

# VAIL'S VOICE



Newsletter of the Vail's Grove Community located on Peach Lake  
Editor – Carol Harting – c.harting@verizon.net



## Frank Cassidy - Chairperson's Report:

Spring is in the air and a lot of Spring cleaning is underway. Please refer to the Vail's Grove Handbook in regards to bundling your yard waste and curbside pickup. As far as trash, your municipality has an outline of what and when you can dispose large pieces of rubbish. On the note of cleaning up, please remember to clean up after your leashed pet and dispose of the bags in your garbage or the grove's garbage bins. The grove has taken down many trees and left the wood there for Vail's Grove residence to pick up and take for their personal use. The office will keep residence posted as to more tree removal and opportunities for wood pick up.

It had come to the Board of Directors' attention that some students are using ramp 3 for school bus pick up and discharge. Only ramps 1, 2 & 4 are the designated stops for school buses and our students to be picked up and discharged after school. Please let your student know of this situation. We have designated stops for consistency and safety of all of our residences. Reminder that ramp 2 is closed in the mornings at 7:00am on school days and no resident or worker should use this ramp until 8:30am. Please let your service provider know this rule if you are having work done on a school day.

### NEXT BOARD MEETING – APRIL 25 @ 8 PM

I am looking forward to a great Spring season.

"April hath put a spirit of youth in everything."  
- William Shakespeare

## Juliann Salerno – Vice President's Report



Greetings and welcome to the spring. With the advent of the warmer weather, this is just a small reminder that we all need to slow down on our roads. There are more people out and about enjoying our community roads, beaches and parks. Please be aware as you travel through and remember the speed limit is 10mph.

As the Vice President of the board, I have been asked by our Chairman to explore new things to make our community better, safer and an overall enjoyable place to live. So in the next couple of months we will hold a CPR/AED class taught by Certified American Red Cross instructors right here in our pavilion. The cost of the certification would be minimal compared to the chance to save a life because you know the proper CPR technique.

I would also like to take this chance to remind you all that when you became a homeowner here in Vail's Grove, you bought into a Cooperative. There are many rules and regulations that go along with owning in a Cooperative, and from time to time I encourage you to read through the Rules and if you have any questions or concerns they should be directed to the office manager for clarification.



*From Cindy's Desk*

Happy Spring! If at any time you have a question about anything, i.e. alterations, rentals/sales, please contact me and I will inform you of the proper path to take. Vail's Grove has rules that you agreed to abide by when you moved here – if something is brought to the attention of the office, it needs to be addressed. Lots more folks are walking their dogs more; it is imperative that dogs be leashed at all times and that you pick up after your pet – please do not leave poop bags in garbage cans belonging to others. Enclosed is your second quarterly billing – payment as always is due in the office by the **last day of the billing month**. After that, finance charges are assessed on the first of the month. The April Board of Directors meeting will be held on Thursday, April 25th – this is a change from April 18. If you are planning to attend a Board meeting and will be speaking, please have something in writing to the Office by the Tuesday morning prior to the meeting by 8 am. Whatever the issue is, it needs to be communicated to the Board so they can review and know what the issues will be.

Parking on the roads is a big safety issue. We ask that you please don't park on the roads - improper use fees will be given. You are also responsible for your guests. Wishing you all a very Happy Easter, Happy Passover and Happy Spring.

**To Shareholders and Guests of Shareholders Recipients of the Vails Voice , Please Pass This to Your Guests from Jack Waltzer, Chair of the Monument Committee.**



The Grove has spent some effort in putting a beautiful stone in place to honor those men and women who have served our country in the United States' Armed Forces. Unfortunately, some few names of family members who had relocated were not received before the stone was engraved. However, there is room to add these names if and when they are made known to us. Of course, they will have to have been Residents of Vails Grove and there will be a charge to cover the cost of having a name added. Our Office will keep a list of names to add, and they will be added on a cost effective periodic basis to be decided by the Board of Directors.

**In the meantime, please refrain from pasting names, taping names, or defacing the monument in any other way. We welcome the leaving of personal mementos, flags, flowers, etc. at the base of the stone in memory or honor of a particular loved one.**

These mementos of course will be collected when they no longer add to the beauty of the little park where the stone sits. Thank you all for your consideration in this matter.

Once again, a very BIG thank you to Tim Butler/Hardscrabble Supply for the generous donation of top soil for the Monument Park. Your generosity is wonderful.



**Boat Ramp/North End Storage by Patrick McGuiness**

Greetings and welcome to the long awaited thaw from winter! We are about to embark on yet another summer season here on Peach Lake!! The time for moving boats, jet skis, etc. will be approaching soon. As in years prior, your patience, communication and cooperation with your fellow vessel owners, in terms of the jockeying of all is, in advance, greatly appreciated. Keys are available to borrow either from the office or from the small list of Vails residents who also have one. Please be considerate to those you would like to obtain the key from in terms of when you request the key. No phone calls prior to 9am or past 8pm please. Also, please try and make your arrangements one day prior so that a key can be left out for you. There may be sign out sheets so that if another person has the key, we can notify the person requesting it and perhaps the two can coordinate accessing the north end and/or the boat ramp together. Once again, communication and patience being the essential parts of this whole process are what makes it run smoothly. Lastly, in terms of accessing both locations, it is imperative that you LOCK both gates when you are through using them. The reasons for this are I'm sure obvious: the protection of, prevention of theft of, damage of and so forth. I anticipate no problems with any residents of Vails Grove and thank you for always making this a mostly pain free experience for all.

By now all of you who do store up at the North End and use dock slips have been notified about the new fees associated with both. It is after years, yes, years of debate that the board of directors, some very reluctantly, decided to initiate this new billing. In this particular instance, it was the feeling of the majority that this was

an, arguably, necessary step when comparing to other lakes and storage facilities who charge for such an amenity. We as a board are all residents too and NONE OF US want to see costs go up for any of us. However, when costs go up around us that are out of our control, the money to pay for a particular service has to come from somewhere. The monies collected for the north end and dock slips is slated to be used for the improvement of the entire north end, dock repairs and maintenance of both.

Thank you everyone and of course, enjoy, have fun and most of all BE SAFE this summer season!!



**Lend a Hand Committee**

"Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible." *Dalai Lama*

Last summer when the word went out for Lend a Hand volunteers, 17 VG residents immediately volunteered, a true testament to the spirit of our community. I am very proud! Since then we have fielded 11 requests for a variety of needs. The committee is here to help if you need a ride to a medical appointment, a meal when sick or recuperating from surgery, someone to walk your dog in an emergency, or even take your garbage out if you are sick, etc. etc.

We are also a source for information regarding resources available through local agencies if your needs are long term.

If you, or someone you know, could use a "hand" contact Cindy at the office : [914-669-5100](tel:914-669-5100) or Helen Vail at phone:# [845-205-8004](tel:845-205-8004), email: [helenvail@comcast.net](mailto:helenvail@comcast.net), or text [845-661-4082](tel:845-661-4082).



**Beach Report from the**

**Cassidys:**

The Beach Committee will be accepting lifeguard applications beginning in April. Check the Vail's Grove website for the application and handbook. The beach, weather permitting, may be open Memorial Day weekend, and weekends in June depending on lifeguards and the weather. We will post a tentative schedule on the Wednesday/Thursday prior to the weekend concerning opening of the beach.

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**



Happy Spring!!

The Membership Committee would like to welcome all new residents to our Community. With the warmer weather coming, we hope you will enjoy all the assets available to you residing here in Vails Grove.

With that said, safety is our first priority. We start with a mandatory rule that all residents are vetted. It is also mandatory that if you have a person living with you or residing in your home for more than 90 days , that person must be vetted as they are participating in our community such as driving, walking and interacting with residents. This is to insure that our Community has the peace of mind that we have done our part in making sure all people living here have been vetted.

Part of your responsibility as a shareholder is to read the rules and regulations booklet. Once again it is for your/our safety and well being.

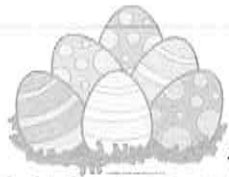
If you have any concerns or questions, please call or email the office. Our office manager, Cindy, is knowledgeable on all the facets of the Grove and should be your contact.

Thank you all.  
**Membership Committee**  
**Hugh Andrews**  
**Bri Kane**  
**Julie Salerno**

# Recreation and Upcoming Events

## Julie Salerno/Melissa Sowa – Recreation Chairs

Recreation for Vail's Voice: Julie Salerno and Melissa Sowa, Co-chairs



The Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held **Sunday April 7<sup>th</sup> at 1pm sharp**. Please come and join friends and neighbors for a fun filled afternoon of egg finding and then crafts and egg dying in the pavilion. We also will be providing light refreshments to complete the day. Prizes for the kids who find the Gold and Silver Eggs. This is a fun event for all ages. The event will be held inside if weather is bad. This event is free for all Vail's Grove residents, a small fee of \$5.00 per child for guests of Vail's residents.

During the next few months the recreation team will be hosting several events. There will be more Trivia and Bingo Nights, Movie nights outside will return with the warmer weather as will open pavilion and snack sales for all to enjoy on those longer summer nights. The dates and times for all of these events will be posted at the mailboxes and also on your robo calls. Memorial Day this year will hopefully allow us to formally dedicate our Veterans Monument. Stay tuned for details regarding this event.



The largest turnout of last year was the Fourth of July Parade, which will be held this year on **Thursday July 4 at 11am**. The parade as usual will begin at the North End and conclude at the pavilion with our ceremony honoring our country and all of our Vail's Veterans. The traditional hot dogs and soda and chips will be served. Please decorate your bikes, scooters, wagons, dogs etc. for the parade. (Remember all dogs must be leashed at all times)

We hope that those of you who have not checked out some of the recreation programs this past year, we would love for you to come on down and join us. We know you will be pleasantly surprised at what you find.

See you all soon.



As the leaves which have blown onto the lawns and under the shrubs over the winter are cleaned up, many of us will use our time and/or money to rid our lawns of them. Keeping our leaves nearby is a simpler, more environmentally-friendly solution, as leaves contain nutrients that are good for the soil.

Here are some ways to make the most of your leaves sent along by Jack Waltzer:

- **Mulch your leaves in place:** Shred your leaves with a lawn mower and leave them on your lawn. It's faster and easier than raking or leaf blowing and adds nutrients to the soil.
- **Add shredded leaves as mulch to your garden and landscape:** Shredded leaves can be used as a mulch to help prevent weeds and keep moisture in the soil. In addition, the leaves will slowly release nutrients into the soil.
- **Insulate your compost bin for the winter:** Place leaves around and on top of your compost bin. This will insulate your bin and allow the material to continue to breakdown. In the spring you will have fresh compost without waiting for your pile to thaw out, and the leaves can be added to your spring compost pile.
- **Compost your leaves:** Leaves are a great source of browns, materials rich in carbon, that are needed to balance greens in your compost pile like food scraps and grass clippings. Compost can be used as a mulch or mixed into the garden soil. One of the biggest challenges to composting food scraps at home is the release of water into your compost bin as the food breaks down. One of the best ways to fix this is to add leaves every time you add food scraps (Hint: shredded leaves absorb water better than whole leaves). Collect and store leaves in the fall, then use them throughout the coming year. Compost provides nutrients, improves soil structure, absorbs and holds in moisture, and adds beneficial microorganisms.

Visit DEC's website for more information on backyard composting.