

VAIL'S VOICE

Newsletter of the Vail's Grove Community
located on Peach Lake

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October 2022

Greetings from the Chair Juliann Salerno

Welcome to the fall. It has been my honor to have been Chair of the Board for the past two years, and I look forward to being Chair for this coming year. I can tell you that this Board of Directors is one of the hardest working that I have been the pleasure to be a part of. These past eight months have been a challenge with many projects that have needed attention. All those projects, whether completed or in the process of being completed are priority of this board. There will be many more projects in the year ahead, and we hope that you will appreciate the efforts put forth by the members of this board. We also want to say thank you for all your patience these eight months as we have navigated without a maintenance person. Have a great remainder of your year and thank you again.



SERVICE AWARDS

Webster's Dictionary defines Service as: The action of helping or doing work for someone, an act of assistance, perform a service or services for someone, be ready to assist someone whenever possible. The dictionary also defines the word Kindness: the quality of being friendly, generous and considerate. This year's recipients have all of these qualities, which make them not only great neighbors, but wonderful people to be around.

When my phone rings and I see the caller ID, I can't help but think, "oh boy" what could they possibly want to do now. This VG couple have had ties to this community for generations; they are always trying to think of events and things to not only bring the community together, but to somehow combine the event with a purpose. A couple of years ago, I was approached by this duo to ask if it would be OK with me if they brought in a barista to serve fancy iced coffees at the 4th of July parade. They thought it would be a fun idea, something different then just hot dogs, water and soda. They not only wanted to do something nice for the community, but they wanted to support the new local business that had opened. They fully funded that first year, and we have not had a 4th of July parade without iced coffees being served. This year, since their friend's business was too busy, they bought all the materials needed, made large pots of coffee and managed to do a great job. This duo also had the great idea to host a pancake breakfast this past May. They held a 50/50 raffle with the money going towards the improvement of the basketball courts. I can tell you that there have been talks about a spaghetti dinner in the fall, so I will wait for my phone to ring, and I will gladly say, "What can we do to help".

It is my pleasure to award the Chairpersons Service Award to Dan and Julie Collins.

This next recipient also makes me wonder when I see the caller ID, not because she is a neighbor, but because she is always wondering what can be done to better things in the Grove. She also has been a long standing member of the community, she has held positions on many committees and been a board member. But what makes her deserving of the service award is her wanting to help out in any way she can. When a large mailing comes from the office, you can be sure that this person has been in the pavilion stuffing all the envelopes. When she takes her pup for a walk she carries extra poop bags and picks up other peoples' poop just to keep this wonderful place we live in clean. She has been assisting with the Cardboard Boat Regatta the past two years; and without being on the Lend-a-Hand Committee, she still is always offering to "lend a hand". If you ask her, or even when you don't, she will pick up her neighbor's mail, water their flowers or just have a seat and chat. She

is one of those members who can regale you with stories about “back when Vail’s Grove was this or that”; she will tell you how important it is for community members to get involved in keeping the Grove the beautiful place it is; and if she catches your ear and you are a parent of young children, she will let you know how lucky those kids are to be growing up surrounded by all the love that VG has to offer.

She truly lives the definition of kindness, and it is my pleasure to award the Chairpersons Award to Linda VanScoy.

It sort of goes without saying that the name of this award could be the Hugh Andrews Service Award, and every year his name could and should be on that plaque. While I am not officially giving the award to Hugh this year, I would like to publicly acknowledge all that he has done for this community this past year. If you had a chance to read the Annual Meeting report that was sent to you, you will see that almost every committee chair either directly or indirectly mentions something that Mr. Andrews has done for that committee. In the opinion of many of us board members, Hugh is superman. But this year especially, the head of Buildings & Grounds has had a lot more to deal with than any years past. This is not only because of the loss of our maintenance man, but because this year there have been many more projects that needed attention, and Hugh dove right into all of them. When I see his name on the caller ID, I answer the phone with “what’s up now”, and Hugh will begin our usually very lengthy conversation (if you can get off the phone in under 10 minutes, it’s a slow day). Hugh is always willing to do whatever it takes to make this place we all live in better. He gets phone calls from stockholders at all times of the day and night and always takes the time to address any problems or concerns. He is constantly trying to find cost effective ways to make things better for all. If you don’t store anything at the North End, but want to see how dedicated Hugh is to being a man of his word, take a walk or ride up there and see what has been done. He is a handyman, carpenter, boat fixer, and a helper to any and all. He is also a friend and neighbor. He is there for you if you need anything. On a personal level, when I got a panicked call from my dad that water was pouring out of our laundry room and he didn’t know what to do, I called Hugh. Within minutes he was at my house shutting off the water and advising me that my water heater had crapped out. He stayed and helped clean up water until I got home. When we had the terrible rain storm and the storm drain filters were failing, Hugh was out in the rain along with other neighbors trying to clear the drains as quickly as possible. This is a dedication to service and kindness that goes unmatched by anyone. As you look around our beautiful community and you see many new things, please remember to thank Hugh for his dedication to the place he, his wife and all of us call home.

Thank you Hugh for everything.

Office News From Cindy



Results from the election at the annual meeting: Congratulations to David Janecek, Jason LaRocca, Pat McGuinness, Ellen Mytych and Michael Early.

The 2020/2021 financials are available in the office and can be picked up when the office is open.

Suggestion: Do not put your junk mail or any mail in the trash cans by the mailboxes. That is an easy way for people to see where you live. Just a heads up.

Please remember if anyone is staying in your home for 30 days in a year, either consecutive or cumulative, they must be vetted. You were vetted when you purchased here at Vail’s and anyone living here needs to be vetted as well. Contact the office for information.

We have a new robo-call system that sends messages out in just a few minutes. This is an important way to reach you. If you are not on the robo-call list, let the office know the number you want me to use.

Volunteers are the heart and soul of Vail’s Grove. If you would like to volunteer for anything, please give the office your name and when something comes up, we will call on you for your help.



Vail's Grove Committee From Helen Vail

First, I must say that Vail's Grove is a community of such caring neighbors that they are almost putting the Lend-A-Hand Committee out of business!!! I feel truly blessed to live here. That said, our committee members have recently been busy providing rides to doctor's offices, walking dogs and making meals for residents post-surgery as well as some who have been ill. If you would like to add your name to the list of committee members, email me at: helenvail@comcast.net or call/text me at: 845-661-4082.

Pump House/Boat Ramp/Boat Storage

By Patrick McGuinness



Pump House

For the first time in my experience as a water operator here in Vail's Grove, we experienced a drought that was starting to effect water supply. While we never ran out of water, we did have trucks deliver water to get us through a few tough days in the summer. Thanks to Tyler with VRI, Hugh Andrews (for addressing any water leaks that occurred during the summer), Julie Salerno (for coordinating water deliveries) and the excellent equipment we have in the pump house, we were able to divert the possibility of any dire situations in plenty of time. Neither our water supply to the grove nor the integrity of the water (in regard to safe consumption) were ever in peril. Our tanks and wells are all still in perfect working order. Thanks also to all of you in the Grove who assisted with your conservation efforts. You should all know it absolutely made a difference, did not go unnoticed, and is GREATLY appreciated! Again, thanks.

Boat Ramp/Boat Storage

Greetings all! Seems like it was an hour ago we were putting boats and jet skis in the water, but the time is once again upon us to pull our vessels out of the lake. Here are a few requests to hopefully make this transition a little easier this year.

- 1) When making arrangements to borrow keys for the gates, please try to call a day in advance when possible. Please do not call those with keys before 10 am or after 9 pm out of consideration for work schedules and such. As there are more people utilizing the boat storage area this year, the advance calling will give us key holders the opportunity to share with you since other neighbors may need the keys on any given day. Please avoid just showing up on the doorstep of a key holder unexpectedly requesting a key as you may have to be denied if others have already reserved them before you.
- 2) Please be sure to lock the gates immediately after you are finished at both the ramp and the storage area.
- 3) Please return keys to key holders as soon as possible on same day they are borrowed.
- 4) If you are using a company to bring your trailer to storage, it is STRONGLY advised that prior notice be given to the office first, giving the date and time a key is needed. If the office is unable to provide a key at the requested time, arrangements can be made to notify other key holders so that one of them can make a key available.
- 5) Last year, there were several occasions when one trailer was blocking another, and we were unable to determine who to contact to remedy this. This year, all key holders are being supplied a roll of duct tape and a sharpie. We are asking those of you who borrow the key to please take them with you and put a piece of tape on your trailer or vessel (so as not to ruin any surfaces) and write your last name and contact phone number should the need arise where you must be contacted to relocate your trailer. However, we are asking that **THE BLOCKING OF ANYONE'S TRAILERS, BOATS, JET SKIS, ETC. BE AVOIDED AT ALL COSTS. PLEASE NOTIFY THE OFFICE OR ANY KEY HOLDER IMMEDIATELY IF ANYTHING IS BLOCKED ANYWHERE. PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE TO ALL BOAT STORAGE USERS IN THIS REGARD.**
- 6) Please confirm with the office that all payments are up to date. You must be current with all associated fees prior to using the storage area. Thank you in advance.

For those who may not have seen, Buildings and Grounds has done a TREMENDOUS job in cleaning and freeing up space in the storage area, however this job is not complete. Buildings and Grounds is requesting (unless it is absolutely necessary) to please avoid bringing anything to the storage area prior to Monday, October 17, 2022 to give enough time to finish, for this year anyway, all housekeeping that is currently underway

in the storage area to make enough room for all. If you must bring anything down to storage PRIOR to October 17, please notify the office **ASAP** so that arrangements can be made with Buildings and Grounds to coordinate accordingly.

Dock removal will most likely happen starting after the first week of November so all vessels must be out of the lake prior.

As always, COMMUNICATION, CONSIDERATION AND PATIENCE is what makes this all possible. As we are still in search of someone who might be able to monitor this transition (as in the past), we depend on all of you to assist in making this all go as smoothly as possible. Thank you all!!

Sunshine News From Sue Enos



Congratulations to Michelle and Drew Gunnison on the arrival of Andrea Sloane on September 2, born to Suzanne and Pete Esposito. And also Congratulations to Patricia Leo Waltz on the arrival of Bennett, son of Brett and Carla Waltz.



Condolences

to the Sferlazza Family on the passing of Dr. Steve Sferlazza.



to Sam "Bud" Mullins!

Beach Report by Meghan Cassidy/Julie Salern



Well folks we did it. Another GREAT summer at Vail's Grove and the Frank Cassidy Memorial Beach. The weather throughout was fantastic, as were our lifeguards, who this summer went above and beyond as they were asked to complete tasks that were usually handled by VG maintenance. So we would like to thank Hugh Andrews, John Costello, Michael Broderick, and Gary Krol for assisting our lifeguards with the setup of the beach dock and float.

I also want to shout out to our guards for this season. We received mostly positive feedback from many stockholders who were impressed with the way the guards did their jobs. So big thanks to: Brian, Brendan, Grace, Maddie, Chloe, Sarah, Maggie, Amelia, Kaylay and Georgia. We hope they all have a great winter and look forward to next summer.

Also, a HUGE thanks to Helen Vail for organizing the third annual Cardboard Boat Regatta and Race. This day took on a whole new look this year as the Recreation Committee joined with the Beach Committee and Helen for a full day of events.



It started with a Sandcastle Building Contest, followed by some fun water relay races. We then had a beach barbeque while the boaters built their boats. It was then time for the Regatta. If you missed it, you missed a ton of laughs as we had an adult race; and well let's just say, there was some sinking. BUT the highlight of the day seemed to be the Greased Watermelon contest. This also had to be split into age groups, and the older group had some good laughs. (Thank you to Brett Waltz for letting me almost strip him

of his bathing trunks).



As they say, that's a wrap folks!!! Looking forward to another great summer next year with more beach parties and long lazy days!!!

Recreation Report

As you can see from the pictures at the end, the Cardboard Regatta and the 4th of July were huge Successes, and we thank everyone who helped and who attended to make these events FUN FOR ALL!

4th of July Celebration



CARDBOARD BOAT REGATTA

