



July/August 2010

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR . . .

What a beautiful, albeit HOT, summer we are having! But, really, what better place to cope with the heat than at Peach Lake with all the "fun in the sun" activities we have to offer. Shareholders' friends and family seem to be flocking to the Grove en 'masse this year. So many people I know have had a houseful of company on and off all season. My own family will descend on us in August! Just goes to show that the community we call home is the best place to be in a heat wave that never seems to end.

And we have been out in force enjoying the Beach, thanks to the great events our Beach Committee Chair Rob Norcross has planned and executed with flair this year! Thanks to Rob and all his volunteers who have helped to make these socials a lot of fun and a great way to get to know and enjoy our neighbors — not to mention see a beautiful full moon or sink your toes in the sand with a Margarita in hand!

Significant progress to improve our cooperative infrastructure continues to be made thanks to the efforts of the Long Range Planning Committee, Chaired by Sharon Scott and including myself and Ellen Mytych, with the invaluable assistance of Mike Davies and Jack Waltzer. These are important projects that will insure the continued efficient operation of some of our essential services. See the story on Page 2 for more details.

Special thanks to Tom Duffy and Ronnie Waltzer who've worked many hours on the survey process we invested in this year. Tom and Ronnie's dedication and attention to all the details involved in a project of this magnitude are above and beyond the average volunteer's investment of time and energy. The results of their efforts will benefit residents of Vail's Grove for years to come.

As I finish up my first term as Chairperson, I want to thank the Board of Directors and the heads of all our Committees for everything they've done to make Vail's Grove the wonderful place it is to live. I could use up all the space in this newsletter thanking everyone who should be recognized and I just hope everyone who has contributed realizes that we know who you are and the entire Grove says, "Thank you!"

Victoria Desidero

Aesthetically Speaking. . . .

The Aesthetics Committee was busy this spring with the planting of old and new gardens, planters, and pavilion baskets, and mailbox area flowers all over Vail's Grove. Many thanks to those who helped with the selection and planting. Shareholders involved included Victoria Desidero, Joan Sheridan, Mary Larkin, Adeline Natiello, Nancy Carney, Sue Enos, and Ronnie Waltzer. Unsung others have participated with weeding and watering.

New gardens include the area in front of the garages adjacent to Spruce Lane, a planned rock garden at Norton's Circle, and the triangular rock wall-enclosed bed at the foot of ramp #2. The large rocks are already in place at Norton's Circle and await only the soil for the plants. Additionally, Jay Moore built a lovely new rock wall around the bed at Ramp #5. As always, flower donations suitable for the area being planted will be appreciated and gratefully accepted. Call Ronnie or Victoria if you have plants to share.

The Pavilion Gardens look beautiful this year, thanks to the hard work of digging up and replanting done last summer. Mike Davies, Jack Waltzer, Jay Moore, Victoria, and Ronnie were all part of the blood, sweat, and tears efforts.

Jay Moore and his assistants, Sean Walsh and Chris Murphy, were absolutely instrumental in the design, building, and planting of the new gardens. Our thanks to all of them.

Survey Committee News

The Survey Committee has been busy working with our survey team to complete the process of surveying all the property within Vail's Grove. The first group of shareholders has been notified by letter and received a copy of their new survey, so that they may review it. Any questions about a shareholder's survey must be submitted in writing to the office, and will be addressed by the committee.

Tree Committee Update

By now, anyone who has walked or driven past the playground has noticed the absence of the many dead and dying trees that formerly resided there. A certified arborist pronounced them dangerous, and they were subsequently removed after sending out bids for the work.

The Tree Committee and arborist did another walk-thru of every street in the Grove in order to identify other trees that need attention, so that we can make a plan for dealing with them. Planting new trees will also be a part of the beautification program.

Ronnie Waltzer
Vice Chairperson

Cindy's Corner :

Annual Meeting is Sunday, September 12th at 11 am in Pavilion - Light Brunch served

Deadline to bring in petitions to run for seat on the Board is noon on August 6th - So, there is still time to come on down to pick up a petition !

Please read the notices at the Bulletin Board and listen to robo-calls for updates on Sewer Line Construction work.

Schedules are put out there as soon as we get notice.

New Water Main is being put in on Vail's Lake Shore Drive from Ramp 2 down to the Pavilion. Thanks for your patience as this project proceeds.

Office will be closed from August 30 - September 6th - Will re-open on the day after Labor Day, September 7th.

Beginning the week of July 26th, Landscape Unlimited will be working on Vail's Lake Shore Drive for what will be a slow, difficult process of installing sewer lines. The work will begin at the Pavilion and move north. During this time, there may be times when a section of the road is completely blocked off, even overnight. There will be a lot of noise and dust. Please feel free to ask the Stearns & Wheler representative any questions you may have. These contractors have been wonderful to work with and they are trying to make this process as easy as possible for all. Thank you in advance, as always, for the wonderful patience you have shown while Landscape Unlimited has been visiting all areas of our community.

If you have any questions or concerns in regard to the WWTP, including the installation of the sewer lines, meters etc., please call Stearns and Wheler directly - 203-268-8990 and ask for Sarah or Ken...

FOR SALE

Vermont Precision Furniture - Light Maple beautiful bunk beds/twin beds - Can be used as either. This is fabulous furniture that will last a lifetime. Including two mattresses, one of which is hardly used, two bunk boards (the board that goes under mattress) and all the linens I have that fit (if interested). My son has outgrown and wants a bigger bed. Make me an offer - I have photos here on my camera. Call Cindy in office.

FYI: Septic Systems are designed to last 20 - 30 years. You will know by any or all of the following if your system is in trouble; smell, difficult toilet flushing, slow drains, wet ground around your property. To delay failure, regular (depending on the number of people using the system and size of your tank) pumping of your tank every 2 or 3 years is a must. Don't overuse water, and never put anything into your system but toilet paper safe for septic systems (noted on the label) and only what you have eaten and digested! Fats, grease, coffee grounds, paper towels, sanitary napkins, disposable diapers, etc., will cause system failure. Additives: yeasts, bacteria, enzymes, etc., do not eliminate the need for routine pumping.

Peach Lake Water has been tested monthly during summer months and we are happy to report that the bacteria levels are normal and safe.

Jack Waltzer

Long Range Planning Update

Very soon there will be no more robo calls that the water will be shut off to repair the old water lines along Vail's Lake Shore Drive from Ramp 2 to the Pavilion. The Long Range Planning Committee, with the help of Jack Waltzer and Michael Davies, engaged Putnam Engineering to provide the specifications and bid packages for replacement of the water mains. Seven bids were received and opened on August 24. The contractor selected for the project is Landscape Unlimited. We have been very happy with the work Landscape Unlimited is doing in Vail's Grove with respect to the WWTP and expect nothing less as they replace these water mains. The first step is to install a temporary water main to connect to each house and then the old main will be replaced. It is expected that this project will be completed by the end of August. Because Landscape Unlimited is the same contractor that is installing the sewer mains, they will do the two jobs simultaneously, thereby significantly reducing inconvenience to our shareholders along that stretch of road.

The next project that Long Range Planning is investigating is the replacement of the two water tanks at the pump house. We just awarded the job of putting together the bid specifications to Putnam Engineering and the meetings will begin shortly. Stay tuned for updates on this project.

With some of the "must have" projects completed we would like to get ideas from our stockholders for projects that would be "nice to have." The Long Range Planning Committee will be sending out surveys to all stockholders with a list of some ideas already suggested, and we request you provide any new ideas you may have and help us prioritize the list.

Sharon Scott

Long Range Planning Chair



Kudos go out to Rob Norcross and his helpers on the wonderful beach socials he has offered to all residents this summer. Both the New Moon Beach Party and the Tacos and Tequila Night have been great and well attended. Sunday Morning Beach Brunch was another great hit and where better to enjoy a Sunday breakfast but on our beautiful lake!



Remember to pick up your dog's poop!

The Fourth of July brought residents and families and friends together as they walked in the parade and enjoyed hot dogs, chips and beverages at the pavilion. Thanks go out to Fred Witte, James Collins, Bob Gregory, Jack Waltzer, Patti Ford and all who helped to make it a successful day!

Thanks go out to our neighbors who felt their patriotism in such magnitude that we saw the best firework show ever!

AREA EVENTS/ HAPPENINGS/and/or RECOMMENDATIONS

The 165th Dutchess County Fair, Rhinebeck, NY, August 24-29. Fun for the whole family and only an hour away. Check the website: dutchessfair.com for a schedule of all the events.

Our Neighbors' News



Shaun Walsh, son of neighbor Mike Walsh, reported to USMC Recruit Depot, Parris Island South Carolina, on June 1, 2010 for Boot Camp. Upon graduation in 3 months, he will be allowed to wear the Globe and Anchor insignia of the Marine Corps. Shaun spent part of the Spring and early Summer working in the Vail's Grove Buildings and Grounds Department. *Semper Fidelis*, the USMC motto and creed translates as "Always Faithful." We wish him all the best in this new endeavor! "Semper Fi." Shaun. If anyone would like to send Shaun Walsh a letter, here is his address:

Recruit Shaun Walsh 6009
Platoon 3604-3068
3rd BNMCO
Parris Island, SC 29905

Welcome to Suzanne Cable at 6 Maple Lane and Kara Rossi at 11 Locust Road.



Thank you to Brooker and Judith Smith and to Nancy Carney for donations of perennials to put around Vail's Grove Gardens.



Best wishes go out to Teddy Farrell, Maria Goff and Jim Sheridan for a speedy recovery.

Former long-time resident Mary Mulkern passed away on June 28th in Maine. Her son Michael's e-mail address is: mmpulkern@earthlink.net.

Our sincerest condolences to the Weber family on the passing of Gary's mother, Peggy Weber.

Also, our sympathies on the passing of former resident, Bill O'Connor who resided at Starr Ridge Manor.



On a happier note, we want to welcome a new son born to Lisa Varnberg and Angel Sierra.