

Bella Vita Clubhouse 1548 Riviera Circle Pearland, TX 77581 281-464-3150 www.club-bellavita.org

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### Happy Anniversary

This month marks the first anniversary of our BellaBuzz. We want to thank all of our advertisers, our publisher, and especially our "REPORTERS" who so diligently wrote and submitted articles for each of our issues. Also, thank



you for the photos from the staff which are placed on the website and forwarded for inclusion as requested.

The Communications Committee hope that you have enjoyed each issue and that we are able to continue this publication for you. With your efforts and additional advertisers to defer costs, we will see you each quarter.

### President's Remarks

By Ron Gerlach, BVHOA President

The 2012-2013 year for the H.O.A. Board is off to a fast pace. The homeowners returned Bill Burdick and me to office for another term and elected Benny Frank to replace John Devereux who did not seek reelection. The Board sends our best wishes and thanks to John for all of his hard work and commitment to the Board. Benny has been a tremendous help for many years with the facilities and the knowledge and experience he brings to the board will prove to be invaluable.

The repainting schedules for our homes are on track as well as the list of doors that require refinishing. Fence repair continues to be addressed and several of us have visited other subdivisions to determine their plans for long term fence maintenance.

After extensive repairs, the pool project is completed and the pool is open for your enjoyment. There were several unexpected complications that we discovered during refurbishing, but the contractor has worked through them with us. This included the necessity to replace several heaters and the plumbing was also reworked for a potential reduction of heater wear.

We are operating on budget for 2012 and the finance committee is working with the auditor on the 2011 review. Most of the chairpersons of our 11 committees, as well as their committee members, have agreed to continue this year and once again I wish to say that without the support and dedication of these volunteers, it would be difficult to maintain the standards of maintenance in BellaVita that we all desire.



### Clubhouse Hours

Sunday 12pm-6pm Monday 11am - 10pm 10am- 10pm Tuesday Wednesday 10am-10pm 10am- 10pm Thursday Friday 10am- 10pm Saturday 10am- 10pm

#### Children's Pool Hours

Tues. - Thur. 3pm- 7pm Sat. - Sun. 1pm-6pm

### Pool & Fitness Center Hours

Open 6am – Closed at Midnight

### Homeowner Rental Information

**Homeowners Private Party Rentals Rates** Ballroom \$80 per/hr + \$500 Deposit

Rental rates apply to set up and cleanup times. Tables, chairs, basic set up and use of the kitchen are only included in the Ballroom rental.

### **Streetlight Outages**

Please obtain the 6 digit number on the pole.

You can report street light outages over the internet at: www.centerpointenergy.com Once you get there, you click on "Houston", then under "Quick Clicks" you select "Report a street light outage".

To report outages by phone: 713-207-2222.

### Date Set for Severe Storm/Hurricane Meeting



The Community Relations Committee (CRC) has announced that the 2012 Severe Storm/Hurricane meeting will be held on Saturday, June 30th, at two o'clock in the afternoon. Please mark your calendars now to attend this very informative meeting. This year's session will be an expanded version of previous years with participation by the

Red Cross and several supply stores. Mark your calendars now: That's Saturday, June 30th. Watch for continued information in the Weekly Announcements.

#### **Elections Committee**

By Carol Barber, Chairperson

The 2012 Election resulted in three new Directors being elected to the HOA Board for a term of three years. These new Directors are Bill Burdick, Benny Frank, and Ron Gerlach. Congratulations to each of you! Thanks are also extended to each of the other four candidates. Results of the vote count for the 2012 BellaVita HOA Election were as follows:

•	Denise Barberis	79
•	Bill Burdick	94
•	Carol Dyson	84
•	Benny Frank	119
•	Ron Gerlach	107
•	David Winchell	70
•	Marc Wormser	73



Our BellaVita residents appreciate your service to our community.

### Finance Committee



The BellaVita Finance Committee is busy working for you, the homeowners. You may not see us buzzing around or visibly working but we are reviewing monthly financial reports, talking budgets and working on saving you money. Carol Grasanti, Ruth Cheek, Lee Molloy, Jim Thompson, Fred Fargo, Margo I. Green and Elizabeth Woods take seriously their membership on the finance committee. Elizabeth Woods is the new HOA treasurer.

Be sure to let Elizabeth and all the members of the finance committee know how much you appreciate their service to BellaVita.

The Chairperson of each BellaVita committee has been asked to review their budget from 2012 and begin working on their 2013 budget. These 2013 proposed budgets are due July 16th. If you are a committee chair, please help your finance committee in meeting this deadline. If you have questions about your committee's budget, please contact Margo I. Green, your finance committee chairman, at margoigreen@gmail.com

The finance committee is looking for a few good volunteers to join our committee. If you are a retired accountant or spread sheet wiz, please contact anyone on the committee. We need you!



### Facilities Committee Report

By Fred Fargo, Chairman

The facilities committee is proud to report the Pool and Spa refurbishing project has been completed. The swimming pool, spa and fountain have been replastered. One new hand rail was added to the spa as well as an additional step, and two handrails were added to the pool. The deck has been recoated and all cracks repaired. Stabilizing material was injected to fill voids under the deck and all heaters and lights have either been repaired or replaced. The pool is officially open for your use.

#### The following are ongoing projects and/or projected items that the facilities committee is addressing:

- 1. House painting 45 out of 69 scheduled houses have been painted and the remainder should be completed by the end of May.
- 2. Front door refinishing is on schedule for those requesting service. If you need service on your door, please contact A.M.I. to be placed on the schedule.
- 3. A fence task force has been created to determine how best to handle long-term fence maintenance. We hope to have two or three alternatives to present to the Board by July.
- 4. We are currently looking for someone to head up our task force for road and curb repairs. If you have experience in this field and can lend your services, please contact me.

### Community Relations Committee ("CRC")

By Carol Barber, Chairperson

Continuing with the "health and safety" theme, the second quarter "Saturday Talk" session - 'In Case of an Emergency' - featured two guests from the City of Pearland EMS department. Chief Daniel Baum and Captain Jim Jewell presented an extremely informative program on "what to do in an emergency". They told us that our city has some of the best qualified and highly trained personnel in the area and that some personnel are working on or have already received their Masters Degree in Emergency Medical Services. Following their talk, a lively "Q and A" session was held that covered all kinds of questions and comments from the audience. The "Do Not Resuscitate" (DNR) form should be filled out by each household and the EMS has requested that it be placed on the refrigerator door or in a conspicuous place in the kitchen.



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### BellaVita Belles

"Girls Just Wanna Have Fun"

By Lynn Rodriguez, President

The Belles of BellaVita are fun-loving, have big hearts, smart and sassy, friendly and fun. We are about friendships and enjoying life. The Belles' mission is to promote various community activities and improve fellowship among the women of BellaVita and enhance the general environment of the community.

The first Friday of each month the Belles sponsor light nite at the movies. Our chairperson for the second year is Ruth Cheek and she does a great job of choosing light movies, ordering pizza and having popcorn prepared for our movie guests.

The 5th Annual Arte De BellaVita was held January 28th. As chairperson, Linda Sanders did a great job again this year gathering many of our local artists to share their artistic talents. The show was well attended and a great time was had by all.

In February, Carol Dyson assembled a group for a morning of genealogy with invited speaker from the Houston Clayton Library. Also in February, we had two sessions of One Stroke Painting by instructor Robin Tatum. With great instructions and a little talent we each took home a beautiful wine glass to hold our favorite beverage.

March brought us a great afternoon of wine tasting provided by D'Vine Styles Decor. Everyone sampled a variety of red and white wines, learned a brief history, observed aeration demonstrations, and had an opportunity to shop for unique wine tools, accessories and wine.

We collected Easter baskets again this year and delivered more than 80 baskets to the children living at the Star of Hope Mission.

Our 2nd Annual Girls Night In was a huge success. Admission was a new or gently used handbag which was donated to the Dress For Success Charity. Vendors offering jewelry, crosses, makeup, clothing and a style show by Coldwater Creek were enjoyed by everyone. A gold and silver buyer even wrote out checks on the spot for several ladies and the Belles earned \$691 by hosting a gold buying event. We talked, ate, drank, shopped and just had a really good time!!

Watch for the newsletters for upcoming events and if you haven't attended a Belles meeting or haven't been in a while, please join us on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. You'll be glad you came!





#### BellaVita Veterans Club

By Arlen Stiefvater



The Veterans Club has funded and built a crushed marble walkway providing easy entrance to the lake for our walkers. Another proposed project under consideration is to erect a barricade to prevent

someone from accidentally driving into the lake from the west end where South Lago Vista dead-ends at Riviera Circle. Tom Green made this suggestion following the death of a relative of one of our BellaVita residents. A proposal has been made to the H.O.A. Board for their consideration.

We still need volunteers for "flags up" and "flags down" time. If you have time and are physically able, please join us for this worthy project. Being a veteran is not a requirement. The work is not too hard and the time is full of jokes and laughter and the results are certainly rewarding. Our next "flags up" will be Saturday, May 26th for Memorial Day. Ladies are certainly welcomed.

All veterans who have not been entered into the Veterans database please send an e-mail to asrs1209@sbcglobal.net or bburdick1@att.net.

#### Men's Club

By Brian Himmel, President

The Men's Club kicked off 2012 in style sponsoring the first trip of the year to Coushatta in January, followed by another trip in April. Our BV residents really love these trips. They fill up quickly when advertised.

In February, the Club sponsored its annual Super Bowl Party, chaired by Cris Barrera. The game was shown on the big screen in the ballroom and was a resounding success, especially to the winners of the super bowl pot.

The St. Patrick's Day dinner and dance were chaired by Denny Mulcahy and John Devereux with a BBQ dinner prepared by Cris Barrera and other volunteers.

In March, the Men's Club marked its ten year anniversary by inviting all past officers to share a special dinner and cake.

Come join us on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 for a light dinner or snacks, and short business meeting.



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#### **ROSE** Award

The "Rose" Award is an acronym for Recognition Of Serving Extraordinarily. It is a bronze BellaVita rose custom designed by a former BellaVita resident.

The purpose of this award is to recognize a single person for an idea, solution, or project that directly benefits the entire BellaVita community and/or community life. These efforts are viewed as being "above and beyond" the normal service of homeowners. Anyone who lives in BellaVita OR any non-resident who significantly contributed to the improvement of the community is eligible for this award.

"Above and Beyond" is measured by the specific idea, solution or project which is creative, novel, valuable and directly benefits and improves the entire BellaVita community and/or BellaVita community life. The efforts may have required exceptional time or skills that are remarkable. Membership on multiple committees does not necessarily constitute "above and beyond."

What is the selection process? Nomination forms are available on the website (www.club-bellavita.org) and at the Clubhouse. Nominations are submitted to the Awards Committee, and after review, the Awards Committee makes a recommendation to the Board. This award is NOT determined by popularity. There could be some years when there is NO award presented.

The recognition and nomination period covers the calendar year preceding the presentation. For example, an award presented in 2013 would be for service in the calendar year 2012. All nominations must be submitted to the Awards Committee by February 1st. Forms may be submitted at the clubhouse or mailed to: Awards Committee, 1548 N. Riviera Circle, Pearland, TX 77581.

The ROSE is presented to the recipient by the HOA President at the annual Homeowners' Association meeting in March. *Please watch newsletters for additional information and think about potential nominees.* 

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### **EVENT SPOTLIGHT**





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Arte de BellaVita





### **EVENT SPOTLIGHT**









# One Stroke Painting









#### Grounds Committee

By Becky Spedden

#### **Frequently Asked Questions about Homeowner Yards**

- 1. Does the HOA maintain homeowner's irrigation system?
  - Your HOA dues include routine maintenance of: Sprinkler head adjustments; Repair of the sprinkler heads; and Controllers. Call AMI for any problems and place a service order. It will be reviewed and approved or the homeowner will be informed of their portion of the cost.
- 2. What does your HOA NOT cover on the irrigation system:
  - Instructing or training residents on their systems residents are responsible for setting and monitoring their own control box.
  - Modifications or additions to your original system.
  - Repairs to your system as a result of negligence, weather related occurrence, subsidence, etc. (as an
    example: if a resident fails to insulate the system from freezing temperatures, the resulting damage will
    not be covered).
  - The HOA gives a "best effort" to maintain your sprinkler system based on problems that the homeowner reports.
- 3. Who should I contact if I notice that the common area grass is dying?
  - The only common areas that have an irrigation system are around the clubhouse and around the large lake. The lake irrigations system is watered by well water and is metered by the city of Pearland. When the cap is reached, the lake area cannot be watered. All other common areas do not have irrigation and depend on rain, so that in periods of drought the common areas will become brown.

More information will be available in the weekly newsletter regarding yard maintenance.



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### A Thought to All

By Marc Wormser, Communications Committee

Residency in BellaVita affords us a great place to live and allows the opportunity to develop new friendships we might never have known. Most of us moved here with hopes that our lives would be less encumbered with the everyday issues that face people outside the gates of BellaVita. Most of us are retired, but some of our residents still work, looking forward perhaps to the day they will join our circle of retirees.

With the purchase of our homes, we signed documents relating to the policies, guidelines and restrictions established for and governing BellaVita. By our signatures, we agreed to abide by these restrictions and guidelines. This acceptance does not require participation in any of the various activities that go on at the clubhouse or in the neighborhood. That is a personal choice. We can be as much or as little involved as we want.

However, with the acceptance of these guidelines and restrictions, we have agreed to certain responsibilities as residents, among which is the election of our HOA Board. I would like to thank the 210 residents who voted in the last election. Regardless of your views or vote, you took the responsibility to vote. I am not admonishing the rest of the residents but I do wish to point out several important facts. First, if you do not participate in an election how can you complain or participate in the success or any perceived failures of BellaVita. You must give the support needed to contribute to the success of BellaVita. Second, through the democratic process afforded you, you can affect the board membership and process your views, whatever they may be. *Third*, being a small village of sorts, we work with a large budget that definitely places us outside the category of a 'club'. This requires responsible management of our money and maintenance of facilities. Your vote is critical to ensure the election of qualified board members charged with the management of our HOA funds and maintenance of the community. Now that we have a new HOA Board in place, they should receive our support, while being open to any discussion or concerns put forth from the homeowners.

Please share your voice, your vote and your wisdom with a community that is facing a number of critical issues going forth.

#### BellaVita Travelers

By Dotty Raines

A group of BellaVita Travelers left home on May 6th by luxury motor coach en route to the Smoky Mountains. The group enjoyed several shows in Pigeon Forge, including Hatfield and McCoy Dinner Feud, the Smith Family Theater, and the Smoky Mountain Opry. Other shows attended were Patty Waszak Morning Show, Country Jamboree and a tour of the historic Old Mill in Pigeon Forge.

The group also took a guided tour of the Great Smoky Mountains and enjoyed a day of shopping or sightseeing in historic downtown Gatlinburg.

The group returned home on May 12th, tired but

happy.





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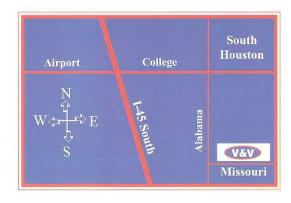
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