



SUNSCAPE WAY HAPPENINGS

VOLUME 4

FEBRUARY ISSUE 2018

Medical/Fire Emergency Call 9-1-1, say Pinal County so that the call is directed properly.

SUNSCAPE PARK PARTY STORY

While most of our Members are well aware of what Park Party is all about, our newer owners and renters and or their guests might be wondering what kind of “party” we are referring to.

Park Party, as I understand it, originally involved a single street where the neighbors decided it would be worthwhile to have a season end event for everyone to celebrate together, with various games and competitions. It then moved to another street each year and ultimately became a Park wide event.

At the outset it was a one day affair, however for the past number of years it has grown into a full week of activities and events.

Specific dates and times will be published in the Activity Directors Weekly Agenda, however this year’s Park Party week is scheduled for **March 2nd thru 10th**, for most events, PLUS our now annual **February 14th Valentines** event, also a fund raiser for Park Party.

Other events generally include a **Golf Tournament** (held across the street at Terra Grande), various **Pickleball** competitions, both a **Women’s and Men’s Billiard Tournament**, a **Shuffleboard Shootout** and a **Dart Tournament**. Card players can compete in **Minnesota Canasta and Pinochle** playoffs.

There is a **Variety Show** with lots of Sunscape talent, a **Silent and Live Auction** (referred to as the **Sip Snack and Bid**) which has some really unique items from our various donors, a **Mystery Dinner** (this year includes a **Medieval Theme**), a huge **Garage Sale** (if you have items to donate please drop them off at Lot 1), a **Bake Sale** (satisfy that sweet tooth), a variety of **Games** to participate in including the crowd favorites of our **Amazing Challenge and Golf Cart Races**. The **Pet-tacular pet show** usually brings out some crazy costumes. For all you gamblers, our **Raffle** offers great odds on winning a **total of \$1000.00 in cash prizes**, or if you enjoy playing poker for fun, we wind the week up with **Casino Night**.

Park Party has raised well in excess of \$100,000.00 over the past 10 years alone, funding a variety of both small and large projects. Most notably are the **Welcome Center**;
Cont'd page 4

Happiness

By Hal Pullin

A friend, just out of the blue one morning, spontaneously shared that when she had awoke she noticed she felt really happy.

I have been noticing people laughing and a high degree of participation in all kinds of activities. Sometimes the laughter from pickle-ball court is joyous. It is my belief this is a very special place that has an unusually high degree of happiness.

I have been a student of happiness ever since I was very unhappy some thirty years ago. A year of therapy helped me learn to stop my focusing on the negative (playing victim) and to count my blessings daily.

I have been asking people at Sunscape to give me three words that contribute to their happiness. Friends and family, was the most frequent response followed by, good health, and sunshine. One person said “liking herself” was the most important thing and another said accepting “what is” and choosing to see that glass as half full.

One article I recently read listed the three main components of happiness as community, autonomy, and purpose. I think what makes this place unique is that we are a co-op. We are all in this together, it is ours to make of it what we will. It is good we are empowered with having a voice, it is good that in our self governing system our voices can be heard.

I have been attending the town hall and the board meetings and have come to two conclusions. One, we are being well managed and two, we are in good financial shape.

11th Annual Board of Directors/Candidate Workshop

Another great Workshop on “What’s Up Ahead....Our Infrastructure & Financing Options”.

Review of our Park Roads, Aging Water System, Power Pedestals, Communications, Sewer System and the Park Buildings was presented to give the members a perspective of our aging infrastructure and to keep us aware of ways to maintain, preserve and/or improve our Park for the future. Reality tell us that over the coming years, several issues need to be addressed for Sunscape. **Everything has a life**. The current estimate to maintain and preserve our major infrastructure is \$1.3 Million. Our contributions to the Reserve Fund, is one way to pay for the work to be done.

The Administrative Support Committee was given the task in January of 2017 to begin the research on alternative funding for major projects. With their informative presentation of our beginning in 1985 to present day, it’s clear that much has been accomplished in 30+ years. However, with that comes the reality that we’re getting “older”. Remember, **everything has a life**. Their mission in the next few months will be to inform and educate our members on alternative ways to fund major projects. A Loan Amortization approach has both current and future members paying based on ownership. Thus, major projects could be funded sooner, rather than later.

We all will be given the opportunity to learn more in the Spring and Fall of 2018. Knowing and understanding our options will give us, the Membership, the power to be informed voters when the question is asked!

CONTINUING OUR SERIES OF
“HOW WE GOT HERE FROM
THERE”

Herb Ganske

Sky High-No Net

Imagine walking across a six inch wide steel beam 500 feet in the air with the city below and cars that look the size of ants. Sunscape resident Herb Ganske was at home up there and instrumental in building the Seattle World's Fair Space Needle in 1961. He worked as the Steel Erection Foreman the entire six months it took to build the Needle. But the story of that project and the other engineering feats he and his crew completed tell an engaging chronicle of daring we can't comprehend today. The Needle is 500 feet tall with the torch on top reaching 600 feet. Those who were building it didn't wear safety harnesses and some steel workers didn't even have hard hats. The steel workers wore boots with cork soles for better traction while walking on the steel beams. The Space Needle crew had no injury losses during the six month building project. Just imagine being up 200 or 400 or 500 feet with wind blowing and having to concentrate on making sure two steel beams matched up or having to weld the seams while balancing on the beam. At one time Herb was bet fifty dollars he couldn't walk around the 8-inch steel beam frame on the outside of the circular restaurant. He completed the circuit on the exposed beam and collected that fifty!

Herb Ganske was raised on a farm with a large family in western North Dakota. After he left school, Herb farmed for a couple years, but the farm operation had already been spoken for by his elder siblings who were returning from service in the military during WWII.

In 1948, Herb headed west to Billings, Montana, where he paid \$106 for a union card and became an iron worker for a construction

company. Herb knew nothing about the steel construction business, but quickly learned on the job.

Over the next 43 years, Herb's adventurous spirit took him from Montana to Minneapolis to Greenland to Seattle. Herb climbed around the steel skeletons of tall buildings and bridges while connecting, bolting, and welding steel beams, some of which were massive in size.

In addition to his instrumental role on the Seattle Space Needle in 1961, Herb also accepted a six-month contract to help build a 125 foot square communications building in Greenland in the summer of 1959. The 8"x 12" wood beam footings for the building were dug down 20 feet into solid ice, with another 300 feet of glacial ice below the footings. The steel and wood construction building was sitting on sixteen 400-ton jacks. Each year for ten years the building was lifted three feet to accommodate Greenland's annual accumulation of snow and ice. After being raised 30 feet over a ten year period, the building was abandoned. It is now covered by more than 150 feet of solid glacial ice.

Herb said the most serious injury he ever incurred was blackened finger nails. He planned to work until he was 65, but at 62, having never been seriously injured, decided to give up steel construction.

Herb and Marie, his wife of 45 years, have been staying at Sunscape since 1993. Shortly after Herb and Marie landed in Sunscape the activity building burned down. Herb volunteered to help build an activity building of steel. Following that he used his expertise along with Jim Grimes and the late Larry Eginore to construct the

community center and maintenance shed.

Iron-man Herb hasn't totally given up working with metal. He can often be found sorting metal and plastic as a volunteer in the Sunscape Park recycling area. If you'd like to hear more of Herb's exploits, drop in for coffee at Maintenance shop in the morning, but keep your feet on the floor if you're afraid of heights.

By Sharon Durken and Howard Anderson 2018

Bocce Ball update:

The changes to the Bocce Ball Court have been completed and the court is ready for play. All of you that showed an interest and support for a Bocce Ball Court please come out and give it a try.

We would like to give a special "thank you" to the following individuals for their help in this construction project. Richard Verduco from the Maintenance Dept. was great in his help in ordering and getting the material and supplies we needed. Mike Stone, also from Maintenance, was a big help in shoveling sand. Loren Isberg planned the project and worked very hard on all aspects with ideas and labor. The following men gave of their time and labor to complete the project: George Stryker, Kirk Wagner, Tony Van Tiel, Wayne Kissick and Wayne Smith. Thanks also to Gary Sloulin for the loan of a landscape rake to smooth the court surface.

Thank you everyone who has come to the Bocce Ball meetings and also those who stopped by the court during our construction project. Thank you all for your constructive ideas and suggestions. This is an ongoing endeavor and some of these good suggestions will be utilized in the future.

We realize that there are many different ways to play Bocce Ball. One form has been posted for those who have never played. When you and your friends come to play, please use whatever rules you agree on and play. Have fun.

Wayne Smith, Bocce Ball Coordinator

Happy Hour by Sharon Durken 2018

You won't hear a whistle or bells ringing, but 4:00 pm at Sunscape is the common starting time of the long and honored tradition of happy hour. Wine bottles are uncorked, beer chilled and snacks prepared as folks scurry across the park to join friends in relaxing, friendly gatherings.

One of the earliest records of a happy or social hour was noted in 1913 aboard the US Navy ship the USS Arkansas. By the end of WWI happy hour was a staple in the US Navy.

During prohibition when the Eighteenth Amendment and Volstead Act were passed (1920), banning the manufacture, sale, and transport of alcohol, people responded by holding cocktail happy hours in speakeasies and gin joints.

Enforcement of the law was not easy. Americans are an ingenious breed and soon learned to circumvent the law by opening pharmacies which issued medicinal whiskey. Bootleggers found running pharmacies so profitable that in NY State the number of pharmacies tripled during prohibition. Wine for religious reasons was okay which resulted in an increase in the number of self-proclaimed religious and rabbis. Home brew kits were sold in hardware stores with a warning that if the ingredients fermented for too long it would result in an alcoholic drink. Some unscrupulously concocted wood alcohol proved to be deadly to scores of imbibers.

The Twenty-first Amendment repealed Prohibition in 1933. The intended results of Prohibition were never realized and the public pressure and economic impact was dramatic. During the first year after repeal the Federal Government collected \$285 million in alcohol taxes which represented 9% of the government's tax revenue, according to Daniel Okrent in his book; "Last Call: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition."

Although in 1933 Prohibition was repealed by the Twenty-first Amendment some counties continued to restrict alcohol sales. The last dry state was Mississippi which ended Prohibition in 1966. Next time 4:00 rolls around just think how life would be at Sunscape if the Eighteenth Amendment had not been repealed.

FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS by Mary D.

About 8 years ago a friend in the park started neighbors helping neighbors, it kind of died but had some monies in an account in the park. I was trying to help some folks out with an electric bill that went out

of sight and asked our bookkeeper if we could use that money to help them. Friends Helping Friends was then formed in my mind and I got a few friends to help me set up a program.

We decided to do bake sales to raise money in case anyone else needed help with electric, medicine, meals, food or gas. The needs just kept popping up as we started looking around. Rides to doctors, shopping for anyone down for a while. Gas cards for people having to go into doctors often. Memorials for members loved ones. We gave rides and still do to the airports and people pay a donation, so this also went into our fund.

I started, a few years back getting the Friday fritters as a fundraiser and to have a little social gathering. I took this over from a member who no longer could go get the fritters and now I have my committee all take turns going for them. We make five dollars on a dozen fritters, but every little bit helps.

If anyone would like to talk to me about giving or getting help, please feel free to contact me. I am at lot #345 on Indiana. I appreciate all the support we have gotten from our awesome park. Hope this answers some questions about what we are all about.

No one at anytime gets the names of those we help, we decide as a group of 7 members how to help those in need. Our monies are kept in an account with our bookkeeper here in the park. We all work toward just helping our members in need.

Letter to BOD & Manager from 'Anonymous New Members'

The BOD has requested that we include this letter in this issue of the newsletter. It was decided to publish this letter after much discussion and concern that 'new members' would have such a negative impression of our Park, however; it is a point of view that should be addressed and open rather than whispers and fuel for rumors. This issue has been stated as a reason that possible new members have decided to look elsewhere.

January 28, 2018

Dear Board of Directors and Manager,

We recently retired, and after listening to couples from back east, we tried out Sunscape as a possible place to spend our winters. We knew that we wanted a retirement resort that offered security, senior-focused amenities and a sense of community. One that would allow us to be happy, active and to have social connections with other residents. Upon arriving at Sunscape we had a few cheerful discussions about the park from positive members. It started out well and then someone moved the rocks and all kinds of creatures crawled out. Before the ink was dry on the closing documents we were witness to a total disrespectful revolt in a public meeting. It all makes us wonder if we had made a bad decision joining this RV Resort.

We were business professionals in the past so we did a "push-back" to really look at what was going on within this RV community. WE have learned the cooperative contains two major factions within the block walls; what we call the "originals" and the "younger ones". Distinctively it appears that the small band of "originals" is determined to undermine the cooperative. They need excessive attention and get it by behaving inappropriately in public. Do these members have low self-esteem, a lack of self-confidence, low levels of self-worth or self-love or feelings of insecurity? Whatever is going on with them it is detrimental to the good order and business worth of Sunscape.

On the other side of the fence, "the younger ones" are taking the wrath while honestly trying to conduct business in a professional manner
Con't PG 4

Con't Letter
determined to make Sunscape a desirable destination for future retirees. From a business standpoint: what we have seen from several public meetings is that the Board of Directors and management have right to be free from acts or threats of disrupted behavior, including intimidation, harassment, which involve the Sunscape Community. The governing organization should not tolerate any member, visitor, or employee, acting individually or in concert with others, who clearly obstructs or disrupts any administrative, public activity or any other workplace held on Sunscape property. This is clearly disruptive behavior. It is inappropriate behavior that interferes with the functioning and flow of the workplace. It hinders or prevents the Board and management from carrying out their professional responsibilities. So what is my objective? I am asking for some type of resolution to this obvious political divide that will eventually destroy the positive attributes of Sunscape. Seek out some sort of training, seminars, or professional counseling that will open the eyes of this membership and allow them to see how destructive they have become. If this type of behavior continues then the only resolution would be hiring a management company which would cause the assessments to rapidly increase each year. Come on people, its retirement and it is supposed to be enjoyable!
Also, we are signing this letter "anonymous" because we fear retaliation as has happened with other members that have been involved in progressive improvements in Sunscape.
Very Respectfully,
"Anonymous New Members"

PARK PARTY

Cont'd from page 1
the **Multi-use Pickleball Courts**; the **Shuffleboard Courts**. In the past, spending Park Party funds required a vote of the Membership, and still would for very large projects. However last year our Members passed a ballot that now allows the Board to approve immediate funding of one or more projects each year, up to a combined total of \$15,000.00 per annum. In the past, funding approval for a project often took up to 3 years from the time of proposal to completion, and PP Volunteers developed the ballot proposal as they were tired of watching inflation erode the value of what they had worked hard to raise.

And despite the inaccurate rumors being spread by some Members who disagree with construction of the new pool Pergola and Bocce Ball Courts, and suggest they were built using funds from the Sunscape Reserve Fund, in fact both projects were funded by Park Party! Our 2017 Park Party raised \$17,500.00 and we currently have an outstanding balance of almost \$30,000.00. And we would also like to acknowledge the generosity of the Richard Chopping family, who donated \$2000.00 to our 2018 Park Party fund from their recent Estate Sale. Richard was a respected Member of our Park and will be missed!

Any Member who feels they have a worthwhile idea for a Park Party funded project should complete an Action Request Form (ARF available in the Welcome Center). Criteria should include how it would benefit a cross section of our Members, and a thorough research of the cost/supplier etc. While there are no set limitations, ideally Park Party funds should go towards "extras" that enhance the overall enjoyment and general appeal of our great Park. Park Party funds are not normally intended for Capital projects.

In addition to fundraising success, Park Party's core purpose is to bring our Member's together socially before the majority leave for home over the summer. We have an exceptional number of first time renters and owners in the Park this year, and there is no easier way to get to know a lot of people fast than Park Party. So please join in!

Finally, we would be remiss if we did not thank our many donors both outside (Merchants) and inside (Member's) the Park. We publish the Merchant list throughout our peak season and encourage Members to patronize the establishments. And we particularly appreciate the generosity of our own talented members who craft or build a myriad of unique items for our Silent and Live Auction.

And if you would like to volunteer to help out, please email me at terrydonnie@shaw.ca or drop by Lot 448.

Terry Kehler 2018 Park Party Chair

ROAD SAFETY

We have been asked to mention a safety issue within the park. Rules of the road outside the park apply to the roads within the park. We have a speed limit - 10 mph This applies not only to cars and trucks but

also to GOLF CARTS & BICYCLES. Walk on the left hand side of the road facing traffic - NOT DOWN THE MIDDLE. Use a flashlight when walking at night. Let drivers and possibly snakes know you are there. Look both ways before you enter the road , too many people are just walking onto the road without checking for traffic. These are the basic rules you probably taught your children. We just need a reminder. The rules apply to us as well.

MY CAR IS POSSESSED

I am driving around in a 2005 car that knows all about me and my finances. It is possessed, it listens to me and sends mind waves to me.

Last year I started saving for a new car. Then the car found out about my plans and started making parts break, just so I would change my mind about getting a new car. So I set about to read brochures, watch commercials and look at the Internet for the best deal. I could feel that new car already! WOW was I excited. Then the car made a plan to get revenge and make my decision more difficult by making me drive around in a rebuilt car. Over the year whenever the car found out I had some extra money in my pocket it would break something. Fix, fix, fix, is all that I did. At years end I took a walk far away from the car's power and found out that I was driving around in an often repaired car that wasn't worth anything. Guess What?The car did not win! I am now the happy owner of a big new car. As I was driving away from the dealership I was struck by how much repair money was wasted on the car while I put off any sort of improvement. The light bulb came on and I realized that this is the same type of situation we have here in Sunscape. Defer maintenance and perform repairs on buildings and the infrastructure until it is too late. At some point there must be major overhauls or replacements before there is no value left at all.

Like the episode with the car, decision making is not easy but with good planning and research the best solution is obvious. Like the car the BOD makes plans, collects data and makes an informed decision. In our cooperative the recommended decision is followed by a democratic vote process. Your vote is the expression of their decision. We also have to be aware that Sunscape may also be possessed and will start listening or sending us mind waves.