

# VAIL'S VOICE



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



### From Cindy's Desk

Enclosed with this Vail's Voice is your fourth quarter bill. Payments due by October 31<sup>st</sup>. After that finance charges start accruing. Also enclosed is a Vails Grove Directory form. If you have any additions, deletions or changes, please complete the form and return to the office by November 30<sup>th</sup>. Board meeting are held on the third Thursday of the month, except in March, the date will be Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>. Please look for information regarding a 2016 Vail's Grove Calendar which will be for sale in the office, as well as car stickers and T-shirts. Many times the office receives complaints from neighbors about homes near them not having their lawns mowed, weeds wacked, etc. I try to get the residents to take care of this for the aesthetics of the Grove. If this is not taken care of by resident, we will ask our landscaper to take care of it and the residents will be charged back for it. Please, if you do not have the time to take care of this, hire someone or ask the office for information.

There is absolutely NO PARKING ON GROVE ROADS! If you do park on Grove Roads, you will be fined as it is a safety issue. Please do not dispose of paint etc into the drain system at Vails Grove that leads directly in the lake.

Lastly, the office would like to remind all about our "21 day Rule". If you are planning to re-finance, sell, rent, use the Pavilion, the office needs to receive paperwork 21 days PRIOR to the next

Board meeting. Much paperwork goes in and out of the office and the time is needed to get all info together for the appropriate committees. So, again, please remember – 21 DAYS IN ADVANCE OF BOARD MEETING. Thanks in advance for your cooperation. As we are approaching Thanksgiving and the Holidays, I wish you all a very pleasant, happy and healthy season.

**2015/2016 Board meeting dates at 8:00 PM**  
**October 15, November 19, December 17 - 2015**  
**January 21, February 18, March 16, April 21,**  
**May 19, June 16, July 21, August 18 - 2016**  
**Annual Meeting Saturday September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016**



### Chairperson's Report – Dennis Ryan

As chairperson, each year I am given the opportunity to recognize one special person who has demonstrated service to our community and has gone above and beyond in helping others and our community.

This year I have chosen Ken Sullivan to receive the Chairperson's Award. Ken has exemplified the true meaning of community. Ken has assisted on the Real Estate committee with Tom Duffy to sort out some of the difficult construction projects at Vails Grove. Ken has also provided services to the community free of charge such as a new roof on the Pump House when the new water tanks went in, and new roofs on several of the mailbox stations. Many times shareholders have approached Ken with a minor issue in their home and Ken has gone to their homes, helped them and resolved their situation. Ken has also been knee deep in muck helping his fellow shareholders to clean out the North End outlet to the lake.

For these reasons, I have chosen Ken Sullivan to receive the Chairperson's Award.

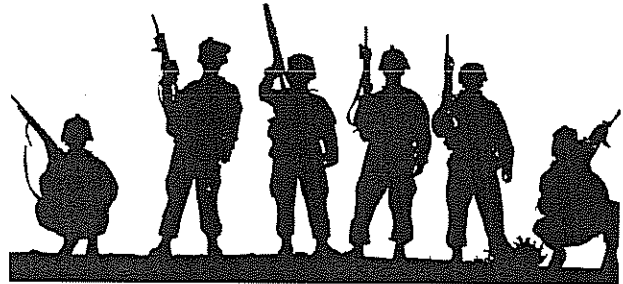
**Committee Assignments**

Upon the completion of the shareholder's annual meeting, I was elected to serve another term as the Chairperson for Vails Grove Cooperative. As this term begins, we have made some changes to the Executive Board. Frank Cassidy is the new Vice-Chairperson, Rob Norcross is the new Vice President, Tim O'Toole has become the new Treasurer and Ronnie Waltzer moves to Secretary. Rob Norcross has taken over as Chairperson of Buildings and Grounds for Ronnie Waltzer. Other committee assignments will take place in the coming months. In order to serve on a committee, a shareholder need not be on the Board of Directors. If you are interested in helping out and serving on a committee, please let Cindy know in the office.

**Boat Ramp/NE Winter Storage Committee**

As our summer season of boating, jetskiing, etc. comes to a close, there will be many of us removing our vessels for winter storage. Launching of all went on pretty much without a hitch in the Spring due in great part to your cooperation with each other, Jay and the cooperative as a whole. We ask that the same patience, communication and respect for each others vessel removal and storage needs be used for this portion of our season. The following will be noted in Buildings and Grounds but will be re-iterated here. When storing in the North End, please use as much of the perimeter of the storage area as you can first when storing you vehicle. An inventory of those vessels, trailers, etc. that are stored in the north end will be done within the next few weeks. Anyone who has a vehicle of any type, be it jetski, empty trailer, whatever, that is NOT registered with the office will be notified as to a time frame to register said vessel(s). This storage area is for those who have registered with the office ONLY. We appreciate everyone's cooperation in supplying the proper paper work for your stored vehicle. Those vehicles with no ownership markings of any kind will be presented to the Board of Directors with recommendations for the removal of said vehicles. Of course, PLEASE BE SAFE when removing and transporting your vehicles and do your best to

follow the 10mph Speed rule, especially when going over the Speed Bumps located throughout Vail's Grove. As a reminder, anyone who needs a key to the North End or the Boat Ramp can acquire one from several residents throughout the grove, names available upon request in the office. Thank you. **Submitted by Pat McGuinness**



Vails Grove is planning to memorialize those residents who have served their country in the Armed Forces, (or Merchant Marine in time of war), of the United States. **So far** the following names have been obtained together with the Force in which the individual served. ***If there are any errors in the list with regard to spelling or service, or any additions or deletions necessary,*** please inform Jack Waltzer at <[jjwaltzer91@comcast.net](mailto:jjwaltzer91@comcast.net)> or 845-669-8085. Jack would like to thank all who helped so far in this regard, and especially Don Navin who provided the World War II listing.

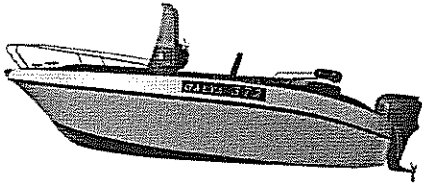
**U.S. Army:** Fred Dress; Donald Burrows; George Henke; John Farrell; John O'Loughlin; Don Navin; Carla Kiernan; Stanley Kucmierowski; John Kucmierowski; John Romanello; Francis Cammisa; Joseph DeVita; Joseph DeVita Jr.; Donald DeVita. Thomas Mahoney; John Leahy; Paul Badum; Robert Moore; William Sullivan; Robert Becker; Vincent Grosso; William Scully; Peter VanScoy; Fred Witte; Joseph McCarthy; Joe Visbal, James Sheridan.

**U.S. Navy:** Jim Devitt; Thomas McArdle; John Norton; Anne Rehm; Jack Waltzer, Robert Porach.

**U.S.M.C.:** Samuel Mullins; Ed McCarthy; Richard McGuire.

**U.S. Coast Guard:** Christina Ronnau.

**U.S. Air Force:** John Brennan; Sara Bluestone Anderson."



## Boat/Lake Safety

Greetings Neighbors,

Well, another summer season is coming to a close. Everyone seemed to have a pleasurable and safe time on the lake without incident. Thanks so very much to all of you who are doing their level best to keep the lake safe for your self and for others while using your boat, jetski, Waverunner, etc. The fact that some modicum of safety is being followed by most lake dwellers without having any official rules and regulations posted is a great tribute to all of you. So as a Board and as neighbors, we thank you all and request your continued practice of "SAFETY FIRST". However, over the course of the summer and at this years Annual meeting, it has been brought to the boards attention (and to the attention of those at the Annual meeting) that there have been more than a few close calls on the lake between Wave Runners, Boats, jetskis, etc. that could have ended badly. So, we here at Vails Grove are requesting that our residents (who do use vehicles on the lake including their friends and/or relatives) to be mindful of the SAFE use of these vehicles, particularly when it comes to the SPEED in which these vehicles are used. Although a Wave Runner may be able to go in excess of 60mph does not mean it NEEDS to go 60 mph. Once again, this is first and foremost a matter of SAFETY, not only for those who are on vessels but for those who are just swimming or are using vessels that are not motor driven. At the speed in which these vehicles can go, it could be very easy for someone to be struck by one of the vehicles just because there was not enough time to react due to the speed in which a vehicle is moving, same as a car. We also ask that any of you who know other motorized lake dwellers from the surrounding communities to ask that they do their best to try and spread the word regarding these lake safety concerns. There has also been mention of folks taking out row boats, kayaks, canoes, etc. and not

using a Flotation Safety device of some sort in the case of capsizing. There was an incident several years ago in which 3 teen age boys in a canoe capsized in the middle of the lake. It was a day where there was no one else on the lake. A couple of people just happened to notice three heads trying to stay afloat and swim back to shore but they were out too far. Luckily, upon seeing them from their dock, the neighbors were able to get to the boys in time and pull them from the water along with their upside down canoe. None of these boys had life jackets, neither on their body nor on their canoe. They were all fully clothed with sneakers still on while trying to swim and all visibly exhausted (and frightened) from this experience. This could have been a tragic event but luckily was avoided. So additionally, please be mindful of the use of AND the availability of Safety devices for those who use any kind of vehicle (motorized or not) on Peach Lake. We also ask that you spread the word to all of our lakeside neighbors. Lastly, we should mention the proper disposal of debris that can accumulate on boats, namely empty bottles and cans. There have been several reports of glass (whole AND broken) washing up on shore that was either left over, fell or simply thrown carelessly in to the lake. We ask that all those who do bring beverages and food out on the lake to please remember to bring the proper disposal bags and/or bins for these items as well as the timely removal of this trash or recyclables from the vessel. It is not unheard of for a bag full of bottles to topple over while still on the deck of a boat due to waves, wind, etc. Once again, for all intents and purposes, everyone is doing their level best to keep our waters and shorelines clean but a reminder can't hurt. The last thing we would want to see is one of our young children run into the water at our beach only to come upon broken glass. Before it comes to a point where Peach Lake might have to be Policed, we are hoping that we can continue to Police ourselves in all aspects of Lake Safety.

We thank you all for your continued support in making Peach Lake an enjoyable, relaxing and most of all SAFE experience for all those who are fortunate enough to use it. **Submitted by Pat McGuinness**

## Water Supply and Pump House

Kathleen Heuschkel; chairperson  
Kathleen Heuschkel, Jack Waltzer and Pat  
McGuinness-Operators

The pump house and new water system is flowing smoothly. We have had a few glitches but, nothing to cause the stockholders concern. Overall, the new system is a welcome and overdue upgrade. Because of the ongoing lack of rain this year; I am asking everyone to conserve their water usage by limiting watering gardens and lawns. Try not to allow the water to run for extended periods of time while washing dishes and cleaning. A dripping tap can waste many gallons of water.

I, myself had a leaky outdoor tap from a split in the pipe this winter. It increased my consumption and I was notified that I had an overuse/leak of water at my residence. Once it was repaired this spring, I no longer made the list. I really didn't think that so little water could be picked up by the meter. It was and I took care of the leak as soon as the weather permitted.

Our wells show no indication of an issue. We all can be a little bit more mindful of our water consumption.

The cooperative keeps the cost of our water delivery to a minimum by having volunteers man the system. Jay Moore covers all issues during the week. We need weekend and holiday coverage. We are asking for stockholders to volunteer to take the Water Operators class that is held at Westchester Community College. It's too late to start this fall's class but, they will have another class in the spring. Cindy has the information in the office. Please give her a call.

Many thanks go out to Jay, Jack and Pat for giving many hours of their time to volunteer and keep our coop water flowing.

## Recreation and Upcoming Events

### Fall Tag Sale

October 10 – 9 AM to 4 PM

Vail's Grove

Vendors wanted - \$25.00 per table

All proceeds go to benefit homebound seniors

For more info call Pat Tompkins 845 669 9623

### Stormville Flea Market

Columbus Day Weekend – October 10 and 11

Christmas in November – November 7 and 8

Bob's Diner on Main Street in Brewster is

celebrating 60 years on Oct.18 from 10-4. Pumpkin Carving, face painting, popcorn, photo booth and food-ALL ARE WELCOME

Hudson Valley Wine & Chocolate Festival, Sunday, November 22 (spirits, cider, craft beer, fine crafts, specialty foods)

Ramada Conference Center Fishkill, NY

Partners with PARC supports children & adults with developmental disabilities & their families in Putnam County

[www.PartnerswithPARC.org](http://www.PartnerswithPARC.org)

The Thanksgiving Throwdown will be Sunday November 1 at 5PM. Do you have a great side dish? Choose from stuffing, potato, vegetable, cranberries or dessert and compete against your neighbors. Prizes are awarded to the best dishes per category. The cost is \$5 per person. You must pre-pay and register your dish in the office. Upon registration, you will receive the pan to bring your dish in. This is truly a fun event with lots of great side dishes!

The 5th annual Ladies Night Out is Friday, November 20. Come and join your neighbors for some great shopping from local vendors. 6:00pm-9:30pm. Are you a vendor? Contact Meghan Cassidy at [meghanacassidy@comcast.net](mailto:meghanacassidy@comcast.net) for info.

The Vail's Grove Christmas party is going to be Saturday, December 19.

And St. Patrick's Day party is going to be Saturday, February 27. More information will follow about these events.

## Rules and Regulations

**Submitted by David Janecek**

*In the interest of the health, safety and welfare of the Cooperative and its Stockholders, the Cooperative, has established rules and regulations, for the proper and orderly management and control of Cooperative property.*

*The current board is now in the process of reviewing and if needed updating our rules.*

*Stockholders are encouraged to provide suggestion to the Co-op office.*

*A few reminders:*

*The speed limit in the Grove is 10 MPH*

*Pick up after your dog and make sure to walk them on a leash*

*Parking on our roads should be avoided, use community parking spaces if needed*



**SPEED BUMP**

**Julie Salerno reports on the reasons for the 10 mph speed limit in the**

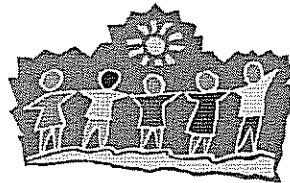
**Grove:** Neighbors and friends, as a new board member and a retired law enforcement officer I have been asked to address you on the issue of our speed limit on roads in the Grove. As you all know, or if you don't allow me to tell you, the speed limit on roads in Vails Grove is a posted 10 miles per hour. I will tell you that NONE of us in this community drives a vehicle at 10MPH. Why I can state this is two reasons, first, I have been trained as a police officer in speed observation and can estimate speed within 2 miles an hour, secondly, I have made a conscious effort over the last 2 weeks to consistently look at my speedometer and drive the car at only 10 miles an hour and at that speed people walking in the grove are going faster than my car.

While that may appear funny, (and it is a bit funny), what is not funny is that at speeds faster than 10 on our roads a serious incident is just waiting to happen. Perhaps it is an animal being hit and

injured or worse, a child being hit. I cannot stress to all of you how horrible it is to respond to a serious or even a fatal accident. **WE DO NOT WANT THAT TO HAPPEN HERE!**

There will be some of you who say that it is not us who live here that are speeding, and I will tell you that most of the speeders are homeowners in the Grove. We need to start paying more attention to our speed. I implore you to pay attention to your speedometers while you are driving around our beautiful community and to encourage others that you see speeding to **SLOW DOWN!!!! Submitted by Julie Salerno**

## Sunshine News from Sue



Best wishes are sent to the following Grove residents: Julie Pera, Clare Bierce, Kathleen Heuschkel, Peter Van Scoy, Jeff Ward and Dennis Ryan...we hope you all are on the way to feeling much better!

On a sad note, condolences go out to Moira Tolan and family on the passing of Moira's mother, Theresa McConnell.

And, on a happy note, Jeff & Ellen Ward have a new grandson, Nash, born in August 31.

## Odds and Ends



4 snow tires 175/65R15 – like new  
- \$25 each-Call 914 714 0459

Did you know that legislation recently signed by Gov. Andrew Cuomo adds Peach Lake as one of the first tributaries in Westchester County to New York's list of designated inland waterways. This designation will now allow us to tap into State funds to address issues around the lake.

It was recently discovered that by adjusting the pH level at the sewer plant from 5.5 (which is

considered acidic) and mixing an additive to increase the level to 7.5, the odor from the sewage water decreased. North Salem Supervisor Warren Lucas reported recently to our editor that the piping is in and the pH sensors will be hooked up soon. To date, \$50,000 has been spent on this work.

**Helen Vail** writes us and wishes to thank the generous residents of the Grove for their help: "On July 10 my granddaughters Georgia, Amelia, Johanna and Annaleen ( John's grand daughters) were at my house. They decided, entirely on their own, to set up an "art and portrait" stand...(think lemonade type stand) in front of my house. It was decided the proceeds would go to "Friends of Karen", a wonderful local charity. <http://www.friendsofkaren.org/>. In no time they eamed \$50!! They are planning to present their earnings, in person, to the Friends of Karen organization headquarters.

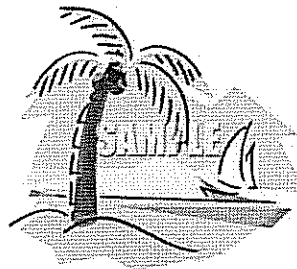
**LEND-A-HAND COMMITTEE:**  
Kathleen Heuschkel, Chairperson

The Lend-a-Hand committee is a service that reaches out to all our residents when they are in need of some help with meals, picking up groceries or just a call or two. September was a busy month for lend a hand. Every time I make a call to ask if a resident in need would like meals delivered they all say the same thing "I didn't know that the coop does that!" Yes, Virginia- we reach out to our neighbors and offer meals or help in any way we can. If you would like to volunteer to help us, please give Cindy or me - Kathleen - a call. We'd love to have more people willing to give their time for this worthy cause. You can reach me at: (845)612-1851 or Cindy at the office : (914)669-5100.



**I propose that we repair our tennis courts so that they are safe and playable. Just filling in the cracks will not do the job. The courts were built in 1982. Maintenance was done for a number of**

years. Let's get busy and address this issue. Let's provide our residents and guests with tennis courts that are playable and an asset to the community. I would like to form a committee of all interested Vail's Grove residents who play tennis and see what we can do. Please contact me: Pat Colavito at 31 Vails Lakes Shore Drive, Brewster, NY 10509, 914-666-4606 or 914-261-1704 or e-mail [patcolavito@me.com](mailto:patcolavito@me.com) **Submitted by Pat Colavito**



Snake Island/Turtle Island/Peach Lake Island

Yes, there is more than one name for the little island with the flagpole in our lake.

In 1939 it was known as Turtle Island, and through the years natural erosion, waves from boats and other factors have dwindled it's size. Recently, Charlie Voelkl from across the lake had spearheaded the restoration of this little island. He his wife Ellen, and other hard-working volunteers, have literally build up the island, restoring the rocks around the perimeter and filling the land with topsoil. This took place on Sat. Sept. 19th, when 15 or so volunteers from around the lake, armed with shovels and buckets, brought 10 yards of topsoil on motorboats out to the island, where other volunteers were there to spread the soil. When the work was completed (and after pizza and donuts) Ellen took us out in their party boat to walk upon on the restored island for the first time. In the future there are plans for a picnic table and a dock, so that everyone around the lake may enjoy spending time on our little island gem. Many thanks to all who helped in this project. It was such a great Example of those who care for the beauty and preservation of our lake to work together towards a wonderful goal!

**Submitted by Adeline Natiello**