

The Brandy Lake Bulletin

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Brandy Lake Property Owners Association, Inc.

www.brandylakecondos.com

FROM THE BOARD

We trust that wherever you are and whoever you are with that you are all healthy and staying well in these uncertain times. We look forward to the time when we can all be safely together again.

The last Newsletter was published in March, 2020. Since then the Board met on May 2, 2020. All five of the Board members were present, three of them via phone. (Quorum met.) There were eight homeowners present, all via phone. Ramona Widick, treasurer, reported that as of May 2nd, the balance in the US Bank Checking Account was \$67,550.27, and the balance in the US Reserve Account was \$125,800.90. At that time all of the Homeowners had paid their monthly fees on time, and all submitted bills through April 30th had been paid.

Neal Kania, president, reported that we made it through the winter without any interior water damage. Neal said that the heat tapes on Buildings F and G worked well. However, our electrical expenses were very high. They kept the ice from the roof, but caused a problem with the ice at the base. Next winter, Neal proposes putting the heat tapes in the rain gutters and in the downspouts, so we can eliminate all of the icicles and minimize the ice at the bottom. We may have to have these on a separate circuit. We need to test them on a specific building before we consider putting them on every building. Neal gave thanks to Frank Comber for proposing at the last Annual Meeting in July that the heat tapes be tried before re-building the roofs of F and G.

Neal also thanked Jim Coursolle for continuing the investigation for the water issues on the driveways. The water turns to ice and folks have a hard time getting to their mailboxes in the winter. Neal said that we still have to address this issue. Perhaps in the future, heat tapes on all the buildings would help this situation.

New Business: The Board approved our insurance contract with Auto Owners for \$29,994.57.

The Board discussed future projects:

- Putting a roof over each of the garbage corrals
- Removal of dead or dying birch trees
- Caulking stonework on the buildings at the point where it meets the asphalt or concrete

*See Board Meeting Minutes from May 2nd for detailed discussions.

Laura Van Horne announced her resignation from the Board as of June 15th, the date she sold her unit. This will be a big loss for Brandy Lake Property Owners Association because of all the things that Laura did for the Association including the newsletter, the directory, the website, the calendar of events and all the group emails. In addition we affectionately remember how she and her mother, Joanne, added enthusiasm to all of our social events. We give Laura our most heartfelt thank you and best wishes to a vital member of our community. We hope to keep in touch with Laura.

Ramona, BLPOA treasurer, will be handling the details for the election of Board members this year.

PROPERTY MANAGER'S REPORT, Lee Schultz

Lee Schultz, property manager, reported at the May 2nd meeting that Spring projects were underway.

- There was no interior water damage from the winter.

- However, In Bldg D the water line in the vestibule closet sprung a leak. Repairs are being made. And, a drainage pipe in the ceiling between the Hanford and Zingale units leaked. The entry way ceiling in D31 is being repaired.
- The painters were here to wash and paint Garage H and the Rec Center. Buildings F and G are the only buildings left to paint, one in July and one in August. The siding will be repaired, if needed, before the painting is done. All of the other buildings have been painted within the past two years. That will complete the painting of the entire complex.
- The piers were put in by the start of the fishing season, May 2nd.
- Custom Caretaking did not increase their cost for mowing for this year; it is the same as last year. The only new item in the contract is that the property manager will be notified BEFORE providing services such as pressure washing of patios, trimming of ornamental trees, etc.

*As of the printing of this newsletter, Lee gives us an update on things that have been done since the last Board meeting:

- All the roofs were blown free of pine needles and all front and back gutters were cleaned.
- The Brandy Board will be considering bids for tree and limb removal this year. Note the red ribbons tied on the trees to be removed. If you have any additional ideas, be sure to let Lee know.
- **NOTICE TO ALL OWNERS OF AN EXTERIOR GARAGE:** If the power is out, you cannot open the garage door. Solution: Install the 1702LM key Quick Disconnect. I have negotiated a group price with Lakeland Overhead Door. Parts and labor is \$50. This is an owner expense. Let me know if you want the installation.

The next Board meeting will be the Annual Homeowners' meeting on July 18, 2020 at 9 a.m. in the Rec Center. Social distancing will be observed. E-mail Ramona Widick if you plan to attend at rgwidick@gmail.com.

Brandy Lake Board

BRANDY BOARD ELECTION

There are two positions open on the Brandy Lake Property Owners Association Board of Directors for 2020. According to the Association Bylaws, the Board can consist of anywhere from three to five members. Three people have been nominated: Sandra Hanford D-31, Jill Lemke C-21, and Gene Cole F-46. (See the bios below.) Select two choices on the ballot, or you may vote for a write-in candidate. By now you should have received your ballot and the envelopes for returning the ballot. Please select or write in your choices on the ballot, and place it in the small envelope. Then place the small envelope in the large envelope. Please sign your name and enter your unit number on the back of the large envelope. This process ensures confidentiality of your vote. The small envelope is not identified by name or unit number, so when the votes are tallied, privacy is assured. Votes will be tallied in plain view during the Annual Meeting. If you mail the ballot, please be sure to post it in time for it to arrive before the Annual Meeting which is being held on Saturday, July 18th. If you choose not to mail the ballot, you may bring your envelope to the Annual Meeting to be counted.

BIOS:

Sandy Hanford

My name is Sandy Hanford. Jim and I purchased Unit D-31 at Brandy Lake and closed November 2019. We winter in Florida and summer here at Brandy Lake. I previously lived here at Brandy Lake Condos from 2000 to 2016 in Building D, Unit 25. I served on the Board of Directors

on at least two occasions and I also was the Assistant Treasurer for many years before turning the position over to Ramona Widick. Now that I'm back at Brandy I am willing to do what I can to assist the Board in keeping Brandy Lake Condos the wonderful place it is to reside.

Jill Lemke

I relocated from Chicagoland in 1985 having spent all my summers up here since I was 9 months old. The best times of my life have always been in the Northwoods and for that reason, after a corporate downsizing, my husband and I moved here to live a better life. For 25 years we owned and operated three retail businesses in Sayner until I heard a new calling to Chaplaincy at Howard Young Hospital in 2011 where I am still employed on a part time basis.

I am a new resident at Brandy Lake Condominiums since last November. My short residency here at Brandy Lake Condominiums certainly does not qualify me to be a Board Member. What may benefit you and inform my input into association management is that I carefully and thoughtfully chose this Condo because of its location, pristine beauty, quality construction, and well maintained appearance. It was apparent to me that the Association of Brandy Lake Homeowners took a great deal of care and pride in maintaining the value and beauty of this property. It is my desire to see that the investment each of us has made here continues to appreciate for many years to come.

Gene Cole

My wife Carol and I have owned a unit (F-46) in the Brandy Lake Condominiums since late 2016. We have lived in the Phoenix AZ area, along with daughter Jenny (lives nearby with her two mastiff show dogs) since 2002. We enjoy many social activities in a Chandler, Arizona retirement community (Sun Lakes) including golf, Rotary, and a pocket billiard club, among others.

As a retired CPA with national professional accreditations in various practice areas, I've experienced service in management of national and regional CPA firms professionally providing financial management services. I'm a native of Oshkosh, Wisconsin and have been active in Milwaukee, Wausau, and Phoenix non-profit arts, and others as well as country clubs, Rotary, and property owners' associations. As a member of the board of the Brandy Lakes Property Owners Association, I would actively participate in all matters, both business and financial, to further and protect the interests of the owners.

(“ANTI”)-SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

There were NO large group activities scheduled in the month of June. After consulting with President Neal Kania, it was decided to delay large group activities until the Covid issue is under control.



(Meet and greet in April, with social distancing)

Friday Happy Hours have been held from 4-6 OUTSIDE of the Rec Center, BYOB, but no food allowed. Mahjonn with 3-4 participants has been held on Tuesday nights. Book Club has met with masks and social distancing but no dinners out afterwards.

This is just a very unusual year and we all must be careful of the health and safety of all Brandy residents.

For the month of July we will continue to follow “stay at home” and hope to be back to restaurant dining in August, if possible.

Unfortunately there are still many restaurant owners in our area who are not following the sanitary guidelines, (masks on servers, social distancing, sanitary protocols, fewer tables, no condiments on tables). We are concerned about the safety of our residents.

After the annual meeting on Saturday, July 18th , we have decided NOT to have a potluck picnic this year. If you wish to converse with your neighbors after the meeting, please bring your own beverage and a lawn chair and congregate outside of the Rec Center.

Hopefully, we will be back to “normal” soon, whatever that will be.

Carolyn Pfeiffer, Social Committee

(With guidance from Neal Kania, President)

PLEASE WELCOME YOUR NEW NEIGHBORS

Polly and Gordy Erickson have purchased E-38 and are full time residents at Brandy. Polly is the Postmistress of the Manitowish Waters Post Office, having been involved with the Postal Service since the 90's, while Gordy is a History/Economics teacher in Ironwood, MI. He has been teaching 31 years. Polly and Gordy have two grown children and a cat named Bailey.



Caroline McNair and her husband, Tom Plachter, bought unit A-8 and are snowbirds from Fort Lauderdale. Tom just retired in January from a firm that sold repossessed yachts, while Caroline is easing towards retirement from her job as an independent consultant in the educational software business. Caroline and Tom each have a daughter, coincidentally both are named "Katie". Caroline's daughter has 3

children (10 year old triplets). Caroline and Tom also have two cats, Kiki and Gunther.



BRANDY BELLES BOOK CLUB

The Brandy Belles Book Club usually meets on the first Thursday evening of the month at 4:30 p.m. in the Rec Center for discussion, followed by dinner at a local restaurant. However, dinner out afterwards has been cancelled due to Covid-19. You need not to have read the book to join the group. Thursday, July 2nd we will be discussing Radium Girls. We plan to meet in the Rec Center at least 6 feet apart, you may choose to wear masks. Some may want to try FaceTime. The book for August 6th is “Next Year in Havana”, by Chanel Cleeton. At that meeting we will also be choosing our books for next year. If you have suggestions, please be ready to tell us about the selection you are

making. Thank you to Nan Beer (B-14) and Ginny Comber (B-16) for coordinating the Book Club.

THE BRANDY RAMBLERS – Karen and Mike Duellman

Unfortunately, we will not be back for a few months, so the golf and hiking with Mike will not be scheduled. God bless.

CONDOLENCES

Our heartfelt sympathies to Laura Van Horne on the passing of her mother, Joanne McKenna, after her struggle with cancer. Many of us remember Joanne as an active participant in the Brandy Ramblers, Mahjong, and Brandy Book Club. She will be missed.

DRUM CIRCLE

Drum Circle usually meets at the Rec Center every month on the 3rd Wednesday evening from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. However, we have not met during the Covid-19 quarantine. I'm happy to announce that we will be allowed to use the Rec Center area again for drumming. We will meet on Wednesday, July 8th at 6:30 p.m. BYO drum...we'll have a few extras. All are welcome to participate, but PLEASE practice "responsible social distancing" and limit physical contact. If you feel sick, we love you, but please stay home. Contact Debbie Harvey, coordinator (D-30) DKHarvey@aol.com or 715-699-3024 with any questions.

*Note: date change for July from the 3rd Wednesday to Wednesday, July 8th.

KUDOS

To: Lee Schultz for all of his time, concern and hard work as our Property Manager.

To: All the Brandy Lake Board members who continue to work to keep Brandy Lake a beautiful and thriving community.

To: Laura Van Horne and Ginny Comber for their service on the Brandy Board.

To: Ramona Widick for taking over the work of coordinating the Board Elections this year.

To: Frank Comber for speaking up at the last Annual Meeting suggesting that we try the heat tapes again on Buildings F and G.

To: Jim Coursolle for continuing the investigation of the water issues on the driveway.

To: Sharon Coleman and Carolyn Pfeiffer for tending to the flowers at the front gate, and weeding the flower beds around our buildings.

To: Sharon Coleman for the use of her Club Cab to haul refuse to the H area; that was so much easier than loading it in Lee's Explorer.

To: Carolyn Pfeiffer, for welcoming our new neighbors and chairing the activities committee.

To: Nan Beer and Ginny Comber for coordinating the Book Club.

To: All of the unsung, caring Brandy homeowners and residents who help to keep our complex safe and beautiful.

SUMMER REMINDERS

- Be careful using your grills this summer, staying a safe distance away from the buildings.
- Park cars only in designated areas; not in front of the vestibules nor on the grass.
- ALL PETS must be on a leash.
- Clean the condensate tube in your air conditioner unit.
- Please bag all items to be put in the dumpsters. Garbage pickup is on Fridays, Recycling on Mondays, since March 25th.

CONGRATUALIONS TO SHARON COLEMAN



Sharon Coleman, one of our own Brandy Lake residents, was recently awarded this quarter's High Five Award from the Seasons of Life hospice house. Sharon is a weekly volunteer there instinctively tending to the needs of the staff and patients. But, in addition, Sharon goes above and beyond making special visits to SOL during the week attending to the patient's whole self. She has a way of connecting with physical, spiritual and social needs. Sharon brings special projects to the facility and shares with the patients. Seasons of Life says "Congrats, Sharon! You are an inspiration to all of us. Thank you for all you do!" Brandy Lake residents are proud of you, too, Sharon!

EVENTS AND DATES TO REMEMBER

1st of every month – Condo Association fees due - \$245

(Extra garage monthly fee due - \$15 per month)

July 18th - Annual Homeowners' meeting, Rec Center, 9:00 a.m., notify Ramona Widick by email if you plan to attend. rgwidick@gmail.com

1st Thursday of the month – Book Club starts at 4:30 p.m., Rec Center., social distancing observed

*1st Thursday of the month, usually – Steak Fry for all guys at the Minocqua Legion, 5:30 p.m. – **Watch for announcements as to when to be resumed.**

*Drum Circle – usually 3rd Wednesday evening 6:30 – 8:00 p.m., Rec Center, but next time will be July 8th .

Friday Happy Hour – from 4:00 to 6:00, outside Rec Center. BYO beverage, no food.

EDITOR: Kathy Vorwald

CONTRIBUTORS:

Nan Beer

Karen and Mike Duellman

Debbie Harvey

Neal Kania

Carolyn Pfeiffer

Lee Schultz

Ramona Widick