

VERDE VILLAGE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

The more things change, the more they stay the same



Unit 1 Director Pam Morgan

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Recently a few VVPOA Board members read, sorted and threw away boxes of "The Verde Village Roundup" when it was a fully printed newspaper distributed throughout the area.

It's amazing how frequently, to this day, the same topics recirculate. One from 1980 talks about how one of the biggest problems is "lack of an adequate system of communication with the residents of the Verde Villages." Still in 2022, this is one of the biggest complaints that we receive.

Back then, a complete edition of the Roundup was sent to every resident four times per year. Remember, in 1980, the VVPOA had many more members, mailing costs were minimal and there were many volunteers to help. Today, we have a website vvpoa.net, an emailed newsletter vvpoaroundupnewsletter@gmail.com, this Verde Independent Column, Facebook, Nextdoor and social media. Still, we hear from many that "they've never heard of VVPOA".

Another suggestion that comes up repeatedly... "why doesn't each Unit have a welcoming committee, to meet and help new community members?" Again, this takes volunteers, of which we have few. It would make our Villages feel so much more like a community if residents were willing to volunteer just a few hours each month to help the VVPOA.

Currently we need a Unit Director for Unit#4, a Maintenance Director, a Social Activities Director and volunteers just to help. Think about what you can do and call, leave a message at 928-646-6505. Or in another 25 years we will be hearing the same things!

Meet Pam Morgan, director from Unit #1

Pam enjoys living by the river. In her front yard she has hummingbird feeders in her big mulberry trees and the birds are busy and happy. Pam has been the guardian for the river riparian area for many years. She places garbage bags for folks to put their trash and even has a lost and found box for items left behind. She posts flyers of all the VVPOA events so that her neighbors are informed of the many activities. She is a friendly neighbor that makes Unit #1 residents feel welcome in their community. Reach out with your questions or for more information at 928-646-6505 and leave a message. Pam will return your call.

VVPOA Would Like Your Opinion

The VVPOA pond has been a point of discussion for the last 50 years also. You can read more about it on our website. It definitely has pros and cons. It provides a spot of tranquility in the community where people can observe wildlife and enjoy fishing or a walk. Many people have worked over the years to make it a place to appreciate open space in our area. However, it's quite costly, insurance, electricity to pump water from the Verde River, maintaining the ditch and paying for the water from the river. Keeping it healthy has become the biggest problem as there is no drainage so it's like a big aquarium that never empties. So VVPOA would like input from the residents of the Villages. Go to our website vypoa.net/poll and check a box for your opinion to be heard. The following are the choices:

Leave the pond alone!

Build a park for everyone to enjoy!

I don't care, I'd never go there!

I have a better idea

Pool Season is Here!

The VVPOA Community Pool is opened! The season opened with a well-attended BBQ and Pool party with live music by "D & D Express Band". Pool hours for this summer season are Tuesday through Sunday from 11 am to 6 pm. Check out our website for current costs and more information vypoa.net. Remember we are totally staffed by volunteers so if the pool has to close due to lack of a monitor it's because we don't have enough people stepping up to help.

Hawaiian evening planned for June 24

We are excited to welcome back the Hula dancers from Halau Hula Napuaokalei'ilima with Hula Master Kehau Chrisman. To make reservations go to vypoa.net/rsvp. You don't want to miss this wonderful performance by this Verde Valley group that meet weekly at the VVPOA Ranch Room.

Notes from General Meeting from May

Yavapai County Department of Development has notified VVPOA that the Grant Proposal for a feasibility study for wastewater treatment has been granted.

Funds have been approved to repair the roof on the Ranch House

Membership has continued to drop from 386 to 365 members.

Vacancies need to be filled for Maintenance Director, Unit 4 Director, Activities Director.

Nominating Committee and Bylaws Committee need members.

Bingo is canceled until fall.

Summer General Meetings are canceled.

It was agreed by the VVPOA Board and members at last month's General Meeting to cancel July and August.

MEMORIES OF VERDE VILLAGE

Howdy folks. Welcome back. It's your old friend T.T., the Verde Village Time Traveler, back for another trip to the past. Last time we traveled back to 1969. This time we visit the 1980's, so hold on to your (hat).

Now we had an election in 1980 and believe it or not, our new president is an ex-movie star, Ronnie Reagan. Can you believe that? I know I used to see him in movies about the Old West, he of course was always the good guy. Now ain't that somethin'.

In 1980 a lot of things were going on in the country, and the world. But probably the most memorable was called the Miracle On Ice. A bunch of college ice hockey players beat a team of Russian Commies who had been world champions since 1960. The country celebrated, and did we ever need it!

Here in Verde Village we had a new president, Ed St. John. I don't think he was ever a movie star. The fine ladies of our community started a Garden Club, planting beautiful flowers all around the clubhouse. There was a monthly BBQ, lots of good eats and a Game Nite, but no gamblin' allowed.

There would soon be 107 new homes built, 88 mobile home lots paved, and a new 20 home apartment complex here in the Valley. We were becoming our own little city.

In the good ol' USA the most popular car was the Oldsmobile Cutlass. The most popular shows on TV were Dallas and my favorite, The Dukes of Hazard. People could not get to the movies fast enough to see Star Wars and, for the ones who like scary, The Shining.

In 1982 there were lots of goings on. There was a new president, Bill Willoughby and the Ranch House got all fixed up thanks to a man named, Ken Gilding. As a big thank you, the hall was now called Gilding Hall. To celebrate, there were monthly dances with live music. A Yacht Club was started out on the pond, not with real yachts, you understand.

Prices started going way up in the country. The average pay for the year was \$19,500 for the family. Problem was the cost of a new home was \$68,700, and a new car cost \$7,200. Prices were shootin' up faster than corn in a corn field.

Back here in Cottonwood there was 4,500 people, and more comin' every day. Here, more and more clubs was started; a Quilting Circle, to keep us cozy on cold nights and a Camping Club, calling themselves the Vagabonds. A new club was formed by the swimmers and called themselves the Bumerinas, but I don't know what that means.

In the world of modern music, the most popular songs on the radio were, Another One Bites The Dust by Queen and Funky Town by The Lipps. For us good ol' boys the big songs were Coward of the County by Kenny Rogers and 9-5 by Dolly Parton.

In 1984 more and more buildings were being built. A 3000 square foot grocery store was being planned. A brand spankin' new doctors office was being built too. Hope the folks around here leave ground for my horse.

Well, that's all for now. This is your time traveler friend, wishing you Happy Trails until next month, when we find out how the 1980's turned out.

T.T.



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