



Elections & Safety Concerns Highlight Residents Assoc. Annual Mtg.

A standing-room-only crowd of residents attending the 16th annual meeting of the RCR Residents Association at the Rec Hall on Jan. 26 elected Larry Falcone of Macungie, PA, and George Shepard, of Allentown, PA, to fill the expired terms of Al Santini and Caroline Goode on the Association's Board of Directors.. Ed Fisher, of Stafford Springs, CT., was re-elected to his third three-year term on the Board.



Larry Falcone, is an Engineering graduate of Penn State Univ., and a former purchasing and materials manager for a major air products and chemical company. He is hiking the Appalachian Trail and is within 190 miles of completing the 2200 mile trek.

George Shepard is "semi" retired and still very active as a partner in a New Jersey firm, Antenna Systems Audit and Testing. "I wear about five different hats working with our company," he says, "but I'm primarily responsible for financial and legal matters."

Ed Fisher is very active as a volunteer at RCR, serving as Chairman of the Pancake Breakfast Committee and Italian Fest event and as a committee member for the German Fest. He has been building sets for RCR's annual Variety Show for the past 10 years and is proud of being the "oldest man" on the RCR Association's Board of Directors.

Dale Baker, who established and manages the "Gramma's Attic" program of loaning furniture, bicycles, and a wide variety of other useful items to RCR residents, spoke at the meeting about several safety matters of con-

cern to everyone including the need to guard the safety of children visiting RCR in particular. She said she would refuse to loan bicycles to children in the future if they did not wear safety helmets. And she warned everyone against the danger of allowing children to drive golf carts.

She pointed out that golf cart drivers are required to have a valid driver's license and that any accident involving children could jeopardize their ability to visit relatives in the park in the future. She joined several other speakers in voicing concerns about potential accidents involving golf carts and cars being driven too fast in the park and urged everyone to be cautious and "slow down."

Kerry Gonnam, President of the Residents Association Board of Directors, noted that the upgrading and expansion of the new ELS WI-Fi (wireless internet connection system) should be completed soon and will be made available to all RCR residents. He said the new service will be offered "free of charge" for one month for individuals interested in having it connected to their site. The service is now provided at no cost to residents at the Rec Hall, Club House and in the Office area. This will continue to be the case for the foreseeable future.

Gonnam urged everyone to take full advantage of all the communication facilities that RCR offers, including the bulletin boards located on the veranda and outside the Rec Hall and Club House for posting notices of special events, sales and services, the Real Macaw newsletter published monthly, the RCR TV channel, and the RCR Website. In addition, the Association maintains a suggestion box in the mail room that residents can use to suggest improvements or note any problems you feel should be addressed.



Association Board



Message from the Manager



Jason Rosenberg
Park Manager

I hope that everyone had a safe and joyous holiday season. I would like to thank everyone that delivered cookies, candy and fudge to the office for Christmas. We really enjoyed the treats and the gesture! The Capital Improvement Plan for 2012 has cleared the first approval hurdle. We hope to have corporate approval by the end of February.

Please remember to obey the speed limit in the resort and through the s-curve. People are still driving too fast as they approach the gate and once they drive through. Please use caution!

Please remember to use Blue Cards if you see something that needs to be repaired in the Fitness Center, Internet Café, Card Room, Laundry Room, etc. We do our best to address your concerns as quickly as possible.

Also, please make sure that you clean up after your dogs, especially if they relieve themselves in someone’s yard.

I continue to receive complaints about barking dogs, especially during “quiet hours” after 10 pm. I recognize that dogs bark and are hard at times to control, but continue to do whatever you can to subdue your dogs.

Have a great month!

Jason Rosenberg

Save the Date!!!

The “Showboat” runs aground in Dona Bay on March 9th & 10th!

Rumor has it that this sea craft features some weird but wonderful acts.

For only \$3.00...that’s right, only \$3.00... AND a donation to the food pantry (any non-perishable food item), you will see acts unlike any ever per-

formed before!!!



The Royal Coachman Players production of Showboat is the “must attend” event of the season.

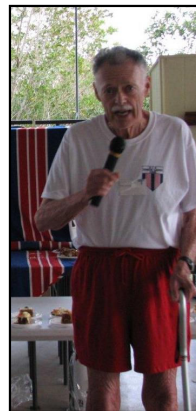
Check the park TV channel to get up to date information about ticket sales.

Peter Crich

Here Come the Games!!

One of the most popular events of the season is the “Games.” They were originally introduced to the park by Hal Scott, who was a champion swimmer in the senior games in his home state of Illinois.

Hal and his wife Ida thought that it was something that would be great for the seniors in our park...They got a “committee” together... namely Pat DeWitt, and recruited volunteers to be captains of various teams...



Hal Scott

and the games began!

That was 11 years ago, and they were delighted that they had almost 100 participants!

The second year participation doubled and it is now a tradition here in RCR.

The Scotts left the park three years ago due to poor health, and we were sad to hear that Ida passed away a few months ago.

But they left their mark...and the games are flourishing thanks to Hal’s determination to fulfill a dream.

The Real Macaw Sponsored by Encore RCR Super Park Manager, Jason Rosenberg
Editors: Ralph & Marion Barnes Layout: Ray Schilling & Kerry Gonnam
Contributors: Mary Jane Franklin Kerry Gonnam Ray Schilling
Photographers: Kerry Gonnam, Connie Garrison, Sarah Boehmer



Message from the Association President



Kerry Gonnam
Board President

As I write this in the middle of January I am sitting on my porch enjoying the sunset. Today we had a cold front come through and woke up to a low of 43. That's OK. I believe that was the high in N.W. PA. Seriously, so far it has been a moderate winter and it looks like that will continue.

This year seems to be a year of change for our park. Long time park residents have elected to leave or regrettably have passed on. New residents are taking their places and it is important that our RCR resident family welcome these new folks and get them involved in the park. I have said before but; it bears repeating RCR gives us the physical setting and attributes of the park; but, it is the residents that give it its personality.

Our volunteer organization is second to none in providing interesting, entertaining, and fun activities for everyone's participation. So invite that new neighbor of yours to join you at your favorite activity.

I'm knocking on wood hard as I write this but so far the season has been remarkably free of problems. Security has not been an issue; however, we need to keep our guard up and lock our doors and autos to prevent "opportunistic" crime. And folks, keep alert on the streets and drive a safe 10 mph. The last thing we want is a serious accident in the park.

By the time you read this we will have had our Annual Residents Meeting and our election for the board. I hope you all have attended the meeting and participated in the election process. Those of us who serve appreciate your support.

Kerry Gonnam

Italian Fest

The Italian Fest was its usual sell-out. The wonderful chicken Parmesan, ziti and salad, catered by Angelo's Italian Market was topped off with a crowd pleasing spumoni dessert provided by Bentley's Ice Cream.



"Heart and Soul"

Everyone agreed that the band, "Heart and Soul," was simply tops! The music they played was great for both dancing and just plain listening.

Doris and Ed Fisher chaired the event with the

help of numerous volunteers, and Al Santini acted as MC.

All in all it was a perfect way to spend an evening. Ciao!

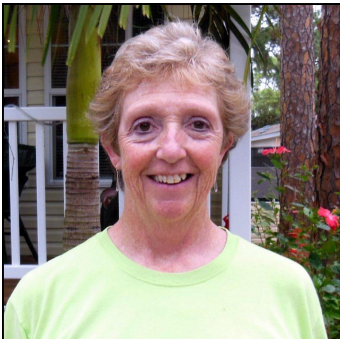


Al Santini
Master of Ceremonies





Activities Report



Lori Lilly
Activities Director

Wow! What a January it has been. There has been something going on for just about anybody. There also have been a lot of new services offered this year. Brian from White Cement did a great job getting us all set up with mulch and MJ, the massage therapist, has helped keep the aches and pains away.

Nomads coffee has been added at the veranda Monday thru Friday 7 – 11 am. Meet your friends at the pool and enjoy a fresh cup along with a sweet treat. Men's coffee club is Wednesdays at 8:00am... coffee and a donut for \$2.00. Great price and it's like having your own Starbuck's right here!

The dog groomer is here every Sunday at the front of the park to keep our special friends looking good, and Bentley's is back again with all his wonderful tasty ice cream treats.

If you have not had a chance to check out movie night, you need to put it on your schedule. The new screen is awesome and a great way to spend an evening right here in paradise.

Italian Fest was sold out and the music of Heart and Soul was a huge hit. They will be returning next year to do it again.

The dog show was added this year and was a fun day for all...both spectators and dogs.

The annual health fair offered a lot of information and was a good way to learn of area services. There will be another fair on March 25th.

All you hippies were called out and showed up in style at the first reunion. What happens at the reunion stays at the reunion! If you missed this you can get your tie dyed shirt done this summer for the second reunion on January 18, 2014. There was a Casino Party and Ladies Day Out. Those were just some of the things highlighted. Now into February....I hope

you're not tired yet, because we still have more things to do.

February will kick off with the famous German Fest which is already sold out again.

You are welcome to attend the Super Bowl party in the clubhouse starting at 5:00 pm. Bring your own snacks and beverage and cheer on your team. Meet-n-Greet is back on the 4th. Come and meet your new neighbors or just find out what is new that is happening.

A really fun boat trip is open to all on the 7th. You will be picked up here by motor coach at 9:30, drive to Bradenton to board the boat for a two hour tour, arrive back at Pier 22 for lunch (included), then be transported to the Ellenton Mall for 1 ½ hour shopping and back to RCR around 5:00 pm. Everything included for \$59.00 pp.

February 12 you can sign up for a free breakfast and hear a presentation from Medical Air Service Association. Please sign up in the lounge if you plan to attend.

Grab your sweetheart and attend the Valentine Dance on the 14th at 7:30 with music from Daniel Paul.

The annual fashion show at 1:00 in the Rec Hall will be on the 15th. There also will be a show of Brian Gurl on the 26th at 7 pm.

Along with all this and more we will be having Senior Games!!

If you would like to get involved and help out at any events, we are always looking for volunteers. Please see Pat Lang at site at #544 or attend the volunteer meeting on Feb. 20th at 1:00 in the clubhouse. Don't forget to check out the TV for all the latest happenings and updates. There is now a hidden number in the messages. Place your name and unit number along with the hidden number in the specially marked box in the lounge. This will make you eligible for a drawing of a free pizza! New number every two weeks.

Lori Lilly

Men...Dont miss Men's Wednesday morning coffee on the veranda.



News Around the Park

Hippie Dance Party

On January 19, 2013, which happened to be Janis Joplin's birthday, about 100 RCR residents took a trip back in time at the Hippie Reunion and 60s Dance Party.

Chaired by Connie Garrison with music provided by DJ Harry Wright "The Wright DJ", the party featured 60s tunes for listening and dancing.



There was a limbo contest, hula contest, a conga line and other popular party dances, as well as tons of great 60s music. Everyone had plenty of refreshments and seemed to really enjoy their blast from the past!

Save your hippie duds for next year – the date has been tentatively set for Jan 18. Far out!



Connie Garrison

Entertainment was provided by volunteers - Doris Fisher, gave us an Aging Hippie's Bedtime Story (his teeth went into the glass), Jean Grout, helped us update some 60s song titles to our age group (I get by with a little help from Depends), and Jane Green and Frank Gawkowski did a skit as Gladys Hormsby and Tyrone Horneigh from Saturday Night Live (would you like to call me an ambulance?).

Connie G and Ken Cawthorne (yes, that was KEN!) did a Sonny and Cher tune, and Ken followed up with a rousing rendition of "Everybody Must Get Stoned!" that brought the house down.

Many of the partiers dressed in 60s style, much to the amusement of their friends and neighbors who sometimes had trouble figuring out who was who. In keeping with the times, a mystery streaker got everyone's attention part-way through the party.

Lots of guests took a ride on the Magic Bus, and we all puzzled over the photos from the 60s – some famous people, and some residents.





More...News Around the Park

The Dog Show is Back!

Happy tails to you! The RCR Dog Show has made a comeback! Many of the people in our park have furry companions, and so we decided to have a fun dog show for you.

Starting with the costume class, the well-dressed pups competed. Duffy, dressed in a red tux, owned by Deanne and Irv Nourse won the blue ribbon! Honey, owned by Barb Stanton, was awesome at the close Heel and Sit competition, winning the blue ribbon.

Heel, Sit and Stay Class was won by Kai, owned by Penny Curtis. Down and stay competition went again to Kai with a close second on the return. Fetch class went to Duffy, with a lot of cute laughs for Daisy, owned by Linda and Jerry Rogers. After lot of laughs we went on to waggiest tail, with Daisy, Duffy, and Bella, owned by Donna Garbacz, won in a close call again by Daisy. Best barker was a tie between Tango, owned by Reg and Mary Lou Bungay, and Daisy, with the other dogs cheering on! "Couldn't get a word in!"

Thanks to Reg and Marylou we had a jumping class with some limbo dogs included. After the jump was raised Kai came out the winner of the high jump. Trick Class brought roars of laughter with Duffy,

Daisy, and Tango all showing off their best tricks. The crowd really loved this one, and they won all our hearts in a tie for first place blue!

Since we have a lot of seniors we wanted to see who the senior dog was. The Oldest dog class was won by Sam, a Pom-shitzu at 19, owned by Bill Rogowski (Sam's going great!), followed by beautiful Abbey, at 13, owned by Reg and Mary Lou Bungay. Go Abby! The youngest dog went to the awe-

some looking, five year old Tango, owned by Reg and Marylou. Finishing up the competition with the largest dog, Tango, winning the blue and the smallest dog, Sam, taking home another blue. Thanks to Scott McGrail, who helped judge (not an easy job), Roy and Sharon Brown, who helped keep track of the winners, Noreen Brezowski, runner



The winners all! (l to r) Reg and Mary Lou Bungay with Tango and Abby, Penny Curtis with Kai, Deanne Nourse with Duffy, Barb Stanton with Honey, Bill & Corrine Rogowski with Sam and Linda Rogers with Daisy.

and photos, and all the helpers and people that came to watch, laugh and support us!

Again thanks to Petco, Pet Smart, the Pet Supermarket and Pawprint Essentials for their great prizes. Can't wait till next year; we'll be having it at the Bandstand!

Sarah Boehmer

Welcome to Encore...

Among the many volunteers who helped put together the hundreds of "Encore Welcome bags" that were distributed to residents were:



l-r Pat DeWitt, Doris Fisher, Judy Spiller, Sue Vandepanne, Sarah Boehmer and Jane Kirwin.



This 'N' That

The Red Hat Society

We have two Red Hat groups here in the park. The oldest one, the Encore Superettes, was started 10 years ago. The primary purpose is social interaction and bonding among women.

An offshoot, The Red Hat "Jamboree," started a few years later. The group meets the first Thursday of the month for a salad and dessert luncheon. At that meeting we break up into two groups and plan what we will do in the upcoming weeks. It might be shopping, a movie, eating out or a trip to some place of interest.

For example, in December, about 14 of us, including some husbands, went on the Christmas Canal



Cruise from Fisherman's Wharf in Punta Gorda.

We send notifications of upcoming events, and any member can choose to join any event with any group.

One of our upcoming trips is a "Duck Tour."

Members 50 and over are called "Red Hatters," and wear purple attire and, of course, red hats.

A woman under age 50 is welcome to join, but she wears a pink hat.

There are thousands of Red Hat chapters in the United States, and local chapters in countries all over the world from Ecuador to Finland from New

Zealand to Luxemburg....Ever hear of Mamibia? There are Red Hatters there.

Jean Grout

Hank and Barb Migliozi

Acting on a tip from Duane Dossan I recently sat down with Hank and Barb Migliozi who lived at Unit 511 on Osprey Ct. I say lived because they have sold their unit and have left the park for their northern home in Massachusetts. We certainly wish them well; but, would be remiss if we did not recognize their longtime contribution to the park.

Hank was one of the original founders of the Royal Coachman Residents Association and served as the first president of the board. He told me this was about seventeen years ago when the Levine family was struggling with how to divest themselves of the park. Naturally the residents were concerned about this process and real-



Hank Migliozi

ized they needed an organized voice to make their wishes known.

Hank and his fellow organizers began, like most groups, with suspicion and antagonism by management. Over the years the Residents Association has grown into an organization that works along with park management for the good of the residents.

As current president of the board I was extremely pleased by Hank's compliments regarding our current board and our relationship with the park.

Hank, we owe it all to you and your contemporaries for laying out the base. We thank you and salute your service to RCR. You will be missed.

Kerry Gonnam



"Dulcimer Crossing....."

If you've strolled by the clubhouse on Wednesday mornings between 10 a.m. and noon, you may have heard some beautiful music mingling with the usual birdsong. It's the Royal Coachman Dulcimer group's weekly practice! If you peek in the door, you'll see between 15 and 20 mountain dulcimer players strumming away. They sit in a circle, and take turns calling out favorite tunes to share. Some rehearsal time is spent gearing up for performances at local nursing homes or for events in the park like the car show, or at our Church in the Pines.

The mountain dulcimer is a first cousin to the hammer dulcimer – that's the one that's struck with wooden hammers. Mountain dulcimers have only 3 or 4 strings that are plucked with a pick or simply with your fingers. If you ask any true blue mountain dulcimer player, the mountain dulcimer is much more REAL than its hammer dulcimer cousin. It's an American ORIGINAL, first created in the mountains of Appalachia over a century ago.

The music of the mountain dulcimer is simple and free, but not always simple to play! Most dulcimer players are not trained musicians, but have discovered the joy of music in learning tunes by rote, without reading notes. The printed music is called Tab, and is represented by numbers that designate required strings and frets. Players help each other with fingerings and rhythms. The spirit of the dulcimer gives players freedom to strum their music the way they



feel it.....no two playing exactly the same way. The total effect, when playing in a group, is not a clean unison, but a tapestry of sound created by players in tune with their own hearts, yet connected with each other in a special bond.

Jan Nowosad, the leader of our dulcimer group, got started back in 2004 when she arrived from Michigan, looking for people to play. She put a message on the RCR TV channel, and soon found two dulcimer players to join her. It wasn't long before several other "wannabes" came forward and asked Jan to teach them. Jan replied, "I can play, but I'm not a teacher!" They all laugh at that, because she has been teaching ever since! She will tell you she can't read music and can't count, but boy can she play the dulcimer! She has poured her love of the instrument into everyone who has had the privilege of sharing music with her, and her teaching is always full of patience and

encouragement. If you say, "but I can't!" – before too long she will convince you otherwise.

In the coming weeks, the park will welcome a world class player/clinician, Tull Glazener, who will present a seminar to interested class members. Some gung-ho players will attend dulcimer clinics outside the park. Meanwhile, keep your eyes and ears open down the road, so you don't miss any performances by our very own Royal Coachman Dulcimers...American originals, every one!

Anne Brown

Save the Animals

Lynn Shiners, unit #9, is active with Save The Animals Now (STAN), an organization whose mission is to fundraise for and educate about the needs of animals.

The main fundraising tool is hosting yard sales for the local rescue organizations. If you have any items to donate for these sales please contact Lynn.

Donations include food, litter, toys, towels, blan-

kets, and any other appropriate items.

