landscape Report

Now is the time to cut back the damage from the winter freeze. This is being done on all the common property at the present time. It is also the time to increase the amount of water given to plants to help them recover from the winter damage. All areas have recently been treated for weed control. As the Bermuda grass wakes up and the night temperatures rise, fertilization and weed control will be taking place. Several projects are in progress. The area along the gas line right of way on 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue from Burnett to Rose Garden is having some new water lines and plants installed. The project at Lake #7 on Ventana Drive West has been completed with retaining walls along with some new plants.

The April meeting of the landscape committee is scheduled for April 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM in the Management Office.

Don Holtzee  
Landscape Committee Chairman

## Pool News From "Splash"

Now that the warmer weather will soon be upon us, many of us (including myself) will be getting back into the swim of things.

The **YACHT CLUB POOL** is the only pool children may use. The rule states that children from 4 to 17 years of age can use the pool. They must be accompanied by an adult. No child less than 4 years of age is allowed in the pool area (inside the gated pool area). Consult the VLPOA pool rules for additional information regarding the pools. The Yacht Club and Rec Center pools are heated this year.

At this time I would like to address an issue pertaining to the pools. As many of you may have observed, there is a notice on the front gate reminding pool users to take a shower before using the pool or spa. There are several reasons relative to this issue.

First, it is a Ventana Lakes pool rule and it is also contained in The Maricopa County Health Code for pools. Second, this pertains to water quality. Our bodies emit certain body oils, and we use soaps, deodorants, body lotions, foot powders, and a host of other

beauty and health products that may be on our body. All of these leave a residue on our body. We go into the pool or spa and the above substance washes off in the pool or spa water. In order to make the pool water safe for our use, chlorine, a pool disinfectant, is added to the water at a certain level, as per Maricopa County requirements for our safety. Now, when the above mentioned substances wash off in the pool or spa water, the effectiveness of the chlorine or pool disinfection is reduced. Hence more chlorine is needed to maintain the pool/spa at a safe level for our use. Therefore, the reason for taking a shower is to maintain the water quality of the pool and to keep the cost of disinfecting the pools to a minimum.

Maricopa County pool inspection unit performs periodic un-announced inspections of the pool and spa. If they notice any infractions to the rule, they will immediately shut down the pool or spa. The pool or spa can not be used until the problem is corrected and re-inspected. So, it is important that we all do what is necessary to keep our pools in good working order.

It is every resident's responsibility to assure that all the pool rules are followed. These are our pools; we need to assure that the integrity and quality of the pools are maintained. We have a limited number of pool monitors who can not be at the pool all the time, so we need your help in order to maintain these goals.

Our pool maintenance person, Will, has been doing a great job keeping the pool quality at a safe level for our enjoyment and in keeping the pool area in great shape. If you see Will at the pool, hard at work, say hello and thank him for doing a great job. Daily pool and spa maintenance log sheets are maintained at the management office. These log sheets can be reviewed by residents upon request. An operating permit from Maricopa County for the pool and spa is posted at each of the pools. If you see something that is in violation of the pool rules, you are encouraged to call the Management Office during regular working hours at 566-6001. The office will call one of the pool monitors on duty. When the office is closed the following pool monitors can be called: **John Bateman** at 566-3150 or **Laura Miller** at 825-2593

If you would like to become a pool monitor, please contact the Management Office.

John Bateman, Pool Monitor Coordinator

## 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 open to any resident, whether or not they have a pending request.

Ken Hunstad, Architectural Chairman

# Maintenance

Our committee has been active this month, repairing/replacing items as needed.

## A. Rec center:

1. Exhaust fan belt replaced
2. Light bulbs replaced in front driveway area
3. Thermostats re-adjusted to better Temperatures
4. New coat rack installed in the exercise room

## B North Park area:

1. Hose bib was tightened to prevent water waste

## C. Yacht Club:

1. Hose bib was tightened to prevent water waste

## D. Management Office:

1. Coat hooks installed
2. Electric wiring updated for copying machines

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday April 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am at the Management Office

Dave Bracken, Maintenance Chairman

# CLUB NEWS

## PRIDES

The Prides are looking for volunteers. If you can spend an hour or so once a month to help keep our neighborhood looking good, please call **Joan Yankowski** at 566-4748. It is a little bit of work, but the Prides also have a very good time. This is a great way for those of you who work to give back to your community because you can do this on your own schedule.

## Italian-American Club of Ventana Lakes

The Italian American Club of Ventana Lakes had 105 members in attendance at our first *Members Only* "Soup Night" on March 1, 2007, at 6:00 PM at the Yacht Club. There was an abundance of soups and desserts as our members showed off their culinary skills. It was a great night embodying the Italian tradition of sharing food with family and

friends. There were five new members, bringing the Club membership to over 140. Plus, we had our own celebrities there: four of our members entered the Bocce Ball tournament in Sun City and won the gold! They are **Frank San Felippo, Jesse Vallera, Domenick Lopano, and Pasquale Romano**. We are very proud of them.

For our next meeting on April 5, 2007, at 6:30 PM at the Yacht Club, guests are invited to join members for our "Spring Fling." A variety of appetizers will be served. Entertainment will be provided by the On Stage Dance Academy and a great dessert will follow. Tickets are \$2.00 for members and \$4.00 for guests. As always, BYOB.

Members are reminded that nominations for new officers will be held on May 3, 2007. The current officers have served for many years, and new officers are necessary for any group to stay vitalized and current. Tickets for pizza and dessert will be \$3.00. This is a *Members Only* meeting. Remember to BYOB.

Plans are already in the works to make our last meeting on June 7, 2007, a "Slam Dunk". A special catered dinner followed by music and dancing courtesy of the "Gold Ridge Gang," a five-piece band; followed by a great dessert. Guests will be invited, so watch for prices and times TBD.

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

## NEWS OF THE VENTANA LAKES SHALOM CLUB

The April meeting we will be held in the Crafts Room on Thursday, April 12 at 7:00 PM.

This meeting will be hosted by Renee & Burt Bacher who are planning a Pizza Party. Members will receive telephone notice confirming this and will be advised of the exact date, time, place, etc.

If you have any questions please call **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.

Shalom and Happy Passover to all.

## Flying Solos

We invite everyone who lives in Ventana Lakes to join our meetings and social outings. There is a general meeting the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

## ***APRIL LADIES LUNCHEON***

***"APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS"***, we hope! Please join us on Wednesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2007 12:30 PM at the ***THE OLIVE GARDEN Italian Restaurant*** in the Surprise Marketplace at Bell Road and Grand Avenue. Whether you like spicy meatballs, pizza or any number of wonderful pasta dishes, The Olive Garden is sure to please your pallet. The Olive Garden is presenting a new desert - Try their Chocolate Gelato; creamy chocolate gelato topped with caramel sauce and dark chocolate. **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!** If you need a ride or further information, or to register your attendance, please call **Sharon Crafton**, 566-3191 or **Camille Willcoxon**, 566-4792.

## **"Froms"**

### **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 Pickle Ball:** There is 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 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

**Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup>:** *Pretty Patty Ann and Dangerous Dan the Piano Man*. A musical romp through the 40's and 50's featuring "old favorites" and "shower songs". This is a freebie (yes, I said a FREEBIE), so sign up ASAP at the Management Office.

**Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>:** 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 April, 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.

**Wednesday April 18<sup>th</sup>:** "Identity Theft and You" This may well be the most important seminar that any of us attend in 2007. Daren Frankeberger, of Merrill Lynch will be the presenter and will cover a range of topics, and resources incase you are a victim of identity theft. The seminar will be held at the Yacht Club beginning at 12 Noon. Please sign up at the Management Office.

**Sunday April 15<sup>th</sup>:** The Fourth Annual Ventana Lakes Dog Parade. Bring your leashed dog, your pooper scooper and a sense of fun. "Wag" your way to the grass area at the northwest corner of 109<sup>th</sup> and Beardsley, where we will choose Best Trick, Best Dressed, Cutest Puppy, etc, etc, etc. Prizes include a portrait of your pet by Ventana Artist: *Furbabies by Sue*

**Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup>:** 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.

**Saturday April 21<sup>st</sup>:** Volunteer Catered Dinner at the Yacht Club beginning at 6:00 pm. Volunteers will be selected from among those residents that are actively involved or contributing to the overall well-being of Ventana Lakes. Volunteers will receive dinner invitations either from the committee chairs, or by mail. Invitations should be brought to the Management Office to be exchanged for tickets to the dinner.

**Tuesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>:** 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 April, 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.

**Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>:** The Annual Ventana Lakes Fishing Derby, to be held at Lakes 3 & 4. Plan to meet at 8:45 am, and fish from 9 to 11 am. Adults \$6.00; Children (4-15) \$4.00. Purchase tickets at the Management Office, or at the Derby. **John Kelly**, 623-572-0841 is looking for someone to manage this event. Interested?? call John.

**Saturday April 28<sup>th</sup>:** A Natural Balance Seminar is scheduled for the Yacht Club from 10:00 – 11:00 am. Come and learn the possible effects on our health when things get “out of whack” and the positive effects on the human body as a result of the use of simple alternatives in life style.

**Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup>:** 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 April:** Wanda McCann, 566-8767.

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

## **CRAFT SALE**

It's time to start thinking about the Craft Sale which will be held on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Space reservation forms will soon be going in the mail. We are looking for some volunteers to help with publicity and sign placement. Volunteers need not be crafters—just someone with a little time and energy. Please call **Joyce Lorentzen** 544-9781 or **Vada Bowers** 825-9194 if you can help.

## **Outings and Trips**

We will, commencing with this Newsletter, no longer book trips through the Management Office. We will provide information about these trips, and, if you come to the Office, we will make flyers available to you, and direct you to the appropriate travel company.

**Monday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>:** 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 6<sup>th</sup>:** 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 7<sup>th</sup>:** 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 10<sup>th</sup>:** 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 12<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>:** 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 20<sup>th</sup>:** 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 22<sup>nd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>:** Canyon de Chelly---Monument Valley and Lake Powell. The cost for this trip is \$764 per person, double occupancy, and \$998 per person, single occupancy. For more information, see the flyer at the Management Office. This trip has been arranged by All Aboard America.

**Board of Directors:**, Chuck Hellquist, President; Tony Fiore, Vice President; Vada Bowers, Secretary; Bob DellaPia, Treasurer; Sue Alandar, Communications Director.

**Office Staff:** Jack Donovan, Manager; Corrine Cowles, Assistant Manager; Karen Carr, Front Desk (morning); Irene Hart, Front Desk (afternoon).  
Office Phone: (623) 566-6001  
Website: [www.ventanalakespoa.com](http://www.ventanalakespoa.com)

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

April 2007