



The Pelican Brief

January 2015

Serving the Community of Pelican Pointe

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Linda Corry, President
Victor Valks, Vice President
Steve Susman, Treasurer
Caryl Shipley, At Large
Marcia Helfant, At Large

Board meetings are typically held every third Monday of the month at 6:00 PM at the **Lighthouse**.

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)

Snow Removal

For the 2014-2015 winter, the Pelican Pointe Board of Directors has contracted Metco Landscape, Inc. to perform snow removal on the property. The contract specifies that they will plow the drives when snow has reached a depth of 4" and clear sidewalks at 2". Snow removal will begin within 24 hours after the end of snow fall.

They have been instructed that the mail kiosks should be cleared first, then the rest of the community.

This contractor is paid hourly, so any additional trips will be billed to the Association, and **MUST** be approved by the Board of Directors.

If you have questions or concerns regarding the snow removal contact Association Manager Debra Vickrey at debra@withcpmg.com or 303-671-6402, ext. 23.

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Trash Days

Jan. 7, 14, 22 & 28

**REMINDER: Trash will be picked up
Thur., Jan. 22
following Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

Recycle Days

Jan. 14 & 28

Large Item Pickup

Jan. 28

Susman Unleashed

by Steve Susman

It's great to be a king: Your requests are executed promptly and without question. At Pelican Pointe, each of us is a “king” in his/her own domain. However, residents making a request to “get what I want done around my unit” do not have such royal privileges. If you, a resident or absentee homeowner, have a particular request for our Association, consider these suggestions:

-- Your request must be specific. Not: “I think there’s a leak in one of my raingutters.” Rather: “There’s a leak in the raingutter that is above my patio door. I can’t see the hole or crack, but I can see where the drip is coming from.” Our community managers aren’t clairvoyant.

-- Be realistic about whether your request is urgent, or is merely a task that you’d like to have accomplished within a reasonable time-frame. There are roughly 300 persons living here. Our managers must designate priorities to the Work Orders they assign – to our independent contractors, the Vazquez brothers, or to other subcontractors.

-- Consider whether your request is part of the Association’s responsibility or your own. Example: “My garage door mechanisms don’t work. Maybe the springs are broken.”

Better: “My garage door mechanisms apparently need repair. Can you recommend any specific contractors for this task?”

-- Send your requests to our management company. Their contact information is on the front page. Try to refrain from asking directors to intervene for you, or Michael and Lalo Vazquez (our on-site handymen) to perform tasks for you.

“Birdie, birdie, in the sky. Aren’t we glad that cows can’t fly.” Nonetheless, some residents believe that the birds that hang around Pelican Pointe may be underfed. These well-meaning folks believe it’s essential that they erect bird-feeders to allay the hunger pangs of these flying friends. The problem is that the bird-feed attracts squirrels, and perhaps other animals. Squirrels cause great devastation of our trees, flowers, and shrubs, at considerable financial cost to our Association. So-called “squirrel-proof” bird-feeders also attract squirrels, notwithstanding the claims of the feeders’ manufacturers. The seeds spill onto the ground. Or, the canny squirrels sense what fine snacks are contained in the boxes atop the poles. Heretofore, our Rules allowed “squirrel-proof” bird feeders on patios or porches. No longer. The Board has resolved to prohibit all bird-feeders, wherever located. The precise wording of this amendment to our Rules will be published in our February newsletter edition.

Moses’ Eleventh Commandment: No items of any kind or description shall be placed on our patios, porches, or in any of the common areas, except as specifically allowed in our Rules. You **must** refer to our Rules, especially Rule III and its subdivisions. Without these restrictions, we’d soon see many of our 190 porches and patios exhibiting every conceivable form of chimes, sconces, wall clocks, trampolines, hot tubs, potted trees, tires, old bicycles, posters, old dining room furniture, and an infinite number of strange items. Yes, art is in the eyes of the beholder. But one of the mild sacrifices attached to your Association membership is your acceptance of the community’s Rules. Unless you are a

Susman Unleashed

serial hoarder, or believe that the iguana replica you brought back from Hawaii as a souvenir has sentimental value – you can petition the Board for approval to organize a community-wide garage sale next spring-summer.

A couple related reminders: First, our Rules also prohibit the display of planters, pots, and urns which don't currently contain living plants or flowers. Secondly, our Association prohibits *anything* in the breezeways between garages. This prohibition includes trash barrels and anything else. You must keep all such items in your garage or otherwise out-of-sight. Does any of us really want our complex to resemble a flea-market?

Oscar, on "Sesame Street," loves trash. This adoration is immortalized in a well-known child's song. However, at Pelican Pointe, we don't appreciate, and have a Rule against, the improper placement of trash. A reminder: Trash awaiting pick-up by the City truck **must** be in a barrel, not exceeding 39-gal.capacity, with a lid in place. Preferably, the trash and garbage inside your barrel will, itself, have been previously bagged. That procedure keeps the inside of your barrel clean; precludes a mess when the trash guys overturn your barrel in the emptying process; and discourages the many animals in our vicinity from pouncing on the remains of last night's BLT sandwich. If non-garbage trash can't fit within the barrel, it can be neatly organized and tied. The trash guys won't clean up the driveway which your trash and garbage deposit there. The Board will levy fines for non-compliance, trust me.

"OK, I understand the need for such community restrictions. So, where do I find the latest version of these Covenants and Rules?" Most of us have a three-ring binder which contains all our governing documents, among other useful information. Some residents, though, especially tenants and those homeowners who have inadvertently hidden their binder in their crawl-space – do not have one. Furthermore, the binders now in circulation need updating. They contain some obsolete, deleted, or amended provisions. Our management company maintains for its clients a web site, accessible at http://www.withcpmg.com/pelican_pointe/index.html. However, some of the material on that site is either obsolete, or is about to be amended. But don't lose hope: This winter, I believe that your Board will be examining all sources, sites, and versions of these documents, making such corrections as are required. I doubt that the Board will then re-print a complete "set" of some of the more important documents (e.g., our Rules), but may opt instead to refer all inquirers to that web site.

Weird behavior:

- I'm going to retire and live off of my savings. Not sure what I'll do that second week.
- Why do I have to press one for English when you're just gonna transfer me to someone I can't understand anyway?
- If a word is misspelled in the dictionary, how would we ever know?
- Why do we say something is out of whack? What is a whack?

Lunch Bunch

The Pelican Pointe Lunch Bunch will meet on Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2015 at the Tavern at Lowery at 11:30 a.m., as usual. It will be close to home at 7401 E. 1st Ave. Then menu has most any kind of food we all like and there is great parking. RSVP to Susan Million at 720-301-3034. See you there!

Book Club

The Pelican Pointe Book Club will meet on Tuesday, January 13, at the home of Marcia Helfant, N104 at 6:30 pm. The book we're reading is *Salvage the Bones* by Jesmyn Ward. A winner of the National Book Award, the novel concerns a poor Mississippi family shortly before Hurricane Katrina arrives. All are welcome. Call Marcia at 303-722-0053 to let her know if you will be attending.

Fight The Flu

The Centers for Disease Control urges everyone to take the following actions to protect yourself and others from influenza (the flu).

1. Take time to get an annual flu vaccine.
2. Take preventive actions to stop the spread of germs, such as:
 - Staying home when you're ill. You should avoid contact with others for at least 24 hours after the fever is gone.
 - Washing your hands often with soap and water. If that's not available use an alcohol-based hand rub.
 - Clean and disinfect surfaces that may be contaminated with germs like the flu.
3. Take flu antiviral drugs if prescribed by your doctor.

Visit www.cdc.gov/flu/ for more tips and information.

Dispose Of Your Holiday Tree

Recycling your holiday tree is as easy as 1, 2, 3!

1. **Remove all decorations and the tree stand. NO** artificial or flocked trees. Real evergreen trees only!
2. Set **your tree out for collection during the first two weeks of January**. Your tree will get picked up by a **special tree collection truck** for recycling. Set trees out near your normal trash set-out location by 7 a.m. on one of your trash collection days during the week of January 5th or the week of January 12th.
3. Reclaim free mulch made from your tree at the annual Mulch Giveaway in the spring (see www.denvergov.org for more details).