

Vantage Vibes

Vantage Point West at Leisure World



PUBLISHED BY THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 2009

UPCOMING EVENTS

TRIVIA NIGHT: Mon, Feb. 9, 7:30 PM

VALENTINE'S DAY DESSERT PARTY:
Sat, Feb. 14, 7:30 PM

BOOK CLUB: Mon, Feb. 16, 4:00 PM

FEBRUARY VPW MEETINGS

ACTIVITIES: Thurs, Feb. 12, 10:00 AM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Mon, Feb. 23, 10:00 AM

BUDGET & FINANCE: Thurs, Feb. 19, 10:00 AM

BLDG. & GROUNDS: No Meeting This Month

COMMUNICATIONS: Mon, Feb. 9, 10:00 AM

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by Morris Krowitz

It's January of a new year, we have a new president at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue and those of us that remain in town are experiencing one of the coldest winters in quite a while.

Thank you to the ten (10) or so of you that attended the January Board meeting. It is gratifying to know that some of you are interested.

This month's Board meeting was fairly innocuous:

I congratulated the Budget and Finance committee for their excellent work in providing us a 2008 budget that came within one percent (1%) of actual expenditures.

Our treasurer reported the unaudited results of our mutual's finances - a deficit of approximately \$11,000 for the year due to unexpected repairs in November and December.

The Board agreed to postpone changing the lobby trash can as most of our residents are now utilizing the recycling areas of their respective trash rooms for unwanted junk mail. Thank you - the mail area looks much better.

Additionally, the Board approved our mutual's 2008 tax filing status (filing as a corporation), the date and time for our Annual Meeting (Wednesday, June 17, 2009 at 7:00 PM) and the date and time for the Board's Organizational Meeting (Monday, June 22, 2009 at 10:00AM).

BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE

by John Lynch, Chairperson

At the January Building and Grounds Committee meeting, the Committee confirmed the appointment of **Sue Eckstein** as Chairperson of the Landscape Sub-Committee along with **Maureen Kirkland** and **Helene Kurtzman** as members. The Committee authorized the Landscape Sub-Committee to spend funds as approved in the 2009 budget.

The Committee also confirmed the appointment of **Midge Van Albert** as Chairperson of the Party Room Inspection Sub-Committee along with **Audrey Franz**, **Maureen Kirkland**, and **Norman Glasser**. This Sub-Committee ensures that the Party Room is inspected both before and after rental of the room.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

by Gloria Kitzler

The Vantage Point West Book Discussion Group will meet on Monday, February 16th at 4:00 PM in the Party Room. The book selection will be, "Marrying Mozart," by Stephanie Cowell. Although this book is fiction it is based on actual events in Mozart's life. Mozart is a 21 year old struggling musician when he meets the four daughters of the musical Weber family in Mannheim, Germany in 1777. One of the daughters is Constanza, who became Mozart's wife. The story makes 18th century life really come alive.



Our leader will be Rita Rozenbaum. All residents are invited to attend.

LIBRARIES

by Linda Reiff

The Montgomery County Libraries have put out a pamphlet about their system. I don't know if this will be a regular publication or not, but I suggest you try to pick one up at the local library's front counter or thereabouts. It is reddish and gold and called, "CHECK US OUT!" It is packed with timely and interesting items happening at the various libraries in the County. They have children's programs, film showings, conversation groups, internet training, book discussions, tax help and much more.



Library Lovers Month is in February as is *Black History Month*.

Did you know you can check the library catalog from your computer? You can also find out what books are forthcoming in several categories, reserve books and even renew books. The library website is:

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library. I really

suggest you look for the brochure and see what's available to you.

I wish to thank every one of you for the many expressions of encouragement and thoughtfulness which have been so helpful and heartening during my bout with a broken hip. You are all wonderful and much appreciated friends!

--Carl Jacobs, Unit #406

PROJECT LINUS

by Maureen Kirkland

The Project Linus group met for a cookie exchange in December. We are part of the National Association of Family and Community Education. Most of the time we meet monthly to knit, crochet or sew blankets for children in hospitals. We also make blankets for preemies and ditty bags for our troops overseas.

Once in a while, we get a picture that tells us we are doing something useful. One new father sent a picture of his newborn preemie named Noah. The baby weighed 2 ½ pounds and was shown on one of the blankets we had made. It made all of us feel good.

DISCOVER STRATHMORE

by Dottie & Jack Stanton

A free festival on Sunday, February 15. The community is invited to be part of the magic of the arts of the circus as jugglers, clowns, musicians and acrobats perform and lead interactive workshops throughout Strathmore.



FAREWELL

Farewell and good wishes to our neighbor, **Iris Berry Carper** (#803) who has moved away.

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

by Margie Freedenberg, Chairperson

Once again, our annual New Year's Day Party was a resounding success. A big thank you goes to **Anna Heath, Elaine Wagner, Nedda Krowitz, Helen Schwartz, Rosalie Silverstein, Muriel Colmen and Thelma Wittenberg** for all of their hard work.

Bingo Nite took place on January 21st. The lucky Bingo winners were: **Bette Blick, Margie Freedenberg, Sid Green, Eileen Henchar, John Mulloon, Linda Reiff, Sally Richman, and Dottie Stanton**. The next **Bingo Nite** will be held on Monday, March 23rd at 7:30 PM.

The Activities Committee will be hosting a **Valentine's Day Dessert Party** on Saturday, February 14th at 7:30 PM. A sign-up sheet is posted in the lobby near the mailboxes. Please call **Margie Freedenberg** at 301-438-2929 or **Anna Heath** at 301-438-8048 if you have any questions.

Below is a preliminary list of exciting activities for the year, details of which will follow.

- Valentine's Day Dessert Party
- Bingo
- Coffee & Lecture
- Musical Programs
- Brunch
- Atlantic City Trip (*through Eyre Travel*)
- Deli Party
- Meet the Candidates Night/Annual Meeting
- 4th of July Parade
- Fajita Party
- Holiday Party

The Activities Committee welcomes new program ideas from all VPW residents. If you have some exciting suggestions, let us know and get involved.



FIGHT HUNGER & FEED HOPE

Manna Food Center feeds more than 60,000 hungry people in Montgomery County, half of whom are children. Clients are referred by social service organizations, schools, churches, synagogues, the Department of Health and Human Services, and other community organizations.

Manna Food Center needs all kinds of boxed and canned food, but has an urgent need for:

Cereal	Rice
Non-Fat Dry Milk	Pasta
Canned Milk	Peanut Butter
Canned Tuna	Spaghetti Sauce
Canned Meat	Baby Food
Canned Fruit & Vegetables	

Place your non-perishable food item(s) in the Manna Food donation basket in the Party Room.



LAUGH OF THE MONTH

Some perks of being over 50:

1. Kidnappers are not very interested in you.
2. No one expects you to run --- anywhere.
3. Things you buy now won't wear out.
4. People no longer view you as a hypochondriac.
5. Your joints are more accurate meteorologists than the national weather service.
6. Your secrets are safe with your friends because they can't remember them either.

TRIVIA NIGHT

Trivia Night will resume on Monday, February 9th at 7:30 PM. Please join us for an evening of fun and laughs!



JUST CALL 911

*by Roma Enid Sohn -Emergency Preparedness
Committee*

It has come to the attention of our committee that, many of our residents are not completely certain about whom to call in various emergency situations. They know that 911 is the number to call if they think they are having a heart attack or a stroke, but at other times they make inappropriate calls that can seriously delay a proper response.

When you see sparks or smoke coming out of an electrical outlet, appliance or lighting fixture, CALL 911. By contacting an electrician, PPD or Security, you are delaying the call you should be making and a large fire can break out before the Fire and Rescue Team can reach you.

When you or your housemate falls and cannot get up, CALL 911. Calling Security delays proper assistance; they are not allowed to pick up anyone that has fallen and will only call 911 after they have come to your home and told you that they are unable to help in this situation. Don't ask a friend to help because there are times when an untrained person can do more harm than good.

If you have injured yourself and are unable to stop the bleeding, CALL 911. The Leisure World Medical Center has no emergency facilities and therefore cannot attend to acute injuries.

Should you experience sudden loss of vision or hearing, sudden inability to speak, or maintain balance, CALL 911. These are acute emergencies that require evaluation in a hospital. The fastest way to a hospital is via ambulance.

Acute onset of unusual pain or inability to move any part of your body can be a sign of a serious medical problem that requires immediate care. CALL 911. Don't rely on anyone other than a trained Emergency Medical Technician to evaluate the situation.

Even if you cannot talk or hear, the 911 operators can trace the call as long as you stay on the line and try to communicate any way that you can. Putting a speed dial button for 911 on your phone can help you dial when you are excited and upset. Don't worry that the Fire and Rescue Squad may be making an unnecessary call to your home. They would much rather be able to evaluate the situation and advise you, without having to take you to the hospital, than miss the opportunity to save your life.

FROM THE MANAGER'S DESK

by Alisia Madariaga, Property Manager

EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN: Included in the VPW Resident's Manual is a section titled "Emergency Action Plan." This plan establishes the method and practice to be followed in the event an emergency arises necessitating the evacuation of the building.

Please refer to this information in your VPW Resident's Manual for future reference. Read this document carefully so that you are prepared in case of fire or other emergency. It is recommended that you make note of specifics, such as the location of your fire extinguisher, location of the nearest stairwell and the location of the fire alarm pull station between your unit and the stairwell. *Please contact the Association Office if you need a copy of the Emergency Action Plan.*

If you are physically unable to leave the building during an emergency, you should call 911 to alert them to your location. A list of residents who would need assistance evacuating the building is posted in the Fire Control Room. Please contact the Association Office to be added to the list.

UPDATED RESIDENT INFORMATION: Please inform the Association Office if you have any updated resident information (i.e. mortgage company information, emergency contact, disability status, new vehicle information, etc.).
See Manager p.5

Manager from p.4

Please also provide any alternative day time phone numbers or cell phone numbers. It is important for Management to have this information so we can be of assistance in an emergency situation.

ENTRY DOORS: Residents are reminded to not open the entry doors for strangers. All residents and employees have keys and/or electronic door openers. Please help keep our building secure.

BULLETIN BOARDS: Residents are reminded to periodically check the three bulletin boards for important information. Memoranda from Management, meeting agendas, the monthly calendar, and publicity for building functions are posted on the lobby bulletin boards. Items for sale and publicity for non-mutual functions are posted on the basement bulletin board.

MAIL: Please be sure to check your address on your mail to make sure it is complete with your unit number. Contact the sender to provide any missing information if needed. Incomplete addresses become a problem when our regular mail carrier is away. The substitute mail carrier may put your mail in the wrong mailbox or return the incomplete addressed mail to the sender. Be sure to double check you mail prior to opening it in case you received your neighbor's mail by mistake. If this is the case, you should contact your neighbor or place it under the appropriate unit door immediately.

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY: The Vantage Point West *In-House Telephone Directory* has been updated. You can obtain a current copy from the Association Office.



VPW INVESTED RESERVES

by Fred Olson, Budget and Finance Committee

Do you know that you have an asset worth \$3,325.08, per 1,000 square feet of your condo, in the invested reserves of Vantage Point West? On December 31, 2008, these invested replacement and contingency reserves totaled \$868,587.75. Since there are 200 condo units in VPW these reserves are worth \$4,342.94 per average-sized-VPW condo.

On December 31, 2007, the weighted average return was 4.83 percent. By the end of 2008 this average return had dropped to 3.67 percent.

One of the items a buyer in LW needs to check is the amount of the invested reserves per condo or per 1,000 square feet of condo. What is the return on those invested reserves? As a seller you can tout what VPW has.

BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE

by Mike Schwartz, Chairperson

The Budget & Finance Committee reviewed the December financial statements at the last Committee meeting. The 2008 year ended in a deficit of approximately \$11,000 due to unplanned expenses.

The Committee approved taking the funds from Centennial Bank to purchase a two year CD from Pacific Mercantile Bank at a rate of 2.95% or better.

The Committee also approved taking the funds from Countrywide Bank and purchasing two CDs:

- 1) A \$35,000 CD from Acacia Bank for a term of two years at a rate of 2.95% or better.
- 2) A \$45,000 CD from Pacific Mercantile Bank for a term of one year at a rate of 2.95% or better.

TREASURER'S REPORT

by Neil Ross, Treasurer

The following figures were taken from the *unaudited* December 2008 Statement of Operations, available for your review at the Association Office.

INCOME:

Condo Fee**	\$ 106,179
Other	\$ 110
Interest Earned-OP Cash	\$ 61
Interest Earned-RES	\$ 3,110
Total:	\$ 109,460

EXPENSES:

Direct Oper. Costs	\$ 100,729
Community Facilities	\$ 25,938
Mutual Operations	\$ 3,168
Res. Interest Transfers	\$ 3,110
Reserve Transfers	\$ 11,169
Total:	\$ 144,114
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$ 34,654)

Operating Funds	\$ 43,115
IDI Warranty Funds	\$ 10,654
Contingency Reserve	\$ 31,833
Replacement Reserve	\$ 836,705

TOTAL FUNDS \$ 911,703

2008 YEAR END

INCOME:	\$1,311,682
EXPENSES:	\$1,322,998
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$ 11,316)

** Includes Contribution to Reserves



LEISURE WORLD COMMUNITY CORPORATION

At the Organizational Meeting of the Board of Directors on January 9th, the following officers and members at large of the Executive Committee were elected to serve for one year:

- Marian Altman, Chairperson (M12)
- Philip Marks, Vice-Chairperson (M20B)
- Billie Saunders, Secretary (M13)
- James McAlister (MM)
- Edmond Psaltis (M18)
- Jackie Rabinow (M14)
- Lawrence Traynham (M20A)

Agendas of meetings of both the Executive Committee and the LWCC Board of Directors will be posted on the lobby bulletin board near the mailboxes, in the Administration Building, the lobbies of both clubhouses, and on the Leisure World website (www.lwmc.com).

Vantage Vibes

Linda Reiff, Editor

Elaine Apter, Layout

Alisia Madariaga, Production

Chris Hennessy, Production

VPW WEBSITE:

Vlady Rozenbaum, Webmaster

<http://www.vantagepointwest.com>

Happy Valentine's Day!



