



MONTAGE NEWS – May 2012

The Annual Homeowners meeting was very productive. The pot luck was again an event not to be missed.

ELECTION RESULTS:

Robert Fouyer was elected to the Board.

The IRS resolution received 81 votes.

The 2011 Minutes received 71 votes.

Architectural & Landscape Committee members were introduced and thanked for their multi-year commitment toward the perimeter rejuvenation that is moving toward completion.

A discussion of neighborhood security and the reminding of all that our gates are 'vanity' and not 'security' gates was discussed. All were urged to make every effort toward securing of each persons' individual property and staying alert to anything out of the ordinary.

Mr. Beyer announced the creation of a Welcoming Committee. A packet is being assembled and a committee being developed toward formalizing the content and distribution process for welcome materials. Volunteers will be meeting soon and then working toward a delivery to 'all' present homeowners/tenants to foster communication and exchange of information. Tentatively the Neighborhood Watch pod captains will be pressed into service in the delivery of these packets to residents within their pods along with members of the Welcome Committee.

General consensus of those attending was that the budgeted amount set for the refreshing of the Da Vall entrance was not warranted at this time.

Recent improvements in the detention basin have resulted in the association not having to replace the drywell for an extended period of time. The small repairs made have dealt with the problem of stagnant water. The stabilization and regarding of the south slope of the basin will be addressed shortly.

Mr. Nickerson discussed sprinkler overspray which over time degrades the street asphalt. Irrigation run off may cause increased costs when it comes time to slurry seal, as localized dig outs may be required to repair unraveling at the edges. If you can stand on your curb and feel water when the sprinkler is on, that's a problem. Constant, even minor runoff, leads to deterioration of edges necessitating more costly and involved repair or our streets as well as may shorten the life of the streets leading to major replacement sooner than projected.

Pam Price introduced all the pod captains on the Neighborhood Watch Committee and thanked them for their support.

Following the meeting the nephew of a Montage Homeowner was introduced. He was there representing Sun Run solar company. He offered to talk to any homeowners interested in their free solar panel system program. Several homeowners stayed to discuss the program. If you would be interested in hearing about the program contact me.

LOST & FOUND

A neighbor turned in a Garmin GPS with a case that was found in a bush on Van Gogh several weeks ago. If you believe it may be yours contact me and I will direct you to the person that is holding it.

FREE LIGHT

I have a friend who used her solar lights inside at night when her current was off during the hurricane. She stuck them in a jar or bottle and said they gave off plenty of 'free light'. She put one in each room and would put them back outside in the daytime and bring them in at night as long as the current was off. They are safe to use and cheaper than batteries. Bring in a solar light one night and test it.

Due to a thunderstorm, we lost power for about 5 hours. We were scrambling around in the darkness, looking for matches, candles, flashlights, etc. We looked outside, and noticed our solar

lights shining brightly all around our patio, stairs, dock, etc. They were beautiful. My wife walked outside, and brought several of the solar lights inside.

We stuck the solar light pipes into plastic drink bottles containers and they made the nicest, brightest, safest, lighting you could ever imagine.

We put one in the bathroom, the kitchen, the living room, etc. There was plenty of light. There are all types of solar lights available. We bought ours at Harbor Freight. We put them all around our yard. They look nice and they do not attract flying bugs like the outdoor lights around our doorway.

The lights we have fit into the small (20 oz) water bottles and they also fit into most of the larger liter bottles. If you need a weight in the plastic bottle to keep them from tipping over, you can put a few of the pretty colorful "flat marbles" that they put in aquariums, and vases. (You can also use sand, aquarium gravel, etc., whatever you have available).

The lights we have were perfect inside our home. They burn all night long if you need them.

The next day, you just take your solar lights back outside and they will instantly recharge and be ready for you to use again any time you need them.

Perfect for power outages, hurricanes, etc.

I never thought of it and now you don't have to.

FLUORESCENT LAMP PRICES RISING

The lighting industry is facing an issue that will soon affect the cost of every fluorescent lamp that is purchased. The key components in the manufacture of the phosphors that make fluorescent lamps possible are composed of several metals that are commonly referred to as "rare earth." Essentially, the majority of the world's supply of all of these rare earth metals come from China, which permits the Chinese government to tightly control and heavily tax these critical materials. In the past few months they have used this monopoly power to implement tight quotas on the availability of these materials. This in turn has caused the cost of these compounds to rise

by more than 2000 percent during the past several months.

So far, the price increases haven't been alarming. However, as the impending challenges evolve, fluorescent pricing could begin to impact decision-making. Fluorescent still beats LED on a straight cost and efficiency comparison, but as the fluorescent challenges grow, LED may be the light source of choice.

Montage currently uses compact fluorescent lamps (CFL bulbs) in all developer installed front yard landscape lights and the perimeter lighting, except for 15 "test" fixtures near the entrances that have LED bulbs.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next Board meeting will be Thursday, May 10, 2012 at 3:00 PM at the Offices of Personalized Property Management 69850 Adelina Road, Cathedral City.

Check the community message board on the wall by the retention basin or the web site for the agenda. It will be posted at least 4 days before the meeting.

Tom Tousignant, *President*

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Keep This Information Handy When You Would Like to Comment or Report an Issue:

Property Manager - Jennifer Zeivel 760-325-9500;

jzeivel@ppmlnternet.com

President - Tom Tousignant

td2znot@aol.com

A & L Committee Chair - Sandy Nips

lilsnip@hotmail.com

Neighborhood Watch Chair - Pam Price

760-202-8728

Cathedral City Police 760-770-0300

Police Emergency Only 760-202-2411

Cathedral City Fire 760-770-8200; Emergency 911

Newsletter Input, Comments or Suggestions...

TD2znot@aol.com

Website: www.MontageMH.Wordpress.com