



The Villas at Parkwood: A condominium in Western Pennsylvania

I claim there ain't another saint as great
as Valentine.

... Ogden Nash

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello Everyone,

Hope your holidays were fun and you're having a good winter so far. We had our first meeting with the new (old) board in January and elected the new officers.

They are President-Frank Greco; First Vice President-Mary Damratoski; Second Vice President-Bob Skinner; Secretary-Wolfgang Bitterolf and Treasurer-Mike Chicora.

The coming year should be a busy time in the Villas. We will continue to be doing concrete and asphalt repairs and replacement based on evaluations from Pittsburgh Asphalt Co. We will also be mulching this year.

In addition we have authorized an update of our reserve study and we will put together a financial strategy based on the new reserve study and the investment policy we adopted.

Finally, in my last letter to you I hoped we would see more people running for the board and that did not happen. Again I am asking that you think about being involved in the Association by running for the board. If you have any questions please ask me or any other board member. I think it would be great to see new faces with fresh ideas at the Annual Meeting.

Regards

Frank Greco

2015 in Review

Last year was a busy one, and your board and our management company feel that a lot has been accomplished.

The biggest two areas of activity were landscaping and concrete repair.

21 units received a total of over 80 new shrubs to replace frost damaged plants, four driveways have been completely repaved, 40 units received new concrete plates in their walkways and landings (not “repaired” as in the past), and 8 driveway drains were repaired.

On top of the above there is another area of activity that you may not really be aware of – and that is residents asking for repairs. Here are the details:

In 2015 CMP received a total of 102 requests from residents - that’s almost one every three days.

- 36 roofs/gutters/downspout repairs
- 14 landscaping issues
- 24 pole light repairs
- 15 siding and/or trim repairs
- 13 miscellaneous repairs

Each one of these repairs generates a work order, many of them have to be approved by the board, and they all are followed up at the board meetings.

Yes, 2015 was a busy one indeed.

Wolfgang Bitterolf

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Our Christmas Luncheon was held on Tuesday, December 8th at Jackson’s Restaurant. There were seventeen participants in attendance. Therese Haan and Toni Kessler were the hostesses. The gift exchange was fun and exciting and we hope you are already looking forward to the next one.

Monthly Ladies’ Luncheons are held at 11:30 a.m. on the second Tuesday of each month from March through December. Gale Loberg will be the hostess this coming March. Be sure to make a reservation for that month with one of the committee members.



EAGLE NEWS

As we begin another New Year I am excited to see what our local Bald Eagles have in store for us. Last fall I wrote an article titled Good News-Bad News. As you will remember the bad news was that the eagle nest was damaged during severe summer storms and that the nesting tree was dying due to an infestation of the Ash Beetle. Well I am sad to report that the original eagle nest is now totally gone and the tree is just about completely dead.



Photo by Mike Chicora

The good news that I reported in that article was that although part of the nest had collapsed the adult eagles continued to raise their young utilizing the portion of the nest that remained. What I did not report at that time was that prior to the collapse of the nest there had been two eaglets in the nest. After the collapse, only one of the eaglets had been spotted in the nest there after. My assumption was that since the eaglets were not old enough to fledge, one had perished during the storms that collapsed the nest.

Let's fast forward to around the first or second week of August 2015. While on one of my journeys around the neighborhood, I spotted two juvenile eagles in the area of the tree pictured above and could not believe it. One of the juveniles spotted is pictured above and I believe it is the one that survived the collapse of the nest; the second juvenile was sitting on a roof at the time of this picture. After some investigation and a very reliable source, it appears that the second juvenile eagle was the second eaglet that had been spotted in the nest before its collapse. When the nest collapsed, the eaglet had fallen from the nest and managed to survive the fall and live on the ground for several weeks with the adults feeding and protecting the eaglet. It amazes me how nature takes care of itself.

In the previous article I mentioned that the eagles might try to rebuild the nest that collapsed or may build a new nest in the general area. As mentioned above the original nest is gone and the tree has suffered more damage throughout the summer and there appears to be no attempt in rebuilding the original nest. This may seem like bad news, but I am happy to report that it appears that a new nest is being built not too far from the original one. I have not seen any of our eagles in or around the new nest tree (yet). I am keeping my fingers crossed that I will be reporting in the spring that the eagles that have called Crescent Township their home for the past several years have in fact built a new nest and are raising more young.

Michael Chicora.

NEW NEIGHBORS

The house at #1727 has been purchased by Margaret Victor who moved here from Moon Township. She is retired now but has been working hard at fixing up the house with painting, new floors, etc. She used to have a three-story house and she appreciates the one-story situation here. Margaret's phone number is 724-804-3142 and she will now be listed in our website directory.

Amy Rich and Paul Dinubila have been having work done on #1716 before moving in. Amy and Paul are newly married and looking forward to living in their first home. She is a nurse working toward becoming a Nurse Practitioner and he works for an energy company. They're hoping to meet their neighbors and start making new friends.

Do You Know What Your Neighbors Are Into?

Betty Powell moved here from Fairfax, Virginia into #1758 about six years ago. She is the widow of a Naval Captain and over the years the family lived in twenty different houses, including one Quonset hut. She has a son who lives nearby, and daughters in California and Virginia. The family also contains 6 grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Shortly after moving here, Betty discovered water aerobics classes at the Y in Sewickley. She signed up for them and also signed up for transportation with Access. Perhaps you've seen the van making trips up the street on Tuesdays and Thursdays. She feels that activity has been helpful to her but for this year she's planning on something different: instead of the water aerobics she's considering group exercises because she wants to strengthen her shoulders and knees. So that's what Betty's been up to. Her birthday is in September and at her last one she was 95. She loves it here and wants to continue being active. "Way to go, Betty."