



Vista Del Lago

May 2009

Newsletter #28

Welcome to the May edition of the VDL newsletter. As you can see, dogs are our theme this edition.....see the section on the new dog meetups if you are dog friendly, have a dog, want to hang out with dogs, or just want to see some crazy action. There is a lot going on in the park, lots of new owners to welcome, so lets get started.....

### Our new landscaper.....

The lawns look maaaaahhhhvelous, thanks to our new resident landscaper, Dennis Bachel. Dennis has been spending every waking moment working on the VDL landscaping. He kind of reminds me of Carl in Caddyshack.....remember the greens keeper whose sole mission it was to eradicate moles from the golf course? Well, Dennis is putting the same effort into ridding our lawn of weeds and dandelions. He has already gone the distance with one generation of evil dandelions, now he is working on ruining the lives of the second generation. He has a plan and he is sticking to it and don't get in his way, or you may be removed too.

I can't remember a time when the park has looked better and Dennis will tell you he has just begun. The initial spring cleanup takes a lot of time, but when he gets fully on top of things, I think it will be the best looking neighborhood in the valley and I think we are pretty close right now.

Carl's (er, Dennis's helper) last weekend was Alan Hansen. Dennis enlisted Alan to help him pressure wash the pool deck. The guys finished the job on Saturday and it looks really nice. It was amazing how much dirt and dust were on that deck. I don't think it has ever been pressure washed, well maybe once, but it was long overdue and looks nice. It will eventually be sealed and will look new. Dennis is also going to be working on replacing the wood cross sections as needed and as his time allows. Alan, thanks for helping out!!

## **Dog meetups in the park.....**

As many of you now know, Lyle and I are the proud new owners of a 7 month old Boston Terrier, named Elvis. We managed to pick one of the most energetic breeds on the face of the earth. Coupled with the fact that the little guy is still a puppy, it means we must provide 24 hour stimulation and exercise. As a result, I contacted many of the dog owners in VDL and set up a dog play session in the park, by the basketball court. We had a great turn out, with 8 dogs in attendance. Six of the dogs were from VDL and 2 were guests. In attendance were: Ace (Emily and Dennis), Elvis (me and Lyle), Olivia and Sally (Frank), Kala (Anne and Sherry), Maddie (Becca and Gary) and Willie (Kathy and Liz).....I don't think I left anyone out, but if I did, my sincere apologies. The group had so much fun, we have decided to meet every Saturday at 9:00am by the basketball courts and every Sunday at 8:00am in the same location.

We had to dodge the sprinklers as they came on and turned off, but we had a great time and I suspect that when summer arrives in full force, we will be glad to get sprayed!

If you have a dog, please come on down and join us. We only have a few rules and they are for the safety of everyone (human and canine) involved:

- Dogs must be socialized for both humans and dogs
- No aggressive dogs please
- You must clean up after your dog
- All toys are shared by every dog
- Please remain calm and assertive with your dog so as not to create negative energy and upset the pack (Cesar Milan's rule)
- Be prepared to have fun
- Bring a camera if you want some good shots

## **Boat/RV Parking Lot.....**

The improvements to the Boat/RV parking lot have been completed and it too looks very nice. Why didn't we do this a long time ago??!! There has been a fresh top coat of gravel applied to the parking area and large stones have been placed on the sloping hillsides to strengthen them and create a nice landscaped look. Jim Harding's crew completed the work about 2 weeks ago, so you may return your boats and RV's to their parking space. Please be sure to get your equipment as close to your original space as you can. The spaces have not been marked off, but Dennis is currently researching the best way to mark the spaces.

If you have not been assigned a space by Heidi Hodgson and would like a space, please contact her in the park and get your name on the waiting list. If you are currently parked on the lot in someone else's space, you will need to move a.s.a.p., as most people will be bringing their boats and RV's over in May and they won't want to have to fight for their assigned space.

### **New business in the valley.....**

VDL resident, Betty Allot, is the new co-owner of the valley's new yarn shop. It is called, "Warehouse Woolery" and is located at 20 Beebe Bridge Road, Chelan Falls, WA 98817. The shop's phone number is 509-888-0285. Betty and her daughter have opened the shop within the past month and look forward to helping you select some materials for your projects. I have had the pleasure to get to know Betty and her wonderful dog Sammy and she is a great addition to VDL, so stop in to her shop and introduce yourself!

### **Word from the weed Nazi.....**

I have been asked to step up onto my weed soap box and make my annual spring weed announcement. **THEY ARE HERE!!** We had a few days of rain, followed by a few warm days with the sun out and poof, guess who showed up? Not just a few snowbirds, but those pesky weeds that we have all grown to hate. If you are arriving back in the park late this year, please arrange to have your weeds tended to by a neighbor, a weed control service (Green Thumb is local) or another type of service. Just a few weedy lots can make VDL look like a ghetto and nobody wants to have a weedy lot for a neighbor. Besides, the weeds go to seed and blow on to everyone else's lot and makes the problem quite irritating.

### **Yard sale is coming.....**

The annual yard sale is scheduled for Saturday, July 4th, from 8:00am-noon. This is a major fundraiser for the park and the proceeds go towards purchasing new equipment such as patio furniture, umbrellas, recreational equipment, maybe a new computer for the computer room(?), etc.

If you have items to donate to the sale, you may begin staging them in the room between the clubhouse kitchen and the restroom. Right now the room is pretty empty. If we get a lot of stuff, we can use the laundry room for overflow. Please do me a huge favor and try to place prices on your stuff when you put it in the room. This will save me and the volunteers a ton of time, pricing the items the morning of the sale. It is time consuming enough just moving everything out onto the lawn. When we have to price

stuff, it makes our set up that much more involved. However, I will say, I would rather have your stuff that isn't priced, than not have it at all, so if you just cannot get around to pricing it, I can live with that!

I have had a few people contact me about volunteering to help with the sale.....thank you! We need people to help set up, put up signs, sell and clean up. Anything left over at the end of the sale, must be disposed of by its original owner.

Over the years, there have been some things that are hot and cold sellers. Therefore, lets set ourselves up for success by not having clothing, books or items out of repair. Things that are hot sellers are recreational equipment, usable kitchen items (dishes, pots, pans) and tools and appliances. Please, no heated toilet seat covers this year!!

### **Wanna be on the board??**

There are two positions up for election this year, Dave Sneesby's and Jeff McCann's positions. Dave has committed to running for another term, but Jeff would like to retire in June. Those of you interested in running for either position, please submit your name to any board member. The elections will take place at the June 6th HOA meeting. Both of these terms are two year terms.

If you would like to be involved in some way, but don't want to commit to running for the board, there are several committees you can volunteer to serve on. There will be sign-up sheets at the HOA meeting, with an explanation of what each committee does.

### **Welcome to all new owners.....**

We have several new owners in the park and although I run the risk of forgetting to include someone, I will at least introduce the new owners who I met last weekend.....my new neighbors are Bob and Jeanne Ford and I also met the Thayer's new neighbors, Bev and Rick Eickhoff. Everyone I met was really friendly and they should be great additions to the park.

That's all I have for this addition. As usual, if you have an announcement or other newsworthy item you would like me to include in the newsletter, please send me an email with your info and I will be glad to include it next time. My email address is

[REDACTED]

Take care, safe travels and hope to see you in the land of the sun very soon!

*- Leslie*