

September 2007

The Ventana Views



President's Message

Over the last six months many changes have taken place and I would like to talk about some of them.

LANDSCAPING: The biggest change is with landscaping. The board has approved and I signed a contract with CareScape, a company that's been in business since 1993. With over 200 full time employee's, and experience in Landscape Planning, Maintenance, Arbor Care, Irrigation, and Construction. I feel this is a huge plus for our community. A complete landscape evaluation along with a plan to correct all existing problems will be done.

VOLUNTEERS: We had three board members, and a few committee volunteers quit some because they didn't like the fact that changes were being made. I want to remind you that volunteer work is done for the benefit of the people of this community and not for the Board of Directors. We have some great people that volunteer for our community, and I would like to thank each and every one of you for all the time and hard work you all put in.

TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT: On July 25, 2007, VLPOA attorneys Jason Smith and Roger Wood suggested that the Board of Directors appoint a resident to the Board, to establish a quorum for the Board Meeting later that day. Resident Tom Manor was nominated, voted in, and accepted to temporarily fill one of the three vacant seats until Board Member Sue Alandar returned from vacation. On August 15, 2007, Tom Manor resigned from the VLPOA Board of Directors. Thank you Tom.

INSULTS TO BOARD MEMBERS: In the Peoria Independent on August 15th 2007, Mel Millsap wrote in to express his feelings about the way the Board Members conducted the Board meeting on July 25th 2007. Contrary to what Mr. Millsap wrote, Board Member Bob DellaPia started by making a statement letting the residents know what our attorneys advised us to do in order to conduct a meeting that day. Bob DellaPia made the phone call, per Board approval to the attorney after finding out that Rudy Simon resigned his position as a Board Member that morning. Mr. DellaPia explained to the residents that a meeting was needed that day so the Board could vote on a new landscaping contract. Once he made his opening statement I, as President, continued the Board meeting and completed the agenda. I ask myself why people would write or call the paper to criticize a Board Member instead of running for a seat on the Board. "Criticizing should be the exception not the rule."

SHORES LAWSUIT: A few month's ago the Board of Directors all agreed to make an offer to the Shores lakefront homeowners to end a costly lawsuit for the association. The offer was presented to Resident Mel Millsap the lawsuit chair person and 2 members of the lawsuit committee. The offer was that the Board had come up with a Grandfather rule. All existing lakefront homeowners would be grandfathered in. The offer was that the association would continue to do the landscaping maintenance. The offer would be that a small maintenance charge would be added to their assessments. However, the charge would be waived until that house was sold and the new homeowners would then start paying the small assessment charge. "No cost to the existing lake front homeowners". This offer was turned down one week later.

INVESTMENTS: Your investments are safe and sound. Any rumors you hear other than that are **FALSE**. Reserves are growing nicely and in a few years we will be fully funded. Financial reports may be viewed on the Ventana Lakes Web Site or in the Management Office.

SEEING IS BELIEVING: The last thing I would like to share with you is an old saying that has been around for years. "Believe what you see not what you hear".

Tony Fiore, President Board of Directors

Manager's Corner

The biggest challenge during the months of July and August was getting the remediation and re-build of the Recreation Center Ladies Room. That has been completed and the room is open for the Ladies. We will now turn our attention to the Steam Room, and, at the same time, take a look at the area above the Men's Room. We anticipate that, by the time you are reading this Newsletter we will have bids on the work. The swimming pools continue to provide much needed cooling for all users. Kudos to Will McGinty our "pool guy" for keeping the pools clean and sanitary.

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. Home owners must obtain the Guest Badge(s) for their visitor(s) from the Management Office to use any of the facilities.

Hooray, we have a new PM Receptionist. Her name is Jennifer Simpson, and if you are in the vicinity of the Management Office stop in and see her sunny smile, and say hello.

Jack Donovan, Community Manager

Board Meetings

The Coffee Forum will be held on Saturday September 8th, beginning at 9:00 AM in the Yacht Club. Tickets are available at the Management Office for \$1.50 up until 12 Noon September 7th, and \$2.00 at the door.

The September Board Meeting will be held in the Yacht Club on September 19th beginning at 1:30 PM.

ALL BUSINESS OF THE ASSOCIATION WILL BE DONE AT OPEN BOARD MEETINGS OR SPECIAL MEETINGS. Executive Sessions will still be scheduled when needed.

TRANSITIONS

The Association and the Management Staff wish to extend our condolences to the families of five of our residents and former residents:
Marian Bartosky; Del Berry; Fran Burris; Marion Herbertson; and John Wild.

POOL NEWS FROM SPLASH

Welcome back to those of you who are returning to enjoy the rest of the summer here at Ventana lakes. To our die hard residents who stay around to enjoy our summer (hot) weather. Hope everyone had a good time enjoying our pools during the hot weather. The pools were in great shape except for some minor problems during the dust storms and the monsoon winds. That's Arizona weather. I would like to thank everyone for their efforts in keeping our pools in a respectable condition i.e. replacing pool furniture in their original place and in general for keeping the pool area in great shape, and for those of you for taking a cool shower before entering the pool.

During the course of the summer, we had to replace hand rails at the Yacht Club and Coves pool. These are the hand rails that help you to get out of the pool when using the in place pool steps. The manufacture has informed us, that these hand rails should not be used as exercise bars, chinning bars or any other form of lifting device except to remove oneself from the pool; constant use as a form of exercise equipment will loosen the foundation that the rails are implanted in. So, please do not use the hand rails for your exercise. I would like to say a big thanks to Val and Paul Reveles for volunteering to clean the tile in the North Park Pool.

Thank you for your cooperation

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.

Architectural requests received at the Management Office by 4 pm, Wednesdays, will be on the agenda for the following Monday meeting at 10:00 am. Our meetings are open to any resident, whether or not they have a pending request.

Bill Keitel, Acting Architectural 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 neighborhoods 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 first meeting of the Italian-American Club of Ventana Lakes will be held on Thursday, September 6th, 2007, at the Yacht club at 6:30 p.m. This is a members only meeting. Our new president, Darrell Smith is looking forward to meeting and greeting all of our members at this first meeting. Our program activities for this coming year will be as exciting and fun as previous programs so, if you don't want to miss any, mark the first Thursday of every month on your calendar. Refreshments will be served. BYOB.

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 Darrell Smith at (623) 376-0372.

NEWS OF THE SHALOM CLUB

No meeting this month, we will resume on the second Thursday in October. Details? Call Trudy Fleishman at 566-1970.

Flying Solos

This month we'll be meeting at the Cheesecake Factory located on 83rd Ave, south of Bell Road. For more information, call **Brenda H.** at (623) 215-8687 or **Yvonne K.** at 566-3353.

LADIES LUNCHEON

IT'S SUMMER TIME AND THE FISHIN' IS EASY Please join us on Wednesday, September 12th at 12:30 pm at McGrath's Pacific Northwest Fresh. The restaurant is located at 1800 N. Litchfield Rd in Goodyear. It will take you 30 or 40 minutes from Ventana Lakes. As you travel south on Litchfield Rd., the restaurant will be on your right just past Thomas Rd. Not only is there a wide variety of seafood, but there are also pasta dishes and other items of a non-fishy variety. Everyone is welcome! As a reminder, commencing immediately, you must contact either Sharon Crafton at 566-3191 or Camille Wilcox at 566-4792 to sign up for the Ladies Luncheon.

"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.

From the Bridge Group: The chairpersons for the Thursday Bridge Group will be Mickey and Jim Miller. They may be reached at 623-566-9646.

Upcoming Activities

SEPTEMBER

Friday September 7, 7:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M. at the Yacht Club, Dallas Dan Band. A return performance, with plenty of music and dancing. Light refreshments will be served. **Tickets at the Management Office \$ 6. No admittance at the door!**

Saturday September 8, 9:00 A.M. at the Yacht Club, Coffee and Forum. Join your neighbors for donuts, coffee, etc... Afterwards, some Board members will be available to answer questions. **Tickets at the Management Office \$ 1.50 until 12 NOON September 7. Admittance at the door \$ 2. No ticket is necessary to attend JUST the Forum.**

Sunday September 9, 2:00 P.M. - 4 P.M. at the Yacht Club, Tea Dance, sponsored by **Ken Harper** and the Ballroom Dancers, with "**Magic Joe, The Dancing DJ**". Admission \$ 2. Call 977-9179 for more information.

Monday September 10, 9:00 A.M. at the Yacht Club, Life Planning, presented by Debra Boelke from the Attorney General's Office. A DVD presentation and information about "**How to establish effective life**

planning **WITHOUT AN ATTORNEY.**" Sign up at the Management Office. **FREE!**

Wednesday September 12, 6:30 P.M. in the Recreation Center. **Ladies Bunco!!** Cost \$ 5 returned in prize money. **Delicious** snack and dessert table provided by the ladies that choose to bring some to share. **No sign up required. Ladies come and have a wild night out!!!!**

Thursday September 13, Mazatzal Casino, FREE!!! Bus leaves the Yacht Club at 8:00 A.M. **Must sign up at the Management Office.** You receive \$ 10 upon arrival. If your birthday is in September you will receive an additional \$ 10. Blackjack, Slots, Keno, and Poker on Thursdays, Bingo at 12:45 P.M. Ask for senior discount in the restaurant. **Casino is now bigger and better, so come and check it out.** Return bus leaves at 3:00 P.M. On the return bus you receive a free bottle of water and a scratch-off valued between \$ 4 and \$ 10 to be used on a future trip.

Thursday September 20, Laughlin Turn-Around, bus leaves the Yacht Club at 6:15 A.M. Edgewater Casino. Movies on the bus. You may visit any or all of the 9 casinos on the Strip. **Must sign up at the Management Office. Cost \$ 5.**

Tuesday September 25, Mazatzal Casino, FREE!!! Bus leaves the Yacht Club at 8:00 A.M. **Must sign up at the Management Office.** See previous write-up for more information.

Friday September 28, 6:30 P.M. at the Yacht Club, **Karaoke with Darrell and Jack.** BYOB and snacks. **Cost \$ 2.**

Saturday September 29, 7:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M. at the Yacht Club, **Season Opener Dance Party.** **The Steve Berliner Quartet, including their Female Vocalist,** will play music from the Swing 40's and 50's plus a **Wide Variety** of dance tempos. Light refreshments will be served. **BYOB. Tickets at the Management Office \$ 7.50. No admittance at the door**

OCTOBER

Wednesday October 10, 6:30 P.M. in the Recreation Center. **Ladies Bunco!!** Cost \$5 returned in prize money. A **DELICIOUS** snack and dessert table provided by the ladies on a volunteer basis. **No sign up required. Ladies come and have a wild time!!!**

Thursday October 11, Mazatzal Casino, FREE!!! You owe it to yourself, to check out this UPGRADED casino, restaurant and buffet. Bus leaves the Yacht Club at 8:00 A.M. **Must sign up at the Management Office.** In the past, the buses filled up quickly, so do not wait. **You receive \$10 upon arrival.** If your birthday is in October you receive an additional \$10. Blackjack, Slots, Keno, Bingo at 12:45 P.M. and Poker on Thursdays. Ask for senior discount in the restaurant. **Return bus leaves at 3:00 P.M.** On the return bus you receive a free bottle of water and a scratch off ticket valued between \$4 and \$10 to be used on a future trip.

Saturday October 13, 9 A.M. at the Yacht Club. Coffee and Forum. Tickets in the Management Office \$1.50 until 12 NOON Friday October 12. Tickets at the door \$2. No ticket is necessary to attend JUST the Forum.

Saturday October 13, 7 P.M. till 10 P.M. at the Yacht Club. Sock Hop with The Roadrunners. At least 5 musicians will ROCK the YC with music from the 50's and 60's. Light refreshments will be served. BYOB!! Tickets at the Management Office \$7. No tickets sold at the door. Please note: If at least 80 tickets are not sold by September 13 this event will be cancelled.

Sunday October 14, 2 P.M. till 4 P.M. at the Yacht Club. Tea Dance, sponsored by Ken Harper and the Ballroom Dancers, "with Magic Joe, the Dancing DJ" Admission \$2. Call 977-9179 for more information.

Monday October 15, 11A.M. till 3 P.M. at the Yacht Club. The Mollen Clinic - Flu and Influenza Shot Clinic. You must sign up at the Management Office; call-ins BY PHONE are OK but NO sign ups by e-mail.

Thursday October 18, Laughlin Turn-Around, bus leaves the Yacht Club at 6:15 A.M. for the Edgewater Casino. Movies on the bus. You may visit any or all of the 9 casinos on the strip. **Must sign up at the Management Office. Cost \$5.**

Friday October 26, 6:30 P.M. at the Yacht Club. Halloween Karaoke with Darrell and Jack. Come one; come all with or without costumes. BYOB and snacks. **Cost \$2.**

Tuesday October 30, Mazatzal Casino, FREE!! Bus leaves the Yacht Club at 8:00 A.M. Must sign up at the Management Office. **See previous article for details.**

CRAFT SALE

It's time to start thinking about the Craft Sale which will be held on December 1st. 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.

Board of Directors: Tony Fiore, President; Bob DellaPia, Secretary/Treasurer; Sue Alandar, Communications Director; Norman Steinberg, Director.

Office Staff: Jack Donovan, Manager; Irene Hart, Assistant Manager; Karen Carr, Front Desk (morning); Jennifer Simpson, Front Desk (afternoon).
Office Phone: (623) 566-6001

Website: www.ventanalakespoa.com