

January 2008

Ventana Lakes Property Owners Association



Ventana Views

HERE WE GO, NEIGHBORS! GOOD NEWS FOR 2008!

Message from Sue Alandar, Board President

Be sure to come to the Board meeting on January 16 at 6:30 p.m. Our landscaper, CareScape, Inc., will be there to give everyone a presentation on their assessment of Ventana Lakes' landscaping assets and its proposals for the future. They met with the Board to answer some of our hard questions in December. Quite frankly, we are impressed! They gave us information that we want to share with you.

There wasn't a big turnout at the December meeting, but we got some important work done. The Gardens now has its own Landscaping Committee with guidelines that will help the homeowners there keep down their costs and future maintenance needs. I commend Tony Fiore, Vern Bacon and Joan Hay, who are the first sitting members of this committee and who worked hard to bring this to reality. For anyone out there who isn't familiar with The Gardens, it has a separate tract declaration and the homeowners pay a separate (and higher) assessment for maintenance of their private property. They are covered under the "condominium" laws rather than the "planned community" laws like the rest of Ventana Lakes. Congratulations, neighbors! The Board is happy to work with you on this important step forward.

The Board also approved a new standing Landscape Committee for Ventana Lakes. This committee will be co-chaired by Tim Willems and Jim Alandar. The charter for this committee is still under development, as is its membership. It is hoped that these volunteers will be our ultimate asset toward the beautification of Ventana Lakes, working in harmony with our manager and our landscaping contractor.

The Board approved the mold remediation contract for the Recreation Center and we'll let you know as soon as work begins. When it is completed, we'll be working on the landscaping between the Recreation Center and Beardsley that looks so terrible right now. That's where the heavy equipment will be coming through

for the contract work, and we didn't want it tearing up new landscaping. Speaking of which...

LANDSCAPING

We hope to give you an update every month on what's going on with CareScape, Inc. You may have seen someone walking through our community with a device in his hand. He was assessing our trees, something that hasn't been done in years. Please come to the January 16 meeting to get more information!

They are pulling dead plants and preparing a plan for replacement, wherever there is an irrigation system that will support replacements. We have serious problems with our irrigation systems that must be addressed, because of the aging of our community. This is beyond the scope of our landscaping maintenance contract. You'll be hearing more about this as we move forward.

SECURITY

The Board began discussions on security issues and possible solutions for Ventana Lakes. We've had problems with "night fishing" in the lakes, and the showers left on and paper towels stuffed in the toilets at the Recreation Center. With the increase in population around our community, these incidents may well continue or worsen.

Anyone is invited to submit their ideas, concerns or comments (and questions) to us. If you have e-mail, you can submit them directly to any Board member or all of us from the website: www.vlpoa.org or to me: salandar@vlpoa.org and you can always leave a note in the box in the Management Office that is labeled "Ventana Communications."

AND THE TREASURER SAID...

Moe Frenette noted that while most of the legal fees in the Shores litigation have already been paid, he did not know at the time he made his recommendation regarding assessments for 2008 that the Judge would rule against the Association and that there may be additional legal fees related to the plaintiffs. Further, in the past the Treasurer added any remaining profits after year end to the reserve fund. This amount will not be known until we receive the December financials. If there are not adequate excess profits the Board may need to look at alternatives to cover these expenditures.

We have total delinquent amounts of \$11,000. Notices have been mailed to five homeowners and Moe has talked to others who intend to pay down their assessments.

We are receiving bids from a minimum of 3 CPA firms for the upcoming audit.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS: WORKING SESSIONS?

This one wasn't signed, but it's a good question nevertheless!

QUESTION: Why isn't the Board having "work sessions" prior to the regular Board meetings anymore?

ANSWER: Working Sessions were cancelled by the previous Board, but as President I have not reinstated them because I believe that ALL Board business should be conducted in front of the homeowners at the regular business meetings.

The working sessions were for the purpose of establishing the agenda for the regular Board meetings. They were held in the Management Office. While some homeowners did attend, many commented that they couldn't really hear what was going on.

The current Board believes that **all Board business, including the decision of what does or does not get voted on by the Board**, should be conducted at the regular business meeting with sufficient advance notice and a good sound system so that everyone can hear and participate.

Thanks for listening!

Sue Alandar, Board President and
(still) Communications Director
salandar@vlpoa.org

**YOUR NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, January 16, 2007
at 6:30 p.m. in the Yacht Club**

BOARD MEMBER APPLICANTS NEEDED!!

By Pat Bracken, Elections Committee Co-Chair

As of December 14th we have only received five (5) applications for the six (6) seats which are to be filled on March 4, 2008. Having this many seats available is due to resignations and the amendment being passed in 2007 to increase the size of the Board from 5 to 7 members.

To comply with our by-laws, and re-create a staggered Board, there will be:

Two seats will be for a 3 year term

One seat will be for a 2 year term

Three seats will be a 1 year term

The terms will be filled by the individuals who receive the most votes getting the longer terms.

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 (brief letter indicating that they want to be a Candidate) to the Management Office by 4:00 p.m. Thursday, January 10, 2008. Candidates may submit information after January 10, 2008, however their names will not appear on the ballot and they will be considered to be "Write-In" Candidates.

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 February *Ventana Views*. Submit this to manager@vlpoa.org by January 10, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. *This material will be refused if it attacks another person in any manner.*

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.

DRAWING FOR POSITIONS ON BALLOT

On January 11, 2008 at 11:00 am at the Yacht Club, there will be a drawing for ballot position for all candidates who have declared candidacy. Candidates, or someone acting on their behalf, will draw numbers for their position on the ballot. Seating at the Candidate Interview Meetings will be in the same position that the names will be on the ballot.

COMMUNITY INTERVIEW OF THE CANDIDATES

There will be three Candidates' Interviews where individual candidates may declare their qualifications and state their positions on issues. Members of the community will be able to question the candidates about their qualifications and positions on issues. (Write-in candidates may also be seated with other candidates so they can introduce themselves to the community)

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.

FORMAT FOR INTERVIEWS

Each Candidate will have two minutes for opening and two minutes for closing statements.

A sign-up sheet will be at the Yacht Club prior to each session so attendees can sign up to ask a question after the opening statements.

Two hours will be allowed for the opening statements and questions from the audience. If time allows, others in audience may ask questions.

After two hours, the moderator will call for the two minute closing statements from each candidate.

BOARD CANDIDATES TO DATE

THE ELECTION COMMITTEE REPORTS:

As of December 14th, 2007, we have received applications from the following people:

Robert Edenhofer
Bruce Parmenter
Maurice (Moe) Frenette
Joe McCord
Darrell Smith

Only two of these candidates have chosen to submit resumes for publication in the Newsletter. These resumes follow.

Board Candidate MAURICE "MOE" FRENETTE

I, Maurice "Moe" Frenette, E.A., have served as your Treasurer since October and been part of a Board that is extremely open and replaced turmoil with calm. I would like as many of your 6 votes as possible. Not voting in the prior election was a vote for the past Board turmoil. Please vote and avoid the previous turmoil. **If elected I will not quit.**

I hope to continue in the role of Treasurer. I believe that all of the homeowners in Ventana Lakes have a right to know exactly how their money is being spent and that they should have a say in how it is spent. I will continue to show income and expense information and results in my monthly reports, and report any unusual changes as they occur. There should never be any surprises such as that huge legal bill run up by a prior Board.

Education: BS Accounting-Johnson & Wales Univ.; ABS Business Management-same Univ.; Numerous IRS courses related to taxes and accounting.

Employment: Part time tax expert & IRS Enrolled Agent for a local CPA firm (2006 to present); IRS-Senior Revenue Agent (1983-2005); Quality Assurance Engineer 1968-1981; Electronic Mechanic (1966-1968); USN Radar Operator (1961-1965).

Experience: IRS Agent-Completed many complex audits of all types of business tax returns' including publicly traded corporations. I have developed and completed fraud examinations. I was a classroom and on the job training instructor. I coordinated many IRS projects. **Board member:** VLPOA Treasurer since 10/2008; 10 years as a Board member of a small condo association (5 yrs president; 4 yrs Treasurer; 1 yr VP). I was on the initial Board for 7 years. I returned to the Board as president from 2002 to 2005. During this last period the Board oversaw repaving of the street and established a reserve that was large enough for a repaint all homes. **Knights of Columbus:** High leadership position for a local council and local assembly and 3 yrs as a State District Deputy. **Church:** I was involved with a local parish in many capacities including parish council president.

A vote for Moe is a vote for continued calm. A failure to vote is a vote for turmoil.

Board Candidate **JOE McCORD**

My name is Joe McCord and I am asking you to return me to the Board of Directors.

Previously, I served one year as a Board member and I did what I could to move our community forward. Recently, I completed the City of Peoria "HOA Academy" course, where I learned how HOA Boards ought to act. I will bring those lessons to our Board.

My education includes a BA in History from the University of California, Berkeley, and an MA in Business Economics from the University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, Colorado (this course is the equivalent of a Harvard MBA).

The US Army saw fit to promote me to lieutenant colonel and I retired with that rank after 28 years of worldwide service, including 5 ½ years in The Pentagon where I administered large programs involving millions of dollars.

During nearly eight years at Ventana Lakes I have been involved in a number of programs, including leading the fight to prevent Maricopa County from widening Beardsley Road and linking it to the 303 – a move which, if successful, would have tripled traffic on Beardsley and allowed huge semis and other freeway vehicles through the middle of our community. I represent you on the County Mining Board and recently was appointed to a second three-year term to that body where I will continue the battle to reduce the effect of mining operations on the health of everyone who lives here and, ultimately, to ban all gravel and cement hauling trucks from Beardsley.

I have no agenda other than working with other Board members to make this the best community possible. Specifically, I want to put the past behind us, forget recriminations, heal our wounds and move forward. My goal is to make Ventana Lakes the place where people want to move to -- and where residents don't want to move from.

I support the refreshing policies of openness and integrity generated by our new Board and I would like to join them in extending those policies. I ask for your support and your vote.

Thank you.

PROCEDURES FOR VOTING

We are printing a sample ballot and information about voting on the last page of this newsletter. You can also pick up a flyer at the office, see it posted on bulletin boards, or read it on the website: www.vlpoa.org.

A letter and absentee ballot will be mailed to property owners by early February.

Your assessment **MUST** be paid up to date by February 22, 2008 to be able to vote in this election.

Please read all information and attend the Candidate Interviews to be knowledgeable when you cast your vote in this very important election.

MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

Dave Bracken, Chairman

The committee has completed the following jobs during the last month:

- Replaced the umbrella near the horseshoe pits.
- Replaced the light switches at the Management office.
- Installed energy efficient CFL bulbs at the Recreation Center.
- Drilled a drain hole at the Coves Pool shower area.
- Replaced shower heads at all pools after the grout and tile were cleaned.

The next scheduled meetings are January 8th; February 12th; and March 11th. All meetings will be held at the Management Office at 9:30 a.m.

Architectural Report

December 12, 2007

By Ken Hunstad, Chairman

Since the last Board meeting, there have been 4 meetings of the Architectural Committee.

The committee processed 32 requests from homeowners. All but 2 were approved, and 1 has since been resubmitted and approved, and 1 has not.

Twenty final inspections were also conducted. All but one was approved. Work is being done by this homeowner to complete the initial approved change request. The AC has also completed about 5 resale inspections.

Please refer all architectural questions to the committee, not the Manager or the Board of Directors.

Members of the Architectural Committee still find many homeowners who have work in progress, or work completed without prior written approval from the Committee. Please remind your friends and neighbors that architectural review is needed before changes are made to the exterior of a home or to the yard. Forms are available in the Management Office and on the website. Requests need to be submitted by 4 pm on Wednesdays in order for the request to be placed on the agenda for the following Monday.

Dead trees must be removed, please refer to the "Supplement" guide lines for planting new trees as new location rules apply.

Satellite dishes, Sheds, and House Painting, continue to be the most common issues we deal with. Remember, all of the members of the committee are reasonable, fair and balanced.

The Committee has reviewed the current architectural rules published in the 2007 Supplement to the Phone Directory. A few wording changes have been made to clarify (hopefully) some of the rules and several new additions have been included for the 2008 Supplement. After all the changes have been made, the Board of Directors will be asked to review the document. It is hoped that the 2008 Supplement will be ready for homeowners early next year. This practice is based on the CC&Rs Article IV section 2a and Article XI, section 1.

The Supplement will be available at the MO, and you can pick up your 2008 copy there.

The Architectural Committee will meet again on January 7 at 10 am in the Management Office because the Office is closed the Mondays before each holiday.

Have a safe and Happy Holiday, Merry Christmas and New Year.

**LAKES COMMITTEE
&
FISHING DERBY NEWS!
Tim Willems, Chairman**

The long awaited pruning is starting to be accomplished and thank goodness we can now walk on the sidewalks without scratching ourselves to death. Seriously it looks much better. A new company and new ideas, as far as

height, goes along with the beauty of the blossoms and the bushes.

We hosted a very successful fishing derby just after Thanksgiving, Nov. 23rd. There were 32 entrants. John Kelly from the Lakes Committee headed up the derby and did an admirable job. He was assisted by Carl Ford, Don Sexton, and me. The entry fee was \$6 for an adult and \$4 for each youngster. All the prize money was returned to the entrants. John also reached into his goodie bag and distributed fishing line in a random drawing for those not receiving a cash prize. A good time was had by all.

Here is a list of the cash winners:

Adults:

Big Bass: Steve Buckner-\$20
Big Cat: Jim Blanchard/Grant Dane-\$10Ea.
Big Carp: Tim Sexton-\$20
Most Fish: Richard Preisen-\$10
Other Fish: Bill Kreidler/Frank Dumm-\$10Ea.

Children:

Big Bass: Zach Alexander-\$15
Big Cat: Austin Smith-\$15
Big Carp: Gage Beaton-\$15
Other: Cinder Sexton-\$15

Most Fish:

Connor Willems/Bryce Snagaski/Danille Dane-\$5Ea.
Total Fish Caught: 61; Bass-32, Catfish-15, Carp-3, and Other Fish-11

A very special thanks to Chuck Schumm who took pictures and then put them on our Ventana Lakes Website. We look forward to future successful derbies and such great participation.

We are always looking for people who would be interested in joining our Lakes Committee. Please contact Tim Willems at 623-376-980

THANKS FOR THE CRAFT SHOW!!

A big thank you to all who helped make the craft sale a success. We had a great turnout, in spite of the weather, with lots of happy shoppers and vendors. Remember, it's not too early to start thinking about the 2008 show which will be held December 6th. *From: Bev Morris, Peggy Mahre, Joyce Lorentzen and Vada Bowers.*

**VOLUNTEERS
by Tim Willems**

Hey! Have you noticed how much brighter and newer the Pickleball, Tennis Court, and Horseshoe area is looking? A whole bunch of volunteers have expended many hours to make the area by the Recreation Center more attractive. The protective wind and shade screening was getting really ragged and ripped up. Jay Dunn volunteered

to go on-line and find a quality vendor with a very competitive price to furnish the new protective screening. It was ordered and the "fun" soon began. Our ever efficient manager, Jack Donovan, wanted to make the three areas co-coordinated and attractive.

The Pickleball Courts were the first to receive the make-over and many volunteers worked many hours to accomplish the job. The following list, I hope gives them special thanks. They are: Jackie Wray, Sheila Willems, Burrie Steward, Jay Dunn, Darrell Smith, Terry Krueger, Jerry Almeida, Joe Teixeira, John Rabal, and Tim Willems.

The second area was the Horseshoe Pits. The posts were dug and cemented, and the fun then began again, with our own volunteers giving up their time to keep the costs down. The volunteers were: Joe Teixeira, Jim Hicks, Don Ward, Moe Frenette, Jerry Gauthier, Roy Erickson, and Larry Rudy. Nice work guys, it really looks good.

The third and final phase was the Tennis Courts, after the hot summer had cooled down a bit. This was accomplished by the tennis players, and others that had helped on the Pickleball and Horseshoe areas. These volunteers again gave up many combined hours. They were: Aileen Weir, Bob Edenhofer, Lenore Weinstein, Burrie Steward, Larry Hample, Carolyn Piska, Fred Ghio, Joe Teixeira, Bill Cigoy, and Jim Alandar.

This job was not done by any one person, but the efforts of many volunteers. It saved our Association countless dollars and really dressed up the areas. Lastly if anyone's name was inadvertently omitted, please accept my deepest apology and let Tim Willems know. Thanks again everyone!

Italian-American Club of Ventana Lakes

The December meeting of the Italian-American Club of Ventana Lakes for 2007-2008 was held on Thursday, December 6th, 2007, at the Yacht Club at 6:00 p.m. 150 members and their guests were in attendance.

Darrell Smith, President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone after which the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance. Darrell informed the group that Josephine Spizzirri is in Hospice and RoseAnn Fiebig is in Chicago taking care of her daughter who just had surgery. Tony DeMont informed the group that Tony Arcaro is in Intensive Care at Boswell Hospital.

Darrell reminded us about the December 11th Board meeting and the January 3rd Members Only meeting for which tickets were being sold at this meeting. The

January 3rd Members Only meeting will be \$2.00 per member. The Club will provide snacks and karaoke, and will begin at 7:00 p.m. Since RoseAnn Fiebig will be in Chicago for several weeks, tickets for the January 3rd meeting are available by calling Gloria Trueax, 566-9066.

Everyone got their fill of veal parmesan, ziti, Italian bread, salad and ice cream for dessert. Since there was plenty to eat, many people had the opportunity to go up for seconds. During dinner, we had the pleasure of being entertained by Darrell and Ivy Dempsey who sang Christmas songs for us. After dinner, we all had a chance to sing along with Ivy to even more Christmas songs. Members and guests enjoyed getting into the Christmas spirit by singing along and dancing to many of the songs.

Florence Cardinale gave details of 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 22, 2008. There is a waiting list only for the Ak-Chin bus trip. Florence distributed a flyer for the Primm trip and needs the bottom portion and a check returned to her by the January 3rd meeting. Members and their guests are invited to both trips. Please call Florence at 623-566-4563 if you want to sign up for either or both of these trips.

Santa Claus, sounding an awful lot like our very own Darrell Smith, made an appearance and gave everyone little gift bags filled with candies and Christmas ornaments. Santa then held the 50/50 drawing as well as a drawing for two beautiful baskets filled with Christmas cheer.

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

We had a Joyous time at our Christmas party at The Union Hills Country Club on December 13th. We would like to thank **Joy Ratteree** for entertaining us with her beautiful voice and her fabulous piano skills. The Flying Solos meet every third Thursday at 6:30 pm in the Yacht Club.

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 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.

New Year Omelet Breakfast
Saturday, January 5th at 8:30 am Yacht Club!!
See you THERE!!

LADIES LUNCHEON

We hope you all enjoyed a wonderful holiday season with your families, friends and neighbors. As many of you are aware, the monthly Ladies Luncheon has been struggling for sometime. Even though we are retired (most of us), it seems we still fill our plates to the brim and it is overflowing with activities. All good things must come to an end at some point. Sadly, the monthly Ladies Luncheon has ended. We thank all those who have supported this nice outing and hope you will take the time to invite a neighbor to lunch or a fun activity. Sharon Crafton and Camille Willcoxon.

NEWS OF THE VENTANA LAKES SHALOM CLUB

As of this writing, (early December) we are looking forward to our Hanukkah party which will have been held on December 20 and have every reason to believe that it will have turned out to be thoroughly enjoyable and a huge

success. The arrangements for our January meeting have not yet been finalized. We hope to have this done at the Hanukkah party and as usual, will notify all members by phone or email as to what arrangements have been made. 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.

**SHALOM AND BEST WISHES TO ALL FOR A
HEALTHY AND HAPPY NEW YEAR.**

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!

Winter 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 January on the 8th, 15th, 22nd, & 29th. at 4:00 pm on Tuesdays at the Yacht Club. Call Mr. Kenneth Harper at 977-9179 for details. The regular Tai Chi classes will continue to meet on Monday at 8:00 am, Wednesday at 7:00 am and Friday at 5:00 pm in the Card Room.

BALLROOM DANCING

Classes held each Wednesday at 7:00 pm at the Yacht Club. If you would like information please call Mr. Kenneth Harper at 977-9179.

LADIES BUNCO

We are in need of a ladies Bunco Coordinator. Please call Celeste Manor 566-5858 if you are interested. If no one volunteers the Ladies Bunco night will be cancelled as of now!!

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 Have lunch with us and get acquainted.

VENTANA LAKES BRIDGE CLUB

January Coordinator will be Joann Logan any questions please call 825-7271.

Bridge Club meets on Thursday afternoons at 1:00pm in the Card Room.

JANUARY ACTIVITIES

(January 3- Get your Tickets for the Sweetheart Dance February 14!)

NEW YEAR OMELET BREAKFAST!

**Saturday, January 5th at 8:30 am
at the Yacht Club.**

SEA TO SEA IN A MODEL T & THE STORY OF HENRY FORD'S



OLD CAR

On Saturday, January 9th at 6.00 pm at the Yacht Club. Tickets are \$4.50 per person.

Don and Fran Van Polen travel from "Sea to shining Sea" in a 1926 Model T Roadster to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Henry Fords Old Car. Their journey takes them from Puget Sound in Washington State to the easternmost town and lighthouse in America. Along the way they describe the landscape and tell the story of Henry Ford's Old Car. The Model T Ford was the car that put America on wheels and began mass production of automobiles all over the world. Enjoy the remarkable stories and beautiful scenery shown by digital projection on a 20 foot screen. We will enjoy refreshments after the show, so please come into the management ASAP to buy your tickets NOW!!!

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

Compass Bank Seminar

Thursday, January 10th at 10:00 am will be held at the Yacht Club!!

:Build- to- Order Free Checking

:Free Compass Visa

**ON THE ROAD TO CALIFORNIA
VARIETY SHOW BY THE
ORIGINAL MIXED NUTS**

**Benefit for fire victims Friday &
Saturday, January 11th & 12th at
7:00 pm at the Yacht Club. Tickets are
\$ 8.00 per person. 2 very nice quilts will
be given away as door prizes!! 1 on
Friday night and 1 on Saturday night.
Quilts were made by Marcia DePesa and
they are BEAUTIFUL!!
Please don't miss this great event.**

**COFFEE 9:00 A.M.
AT THE YACHT CLUB
SATURDAY, JANUARY 12
COFFEE FORUM AT 9:30 A.M.**



**INTERVIEW THE BOARD
CANDIDATES AFTER THE
COFFEE FORUM!**

**Board Meeting
Wednesday, January 16th
6:30 PM Yacht Club.**

**SECOND INTERVIEW THE BOARD CANDIDATES
Friday, January 18, 2008, 6:30 p.m. Yacht Club**

**DESERTAIRE
BARBERSHOP CHORUS**

This is a wonderful event and you want to get
your tickets for \$5.00 per person
before they sell out!!

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 19TH AT 7:00 PM
AT THE YACHT CLUB!!**

NEW ZUMBA CLASSES

Starting here at Ventana Lakes on Monday, January 21st at 10:30 am in the Yacht Club.

Dance your way to a fitter you with new and exciting Latin Moves and Rhythms!! Zumba, the class that is taking the world by STORM!!

This class is for women and men. The first class is free. Punch cards will be available that day at the Yacht Club. 5 classes \$25.00 and 10 classes \$40.00 and your punch card can be used at any time. \$6.00 drop in fee will be charged after the first class if you choose not to buy a punch card.



**POKER NIGHT
TOURNAMENT**

**Saturday, January 26th
7:00 pm at the Yacht Club
B.Y.O.B. SNACKS
Prizes to the TOP PLAYERS
Tickets \$10.00 per person
Available at the Management Office
Buy Now For A Fun Night!!**

**TWS FINANCIAL
THE WEALTH STORE**

TWS Financial, LLC. Will be having a seminar on January 30th at the Yacht Club from 3-5pm. Dinner will be served immediately following the presentation. TWS Financial, LLC. is a local company located at 14985 W Bell Road next to the Post Office. Your speaker at the presentation will be TWS Financial founder, Mike Moloney Sr., who has over 38 years of experience and has spoken to over 30,000 people through wealth management seminars that make complex retirement, tax, investment and estate planning issues easy to understand.

TWS Financial, LLC. Offers educational seminars to provide you with confidence and peace of mind that all of your financial resources are working together toward your financial goals. Topics include:

- Creation of wealth
- Preservation of wealth
- Distribution of wealth
- Protection of disabled loved ones

Upon completion of their seminar, you will have a knowledgeable understanding of the probate process, living trusts, the need for proper estate planning and the benefits of utilizing an effective plan to:

- : Provide for the smooth transfer of assets to heirs.
- : Avoid both "Guardianship & Conservatorship" and probate.
- : Maintain privacy and discretion.
- : Minimize death taxes and expenses.
- : Provide for competent management.
- : Provide maximum protection for all family members.
- : Provide protection for disabled loved ones.
- : Develop a comprehensive financial plan for your specific situation.

Please join TWS Financial on January 30th for an educational and enlightening seminar. Nothing will be sold at the seminar. Mike is strictly there to educate, assist and advise. Attendees will be provided the opportunity to schedule a FREE consultation to discuss their individual retirement & financial planning questions after the seminar. Please call 623-748-3920 to reserve your seat.

Mazatzal Casino

Thursday, January 10th and Tuesday, January 29th 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, January 25th. 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!

COMING UP IN FEBRUARY **Mark your Calendar!**

LAST CHANCE TO INTERVIEW THE BOARD CANDIDATES

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



BIGGEST BOOK SALE

FREE Admission – BIGGEST BOOK SALE OF 2008 – The famous Visiting Nurses Book Sale is scheduled for Feb. 9th and 10th at the Phoenix Fairgrounds exhibit building, 1826 W. McDowell, and Ventana Lakes is going on 2-10-08. We'll leave from the Yacht Club at 10:00 am and return about 2:00 pm. This book sale offers over 600,000 books each year of all types and most cost from 30 cents to \$2.50. This is 1/2 of the Saturday price. They also have some music scores, tapes, computer programs, and collector's books. The proceeds go to local charities! We plan to car pool so let us know both if you want to go and if you are willing to be a driver. Also, if you're going to be a driver, let us know how many passengers you can take. If you don't drive, please contribute a dollar or two to the driver for gas. More info is available at www.vnsabooksale.org. Please call the Management Office if you are interested and ask for Activity Coordinator Tina Dunn 623-566-6001 and she will get you signed up.

SOUTH OF THE BORDER ALGODONES, MEXICO TRIP WITH TRAVELIN' TOURS

Wednesday, February 13th at 7:30 am we will meet at the Yacht Club and then load on the bus for an all day trip to **Algodones Mexico- MUST HAVE PASSPORT!!**

Tickets will be \$32.00 per person available at the Management Office as of January 3rd.

Get all your Medications & Dental needs taken care of: Trip includes Deluxe Transportation, Water, Pastries, Juice, & Movies on Board.

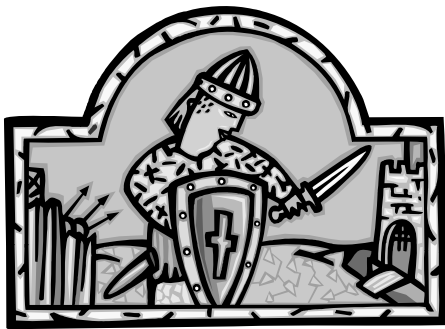
SWEETHEART DANCE & POTLUCK WITH FINGERFOODS AND SINFUL DESSERTS



**Thursday, February 14th
At 7:00 pm at the Yacht Club.
Tickets will be \$1.00 PER PERSON
WONDERFUL MUSIC BY
DARRELL & IVY!!
TICKETS WILL BE ON SALE AS OF
JANUARY 3RD AT THE MANAGEMENT
OFFICE.**

INTERVIEW THE BOARD CANDIDATES

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



RENAISSANCE FAIR

On Saturday, Feb. 16th, Ventana Lakes is going to a wonderful recreation of a medieval renaissance fair! There are 12 stages of continuous entertainment including jousting knights on horseback and jolly jesters. Over 500 costumed characters and 200 shops offer many different types of unique handmade goods. See glassblowing, leatherworking, weaving, woodcarving, blacksmithing, candle

making and pottery. Buy everything from wooden swords to real swords, from hand-made soap to exotic oils, from clothing to carved furniture and copper fountains and sculptures. For more information, visit their website www.royalfaires.com/ARIZONA/. The cost, including travel by bus and admission is \$27. We will leave from the Yacht club at 9:00 am and return here about 3:30 pm.

MAPMAKER NEEDED!

The Board is looking for someone to help make a simple map of Ventana Lakes that we can have printed for newcomers. We have a small one that can be used as a guideline. Please call Manager Jack Donovan if you can help!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Activity Coordinator really needs some volunteers to help her with all the upcoming events!! If you would like to volunteer and help Tina please call me at the Management Office at 623-566-6001.

VLPOA Staff

Manager, Jack Donovan - email: manager@vlpoa.org
Administrative Assistant, Irene Hart - email: asstmgr@vlpoa.org
Activities Coordinator, Tina Dunn - email: activities@vlpoa.org
Receptionists, Karen Carr

VLPOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We're Also in the Book

Sue Alandar, Board President.....salandar@vlpoa.org
Darrell Smith, Vice President.....dsmith@vlpoa.org
Moe Frenette, Treasurer.....mfrenette@vlpoa.org
Lori Norris, Secretary.....lnorris@vlpoa.org

**A Special Thanks - to Tina Dunn
for co-creating our Ventana
Views this month! Tina, it's
great to have you aboard! = Sue**

**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.