



# Ventana Views

## JOY AND PEACE, AND HIGH HOPES FOR 2008!

Message from Sue Alandar, Board President

The Holidays are upon us already! We've had our ups and downs, but I believe 2008 is going to be a great year for Ventana Lakes. Let's start off with the new **election procedures** – we are going to be filling **six seats** and we know you good people are out there, people who are willing to step up and work hard to do your best for your community!

### PROCEDURES FOR CANDIDATES

Any homeowner in Ventana Lakes is eligible to run for a seat on the Board of Directors. Candidates elected for 2008 will be seated at the Annual Meeting on March 4, 2008.

**Candidates wishing to have their name on the ballot must submit a Declaration of Candidacy to the Management Office by 4:00 p.m. Thursday, January 10, 2008.** Candidates may submit Declarations of Candidacy after January 10, 2008, however their names will not appear on the ballot and they will be considered to be "Write-In" Candidates. Write-in Candidates may participate in Candidates' Interviews.

**Declaration of Candidacy** is a simple written statement indicating the candidate's desire to be a candidate and willingness to serve if elected. The candidate may, or may not, include a **digital resume (CD or e-mail)** not to exceed 350 words to be printed unedited (except for font) in the *Ventana Views*. Submit this to [manager@vlpoa.org](mailto:manager@vlpoa.org). *This material will be refused if it attacks another person in any manner.*

Candidates wishing to have resumes **printed in the January and February, 2008** issues of the *Ventana Views* must submit the resumes no later than **3:00 p.m. Friday, December 14, 2007.**

Candidates wishing to have resumes **printed only in the February, 2008**, issue of *Ventana Views* must submit their resumes no later than **3:00 p.m. January 10, 2008.**

As an alternative, Candidates wishing to have a full page flyer of their own design in the *Ventana Views* must submit it in digital format (CD or by e-mail) along with payment of \$170 (two sides) or \$85 (single side) by the same deadlines provided above. Material submitted will also be placed on the Ventana Lakes website and may be longer than the material submitted for the Ventana Lakes newsletter and may include a photo.

### INTERVIEW THE CANDIDATES

There will be three Candidates' Interviews where individual candidates may declare their qualifications and state their positions on issues. Individual members of the community will be able to question the candidates on about their qualifications and positions on issues.

#### Schedule:

**Saturday, January 12, 2008, 9:30 a.m.** after Coffee Forum, Yacht Club

**Friday, January 18, 2008, 6:30 p.m.** Yacht Club

**Saturday, February 9, 2008, 9:30 a.m.** after Coffee Forum, Yacht Club.

1. Candidates, or someone acting on their behalf, will draw numbers for order of seating and speaking and appearing on the ballot.
2. Each Candidate will have two minutes for opening and two minutes for closing statements. Members of the community may sign up to ask questions to ask questions of the Candidates. Questions will be asked after the opening statements. If time allows, community members who have not signed up will also be allowed to ask questions. Two hours will be allowed for opening statements and questions. After two hours, the moderator will call for the two minute closing statements from each of the candidates in the same order as the opening statements.

## Procedures for VOTING

We are printing all the information on the last page of this newsletter. You will also find it on the website: [www.vlpoa.org](http://www.vlpoa.org), or you can pick up a flyer at the office, and the flyers are also posted on bulletin boards around the community.

**Voting has always been important, but NEVER AS IMPORTANT AS THIS TIME with six seats to fill!** Please make yourself knowledgeable about the candidates by reading this newsletter beginning next month, going online where there will be more information, and attending the candidates' interviews (schedule on previous page and under January activities.) It's up to all of us to choose the best for our community!

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Last month we announced several new tools for improving communications, including a simple form, available at meetings and coffee forums, where you can write your question, give your name, drop it in a box, and expect an answer. Here are some now:

**JOHN LUGO** pointed out that the Treasurer's Report should never be limited to the balance sheet. It should also include income and expense information and results.

**ANSWER:** The Board agrees, and Treasurer Moe Frenette is and will be including this information and more in his monthly report. We believe the money coming in and being spent belongs to the members of the Association and we all should be aware of how it's being handled. Check out the website, too, for more financial information.

**BILL KEITEL** wonders if the Board will be appointing all Committee Chairpersons, since it appointed Ken Hunstad as Chairman of the Architectural Committee at its October meeting.

**ANSWER:** This was a special situation where the Board wanted to show its support for the Committee by honoring the Committee's own choice for leader at the same time it appointed a new member for the Architectural Committee.

## LANDSCAPING CONCERNS

This is a problem we're all aware of...our landscaping. Our Manager Jack Donovan and his staff are getting hit hard with demands that things get fixed. The problem is we have a landscape contract for maintenance, and we have more than maintenance that needs to be done.

We have a lot of old irrigation systems, and in many places, some very old landscaping. We had a bad freeze last winter, and we had a moratorium on

replacement of trees and shrubs by our last Board while they were looking for bids for a landscape contract. We need more than maintenance, all right, we need repair and replacement.

**Tim Willems** has stepped up and is gathering names to begin a new Landscape Committee. But what about starting a committee in your own neighborhood, and letting Tim know on paper what needs to be done there? We need residents to help us start some planning. You can't plan without identifying the problems and maybe some solutions. Then we can figure out cost and priorities.

We can't expect our new landscaper to do that for us. We can't expect them to respond to our requests to "fix" things that require community planning and prioritizing. CareScape, Inc. does maintenance and repair, not restoration; they do it on their schedule, not ours; and we are one customer of many. We're going to have to start making our own plans for the major work we need. We – the Board, and Jack -- can't do it all alone. We need help. If you can represent your own neighborhood, just a street or two, we can all build from that. Hey, that's what it's about! We're a community!

## PLEASE

### DON'T SPEND CHRISTMAS ALONE

Just a few short days after Thanksgiving, a lovely Ventana resident came up to me and said "I spent Thanksgiving all by myself. It's too bad there isn't a pot luck or something here at Ventana for those of us who don't have family here and nowhere to go."

Talk about getting hit between the eyes. Such a simple idea. Such a great idea. A pot luck. And we have the perfect place for it. It will be beautifully decorated, there is a fireplace, it is cozy. It belongs to all of us. It is the Recreation Center!

**THE "DON'T BE HOME ALONE"**

**CHRISTMAS DAY POTLUCK**

**DECEMBER 25 1:00 P.M.**

**RECREATION CENTER**

Please call me at **572-4408**

If you can't reach me call Tina (Activities – 566-6001), to let one of us know if you can come. Be sure to leave your phone number. We'll bring the turkey, but I'll need to know what everyone else is bringing and who needs a ride. That's all you have to do.

And with that, Jim and I wish each of you the all the peace and joy of this holy season, be it Christmas or Chanukah. And may you have the best new year ever.

**Thanks for listening!**

Sue Alandar, Board President and  
(still) Communications Director

[salandar@vlpoa.org](mailto:salandar@vlpoa.org)

## COMMENTS FROM THE TREASURER Moe Frenette, Treasurer

### Colby Financial Statements

The Colby financial statements were not available for the November Board meeting. I suggest that when scheduling future Board meetings next year, that the Board aim for the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

In the future the balance sheet, statement of operations and expenditure schedules be included as part of the monthly report and posted on the VLPOA web site.

### Certificates of Deposit

Ventana's Reserve funds are in the form of CD's. A review of this list indicates that we have no CD's maturing in 2013. I will attempt to initiate the renewal of CD's with 2013 maturity dates.

My review of the CD list indicates that we need more liquidity to cover potential upcoming capital expenses for the upcoming months. At the 10/17/07 board meeting I recommended that we renew the AmTrust CD for \$100,000 per the investment ladder. In November the Board approved my revised recommendation to transfer \$50,000 to the money market account and reinvest the remaining balance per the investment ladder.

I will look for opportunities to invest in an additional Garden's CD to maximize interest rates at a shorter term than the Master CD's. I believe that liquidity is important for the Gardens.

### Expenses for Lake Maintenance

During my review of expenses I noted that the lake maintenance expense was \$14,846 as of 9/30/07. The amount budgeted for 2007 is \$8,700. I took it upon myself to examine the contract and a couple of bills. I have concluded that additional visits were needed by Water Resource Management and that both the manager and Tim Willems, the Lakes Committee Chairman maintain good internal control on this expense. In 2007 we had many days of high temperatures, the algae problem was controlled and VLPOA did make any headlines regarding the lakes.

### Legal Fees for Aborted Recall

The total legal fees for the aborted recall were \$5,424.82.

### We are not going to have a dues increase for 2008.

The reason for this is that our reserves are projected to be 75% at year end. Per the recent reserve study, 70% typifies a strong reserve. We as an association need strong reserves to cover our many assets. Pardon the pun. We need to avoid future assessments every time we

suffer a breakdown of our assets. When that happens we use the reserve fund to pay for these repairs. We will have to look at the reserve balance on an annual basis to determine how this will factor in when determining future budgets.

The Gardens reserves are projected to be at 32% at year end. Per the recent reserve study this typifies a borderline position. The most recent landscaping contract provided a 33% windfall for the Gardens. Therefore we are able to fully fund the reserve recommendation in the Gardens without a dues increase in 2008.

My inspection of the general ledger entries for 2006 identified small amounts paid to Board members for mileage reimbursements and the repayment of small purchases they made on behalf of Ventana. Small amounts were also reimbursed to the maintenance committee for purchases they incurred for Ventana. At no time were any large amounts paid to any Board members or any Ventana homeowners.

I also completed a comparative analysis of the 2005 certified financial statements to 2006 reviewed financial statements and all indications were positive with the exception of the activity account. This was identified as a problem during 2005 and 2006. The VLPOA may have been guilty of not adhering to good accounting practices but in no way is this any indication of wrong doing. This problem was corrected during the 2007 fiscal year whereby full accounting of the activity account is made to Colby Management. Furthermore, the VLPOA activities are geared to be self sufficient whereby activity income is use to offset related activity expenses. If profits accumulate in this account they are transferred to the VLPOA reserve account. In the past \$17,000 was transferred from activities to reserves. As you can see there is little room for wrong doing.

When auditing any books and records auditors look for the existence of internal control.

Both the 2005 certified audit and the review for 2006 indicated adequate internal controls. My personal review of the accounting system indicates the existence of strong internal controls. Colby is in control of all of the assessment revenue. The only revenue controlled by the management office is for activities and other small miscellaneous amounts. All expense invoices are signed by both the Treasurer and the VLPOA Manager. If I notice something that does not appear correct, I will dig in further as was done with lake maintenance and I concluded that the increase was due to needed algae control due to our hot summer. Folks we have good internal controls.

I made a recommendation that we engage a CPA firm to perform a certified audit for 2007 and if major anomalies are identified in 2007 the Board will have the option to expand the audit to 2006. This selection was

made because 2007 was a year of great turmoil regarding the Board turnover.

Submitted by Moe Frenette, Treasurer  
[Mfrenette@vlpoa.org](mailto:Mfrenette@vlpoa.org)

**YOUR NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**Wednesday, December 12, 2007**  
**at 1:30 p.m. in the Yacht Club**

## **JUDGE MAKES DECISION IN SHORES MATTER**

After a hearing on November 19, 2007, Judge John Buttrick of the Maricopa County Superior Court rendered his decision that Article X of Ventana Lakes' CC&R's controls, and that "the Association has the obligation to maintain the landscaping in the subject easement area" of the Shores. The final detailed judgment is due December 15.

## **ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE**

Ken Hunstad reports that work is underway on next year's revisions to the Directory. It is time for all residents to get rid of their dead trees; they are not going to come back. Warning about painting houses: the seasonal groups are back in town; please be wary of contracting with some one who is seasonal. No contractor or any one has prior approval to paint in the community; each home owner must obtain individual approval to paint your home.

**We are looking for two alternate volunteers for the Architectural Committee.** Please contact Ken Hunstad or Bill Keitel if you are interested.

## **MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE**

Dave Bracken says he submitted a detailed estimate to the Board outlining the material cost for volunteers to paint the stripes in the parking lots. Pending approval from the Board the stripes will not be addressed until the middle of January and will take two weeks to complete. Remember, this is just a band aid, as all the areas need to be resurfaced to bring them up to higher quality so the paint will stick.

Recent projects the committee has completed:

1. Replaced several light bulbs at the North Park pool area.

2. Bulbs were also replaced at the front entrance area of the sewing/ceramics building.

**When calling in a problem to the Management Office, please provide your name and a return phone number so the maintenance crews can clarify where and what the exact problem is.**

## **Italian-American Club of Ventana Lakes**

The November meeting of the Italian-American Club of Ventana Lakes for 2007-2008 was held on Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007, at the Yacht Club at 7:00 p.m. There were 84 members in attendance.

Darrell Smith, President, greeted all of our Members and announced the names of two members who are ill. He then welcomed back our past President, Tony DeMont, who had been out for several months due to surgery. Tony thanked everyone for their cards and visits but most importantly for all their prayers.

Darrell reminded everyone about the December 6<sup>th</sup> meeting which is open to both Members and their guests; Member pay \$6.00, Guests pay \$10.00. There will be a catered dinner, music, singing of Christmas Carols, dancing and of course, Santa will make an appearance. Members should get tickets for themselves and their guests as soon as possible. There will be no 'last-minute' tickets sold.

Everyone enjoyed their fill of sandwiches, chicken wings, fruit salad, and later - dessert. During dinner, we all had the pleasure of listening to "Music from The 50's", sung by The Generations group. They reminded us of many things that we'd all experienced while growing up, including the "See the USA in Your Chevrolet" commercial which we all joined in to sing. Members and guests had a great time singing along and dancing to many of these oldies but goodies.

Florence Cardinale gave details on two planned casino trips; one to Primm, NV scheduled for February 18, 19 & 20, 2008 which is a three-day trip, and one to Harrah's Ak-Chin scheduled for Tuesday, January 21, 2008. Members and their guests are invited to both. Please call Florence at 623-566-4563 if you want to sign up for either or both of these trips.

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.

## **FLYING SOLOS**

Flying Solos are having their annual Christmas Dinner and meeting on Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at the Union Hills Country Club at 5:00 pm. It is being held in the Apache Room. There will be a \$10.00 gift exchange for those interested in participating.

For more information, please call Brenda at 215-8687, Miriam at 376-9301, or Yvonne at 566-3353. We wish to extend to all of you a wonderful Christmas and a blessed New Year.

### **BOCCE BALL NEEDS MORE PEOPLE!**

Our 7:00 PM Thursday night Couples Bocce Ball group is short people. Full strength is 8 couples and several substitute couples. We need 4 couples that can commit to full time play and 2 or 3 couples that would like to be on our substitute list. Looking for year round residents as we play except when it gets real hot. We play a friendly game. The men against the women and try not to have the couples on the same court. We are currently playing with 4 full time and 2 sub couples. A couple that is on our sub list is given first choice to advance to a full timer. Any questions to Don or Joyce Lorentzen @ 544-9781.

### **HEARTS & HANDS**

A small group of volunteers is available on a short term basis to help residents who are unable by:

- providing a ride to doctor's office
- picking up a prescription
- grocery shopping; and
- with small home repairs -- change light bulbs & AC filters, etc

Call the Management Office, 566-6001, and someone from the group will call you back.

Consider attending the nondenominational Chapel service the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month at 3 pm in the Game Room. It is a pleasant way to see how biblical passages relate to today's world.

### **A BIG THANK YOU!**

We want to thank everyone in Ventana Lakes for their wonderful support during Tony's long illness and recovery. Your prayers, cards, notes, calls and visits truly helped.

As Tony has always said – "This is a great place to live" – and this sure proved it!

**Mr and Mrs. Tony DeMont**

### **FOOD DONATIONS**

Since the merger of St Mary's Food Bank and Westside, the DeMonts are no longer involved there. They are now taking any donated food to Valley View Community Food Bank in Youngtown.

This nonprofit association is being headed by a former Westside employee with 20 years experience.

**If you have any questions, please call Tony DeMont at 566-3894.**

## **DECEMBER LADIES LUNCHEON**

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS EVERYONE!** We invite you to join us on Wednesday, December 12th, at 12:30 PM at **HAUS MURPHY**, 5739 W. Glendale Avenue in downtown. You can travel on Union Hills to 59<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Glendale Avenue, then left on Glendale Avenue, OR take the 101 to Glendale Avenue and travel east to Glendale downtown. Haus Murphy is on the right just past the town square (park). All their salads and hot lunches are served with their wonderful Pumpernickel/Rye Bread. There are lots of great Schnitzels, and sandwiches as well. Murphy's also serves a variety of German sausages to tempt your palate! 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! Because this is a special time of year, please share your love by bringing an unwrapped gift for a child. Gifts will be donated to the Westside Food Bank as we have for the past several years. NOTICE: From now on you MUST call Sharon or Camille to sign up to attend the Ladies Luncheon. The Management Office will only take reservation sign-ups for those activities which require payment for tickets. Please call Sharon Crafton at 566-3191 or Camille Willcoxon at 566-4792. (OR, please leave your name and phone number on our answering machines.)

## **NEWS OF THE VENTANA LAKES SHALOM CLUB**

We all enjoyed dinner at Coco's on November 8. Arrangements were made to have food brought in for our annual Hanukah party which will be held "on premises" here at Ventana Lakes on Thursday, December 20, probably at the Craft Center where we have been holding our regular meetings. As usual, members will be notified by phone or e-mail of the exact date, time and location. If you have any questions please call Eileen Grossman at 623-566-0006 or Trudy Fleishman at 623-566-1970

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.

## **KITCHEN INVESTIGATORS SEEK SHOW OF INTEREST!**

How do we maintain one of Ventana Lakes MOST important amenities? We bring the Yacht Club kitchen up to Maricopa County code for an Active Adult Community!

Currently, we can only dispense prepackaged food or hire outside caterers who are willing to work

without a stove. No cooking, no scooping, no popping is allowed in our kitchen at this time because it doesn't meet health standard codes. Of course, it is important to serve food from a kitchen that protects our residents from food borne illness as much as possible.

The basics of the remodel will involve upgrading the hot water heater, putting in a commercial three tub sink, a hand-washing sink, a new dishwasher and covering the center island with stainless steel. Most of the work will take place along the wall that runs from the freezer to the stoves.

Your Kitchen Committee's investigation has revealed the following:

- Only one professional contractor would even give us a bid and it ended up being \$50,000!
- The Sun City Elks Club advised they had a similar situation. They used members for labor and the club paid for the materials to accomplish their remodel. Unfortunately, they declined to bid on our job.

We currently have **neither concrete plans nor timeline.** Nothing has been presented to the Board. We are INVESTIGATING!

We are looking for a show of interest from Ventana's skilled artisans who may consider participating in this project once formally proposed. **We need a remodel designer, plumbers, electricians, carpenters and sheet metal workers who would donate their time.** Unfortunately, Ventana Lakes has a policy, which doesn't allow payments to ANY resident workers. We take a great deal of pride in all of the volunteers who give countless hours to keep this a wonderful place to live!

Please contact **Janez Tazioli 623-825-9808** if you have an interest in this project or know someone we could contact.

## LINE DANCING!

Fall is here and so is Ventana Lakes Line Dance Class!! Audrey teaches on Mondays and Wednesdays in the Yacht club from 8:00 AM-10:00AM. The first hour is beginning instruction- nice and specific for those who are just starting or need a refresher. The second hour is more advanced- but those of you who are just starting, don't worry, you will catch onto the more advanced moved quickly too! Price is \$4.00 whether you stay for one hour or two. Come join us. Questions? **Call Audrey at 623-566-2667.**

## TAI CHI

Tai Chi for Beginners will continue into December on the 4th, 11th, and 18th. Call Mr. Kenneth Harper at 977-9179 for details.

## THE RED HAT SOPHISTICATES

The Ventana Lakes Red Hat Sophisticates, for the first time in almost five years, have openings for new members, who are Sophisticated, fun loving, active and live at Ventana Lakes year round. We have a great group of Sophisticated ladies. We keep active and have fun doing it. Call Queen Mum Nellie 623-561-5389 or email her at [nellieq3@qwest.net](mailto:nellieq3@qwest.net) Have lunch with us and get acquainted.

## DECEMBER ACTIVITIES

### AN OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS

Date: **Sunday, December 9, 2007**

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Place: Yacht Club

Step back to the 1940's and let's reminisce a little. This special presentation of AN OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS will delight everyone including grandchildren. Santa Claus, Mrs. Claus and Santa's helpers will be there to amuse and entertain you. Admission is FREE but we do ask for a donation of canned food or non-perishable item to be given to the Westside Food Bank.

The Red Hat Dazzlers will be there to serve delectable cookies, coffee, tea and lemonade. Your help would be appreciated with your donation of Christmas cookies to add to those that will be provided by the Dazzlers.

LAST YEARS PERFORMANCE WAS A HUGH SUCCESS. THE YACHT CLUB WAS PACKED OUT. WE WILL NEED AN IDEA OF WHO'S COMING IN ORDER TO HAVE ENOUGH REFRESHMENTS. SO PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE OR COME IN AND SIGN UP.

Hope to see you there!

Miriam Snider

### Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM Yacht Club.

## COME HELP DECORATE THE RECREATION CENTER!

Like the Marines, Tony DeMont is looking for a few good men (OR women) to help decorate the **OUTSIDE** of the Recreation Center on **Saturday, December 15th at 8AM.** Please call Tony at 566-3894.

## Holiday Dance and Hoagies

The Holiday Dance and Hoagies will be held on **December 15th** at 6:00 pm in the Yacht Club!! Have you purchased your tickets at \$7.50 per person yet? You don't want to miss this wonderful event we are going to have a blast! Tickets on sale at the Management Office - come see us.

## Mazatzal Casino

**Tuesday December 18<sup>th</sup>, 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 **December** 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.

## KARAOKE WITH DARRELL!

Come join a lot of talented Ventana Lakes neighbors at the Yacht Club at 6:30 p.m. **Friday, December 28<sup>th</sup>.** It's only \$2.00 per person (you can pay at the door). You'll need to bring your own beverage and snacks. See you there!

## New Year's Eve Party

On Monday, December 31st at 7:00 pm, the New Year's Eve party will be held at the Yacht Club. It will feature an elegant dinner and awesome music by Ken Foley. Please come in to the MO and buy your tickets NOW!! \$35.00 per person.

Also Tina is looking for volunteers for this wonderful evening if you would like to help me please call me at the Management Office at 623-566-6001 or email me at [activities@vlpoa.org](mailto:activities@vlpoa.org)

I am very excited to bring in the New Year with all of you!!

Thanks, Tina

### We're Also in the Book

Sue Alandar, Board President.....[salandar@vlpoa.org](mailto:salandar@vlpoa.org)  
Darrell Smith, Vice President.....[dsmith@vlpoa.org](mailto:dsmith@vlpoa.org)  
Moe Frenette, Treasurer.....[mfrenette@vlpoa.org](mailto:mfrenette@vlpoa.org)  
Lori Norris, Secretary.....[lnorris@vlpoa.org](mailto:lnorris@vlpoa.org)  
Jack Donovan, Community Manager.....  
.....[manager@vlpoa.org](mailto:manager@vlpoa.org)

## COMING UP IN JANUARY Mark your NEW Calendar!

### OMELET BREAKFAST

Start the New Year off right with our Omelet Breakfast. It will be held on Saturday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, at the Yacht Club, beginning at 8:30 AM and continuing until you are full. Hurry into the management Office and buy your \$6.00 ticket per person.

**THOSE WISHING TO RUN FOR THE BOARD:** Submit Declaration of Candidacy to the Management Office by 4:00 p.m. **Thursday, January 10, 2008.**

### California Benefit Show

January 11th and 12th at the Yacht Club 7:00pm. All the money will go to the fire victims in California so hurry into the Management Office and buy your tickets for \$8.00 per person.

### INTERVIEW THE BOARD CANDIDATES

**Saturday, January 12, 2008, 9:30 a.m.** Yacht Club  
**Friday, January 18, 2008, 6:30 p.m.** Yacht Club

### JANUARY BOARD MEETING

January 16, 2008, 6:30 p.m., Yacht Club

### The Desert Aires

On Saturday, January 19th at 7:00 pm at the Yacht Club the Desert Aires Barbershop Harmony will be here performing for us. The tickets will be \$5.00 per person and well worth it as this group is awesome!! Tickets will be on sale at the Management Office the second week in December so hurry in and buy them up!!

Men who love to sing are invited to join the Chorus any Tuesday afternoon at 12:30pm, at the Sun City Christian Church, located at 98th Avenue and Palmeras Drive in Sun City. Bookings of the Chorus or its' Quartets may be arranged by contacting Jack McGill at 623-214-7500, or Ed O'Connor at 623-584-7522. You may also visit their Webpage at [www.DsrtAiresChorus.org](http://www.DsrtAiresChorus.org), or Email them at: [dsrtaires@cox.net](mailto:dsrtaires@cox.net).

Want to know what's going on in Ventana?  
**DON'T HAVE E-MAIL?**  
**CALL FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**623 376-2353**

# VOTING PROCEDURES FOR 2008 ELECTION

**WHEN WILL THE VOTING TAKE PLACE?** Ballots will be mailed out to each homeowner of record at least 30 days in advance of the Annual Meeting which, this time, will be held on Tuesday, March 4, 2008. Voting in person will take place on this date between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m. If you prefer to vote by mail, you may mail your ballot back in the envelope provided, or bring it in to the Management Office no later than 3:00 p.m. on Monday, March 3, 2008 and deposit it in the locked voting box there (the key to the ballot box is **not** kept in the office. If you vote in person at the Yacht Club, doors will be closed at 4:00 p.m. and no voters will be allowed in after that time. Voters already inside at 4:00 p.m. will be allowed to cast their ballots. All votes will be counted then and the results announced at the Annual meeting scheduled for 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 4, 2008.

**HOW WILL I RECEIVE A BALLOT?** A ballot will be mailed to the registered owner of each property within Ventana Lakes. In most cases, the property owner lives in Ventana and will cast his/her vote from home; however, there are some absentee owners and, under our procedures, ballots will be mailed to those owners. If you are a renter, or you live in Ventana Lakes but someone else (your son, daughter, other relative) actually owns the home you live in, then that person will receive the ballot. If you are not the owner but you receive a ballot, you should forward that ballot to the property owner. If you have not received a ballot by Friday, February 8, please call the Management Office.

**IF YOU CHOOSE TO VOTE BY MAIL, YOUR RETURN ENVELOPE IDENTIFIES YOUR BALLOT AS VALID.** When you do receive your ballot, there will be a self-addressed envelope with a small code number on it. This code number is used **only** to validate that the ballot within was lawfully received and returned by a property owner and is not a duplicate. No one can use this number to learn how you voted or connect that ballot to you. Please **DO NOT** do anything to that number. If you mark it over or scratch it out, your vote cannot be counted because the persons certifying the envelopes will be unable to certify that the vote has been cast from a lawful voter.

**HOW MANY VOTES WILL I HAVE?** This year, since there are six seats to be filled, you will be entitled to six votes. *You do not have to cast all six votes* in order for your ballot to be counted. You may cast one, two, three, four, five or six votes. However, **if you cast more than six votes**, your ballot **will be disqualified** because the election committee will have no way of determining which candidates you actually want to vote for.

**CUMULATIVE VOTING.** Ventana Lakes (like many homeowners associations) has a procedure called "cumulative voting." Under cumulative voting, a voter (you) may cast more than one vote for any one candidate. Indeed, you may cast as many as six for any one candidate. Here is how it works:

- a. You have a total of six votes to cast (but you don't have to cast all six.)
- b. You may spread the six votes around any way you wish.
- c. You may cast all six for one candidate (but then, do not vote for any other candidate or your ballot will be disqualified.)
- d. You may cast five votes for one candidate and one for another candidate (a total of six).
- e. You may cast four votes for one candidate and one each for any two other candidates (a total of six).
- f. You may cast three votes for one candidate and three for another, *or any other combination which adds up to six - but no more.*
- g. You may spread your votes around in any combination **which adds up to six but no more.**

**WHAT KIND OF MARKS MAY I MAKE?** There will be six lines next to the name of each candidate. You may make either a check  or an X  on the line next to the candidates' name to indicate your vote. There will be samples on posters, in the newsletter, and on the web. Here is how you might vote for candidates one, three, and five, casting your last three votes for a write-in candidate who is your favorite:

\_\_\_\_\_  Candidate one  
\_\_\_\_\_  Candidate two  
\_\_\_\_\_  Candidate three  
\_\_\_\_\_ Candidate four  
\_\_\_\_\_ Candidate five  
\_\_\_\_\_ Candidate six  
\_\_\_\_\_    (write-in candidate)

**WHAT IF I MAKE A MISTAKE ON MY BALLOT?** The Election Committee will not replace the absentee ballot or the envelope. If the ballot or the envelope are spoiled or destroyed, you will need to vote in person on Election Day at the Yacht Club. Once a ballot is put in the ballot box, you will not be allowed to change your vote.