



THE PELICAN BRIEF JUN. 2012

Serving the Community of Pelican Pointe

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Yes, you could be the Pelican Pointe manager! As is commonly known, our present Manager, Steve Susman, will be retiring or semi-retiring at the end of 2012, after 6 ½ years of service to our Association. The Board is now accepting indications of interest in this paid, part-time position. *No prior management experience is required.* For information, contact Steve at his e-mail address or phones above. *This is the final notice in our newsletter for this position,* so you should take this opportunity seriously.

TGIF Happy Hour Pizza Picnic. Whaddya mean, you haven't yet RSVP'd to this great Friday afternoon event? No excuse. Show me the person who doesn't like good pizza, light-hearted socializing, and a pleasant setting -- and I'll show you a person whose values are distorted! Seriously: On **Friday, June 8, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.**, at our picnic area, is our annual get-together. Meet your neighbors; corner our manager; enjoy someone else's cooking for a change! You **MUST** RSVP to June Hanley at (303) 955-0904 or hanleyjune@yahoo.com -- so that our Social Committee will know how much fine food to order. *No charge!*

Book Club. Our Pelican Pointe Book Club will meet on Friday, June 15 (temporary date change), at 6:30 p.m., at the home of Marcia Merson, V-101. To be discussed: *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, by Rebecca Skloot. In this true story, doctors took cells from Lacks; a poor, African American farmer; without her knowledge. Those cells never died, but have quietly been used over and over in a revolution of medical research -- this is, until her children found out. All who enjoy reading are welcome. RSVP to Marcia at (303) 756-9596.

Lunch Bunch. Join this interesting group of Pelican Pointe men and women for lunch at the Egg Shell in Cherry Creek, 235 Fillmore Street. The Egg Shell is not just a breakfast place but has a wonderful lunch menu and a very nice ambience. The date and time: Wednesday, June 13, 2012, at 11:30 a.m. Treat yourself to a good meal and sparkling conversation. Please RSVP to Susan Million at (303) 316-7190 by Tuesday morning, June 12th.

Neither Pearly Gates nor Bill Gates: *When will our gates be working properly?* After 13+ years, our gates' electronics need a major repair. The gates are activated -- to open or close -- by virtue of buried magnetic loops. These large loops create an electric signal, triggering the motors which operate the gates. We are advised that these loops must be replaced, which would involve substantial uprooting of the handsome brick pavers there, as well as some of our new asphalt roadway. Your manager and director Bud Lehman have been investigating the alternative of bypassing this loop system in favor of an above-ground system activated by radio signals. Please understand that we are eager to solve this problem so that we can all again enjoy the perception of security afforded by our gates. However, there is no quick-fix. We are moving toward a solution as expeditiously as our resources and the schedules of our subcontractors permit.

Garage sale? Our Rules prohibit garage sales, unless sponsored or sanctioned by the Board. If you are interested in participating, contact our manager promptly. *If enough persons would participate*, the Board will request one of them to coordinate the details. It's not complicated -- selecting a date; determining advertising options; preparing a site map (to distribute to motorists entering our complex). Does it really make sense to keep your leather-bound version of *War and Peace*? Or that throw pillow embroidered with the likeness of Winston Churchill? Or that wedding-gift ice box (manufactured before refrigerators)?

2012 Social Events at Pelican Pointe: For many years, our social events have attracted praise from our residents. Besides the June 8 TGIF Pizza Party (see above), our Social Committee will be sponsoring two more events of fun, food, and fellowship this year. Keep track of them; plan to attend:

- Annual picnic at The Lighthouse on Sunday, September 9.
- Annual Homeowners Meeting on Thursday, November 15.

You'll receive more details as these events approach.

A fire in your dryer vent. A recent article in this newsletter explained in detail the fire hazard presented by your dryer vent. Yes, most of us "brush out" the lint from our dryer screen after each usage. That may not be enough, because that filter simply doesn't catch all the lint generated in your dryer. That extra lint eventually can collect in the vent pipe that exits from the rear of your dryer. Generally, it can be cleaned pretty infrequently, depending on your usage. But at some point, you've inadvertently allowed a fire hazard to be created. Steve Moss, our preferred handyman, will perform a cleaning-job on your dryer vent system for only \$25. About four dozen of our residents have already arranged for this dryer vent cleaning. If you wish to contract for this service, contact our Manager, preferably by email, providing (say) three alternative times during weekdays when you could be home for this procedure. We will not be publishing this opportunity again in our newsletter.

SUSMAN UNLEASHED

by Steve Susman

The Pyramids at Giza, Egypt? The Taj Mahal in northern India? The Eiffel Tower in Paris? None of these spectacular and historic monuments can compete with the newest Wonder of the World -- our four planters! Conceived as a love-child in the fertile minds of the co-Chairs of our Landscape Committee, Sally Altberger and Ruth Clemens, and mid-wifed by Sonny Fischer, we have given birth to these structures now surrounding our directional sign. It looks like a simple project, but (as all weekend handymen know) it was substantially more complicated to build than was first thought. But by the time you read this, the four planters will be filled with beautiful flowers. They should be too high for the rapacious rabbits to reach, and should be inaccessible to voles, too. The flower area at the base of that sign had become "tired-looking," after 13+ years. Visitors to Pelican Pointe will be greeted by this cheerful, colorful scene. Also, our exterior main flower beds, and our smaller beds on both ends of our guardhouse are being planted with an attractive array of flowers. We have contracted for extermination services for the period of June - October. The mandate of the exterminator is to provide lethal bait to the voles and to spray rabbit-repellent upon the flowers.

Posing for that awkward goodnight kiss on your front porch is now more difficult: Our new LED porch light fixtures aren't conducive to such romantic moves. However, they have been universally praised by our residents. The scheduling of everyone's living room switch conversion was a gargantuan task, in view of everyone's unique time-commitments. Therefore, if you believe (a) that your living room switch hasn't yet been "converted" by our LED electricians, or (b) that your new LED fixture isn't reliably going "ON" after dark and "OFF" at dawn, please contact me. Our electricians will return to handle these brief matters for you.

Does anyone here still claim to be residing in an urban environment? Perhaps you are enthralled by the presence within our complex of foxes, rabbits, squirrels, raccoons, skunks, snakes, voles, and, yes, *coyotes!* Several credible residents have reported watching one or two "good-sized" coyotes, casually strolling down our roadway, "as if they owned the place." Others have been confronted as they walk Little Fideaux along our sidewalks. Here is the published, conventional wisdom for confronting a coyote:

- Don't turn and run away.
- Face the coyote. Enhance your stature by raising your arms and widening your stance.
- Make noise, using your voice, an air horn, a whistle, a can full of pennies, banging pots and pans, or by clapping. Swing a golf club. Wave a walking stick.
- Throw small rocks, sticks or cans. Do not throw food.
- Flash a strobe flashlight, or shoot a water gun.

Can you believe that a presumably sane author, purportedly an expert on coyote-avoidance, would make such absurd recommendations?

Do you think there's an enemy machine-gunner on your roof? You're forgiven for concluding that. However, it's probably a woodpecker, sending its mating call (really!). Unfortunately, their rat-a-tat-tat synchronized rhythm is irritating. They probably won't do much damage, because their tapping is usually on one of our metal pipe vents protruding from our roofs. Exterminators tell us there is little that can be done, so welcome to the forest primeval.

Do you visit your dentist semi-annually, as you should? The raccoons (and some squirrels) who have been inflicting substantial damage on some of our roofs and eaves must not be concerned with overbite, root canals, or orthodontia. They have actually eaten through our shingles, the underlying wooden boards and insulation, and invaded some attics. Once we evict these non-paying tenants, we have been faced with expensive repair bills. This spring, such damage has topped all prior years' experience with these pests. They are neither cute nor charming, but apparently prefer the warmth of our attics to the wilds of the adjacent wetlands and canal.

He said "I'll just be staying over for a night or two." That was two weeks ago; he's still here! I can't help you with that problem, but do remind you about our parking Rules ("Here he goes again."). Yes, it's a time for summer-time guests. However, our Rules prohibit guests from parking within our complex -- in Guest Parking areas or on our roadway -- for more than 72 hours. If your guest(s) will be staying longer than that, you must contact me; I'll make special arrangements with you, for the benefit of these folks who have over-stayed their welcome. "Hey, Grandma, I think I've used up all the hot water . . ."

June trash pick-up: June 6, 13, 20, and 27.

Recycling pick-up: June 6 and 20.

Denver Large Item Pickup: July 18.

Pelican Pointe townhomes For Sale: #CC-104, #V-104, and #N-102.

For Rent: #A-103.

Weird behavior:

- I love the sense of camaraderie when an entire line of cars teams up to prevent a jerk from cutting in at the front. Stay strong, brothers and sisters!
- How are you supposed to fold a fitted sheet?
- Why do you press harder on the buttons of a remote control when you know the batteries are dead?
- If all the world is a stage, where is the audience sitting?

June Board Meeting. This Meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the Lighthouse Clubhouse, on June 18. ALL RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.