

VDL Newsletter
14th edition
March 21, 2005

Happy Spring and start the spring cleaning.....

Spring has finally sprung, although our Washington winter was kind of woosie for a lack of a better word. I think the California and Arizona snow birds got the worst of it, while we basked in the glow of the sun most of the winter. Don't get me wrong, we weren't lying around the pool or anything, because despite the lack of rainfall, it was still pretty chilly around here.

I spent last weekend over in VDL. It was pretty quiet and rainy, which was a good thing. We are kind of doing our rain dances in hopes of avoiding a nasty fire season and worse yet, a water shortage.

The flock is beginning to return.....

The first of the snowbirds returned this past week, with Dave and Kathy pulling in and dragging a new fifth wheel behind them. They escaped the rain of AZ just in time to arrive for a rainy weekend! I am sure we will begin to see more of you returning over the next several weeks.

Changes abound.....

Where to start????? There is a new Wal Mart going in on the Naumes property in Chelan (on the way to the airport). This is causing quite a stir in sleepy little Chelan. The camps are quite divided between those desiring better prices and selection and those who think Wal Mart is going to cause the world to come to a screeching halt in the valley. There are still a few wars to fight, but it looks like Wally World will survive the battle.

The old Texaco station on the corner in Chelan (across from Campbell's) is no more. Well, the building is still there, but the tanks have been removed and the property cleaned up. The site is for sale and if you have a cool 1.3 million, it could be yours. There are apparently two interested, yet anonymous parties. Stay tuned to see what will become of that property.

A little closer to home the plans for the new grocery store in Manson (next to the 76 station) are still progressing. I talked to the owner this past weekend and he said he just received the permits when he heard Wal Mart was putting in a super

store, complete with groceries. The Manson owner took a few days to reconsider his plans, but ultimately decided to go forward with the Manson grocery store.....yippeeoooooooooooooooooooo!!! Construction should begin this spring and should be fun to watch (I like big construction trucks).

Sad news to report.....the MA8 golf course has just about run its course. Some goofy developer thinks he is going to build a housing development on the course, with 2 finger-lakes for water skiing. I might have mentioned this in the last letter. I haven't heard anything more on that one.

Inside VDL things are popping. We have some new owners, the Tomson's, up next to Jim and Karen Norton. I think they are planning on putting in a park model, but don't hold me to that. Hopefully the board will get to meet them soon.

There are 2 lot sales pending on 31 & 32, right across the street from me. They are 2 couples who are friends and by the looks of the drawings in the soil, they are going to put in two park models, with a big patio between the two lots to share.

Dave and Kathy are going to be doing a little landscaping on the 4 lots that had the driveways poured last fall to finish them up and are going to put a park model on the lot where the Norwester sat for years, before it was removed last fall.

Dave is getting close to spreading gravel on the RV/Boat parking area. We may need to move the boats and RV's again to get that accomplished. I believe Rich Ogle is going to design the new parking area on a CAD. I am still in the process of trying to confirm that evil rumor. If you see Rich and Pat tooling around California or Arizona, tell him to email me!!!

Splish Splash.....

I know it seems like things have been quiet, but trust me, they are not. The pool project is progressing positively. The board is holding a meeting on April 2, 2005 to discuss and select the vendor for completing our project. A "Special Homeowner's" meeting will follow the April 2nd meeting for the homeowners to vote on the project.

Look who's turning 60.....

Little Joey Blackmore turns 60 on June 15th. Sharon is planning on throwing a birthday bash at VDL on June 11th. All VDL residents are invited (they are finally throwing the party I have been bugging them about) and are asked to bring their favorite adult or regular beverage of their choice. Sharon said "no gifts,"

but I am sure Joe would want me to tell you all to buy him something really expensive.....I am going out tomorrow to see what I can come up with!!!

Yard Sale anyone???????????

I know the yard sale is kind of a pain in the southern region, but it is a great fundraiser for the VDL Recreation account. We currently have about \$1500 in the account, but this will be dwindling quickly once we buy some needed patio equipment this spring. Are you all game to do it again? If so, I would like to suggest a few things.....#1 no clothes. The Poppino's and I hauled away 4 truck loads of leftovers to the Thrift Shop in Chelan after the last sale and most of the boxes contained clothes. So please, no clothes, they just don't seem to sell real well. #2, whatever doesn't sell needs to go home with the person who brought it so one or two people don't get left with the chore of disposing of the items. Instead of posting actual hours, lets start the sale at a particular time and shut it down when we run out of sellable items. Our sign can advertise the time we open, but we don't need to post a closing time.

Please look around your house and start collecting items you wish to donate. You can store items in the old laundry room, downstairs in the clubhouse.

I will be on the east coast the first two weeks of July, so would suggest holding the yard sale in late June if that works for everyone else. I know you can run the sale without me, but when the bucks start pouring in, it is so fun to work and I don't want to miss out. If everyone else prefers the 4th of July weekend, though, I will support the decision.

Party committee anyone????

Cathy P., Barb, Pat and I all had a good time planning and hosting parties last year. But when you combine them with the regular duties we conduct as the board, it gets a little cumbersome. I would be very happy to form a social committee who would take over the party hosting and planning. It can be as small as one or two members, or as large as 20 or more.

The parties are actually pretty easy to plan and host. The Recreation Fund pays for the main course (burgers, ham, etc) and we pot luck the rest. It just requires someone to come up with a date and a reason (such as the sun is out) and the desire to host. We hold the parties at the clubhouse, poolside, so you won't have a throng of people descending on your house. Cleanup is very quick and easy, because most of the party goers chip in to help out.

If you are interested in volunteering for the committee, please let me know.

I think that is about all for now. If you have any news you would like me to post, please drop me an email and I will be sure to get it in the next newsletter.

For those of you new to VDL, welcome to the park!! I look forward to meeting you all. This newsletter is sent out when I get enough interesting stuff to talk about and is not on a set schedule.

The contents of this email come straight from the mouth of the writer/editor. Nobody else is responsible for what is printed in here!!!!

See you all soon and drive careful on your way home!!
Leslie Burns