

VILLADOM

Volume 38 Issue 1 The Villas de Golf Monthly Newsletter November 2012

Women's Association

Notes from Reenie

Let the gathering begin. Villas de Golf is stirring once again as the snowbirds invade the quiet enjoyed by the year-round residents. You know you are excited to see us!

As everyone meets and greets friends they have not seen for months, please take time to remember those who will not be joining us this season. We also have those dear friends who are experiencing some difficulties and need a little help if you have the time. One thing that impresses me about our community is the way people reach out to help. It feels good for the one helping and the one being helped.

I would like to continue the programs we have in place and maybe add a few more social events this year. There are so many opportunities in our area for sports, culture and...gambling. Hope there are others who will take an active interest in developing some of these outings.

Jim and I will be arriving on November 11.

Take care and let's get together soon.

Reenie, your non-elected volunteer president for life

Association Board Message

The purpose of these monthly articles is to inform you of Board of Directors (BOD) activities and to make available other information that is important to you.

Welcome Back!

A warm welcome is extended to the returning snowbirds. And to the year round Residents who volunteer their time to keep things in order while most of us are gone.... Thank you!

The VDG activities schedule for the upcoming season is posted and also available on the website villasdegolf.net.

Painting Project Completed!

As most of us know, the building painting project, started last April, has been completed. All of the buildings were painted plus the Vonn Rd wall. The 2nd and 3rd floor walkways were also painted to match the 1st floor. New unit alcove carpeting now is in place on all the 2nd and 3rd floors. The project went well with good results. The commitments we have received have been very positive.

Improving Landscape

The Landscape Committee, under the good leadership of Bernadette Moriarty, continues to make upgrades to our landscape. The new landscape, some of which is now nearing full mature, simply looks great! The normal late afternoon rains experienced this past summer sure helped a lot. Improving the landscape has been a major goal of the BOD over the recent years and we are very pleased with results. A special thank you is extended to Bernadette and the Landscape Committee for a job well done.

Getting Involved

The common element of our social activities, committees and the Board is volunteerism. It takes us, the Residents, volunteering to make this all happen thereby enabling our quality of life at VDG. The BOD encourages all to get involved as you see fit. New volunteers are always appreciated. Ask any BOD member how you might help by volunteering some of your time for the betterment of our community. Thanks!

2013 Budget

Our property manager, Leslie Randolph, has prepared the 1st draft of the 2013 budget. The BOD will review the draft on Friday November 9 at 9:00 AM at the Clearwater offices of RPM where the BOD has ready access to the RPM accounting staff. Input from the Owners will be taken at a BOD workshop meeting scheduled for Monday November 12 at 3:00 PM at the Clubhouse. A modest increase in the monthly maintenance fee is likely due to yet another increase in the cost of the Association's insurance. These meetings are noticed on the building bulletin boards. You are welcome to attend.

The first regular monthly BOD meeting of the season is scheduled for Thursday November 15 at 3:00 PM at the Clubhouse.

Your Board of Directors

Water Exercises

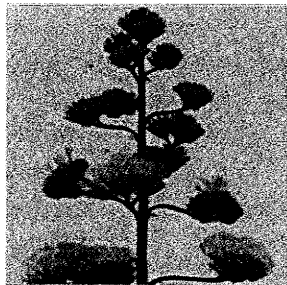
Diane Dempsey

We will start December 5th at 11 am and continue on Wednesdays and Fridays at 11 weather permitting. I hope you can join us. You will have fun and feel better.

Landscaping

Bernadette Moriarty

Jack in the Beanstalk's Cousin



Although the Century plant resembles a giant aloe, it is in the agave family, and more related to the cactus than to the aloe. Typically, after about twenty to thirty years of life, the Century plant sends out a green stalk from the center of the plant. The name Century plant comes from a species found in the American deserts, *Agave Americana*, which blooms its first and only time when it reaches the advanced age of one hundred years.

Though they usually do not take 100 years to flower, Century plants may take many, many decades to bloom. The bloom stalk starts out as an asparagus looking spike, growing up from the rosette of cactus-like leaves, known as the mother plant. The stalk slowly grows putting out its flowers as it reaches upward.

The *Agave Americana* plants planted in Villas de Golf seem to be *fairytale* plants, more akin to Jack in the Beanstalk. Having been planted three years ago on the center island, and others planted earlier this year, it's fascinating that the environment at the Villas has accelerated the growth of the agaves by decades.

The belief is after a century, when the plant sprouts its stalk, it then proceeds to die. Fortunately those planted 3 years ago have sprouted pups, smaller agaves growing around the base of the current plants. These are the next generation of a very special species of these heat tolerant plants. For the remaining Century Americana plants planted at Villas de Golf, we will have to watch and make the best of an unusual situation.

Amusing closing note: On the island of St. John, the main use of the Century plant stalk is for the traditional Christmas tree of the Virgin Islands. In December islanders search the bush for the mature Century plant. Ornaments are then hung from the branches; the end result is a colorful and less expensive alternative to the imported North American pine.

If interested in learning more about the elements of creating and maintaining a Florida-Friendly environment visit the Pinellas County Extension Site www.floridayards.org/, and consider attending or becoming a member of the Landscaping Committee. Next meeting: Monday November 5th @ 3:00 pm.

Our website, <http://www.villasdegolf.net/>

Kent Ward is doing a fantastic job with information on all our activities. For sale and rental units are listed. Also the latest calendar, board minutes, committee reports, etc

Robber Munk



Squirrels belong to a large family that includes chipmunks. We have both-and nut trees.

Joanne was watching a squirrel carefully burying a nut in the front yard. He made a deep hole, put the nut in, and firmly packed down the dirt.

No sooner had he scampered out of sight than one of our resident chipmunks ran over and dug up the nut and ran off with it to his lair. Funny! There is no respect for family members. *Editor*

EUCHRE CORNER

Jack & Dodie

Euchre starts October 31st at 7:00 PM. Come and enjoy the game and friends.

Being 80: I have good news for you. The first 79 years are the hardest, But once you reach 80, everyone wants to carry your baggage and help you up the steps, If you forget your name, an appointment, or your telephone number, you need only explain that you are 80.

Being 80 is a lot better than being 70. When you're 70, people still find reasons to be mad at you, but once you are 80, you can get away with anything. People will say you are in your second childhood, or that your brain has gone soft.

Being 70 is no fun at all. At that age, everyone expects you to go live in a retirement home and complain about whatever it is that old people complain about. But if you make it to age 80, everybody is surprised you are still alive. They will treat you with respect just because you have survived. Try your best to live until 80. It is the best time of life.

Tennis News

Kay Hogan

It is that time of year. The snowbirds are returning, and the calendars are filled with plans for the new year. Alas, it is debatable if we, the tennis players, some new, some hanging in there, will have the dates for tournaments fulfilled. It is not about desire or love of the game, it is that last year we were barely able to have any tournaments. We have no officers for the new year and more importantly, we can't find enough players to participate.

Jim Hogan has suggested that all tennis players and interested parties, schedule a meeting to explore any new ideas that can make tennis viable again. We had hoped to encourage people to learn pickleball so that we could possibly merge the two and have a tournament once a month for both. Any and all suggestions would be appreciated. Hope that we can again enjoy the great game of tennis as well as the parties that ensue.

Editor: *The Hogans, two of our star players are having health problems. Kay just had a partial knee replacement and looks forward to six weeks of rehab. Jim has circulatory problems and is down to 140 lbs. So they are not sure if they will be down mid December.*

The Ladies Golf League

Dolores Becker

We will be having our first day of golf on Monday Nov. 13th. Sign up at the clubhouse. Tee time will begin at 9:00 am. Everyone welcomed for a fun morning. We will be playing a relaxed game of golf. Hope our members from last season join us and hopefully we will get some new faces this season.

Questions-please call Dolores Becker 517-2736.

Washer and Dryers: Welcome back to all of our owners and renters. Just a reminder for all of the regulars and a heads up for you new people. Our washers are High Efficiency units that require the use of HE labeled detergent only. Other detergents will cause problems with the washers requiring costly service calls.

Your Board of Directors

Phone Directory

Ron Veltman

Reminder to residents: report any directory changes to me, i.e. phone, addresses, email, etc.
rveltman@tampabay.rr.com 727-517-8802

Please welcome our new owners:

Name	Apt	Phone	Mobile
Harding, Richard & Terri	1204	(330) 491-1699	
Sulston, Bill & Pat	2205	(727) 596-5057	(727) 871-9412
Mohr, Peter & Rosanna	3207	(416) 259-6218	(647) 955-9755
Trakalo, Rosmary	4204	(519) 895-0195	
Trainor, Frank	4205	(603) 356-7602	(727) 397-6641
Burris, Charles & Frances (Lucy)	6102	(614) 735-0233	(727) 644-2268

The VILLADOM is produced monthly from November to April of each season under the auspices of the Women's Association of Villas de Golf. Walter Carow is editor and publisher and any information or articles for publication should be given to him or sent to wcarow@yahoo.com

Board Members and officers are:

- President.....Bob Shafer
- Vice President.....Kent Ward
- Secretary.....David Stock
- Treasurer.....Doug Ropp
- Director.....Barbara Mannette
- Director.....Ken Swierenga
- Director.....Bob Tait
- TV: Channel 96 Office Phone: 595-6081
- Resource Property Management: 796-5900
- Website: villasdegolf.net

Men's Golf League News

Skip Parminter, President

We start Nov 1st with tee time of 9:30 am. Sign up in the pool hall.



Chairperson Needed for

Building and Grounds Committee

The B & G Committee was formed some 7 to 8 years ago to consolidate the volunteers that wished to work on needed projects here at the Villas. Over the years those volunteers have saved the Association many thousands of dollars. The last project involved the outdoor storage cabinets. That project alone saved the Association over \$15,000. The Board would like to see that the B&G continue its volunteer efforts, however, our present Chairperson, Henry Kostuck, wishes to step down as Chairperson and we need a replacement. A committee like this cannot function without a leader. The Board needs someone to take over the position of Chairperson that Henry has so ably fulfilled for the past many years. If we cannot fill this position the Board will need to temporarily suspend the B&G committee. *Bob Shafer*

Dolores Becker's ad of her daughter's work

Sue Heap

In Home Computer Training
Learn Basic Computer Operations
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Mon- Bridge 7:00

<<<<<RECURRING EVENTS>>>>>

Thurs-Bingo 7:30











Tues-Tennis Round Robin 1:00, Dominoes 7:00

Fri-Water Exercises 11:00

Wed- Water Exercises 11:00, Poker 6:30, Euchre 7:00

-Tennis Round Robin 1:00

Villas de Golf November 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Check Channel 96 for latest updates				Bingo 7:30 1	2	3 Coffee Bldgs 5&10 10 AM
4 Daylight Savings Time Ends Set Clock Back 1hr 	5 Landscape Comm 3PM 	6 Election Day 	7	8 Book Club 1PM 	9 Budget Workshop (offsite) 9AM 	10
11	12 Veterans Day  Budget Workshop 3 PM	13 Social Comm 1 PM 	14	15 Board Mtg 3 PM	16	17 Guys & Dolls  Tee off @ noon Social 5:30 pm
18	19	20	21	22 Thanksgiving Day 	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	'Dec 1 Breakfast 10 AM 

ALL VEHICLES MUST HAVE SOME FORM OF IDENTIFICATION OR RISK BEING TOWED