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***OOPS!*****OUR APOLOGIES**

As you may or may not know; all of us on the Board are volunteers. We don't collect a salary, stipend, or get any special privileges. We don't enjoy luncheons, or dinners, Hell we don't even own a coffee pot!

All the time we spend trying to keep our lagoons looking well and functioning economically is done out of the goodness of our hearts. (I know – that's stupid.) Still, we on the Board try and try to do the best we can for all that live on the lagoons of this the fairest of all cities.

With that in mind while we try we're not always perfect. Case in point; the mailing out of the current annual dues bills: For the most part they arrived in you mailbox on March 3rd and were due on February 29th!!

**BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED**

Our by-laws state we should have no more than nine board members. Currently, we have six, which is barely more than a quorum. Barry, our bookkeeper, has sent out over 300 assessments, indicating we have approximately 6000 adult members of AWLHOA. Using simple arithmetic nine board members equals .0125 percent of our membership. Many of you have owned your home since they were originally marketed. Don't you think it's time you step up to the plate and take an active interest in overseeing the running of our Lagoon System? Haven't you been leaving it to someone else for too long?

Year after year a very small number of us have done the best we can to look out for your interests, now isn't it time some of you put down the newspaper and TV remote and give us a hand? Come on, we need your help, feedback, and wisdom. It's not a difficult task, but it does require those with a desire to do the best they can for the community. Currently we are reviewing the Covenants, Conditions, & Restrictions (CC&Rs) with the goal to upgrade and bring them up to par to reflect the laws of the State and attitudes of the majority. Don't you think it would be a good idea to be able to offer your suggestions?

Most of our contact with the City of Alameda is through the Public Works Department and they've proven to be a real benefit to us. These guys are always willing to go the extra mile. Wouldn't you like to sit in on these discussions?

As you know we've been battling an algae problem for the past couple of years. Spend some time and give us your thoughts and ideas, maybe you've got something we haven't tried. We have a beautiful mini-park and a couple of not-so-beautiful pieces of real estate on Broadway – what about chipping in a hand directing the landscapers?

Enough said; I need – the Board needs – your help. Given me a call at 510-522-3957 and we can talk about it further over a cup of coffee or tea. Thanks!

Dave Case, President.

(Continued from first column)

Ah well, this is Alameda – Mayberry – Shangri La – we screwed up. Granted there was a note hastily stuck on the outside of the envelopes that stated you didn't have to pay until April 15<sup>th</sup>. Nevertheless, over one hundred of you sent us a check immediately so you wouldn't be counted as delinquent. Thank you. I would like to tell you some Machiavellian plot was uncovered and that was the reason for all this delay. Alas, it was the human condition; things happen. It was not anything we anticipated or something we could really control, the mailing was just late and we on the Board are all sorry for this. Next year we certainly hope, pray, and light joss sticks that the dues assessment bills will go out on time.

In any event, we are sorry for the late post, and promise to do better next year. Thanks for being patient.

Dave Case, President

### AN APPEAL TO NORTH SHORE RESIDENTS

When we bought our house on the north shore of the lagoon 23 years ago, we began investigating how the lagoon and its water quality were managed. We learned that AWLHOA and the City cooperated in managing the lagoon for aesthetics, recreational uses, and storm water runoff. We also learned that we, as north shore owners, had no responsibilities to participate, while membership in AWHOLA was mandatory for south shore owners. Our understanding was that this arrangement was to compensate the north shore owners for their loss of bay front property, when the south shore development was constructed.

Because we loved living on, boating on, and sometimes swimming in the lagoon, we actively participated in the cleaning of our lagoon front during lagoon lowerings and kept track of perceived lagoon water quality. We also began to feel an obligation to more actively participate in the management of the lagoons that added such texture and depth to our living experience and to the value of our home.

Upon learning that AWHOLA offered north shore homeowners a voluntary associate membership at one half the south shore membership rate, we enthusiastically joined and have maintained our associate membership for the last 20 years. AWHOLA uses the funds it collects to fund the ongoing management of the lagoons and to build a contingency fund for major repairs or replacements of pumps weirs and pipelines, and potential dredging needs, all of which are necessary to keep the lagoons functioning in good condition.

I am now on the AWHOLA Board of Directors and we are currently investigating what we can do to improve, what we all agree, has been a deterioration of lagoon water quality over the last few years. I would like to invite all north shore homeowners to become voluntary associate members of AWHOLA and to become more active participants in improving the quality of the lagoons that are such an important part of our living experience. If you would like to become a voluntary associate member please contact our bookkeeper, Barry Christensen or any of the Board of Directors. Their contact information is on page 4 of this newsletter.

In order to have better communication and to foster mutual cooperation between the South Shore and the North Shore residents, we are enclosing a form to be completed and mailed back to the association. This form is the NORTH SHORE ADDRESS VERIFICATION FORM. Completion of this form will enable us to mail you future correspondence (such as Newsletters, Notices, Announcements, etc.) that all of our members currently receive. We urge you to complete this form to help ensure the quality of your lifestyle, as well as providing the association with needed input from all homeowners.

Fred Hoffman, Director



**PLEASE NOTE:**  
**THE**  
**ASSOCIATION'S**  
**REVIEWED**  
**FINANCIAL**  
**STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR**  
**ENDED**  
**DEC. 31, 2007**  
**ARE ENCLOSED**

### D & M CONSTRUCTION

Dave & Melissa Sherak are D & M Construction are two of the nicest young people you'll ever meet. When the lagoons are lowered they are available to scrape your sea wall and dock pilings, pick up any debris and leaves and generally tidying up your lagoon frontage. They bag the waste and set it on your front curb for the Public Works trucks to pick-up. They've been doing this for years and lately have had to hire extra help to take care of the volume. They are reasonably priced and show up when they say they will. Dave and Melissa live here in Alameda and know our system.

Additionally Dave is a State licensed C-9 (906557) carpenter. He can build you a cabinet or repair your dock or fence. As I mentioned elsewhere in the newsletter they've done all my clean-up and Dave has accomplished quite a bit of carpentry work for me through the years. I've always been satisfied with the work and the price. If they weren't so young, I'd say they were from another generation – the generation that looked you in the eye, shook your hand and you had a deal – and the deal worked. What am I saying? Old fashioned work ethic, honesty, dependability – the kind of people you're proud to write nice things about, I guess.

If you need their services give them a call at; 510-521-3096 or cell-phone, 510-910-1369. Tell them I said, "Hi."

Dave Case, President

**LAGOON LOWERING & RAISING SCHEDULE**

The Board and Alameda Public Works have agreed upon **May 3<sup>rd</sup>** as the best time to **start lowering the lagoons** for their annual cleaning and inspections. It will take about three days of 'Minus Tides' without any pumping to allow the water to drain out into the bay, thus making the seawalls, pilings and sandy shallows available for clean-up. I can't stress how important it is for each of us to make sure our lagoon frontage is clear of debris and the fast growing coral that feeds on the nutriment in the water. The City and American Civil Constructors, (ACC) our lagoon maintenance contractor, both pitch in to clean up normally unreachable areas. It's imperative as homeowners you do your part to assure your footage is free of coral, plant life and debris. In this way it will help to restore our water-way to once-again sparkling freshness.

In the event you either don't want to or can't get out to muck-about on the exposed beach, there's a company that will clean-up the area, bag the waste, and set it out in front for the City to collect. They're reasonably priced, efficient, prompt, and general all around nice people. I've used them for the past five years and am very satisfied with their work. Check out D & M Construction elsewhere in this newsletter.

According to the Tide Tables we'll **start raising the lagoons** on a 'Plus Tide' on **June 2<sup>nd</sup>** and it should take two or three days to fill the lagoons. So we'll all have one month to get the job done. That's about it – let's all make sure our lagoons are the cleanest they've ever been. A big: Thank You.

Dave Case, President

**HOW DOES IT WORK...?**

Many have asked and some have wondered; how do the lagoons work? How does water get from the bay into the lagoons and where does it go? Okay, here's a very short, unscientific explanation of how our lagoons work and where the water goes and why we're blessed.

The next time you are driving down Westline Drive where it's about to become Shoreline take a gander out over the bay by the shack where the windsurfers hang out and you'll see an orange flag poking up from the water some 100 yards offshore. At low tide you can actually make-out a roughly covered pipeline leading from the flag to the round, green painted well located right at the corner of Westline Drive and Shoreline. The flag marks the entrance to the conduit that carries bay water to the big stainless steel pump that rests in the bottom of the well. At high tide (and only high tide) that pumps pushes 3000 gallons per minute of fresh saltwater through a duct running under the street to Lagoon One at the corner of Otis and Westline Drive. Why high tide you ask? Because at low tide the pipe is uncovered and there is no water to pump. Why not extend the pipe out to where it is deeper? Because the bay is shallow and we'd have to go a long – long way out to get to deeper water and that would cost much – much – much money. (Plus require a zillion permits from every bureaucratic agency in America plus the last reigning Monarch of Lower Slobovia.)

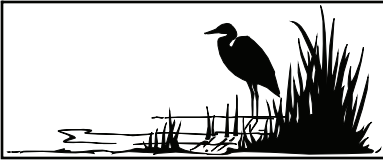
From there gravity very gradually allows the water to flow down through Lagoons One and Two to a weir over by the Hospital west of Willow Street. (A Weir is a dam-like structure that has large steel mechanical doors that are hand-cranked open and closed - by the dedicated employees of Alameda City Public Works Department - to regulate flow.) From the weir where the doors control the flow and level of the water, it then leisurely meanders to Lagoons Three, Four, and Five where another weir regulates the outflow back into the bay.

It takes approximately twelve hours for the sea water to get from the inlet pipe at Lagoon One to the discharge weir at Lagoon Five ensuring we will always have fresh bay water flowing through our lagoons.

Now how could this beautifully engineered and executed system possibly fail you ask? Well a couple of things: One, the bay water – garbage in –garbage out. If the bay water is polluted or contaminated we may get stuff that is going to give us problems. (FYI: during the recent oil spill from the freighter in the bay the pumps were shut off and remained off, until the bay was pronounced clean. No oil from that spill got in our lagoons.) Two, Algae grown and supported by internal forces; leaves, plants, and bird poop can all combine with sunlight to create algae blooms which does things like turn our lagoons green. This is why it is so important for you to clean-up your waterfront.

That's it. Simple, neat, and infinitely complicated.

Dave Case, President



## Alameda West Lagoon Home Owners Association

### DIRECTORS :

Dave Case

*President* 522-3957

Broadway to Court (Lagoon 5)

[caseboats@aol.com](mailto:caseboats@aol.com)

Bill Bonesteel

*Vice President* 865-1764

Broadway to Court (Lagoon 5)

Diane Lichtenstein

*Secretary* 523-1235

Westline to Grand (Lagoon 1)

[dlooo@alamedanet.net](mailto:dlooo@alamedanet.net)

Michael Dean

*Treasurer* 522-0786

Grand to Willow (Lagoon 2)

[mdean@wendel.com](mailto:mdean@wendel.com)

Fred Hoffman

*Director* 522-4006

Broadway to Court (Lagoon 5)

[hoffman@alamedanet.net](mailto:hoffman@alamedanet.net)

Bob Reeves

*Director* 865-7536

Grand to Willow (Lagoon 2)

[rjwop@aol.com](mailto:rjwop@aol.com)

There are Three Open  
Positions for Directors!

### BOOKKEEPER:

Barry Christensen

Cell (925) 323-3577

Home 769-6357

[awlhoa@hotmail.com](mailto:awlhoa@hotmail.com)

### BOARD MEETINGS :

Third Tuesday of the Month

4:30 p.m.

Public Works

Maintenance Office

1616 Fortmann Way

Alameda, CA 94501

(Best to call a Board Member  
to Confirm that no  
changes have occurred)

**AWLHOA**  
**P.O. Box 1044**  
**Alameda, CA 94501-0105**

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS?

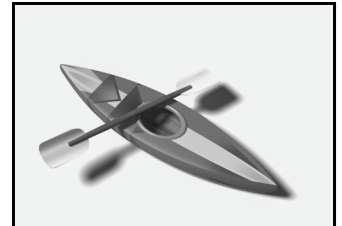
In the event you have a change of address, either temporarily or permanently, please inform us by sending a note to our P.O. Box. It is important that we know where to contact you for Newsletters, Notices, Invoicing of Assessments, Annual or Special Meetings, Etc.

### LOST BOATS

If you have lost a boat, don't forget to call our  
Lost Boat Representative: Marianne McNair

At 814-0728

Thanks. Marianne!



### WEBSITE

The website is up and running at <http://www.alamedawestlagoonhoa.com>. The Board envisions it to be the bulletin board of the Homeowner's Association. We've contacted the City of Alameda and hopefully will be included on their website as a link which should give us even broader coverage. Ideally, we'll be able to keep you advised of water condition and post warnings in the event of any unforeseen problems such as the vandal who dumped several quarts of motor oil in Lagoon Three across from Washington Mutual. We'll use the website to notify you when the lagoons are going to be lowered and raised and any other scheduled maintenance.

Volunteer home owner, Barbara DiSalvo has been instrumental in working with the Board to get the website on the net. You can contact her with your comments at [Barbara@BarbaraDiSalvo.com](mailto:Barbara@BarbaraDiSalvo.com).

Dave Case, President

### NEW MEMBERS

#### **WELCOME**

We would like to extend a WELCOME to the following new members:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>TRANSACTION DATE</u>
Peter Ellis & Martha Jimenez	630 Waterfall Isle	October 31, 2007
Judith Grant	315 Balboa Court	November 27, 2007
Mary Warner	615 Arlington Isle	November 28, 2007
Stuart McIntosh	621 Larchmont Isle	March 31, 2008