



# The Pelican Brief

September 2014

Serving the Community of Pelican Pointe

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Linda Corry, President  
Victor Valks, Vice President  
Steve Susman, Treasurer  
Charlotte Robinson, At Large  
Marcia Helfant, At Large

Inside this issue:

Susman Unleashed	2-3
Book Club	4
Trash Schedule	4

Board meetings are typically held every third Monday of the month at 6:00 PM at the **Lighthouse**. Please use 8300# for gate

### **Meet the CPMG Team**

Association Manager Debra Vickrey: 303-671-6402 Ext. 23  
Main Number: 303-671-6402  
FAX : 303-671-6430  
Finance Department : 303-671-6402  
Ext. 22 & Ext. 11

Office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., closed from Noon-1:00 p.m. Monday- Friday  
**For After Hour Emergencies Call: 303-671-6402** (Follow the prompts)

## **Lunch Bunch....**

LUNCH BUNCH...In a Contemporary Italian Restaurant

The Lunch Bunch will meet at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday September 9 at Locanda Del Borgo...5575 E. 3rd Avenue #A in Denver. RSVP to Sheila Powell by phone at 303-280-6943 or e-mail [spowellmsn@comcast.net](mailto:spowellmsn@comcast.net).

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**SPECIAL MEETING TIME FOR SEPTEMBER ONLY**  
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**The September Board Meeting will be held at The Lighthouse on  
September 22, 2014 at 11:30 A.M.**

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***CPMG Manager Re-Assignment effective 9/18/14***  
***Debra Vickrey, AMS, PCAM***  
***303.671.6402, ext. 23***  
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## Susman Unleashed by Steve Susman

Where will you be on November 20? You should be attending our Annual Homeowners Meeting. Be sure to mark this on your calendar and to RSVP when you receive your meeting packet in October. A good dinner; short speeches; a great way to meet your neighbors; vote for directors; and glance at next year's HOA budget. This is a better alternative than absorbing some rays on a beach in Tahiti. [Dermatologists would say "Shame on you."]. Or, watching a sci-fi re-run on your new 78-inch curved screen Ultra High Definition TV. [You might get amblyopia or astigmatism from sitting too close]. Or, at your desk, agonizing over last year's bills for Christmas gifts, with their attendant and unyielding interest costs. [This could cause post-traumatic stress disorder]. .

"Hey, Archibald, are we getting some new neighbors?" Each of us drives by that large parcel of undeveloped land, on South Valentia Street, just south of the roundabout. Recently, a temporary truck ramp has been seen there, enabling access to that land – perhaps for soil-testing or other analysis. Eventually, that land will be the site of new residential units – perhaps apartments; maybe condominiums.. Residential development depends primarily on economic conditions. Construction of new living units tends to lag behind demand. Stay tuned.

"Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds." This unofficial motto of our Postal Service derives from Herodotus, describing the Persians (about 500-449 B.C.), who operated a system of mounted postal couriers. Nevertheless, one or more mentally-disadvantaged persons tried to force his or her way into one of our *outgoing* mail boxes, in our middle kiosk. Perhaps the culpable party dropped a "Dear John" letter into the outgoing slot, and then had second thoughts. Her entire romantic future depends on retrieving that ill-considered Notice of Dumping. A bent coat hanger, with sticky gum on one end, might be the probe of choice. In any event, I recommend against using that outgoing slot. Yes, it's a nuisance to drive to the nearest official postal box (in front of the former Windsor Gardens drug store on East Alameda Avenue), but that's life in the Big City, and it's totally safe. Though it's been infrequent, other miscreants have attempted to force their way into our *incoming* mail boxes. A complementary tidbit of advice: Empty your incoming box daily, if possible.

It's concrete-replacement season – tra la la la la, la la la la. OK, this isn't such an interesting subject, evoking gaiety among our inhabitants. Nevertheless, your Board has an ongoing policy of monitoring our extensive concrete areas. Concrete has its inherent frailties, being subject to wear-and-tear and water. For example, between our red brick pavers at our entrance, and the street, is a sizeable concrete area that includes a drain-pan, which is intended to direct water away from our complex. Every vehicle that enters or exits from Pelican Pointe must drive over that concrete. Fifteen years of wear-and-tear take their toll. The Board is presently considering proposals for the replacement of substantial portions of that drain pan. This project will complement the adjacent project of replacing damaged or missing red brick pavers at our entrance-exit areas. These pavers, too, suffer over time. Another nearby project which the Board is evaluating is the repair of the reverse sides of our two curved tile-faced walls at our entrance-exit. The recommended treatment is the application of stucco – a fairly-ambitious project.

"Mary, Mary, quite contrary. How does your garden grow?" This is the first line in one of those insipid children's poems. However, a contemporary version of that question might be, *How should I grow my flowers on my patio?* Many of us place our seasonal flowers in a pot, if not already potted [that is, the plants, not the resident]. Then, we place the pot onto one of the vertical posts or horizontal arms comprising our patio or porch railing. Whether or not your pot has a dish beneath it, water descends into the post itself. This results in rotting of that post, the arm boards, and the nearby spindles. In winter, rain and snow aggravate the saturation of the railing's components. Although maintenance of the railings is the responsibility of the respective homeowner, your Association extended tour painting contractor's responsibilities to include the

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## Susman Unleashed

partial rehabilitation of these railings. This largesse may not be repeated hereafter, meaning that you must “think twice” about placing your summer flower pots on any part of your railing. Flower-filled urns on your porch or patio are allowed. Increase their visibility by placing them on a table or an urn-stand. Be creative. We have always encouraged the display of live flowers on our porches and patios, in season. Plastic flowers are disallowed.

*Ebola is to Africa what the emerald ash borer disease is to our American trees.* This newsletter previously reported about this insidious scourge. This insect and its larvae burrow into and grow inside ash trees, of which we have about eighty-four in Pelican Pointe. Eventually, they shut off the flow of nutrients within the tree, which then dies. Literally, millions of ash trees have died in the Eastern U.S. Our Boulder County has detected the presence of these borers. Colorado agricultural officials haven’t yet detected any spread of this plague east and south of Broomfield, but some arborists say that it’s inevitable that our metro area will eventually be invaded. Some preventative treatment is available, but it’s very difficult to perceive the bug’s presence before it’s too late.

*Those not-so-cute little bunnies could infect you.* Avoid Tularemia, a disease transmitted by exposure to rabbit blood. It causes flu-like symptoms and can be fatal if left untreated. So don’t unnecessarily touch rabbits. Click on this link and consider yourself so advised: <http://www.9news.com/story/news/health/2014/08/13/tularemia-i-15-orchard-adams-arapahoe-counties/14016119/>

### Weird:

- I joined a health club last year, spent about 400 bucks. Haven’t lost a pound. Apparently you have to go there.
- If you are going to try cross-country skiing, start with a small country.
- Every time I hear the dirty word ‘exercise,’ I wash my mouth out with **chocolate**.
- Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

## **SEPTEMBER BOOK CLUB**

The next meeting of the Pelican Pointe Book Club will be held on Tuesday evening, September 16, at 6:30 pm at the home of Joyce Berman in Unit MM105, and the discussion will be led by Marcia Helfant.

The book chosen for September is "The Boys in the Boat", by Daniel James Brown. It is a touching and exciting true story of the University of Washington crew team, which went from backwater obscurity to a gold medal at the 1936 Berlin Olympics, at which Adolph Hitler was hoping to prove Aryan superiority. Rowing had been a rather aristocratic sport, with long established teams from Oxford, Cambridge, Yale, Harvard and Princeton being leading contenders. By contrast, the team from the University of Washington was made up of young men raised on farms and logging towns, many of whom depended on summer and part time work to pay their tuition. The author draws on interviews with the surviving members of the team and their coaches to provide an emotional first person perspective of the UW 1936 varsity crew and its rise from obscurity.

**Trash Days:  
September 10, 17, 24.**

**Recycle Days:  
September 10 & 24.**