

Walden Woods News

JANUARY 2007

TWO NEW DIRECTORS FOR 2007 BOARD GIAMPOLO NEW PRESIDENT



Kathy Kroll

Homeowners attending the December 18th Annual Homeowners Meeting elected **Kathy Kroll** and **Susan Atwater** to replace Rick Ericson and Joe Sikora as Directors of the Village Board for 2007. **Joe Palladino** was re-elected to continue his membership on the same board. All three elected Village Directors will serve on the Conservancy Board.

Also re-elected to their Council Boards (and the Conservancy Board) were Ridge homeowner **Charles Wimberley**, Duplex homeowner **Anna Marie Browne** and Woodmoor homeowners **Deb Giampolo** and **Barry Towers**. Deb was selected by the other Directors to replace Joe Sikora as President of the Conservancy Board. Barry will serve as Vice-President, Kathy as the Secretary and Joe will continue to serve as Treasurer. The Townhome Council has yet to elect a homeowner to serve as their Director and homeowners there are encouraged to conduct a meeting for that purpose as soon as possible. Townhome resident interested in setting up or attending such a meeting should contact Warren or Ruth Johnson, 688-5128, warrenruth@comcast.net.



Susan Atwater

Our congratulations and our thanks to all the elected Directors as well as those who volunteered to be nominated for the position. Your involvement in the life of our community is appreciated.

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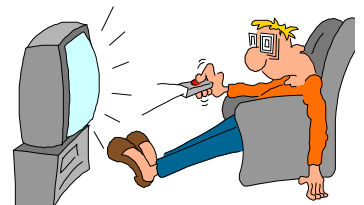
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WALDEN WOODS NEWS is a monthly publication produced and distributed by homeowner volunteers for the edification and enjoyment of all Walden Woods homeowners. Questions, ideas and news contributions may be submitted to any member of the Communication Committee: Bob or Polly Ellis (688-5949), Ruth Johnson (688-5128), or Joe Sikora (219-0713).

ABOUT THOSE DISH ANTENNAS

Thinking about switching to Direct TV? Can't wait to access those 932 channels? Got the perfect place to put the satellite dish? **WAIT A MINUTE!!!!** We've got rules about where and if you can put those things up. Actually, we've got rules that say our rules have to conform to federal guidelines, but because of the various types of homes here, those guidelines differ from council to council.

Before you have the dish installed, you need to check with our beloved Property Manager, Frank Goeckler. He can advise you on the specifics that apply to your council. Frank can be reached at Elite Management, 678-8300, frank@epmlc.com.



The 50-50-90 Rule: Anytime you have a 50-50 chance of getting something right, there's a 90% probability you'll get it wrong.

THREE WHO DESERVE OUR THANKS

(editorial by Bob Ellis)

Two and a half years ago, when the original developer of Walden Woods was forced to relinquish control of our community to the homeowners, everyone cheered. No longer would we be subject to the rulings and decisions of the developer-controlled Board of Directors. No longer would we be 156 disconnected homeowners with no real sense of community. And no longer would we be able to blame all of our complaints about conditions or service to the fault of the developer. Suddenly, **we** were responsible and accountable for our own community.

Among the homeowners who stepped up and said “yes, I’ll accept that responsibility and accountability” were Joe Sikora, Rick Ericson and Bette Harner.



Joe volunteered and was elected by homeowners to serve as President of the Conservancy Board of Directors. For two and a half years, he was the lightning rod for complaints, inquiries, ideas and budget considerations. For two and a half years, he sacrificed his time, energy and talent to serving the needs of homeowners and provided leadership during our critical transition period when we began to emerge as a community.



Rick volunteered to head the Standards Committee, an absolutely critical position that guaranteed us this community would keep the same aesthetic values we enjoyed when we bought our homes here. For two and a half years under his leadership, the committee ensured that all external property changes conformed to the documented standards we all agreed to. Despite pressure and conflict with neighbors and friends, Rick always considered his responsibility to his community first.



Bette volunteered to chair the Meeting House Committee. For two and a half years, she has been in charge of scheduling and coordinating all the events and meetings held there as well as ensuring the meeting house was properly decorated, adequately furnished and in the best possible condition before and after the events. She and her committee were responsible for the beautiful refurbishing of the meeting house following its vandalism in 2004.

For many homeowners in Walden Woods, the service these volunteers provided us for two and a half years was transparent. Somehow, the grass got cut and the budget got passed. Somehow, neighbors didn’t install a flock of plastic flamingos in their front yards. And somehow, the meeting house was open, warm and attractive whenever we used it. We’ve been very fortunate that Joe, Rick and Bette were so conscientious. And we were blessed that each had the character to volunteer when they knew we needed them.

All three of these volunteers have now “retired” from their positions and their functions will be handled by other volunteers equally deserving of our gratitude. Two and a half years of personal sacrifice, however, should not go unnoticed. On behalf of the entire community, thank you Joe, Rick and Bette. You’ve set the standard by which all that follow will be judged.

PLAYING WITH WORDS

- Those who jump off a bridge in Paris are in Seine.
- Dijon vu - the same mustard as before.
- Practice safe eating - always use condiments.
- A bicycle can't stand on its own because it is two tired
- When two egotists meet, it's an I for an I.
- A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.
- If you don't pay your exorcist, you get repossessed
- A plateau is a high form of flattery
- Condoms should be used on every conceivable occasion.
- Shotgun wedding: A case of wife or death.

A LOOK BACK

For those of you who weren't paying attention, here's what happened inside Walden Woods in 2006:



- Jan - Our first hiking trail opens. The trail, located just east of Walden Pond, is the culmination of a lot of hard work by homeowner/trailblazer Warren Johnson.
- Mar - Meeting House doors replaced after severe wind damage in February.
 - First model home in Country Walk is finished; sales office in garage replaces unsightly trailer.
 - Pool area landscaping enhanced.
 - Amended Certification of Incorporation approved and filed with state.
- Apr - Pool area bridge repaired and re-painted.
 - **Great Egg Hunt held for kids on Meeting House lawn.**

LITTLE KNOWN FACTS YOU NEVER WANTED TO KNOW

No piece of paper can be folded in half more than seven (7) times.

You burn more calories sleeping than you do watching television.

Apples are more efficient at waking you up in the morning than caffeine.

It is possible to lead a cow upstairs, but not downstairs.

A duck's quack doesn't echo, and no one knows why.

May - **Memorial Day Pool Party**

- Homeowner (Warren Johnson again) files complaint against Unisource to force clean up of storm water runoff into Walden Pond.
- Crack Sealing completed on Village and Ridge Council streets.
- Meeting House roof repaired.

June - Ball field and additional tennis court constructed on parcel C recreation area.

- Street signs installed on the Knoll.

July - Vinyl fences installed on 12 Village Council homes.

- Bret & Cristi Burnham become our first Country Walk residents.

- Meeting House rules change to allow children's and high school graduation parties.
- Pool cabana painted.
- Aug - Second annual (?) Tag Sale held on each participant's driveway.
 - **Baseball Outing; participants attend Rock Cats baseball game.**
- Sept - **Golf Outing held at Traditions.**
 - Second part of hiking trail completed by Culbro,
- Oct - **Wine Tasting Party held at Meeting House.**
 - Anna-Marie Brown elected as Duplex Council's first Director.
- Dec - Standards Committee dissolved; approval for external changes to homes/property becomes Council Director(s) responsibility.
 - **Third annual Holiday Party held at Meeting House**
 - Village Council Directors Rick Ericson and Joe Sikora retire. Kathy Kroll and Susan Atwater elected during the Annual Homeowners Meeting. All other Directors are re-elected.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Mon, Jan 29th @ 7:00 Village Council Board Meeting at the Meeting House

Wed, Jan 31st @ 7:30 Conservancy Board Meeting at the Meeting House

COMMITTEES REALIGNED

In an effort to provide more focused attention on the needs of our community, the Conservancy Board of Directors has decided to incorporate a new look to the alignment of their advisory committees. Instead of a Social/Recreation//Pool Committee and a Landscape Committee, we'll have a Building and Grounds Committee and a Social Committee.

The **Buildings and Grounds (B & G) Committee** will be dedicated to all operational and budgetary issues pertaining to the maintenance of the Conservancy's structures and landscaping. This includes the pool, tennis courts, ball field, meetinghouse and the grounds surrounding those amenities. The committee is chaired by Joe Sikora with Charles Wimberley serving as Board Liaison. Additional members are Cori-Lynn Weber and Skip Kroll.

The **Social Committee** will be responsible for the planning, coordination and budgeting of all Walden Woods social activities. Jan Moller is the Chairperson and Barry Towers the Board Liaison for this committee. Additional members are John Keenan, Deb & Paul Giampolo, Joyce & Dick Armstrong, Polly Ellis, Cori-Lynn Webber, Janet Terkildsen, Genevieve Lattimer, Bonnie Farmer and Barbara D'Amaddio.

The other committees (Communications, Pond, Welcome, and Meeting House) will remain intact with Deb Giampolo replacing Bette Harner as the chairperson for the Meeting House Committee. Any homeowner interested in using the Meeting House for a Walden Woods related event or meeting or leasing it for use by outside interests should now contact Frank Goeckler at Elite Management, 678-8300, frank@epmlc.com.

As always, any homeowner is welcome to join any committee. If interested, please contact the appropriate Committee Chairperson or Bob Ellis, 688-5949, pollyandbob@sbcglobal.net.

GOSSIP COLUMN

Rumor has it that Ruth Casagrande (Hawthorne Lane) recently met a psychiatrist after visiting a friend at a mental institution and asked the doctor how they determined whether or not a patient should be institutionalized.

"Well," said the doctor, "we fill up a bathtub, then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup and a bucket to the patient and ask him or her to empty the bathtub."

"Oh, I understand," said Ruth. "A normal person would use the bucket because it's bigger than the spoon or the teacup."

"No." said the doctor, "A normal person would pull the plug. Do you want a bed near the window?"

COUNTRY WALK ARRIVALS

Welcome to:

Lisa Herbert-Losier and
Philip Rant @ 26 Last Leaf Circle

Rob Grimes, 34 Last Leaf Circle

Clovis & Sherene Walters, 8 Scarlet Lane

"OH NO" PUN

This may come as a surprise to some of you, but there are more churches in Las Vegas than casinos.

Not surprisingly, some worshippers at Sunday services will give casino chips instead of cash when the basket is passed.

Since they get chips from many different casinos, the churches send all their chips to a nearby Franciscan monastery for sorting and then the chips are taken to their casino of origin and cashed in.

This service is performed by a unique Franciscan order called the chip monks.

Happy New Year !