



I would like to thank all my fellow board members who so graciously volunteer their time and effort to keep Valley View not only afloat but also trim and shipshape. Most of our individual board member responsibilities are not always that easy but the end result is a financially healthy park that meets the needs of our members. Unfortunately, sometimes your only reward is the satisfaction of a job well done and a pat on the back. So! Pat, Pat, Pat, Pat, Pat, Pat, Pat, Pat

If you missed the 14 Karat Country show last month you will be able to see it next year. We have a contract with them to return for both 2006 and 2007 seasons. I also plan to look around next fall for some other good Branson acts which we can book as special events.

Everyone: Please be careful out there and keep it between the lines on the way home. We want to see you **ALL** again next fall.

Bill Crockett- President

As this is the last newsletter for this season, we wish everybody a safe trip back to their summer homes. To the ones that are going vacationing or visiting, we wish the best for you also. Have a safe and happy summer time & we hope to see you again next winter. We hope we kept all of you busy with all of our planned activities and special dinners and etc. Activity director: BettyJane Korthaus

Get well wishes go to:

Helen Yager : Mission Nursing Home
 Betty Huston: Mission Nursing Home
 Louie Schukar: Nursing Home in Iowa City
 Gordon Austin: Recovering from back surgery
 Gerrit Bos: Recovering from Pneumonia
 Ken Korthaus: Recovering from surgery
 Ron Reichard: Recovering
 Don Tippitt: Recovering from surgery
 Don Cosgrove: Recovering from Back Surgery
 Colleen Rogness: Recovering from Knee Surgery
 All flu patients
 Prayers and Love are extended to Stu and Joyce Benedict who lost their son and his wife, Mike & Dawn in a motorcycle accident on February 13th in the Rio Grande City area. We share in your loss.
 The Iowa—Texas Get Together will be held Thursday, June 2nd, 2005 at 5:00 PM in the American Legion. Coralville, Iowa. This is a time of good food and fellowship. An invitation is open to friends in all states to attend!

Submitted by: Kathleen Sands

Valley View Church invites you to attend our worship services every Sunday in the hall at 10 AM. A non-denominational service is held, by Pastor Ray Fuller
 Submitted by Virginia Nelson

From Your Treasurer

(Joyce Wallace – 2/25/05)

February has been a good month for Valley View Estates finances. Thanks to the Special Assessment, the Association is now in very good financial shape. We go into our off-season with enough funds to carry us through until December when income from 2006 membership dues begins to flow again into our accounts. This month, we were able to transfer \$5,000 from our Investment account into our Contingency (Reserve) account, as has been our usual policy at this time of the year. This is an interest-bearing account in which we hold funds for emergencies. It was nearly depleted after the expense of renovating the pool and spa during 2004.

As of this date, our Association account balances are as follows:

	<u>1/31/05</u>	<u>2/28/05¹</u>
Investment	\$28,060.68	\$26,177.58 ²
Checking	1,740.46	2,290.11
Contingency	<u>255.18</u>	<u>5,255.18</u>
Totals	<u>\$30,056.32</u>	<u>\$33,722.87</u>

Currently, no new crisis has surfaced. Let's all hope it stays this way. Since this is my final communication with you this season, I want to wish all of you a very happy and healthy Summer season.

We will be leaving Valley View on the 12th of March. During my absence, Marty Risley, our Vice President and Procurement Director, will take over the Treasurer's responsibilities. He'll write what checks have to be written and do the banking. I hope to leave him with all of the proper money boxes, tickets, checking & banking slips and directions for this job. If I goof, please help him get through whatever crisis might arise.

Thanks to all of you who have volunteered and worked to make Valley View Estates a great place to live. You have made our Director responsibilities much easier and we all truly appreciate it.

¹ These figures are calculated on 2/25/05 and include the usual end of the month expenses, payable on 2/28/05.

² In addition to this amount, there should be approximately \$1,395 deposited on 2/28/05 from Membership Assessments and possibly a few dollars from the Bingo box. These will be shown on the February Financial report that will be posted in the Club House.

Delinquent Assessments Due for Associate Members

The Board of Directors has been concerned about the problem of certain Lot Owners' failure to pay assessments due with respect to Associate member/tenants in a timely fashion. You are reminded that it is the Lot Owner's responsibility to see that this assessment is paid and that an unpaid assessment becomes a lien against the land.

It is difficult to determine who delinquent owners are unless someone takes the time to survey the entire community with a list of those who have paid clutched in his/her hands. We now have a list of all lots (on which the owner is identified) in proper order so that the survey can be made with one continuous sweep of Valley View. The initial survey was taken on 2/15/05.

Some owners will be getting notices from our Membership Director about assessment delinquencies. If you get such a notice and believe you are not delinquent in payment of any assessment, the Board will be happy to arrange a hearing to consider the facts of the case.

You are reminded that Valley View is operated by unpaid volunteers who generously give of their time. Every time someone fails to pay what is due in a timely fashion, some volunteer has to give up personal recreational time to effectuate collection of delinquent amounts. Often, more than one unpaid volunteer is involved in this collection process. This is done to ensure that those who have paid what is due are not unduly and unfairly burdened with the operating costs of this community while others fail to pay their fair share.

Other methods for determining delinquent payments have been suggested. One of these is the issuance of a sticker (of a different color each month) to be pasted somewhere on the RV to indicate payment through that month. There are problems with this, the first of which being the cost factor, but also it doesn't take into effect that some Associates are here from the 15th of one month to the 15th (or other date, one month later) of the next month. Such stickers would have to be surveyed on foot or by vehicle similar to the survey already taken. Also, stickers have to be removed eventually and that may be difficult.

The Board would appreciate hearing from anyone who has a better suggestion for how this problem can be handled. (Board of Directors – 2/20/05)

St. Patrick's Day Dance – 3/17/05

Don't forget to make plans to attend the St. Patrick's Day dance on Thursday, the 17th of March, even if you're not Irish. We have the Ken-Ray Band back with us again to play at this dance. It doesn't matter that you may not have anything to celebrate, it should be a lot of fun. You don't even have to be able to dance – the "people watching" is always great fun! It also gives you the opportunity to get out with your

friends and neighbors and find out what's going on at Valley View.

The Directors have been very concerned about the financial losses we have sustained at some dances. There is no reason for this if we all work hard to make each dance a success. For this reason, our President, Bill Crockett has printed up 100 tickets for this dance and our Secretary, Sonia Stawicki has volunteered to keep the records, distribute the tickets to our very capable volunteer ticket sellers, collect the money back from them and turn it over to our Entertainment Director, Jerry Maruska who will pay the band and be the overall supervisor of this event.

Our volunteers ticket sellers are:

Aggie Bellamy – 2102 Bracy
Bill & Carol Blair – 705 Ragland
Kay Burris – 2100 Loker
Lloyd & Barbara Campbell – 2015 Vernon
Noreen Davis – 2001 Vernon (rear)
Regina Fultz – 2108 Vernon
Harold & Arlena Heinrich – 2008 Amy
Florence Johnson – 2004 Loker
Fay Montgomery – 2100 Kelly (rear)
Lenora Thompson – 2113 Kelly (rear)
(Get your tickets for the St. Patrick's Day dance from any of these vendors.)

The ticket price is \$3.50 per person. It would be appreciated if you would have the correct change available when purchasing tickets. Thank you for supporting our dances. (Joyce Wallace – 2/25/05)

Where Can You Find a Better Deal?

Most of you here in Valley View Estates apparently don't know what you're missing. It's the best "value" found in the modern world today. We don't know how long this deal will continue; but, where can you go several Saturday mornings every month (November thru' March) to get a donut and coffee for 50 cents, with all the coffee refills you can drink? Where, at the same time, can you meet your friends and neighbors and hear all of the news of the community? The answer, of course, is at the Valley View Estates Club House.

This extraordinarily good bargain is offered by the Valley View Estates Lot Owners Association, with the generous and able assistance of our wonderful volunteers. It's an opportunity that you shouldn't miss! The Association has even changed the hour of this offering, to accommodate those of you who find it difficult to arise early. We can't make the hour any later than 8 a.m. because that would cut into the productive part of the day of the early risers.

Just consider this – if you went into a café or restaurant back home, paid 50 cents for a donut, poured yourself a cup of coffee, sat down and "chewed the fat" with those around you for 45 minutes or so, learning all of the gossip in town, going back for coffee refills several times, how long do you suppose it would be before the management asked you to leave and not come back? I think you get the picture. We offer this at Valley View because **we**

want you to come back. We want you to get to know your neighbor and make new friends. This is what our community is all about.

We would like many more of you to take advantage of this activity and “profit” from your experiences here at Valley View Estates. So, put on your Name Tag (for ID), bring your coffee cup and 50 cents for one donut (or \$1 for two), and head for the Club House the next time our monthly Activity Sheet shows that “Coffee & Pastries” are being served that Saturday at 8 a.m. We want to meet and “shoot the breeze” with you-all.

Introduce yourself to those you don’t know. This is particularly important advice for those of us who are already “established” in our community. Get to know the newcomers and make them feel welcome. Give those newcomers a chance to know us and to learn what fine folks we are here at Valley View. Remember, it’s a lot easier for us “old timers” to initiate conversation with our new neighbors, than for them to start the conversation; but we don’t want this to stifle the natural friendliness of any of you “new” folks – just go ahead and introduce yourselves. We’re friendly folks and haven’t shot anyone yet for saying “hi” or “how are you” to us, even a stranger.

At Valley View, we don’t want anyone to be a “stranger.” (JoyceWallace – 2/19/05)

Now that I have a month under my belt as Vice President, it seems that I have not much to do, but as the Purchasing Person my world has changed. I have called Dave Vander Pluym on many occasions for help, but I am getting on to this task, it will take time. My wife is involved as much as I am. I am trying to keep ahead of the need of the hall. There is a list on the wall in the kitchen for items needed. Please let me know if you are having a function and if there is anything special you may need. So far we have survived.

Bev and I did some checking on prices for Valley caps, Shirts and Jackets. We found one vender who we feel can fulfill our requirements. We do not have to purchase large quantities and still have reasonable prices. We showed some of the items after our general meeting in February, many questions were asked, that we could not answer, so we decided to have her come in, bring the items and take your orders. We already have the embroidery logo in the system. We are hoping that we will have a good turnout for Valley View people to show and be proud of who we are.

Marty Risley:

Vice President & Purchasing Person

From the Membership Director

Fern Taylor

Since this will be the last newsletter for the season, I certainly want to thank each of you who were prompt in paying your assessments this year.

My job entails many hours at my computer keeping records for the members as accurately as I possibly

can. Sometimes I find it quite a challenge—keeping all of you in mind as I record your checks and cash for your dues assessments and your associate member’s fees. Added to my responsibility this year was the one-time assessment we approved by a vote of the membership. For each and every payment I receive, I write a receipt, and also record it in my computer. I then make up a report for our treasurer, count the amounts, and turn it over to her for deposit. It has been a very time consuming task this year!

There has again been a large number of homes sold in our park this year. Keeping up with changes is sometimes overwhelming! It seems that most of our home sales are to people who have been here as associate members previously. It is great that after our associates spend a few months here in Valley View, They decide that we have a great place here to make their home. This proves to me that we are doing something right in making our park attractive to others.

We have had wonderful activities and entertainment this past season. There has been something for each of us to enjoy almost daily! Everyone enjoyed the 14 Karat group, plus many of the other evenings of fun at our clubhouse.

Our hostesses should be complimented for their hard work, as well. Maryanne and her crew have been marvelous. Thanks for providing us with such great times! Perhaps next season those who are “retiring” from the hostess program will have time to enjoy some of the very things they worked so diligently to plan for the rest of us.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Before you head North for the summer, make very sure you have a dependable person hired to keep your lawn and surroundings trimmed and neat. We must all take pride in making our park nice even when we are away for the summer months.

Are you remembering to do your duty by volunteering to take your turn at security Each of us is responsible to see that our park is protected. This job is not just for the lot owners, as the associate members are encouraged to take a turn once or twice during the season to help out that way. If you have never done this, please ask someone in your neighborhood about the process. They will be happy to fill you in on the way it is done. Everyone should take a turn or two during the winter. Our summer people have the full responsibility when we are away. Many of them perform this duty several times a week during the months we are gone. We must remember that they are helping protect our property when we are away, and they deserve our heartfelt thanks for performing this most important task for us. When you see one of the summer residents, be sure to thank them for taking their time to see that our homes are protected while we are back in our summer homes.

How many of you have refreshed your memories by re-reading the booklet “HOW VALLEY VIEW WORKS” ---There is a wealth of information in it for the new homeowners. If you do not have a copy of it

in the home you purchased, or would like a new one, please check the entryway information desk by the sign-in in the clubhouse, or contact a board member to receive one if there are no copies there
HAVE A GREAT SUMMER! FERN.

For all of our HAPPY DANCERS

We have dancing every Monday afternoon. We also have Ballroom dancing the first and fourth Tuesday evenings at 7:30 PM. We also have the St. Patrick dance on the 17th of March with Ray Ahlgren Band. If this makes you happy, let us know, and we will make sure we find more for next season. Enjoy the Summer and we will see you all this fall. HAPPY MOTORING AND A SAFE TRIP HOME.

Jerry Maruska
Entertained Director

Ballroom Dance Lessons

The ballroom Dance lessons are going very well. In January they finished up teaching 5 Basic Waltz steps. With these steps the couple can dance in one spot or progress around the dance floor. Also "Dance Floor Etiquette" was explained, these are dance floor rules to allow everyone equal access to perform different styles of the dance. There are certain parts of the dance floor designated for different styles of dance. The center of the dance floor is for spot dance where the couple stays in one area for the dance. This is for the boxes, steps with 3 different variations. Many beginning Waltz steps use this area of the floor. The outside area around the edge of the floor is designated for the moving or progressive steps. These are the more advanced Waltz. This outside 6 ft. ring should be kept clear for the progressive dancing, this is also true for some Country Dancing. These are many dancers who have never had "Dance Floor Etiquette" explained to them. There are people who stand and talk in this area and many others who just slow dance in this area. All slow dancing should be done in the center portion of the dance floor.

In February the Risleys started the Foxtrot dance steps. This Dance is the most commonly used dance step. It can be used for many different type of music. With just a little change in beat, it can become the country "TWO STEP". There were approximately 7 couples and many singles at the Monday's lesson. At this lesson the suggestion was made to teach the "TRIPLE TIME SWING" so the Risleys started to teach the Swing to anyone interested at 2:00 to 3:00 on Mondays before the Foxtrot lesson. There was good attendance for both lessons.

The question of good ballroom dance music was brought up to practice too. The Risleys brought the music to the Hall on Friday morning at 10:00AM to help individuals with any steps and provide practice music. This is the best way to learn dancing—is to practice, practice, and practice.

The lessons will continue through March. We will review the Waltz, Foxtrot, and Swing. We will try to

have at least 1 practice session a week. The times may change depending on the availability of the hall. The Risleys are open to any suggestions anyone has for different dances, such as Cha-Cha and Rumba. Marty and Bev Risley are trying to start a "True Tempo Ballroom Dance Club" here in the Rio Grande Valley. They feel the need for "True Tempo Ballroom Music" would be of great interest for Ballroom Dancers. They put an Advertisement in the Winter Texan Times, using Valley View Estates as a base for anyone interested in assisting with forming a dance club. The club would promote ballroom dancing in the valley using recorded "True Tempo Ballroom Music" or using local bands who will play to the proper ballroom tempo. This would let Valley View Estates to be known as the center for ballroom dancing in the valley. We can assist with showing new or old steps, bring back steps people used to do many years ago, provide a place to dance, and provide many hours of dancing to recorded music.

Monday Night Games

For all of our baseball fans, here is a little change of pace, instead of watching the game try playing it in this easy way. We make lots of noise, give each other a bad time and have an awfully lot of fun doing it. Also it keeps us from being Couch-potatoes. We do have a few people who like to play 500 and we can handle that also. If it gets too loud with baseball going on, you can go to the library where it is quiet. We all have fun getting together and enjoying the wonderful Valley weather. SEE YOU THERE!

PS: For all our friends that are leaving us in March, we wish you a safe trip and a wonderful summer. We hope you come back to have fun the next winter season.

Guy & Birdie Selleck

The Stroke Scan

On February 21st, Stroke Scan Inc came to Valley View and did approximately 60 vascular screenings. Those that had screenings done, greatly appreciated having them come here. We will be setting up the screenings for next year soon, and will put an article in the newsletter. Many thanks to all those that supported the Scan.

Guy & Birdie Selleck

BBQ Cruise

There were 34 people that enjoyed the BBQ Cruise on February 17th. The weather turned out really nice, the food was good, the Dolphins are always neat to watch, and there was a group picture available when we disembarked the boat. This will be our last cruise for the season. We will try to plan 2 more cruises for next season, one in December and one in February.

Guy & Birdie Selleck

Fishing Trips

There were 12 fishermen that enjoyed the Bay-fishing Trip on February 16th. The day turned out beautiful, we even fished in the Gulf, as the seas were nice & calm. Although there weren't too many fish caught, everyone had an enjoyable day. The fishing trip for March will be a Red Snapper 10- hour trip up by Part Mansfield on March 23rd. The sign up sheet is on the Bulletin Board. Please list your name & phone number. If you don't have a phone number, please leave your address. If we should need to cancel the trip due to weather, we need to be able to contact you.

Guy & Birdie Selleck

LEO Club

Twenty-five Valley View Friends enjoyed getting together at the Texas Roadhouse on February 25th. The next LEO outing will be March 18, 2005. At Poncho's Mexican Restaurant in Pharr. Address is 808 N. Cage Blvd. Sign up in Clubhouse under dinners.

Guy & Birdie Selleck

March 14, 2005

There will be a computer maintenance meeting by Daryl Street . 9-10 AM If you are worried about viruses, worms, or spy ware or need some kind of help. This is a meeting for you to attend.

HOSTESS HIGHLIGHTS

Our season is coming to a close. The 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration will already be over by the time you read this. Our next function will be the Recognition Luncheon. A date has not been set for that yet. We will take care of that at our March meeting.

I want to take this opportunity to say THANK YOU TO ALL THAT HAVE BEEN SO GRACIOUS TO ME THESE LAST 4 YEARS. I HAVE ENJOYED BEING A Hostess immensely. I know not all of you have been pleased with my term, but I am proud of how I served. The girls I have worked with have been great. I didn't make any decisions without the approval of the rest of the Hostesses. I have been told often, "YOU CAN'T PLEASE EVERYONE" and I know for a fact that is true. Change is always hard to accept when things have been done the same way for years. Please give your support to the next president. It is very hard when you know people are not supporting you. I hope that doesn't happen in the future.

President: Maryanne Oxner

THANKS TO A GREAT PRESIDENT

The hostess club would like to thank Maryanne for all her great ideas. She has millions of them and we are sorry we couldn't use them all. She kept all of us on the move and we had a great time doing all the things that needed done. We are leaving a great many behind that are very capable of doing a super job in

the future. Good luck to you Maryanne and also good luck to next years' hostesses.

From all hostess members leaving this year.

We met lots of great people and had a good time doing it.