



Newsletter Notes by Karen Kinerk, President

Happy New Year to all! I hope you all had a good holiday season and were able to spend some extra time with your family. The new year will bring a few changes to the Village, but most practices will continue as was in 2011.

With the new year, the committees must be revisited. Many have agreed to continue on the committee with which they worked previously. That was much appreciated. Look for the column naming the committees and duties elsewhere in the newsletter.

ANNUAL MEETING

As you should know, the annual meeting was held in December. Three directors were elected, each who has had previous experience on the Board. The Board for 2012 is
President **Karen Kinerk**,
Vice President **Ken Boyle**,
Treasurer **Gregg Groepper**,
Secretary **Mark Roberts**, and
Parliamentarian **Dotti Egger**.

The BY-LAWS were also amended at the annual meeting. You can read the revised version at <www.villageofwestlakes.com> the new VWL website. **We were unable to vote on the proposed COVENANT amendments because there were not enough votes cast.** This issue will most likely be revisited at the 2012 annual meeting if not done before the December 2012 meeting.

ON-GOING PROJECTS & ACTIONS

You should have noticed many new trees that were planted in December. I would like to thank the grounds committee (**Gregg Groepper, Norma Rodriguez, and Tom Roerig**) for their work in deciding where to plant the trees and seeing the project to its conclusion.

**Village of Westlakes
Board Meeting
Clubhouse
Mon., Jan. 16, 2012
7:00 P.M.**

Another carry-over from last year will be the work of the Compliance Committee, but the work of the committee has become easier as residents became more aware of what was expected. I know the work of the committee and the diligence of our residents is much appreciated since we can be proud of the look of our neighborhood.

As the year continues, new issues may arise with which the Board will deal, but two items will become effective January 1. Last year the Board raised the monthly assessment fee to \$125. This was to allow us to provide a new service: a quarterly pesticide, herbicide, and fertilizer service. The Board also approved a service fee of \$10 per paper check to be charged to those paying their monthly maintenance assessment by check.

I want to end this column with a thank you to all residents who have expressed their support and made suggestions of how to improve our neighborhood. I want to extend a special thank you to all who have pitched in to help make a difference at the Village of Westlakes. We must work together to be the best we can be.

Thanks



to **Hilda DeShazo** for your work as Director on the Village of Westlakes Board.



HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Trees for VWL
by Gregg Groepper, Chair

The Village of Westlakes recently completed the tree planting project for calendar year 2011 by planting 20 Montezuma bald cypress around the golf course ponds, moving 2 Mexican olives, and also planting 2 Esperanza trees. The Mexican olives were blocked out by live oak trees and would have been starved for sunlight. They were moved over by the clubhouse and into fairway 8. As soon as we can locate two mature Esperanza trees, they will join the Mexican olives.

The tree planting project was approved by the Board in 2010, in part to replace mesquite trees that had died or would soon die because they were too close to the water. With the help of Mark Kroeze, the city's urban forester and Stephen Benn the Texas Parks and Wildlife urban biologist, along with **Tom Roerig** and **Norma Rodriguez**, we determined the bald cypress were the best fit around the golf course as they are native trees and thrive in moist conditions. By using native trees we are also able to consider the project as match for a \$12,000 grant on urban habitat development through the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

We are still in the running for that grant; so if you have any sway with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, send them an e-mail and tell them we need to restore all the habitat destroyed by the City of McAllen on the Bentsen Road project.

The web site is www.tpwd.state.tx.us. There is a comment link on the web page. Our nearest Commissioner is Antonio Falcon from Rio Grande City. We *think* his e-mail is Antonio.Falcon@tpwd.state.

HELP!!

2012 VWL DIRECTORY Forms Still Needed

Thanks to residents, owners, renters, and non-resident owners who have returned the 2012 VWL DIRECTORY update forms. Many are still out. We need them!

Those who have not yet responded will be contacted to complete the up-date form so the new 2012 DIRECTORY can be completed.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

for January 2012

Que Pasa?

at the
Village of Westlakes

VILLAGE OF WESTLAKES
BOARD MEETING
Monday, Jan. 16 – 7:00 P.M.
VWL CLUBHOUSE

- Golf - Mixed:** Tue., at 10:00 A.M.
- Golf - Mixed:** Wed., at 10:00 A.M.
- Golf - Mixed Best Ball:** Fri., at 10:00 A.M.
- Pool - Water Aerobics:** Tue., Wed., Fri., 4:30 P.M. - (weather permitting)
- Free Line Dancing:** Tue., at 1:00-2:30 P.M. VWL Clubroom - just show up.
- Pancake Breakfast:** Sat., Jan. 21 at 8:00 TO 10:00 A.M.
- Ladies Lunch:** 2nd Mon., monthly, *Meet at 11:30 A.M. at the restaurant.*
- Social/Cocktails:** Thu., 5:00 P.M.
- Potluck:** 3rd Thursday
Social: 5:00 P.M.
Dinner: 6:00 P.M.
**Sign up sheet at Clubhouse.*



Ladies Lunch



Monday, Jan. 9, 2012, 11:30 A.M.
Masterpiece Cafe
4500 N. Tenth Street, McAllen

Call **Carol Lund** at 683-9522
by Sunday night for reservations.

The following neighbors are helping on this collection task for the DIRECTORY — **Laura Coffman, Lydia Mora, Dotti Egger, Karin Luengas, Dorothy Day, Maru Gonzalez, Nedra Kinerk** Expect to be contacted if you have not yet turned in your update form.

More volunteers could be used to call or visit neighbors. If you will make a few phone calls, please contact **Nedra Kinerk**.



Grounds Committee Update

by Gregg Groepper, Chair

Calendar year 2011 is just about over as are the projects of tree planting and the rebuilding of the flower beds at the pool and both entrances. Thanks to **Marcus** and his crew for rebuilding the beds and planting the extra ones on 43rd Street. Special thanks to **Norma Rodriguez**, **Tom Roerig**, and **Ron Weltzin** for the help on the pool beds and the 41st Street entrance.

Looking ahead to next year, the Board has budgeted money to continue the tree planting project and address beautification concerns expressed over the last year. The grounds committee will be setting priorities and making recommendations to the Board, hopefully in time to get the planting done before the weather heats up.

Some of the funds may be needed to plant some free trees if the City grant comes through with the 30 native trees we have requested for Harvey Avenue. Other recommendations already raised are an improved flower bed in front of the clubhouse and doing something with the area on 43rd Street where the Mexican olive trees were removed and some hedges were removed some years back because they obscured the view of the lakes. More trees or shrubs to stabilize the pond banks and an ebony hedge along the Bell property are some additional thoughts.

We hope this year to complete getting water to all the common areas without automated sprinklers. We are seriously considering adding a meter to our irrigation water delivery system to ensure we get the water for which we pay.

We also will be starting our palm tree trimming project (budgeted every two years) and annual trimming of all trees on common property. The common property tree trimming will occur through March. The palms will be trimmed as soon as we can get the contractor organized. As in past years, if you have palm trees you would like to have trimmed for the same rate (last year \$25 a tree, may be different this year), we'll get advance notice out so you can prepay and participate. The trees will be trimmed according to professional guidelines.

Screen Trash Receptacles and Outdoor Equipment

The Compliance Committee would like to remind the neighbors that according to ARTICLE X, SECTION 9 of our COVENANTS (see below), *outside items must be stored appropriately*. The last inspection was rewarding to the Committee because there was very little evidence of neighbors who needed reminders. During this inspection, the Committee found that most of the items out of compliance were trash cans and outdoor grills. The Committee thanks all of the residents who are making the Committee's work easier.

COVENANTS ARTICLE X, SECTION 9:

Outside storage of any items, including but without limiting the generality of the foregoing, sporting equipment, toys, outdoor cooking equipment, yard and garden tools and equipment and trash and garbage containers, shall not be allowed unless screened from view by enclosures so as to be effectively screened from view outside the Lot. The design of such screened enclosure must be approved by the Association in accordance with the architectural control provisions hereof...



Walk dogs in your yard or the street. Dogs should not be on the golf course, in the clubhouse, or pool areas.

That means only dead fronds are removed and no scalping of the trunk.

The fertilizer, weed control, and pesticides contract for next year is in place; and the first application will occur late February or early March. We plan on giving a two week notice along with a list of the chemicals out to everyone sometime in January. We are very sensitive to chemical hazards, and most of what we'll be using is organic and very safe. However, once the chemical qualities list comes out, we will try to accommodate residents who have specific health concerns.



Foreclosure Sale on Lot #23L

We previously notified you that 4128 Carnation (Lot 23L for us and Links Lot 23 legally) would be sold on the courthouse steps in December. Some residents were interested and showed up for the auction. We were never sure what had happened and were never notified of a new owner. The reason appears that the property was not sold.

We have received a new notification that the property will be sold on the east courthouse steps on February 7, 2012. The time is given as a three hour window of 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. If you are interested, you will want to make a note of the date.



Our Sympathy
...to Ricardo Chapa' (2924 N. 42nd Lane) on the death of his brother, Renato V. Chapa just before Christmas. Services were held in Mission.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers



The father of **Karin Luengas** (4301 Whitewing Avenue) has been very ill in Mexico. Our thoughts are with **Karin** who has spent considerable time in Mexico with her father this past month.

FREE Line Dancing Classes Clubhouse

Tue., 1:00 – 2:30 P.M.



Have some fun and work off those holiday pounds. **Kay Elliott** (2704 N. 41st Street) is an enthusiastic line dancer and will teach anyone – **even if they have two left feet.** **Both men and women are welcome.**

Start with basic steps and go from there. Classes are open to VWL residents and non-residents. Flyers will be on the Clubroom bulletin board with **Kay's** name and phone number if you have questions. Come give it a try!

2012 Village of Westlakes Committees

These neighbors have agreed to be serve on VWL committees. Please call or email **Karen Kinerk if you will serve.** Thanks to those who have agreed to serve.

- Architectoral: **Sue Lewis** (chair), **Dennis Coffman, Karen Kinerk, Willard Moon**
- Communications: **Nedra Kinerk** (chair), **Laura Coffman, Dotti Egger, Karen Kinerk, Ingard Wooten**
- Clubhouse Activities: **Judy Boyle** (chair), **Kathy Ament, Sherrie Mandsager**
- Clubhouse Maintenance: **Ken Boyle** (chair), **Jim Gressinger, Ron Weltzin**
- Clubhouse Rentals: **Judy Boyle** (chair), **Ken Boyle**
- Compliance: **Dotti Egger** (chair), **Jim Gressinger, Karen Kinerk**
- Golf: **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**
- Grounds: **Gregg Groepper** (chair), **Norma Rodriguez, Norma Rodriguez, Tom Roerig, Ron Weltzin**
- Ladies' Lunch: **Carol Lund** (chair)
- Pool: **Michael Alebis** (chair), **Norma Rodriguez**

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Join the breakfast crowd for a **GREAT BREAKFAST**, meet the neighbors and



catch up on who has been doing what. (Guests welcome.)



Sat., Jan. 15, 2011
8:00 AM till 10:00 AM
VWL CLUBHOUSE

The Link – published monthly by

- THE VWL HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION
- Karen Kinerk President/Board member
- Ken Boyle Vice President/Board member
- Mark Roberts Secretary/Board member
- Gregg Groepper Treasurer/Board member
- Dotti Egger Parliamentarian/Board member
- Norm Sands Bookkeeper
- Nedra S. Kinerk Editor
- Dotti Egger & Laura Coffman Asst. Editors & Reporters



Made with Macintosh



The 2012 VWL Directory Information Update

_____	Owner
_____	Renter
_____	NRO

Please complete the following information to update the 2012 VWL Directory. This updated form is needed for EVERY Resident, (HomeOwner & Renter), and for every Non-Resident Owner (NRO).

Please include the name of every person living at the address.

** Please return completed form in December, 2011 — *or NOW*.

- Drop off completed DIRECTORY FORM at the clubhouse VWL office (slot in door) — or
- Bring or mail to Nedra Kinerk at 4121 Camellia Court, McAllen 78501 — or
- Scan & Email to <nkinerk@att.net> — or
- Fax: to 956 630-0444.

**** PLEASE PRINT ****

Address of this property: _____ Lot # _____

Legal owner of this property _____

Please check one: Legal Owner is ___ the Resident or is ___ Non-Resident at this address.

Legal Owners' Address (if different): _____

Legal Owners' Phone # _____ Cell # _____ Work # _____

Legal Owners' Email: _____

Name(s) of ALL persons living at this VWL address: _____

If Rental (or non-owner family), Resident Renter's Name: _____

Resident Renter's phone # _____ Cell # _____ Work # _____

Resident Renter's Email: _____

If the Resident (Owner or Renter) lives at another address part time, please include: your

2nd Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

and your 2nd phone # at the other address: _____

Emergency contact person _____ phone # _____

Name of person filling out this form: _____

Date: _____ **Please return completed form in December, 2011 NOW.**

_____ Check here if you will help contact people who do not respond in December.

Thank you for your help. Nedra S. Kinerk, 630-4700 <nkinerk@att.net> 12/28/11