



Vista Del Lago
Newsletter #25
May 2008

Got ice??

Last fall we purchased a community ice machine. Thanks to Bob Sessous, it is now installed, running and making ice. Bob installed it next to the downstairs door that leads into the downstairs portion of the clubhouse. Cindy Sneesby is working on getting plastic bags, which you can fill with ice. If possible, please try to reuse the bags so we don't waste them. There is a \$1.00 per bag fee. We will put a can on top of the ice machine for money. The money will go towards paying for bags and maintenance items associated with the ice machine. This will be a great convenience for property owners, so be sure to thank Bob for spending his time hooking up the system!

Clubhouse combination.....

Last fall the door combination system began to fail. Bob Sessous (yes, Bob again) ordered and installed a new combination system. The new combination is only two digits, which means we only have to remember half of the numbers! The new combination is XXX. There are no # or * keys to punch in, just the numbers.

Gate combination.....

The combination to the gate that leads from the retention pond to the park is XXXXXX. This is a great place for dog walking, people walking and there is a jungle gym set for kids. There is also a brand new (as of last fall) basketball court to your dribbling pleasure. If you do take your pets for a walk in the park, please be sure to scoop the poop. This of course is also the case in VDL.

Line Dancing lessons coming on Mondays.....

Our own Linette Widen will begin teaching line dancing lessons on Mondays, from 10:30am-11:45am, in the clubhouse. Lessons are free and everyone is welcome. The lessons will begin

on June 2nd and run through September 15th. No experience necessary. This will be a good opportunity to get some exercise and have some fun with your neighbors!

Bison Bistro moved.....

The Bison Bistro, which is owned by VDL's own Torres family (Mike and Amy), has moved from their downtown Manson location, to Banjo Creek Farms. They are open for breakfast and lunch (not sure about dinner) and have really good food. I have eaten at the old location several times and found the food to be of good quality, with a large assortment of choices and quite affordable. Please make a trip out to the new location to support our neighbors and give it a try!

Speaking of restaurants.....

In the old Bison Bistro location, there is a new Italian restaurant called Tanti Baci. I have not yet dined at the restaurant, but we do have a menu, which is posted on the upstairs bulletin board in the clubhouse. The menu looks good and they offer choices not found in any of our other local restaurants. Speaking of menus, there are several menus posted on the bulletin board. If you are not sure where to take your guests, the bulletin board might assist you in making a good choice.

If you are new to VDL and the area, be sure to have breakfast or lunch at Blueberry Hills. Ask any neighbor or person in town for directions. They have really good food, at good prices and the restaurant itself is really fun to poke around in. They have several knickknacks and gift items for sale, as well as take out pies that are to-die-for!!!

Want to plan a party and use the clubhouse??

The clubhouse is available for parties, by reservation. If you are interested in reserving the clubhouse for a function or party, please fill out a reservation form and turn it in to a board member. There is no charge for the reservation. However, you must make sure the clubhouse is at least as clean as when you started.

Pool table.....

Are you a billiards nut? If so, check out the new pool table which was purchased during the fall. It is a beautiful table and there are plenty of pool players in the community that would like to play. If we get enough interest, we may set up a billiards tournament.

New pool gate lock system.....

Have you been down to the pool yet? If not, you will want to read this! Due to county regulations, VDL needed to install a child proof gate handle. The old handle is now obsolete and doesn't need to be turned to open the gate. **You will see a knob at the top of the gate. Simply pull the knob up and push or pull on the gate to release the hatch and open the door.** When the gate closes, please be sure to close it manually, rather than letting it slam behind you. The repeated slamming is taking its toll on the concrete at the base of the posts and it is beginning to crumble. We will eventually need to replace the concrete, but we can certainly put off the necessary maintenance by assisting the gate when closing.

Some lots still have weeds.....

If you have not been over to your lot recently to check on it, chances are good you have weeds growing. The dandelions are out in full force and if not taken care of, they go to seed and blow onto neighboring lots. If you have not taken care of the weeds yourself, or hired someone to take care of them for you, you have a weed problem, trust me. Any lots with weeds which have gone wild by Memorial Weekend, will be taken care of at the owner's expense. The Board will call the local weed control business, have your lot sprayed and a bill will be sent to the property owner. The Board would rather spend their time enjoying the weekend and not taking care of someone else's weed problem, so please do the neighborly thing and get your lots taken care of.

One of the local spraying services, who we use to control the common areas, is called Cascade Weed and Pest Control. You can reach Dirk at 509-682-1249 or knapweed@inlandnet.com. If you would rather not spray and would like a person to pull your weeds, you can hire Alex Sneesby. You can reach Alex at AlexSneesby@hotmail.com to set up weed pulling service.

VDL's accountant information.....

If you are new to VDL or would like to set up electronic payment for your dues, please contact Jordanna LaPorte at LaPorte Financial Alliance. Jordanna is the Association's CPA and she handles all of VDL's financial issues, including billing for dues and paying the bills. Jordanna's office is located in Chelan at 410 E. Woodin, Chelan, WA 98816. You can also reach her at 509-682-2521 or lfacpas@nwi.net.

Patio furniture set up and cleaned.....

A special thank you to Jim Baker for cleaning and setting up the patio furniture around the pool. The owners have been enjoying the pool for the past week, thanks to the appearance of the sun! This past weekend was perfect sunbathing weather, the pool was quite comfortable and it was very relaxing.

More patio furniture stuff coming.....

Jeff and Rita McCann are going to be picking up 2 more sets of patio tables and chairs. If there is money left over, we will consider purchasing a few more lounge chairs. If you have an idea for something you would like to see by the pool, please let the McCann's know and they will advise if there are available funds.

And speaking of funds.....

We have done a spectacular job of raising funds for the pool area over the past several years by having a community yard sale. We often raise at least \$1000 from one big sale each year. This money is used to buy patio furniture, the ice machine, pool toys, etc and does not burden the general fund with these types of purchases. The money raised from last year's sale is running out and will probably be all but depleted after Jeff and Rita go shopping for the tables and chairs. My question is, would you like to have another community yard sale this year? Do any of you have donation items to contribute? If not, we may want to take up a collection from the pool users. If each property owner who enjoys the use of the pool donated some money, we could refill our fund. Let me know what your preference is and I will include the results in a future email.

Pawluk's place sold.....

Frank Wycoff has purchased the Pawluk's home and will be closing on the sale on June 5th. He winters in Arizona and will be living in VDL the remainder of the year. I met him this past weekend and he is really a great guy and will be a nice addition to VDL. Please take a moment to stop and introduce yourself to him (his new home is immediately to the left of Cecil's house) and his dog, Sally.

Still time to throw your hat onto the ballot.....

There is still time to add your name to the ballot to run for the 2009-2010 VDL Association Board. We currently have 6 people interested (if nobody backs out). It would be great to have someone from the Finance Committee (Joe Blackmore has been volunteered), as there is considerable work being done by that committee at this very moment. Having someone on the Board who is already in the loop would be quite helpful to run as our treasurer. The names I currently have who have expressed some interest in running are:

Jim Norton, Dave Sneesby, Jeff McCann, Rita McCann, Joe Blackmore and Phil Tracey.

If you don't want to run for the Board, but are interested in being active in the community, please consider volunteering for a committee. We have several committees, such as the Finance Committee, Buildings and Grounds, Architecture Committee, Social Committee and Membership Committee. These are all very important committees and without your participation, we would be in a world of hurt!!

Speaking of volunteering.....

If there is a community project you would like to see completed, consider putting together a work party to get-er-done. We have completed a lot of projects in the park over the years by getting a group of volunteers together. It has proven to be fun, economical and we have done some really good work. I for one would like to put together a clean-up-the-dead-weed party. After Dirk comes through and sprays the weeds, we are left with big clumps of dead weeds in the common areas, such as around the retention pond. I will be working on cleaning up that area on the Sunday of Memorial Weekend. If you want to join me, or would like to target another area in the park, let's put a work crew together. If you are interested in participating, send me an email and let me know. You can reach me at XXX@XXXXX.XXX.

The Zippy, again.....

The Zippy's (our garbage can dumpsters) get very full during the summer months and especially over the holiday weekends. Please refrain from putting cardboard or other large objects in the Zippy, especially over the upcoming weekend. There is a recycle center in Manson, located on the right side of the road, right next to the Trout apple storage warehouse. If you need directions, please ask a neighbor. There is a larger recycle center at the transfer station out by Wal-Mart.

If you do have weeds that you need to dispose of, please place them in a Hefty bag and place them next to the dumpster. These won't decompose like the regular garbage does and I would rather use the Zippy's for actual food waste garbage, than to fill them with yard waste.

Boat/RV Parking.....

If you have an item stored on the Boat/RV Parking lot and have not been assigned a space by Heidi Hodgson, you must have it removed by Friday, May 23rd, or face having it removed for you. Many owner's who have a space assigned, will be bringing their boats and RV's over for storage on Memorial Weekend and will be expecting to find their space unoccupied.

If you do not have a space and would like to get one, please contact Heidi Hodgson on lot #12 or at XXX@XXXXXXXXX.XXX.

Heidi will place you on a waiting list and will advise you on June 7th if there is a space available. If there are no spaces left for you, there are two storage lots in very close proximity to VDL, where you can rent space.

Got a bee sting???

This was passed on to Janet Bolinger in an email. It might be worth a try in the event you or a family member/friend get stung this summer.....

It might be wise to carry a penny in your pocket while working in the yard..... BEE STINGS ! A couple of weeks ago, I was stung by both a bee and hornet while working in the garden.

My arm swelled up, so I went to the doctor. The clinic gave me cream and an antihistamine. The next day the swelling was getting progressively worse, so I went to my regular doctor. The arm was Infected and needed an antibiotic. The doctor told me, "The next time you get stung, put a penny on the bite for 15 minutes." That night, my niece was stung by two bees. I looked at the bite and it had already started to swell. So, I taped a penny to her arm for 15 minutes. The next morning, there was no sign of a bite. We decided that she just wasn't allergic to the sting. Soon, I was gardening outside. I got stung again, twice by a hornet on my left hand. I thought, here I go again to the doctor for another antibiotic. I promptly got my money out and taped two pennies to my bites, then sat and sulked for 15 minutes. The penny took the sting out of the bite immediately. In the meantime the hornets were attacking, and my friend was stung on the thumb. Again the penny. The next morning I could only see the spot where the hornet had stung me. No redness, no swelling. My friend's sting was the same; couldn't even tell where she had been stung. She got stung again a few days later upon her back---cutting the grass! And the penny worked once again.

Wanted to share this marvelous information in case you experience the same problem. We need to keep a stock of pennies on hand. The doctor said that the copper in the penny counteracts the bite. It definitely works!

That's about it for this newsletter. As usual, if you would like to get the word out about something, please drop me an email and I will add it to the newsletter. If you haven't already visited the VDL website, please do so at vdlpoa.org. Larry Johnson has done a lot excellent work in putting the website together, include discussion forums. As with any website, the more new content, the better. If you would like to advertise something, solicit for information or share some news, please consider doing so on the website. Also, if you have pictures from

parties, get-togethers or scenic photos of the Chelan area, please send them to Larry and he will get them on the site.

I for one am looking forward to the upcoming summer and fun in the sun!

Leslie Burns

VDL Secretary