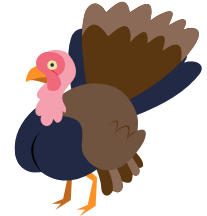


Ventana Views



Happy Thanksgiving

Activity News from Tina Dunn, Activity Coordinator
Community News from Sue Alandar, Board President

Our new kitchen is almost ready and I need volunteers badly!! We now will need our Food Handlers cards to volunteer and help in the kitchen. We will also need 2 Certified Food Managers from the Community, as required by Maricopa County. The County mandates that the Association cannot open the kitchen to serve food or drink until the Food Managers are in place. I have scheduled the first available date & time with the City to give us the Food Handlers test here at our Yacht Club. The date is Thursday, January 8th at 10:00 am to 11:30 am. I have study guides available at the Management Office I need 50 participants otherwise the City will cancel on us!! I really need your help on this one. Could all my group leaders please call Tina at the Office at 623-566-6001 that would include Red Hat Groups, Italian Club, Flying Solo's, Aerobics of all kinds, Card Clubs and anyone else that would like to be a part of making our new kitchen a huge success!! The food handlers test is not hard but it does require you to know certain things so if you plan to take the test you would need the study guide and they are available at the Management Office. I plan on having a luncheon after the testing time for all you volunteers who sign up. I also have a little something nice for my Group Leaders who will be helping me!! You as a community have put a lot of money into your new kitchen at the Yacht Club I just pray that we will have the help we need to run it. Please Please volunteer I need your HELP!! Thanks Tina



Dance the Night Away with Bob & Manuel

Join us for a fun night of dancing on **Saturday, November 8th from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm at the Yacht Club.** These guys are good so come out and enjoy yourself!! **Tickets are \$6.00 per person and may be purchased at the Management Office.**

Tell all your family and friends about Ventana Lakes Annual Community Yard Sale on Saturday, November 1st from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm!! See you there!!

NOVEMBER BOARD MEETINGS

Sat. Nov 1 @ 2 pm – Gardens/Master Wed Nov 19 @ 6:30 pm

All Meetings Open and are in the Yacht Club

Watch E-Mails and Sign Boards for Announcements of Work Sessions
or Special Board Meetings and for Agendas!



HOW TOUGH DO YOU WANT YOUR BOARD TO BE? YOU DECIDE. SEE PAGE 9

NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES

VENTANA LAKES ANNUAL YARD SALE

Saturday, November 1st from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm Ventana Lakes Annual Yard Sale. We are asking residents who would like to participate to please come into the Management Office and contribute \$1.00 to help with running our ad in four local papers. This is a great time to get rid of all your odds & ends and at the same time fun to run around and visit your neighbors and see what little treasures you may find!! So hurry up and come in and sign up at the Management Office.

DANCE WITH DAVE & LINDA



The first Friday of every month at the Yacht Club come and dance with Dave & Linda. Beginner Line Dance Lesson will be held at 6:00 pm and go till 7:00 pm. Then from 7:00 pm to

10:00pm it will be Open Dance for all of our residents to enjoy. Tickets sold at the door only for \$3.00 per person. If you like going out and Line Dancing with your hubby's or girlfriends then you will have a great time here at Ventana Lakes. See you there!!



COFFEE SOCIAL 9:00 am and BOARD FORUM will follow at 9:30 am

Saturday, November 8th at the Yacht Club. Tickets on sale at the Management Office for \$1.50 up until Friday, November 7th at noon (or buy one at the door for \$ 2.00)

NOVEMBER BOARD MEETINGS

Sat. Nov 1 @ 2 pm – Gardens/Master

Wed Nov 19 @ 6:30 pm

All Meetings Open and are in the Yacht Club
Watch E-Mails and Sign Boards for
Announcements of Work Sessions or Special
Board Meetings and for Agendas!

DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY WITH BOB & MANUEL

On Saturday, November 8th from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm at the Yacht Club come & dance the night away. Tickets are \$6.00 per person. These guys are good you will enjoy your night out!! Come into the Office and buy your tickets now!!



SAMS CLUB

Will be here with goodies on Wednesday November 12th at the Yacht Club from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. They will have some great coupons and sign up deals. So don't miss out!! See you there!!

COMING ALIVE SEMINAR

The purpose of the Seminar is to express your emotions of grief, fear, joy, anger and love through singing, dancing and giving. Experience free style dancing with no steps to learn, no partners needed. Experience the joy that comes through letting your body dance you, wearing the inner robe of love, seeing only the good in others. One who dances these things, dances and sings the song of life. Music will include Classical, Spiritual, Staccato, Salsa, rock & Rap. Location will be the Yacht Club on Thursday, November 13th at 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Donation, any gifts of money, paintings, art objects, books, DVD's will go to support the Ventana Lakes Library or the Activity Department. Information please call 977-9179. The next class will be held in December on Thursday, December 11th same time and place so mark your calendars now!!

COME TRAVEL WITH US TO EXOTIC MOROCCO



Slide Travelogue Program by John Sybenga a don't miss fun night. On Friday, November 14th at 7:00pm will be held in the Yacht Club. We will enjoy popcorn and soda while we watch an awesome slide show!! Tickets are \$1.50 per person so come in now and buy your ticket.

Looking forward to seeing you there!!

MAZATZAL CASINO

Tuesday, November 18th FREE!!! Bus leaves the Yacht Club at 7:45 A.M. You must sign up at the Management Office. In the past, the buses have filled up quickly, so do

not wait. If you have signed up and your plans change please notify the office to give those on the waiting list a chance to make use of the seat!! **You receive \$10 voucher upon arrival.** If your birthday is in that month you receive an additional \$10. Blackjack, Slots, Keno and Bingo. 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. **Here is the date for the final Mazatzal Casino Trip for 2008!!**
Tuesday, December 16th

**ARIZONA BROADWAY THEATRE'S
 OWN TOURING
 TROUP WILL
 BE
 PERFORMING
 AT VENTANA LAKES**



Arizona Broadway Theater has a group called Bits & Pieces. They will be here on Friday, November 21st at 7:00 pm this event will be held on our stage in the Yacht Club. This is something you will really enjoy. Bits & Pieces will perform for you small pieces of the different plays they have had at their Theater and some upcoming plays as well. This event will last approximately hour. We will enjoy a nice dessert after the play is over while visiting with the cast. Please sign up for this fun evening. Tickets will be \$7.00 per person and well worth it!! Come into the Management Office and buy your tickets NOW!!

**VENTANA
 LAKES FALL
 FISHING DERBY**



Our annual Fall Fishing Derby is on Friday, November 28th will be held on Lake 3 & 4 " Coves" We will meet at the lake at 8:45 am. We will fish from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. Adults are \$6.00 and Children are \$4.00 (4-15) there are separate prize lists for children and adults. Purchase tickets at the Management Office or at the Derby. This is a great day to spend with family. Don't miss this!! Get in here and buy your tickets NOW!!

**KARAOKE WITH
 DARRELL AND JACK!**

Come join a lot of talented Ventana Lakes neighbors at the Yacht Club at 6:30 p.m. Friday, November 28th. It's

only \$2.00 per person (you can pay at the door or buy tickets at the Management Office). You'll need to bring your own beverage and snacks. **See you there!!**



NEW YEAR'S PARTY

Tickets are on sale now at the Management Office **\$40.00 per person.** I booked a great R&B Duo who you will really like. The Italian Club had them and everyone loved them!! We will have Classic Catering providing an Elegant Dinner and they are the best!! I am only setting up 13 tables this year because it gets too crowded with the food buffet and having to put tables on your dance floor. So get in here quick and get your tickets this will sell out!!

**WEST SIDE STORY TOP TALENT
 SHOW DVD'S FOR SALE**

In case you were not able to attend the West Side Story Top Talent Show on Saturday evening October the 4th, you can now obtain a Professional looking DVD of the show. The cost is \$15.00 and can be obtained from Tina Dunn in the activities office at 623 566 6001.

**COMING UP IN DECEMBER
 MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**CHRISTMAS HOUSE DECORATING
 CONTEST**

Every Homeowner will have the chance to get into the Holiday Spirit. All you have to do is decorate the outside of your home. We will be judging on 3 different categories. 1. Birth of Jesus. 2. Santa Claus. 3. Most lights properly placed. Good luck let's have fun with this. On December 19th at 7:00 pm all the homes will be judged by a non - resident and the top three homes will receive a gift card from Bashas and bragging rights until next year. Your Activity Coordinator will contact you by phone and gather all the info she will need to place the winners in the Newsletter and also your gift cards will be available to pick up at the Management office or we can mail them to you!! Merry Christmas Ventana Lakes I am so blessed to be here thanks Tina.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

On Sunday, December 7th at 2:00pm at the Yacht Club tickets \$3.00 per person. More details coming up in the December News.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING PARTY AT THE YACHT CLUB

Please come help Tina decorate our Yacht Club on Monday, December 8th at 1:00 pm. I need guys who can get up into the attic and women with a decorating touch! I will have some goodies and play some Christmas music to get us in the holiday spirit !! Thanks looking forward to seeing you there!!

COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

Farmers Insurance will be here on Friday, December 12th at 7:00 pm at the Yacht Club. Dinner will be served. If you would like to attend please call or come into the Management Office to sign up.

EVENING WATER VOLLEYBALL

Men and Women all are welcome to join us for a fun night in the pool!! Every Tuesday Night at 6:30pm at the Yacht Club. Any questions call Dave or Lori Schuld 561-2665.



**VENTANA LAKES
ARTS AND CRAFTS SALE**
Unique, one-of-a-kind gifts and
decorating ideas for yourself and
everyone on your
Holiday shopping list.

**Saturday, December 6th
8:30am to 2:00pm
Ventana Lakes Yacht Club**

**Interested in being a vendor??
Contact Vada Bowers or
Joyce Lorentzen.**

**Their phone numbers are in the
Ventana Lakes Directory
WEST VALLEY YOUTH ORCESTRA
CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

The West Valley Youth Orchestra was founded in 1997 to provide young talented musicians with the opportunity

to participate in intensive orchestral training and a variety of musical performances. There are two orchestras in the program: Cadet Strings, directed by Mrs. Trista Kruckenberg, and the Youth Orchestra, under the direction of Mrs. Claire Gordon. The members range in age from second grade to high school seniors, and come from all over the west valley. Concert goers are always greatly entertained by these awesome young musicians! The concert will include many traditional Christmas favorites along with a variety of delightful music. **Don't miss this exciting Holiday event on Saturday, December 20th at 2:00 pm in the Yacht Club tickets are \$5.00 per person. See you there!!**

NEW YEARS EVE PARTY

Come join us for our annual New Years Eve party!! This is a fun night to get together with all your family and friends. Dinner served at 7:00 pm menu has not yet been determined but Tina will pick us something good!! The music will start around 8:15 pm and will last thru the NEW YEAR!! So join us this year on Wednesday, December 31st at 7:00 pm at the Yacht Club tickets are \$40.00 per person and there will be only 13 to 15 tables this year because it was to crowd last year and I want everyone to have a great time. So tickets won't last COME IN NOW!!



POOL NEWS FROM SPLASH John Bateman, Pool Monitor

Reminder: The children's pool is now the North Park Pool. Yes, it is heated (85 to 88 degrees). Children must be 4 years old to enter the pool area and use the pool. Pool hours for the children are 10:00 AM to 7:00 pm. Children must be accompanied by an adult 18 years and older. (The Recreation Center pool is also heated but for adult use only.)

Since the North park Pool has disability equipment, please residents and inform your guest, that this equipment is not to be played with. It is expensive and is not a play toy. If someone needs to use the equipment, call one of the pool monitors or the office. It is easy to operate.

It is against VLPOA rules for the residents to give their I.D. cards to a guest. Guests must obtain a guest pass if they are to use any of the facilities by themselves. If the residents are with their guest, no guest pass is necessary.

Guest passes are 1.00 dollar (nonrefundable) and are good for 30 days. After 30 days these passes are

no longer valid and can be discarded Guest passes can be obtained at the management office.

As usual, according to the rules, a shower is required before entering the pool or spa. It is also recommended to take a shower before leaving the pool to wash off the pool water that contains certain pool chemicals. It is required by law to add certain chemicals to the pool water to make it safe for those of us who use the pools.

A word of caution: Our pools are relatively shallow pools, consequently diving and jumping into the pool is not allowed.

Thanks to my swim buddies, Gene, Pat and Tony, for their help in cleaning the tiles in the North Park Pool. A great job.

Have an enjoyable time using the pools but remember to be safe.

ITALIAN-AMERICAN CLUB

The second meeting of the Italian-American Club for the year 2008-2009 was held on Thursday, October 2nd with 119 members and their guests in attendance. RoseAnn Fiebig, President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance. She then called for any birthdays and anniversaries so we could acknowledge them with applause and cheers.

Delicious sandwiches, coleslaw and a variety of chips were served. Members were asked to bring their own choice of beverage, and since the kitchen was still not functioning, many thermoses of coffee were donated by members so we could have coffee with our dessert. A variety of yummy cakes were served for dessert.

At 7:00 p.m. the R & B Duo who were already set up on stage began to entertain us with their fantastic music. They took song requests and there was lots of singing and dancing by some of the members. The R & B duo announced that they will be providing the entertainment for the Ventana Lakes New Year's Eve Party which will include a variety of entertainers like Elvis, the Blues Brothers, and music from Grease. There will also be dance lessons and contests.

Tickets for our November 6th meeting were on sale, the fee is \$2.00. The November meeting is a Members Only meeting which will start at 7:00 p.m. Dessert will be provided.

We welcome new members of Italian Descent to join us for another year full of fun, food, and camaraderie, Italian Style. For tickets to attend the November meeting or more information about the Italian-American Club of Ventana Lakes, please call RoseAnn Fiebig at 623-376-9037.

ARIZONA FINE ARTS IN APPLIED PIANO, ORGAN, AND KEYBOARD

There is a musical adventure awaiting you at Ventana Lakes. We are planning a series of class lessons on the keyboard instruments (piano, keyboard, and organ) for those who have never been exposed to this area of music education. The location for the classes is Ventana Lakes Yacht Club. The cost of the lessons is \$60.00 for 5 lessons of 35 to 40 minutes each once a week. The music is \$5.00. Sequence classes follow each week 5-week session. The instructor has a University Degree in music and vast experience from classics to country music. Classes will begin in December, the date is to be announced. If you are interested in registering for these classes please come into the Management Office to fill out a registration form. Thank you Chris Hansen, Instructor.

FLYING SOLO'S ACTIVE SINGLES OF VENTANA LAKES

Welcome back Snowbirds!! Come join us in our activities, one and all singles of Ventana Lakes. Make new friends and renew old acquaintances. No need to be down or lonesome. Come out with the Flying Solos'. Find a pal and buddy up and enjoy with us. We offer a variety of activities to get **YOU** out and have a great time too. Check the bulletin Boards for details of this month and next months activities and **JOIN US!!**

Our General Meeting of the Flying Solo Social Club is always the 3rd Thursday of each month. Thank you to our Board who work especially hard giving their time on our behalf to bring the very best to the singles of Ventana Lakes each month. We are beginning to form our plans for the holidays. We would like to include you!! **Contact Shari at 594-5511 or Miriam 376-9301. Come out and join us. See you there!!**

NEWS OF THE VENTANA LAKES SHALOM CLUB

The October Pizza Party was well attended. We had a great time and are looking forward to a repeat in the near future.

Our next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 13, 2008. We are tentatively scheduling this to be a "Dinner Meeting" at the Shanghai Grill, 9244 Union Hills Blvd. We will be in touch with members by phone and/or e-mail as to the exact date, time, place etc of the meeting.

If you have any questions, feel free to 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 more information about us, Eileen or Trudy would love to hear from you. Shalom and good health to all.

ATTENTION VENTANA LAKES MEN GOLFERS

We have two Golfing Groups here in Ventana Lakes that are open to our home owners free of membership charge to play golf at the Arizona Traditions Golf Course. One group meets on Monday and the other on Thursday for a 7:00am tee time. These are shot gun tee off times and we pay the golf fee at the same rate as Arizona Tradition home owners. If you have any questions please call Jerry Caldarelli at 566-8606. Hope to see you in the tee box.

WATER AEROBICS

Come and enjoy Water Aerobics at 8:00 am at the Rec. Center on Monday, Wednesday & Friday. Any questions call Doris Cavaliere at 566-3829.

MEN'S BOCCE

Men's Bocce at the Yacht Club at 7:30 am if you have any questions please call Jerry Caldarelli at 566-8606.

NEW GROUP FOR QUILTERS MONDAY EVENINGS

Do you work or have other commitments during the day but would still like to meet people that quilt? There will be a new group for quilters meeting in the Ventana Craft Room Monday evenings at 6:00 pm. Bring your machine or hand work along or any projects you are working on. We will chat and sew, share ideas or come up with some new ones. If you are new to quilting this would be a great group for you also. If you are interested in meeting with this group please contact Carol at 623-695-7707. There will be no charge for this group and all are welcome.

LINE DANCING!

Ventana Lakes Line Dance Class will be delayed this year due to instructor having surgery. I will keep you posted on starting date so watch your Newsletter and check your email!! Thanks Tina any questions?

Call Audrey Fulcher at 623-566-2667.

TAI CHI

Tai Chi for Beginners will continue on Tuesdays at 4:00 pm 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 are 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

Ladies, Join us for an evening of Bunco! This is a no skill dice game which provides a fun night and a chance to win some prize money. Cost is \$5 per person, and we share delicious snacks brought by the players. Games are played on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm. For more information, please call Eileen DeMeloitz at 566-2095.

VENTANA LAKES BRIDGE CLUB

November Coordinator will be Pauline Stewart any questions please call 566-0533. Bridge Club meets on Thursday afternoons at 1:00 pm in the Card Room.

CANASTA

The Canasta group meets Monday at 12:15 pm in the Game Room and Tuesdays at 6:15 pm in the Rec. Center. We play Contract Canasta which is easy to learn and fun to play. Contact Celeste at 566-5858, Dorothy at 566-0799 or Maryann at 362-5162.

CHAPEL SERVICE

Held 1st & 3rd Saturdays each month in Game Room at 3-4 pm. Service is nondenominational. Everyone is welcome. This is a nice way to end the week looking at scripture and your life today. Call Karen at 602-234-6508 for information.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Ventana Lakes Bible Study Discussion Group is an interdenominational group that uses the expository approach to Bible study. The group has been organized for more than ten years. Meetings are held every Monday morning in the Game



Room at 10:00 A.M. Thank you, Drexel L. Pope 623-566-3860

VENTANA LAKES CROQUET CLUB NEW WINTER HOURS



Welcome back "Snowbirds". I know a lot of you missed playing Croquet and those in the Croquet Club that aren't Snowbirds missed you! We have some new Croquet players that just can't wait to come out and play every Wednesday. Some of the new players have never played the game before and they said they didn't realize all the fun they were missing. But that's what it is all about here in Ventana Lakes - residents having fun together. Most of our players are single men and women and only a few couples. All are more than welcome to play and have a good time playing something different. It doesn't matter whether you are a man or a woman or a couple, you are all equal and welcome playing Croquet. **So come out every Wednesday, starting at 9:00 a.m.** Play as long as you want and as many games as you want, it's up to the individual or couple on how many games they want to play. We are all beginners and enjoy teaching new members how to play the game. If you're not sure you want to play, then come by and watch, and we're sure you'll want to be a regular player. Don't forget if you have guests staying with you, and want to do something different, then bring them over to play or watch.

Wednesday morning 9:00 a.m. Corner of 104th Ave. and Beardsley You can park your car, golf cart or bicycle on Pontiac Dr. along side the Croquet Court Any questions please call **602 - 920-2310** or call Tina at the Management Office at **623 - 566-6001**.

QUILTERS

We have more room for Friday afternoon quilters. We meet 11:30 am to 3:30 pm and we do have a teacher Ruth Gordon is her name. Even if you are a new quilter or old please come and share your day with us. We have lots of fun call Dixie Powers at 623-566-3664 or Dee Stillson at 623 - 561-9338. Thank you.

ZUMBA FITNESS

Come dance your way to a fitter you with exciting and unique Latin moves and rhythms!! Class is held every Monday at 10:30am at the Yacht Club. Brenda Thomason is the instructor and she is wonderful. Classes are \$6.00 for drop-ins and if you decide to come back you can

purchase a punch card for \$25.00 for 5 classes and \$40.00 for 10 classes. Hope to see you there!! If you have any Questions you may call Brenda Thomason at 623-214-9495.

BOWLING LEAGUE

Ventana Lakes residents and their friends are invited to join the Ventana Lakes Bowling League. The bowling season runs October thru April at Brunswick Lanes on 59th Avenue, between Union Hills and Bell Road. The season will begin October 8th and continue thru April 22nd. The league bowls Wednesday mornings at 9:00am. Join us for fun throughout the winter months. For questions please call Lois Sims at 623-376-2591 or Bill Kozlowski. Hope to see you there!!

VALLEY VIEW COMMUNITY FOOD BANK

F.Y.I. we know food prices are outrageous but possibly you could consider some of those super sale items for the Food Bank. Often times these items are things we do not need but someone else could really use them. We have a drop off can in the Management Office and at the Rec. Center. Thank you Tony & Evelyn DeMont.

BLOCK WATCH NEWS KEEP YOUR VEHICLES LOCKED

On September 30th at 110th Lane and Escuda Drive four vehicles parked in driveways were broken into overnight. In some cases valuables were stolen from the vehicles, and in other cases there was nothing to take but the resident's found papers from their glove-box tossed around the vehicle. We probably shouldn't say that the vehicles were broken into, however, because in all four cases the thief only had to open the door. None of these vehicles were locked!

Always park your vehicles in a closed and locked garage. If you must park outside always park in your driveway with your windows closed and your vehicle locked. Even if your vehicle is locked, always remove valuables and your garage-door-opener from your vehicle. We had one break-in a few months back where an unlocked vehicle was gotten into overnight and the thief used the garage-door-opener to open the garage. And in early September a lady's purse was stolen from the front seat of a locked car in a driveway during the day where a window was broken out to get at the purse.

We also had a mailbox broken into at 110th Lane and Escuda Drive overnight on September 22nd. One resident had a credit card stolen from the mailbox. The resident

immediately called their credit card company and the police after learning of the mailbox break-in, and the thief was caught the next day trying to use the credit card. The best protection against mailbox theft is to always keep your mailbox empty. Pick-up your mail every day, and if out of town have a neighbor pick it up or stop your mail.

Don't make crime easy for criminals. Always keep your garage doors closed, park vehicles in your garage, and lock vehicles if parked outside. Turn on lights when away at night. Keep a lookout for anyone or anything suspicious. Call the police if you see anything that concerns you. Protecting your property, working together as neighbors, and calling the police is the best deterrent we have against crime.

NEWS ON THE CC&R'S

Judy Mabie, Chairperson
CC&R Committee

By now 75 % of our community has had the opportunity to attend a presentation given by the CC&R Revision Committee illustrating changes, deletions and/or additions in our POA documents. There are two more presentations scheduled in November: Friday, November 7th at 9 am, and Saturday, November 8th at 9:30 am in case you were unable to attend one of the 6 October meetings, We urge you to come get your documents and after your review, complete the approval forms.

For additional clarification of changes, we would like to summarize general changes made to the Bylaws.

- removed irrelevant provisions about the developer throughout the document
- removed provisions which only applied during the initial establishment of the Association
- removed references to proxies and replaced with references to absentee ballots
- revised provision to allow special meetings to be called by members holding 10% of the votes
- added language outlining the purposes for which the Board can go into executive session under Arizona statute
- added language outlining procedures for the removal of directors as set forth in Arizona statutes
- added language regarding review of records to comply with applicable statutes

General changes made to the CC&R's include:

- removed irrelevant provisions about the developer and the initial classes of membership
- removed provisions that applied during initial development and construction
- removed provisions relating to apartments or condo use
- removed provisions relating to sub-associations

- updated antenna restrictions to conform to the law
- updated sign restrictions to allow signs permitted by law such as political signs and for sale signs
- updated parking restrictions to comply with the law

There are approximately forty additional changes to the documents which would be categorized as "Modernization" or perhaps "Improving Operations of our Association".

Several of these necessitate residents' approval for capital expenditures of over \$50,000, for spending over \$50,000 to change the use of Common Areas, or to borrow more than \$50,000. In addition, the Board must approve fund transfers instead of leaving that decision solely to the Treasurer.

There are two thoughts we'd ask you to keep in mind as you complete your approval forms. Any articles which don't reach the require 75 % approval level will be studied and revised, but the entire approval process for that specific Article(s) will begin all over again with the committee having to print out the new verbiage and submit it to all 1701 homes for approval. If you have serious concerns and cannot approve a particular article kindly write out your feelings and suggestions on the back of the form so the committee would be able to respond directly to your issue.

Please be reminded to submit the pink and green approval forms to the box in the office ASAP but hopefully no later than November 21st.

Thank you.

ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE

Laura Miller, Chairperson

We do get questions about satellite dishes. Here are the answers:

1. All dish placements require prior approval of the Architectural Committee.

2. In all cases, dish and/or HDTV, must be shielded from view from the street and neighboring properties to the maximum extent possible, as long as an acceptable signal quality may be received. The owner of a particular lot ultimately is responsible for compliance with this resolution.

3. If the dish cannot be mounted, as above #2, you must get a letter from the Dish Company (not the installer), stating that this is the only place where it can be mounted to receive an acceptable signal. This should be done prior to installation.

4. All dish installations must have a final inspection of the placement by the AC.

Community News

by Sue Alandar, Board President

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Board was accused at its October 25 meeting of not enforcing the CC&R's. Apparently, we are letting Ventana Lakes become a slum.

It happened like this. After two hours of going through the draft Architectural Rules, a homeowner stood up and asked if we were aware of any violations that were not being enforced. After asking this in several different ways, and being answered "no," he said in that case *someone* was lying to him, and turned around and looked at a member of the Architectural Committee, who stated we had not responded to a case the Committee had referred to the Board, and had not enforced the others.

My response was an angry one – not at the homeowner, who had a right to ask a question, but at a (single) member of the Architectural Committee who had chosen to spread rumor and false information about a very hard-working board.

First, I apologize sincerely to the community at large, because I did use the "d—n" word, which is inexcusable. (I am specific because I do not want to have this incident turned into something even worse.)

However, the person in question could simply have asked for an update on the status of referrals from the AC if he felt we had not taken care of business, instead stating it as a fact. I'd have been glad to check and see if we overlooked something, and in fact am doing so.

But I am really angry about the accusation that we are not enforcing the CC&R's.

Facts: the Board decided that the Manager should not be making the decision on whom or who should not be fined for violations of the Architectural Rules in Ventana Lakes. The Manager's job, by this Board's policy, is to see to the operations of the community.

In keeping with that decision, the Architectural Committee has been asked to refer matters to the Board when they believe a homeowner should be fined for violations of the CC&R's or the Architectural Rules.

Does this mean the Board HAS to fine these people for up to \$500 per day? Here is what it says in Article IV of the CC&R's:

Section 5. Variances. The Board may, at its option and in extenuating circumstances, grant variances from the restrictions set forth in Article IV of this Declaration or in any Tract Declaration if the Board determines in its sole discretion (b) that the

activity permitted under the variance will not have any substantial adverse effect onthe Owners, Lessees, and Residents of Ventana Lakes and is consistent with the high quality of life intended for residents of Ventana Lakes.

In the (very few) matters referred to us, the Board fully reviewed each case, to the point of going to the site, taking pictures, speaking to the homeowners, and reconvening to make a decision. **In not one case did any anyone on the Board find a violation that merited imposing a fine, using the criteria in the CC&R's.** That means that the Board could not find that granting a variance would have any adverse effect on Ventana Lakes.

Does this mean that we are not enforcing the CC&R's, as our accusers would have you believe? No. But this member of the AC apparently does not recognize that the CC&R's give the Board the authority to grant variances. He categorized the Board's decision as "refusal to enforce the CC&R's." Yet this same person had previously supported the Architectural Committee giving variances. Apparently he believes the Architectural Committee should be allowed to give variances, but the Board should have no such authority.

Would you have agreed with our decision? Well, we are at a disadvantage on that, because we discuss these matters in executive session, as our attorney believes we should, rather than holding public hangings.



BUT THERE IS AN ANSWER

The policy of this Board is to use Association resources and funds when it is necessary to enforce violations that are **harmful to this community**. If you do not agree with this policy, there are **four** seats on the Board coming up for election. Here is your chance to change this policy and to make this community as restrictive as you wish. If you want to continue an open and representational board, but you don't want to run for the Board, you may watch changes you do not like.

Yes, running for the Board takes courage. I honor the courage of Dr. Dick Matsuishi, who stepped up to make change for the better in his community by running for the Board. Yet he is still characterized as a "violation" by some persons, though he never violated a rule. He just happened to disagree with an opinion.

But then, it is *so* much easier to criticize than to work for a solution.

BUDGET (AND ASSESSMENTS)

The minutes of our October 18 Working Session on the Budget are up on the website at www.vlpoa.org. If you don't have a computer, don't forget that you can go to the

Management Office and use the computer that has been set up for you to view the website during normal business hours.

Increase of only 3% in two years. Remember that there was no increase in 2008 (our bad decision) and only 3% by a previous Board for 2007, and prices have risen since. We are still looking at \$8 a month increase.

Legal fees. The approximate \$40,000 spent this year included \$25,000 to settle a lawsuit created by the actions of a previous Board. The remainder was for legal opinions necessary because of issues raised by the Architectural Committee and legal issues related to the Gardens, as well as the CC&R draft review. We are budgeting far less for 2009, in hope that there will be need for far less...we don't plan to run to the attorney for everything.

Irrigation Systems. A very major cost was about \$30,000 for repair to our aging irrigation systems. It is obvious we need to **begin on a replacement plan** or this operating expense will continue to spiral upward for absolutely no benefit. This is what our reserves are for.

Heating our swimming pools. No, I am not suggesting we discontinue this! If you will check the minutes of the October 15 business meeting, you will see that Joe McCord sponsored a presentation by a company that installs solar panels. APS is giving a rebate on these, and if we take advantage of it we could recoup enough cost to begin **saving on our heating costs** within two years.

Palm trees. As you may recall, the Board made an effort to get the City of Peoria to take care of the plants on the city easements on Beardsley and 107th, including the palms. We finally got an answer from the City Attorney, who advises that the City passed a law in 2001 that requires all developers "and their successors" to install and maintain landscaping on the easements near their property. That means us. The palm trees are extremely expensive to take care of; between water and pruning (we saved about \$15,000 this year by not trimming, but will have to do it next year.) We can and may change other City right of way landscaping to desert, but the palms are a different matter, one that I believe should be a decision by the membership, not the Board.

REGARDING TREE DONATIONS

At several of our Board meetings this year, organizations have donated replacement trees to Ventana Lakes, thus far in memory of residents who have passed away. The Board appreciates these efforts, as, I am sure, does the community as a whole.

The Board decided at its October 6 meeting that it would give more recognition to this endeavor by

recognizing these donations in the newsletter instead of at Board meetings. Following is the first of these.

FROM THE SHORES

Mel Millsap reports that when the financial books of The Shores Community Committee were closed, a cash account was retained to cover any potential follow-on expenses. The funds remaining in this account have been largely unused and sufficient time has now elapsed that it is considered safe to dispense the remainder.

This money will be now used to purchase a tree (or trees) to be planted at the end of the 106th Drive cul-de-sac, replacing, in part, trees lost to a major storm in the 1990s. This site has also been chosen because the bank is wide and root interference with lake edge will not be a problem. In addition, a source of irrigation should be close by. Species of tree will be determined from the recommended list.

VENTANA ELECTION NEWS

FOUR SEATS AVAILABLE ON THE BOARD

Due to the resignation of a board member, there will now be four (4) seats available for the March 3, 2009 Ventana Lakes Board Member election. The three (3) candidates who receive the most votes will receive three (3) year terms. The candidate receiving the next highest number of votes will receive a two (2) year term to complete the term of the member who recently resigned.

Candidates wishing to have their name on the ballot must submit a **Declaration of Candidacy** indicating they would like to seek a seat on the Ventana lakes Board of Directors. This is a written statement indicating your desire to be a candidate. You 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 Declarations of Candidacy and /or resumes to manager@vlpoa.org. Information will be refused if it attacks another person.

Important dates for Candidates:

December 12 at 4pm—deadline for having resumes in both January and February Ventana Views.

January 15, 2009—deadline for having name on ballot and information only in the February Ventana Views.

Contact Pat Bracken at 972-2722 or Rose Ann Fiebig at 376-9037 if you have any questions.