



# Sandscript

## Messages from your Board

By **Bill Chandler**

### Owner Participation in 2009 Annual Meeting Voting

In order to encourage greater participation by owners in future voting, we have analyzed the voting patterns cast in 2009 with the following results. Of 2244 eligible owners, only 874 or 39% cast ballots. The 1544 fixed week owners cast 616 votes for 40% while the 700 flex week owners cast 259 votes for 37%.

We also looked at owner participation by both unit and week. Units 405 and 711 both cast 27 votes out of 51 weeks followed closely by units 609 and 807 at 26 votes and units 305, 409 and 705 at 24 votes each. The unit voting ranged from a high of 27 to a low of 9.

Week 8 owners cast 28 votes out of 44 units followed by week 9 at 26 votes and week 45 at 24 votes. The week voting ranged from a high of 28 to a low of 7.

*You may reach Bill at 508-676-0693*

By **Jim McCanna**

On behalf of your Board of Directors, I want to share news of some exciting improvements to our Resort. This article was written before our September Super Maintenance weeks, but we assume everything set out here will have been completed by the time the Newsletter gets to you.

### MASTER BEDROOM TVs

We are pleased that by tightening our belts in a number of areas, and through savings effectuated through our elevator consultant and our continuing relationship with Hilton and some of the vendors with whom Hilton has favorable business relationships, we were able to move to the front burner our plans to replace master bedroom TVs, which had been budgeted for replacement in 2009. We found that, through joint purchasing of TVs with The Charter Club, we could purchase flat screen LCD 32" TVs for the master bedrooms at a greatly discounted price, and only slightly more than budgeted.

### GUEST BEDROOM CABLING AND TVs

Once that decision was made, we determined that it would be a good time to revisit the issue of fur-

nishing our guest bedrooms with TVs. Of course, delays in the past were primarily occasioned by the cost of running cable to each guest bedroom. Given the state of our national economy, it seemed a good time to re-bid that cabling, and we were able to get new bids from three very reputable companies, one of which was considerably less than the last time we obtained bids.

We found savings in other areas of our operating revenues budget to pay for both the extra cost of flat screen TVs for the master bedrooms and cabling to the guest bedrooms, and proceeded to authorize both, to be completed during Super Maintenance weeks in September.

For now, the old master bedroom TVs will find a home in the guest bedrooms. They are a little large for those rooms, and are several years old, but we believe this is a great improvement for our owners, exchangers, and guests, and also addresses one of the most requested improvements by our owners. In October, we will amplify the budget to include a reserve item for these guest bedroom TVs, and will ultimately replace the old master bedroom TVs with TVs more suitable for those guest bedrooms. We hope you are as pleased with this start as we on the Board have been.

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**Messages from Board continued****By Joe McCluskey****Elevators**

We are currently in the middle of our "Elevator Re-Construction Project". This project came to the forefront when elevator inspectors were informed that buildings had to meet the 1996 code. Prior to that we were grandfathered in for that code. Any property not meeting the 1996 'Fireman's Service Per A17.3-1996 " had to bring their elevators up to current code within six months. We were advised of this change during our elevator inspection on 9/24/08, and were given a very limited time to complete this upgrade. We applied for and we were granted a limited extension. This work was not scheduled in our reserves to be done until a later date, therefore, we had to delay some other projects and shift the money to this mandated project. As a part of this code change we also were required to completely replace our existing fire alarm system. The new system allows the firefighters to control the elevators and it also pinpoints the origin of the alarm. After a lengthy design and bidding process we hired Kone Elevator Co. to complete the elevator reconstruction and Simplex Grinnell to do the fire alarm system. The first car reconstruction was completed on 8/20/09. The anticipated time for the second car is nine weeks. These two very important "life safety" projects are critical to the safety and comfort of all of our guests. The original elevators and fire alarm lasted in excess of twenty-five years and we should anticipate that amount of use from the new systems.

**WIFI System**

Our new WIFI system is now in use. This project was approved in April 2009. Most WIFI vendors prefer to lease or rent their system and charge a fee based on the number of users, and we wanted to own and control the system at no cost to the users, which made vendor selection difficult. The board utilized a Network Consultant as well as a WIFI expert to guide us through the technical details, to be absolutely sure we got it right. We insisted in 100% coverage throughout our resort. We finally decided on a vendor utilizing Tropos exterior routers. This product would assure coverage throughout the building. As mentioned earlier the system is operational. The feedback from owners and guests has been very positive.

You may reach Joe at 781-927-1116 or by e-mail at [jmcccluskey@egsawyer.com](mailto:jmcccluskey@egsawyer.com)

**NEWS FROM HILTON GRAND VACATIONS**

Randy Piatt, Vice President of Resort Operations, has accepted an on-site assignment with the Hilton Grand Vacations resorts in Hawaii.

With Randy's departure to Hawaii, Lael Kilpatrick, Regional Manager of Resort Operations, will report to Neil Hutchinson, Sr. Director of Association Management Services. Neil has an extensive background in the management and operations of property associations and looks forward to working closely with the Board.

**Notice of Budget Meeting**

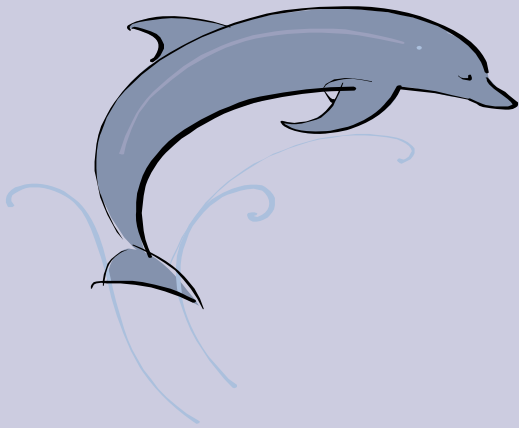
Your Board of Directors will meet with management on October 22nd and 23rd, 2009 to review the enclosed **proposed** 2010 budget. The enclosed budget is a preliminary budget. You will receive your maintenance fee billing, including your taxes in November. The Budget Meeting Agenda will be posted at the resort as well as on the web-site 14 days prior to the meeting. Access the web-site at [www.hgvc.com/surfclub](http://www.hgvc.com/surfclub).

**By Sharry Luneke, Resort Manager****CALLING ALL OWNERS!!!!**

In the last newsletter, your Board President, Bill Chandler, wrote an article about voting on by-law amendments to change the number of Board Members from 3 to 5, changing the term limits and reducing the quorum from 66 2/3's to 50 1/10th. We started handing out proxies on January 6, 2009 for the Special Meeting scheduled for January 4, 2010. The proxies are included in your check-in packets, distributed at the Owners' Gathering, mailed to those of you not utilizing your week as well as being posted to the web-site. However, we have only received approximately 35% of the quorum. Enclosed as an insert to this newsletter is a limited proxy. If you have not turned yours in, please fill it out and return to the resort. This may be one of the most important proxies you vote on! Don't delay-send your proxy back today! Please feel free to call me or any of your Board Members if have any questions.

You may reach Sharry at 239-642-5800 or by e-mail at [sluneke@hgvc.com](mailto:sluneke@hgvc.com)

**Vote, Vote, Vote**  
**Send the enclosed proxy back today!**  
**540 S Collier Blvd**  
**Marco Island, FL 34145**  
**Fax: 239-642-7245**



*Check Your Travel Dates*

**By Judy Graner**

**RESALES CORNER**

2009 has been a busy year for sales. If you want to add to your portfolio, now is the time to buy! Call me and I will go to work for you! Don't forget, the "Hilton Club" is a great way to stretch your vacation and gives you a lot of flexibility. I would be more than happy to review the point system and all the grand options available to you.

239-642-5800 ext. 1005 e-mail: [jgraner@hgvc.com](mailto:jgraner@hgvc.com)

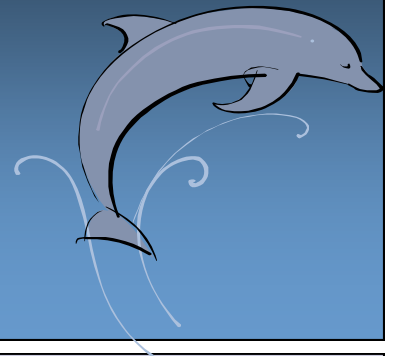
Week Number	Sat to Sat 2009	Sat to Sat 2010
1	Jan 3-Jan 10	Jan 2-Jan 9
2	Jan 10-Jan 17	Jan 9-Jan 16
3	Jan 17-Jan 24	Jan 16-Jan 23
4	Jan 24-Jan 31	Jan 23-Jan 30
5	Jan 31-Feb 7	Jan 30-Feb 6
6	Feb 7-Feb 14	Feb 6- Feb 13
7	Feb 14-Feb 21	Feb 13-Feb 20
8	Feb 21-Feb 28	Feb 20-Feb 27
9	Feb 28-Mar 7	Feb 27-Mar 6
10	Mar 7-Mar 14	Mar 6-Mar 13
11	Mar 14-Mar 21	Mar 13-Mar 20
12	Mar 21-Mar 28	Mar 20-Mar 27
13	Mar 28-Apr 4	Mar 27-Apr 3
14	Apr 4-Apr 11	Apr 3-Apr 10
15	Apr 11-Apr 18	Apr 10-Apr 17
16	Apr 18-Apr 25	Apr 17-Apr 24
17	Apr 25-May 2	Apr 24-May 1
18	May 2-May 9	May 1-May 8
19	May 9-May 16	May 8-May 15
20	May 16-May 23	May 15-May 22
21	May 23-May30	May 22-May 29
22	May 30-Jun 6	May 29-Jun 5
23	Jun 6-Jun 13	Jun 5-Jun 12
24	Jun 13-Jun 20	Jun 12-Jun 19
25	Jun 20-Jun 27	Jun 19-Jun 26
26	Jun 27-Jul 4	Jun 26-Jul 3
27	Jul 4-Jul 11	Jul 3-Jul 10
28	Jul 11-Jul 18	Jul 10-Jul 17
29	Jul 18-Jul 25	Jul 17-Jul 24
30	Jul 25-Aug 1	Jul 24-Jul 31
31	Aug 1-Aug 8	Jul 31- Aug 7
32	Aug 8-Aug 15	Aug 7- Aug 14
33	Aug 15-Aug 22	Aug 14-Aug 21
34	Aug 22- Aug 29	Aug 21-Aug 28
35	Aug 29-Sep 5	Aug 28-Sep 4
36	Sep 5-Sep 12	Sep 4-Sep 11
37	Sep 12-Sep 19	Sep 11-Sep 18
38	Sep 19-Sep 26	Sep 18-Sep 25
39	Sep 26-Oct 3	Sep 25-Oct 2
40	Oct 3-Oct 10	Oct 2-Oct 9
41	Oct 10-Oct 17	Oct 9-Oct 16
42	Oct 17-Oct 24	Oct 16-Oct 23
43	Oct 24-Oct 31	Oct 23-Oct 30
44	Oct 31-Nov 7	Oct 30-Nov 6
45	Nov 7-Nov 14	Nov 6-Nov 13
46	Nov 14-Nov 21	Nov 13-Nov 20
47	Nov 21-Nov 28	Nov 20-Nov 27
48	Nov 28-Dec 5	Nov 27-Dec 4
49	Dec 5-Dec 12	Dec 4-Dec 11
50	Dec 12-Dec 19	Dec 11-Dec 18
51	Dec 19-Dec 26	Dec 18-Dec 25
52	Dec 26-Jan 2	Dec 25-Jan 1

Fall 2009

The Surf Club of Marco  
540 South Collier Boulevard  
Marco Island, FL 34145  
Ph. 239-642-5800

**Sandscript**

**VOTE TODAY**



**BY Jim McCanna**

### **INTERNET CORRESPONDENCE**

Not everyone has access to or desires to access the internet and email, and the Board respects that. However, as postage costs help make our maintenance fees ever higher and we look for ways to save, one possibility looms large, and that is the use of a secure internet email system. We have 2,244 unit weeks with 1,358 owners, and each mailing costs us over \$4,000.00, I am told.

Those of you who have either spoken to me in person or by email correspondence know that I am committed to the benefits of internet communications - for speed and frequency of communications, and for the considerable savings over more traditional US mails. Establishing a list of email addresses of our owners for communications between and among owners, including Board Members, on a voluntary participation basis, is one area a number of owners, including me, have been exploring.

However, I would like to limit my comments in this article to introduce you to an option now available under Florida law: Internet Voting. We are in the process of doing our due diligence on this, but it appears there are alternatives to establish voting on Directors, By-Law changes, and other ballot questions/issues for those willing to participate. Our current focus is on retaining an independent third party to develop a secure site, create a password-protected or other secure method of communicating ballot initiatives and voting opportunities; compiling and certifying results to the Board and/or Management; notifying Board/Management of those who have voted (to give us an opportunity to mail ballots and information in connection therewith to those who have registered online but have not voted). Of course, those owners who have not registered and prefer to continue receiving this information and ballots by regular US mail would continue as always in that manner.

We are not committed to this process, but believe it may bring about cost savings and higher owner participation, conditioned upon satisfying a large number of owners on the integrity of the process. Please consider the possibilities, offer input, and know that the Board will do its job properly "vetting" the process before presenting anything further to you.

You may reach Jim at 260-925-5441 or by e-mail at [jpmccanna123@mchsi.com](mailto:jpmccanna123@mchsi.com)