

# THE VAIL'S VOICE

September/October 2008

Yes, that nip in the air, the occasional frost on the pumpkin, the colorful foliage - fall has arrived - our lovely summer weather has flown by way too soon, but we as a community had several lovely outdoor gatherings in the warm summer air. We held a family barbecue, sunset cocktails on the beach, water sports for the kids, and last but not least, our first, but not last, very own pig roast! Oink!

If you have any ideas for future fun gatherings in our community, don't keep them to yourselves. Let your Recreation Committee or your Board of Directors know your suggestions - tennis tournaments, softball games, ping-pong championships, swimming meets, biggest leaf pile, best snowman contests - let us know your interests, and we'll see if we can't get it going.

Speaking of the Board of Directors, meet your new Board, elected at the Annual Stockholders meeting -

## Executive Committee

Ronnie Waltzer - Chairperson  
Tom Duffy - Vice Chairperson  
Mary Rubini - Vice President  
Ellen Mytych - Treasurer  
Victoria Desidero - Secretary

## Board Members

Jim Andes - Pavilion Rental  
Peggy Boyle - WWTP Sub-Committee  
Frank Cassidy - Flip Tax  
Sue Enos - Sunshine Committee  
Joan Myers - Real Estate  
Rob Norcross - Beach Committee  
Sharon Scott  
Fred Witte - Social Committee

Cindy Battreall is the Assistant Secretary to the Board of Directors.  
The Vail's Grove Main Office telephone number is (914) 669-5100.

Congratulations to all our new Board members, as well as our returning Board Members. For those of you who have never had the opportunity to serve on the Board - consider it, or start by volunteering to help out on, or even head a committee.

It's a wonderful way to meet your neighbors and serve your community!



## **Vail's Grove Forms Boat Ramp and Storage Committee**

As a result of our Chairperson Ronnie Waltzer's initiative to firm up the Rules & Regulations regarding stockholder use of the Boat Ramp and Storage Facility at the North End of Vail's Grove, the Board of Directors recently approved an addition to the Rules & Regulations governing use of these facilities. This included the formation of a Boat Ramp and Storage Advisory Committee.

The goals of the new Rules & Regulations include protecting stockholders' property, in this case their water craft, from vandalism and/or theft by securing the gates to the Boat Ramp and the Storage Facility; protecting Peach Lake from unwanted organisms that can be brought in on boats from other lakes; protecting Vail's Grove Cooperative from liability in all matters relative to these two areas; and preventing unauthorized use of the Boat Ramp and the Storage Area. These Rules & Regulations will be published shortly.

The new Committee has met twice since August to discuss ways to make use of the Boat Ramp and Storage Facility safer and more convenient for stockholders while continuing to meet the goals set forth above. Some of the initiatives already undertaken include the "Boats In/Boats Out" days to be held in the Fall and Spring of each year to aid stockholders in getting their boats in and out of the lake and storage area; cleaning up of the large storage area at the North End; the development of processes for registering boats to be stored and signs to be posted at the gates to the two areas to direct Vail's Grove boat owners as to how to utilize these facilities.

Currently, Victoria Desidero is Chairing this Committee and stockholder participation is welcome. Committee members are Dave Bruen, Bruce Blackwell, Jay Couillard, Jim Cull, Jack Keiley, Sam Mullins, John Myers, Dennis Ryan, Ken Sullivan, Ronnie Waltzer and Fred Witte.

If you are a boat owner and need to get your boat into storage for the Winter, contact the Office to make an appointment or pay attention to the notice areas at the mailboxes for the posted dates for Storage Area access.



## **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS - JACK WALTZER**



The North End has been cleared for boat storage thanks to the efforts of our Buildings and Grounds Man, Jay Moore, who was ably assisted by Jay Couillard and Jack Keiley, further assisted by the loan of Ken Sullivan's "quad" which was used for towing stored trailers out of the way of the brush cutting. Thanks, neighbors, for contributing! Residents are reminded that boats to be stored at the North End require a Vail's Grove "sticker" available from the Office.

The Autumn Season is here, and the leaves and some deadfall will shortly be coming down. Residents are reminded that leaves must be placed within ten feet of the roadway **IN BIODEGRADABLE BAGS** (FYI - for your convenience, Jay has biodegradable bags available for purchase at the same price as Home Depot). Jay adds the leaves to our compost pile. If you use a contractor, the contractor is responsible for removing the leaves, or for placing and bagging them properly.

### **Unbagged leaf piles will NOT be removed!**

Tree limbs, boughs, branches and other biodegradable "stuff" must also be within ten feet of the road, and cut to approximately four feet in length for Jay to take away. If you can't lift it, Jay can't get it into the truck! If you have questions regarding a particular item, Call Jack Waltzer or the Buildings and Grounds Office to determine whether we will remove "it". HINT: There is nothing better for your lawn than just mulching your leaves with a mower where they fall, and letting the leaf "dust" winter over...it just recycles all those nutrients into your grass naturally.

A request from the **Peach Lake Environmental Committee** - If anyone uses your boat to "party", PLEASE have them take a trash bag along for the ride. Remind them that the tossing of trash, cans and bottles into our lake is not only unsightly, but can be potentially dangerous to swimmers, "tubers" and water skiers. If you were to hit one of these objects at speed, it would ruin your whole day. Our lake should not be treated as a garbage can.

The snowplowing season will follow Autumn, and the Grove will be placing markers in those places where the plow needs to be extra careful in order to avoid damaging swales, berms, and/or curbs. Advise Buildings and Grounds if you are aware of a spot that requires a marker.

## **Peach Lake Preservation Efforts Continue to Successfully Fall into Place!**

### **Submitted by Peggy Boyle**

The EFC (Environmental Facilities Corporation) Board of Directors approved the financing for North Salem and Southeast on 9/10. The last approval needed is from the Public Authorities Control Board (PACB). They will be meeting on 9/17. In the meantime, EFC continues to target 9/25 as the closing date for the financing. EFC has already sent finance documents to the Town representatives for review and execution. After EFC receives the executed documents from the Towns and determines everything is in order, EFC will be ready to execute them, pending PACB approval.

The Peach Lake Coalition will meet on Sept 29 at the Vail's Pavilion from 2:00-3:30 p.m. There will be representation present from each of the lake community boards in the sewer district as well as North Salem Town Supervisor Paul Greenwood, Sarah Cwilka from Stearns and Wheler and Fred Testa from EFC. Local leadership will be encouraged to meet one hour earlier (1:00) to discuss the agenda. Fred Testa, our liaison with EFC will be recognized for his extraordinary assistance to the Peach Lake community for many years at the meeting.

The agenda will include reviewing and updating, if necessary, the timeline set forth this past spring by Stearns and Wheler. Strategies will be developed in anticipation of any obstacles in the permitting, design and bidding process. Since NYCDEP and NYSDEC can at times take a long time to approve permits etc..., we may entertain having a meeting with these officials down the line, so as to keep the process moving.

In following up with the suggestion of Jack Byrne from Pietsch Gardens, we will discuss the formation of a subcommittee to investigate the problematic weed situation. Allied Biological, Inc., has had a history of treating Peach lake for this condition, and has been in touch with Coalition members at Mr. Byrne's suggestion. There is a concern that even though the carp have made tremendous progress in curbing weed development, there are pervasive weeds like milfoil, which carp don't eat. The future WWTP will curb future weed development as it will dramatically lessen the nutrient level, but the established weed beds need to be addressed. This item will be discussed at our 1:00 planning meeting.

We welcome new leadership in the subcommittee and the Peach Lake Coalition and would especially ask that board members, in particular new board members, join us in the efforts to preserve Peach Lake.

The meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup> of September is taking place exactly one year since the Autumn Evening Celebration and we have much to show for in a year's time!



The office would like to remind you that before you begin any renovations or alterations, you should take some time and review the Vail's Grove By-Laws and Rules and Regulations. The By-Laws and Rules and Regulations are available for you to read or download from the Vail's Grove website,

**[WWW.VAILSGROVE.US](http://WWW.VAILSGROVE.US)**

Recently, there have been numerous incidents of stockholders not submitting the proper applications for alterations 21 days in advance of a Board meeting, which is a requirement. (All applications are also available for you to download from our website.) If you do not have access to a computer, you may contact the office to obtain applications.

You are always better off contacting the office first to ask if an application is required. The office and the Chairperson of the concerned committee(s) require the 21 days to properly review your paperwork prior to making a motion of acceptance to the Board.

Please do not forget, before your boat/trailer can be stored at the North End, they must be registered in the office. You will then receive a sticker to attach to your boat/trailer for identification purposes.

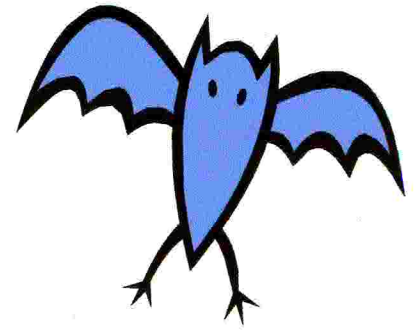
The deadline for any additions, deletions or changes to our 2008-2009 Vail's Grove Directory is October 15th. This year you have the option of having your e-mail address published in the directory as well!

If you would like to advertise your business (which is how the directory is paid for), the fee is a very reasonable \$25. Anyone wishing to advertise should please submit their business card and \$25 to the office by October 15th. Remember to support these businesses!





HALLOWEEN...



Halloween will be here before you know it. Enclosed please find a guest pass that you will need to provide to any friends or family you may have visiting the Grove that night. We expect this Halloween to be an extra busy night, as it falls on a Friday.

We need several volunteers to guard the entrances to the ramps.

But be forewarned...

**The ONLY ramp that will be open for entering and exiting will be  
Ramp 1**

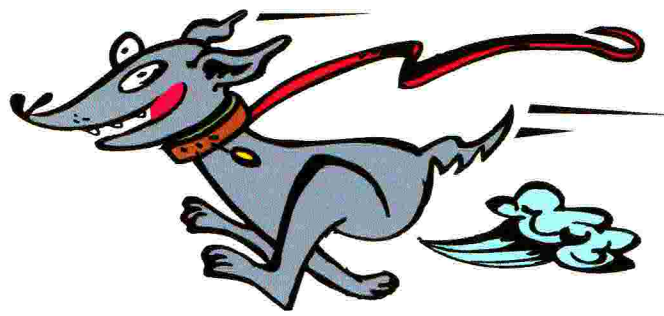
It is a slight inconvenience for a few hours on **ONE NIGHT**. If YOU should forget that the ramps are blocked - do **NOT** take it out on our ramp volunteers. Believe it or not, in the past, there have been some neighbors who have been extremely rude to some of our volunteers.

Understand that our volunteers are there to keep our children and community safe from extra vehicular traffic, not to aggravate you!

And oh, by the way, if you should hear people screaming and/or shouting at you as you drive by, they are not trying to frighten you - **THEY ARE TRYING TO TELL YOU YOU ARE DRIVING TOO FAST!!!!**

**SLOW DOWN!!!!!!!**

We will need people at Ramp 1 as well as the other ramps. Please consider volunteering a few hours of your time. Call the office to sign up. This should be a great night for all of the children - we just need and want to keep everyone safe.



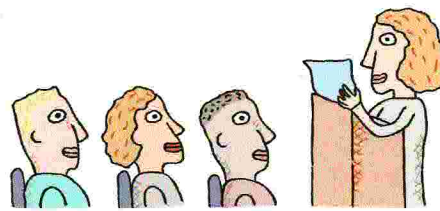
## **A REMINDER FOR DOG OWNERS - AGAIN**

Is this your dog? Notice anything/anyone missing? If you own a dog, and are taking it for a walk, it must be on a leash, and you must be attached to the end of the leash.

Your dog should NOT be allowed to relieve itself without you removing the "deposit" from the premises. Trust us - none of your neighbors wants to step in your dogs droppings.

If your dog is on its leash, as it is supposed to be, you, the owner, will know exactly where their deposit has been made, and you should be picking it up and taking it home with you.

Please understand that non-dog owners do not want your dogs droppings in their garbage pails. Be considerate to your neighbors and your community, and **CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR PET.**



The next Board meetings will be held on October 15 and then November 19th, starting at 8pm. All are welcome to attend, and refreshments are always served.



*Condolences to Donna Keith and Family on the passing of her sister, Theresa.*

**Get Well wishes to Cindy's husband, who recently had to undergo surgery.**

If you have any submissions you'd like to make for future publications, just send an e-mail to Cindy, and we'll include it next time around.