



The Brandy Lake Bulletin

Volume 16, Issue 3

October, 2020

Brandy Lake Property Owners Association, Inc.
www.brandylakecondos.com

FROM THE BOARD

Wishes for a happy fall to everyone! Hopefully you have had a chance to enjoy the beautiful colors, sights and smells of the season. May winter treat us kindly, especially this year!

The BLPOA Board has had two meetings since the last newsletter was published: the Annual Homeowners' meeting on July 18, 2020, and another meeting on October 3, 2020.

JULY 18th, 2020 MEETING:

- Four Board members were present, which constitutes a quorum; and there were twenty-four homeowners present—fifteen in person and nine via phone. Ramona Widick, treasurer, reported that as of July 18, 2020, we had \$41,799.42 in our checking account and \$125,821.87 in the reserve account. All homeowners' dues were paid through June 30, 2020 and all submitted bills had been paid to date.
- Neal Kania, president, reviewed that there were two vacancies on the Board, one because Laura Van Horne resigned, and another because Ginny Comber's term has ended. There were three candidates running for these two positions. Forty-eight votes were cast and counted. Sandy Hanford and Gene Cole were elected.
- Neal also reported that the heat tapes worked well on Buildings F and G last winter; however the electricity bills were high. Next winter the tapes will be turned on as needed. Neal also said that additional heat tapes will

be installed in the gutters and downspouts of Building F and G, and to the vestibule areas of Building B because of the ice on the asphalt last winter.*

Old Business:

- The Board plans to add a roof to the garbage corral at Building G this fall; and sealing stones at the base of the buildings will also be done this fall.
- Neal reported on our Capital Improvement schedule for the foreseeable future.*

New Business:

- The following items were discussed: the possible relocation of the mailboxes to the vestibules, the heat tapes on Building C to alleviate ice buildup, the poor condition of the roof on H garage, and that owners are not to dispose of big items in the garbage corrals.
- Laura Van Horne offered a formal proposal indicating that she would provide all services — the web page, directory, handbook, newsletter, calendar of events, and bookmarks for about \$600. Approval to be determined by the new Board. (Laura's proposal was later approved by the new Board. Debbie Harvey volunteered to administer the website.)
- Rich Clancy, homeowner, expressed his concerns with various topics around the complex — tree removal, benches in the vestibules, repainting of picnic tables, walking path, exterior garage locks, boat docks, H garage, cleaning of dryer vents, and power washing in vestibules.*

OCTOBER 3RD MEETING:

- All five Board members were present, with George Oberlander present via phone. Seven homeowners were present and seven via phone. Ramona reported that we had \$53,168.75 in checking and \$116,004.32 in our reserve account.
- Neal, Board president, reported that heat tapes will be added to Building B and to the down spouts in Buildings F & G. Efforts will be made to reduce electrical costs. The roofs over the two garbage corrals will be constructed soon. He also said that the Board will continue to research and discuss the possible relocation of the mailboxes.*

New Business

- Eurasian Watermilfoil Issue: Cheri Hurst presented a detailed discussion of the milfoil issues in Wisconsin, with information provided by Catherine Higley, a lake conservation specialist with the Vilas County Land & Water Conservation Department. She covered milfoil issues in Wisconsin, but particularly in Brandy Lake, covering what it is, how it grows and expands, what are its effects and impact, and various methods of eradicating milfoil, including financing alternatives and administrative approaches and considerations including lake associations.* Several owners, including Ginny Comber, have been and are investigating various actions that may be taken and will provide additional information and recommendations to the board. The following article was written and submitted by Ginny Comber:

Eurasian milfoil invasive plant crisis on Brandy Lake

As you may know, the Eurasian milfoil plant has invaded Brandy Lake. It has become a real threat. This problem was addressed at the October board meeting with a presentation from Cheri Hurst, a lake owner, who previously tried to promote a lake association.



As our board has recognized the seriousness of this milfoil invasive plant, we are asking owners to show their interest in joining a lake association by contacting Cheri (email: hurstjon@charter.net) as a first step toward finding a solution to manage this problem. If you want more information, please email Cheri to receive a link to see a presentation by Cathy Higley, an invasive plant specialist from Vilas county. Many of you have already watched her Webex presentation in September. Our commitment to the milfoil on our lake frontage will be addressed at the December board meeting.

- Other New Business topics that were discussed at the October 3rd meeting are as follows: the painting of the garage doors, a concrete or asphalt apron for Garage H, a roof over the utility room door at Building G, the snow removal contract which was approved for 2020-2021 for \$8,800, the Club Cart which was generously donated by Sharon Coleman and gratefully accepted by the Association, the gutter leak behind the fascia on Building E, and the cable contract with Spectrum which expires in June 2021.

*See the minutes of the July 18th and October 3rd meetings for details, which are on the BLPOA website. As a reminder, your login username is your last name, and your password is your unit number in the format "unite4o", all lower case.

-Brandy Lake Property Association Board



- To: All of the unsung, caring Brandy homeowners and residents who help to keep our complex safe and beautiful.
- To: Lee Schultz for all of his time, concern and hard work as our Property Manager.
- To: Sharon Coleman for donating her Club Car to the Association. Many thanks.
- To: Caroline McNair and Tom Plachter and Rich and Linda Clancy for donating those classy garbage containers to the Rec Center.
- To: Barb Jamerson and Art Bayley for donating an elliptical machine for the Rec Center.
- To: All the Brandy residents that took the extra time to water the new planting from JJ's – Jill Lemke, Kay Tait, Bob and Joan Moen, Sandy and Jim Hanford, Rosie Murtha, Sharon Coleman, Nan Beer, Donna Hiller, and Ginny Comber.
- To: All the Brandy residents who have been helping the Landscape committee with all the summer tasks like weeding and picking rocks – Sharon Coleman, Carolyn Pfeiffer, Sandy and Jim Hanford, Neal Kania, Lee Schultz, Ginny and Frank Comber, and Jill Lemke.
- To: Our new handyman, Mike Siffon, who has been invaluable in helping with all sorts of work around out complex. Many thanks!
- To: Carolyn Pfeiffer for compiling and assembling the new directory.
- To: Nan Beer and Ginny Comber for coordinating the Book Club, and to Carolyn for making the new book marks.

PROPERTY MANAGER'S REPORT

by Lee Schultz

At the July 18th meeting:

- Lee reported on the buildings to be painted, the irrigation system repairs, the cleaning of the roofs, the new soaker hoses at the gate, the refurbished Brandy Lake sign, a new refrigerator on order for the Rec Center, the wasp control problem, the correct disposal of boxes and garbage at the garbage corrals, and a request not to feed the deer.
- Lee asked homeowners to advise him of any tree trimming they would like done to enhance the view, a key lock for the exterior garage (\$50 per owner), or painting of their garage door (owner's cost: \$65 for one-car garage and \$100 for a two-car garage).
- Lee also asked for the homeowners' input as to future capital expenditures: whether or not to grind stumps (Note: stump grinding was completed in October) and replant grass, roofing of Building A and the exterior A garage, replacing the boiler in the Rec Center, replacing the irrigation system. Contact Lee with your comments. Ph: 715-356-4143 or email lschultzupnorth@gmail.com. See minutes of the July 18, 2020 Annual meeting for details, which are on the BLPOA website.



At the October 3rd meeting Lee reported that:

- All projected painting was completed, 40+ trees were taken down, stumps removed, (lawn replacement to be done in 2021), all dryer vents cleaned, irrigation system is in need of repair, fire alarm system is OK, gutters on Buildings F and E to be addressed in the fall, Rec Center deck "sinking". See minutes for the October 3rd meeting for details, which is on the BLPOA website.
- Lee cited future capital expenditures at Brandy: Landscaping after tree removal, replacing pier pallets, complete roofing project, Rec Center boiler, and irrigation system.

DRUM CIRCLE

Drum Circle meets at the Rec Center every month on the 3rd Wednesday evening from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Rec Center, and will continue to meet unless there is a change in Covid regulations or a lack of attendance. 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 if you are interested in participating.



EVENTS AND DATES TO REMEMBER

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

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

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

Mahjong - Tuesday, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. in the Rec. Center.

Drum Circle – 3rd Wednesday evening 6:30 – 8:00 p.m., Rec Center.

Pool League - Thursday afternoons at 3:00 p.m., at the Rec Center.



FOR SALE

Used treadmill from the Rec. Center. Best offer, contact Carolyn Pfeiffer, A-5, Ph. 715-356-4143 or cspfeiffer40@gmail.com



LOOKING FOR GARAGE FOR THE WINTER

Polly and Gordy Erickson are looking for a garage for their car, a small Ford Focus, for the winter. They are willing to negotiate a price. Thank you from Gordy and Polly Erickson, E-38, Ph: 906-364-2495.

WELCOME/SOCIAL COMMITTEE

– by Carolyn Pfeiffer

Welcome to our new neighbors:

CASSIE HOLLATZ

Kathleen (Cassie) Hollatz just moved into F41 after 31 years living on Trout Lake in Boulder Junction. Cassie is a widow, a former teacher of Kindergarten-1st grade in Illinois and Lac du Flambeau schools. She already feels at home here in Brandy condos since she knows Sue Zingale, Joan Moen, Ramona Widick, and Dick Indermuehle.



BEN REICHERT

Ben is now the proud owner of Unit A-2 which he had been renting. As a kid in Milwaukee, his family came “up north” for many summers, and now, there is a family cabin on Alder Lake in Manitowish Waters, where he fishes and hikes with his Dad and brother. Ben works full time at Rayala Cranberry Company and loves to snowmobile and downhill ski in the winter. He likes his location in the condos, close to the beach, lake, parks, and all other conveniences.



BARB JAMERSON & ART BAYLEY

Husband and wife, Barb and Art, recently purchased C-17 and have moved from Oconomowoc to settle in full-time at the condo. Art will continue working from home (he finances heavy construction equipment). He loves the Northwoods and is joining the Pool League. Barb retired six years ago and has kept busy with volunteering opportunities, and is looking forward to this new adventure.



OUR NEW HANDYMAN, MIKE

You may have noticed Mike Sipin working around Brandy this summer. He’s been hauling and shoveling rocks, cutting down trees, building a roof over the garbage areas, climbing ladders to check on dryer vents. He will be retired from the fire department in January and has started his own handyman company, Northern Home Services. If you have a personal project that you want done, you may text Mike at 920-209-9507. We are lucky to have such a multi-talented man to help around the condos.



SOCIAL NEWS:

- Happy hour was held outside of the Rec Center on Friday evenings all summer from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. There was mixed attendance.
- Mahjong is still held every Tuesday evening from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. in the Rec Center. Masks and social distancing are observed.
- The men still meet to play pool every Thursday afternoon at 3:00 p.m. in the Rec Center.
- Drum Circle meets on the third Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Rec Center.
- Book Club meets on the first Thursday of every month at 4:30 p.m. in the Rec Center. *See article in this newsletter for book selections.
- Men’s steak fry on the first Thursday evening of the month at the Legion has been cancelled during Covid.



BRANDY BELLES BOOK CLUB

The Brandy Belles Book Club meets on the first Thursday evening of the month at 4:30 PM in the Rec Center for discussion. Dinner out afterwards has been cancelled due to Covid-19. Attendance has been good, despite Covid. You need not to have read the book to join the group. Thursday, November 5th we will be discussing "Another Woman's Husband", by Gill Paul. We plan to meet in the Rec Center at least 6 feet apart; you may choose to wear masks. Contact Ramona for a call in number if you wish to attend virtually. Thank you to Nan Beer (B-14) and Ginny Comber (B-16) for coordinating the Book Club. Books for the year:

- September 3 – *The Children Act*, by Ian McEwan
- October 1 – *The Girl Who Wrote in Silk*, by Kelli Estes
- November 5 – *Another Woman's Husband*, by Gill Paul
- January 7 – *The Shadows We Hide*, by Allen Eskens
- February 4 – *The Home for Unwanted Girls*, by Joanna Goodman
- March 4 – *Struggling with Serendipity*, by Cindy Kolbe
- April 1 – *Paris Orphan*, by Natasha Lester
- May 6 – *Beyond the Point*, by Claire Gibson
- June 3 – *The Guest List*, by Lucy Foley
- July 1 - *The Lost and Found Bookstore*, by Susan Wiggs
- August 5 – *The Orphan Collector*, by Ellen Marie Wiseman

(Bookmarks are available in the Rec Center or call Carolyn Pfeiffer.)

LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE REPORT

by Ginny Comber

Committee members are Sharon Coleman, Carolyn Pfeiffer, Ginny Comber and Linda Redenbaugh, chairman emeritus. In the past few years, the Landscape Committee has replaced at least 100 shrubs and has enhanced our rock beds with new shrubs, grasses, ornamental trees, etc. Additional rocks were added around buildings B and C. A big thanks to Linda for her hands-on work and also to Sharon and Carolyn for weeding this year. Mike, our handyman, has cut down many trees and worked on rocks around Building D. He is willing to help with our landscape needs and other jobs. Next year rocks will be added to the other buildings and we plan to add Preen to reduce weeding in the rock areas. *See July 18th minutes for details, which are on the BLPOA website.

Many thanks to Sandy and Jim Hanford for weeding the biggest rock bed between C and D, to Sharon Coleman, Neal Kania, Carolyn Pfeiffer, Lee Schultz, and Ginny Comber for removing rocks and other materials around the birch tree stumps, to Linda Redenbaugh for new plantings near the flagpole, and to Ginny and Frank Comber for planting junipers in one of our rock beds and to the many owners who watered our new plantings and sprayed for deer. If owners have any comments or would like to join our committee, please email me at gkcom@sbcglobal.net or talk to any member. Current members are Ginny (chairman), Carolyn, Sharon and Sandy.

NEW ROOF OVER THE GARBAGE CORRALS IN PROGRESS



LOOKING TO BUY LOWER UNIT

Hello fellow condo owners. My wife and I live in G55 which is an upper unit. We are looking for a lower unit on or off water-doesn't matter. If anyone is planning to sell in the near future, please let me know. Thanks, Neal Kania, President of BLPOA, Ph: 715-358-0425, nealkania@gmail.com

A SPECIAL
THANK YOU
 FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS



SHARON COLEMAN DONATES CLUB CAR

Sharon has graciously donated this wonderful gasoline powered Club Car for use at Brandy Condos. It had a hydraulic lift box on the back and has been an invaluable aid to the Property Manager, the landscape committee, and to Mike, the handyman. Thank you, Sharon, for this amazing gift!

EXERCISE EQUIPMENT DONATED

Barb Jamerson and Art Bayley have donated an elliptical machine to the Rec center. There are two treadmills in the room now so we will remove the smaller one to make room for the elliptical. Thank you for this wonderful new addition to our exercise room.



GLAMOROUS GARBAGE

Caroline McNair and Tom Plachter donated an oak double garbage container to the Rec Center. It complements the single oak trash container previously donated by Linda and Rich Clancy. Now we have receptacles that are covered and classy. Thank you all for the donations.



WINTER REMINDERS

- Have your furnace checked.
- If you plan to be gone for an extended period of time during the winter, please turn off your water at your shut off, open the faucets, and leave your cupboard doors open.
- Turn your thermostat down to no lower than 60 degrees.
- Have someone check your unit periodically. Leave your storm door unlocked in case of an emergency.
- Do not leave your garage door open for an extended period of time, especially in extremely cold weather.
- Move your car off of the blacktop after a snowfall so that the snow plow can plow.



80-Year-Olds (and one 70-Year-Old) Celebrate Their Milestones During COVID!!

Linda Redenbaugh, Frank Comber, Carolyn Pfeiffer, and Tom Plachter all celebrated their BIG birthdays this year – no parties due to COVID!!! Thanks to Linda for the shirt.

Mike Wilhelm celebrated his 70th.



Frank Comber, 80th Birthday



Tom Plachter, 80th Birthday



Carolyn Pfeiffer, 80th Birthday



Linda Redenbaugh, 80th Birthday



Mike Wilhelm, 70th Birthday

Brandy Lake Property Owners Association, Inc.

BLPOA

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Nan Beer	Gene Cole	Frank Comber
Ginny Comber	Debbie Harvey	Neal Kania
Carolyn Pfeiffer	Lee Schultz	Ramona Widick

Read past issues at www.brandylakecondos.com



Please Drive Slowly in the Complex

Please observe the speed limit when on the property. Summer brings many visitors, so be watchful of children and pets and our resident deer!

Libraries in Vilas County
Manitowish Waters
Boulder Junction
Plum Lake of Sayner
Minocqua Library-Oneida Cty.

BLPOA Board of Directors

Gene Cole, Secretary, F-46
Sandy Hanford, Member-at-Large, D-31
Neal Kania, President, G-55
George Oberlander, Vice President, B-10
Ramona Widick, Treasurer, E-40
Property Manager, Lee Schultz, A-5

If you have any changes in your address, phone number or emergency contacts, it is your responsibility to notify the Board. Thank you!

Garbage Pickup: Wednesdays; Recycling: Fridays

Dumpsters are located between Bldgs B & C, and at garage of Bldg G.

- Recyclables **MUST** be bagged
- All garbage **MUST BE BAGGED!**
- Additional recycle center behind Trig's.

Please do not leave garbage outside of the containers!

RECYCLING NEWS:

- Please flatten all cardboard boxes.
- Bag everything in clear plastic bags.
- Recycling is picked up every Friday.



Local Vendors:

Danco Heating	715-356-7000
Quality Heating	715-358-2844
Hansen HVAC	715-339-3009
Hansen-Trapp Plumbing	715-356-2531
Howard Bros. Plumbing & Htg.	715-356-3670
Expert Rooter	715-358-3444
Frontier Communications	877-462-8188
Charter Communications	Service: 844-417-2999
	Billing: 888-345-7139
	Other: 833-697-7328
Wisconsin Public Service	800-450-7260
A-1 Elevators, Green Bay	800-888-0160
Arrow-Lift Elevators, Blaine, MN	888-815-4387