

Greetings from the Chair

Dear friends,

With the holidays behind us and cold weather upon us, I, for one, am looking forward to an early Spring! The new year always brings my thoughts to renewal and resolutions. I hope this new year brings continued health and happiness to you and your family.



The Board is working very hard on many projects to improve our services to our stockholders. This year we are hoping to begin the process of repairing our roads, updating our Pavilion, improving our playground, and dealing with some overdo infrastructures that have been needing repair for some time. As you might imagine, it's a fine line that divides our need to invest in our community to keep it in good working order versus passing the costs on to all of our stockholders, by raising our quarterly charges. As a board, we are very aware that there are many stockholders living on fixed incomes and increases to our quarterlies may prove to be a hardship. Please be aware that we are doing all that we can to keep our expenses in check while implementing much needed improvements.

The New Year is also a perfect time for reflecting on the year gone by and looking forward to the year ahead. Let's all appreciate the beauty of our wonderful lake, the magnificent and magical sunsets, the camaraderie of our community, the generousness of our residents and the overall care and concern we extend to each other on a daily basis. Borrowing a phrase from Dorothy in the Wizard of Oz, there really is no place like home!!!

All the best to your families!!!!

Joan Gabel Myers



Rainbow over Peach Lake

Office News From Cindy



I have a few reminders for you. The quarterly bill is enclosed with this Voice. Please check it as the amount has gone up. Payment is for Jan-Feb-March but the payment is due by January 31. There has not been finance charges since COVID, but if payment is not made by the last day of billing month, we will be accessing finance charges in the amount of 1.5%

If you have not done so already, please come to the office, fill out North End Storage form, pay \$100 per space and you will receive stickers for boat & trailer. Please take care of this by the end of January. Before you rent your house in the Town of Southeast, you need to get an Occupancy Permit. Please contact the Town for more information.

The 2022/2023 audited financials are in the office if you would like to pick up a copy.

If you need to contact the Dog Control Officer during business hours (9AM to 4:40 PM), call the Town Clerk's Office at 845-279-2196. After hours and on weekends, please call the sheriff at 845-225-4300. NO DOGS SHOULD BE WALKING AROUND VAILS GROVE OFF LEASH AND WITHOUT OWNER.

Oil tank insurance must be renewed each year and a copy of insurance needs to be sent to the office.

BOAT AMERICA Why is it important?

STATS:

More than 5,000 boaters are involved in accidents each year with over 800 fatalities. Alcohol is the leading cause of boating accidents. As of January 1, 2025 in NYS you are required to have a boater safety certificate when you operate on a NY waterway! Contact Peekskill Yacht Club at 1 Travis Pt, Riverfront Green, Peekskill, NY. James Calbo 914-522-7095 or Medic7558Agmail. PYC contact Jim Daly at 914 806 3790 <u>JimdaleyScoutleader@gmail.com</u> to find out dates and sign up.



Kathleen Devitt, former long time resident, passed away. Her daughter and son-in-law, Maureen and Richard Feliciano, are part time Vails' residents.

Best wishes to Boots Collins, Jackie Lester and Dennis Ryan



Please let the office know about any births, injury, illnesses or deaths.

Pump House From Pat McGuinness

The 10th anniversary of the installation of two new water tanks occurred in 2024. As a result, both tanks were cleaned and inspected this past November by the company Aqueous. They found the tanks to be in excellent condition. They offered recommendations for a couple of improvements but nothing that affects the safe storing of our water supplies. These recommendations will be reviewed in the upcoming year. Our thanks go out to VRI for their on site cooperation and assistance during this process.

Boat Ramp/North End Storage From Pat McGuinness

New signs reflecting the rules and regulation (always subject to change) regarding storaging at the North End have been posted in two locations. One is attached to the entrance gate. The other sign is posted in clear sight attached to a tree, approximately 100 ft from the entrance, on the right side of the yard for all to see. As stated in previous meetings, failure to follow the posted rules could result in fines and or possible exclusion from storing in the North End. When the time comes, everyone's cooperation in adhering to the posted rules will be much appreciated. Thanks to Cindy and Dave Janecek for their assistance in the making and attaching of these signs.

Buildings and Grounds from Michael Early

The winter season has arrived. Bringing colder weather and the potential for snow / ice.

Over the past year we have addressed several long-standing drainage issues throughout the community. These upgrades should bring improvements and the reduction of ice forming on our roads in some areas. We still have several other areas that should be addressed in the future as well. If you believe there is a potential drainage or icing concern, please send notification to the board of directors.

There were many repairs and improvements throughout the 2024 year. One of them being the construction of our new basketball court in the playground area. Hopefully, next year we will see additional items added, such as new benches, lights, and other equipment. Half of the funds for this project originated from donations and fundraising efforts. Thank you to all who volunteered and donated. Any additional contributions towards the playground and basketball court are welcome as well. Perfect opportunities to dedicate a bench in memoriam to someone.

A gentle reminder to slow down and please observe the 10 MPH speed limit while traveling through Vails Grove. The winter and holidays are a wonderful time for us to gather with loved ones. Holiday events and parties attract countless guests to the community. Consideration for neighbors is appreciated. Kindly ask visitors to use caution and avoid parking on the roads. Preferably park in the many community lots. Certain streets are narrow and almost one lane. Street parking can make passing difficult and block traffic.

The safety of our roads for all to utilize is one of the great facets of the Vails Grove community. Please keep an eye out and use caution while navigating our roads. We have numerous residents, young children, and pets that enjoy being outside no matter what mother nature brings.

Wishing everyone a wonderful holiday and Happy New Year!

Recreation Report By Peter Vincent

There will be a football playoff party and the selling of superbowl boxes - DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED



December 14th

Holiday party mummy making contest



