



Willow Springs Watch

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From the President



Dennis Gerber

If you remember, after the annual meeting we still had one vacancy on the board, and I'm pleased to announce that Art Madonia has volunteered to fill that position. We now have a full complement of seven board members. That's pretty impressive considering there are only 77 homeowners. I know of several associations much larger than Willow Springs which consistently have trouble finding enough volunteers.

Lawn Contracts Oversight Needed

Speaking of volunteers, now that Ray Fleming is leaving, we need someone to head up the lawns committee. That primarily entails the management of the mowing contract (Ultimate Lawn Care), and the lawn chemicals contract (Scotts). It's important that we have somebody(s) to interface with those two companies. We don't want them operating in Willow Springs without some level of oversight! Anybody interested in doing one or both of those and has questions, please call Ed Warman or drop a note in the Lawn box at the mail center. You do not need to be a member of the board.

Survey Results

I want to report the results of the survey we did last month on the three issues (minimum lease requirements, garage sales and traffic on Meadow Run Drive) brought up at the annual meeting. We received responses from nine homeowners (I want to thank them), and they overwhelmingly felt that no changes need to be made to our current policies on minimum lease requirement and garage sales. And nothing needs to be done concerning the traffic on Meadow Run. Relative to garage sales, there were a couple of suggestions to have one at the clubhouse. There is precedent for that. Meadow Run had a fundraiser there last year. Anybody interested in organizing one, please do. Finally, if anybody wants to see the completed surveys, please call me.

Committee Chairmen

The current committee chairmen for Willow Springs are as follows.

Representative to the East Village Master Association - Dianne Bonney

Insurance, Legal and Rules, ARC, Website - Dianne Bonney

Irrigation, Roads - Tom Rugh

Lawns (Mowing Contract, Lawn Chemicals) – To Be Determined

Roofs/Painting/Common Grounds - Joe Della Valle

Special Projects/Willow Springs Directory - Jane Harris

Welcome - Celless Beck

Block Chairperson (for newsletter delivery) - Dorothy Jones

Meet the New Board Member

According to Donna Madonia, she and her husband Art, the latest addition to the Willow Springs board of directors, are both very happy to be “thawing out” now that they are in Florida full-time. They purchased their Willow Springs home two years ago, but only recently became full-time residents. Art, now retired, worked for nearly 40 years as a union electrician. Originally from The Bronx, Art moved to New Jersey as a teenager. He’s a big Yankee fan as well as an avid follower of other sports. Donna is a Jersey girl who worked as a nurse for 30 years. She is starting a new career as a nurse manager at Nurse on Call in Sarasota. The Madonias, the parents of one married son, have two grandsons, who all live in New York. We welcome them to the neighborhood and thank Art for being willing to volunteer his time as a member of the Willow Springs board of directors.

East Village Master Association

Dianne Bonney

First the good news – the new clubhouse is progressing on schedule and should be opening in May.



Now the bad news – there have been at least three break-ins in the area. Two occurred in Lake of the Woods and the most recent in Quail Lake. The incident in Quail Lake was in broad daylight, 4 o’clock in the afternoon. The owners spotted a dark pick-up truck at their home and as they drove up the truck sped away – along with a 400-pound safe taken from the home. If anyone you did not know was knocking on your door last Friday (Feb. 28) or Saturday (March 1), they could have been the intruders. If you have any information that could be relevant, call the Sheriff’s office at 316-1201. Finally, please make sure you lock your doors when you leave your house. These burglars apparently gained access through a backyard slider. Also, keep an eye out for unfamiliar vehicles or strangers walking around your or your neighbors’ yards.

Common Grounds

Joe Della Valle



The only upcoming project in common grounds is to put steel posts at the mailbox area to prevent drivers from running over the pavers surrounding the landscaping.

Our next party in the park is still being discussed. It was disappointing that after having 30 people attend the first party in December less than 20 attended the most recent one. The December party was held at 6 p.m., but due to complaints about the cold, the latest one was held at 4 p.m. Maybe 4 p.m. is too early, but now with Daylight Saving Time in effect, we could try 6 p.m. again. We’ll let you know.

Roof Tile Color Variation Approved by Board

When I purchased my home in Willow Springs, every home was to be uniform. When I accepted this position on our board, I was told that I had the responsibility for the roof colors. Three recent roof replacements have been done with a two-tone color tile which differs slightly from the one chosen by the board. The error occurred because the manufacturer changed the color of the roof tile without notifying anyone and without changing the name and product number of the tile chosen by the board.

After two or three meetings discussing the color for the roofs, it was decided that the roofs should remain solid color. One reason is that Perma-Seal, which had been approved as an alternative to complete roof replacement, comes only in a solid color. I had meetings with many tile manufacturers to help homeowners obtain the original tile color at the best price. The January board meeting was attended by homeowners who had installed new roofs with the solid color tile and wanted to express their opinions on keeping our development uniform.

At the board's March meeting, it was voted to approve the use of the two-tone color tile. I apologize to the homeowners who had no choice in the color of their roofs when theirs was installed.

I suggest that homeowners who wish to express their opinion on this matter talk to our board members or attend the April 3 board meeting.

Joe Della Valle



How About Lunch, Ladies?

Some women in Willow Springs have expressed an interest in getting together as a group for lunch. Other communities in the East Village such as Meadow Run, Heron Shores and Quail Lake have similar "lunch bunch" groups who get together on a regular basis.

To see if such an activity might be popular among the women of Willow Springs, Jane Harris and Phyllis Hammer have plunged ahead and picked a date, a time and a possible place. Depending on the response, luncheons could be scheduled on a regular basis--monthly, every other month or once or twice a season. (Sorry guys, this is gals only. If you want lunch, you'll have to plan your own.)

The time and date are noon Tuesday, April 15, and the suggested destination is The Pavilion Grill on Route 41 across from the Bird Bay Plaza. Each person will be responsible for arranging her own transportation.

If you'd like to join the group for lunch, call Jane at 492-6862 or Phyllis, 492-3632. Deadline is Monday April 7.

We hope to hear from you.

Here's a Deal for Bridge Players

Anne Heuvelman and Edith Matson are looking for bridge players who would like to join them for games. If you're a bridge player who would be interested in playing, call Anne at 493-2700 or Edith at 493-8049.

Looking Ahead...



March 17: St. Patrick's Day

March 20: First day of Spring

April 1: All Fools Day

April 3: Next board meeting, 10 a.m. at the clubhouse

April 15: Passover begins

From the Editor

Phyllis Hammer

The Looking Ahead calendar should also include the birthdays of Ginny and Bob Rohland who offered this information last year when I was having trouble finding anything of interest for the month of April. Happy birthday to the Rohlands, and everybody else who's having a birthday in April. You'll notice the April 15 tax return deadline also is missing from the calendar. I figure you've already heard about that, and besides I don't want to depress you anymore than you already are. I may include it next month because it will practically be over by the time the next newsletter appears.



Did you remember to set your clocks ahead and are you, like me, still finding timepieces around the house that you forgot to re-set? And if you're an early riser like me, are you annoyed that just when it's starting to get light a little earlier in the mornings, Daylight Saving Time puts us back in the dark? If you're not an early riser, you're not missing much. Go back to sleep.

Until Next Time...