



The Vistas VIEW



Summer Newsletter
June-July 2011

NEXT MEETING DATE

July 28, 2011

Please Mark Your Calendars to Attend!

All Board of Directors Meetings are held at Bud Beasley Elementary School starting at 6:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

September 29, 2011 - Quarterly Meeting

November 16, 2011-10:00 a.m. Budget Ratification Meeting held at the HOA Office.

Agendas are posted 10 days prior to the meeting. Copies can be found in the agenda boxes attached to the Information Boards located at the top and bottom of Los Altos Pkwy.

A budget workshop meeting will be held in the association office Sept. 14, 2011 at 12:30 p.m.

Board of Director Positions

Margaret Powell, William Wagner and Jim Baldwin submitted applications for the three Board positions up for election this year. Since the number of applicants was the same as the number of Board positions these three individuals were elected to the Board for a two-year term.

Margaret Powell has served on The Vistas Board of Directors for the past two years. She was Board President last term and has agreed to be President one more year. Margaret has lived in The Vistas for over thirteen years and is retired from The City of Sparks.

William Wagner also served on the Board for the last two years and was Board Secretary for the association. Bill will be Secretary/Treasurer for the current year. Bill has lived in The Vistas over twelve years and is retired from the labeling printing business. He also sits on the Board of Special Recreation Services Inc. which provides summer camps for children and adults with disabilities.

Jim Baldwin previously served as a member of the Board from 2006-2010 and was Board President 2009/2010. He has been a resident in The Vistas for the past sixteen years. Jim is retired from the U.S. Air Force and Nevada Air National Guard and also worked as the Water Programs Coordinator for Sierra Pacific Power Company. Jim will serve as Vice President for the current year.



Architectural Control Committee

Meeting Dates for 2011

July 13, 2011 August 10, 2011
September 14, 2011 October 12, 2011
November 16, 2011 December 14, 2011

Please submit your request for improvements no later than one day before the ACC meeting for review by the Board.

ACC meetings are generally held the second Wednesday of every month.

Thinking about painting the exterior of your home? Spring is the perfect time to submit your paint colors for approval. Paint approval request forms can be printed from The Vistas website. Attach paint swatches and mail to the association office prior to an Architectural Control Committee meeting listed above. You need to submit for approval **even if you are painting with the same colors.**

Thank You

"3rd Qtr Residential Dump Days"

Saturday, July 2nd and Sunday, July 3rd
Reduced rates and free select dumping

In an effort to assist residents with household clean-ups and curb illegal dumping, Waste Management will be offering reduced residential rates for Municipal Solid Waste at both Transfer Stations in Reno the first weekend in July. In addition, materials like Freon-free Refrigerators, Hot water heaters, Sofas, Mattresses etc. commonly associated with illegal dumping will be accepted at no charge. Any material that falls outside of these parameters will be accepted at more than 50% off the regular gate rate.

This "Residential Dump Days" is the result of a partnership between Waste Management and Washoe County government to develop a program that helps residents clean-up their homes and communities, and in turn, decrease the amount of illegal dumping in our area.

Please make sure you understand what is eligible for free dumping versus reduced dump rates during this 2-day event. For more information you can call Waste Management at (775) 329-8822 or (866) 844-1508. The complete press release can be found at the association website www.vistashoa.com under "Vistas News".

Residential dump days are held solely at the Transfer Stations in Reno. Lockwood Landfill is closed on weekends.

Electronic waste/recycling will NOT be accepted and hazardous wastes are not accepted at any time.

Board of Directors

President: Margaret Powell
Vice-Pres: James Baldwin
Sec./Treasurer: William Wagner
Director: Dave Stefan
Director: Tim Leighton

Office Staff

Stacie Ciesynski, Community Admin.
info@vistashoa.com
G' Richmond, CAM
gcamvistas@sbcglobal.net
Chris Burton, Compliance
complaints@vistashoa.com

Web Site

www.vistashoa.com

Office Information:

1281 Terminal Way, #124

Reno, NV 89502

Monday/Friday 9:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.

Tel: (775) 786-0500 Fax: (775) 786-0504



We would like to take this opportunity to give a most appreciative thank you to all current and past Board members who have volunteered their time for the betterment of the Association. The beautiful neighborhood in which we live is a direct result of their service, dedication, care and concern for the community.

Nevada Fire Safe Council Report

The cheatgrass removal has been completed behind the homes on the South side of Los Altos. NFSC will start working on the fuels reduction part of the project very soon. While they were cutting the cheatgrass they found several places where fuels needed to be thinned out, which they will be taking care of.

They will be spraying a herbicide in the fall to help with next years' cheatgrass growth.

A map of the treatment area can be found on the association's website.

Preventing Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

Carbon monoxide, or CO, is a poisonous gas that can be particularly dangerous because it is colorless and odorless. Headache, nausea, dizziness and even permanent brain damage or death can occur. Hundreds of people die each year from accidental CO poisoning, many of them while using portable generators during severe weather.

A byproduct of burning fuels such as gasoline, propane, kerosene, natural gas, oil, wood or coal, carbon monoxide is emitted from internal combustion made by engines, like those that power lawn mowers, portable generators, cars, power washers and many household appliances such as furnaces, ranges, fireplaces, water heaters and room heaters. To prevent CO poisoning in your home, be sure to take the following precautions:

- Educate your family about the causes of CO poisoning and how to prevent exposure to this deadly gas.
- Do not use portable generators indoors, including in garages, carports, storage sheds and the like, even with doors and windows open. CO can quickly build to lethal levels in even partially enclosed spaces.
- Do not place pressure washer engines indoors, and, when using pressure washers outdoors, keep engines away from open windows, doors or vents during use, as CO can seep inside through the openings.
- Hire qualified professionals to install new furnaces and appliances and to inspect and service your HVAC system, chimneys and flues.
- Never service fuel-burning appliances without proper knowledge, skills and tools. Always refer to the owners' manual when performing minor adjustments or performing maintenance on fuel-burning equipment.
- Never use portable fuel-burning camping equipment or burn charcoal indoors.
- Never leave a car running in a garage, even with the garage door open.
- Never use your gas oven or clothes dryer to heat your home.
- Never operate unvented fuel-burning appliances in any room where people are sleeping.
- Do not cover the bottom of natural gas or propane ovens with aluminum foil. Doing so blocks the air flow through the appliance and can produce CO.
- Install CO detectors throughout your home, especially in hallways near sleeping areas, and follow the manufacturers' instructions for testing and replacing. Keep detectors unobstructed by furniture or draperies.

Semi-Annual Assessments

Statements have been mailed for the July 1, 2011—December 31, 2011 assessment of \$138.00. If you did not receive a statement please call the office. Remember payment is due by JULY 1, 2011. If payment in full is not received within 10 days from the due date a late fee of \$10.00 will be applied to your account .

If you find yourself in a difficult spot financially please contact the association office to discuss a payment plan. Assessments left unpaid will only result in additional delinquency costs and a Notice of Delinquent Assessment and Claim of Lien will be filed against your property.

Please do not ignore your assessment, they will not go away! When you purchased the home you agreed to pay assessments and the association is obligated by Nevada Law and the CC&R's to collect all past due assessments and fees.

Remember - Not paying your assessments could lead to foreclosure. Please contact the association office to discuss your options.

The Association's collection policy can be found at www.vistashoa.com under Rules and Regulations titled "Assessment Policy".

"Take 25"

In the May issue of the Community Partnership Connection, The Washoe County Sheriff's Office in partnership with the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children wants to remind the public to "Take 25" which is designed to raise awareness of the issues surrounding missing and exploited children. The Take 25 campaign encourages parents, guardians, educators and others to take 25 minutes to talk to children about safety. For more information on how to "Take 25" visit AlertID for more tips to keep children safe.



All complaints MUST be in writing. The association office will not follow-up on complaints left anonymously on the phone. All complaints submitted in writing will be strictly confidential.

**Kindness is in our power,
even when fondness is
not. ~Samuel Johnson**

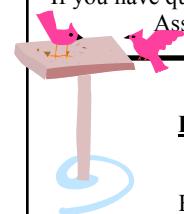
General Information

Neighborhood street lights are the responsibility of the City of Sparks. Please contact NV Energy at [834-6357](tel:834-6357) if you notice a light out on your street.

Be courteous to those who use the sidewalks by trimming your shrubs and trees so they don't grow over the sidewalk and force people to walk around them or step into the street to get by.

The HOA cannot enforce cars parked for long periods of time on the street nor regulate utility service vehicles in driveways with gross vehicle rating of 20,000 pounds or less. These types of issues should be directed to the Sparks police department.

If you have questions, please contact the Association office.



Bird Feeders

Bird Feeders need to be maintained to keep the bird seed from spilling over and attracting mice, pigeons and rodents to the area. While we understand the desire to feed our fair feathered friends, please be aware you may be inviting more than birds into the area and creating a nuisance for your neighbors.

Ways to help the Washoe County Library System

- Adopt a Periodical at your favorite Library. The number of periodicals ordered next year will be lower than in the past. You can help by paying for a one-year subscription to purchase popular magazines that might otherwise be eliminated. Donation forms need to be submitted by August 25th. For more information call 827-1885.
- Purchase needed library books through the Amazon Wish List. To help, visit www.washoecountylibrary.us and click on the link to Amazon Wish List. Make your selection, purchase the book and it will be sent directly to the library. A personalized bookplate will be placed in the book to acknowledge your donation. All donations are tax-deductible.

Did you know that your Library has E-books and Digital Audio Books? Just bring your electronic reader or mobile device and your library card to your local library to learn how to set up an account and how to search the audio catalog. You can also learn how to place books on hold and much more.