



Notes by Diego Torres – President

First I would like to wish all our residents a very HAPPY THANKS-GIVING and thank you for your support during this past year.

As was discussed at the November meeting, we have taken the "Wish List" items you have presented and converted it to a "3 Year Plan." We ask that you carefully review it and submit your vote on funding the plan. There are 3 choices funding it, 1 year, 2 years. or 3 years. The initial item estimate has been revised and will be

included in the Annual Meeting notice that you will be receiving next week.

I have contacted our City Commissioner Hilda Salinas regarding the issues still pending on the Bentsen Road Project and she will be working on a resolution. She has also agreed to be at our January Meeting to give us an update.

Break-in and Burglaries continues to be a problem and we ask that you continue to be vigilant and report any suspicious activity to the Police.

Our Sincere Sympathy is extended to the families of Mr. Bill Meyers and Mr. Wade Hauser Jr. who have recently passed and may they Rest in Peace.

Village of Westlakes ANNUAL MEETING Sunday / Domingo, Dec., 15, 2013 2:00 P.M. AT VWL CLUBHOUSE

Diego Torres Sole Nominee for Director E on VWL Board

Diego Torres is currently serving as a member and president of the VWL Board of Directors. No other homeowners were nominated for the position at the November Board meeting so Diego is the only nominee for the Director E position to be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Village of Westlakes Homeowners Association (HOA). After Diego is declared the de facto winner of the post, he and the other Board members will meet in executive session to elect the new Board officers for the 2014 year.

"Wish List" proposals on ballot

A ballot proposition for determining support for various projects to improve our community will be on the ballot for the Annual Meeting. The projects would be done over the next one to three years. Homeowners will be asked for a temporary additional dues assessment to complete these improvements. This would be above and beyond the dues approved by the Board to fund the annual budget. The dues

assessment would be for a one to three-year period determined by your vote and then be terminated. These items have been discussed as needed for years, but never been done.

The VWL 3 Year Plan includes:

- rebuild pool area fence \$2,000
• xeriscape between green #6 & road \$2,000
• Bell property fence \$14,5000
• repair cool deck \$1,000
• increase soil in fairway #3 \$2,000
• redo pool bottom \$12,000
TOTAL \$33,5000

You will vote:

\_\_\_ in favor of funding or \_\_\_ opposed
Whether you vote for or against the proposal, you will still need to vote for your choice of funding in the event the 3-Year Plan does pass.

- \_\_\_ 12 monthly charges of \$19.17
\_\_\_ 24 monthly charges of \$9.58
\_\_\_ 36 monthly charges of \$6.39

If one or more of the proposed projects are not completed in the three year plan, a refund or cancellation of dues in the full amount of the cancelled project(s) will be credited to the members' account.



**Annual Meeting info** *continued from p. 1*

- The Secretary will mail an absentee ballot/proxy with the notice of the Annual Meeting. Information of how to vote via email or fax will be given with this notice.
- The candidate name will be listed on the ballot. The special 3-Year Plan assessment will also be on the ballot.
- Printed emails and faxes received before the Annual Meeting will be placed in a sealed envelope and then opened and counted at the Homeowners Association Annual Meeting on December 15.

HOA members are urged to participate in the governance and operations of our community. The volunteers who have given of their time and energy over the years have made this an exceptional community. They need your support to continue that tradition. Attend the Annual Meeting or send in your absentee ballot.

**COVENANT-Authorized Fee Increase**

The VWL Board of Directors approved the 2014 Budget with a COVENANT-authorized 5% monthly Homeowner dues increase to cover the growing costs of the normal operating expenses. The VWL budget has not implemented the COVENANT allowed increase for the past two years. The HOA dues will be \$131.00 per month and is effective starting January 1, 2014.



**VILLAGE OF WESTLAKES CHRISTMAS DINNER**

Saturday, December 14, 2013

Social 5:00 p.m. Dinner 6:00 p.m.

Maple Honey Ham, Turkey & Chicken Tamales will be provided  
Bring your favorite beverage and a side dish to share.

Merry Christmas to all.



for December 2013

**Que Pasa?**

at the Village of Westlakes

**VILLAGE OF WESTLAKES ANNUAL MEETING**  
**SUNDAY, DEC. 15 — 2:00 P.M.**  
**CLUBHOUSE**

**Golf League play.**

**Golf - Mixed:** Tue., 9:45 A.M.

**Golf - Mixed:** Wed., 9:45 A.M.

**Golf - Mixed Best Ball:** Fri., 9:45 A.M.

**Pool - Water Aerobics:** Tue./Wed., 4:00 P.M.  
Fri., 10:00 A.M.

**Ladies Lunch:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Mon., monthly,  
*Meet at 11:30 A.M. at the restaurant.*

**Social/Cocktails:** Thu., 5:00 P.M.

**Holiday decorating Party:**

Sun., Dec. 1 – 2:30 P.M.

**VWL Christmas party:** Sat., Dec. 14

**Social:** 5:00 P.M. **Dinner:** 6:00 P.M.

**Ladies Lunch**

Dec. 9, 2013, at 11:30 A.M.

Republic of the Rio Grande  
1411 S. Tenth Street  
McAllen

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

**Holiday Decorating Party**

Sunday, December 1, 2013  
Clubhouse — 2:30 P.M.

We need lots of help  
so please come and  
give us a hand.

**Katie Ament,**  
Social Committee





by Iva Keacher & Lydia Mora

**Golf Schedule:**

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday  
9:45 A.M. (Please be on time.)

Clubhouse reserved for golf events:

January 25, 2014

One -Club Tournament  
10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

February 22, 2014

Putting Tournament  
10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

March 13, 2014

Golf Tournament  
10:00 A.M. to 12:00 NOON

March 14, 2014

Golf Tournament  
10:00 A.M. to 2 P.M.

March 28, 2014

Decorate Clubhouse for Golf Banquet

March 29, 2014

Golf Banquet  
6:00 P.M. Social 7:00 P.M. Dinner

**Bentsen Road Project Report January 21**

City Commissioner Hilda Salinas has accepted an invitation for the January 21<sup>st</sup> Board meeting to give an update on the Bentsen Road project — which has been slo-o-o-w. City Engineer Yvette Barrera also plans to attend to share information.

The VWL was promised a restoration of the wild life area back when the road-widening project was started in 2005. The City promised to replant and irrigate the area west of our neighborhood. Trees were finally planted to the west of VWL homes but have not yet shown sufficient growth to attract much wildlife. A surveying error resulted in the berm being located closer to VWL properties. Homeowners on 43<sup>rd</sup> Street have suffered with construction noise and vibration. The walking trail was correctly located on the west side adjacent to Bentsen Road rather than overlooking VWL properties. Come hear what the completion plans are.

**Grounds Update – November 30**

by Diego Torres, Grounds Committee

In addition to weekly maintenance of the golf course, several trees in the common areas were trimmed. The greens were treated with fungicide and potassium. The dead areas around green #8 were cut out and TIF 419 sod was laid in.

Marcus (grounds keeper) put down milor-gonite (a mild human-based fertilizer) under the sod before it was laid to encourage root stimulation. The sod behind green #8 was watered twice daily manually in addition to twice daily as a result of the green sprinklers. The sod was rolled.

Rye grass seed was laid down by green #6 and watered in. Two dead trees were removed from fairway #4.

The grounds crew worked Thanksgiving Day morning to groom the golf course only. Some mowing, trimming and blowing will be finished the following week.

All lawns were mowed despite the holiday and cold weather with the edging and trimming on some lawns to be completed the following week.

The frost damaged the greens so HUMUS (non-toxic organic spray) was applied to cure the damage. All greens should be back to normal with the warmer weather forecast.

Palm trees are scheduled to be trimmed this year in December. Marcus, grounds keeper, mentioned that trees can be trimmed now while in a semi-dormant stage.

**Discourage thieves.**  
Where possible,  
park your vehicles in  
your garage. Do not leave  
your garage doors open.



December 7th...

We remember...





### VWL Compliance Committee Report

by Julian Mora, Chair

The Compliance Committee update:

1. Roof replacement on Harvey Circle - completed
2. Several complaints about common ground issues were reported by residents and those have been completed
3. Several residents were called and/or sent emails about the condition of their plants and of weeds in their flower beds. One resident has already cut the overgrown plant on the mail box and cleaned the flower beds. Residents need to be more responsible about keeping up with their yards.
4. Four residents were sent emails about the condition of the grass on the front yard. One resident on Whitewing planted grass and the yard looks much better.
5. Trash cans being left out overnight is still a problem. Residents forget to bring them in and people are complaining.
6. The dead palm trees on common ground still have not been removed.



**How can you help? Volunteer.**  
**Call a Board member for a 2014 committee assignment.**

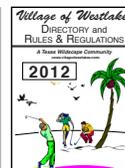
Be ready to help on some of the VWL committees for 2014. New ideas are always welcome. Your ideas need to be verbalized to the Board and not just talked about to your family or the neighbors. Be willing to help *now*; don't just criticize after the fact. Call a Board member and offer your help.

#### The Link – a voice for VWL HOMEOWNERS

VWL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Diego Torres	President/Board member
Lydia Mora	Vice President/Board member
Kay Elliott	Secretary/Board member
Gregg Groepper	Treasurer/Board member
Karen Kinerk	Parliamentarian/Board member
Norm Sands	Bookkeeper
Nedra S. Kinerk	The Link Editor

Bienvenidos  
**WELCOME**  
 NEW NEIGHBORS



**Dr. Clark Heller**  
**& Mario Resendez** lot 67L  
 4102 Camellia Court  
 207-4299 (C) 854-0125 (M)  
 clarkvonheller@yahoo.co.uk

**Gloria A. Saenz** lot 14  
 4218 Carnation Avenue  
 627-2732 458-6090  
 gasaenz1955@gmail.com

**For any VWL DIRECTORY updates**, contact **<nkinerk@att.net>** or **630-4700**.  
*If you or your neighbors are ill, please email me at <nkinerk@att.net> so we can add the name to our prayer list.*

*In Memory of ...*

**Wade Hauser** We lost another good neighbor November 14. **Wade and Elsy Hauser** moved to the Village of Westlakes (4109 Carnation Avenue) the summer of 1999. **Wade** always had a friendly smile for neighbors when he was out walking their dog. We will miss him. Your thoughts and prayers are appreciated for **Elsy**.

**Bill Meyers** We have lost another long-time VWL resident. **Bill Meyers** has quietly followed his wife **Sara** in death Saturday, Nov. 16 at his home at 4100 Camellia Court. **Bill and Sara** built their home on Camellia Court in the Links January 1987. **Bill** was active in civic affairs and served on the Planning and Zoning Board. Those of us who knew them will miss both **Sara and Bill**.

