



Ventana Views

Merry Christmas, Happy Hannukah, Happy New Year!

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

This Will be Your Last Ventana Views!

Beginning in January, the Newsletter will be published on newsprint and will contain advertising as we move up to a self-supporting publication to save our community money and to keep the lines of communication open.

ATTENTION VL REALTORS AND BUSINESSES -- If you would like to buy advertising, residents get a special price! Please call Tina at 566-6001

See PAGE 9 – TO GET THE COMMUNITY NEWS – INCLUDING YOUR 2009 ASSESSMENT

A great big hug and a thank you to all my residents who took the time to come down to the Management Office and pick up a study guide and sign up for the Food Handlers test. I have 35 residents on my list now but I need 50 for the County to come out here to our Yacht Club. So I am begging for more. I need at least 20 more residents to come in and sign up!! Please Please come in and sign up!! Reminder for my residents who have already signed up to mark your calendar for the practice test on Friday, December 19th at 10:00 am at the Yacht Club. Please call the office and sign up if you plan on attending. The test date with the County is on Thursday, January 8th at 10:00 am to 11:30 am. Please mark your calendars as I will need all of you there and ready to take the test!! Thanks Tina

Ventana Lakes Arts & Crafts and White Elephant Sale



These events will be held on Saturday, December 6th from 8:30 am to 2:00 pm at the Yacht Club. Unique, one-of-a-kind gifts and decorating ideas for yourself and everyone on your Holiday shopping list. See you there don't miss out!!

Please come help Tina decorate our Yacht Club for Christmas on Monday, December 8th at 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. I need guys who can get up into the attic and women who like to decorate. Refreshments will be served so come into the office or call us to sign up!! Thanks



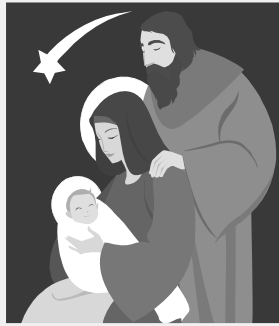
DECEMBER ACTIVITIES

CHRISTMAS HOUSE DECORATING CONTEST

If you plan to enter this fun contest please call the Office at 566-6001 and give the front desk your name & address!!

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.

DANCE WITH DAVE & LINDA FOR DECEMBER



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!!

VENTANA LAKES

ARTS AND CRAFTS SALE

Saturday, December 6th 8:30 am to 2:00 pm at your Ventana Lakes Yacht Club. They will have a White Elephant sale that will be held in the Billiards Room so come out and bring all your family & friends. We have a lot of talented residents here in Ventana Lakes so you really need to come and look at all the goodies!! See you there!!

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

On Sunday, December 7th at 2:00pm at the Yacht Club come celebrate The Reason for the Season tickets are FREE but you must come into the Management Office to pick up your ticket and sign up! We just ask that you bring a can good or a non perishable item with you to donate to the Valley View Community Food Bank. We will depend on the Community Cookie Elves to surprise us with cookies for refreshments please call Tina and she will set up a time to have them delivered.

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!!

CC&R Presentation for all Ventana Lakes residents who have not received the revised documents on Tuesday, December 9th at 6:30 pm at the Yacht Club.

RESIDENTS



FUN - FOOD- SHOPPING! PARK LANE JEWELS "MYSTERY HOSTESS" TEA PARTY

Wednesday, December 10th at 2:00 pm
Yacht Club - BENEFIT VENTANA TOO
Please sign up at the Office - FREE

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 Frank at 602-577-2722.

COFFEE SOCIAL (DONUTS) 9:00 am
Saturday, December 13th - Yacht Club.

Tickets on sale at the Management Office for \$1.50 up until Friday, 12th at noon (or buy one at the door for \$ 2.00)

BOARD MEETING will follow at 9:30 am

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!! Monday, December 15th**

Jan 8, Thursday Jan 27, Tues	July 9, Thursday July 21, Tues
Feb 12, Thurs Feb 24, Tues	Aug 13, Thursday August 25, Tuesday
March 12, Thursday March 24, Tues	Sept 10, Thursday Sept 22, Tues
April 9, Thursday April 28, Tuesday	Oct 8, Thursday Oct 20, Tues
May 14, Thursday May 26, Tuesday	November -- 17th -- Tues
June 11, Thursday June 23, Tuesday	December -- 15th -- Tues

FOOD HANDLERS PRACTICE TEST

Please join us on Friday, December 19th at 10:00 am at the Yacht Club. Leon Schwalbe is one of our residents here in Ventana Lakes who is a trainer in the Food Service Corporation and will be helping us get through the practice packet. This is a free service but I need you to call the Office if you would like to attend and sign up. If you are unable to attend this practice class but intend on taking the Food Handlers test on Thursday, January 8th at 10:00 am at the Yacht Club don't worry if you read over the practice packet you picked up at the Office when you signed up you will do just fine. Thanks Tina

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!!**

KARAOKE WITH DARRELL AND JACK!

Come join a lot of talented Ventana Lakes neighbors at the Yacht Club at 6:30 p.m. **Friday, December 26th.** 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. On **Wednesday, December 31st** doors open at 6:30 pm. Dinner will be served at

7:00 pm and music will start following dinner around 8:15 pm. 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 14 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!!**

COMING UP IN JANUARY MARK YOUR CALENDAR

THE BIG DAY

**Community Food Handlers Test
Thursday, January 8th all residents are asked to be there at 10:00 am at the Yacht Club. They will stay till 11:30**

DESERT AIRES BARBERSHOP

On **Saturday, January 10th at 7:00 pm at the Yacht Club.** Tickets are \$5.00 per person. Tickets ready on Dec. 1st. This 67- voice Sun City Desert Aires Barbershop Chorus (retirees from every professional walk of life and the largest chorus in the west valley) will be bringing barbershop harmony in a wide variety of songs to Ventana Lakes.

OPEN ACTIVITY MEETING

Please join us and bring your ideas on Wednesday, January 14th at the Yacht Club.

FRIENDSHIP FORCE

Do you like the challenge and excitement of new people, places and experiences?

Do you have the curiosity about the world and enjoy learning about different cultures?

Do you believe that friendships among people of different nations can make the world more peaceful?

We invite you to come to a presentation on how you can become a member of a dynamic, exciting, and adventuresome group of people who travel the world, meet, and become friends with people from many different countries and cultures on **Thursday January 15th at 10:00 am in the Yacht Club. No sign up needed. See you there!!**

GOLD STASH FOR CASH

Join us at the Yacht Club on Friday, January 16th from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. This is the perfect opportunity to clean out your jewelry box and put the cash in your pocket!!

LIVE FROM LAS VEGAS JIMMY CHAPEL

Please join us on Saturday, January 17th at 7:00 pm at the Yacht Club. Tickets are \$7.00 per person. Great show planned for you so get into the Office and buy your tickets on December 1st.

MEET THE CANDIDATES

Join us on Thursday, January 22nd at 5:30 pm at the Yacht Club. Come & meet your new Candidates!!

DANCE OF ILLUSION

A fantastic show that you have never seen before!! Sarlot & Eyde combine illusions, humor, mystery, music and audience participation into an exciting, fun and unique magical show!! Join us on Friday, January 23rd at 7:00 pm at the Yacht Club. Tickets are \$7.00 per person. Refreshments will be served after the show. Get in here and buy your tickets on Dec. 1st

HOTDOG POKER NIGHT

Join us for a hotdog dinner with free poker!! Saturday, January 31st at 6:00 pm at the Yacht Club. Tickets are \$13.00 per person. Come enjoy a hotdog dinner & dessert and when we are finished we will set up for our



FREE Texas Hold'em game night!! This will be a fun night so don't miss out tickets on sale Dec. 1st!!

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

Our November meeting of the Italian-American Club of Ventana Lakes had 78 members in attendance. RoseAnn Fiebig, President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance. She then welcomed all the members and called for any November anniversaries and birthdays so we could acknowledge them with applause and cheers. There were six birthdays

and three wedding anniversaries. Names of members of the club who were or are ill or in the hospital were announced and cards will be sent to them.

The membership was asked to bring Food for the Poor to our December meeting. As usual, only non-perishable items are requested. Also, RoseAnn announced at our December meeting an Italian dinner will be catered by Dominic's Restaurant. Small gifts will be distributed to everyone, kindly donated by Rosemarie Palminello, courtesy of Deer Valley Credit Union. Tickets are on sale for members @ \$8.00 each and guests @ \$10.00 each. Please call RoseAnn to purchase tickets

The discussion in regards to donating a microwave oven to our Ventana Lakes kitchen was very successful as all agreed that it would be a wonderful gesture for our club. A plaque will be engraved with our name on it and permanently placed on the microwave oven for all to see.

A reminder was made to all members to attend and vote in regards to the CC&R's because it requires 75% of all residents to make these changes.

Florence Cardinale announced there will be a casino trip on January 20th to Harrah's Ak-Chin in Maricopa. A donation of \$2.00 is asked of each person who rides the bus. Contact Florence for more information.

Lou Venturini thanked the club for all the cards, etc. that were sent to them while Loretta was ill.

Our bingo cards went missing so we couldn't play bingo, but everyone enjoyed just talking and visiting each other and table hopping while Darrell Smith sang and did karaoke.

After the business meeting members were served assorted flavored pies and ice cream. We encourage more members to attend our monthly meetings.

Please mark our next meeting on your busy calendar. It will be Thursday, December 4th, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. and guests are invited. Entertainment will be presented by Mary Jo Johnson.

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 December meeting or more information about the Italian-American Club of Ventana Lakes, please call RoseAnn Fiebig at 623-376-9037.

Marie Paciaroni for Nina Scozzari

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

We all had a pleasant Dinner Meeting at the Shanghai Grill last month. Food was great, as was the company. We are looking forward to the December Hanukah meeting on Thursday evening, December 11 at the Craft Room. We will be having an Old Fashioned Pot Luck Hanukah dinner and judging by last year's offerings, the food should be great with members bringing their signature dishes for all to enjoy. Will be in touch with members by phone and/or e-mail with details and the exact date, time, place etc of the meeting. If you have any questions, feel free to call Eileen Grossman at 623-566-0006. New members are always welcome. If you are thinking of joining our group, or would like more information about us, Eileen 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.

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.



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.

CERAMIC CLUB

Come join us and have fun at Ceramics Tuesdays from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm and Wednesday from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm. The teacher is Nancy Kincaid. Price per class is \$4.00 per person. Call Karen Suran at 561-1690.

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

December Coordinator will be Al Van Duine any questions please call 566-5924. 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 Know Who You Talk To

It was around 2:30pm on a nice sunny day here in Ventana Lakes when a resident who is a grandmother received a phone call from a young man claiming to be

her grandson. Coincidentally - He did get the name right! His voice didn't match exactly, but sounded very distressed so the grandmother listened. The young man called this resident "grandmother" several times, and asked her to please not say anything to anyone, especially his family. He lives with his parents in another state and told this grandmother that he had been invited to a friend's family wedding in Canada, and his friend paid for the airline ticket. While at the wedding he drank one drink and when driving back to his hotel he had a car accident, and was now in jail for DUI. He told the grandmother he desperately needed her help, and pleaded to please send him some money so he could get out of jail. The Grandmother then said that she wasn't quite sure she was really talking to her grandson, and started asking some personal questions. The phone immediately hung-up! The grandmother quickly followed-up, and called her family. Her daughter said her grandson was safe at school.

This incident reminds us all that no matter how distressed a phone caller may appear; always check-out the situation before sending any money to anyone. Never send money unless you know for sure they are who they say they are, and the situation is in fact the case.

ALSO Beware of all phone calls asking for any personal information, no matter who they claim to be. Get the name of the company they say they represent, hang-up, and call the company back using a phone number you have for the company. You do not want to become a victim of Identity theft.

Other ways to help prevent identity theft is to call the police if you see anyone looking in trashcans on your street because they may be identity thieves. Always shred all your junk mail and documents, and take labels off empty prescription bottles (put them in the dishwasher) before throwing them away. Safeguard your social security number. Don't give personal information to anyone who calls requesting it, for any reason. The first line against identity theft is you.

Support Block Watch in Ventana Lakes by working together with your neighbors, watching each other's property, and if you see or hear anything suspicious call 911 and immediately report it to the police. Block Watch needs more Captains, especially North of Beardsley. If you would like to volunteer as a Captain please call Chuck at 825-4517.

Thank you so much to my many friends at Ventana Lakes for your support and love shown to me in the loss of my dear husband Paul. Your cards, notes, visits, food, as well as the kind and thoughtful words you have expressed about him has been extremely meaningful to me. May God bless each of you for your thoughtfulness.

June Ettinger

NEWS ON THE CC&R'S

Judy Mabie, Chairperson
CC&R Committee

A BIG thank you to the residents who attended one of our 8 presentations. Most of the meetings were quite well attended and we were excited to have the opportunity to indicate to you what has been deleted from or added to the old documents.

We have decided to add one additional presentation on **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8th, at 6:30 pm** to benefit people travelling back to Ventana Lakes after Thanksgiving, or who were unable to attend October/November presentations. We are hopeful for a large turnout to lessen the number of door-to-door visits we will be making to distribute the remaining documents and collect approval forms.

If you have already attended a presentation but have not yet completed the TWO approval forms returning them to the box in the Management Office, we urge you to do so as soon as possible so we will not schedule a visit to your home. We would appreciate forms being returned **ASAP, to eliminate as many door to door visits as possible.**

Please be reminded that any articles not receiving the required approval of 75 % of the community will need to be rewritten and mailed to all 1701 homes with new approval forms for just those articles.

To accommodate anyone not able to attend our 90 minute presentations, we will be available in the Management Office **Monday, December 8th, Tuesday, December 9th, Wednesday December 10th and Thursday December 11th from 8:30 to 4:30** to distribute documents and approval forms, and also present a brief summary of changes. 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.

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

MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

Dave Bracken, Chairman

Projects that the committee members have been working on during the past few weeks:

1) Constructing new A-Frame bulletin boards. Painting will be done by other people.

2) Reattached letter at the front entrance of the Rec Center.

3) Installed additional bulletin boards at the Coves Pool and at the North Park Pool.

4) Repaired door at the Men's rest room at the Rec Center.

5) Corrected several electrical problems at the Rec Center and Card Room.

6) Repaired and constructed new baskets and lower screen trays for the pump inlet vaults for

lakes 2, 6, & 8. These items will be galvanized prior to placing into service.

7) Constructed new "Office Information" bookcase for the Management office.

The members of this committee take pride in maintaining their community property, at a considerable savings to the homeowners.

I would like to thank all of the members for their dedication to the community.

Community News

by Sue Alandar, Board President

2009 ASSESSMENT - \$6 INCREASE

At the November 22 Board meeting, we set our assessment for next year at only 10% increase (\$6 per month) instead of the original projected \$8 a month, while still establishing a 2009 schedule of improvements we need to make to Ventana Lakes. This includes installation of solar panels to heat both the Yacht Club and Recreation Center swimming pools. We should recoup our costs for this within two years, and then it is nothing but cost-savings. Also, we've set aside funds for 2009 to begin replacing our aging irrigation systems. Continuing this process in an organized manner should stop the drain we had this year of \$30,000 a year in unbudgeted irrigation repairs.

This Board is looking out for Ventana Lakes, as we continue to make contributions to our reserves while using the expenditures to reduce our operating costs in the future. This decision was met with approval and even applause by the membership – a great number of people! – who attended the November 22 meeting. That is support that the Board really, really appreciates.

We know and understand that a 10% increase still seems a lot in today's economy, particularly with so many of us on a fixed income. However, there has been only a 3% increase in the past two years (3% in 2007, nothing in 2008) and it did catch up with us. So did the need to take care of our community. The value of Ventana Lakes at large...every bit of it...has an impact on the value of our homes.

LORI NORRIS IS BOARD TREASURER

Treasurer Moe Frenette has resigned from the Board, so we are now five. Since our Bylaws allow our Secretary to also be Treasurer, and since Lori Norris has carried this position in another HOA, she now carries both workloads with the assistance of wonderful volunteer **Darleen Spyzinksk** who is transcribing the recordings of our Board meetings for her.

SWIMMING POOL DECISIONS

We ran a poll in the October newsletter to see what the community thought about some policies regarding the pools, and the results were tallied by Lori Norris and Betty Sergeant and read at the Board meeting. As a result, the Board made the following decisions:

1. The Recreation Center will remain a heated pool. One other pool will be heated and which pool it will be will be changed on a rotating basis each winter.
2. Children's hours will remain the same, from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Remember this is for children ages 4 through 17, and they must be with a responsible adult age 18 or over with a VLPOA ID badge or Guess Pass.

ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

The Board appointed the following new members to the Architectural Committee:

Ken Matz

Mary Lou Sipila

Jim Alandar

Tony Fiore (as Board Representative replacing Moe Frenette)

Alternates: Dick Matsuishi and Della Christian

Laura Miller continues as Chair of the Architectural Committee. A huge thanks to all of these who have volunteered their service!

ADVISORY COMMITTEES

During the elections last year, there was much talk of having advisory committees from around Ventana Lakes to represent the various areas within Ventana. These

representatives would act as two-way communicators, to advise the Board on concerns in their neighborhoods, and to take information from the Board back to their neighborhoods. I am glad to say we have finally had some people come forward.

The Gardens

The Gardens Advisory Committee is different than our other Advisory Committees, as they have been established by resolution of the Board, and their duties include representing and presenting recommendations on behalf of the residents of the Gardens during all major contractor negotiations that affect the expenditure of substantial funds from the Gardens accounts – that is, the monies collected from their second assessment for the express purpose of landscaping, insurance, roof repair and replacement. The persons appointed to this committee are: Chairman Tony Fiore; Patricia "Pat" Hollod; and Brian Mclaghlin. Alternates: Don Horton and Joe Broschka.

The Shores

Shirley Millsap will represent the Shores, which has 159 homes.

North Park

Rod McDonald will represent North Park, which has 135 homes.

What about YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?

We hope that homeowners in other subdivisions within Ventana Lakes will also consider coming forward to speak up for their neighbors, and to speak to them about current events in Ventana. I, and probably any other Board member, would be glad to sit down with neighborhood representatives for coffee and a chat.

Our Website and our Webmaster

Some of you have noticed that our website has not been up to date. It will likely be by the time that this newsletter comes out, but I want to point out that our webmaster, Chuck Schumm, does the wonderful work on our website as a volunteer, and that the Board and Management Staff appreciate his efforts more than we can say.

Chuck is very modest and doesn't like being singled out, but he does an enormous amount of work for Ventana Lakes, including running the Block Watch program as well as his web-work, and mentoring this Board member since day one.

Chuck has been gone for a good part of November attending to matters related to a death in his family. Please take a minute to say a prayer for him and his in this difficult time, and give him a smile and a thank-you and a we-missed-you when you see him.



THREE HONORED!!

Three of Ventana's own were honored before the Board meeting on November 19 by receiving the Nation's highest volunteer service award – the President's Volunteer Service Award!

Tom Woods awarded this to **Tony DeMont** and **Joan Yankowski** to a standing ovation from Ventana Lakes residents. **Ed McDonnell** is also a recipient of this prestigious national award – but was too busy volunteering to accept it at the scheduled time!

VENTANA LAKES ELECTION UPDATES FIVE BOARD MEMBER SEATS AVAILABLE

There are now five (5) seats available for the March 3, 2009 Board Member Election.

Three (3) seats for three (3) year terms—will be filled by the three candidates receiving the most votes.

One (1) seat for a two (2) year term—will be filled by the candidate receiving the next highest number of votes. (This will be to fill the unexpired term formerly held by Darrell Smith).

One (1) seat for a one (1) year term—will be filled by the fifth highest vote count. (This is to fill the unexpired term formerly held by Moe Frenette).

Candidates wishing to have their name placed on the ballot must submit a **Declaration of Candidacy** indicating that 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 Declaration 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 names and resumes in both January and February Ventana Views.

January 15, 2009 at 4pm—deadline for having name on ballot and information only in the February Ventana Views. **Meet the Candidate Sessions** for the community are scheduled at the Yacht Club on the following dates. We encourage all candidates to plan to attend these sessions.
January 22 (Thursday) at 6:30pm
February 1 (Sunday) at 3pm
February 14 (Saturday) at 9:30am—after the coffee forum.
Contact Pat Bracken at 972-2722 or Rose Ann Fiebig at 376-9037 if you have any questions.

McCord Wins School Board Seat

Ventana Lakes resident and VLPOA board member Joe McCord was elected to a seat on the Peoria Unified School District governing board at the November 4 election.

Two other Ventana Lakes residents were on the ballot as well. Robert Boehlke was a candidate for State Senate and Leigh Strickman ran for a seat on the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors. Neither was successful.

McCord's term on the Ventana Lakes board ends in March and he already has said that he will not be a candidate for re-election. *"There isn't enough time in the day for me to serve on both boards at the same time,"* he said. *"Besides, the Ventana board is in very good hands now. I feel comfortable that they will continue doing the good job they have been doing all year."*

McCord added that he will continue as chair of the Truck Traffic/Environmental Committee *"until the truck traffic on Beardsley is reduced to the minimum possible."*

WHY RELY ON RUMORS?

GET THE FACTS!

You can e-mail any Board member directly from the website at www.vlpoa.org (Click on "Board") to get to the links, OR copy this link into your web browser: http://vlpoa.org/Pages/Email_Board_Member.htm

You can drop off a written question at the office (there is a box labeled "Ventana Communications"). Indicate if you want to be answered personally or if you want your answer published in the newsletter and/or on the website. (Copy the following into your web browser to see examples: http://vlpoa.org/Pages/Q_And_As.htm.) This process has been in place for a long time, but few have used it.

DON'T FORGET YOU CAN ALSO READ THE MINUTES OF EVERY OPEN BOARD MEETING: www.vlpoa.org.

If you don't have a computer, you can go to the Management Office and use the one that is set up for you. It goes directly to the website so you will have no problem at all finding what you need!