

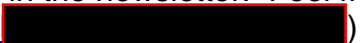


VDL Newsletter #15
June 2007



Newsletter resurrected!

I would like to welcome all the new and old readers of my newsletter. When I served on the board during over my previous 3 year term, I regularly published a VDL newsletter. I looked back into my archives and discovered that the next edition would be number 15. Therefore, since I was feeling a little nostalgic, I decided to take up where I left off and numbered this newsletter good ole #15. This is the first newsletter I have written in over a year so if my writing skills are a little rusty, hang with me and hopefully they will improve. If not, I will hire **Linette Widen** (resident real-life author) to edit my future editions.

It is my intent to make the newsletters fun and interesting to read. I accept article ideas any time and will gladly include them in the newsletter. Feel free to forward me your ideas, topics or articles via email ()

Hang on to your hats cause here we go.....

Three cheers for Dick Groendyke.....

I would like to extend a personal thanks and a thank you on behalf of several VDL residents to our HOA Treasurer and resident nice guy, **Dick Groendyke**. Over the winter, **Dick** purchased a beautiful stainless steel outdoor barbeque for the Association with his own money. I am told the bbq cost approximately \$1000, which **Dick** paid for out of his own pocket. This bbq will replace the much smaller and worn out Weber that we have used for the past several years down at the pool. Please take a minute to personally thank **Dick** for the donation the next time you eat a burger or steak which was cooked on the new bbq!!

Patio furniture cleaned by the Ogles.....

Another "thank you" is in store for **Rich** and **Pat Ogle**. **Rich** and **Pat** spent two afternoons washing the patio furniture and arranging it on the pool deck. I had every intention of helping them, but before I could lift a finger, they were done.....nice timing Les!! **Pat** and **Rich** took it upon themselves to clean the dusty and dirty chairs, tables and lounge chairs, which is not a very fun job, speaking from experience. It is initiative such as this that makes the pool and community enjoyable for everyone.

Speaking of patio furniture.....

I was recently chatting with some of my neighbors, **Cindy Sneesby** and **Rita McCann**. We were discussing the state of affairs as they relate to the original patio furniture, specifically the original (formerly white) lounge chairs. As you may have noticed, many of the original pieces are turning an unsightly colored orange/brown/yuck color and are becoming a bit brittle. The sun does a job on vinyl and it is shortening the life of many of the lounge chairs. **Cindy** and **Rita** suggested we take up a collection to begin replacing the older pieces with some new pieces from Costco. Although it is rather late in the Costco patio furniture season, it is not too late to begin taking collections to purchase new furniture for next year.

Cindy and **Rita** would like to challenge all the pool lovers to donate enough money to purchase one lounge chair per pool-loving household. The Costco price for 2007 was \$89 + tax per lounge chair. If you are interested in donating funds towards purchasing a new lounge chair for the pool next year, please see **Cindy** or **Rita**. They will collect donations and will coordinate purchasing the lounge chairs from Costco next year and delivering them to VDL. We would like to purchase all the chairs at once, so we are sure to get matching pieces, rather than having a hodge-podge of pieces on the deck.

Cindy and **Rita** can be found on lots 31 & 32,

Zippy Garbage Cans:

As many of you have noticed, our garbage cans tend to get very full during the summer months. We currently have 2 **Zippy** garbage cans. Our pickup days are Monday and Thursday. Please do your part to recycle bottles and cans and to refrain from putting inappropriate garbage in the cans. What is inappropriate garbage you ask? Inappropriate garbage is large amounts of vegetable matter such as those humongous weeds that are growing on some lots, building materials to include lumber, cardboard boxes which have not been broken down and other items that take up a large amount of space in the **Zippy**.

If you have cardboard boxes, it is best to break them down and take them to the recycle center in Manson. If you absolutely cannot take the cardboard to the recycle center, please break the cardboard down so it is flat before placing it in the **Zippy**.

There is a transfer station located in Chelan, just past the infamous **Wal-Mart**, on the opposite side of the street. The dumping rates are quite reasonable (I know cause I was just down there dumping stuff) and they take just about any large item that is inappropriate for our dear **Zippy** cans.

Weeds? We don't want no stinkin weeds.....

The Building and Grounds Committee, fondly referred to as "**Sticks and Dirt**," is gearing up for a battle with the remaining **man-eating** weeds. If you have not already cleaned your lots of the nasty weeds, please arrange to do so immediately. There are about 8 lots where the homeowners do not come around regularly and the weeds are out of control. Not only are they very unsightly, they go to seed and blow all over the neighbors lots, infecting them with noxious weed seeds. At this point, the weeds are way too big to spray and leave on the lot. Many of them are as large as bushes and will need to be manually removed (but not dumped in the **Zippy**, see above). If these remaining lots are not cleaned up immediately, the **Sticks and Dirt** Committee has authorization to begin weed eradication and the homeowner will be charged for the clean up. If you have any questions about this process, please see one of the **Sticks and Dirt** Committee members:

Steve Hodgson
Jim Dixon
Jim Norton
Bob Sessous

Got a gripe about something?????

The newly elected HOA board met after the June 2nd HOA meeting. After electing officers, the board set out to create a fair and impartial process for handling complaints, concerns and issues. The board agreed that the 5 members alone cannot oversee, enforce, make policy and run Vista Del Lago by themselves. Rather (to quote Hillary), it will take a village to make this a successful community. Therefore, the board has set up the following process for airing complaints or reporting damage/problems:

- All initial complaints or issues must first be delivered and discussed with the appropriate committee(s). For example: If a member wishes to report a violation or damage to community property, the member is to communicate the information to the Architectural Committee (to report a violation) and the Buildings and Ground Committee (to report damage). The Committee members will work to resolve the issue or damage, if possible, at this level. If the Committee determines the board needs to take action or approve significant repairs, the Committee Chairperson will notify the Board, in writing, of the issue for Board review. The Board will address the issue at the next scheduled Board meeting and determine a course of action. A committee member may choose to have the complaint/damage description submitted in writing and signed by the complaining/reporting party before proceeding with any type of resolution.
- If it is determined a violation has occurred and it cannot be handled at the Committee level, the board will send a letter to the offending

Association member, along with an explanation of the violation and an accompanying copy of the CC&R, if applicable. The letter will ask for compliance within a specified period of time.

- If compliance is not obtained in the specified period of time, a second letter advising of an imminent fine will be sent. A fine will be levied if compliance is not obtained within the specified period of time.

The intent of this process is to spread out the responsibilities of the park to more people than just the board members. It is also intended to handle low level problems, repairs and concerns at the community level and not bombard the board with small items and details that they may not be able to immediately address.

The bottom line here is that we all need to learn to act together for the common good of the residents and the park. If you have a concern, please try to handle it at the lowest level possible. Try approaching the offender and having an adult discussion with the offender. Oftentimes, the offender is unaware of the potential violation and is happy to make the necessary adjustments. If we all follow the rules as outlined, we shouldn't run into too many high level problems that need to be addressed by the board with a letter, or god forbid, a fine. Enough said.....stepping down from my soap box.

Enough of the rules, rules, rules.....

Here is one more plug to forward newsletter content to me: [FORWARD NEWSLETTER ITEMS TO ME!!!!](#) Okay, I am done.

Lets get out in the sun, enjoy ourselves and have a relaxing summer.

I may send out two newsletters in June in an effort catch up from the past year. I hope you find the newsletter informative and fun, because that is what it is intended to be. Enough reading, now get some sunscreen on and get outside in the **SUN!!!!**

See ya at the pool!!!!

Leslie

Your favorite (and only) Board Secretary