

## **The President's Message**



Dear Hidden Ridgers,

At our July 30<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting I was relieved to see that we had a quorum so that we could conduct business and hold our election. While there were three candidates for the three open positions, it was necessary to attain a quorum in order to complete the election process. On behalf of the Board of Directors I thank the 88 homeowners who came out and voted either in person or through absentee/ proxy. Once again, I wonder, however, where the other 60 homeowners were, where was their voice? All we ask of our members is that they participate in this one activity by mailing back an absentee ballot or assign a person to be their proxy if they will not be here in person for one reason or another. After the meeting, I saw at least 15 cars of homeowners who did not participate, some of them being year round homeowners. Would they only come to a meeting if the issue directly affected them personally?

I want to welcome Warren Berkowitz and Shelly Kleinberger to the Board and have already witnessed their enthusiasm and willingness to work with the rest of the Board and serve this community. I look forward to working with them and the other members of the Board, Ben Lorick, Fred Hirsh, Chuck Greenberg, and Robbie Schecter, to cooperatively meet the needs of all of our residents and our community.

On behalf of the entire community, I want to thank both Karen Seltzer and Lenny Kirschenbaum for their years of service on the Board. Thank you both for giving your time serving our community. While they are no longer Board members, they have demonstrated their willingness to continue to serve our community. Karen has remained as our "Bingo Belle" and assists with the set up of our clubhouse for our Saturday night functions.

Recently the Board of Directors found the need to hire a person to serve in the role of "property manager" who would supervise and support the maintenance needs of the community throughout the year, especially when there are no Board members on site. We are pleased to announce that Lenny Kirschenbaum has been hired to assume this role. We ask that the community members continue to write their maintenance requests on the appropriate form and **not call him after business hours unless it is an emergency.**

On a personal note, I want to thank you for your support. I especially want to thank those of you who have stopped me as I buzz around the community to thank me for my efforts. Your kind comments are much appreciated – they make it all worthwhile. I am sure that the other Board members would like to hear from you as well. Please remember that we are all volunteers who are giving our time to the community. We ask that you respect us and not bombard us with concerns and questions when we are trying to enjoy the pool or a social activity.

We still have a few weeks left to enjoy our summer activities. We have planned several activities for your enjoyment – see the information throughout this issue. We have also purchased two new ping pong tables - one at the pool and one in the Clubhouse as well as a beautiful new pool table! Come enjoy a game or two. Let's have fun times during the rest of the summer at our "Jewel in the Catskills!"

Bonnie

*Please note that the Editor-in-Chief is "on vacation" this month; therefore, there will be no message from her.*

## 2017-2018 Board of Directors

Bonnie Siegel	President	917-969-9646
Ben Lorick	V. Pres	845-423-2801
Fred Hirsh	Secretary	516-639-0238
Chuck Greenberg	Treasurer	516-445-3845
Warren Berkowitz	Director	516-972-2099
Shelly Kleinberger	Director	845-798-3255
Robbie Schecter	Director	347-385-4373

Hidden Ridge H.O.A.  
PO Box 190  
Mongaup Valley, NY 12762

## Hidden Ridge H.O.A. Committee Liaisons

Activities	Warren, Bonnie
Advertising	Warren, Fred
Audit, Budget, Finance	Chuck
Beautification	Robbie
Clubhouse	Shelly, Bonnie
Community Outreach	Bonnie, Ben
Cul-de-Sac Liaisons	Robbie
GEM/Website	Bonnie
Grievance	Fred
Insurance Certifications	Bonnie, Ben
Insurance Matters	Bonnie, Ben
Legal Matters	Fred
Long Range Planning Committee	Fred
Maintenance of Grounds /Pool	Bonnie, Robbie
Daily Pool & Pool Pavilion Op.	Shelly
Sales and Rentals	Bonnie
Sanitation and Recycling	Bonnie

## Upcoming Events

**Next Board Meeting:**  
Sunday, August 27, 2017 10:00 AM

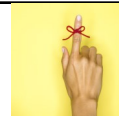
**General Association Meeting:**  
Sunday, September 3, 2017 10:30 AM

Want to announce something to our community?  
Call Linda and place an ad in the GEM.

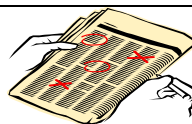
Please call 917-747-8660 or email:  
bonsdiva@aol.com

**DEADLINE for SEPTEMBER ISSUE - August 20**

## Important Reminder



President Bonnie Siegel reminds all homeowners that a current copy of your insurance certification is required to be on file with the HOA. This form should include the unit number as well as the effective dates of coverage. A copy of the Declarations page is acceptable and preferred. Handwritten details on these documents as well as premium notices are not acceptable. Send your certification forms directly to the Hidden Ridge Office, PO Box 976, Monticello, NY 12701.



## Classifieds

**Wanted:** Ads to defray costs of printing the GEM, such as, business cards, etc.

Prices for ad space in newsletter:

• full page	\$25/issue	\$125/year
• 1/2 page	\$15/issue	\$ 75/year
• 1/4 page	\$10/issue	\$ 50/year
• business card	\$ 5/issue	\$ 25/year

Call Linda: 845-791-6056 (May-Oct.) 561-498-9338 (Oct.-May)

## GEM Staff

**Editor-in-Chief**  
**Senior Editor**

Linda Solomon  
Bonnie Siegel



**Contributing Writers:** Chuck Greenberg  
Janet Lieberman  
Allan Meyers  
Peter Morello  
Terry Steinberg

**Guest Writers:** Fred Hirsh  
Robbie Schecter

If you would like to contribute to the August issue or consider writing a regular byline, please notify the Editor-in-Chief. Please send your information to: [bonsdiva@aol.com](mailto:bonsdiva@aol.com)  
Linda Solomon at [bonsdiva@aol.com](mailto:bonsdiva@aol.com)

## LIBERTY PEST CONTROL

**Liberty Pest Control will be on site on Wednesday, August 30, 2017.** They will be treating the exteriors of the building. If you have an interior concern, let them know. Thank you for your cooperation.

If you have any questions, speak to Bonnie Siegel.

## Life Cycle Events

### AUGUST



Tisha B'Av  
August 14



National Aviation  
Day  
August 19



Women's Equality Day  
August 26



National Dog Day  
August 26



Leo (July 23 August 20)

Virgo (August 21 - September 22)



August Birthstone: Peridot



Flower of the Month: Gladiolus

## Happy Birthday

08-02 Adrienne Meyers	08-15 Kimberley Franco
Ross Elliott	08-18 Karen Crumley
08-04 Jack Sachs	08-20 Nancy Lopez
08-07 Larry Sternfeld	08-24 Ken Schiffer
08-09 Daniel Neiger	08-26 Eleanor Dovdavan
08-10 Helen Badain	08-27 Michael Dovdavan
08-14 Howard Marcus	08-28 Meryl Miles

*Thanks so much to our Hidden Ridge family for the outpouring of love via cards, texts, and phone calls during my recent surgery and recovery. It was so appreciated! Thanks especially to Chuck for being the best caregiver ever!*

*With love,  
Charney*

## Happy Anniversary

- |                                     |                                  |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Clocks and Watches               | 15. Watches                      |
| 2. China                            | 16. Silver Hollowware            |
| 3. Crystal and Glass                | 17. Furniture                    |
| 4. Electrical Appliances            | 18. Porcelain                    |
| 5. Silverware                       | 19. Bronze                       |
| 6. Wood                             | 20. Platinum Watches and Jewelry |
| 7. Desk Sets - Pens and Pencil Sets | 25. Sterling Silver Jubilee      |
| 8. Linens and Laces                 | 30. Diamond Watches and Jewelry  |
| 9. Leather                          | 35. Jade                         |
| 10. Diamond Watches and Jewelry     | 40. Ruby                         |
| 11. Fashion Jewelry and Accessories | 45. Sapphire                     |
| 12. Pearl or Colored Gems           | 50. Golden Jubilee               |
| 13. Textiles or Furs                | 55. Emerald                      |



## Happy Anniversary

- |      |                           |
|------|---------------------------|
| 8-10 | Ettie & Mark Rachleff     |
| 8-11 | Marcia & Ken Schiffer     |
|      | Stephen & Maxine Kopp     |
| 8-16 | Betty & Harvey Fuchs      |
| 8-26 | Lois & Michael Mondschein |

## Hold The Date!\*

- Sunday, August 27- Board of Directors Meeting
- Sunday, September 3- General Assoc. Meeting
- Sunday, September 10 - Board of Directors Mtg.
- Sunday, September 24 - Board of Directors Mtg.

*\*Times and locations to be announced at a later date – Dates are subject to change, please check the bulletin boards and web site.*

*Mazel Tov Mazel Tov to Harvey and Betty Fuchs on the birth of the granddaughter, Colbie Madison*

## Celebrating a birthday, anniversary or other special event?

Have any other reason to celebrate? Have nothing special in your life but want to just say hello or share your good fortune with your Hidden Ridge friends and neighbors? Sponsor the collation after the Saturday evening entertainment.

Do you remember the weekly weekend parties at the pool? We would like to bring them back! You can make it happen by sponsoring a Saturday or Sunday event at the pool. We also need volunteers to buy the food, set it up and clean up after the Saturday or Sunday events at the pool.

Speak with Bonnie Siegel about the cost and available dates.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

The Board is made up of a group of dedicated volunteers who have agreed to serve our community. Some of us live here full time, while others of us are seasonal residents. We like to enjoy our community and lives just the way everyone else does.

We are requesting that we receive phone calls *during normal business hours only* unless you have a *true emergency*.

Calls, emails or texts after 6 PM to get someone's phone number or to ask a question can usually wait for the next day. Think about how you would feel if you were out to dinner or having a night out and received calls like these.

Thank you for your cooperation.

## GOING PAPERLESS – GEM

The GEM is available in color online at our website [www.hiddenridgehoa.org](http://www.hiddenridgehoa.org) after it is published (September, December, April, June, July and August).

If you no longer want to receive a paper copy sent to you (or put in your door) please complete the form below and return it to Bonnie R. Siegel. If you do not submit a form you will automatically receive a paper copy.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Please return this form to Bonnie Siegel (6 Hidden Ridge Terrace, Monticello, NY 12701) or email her at [Siegelmath@aol.com](mailto:Siegelmath@aol.com):

*I do not wish to receive a paper copy of the GEM beginning with the September 2017 issue.*

Name

Hidden Ridge Address

## The Poet's Corner

Janet Lieberman



### Words...the Voice within

Words...

*Squeeze dripping tears, my soul's third eye*

*Grasp fresh fruit dangling from slender  
boughs*

*Suck essence/delicious amber juices*

Words...

*Empower dove wings beating in my soul*

*Fan glowing coals/ expose fears, doubts,*

*Sooth scars sorrow/, hoard memories*

*Cleanse dreams swirling like pigeons*

*Pecking at burning coals,*

Words...

*Sculpt sand grains, rub sea shells*

*Coalesce shadows, nuances/*

*Spit out pearls, swirl in lacey sea foam*

*Shine sunlight upon my soul*

*Words...my voice within!*

## IMPORTANT REMINDER

### Sewer Charges

Please be advised that each homeowner should have recently received a bill in for \$400 from Sullivan Infra West, Inc. for sewer charges for 2017-18. If you did not receive this bill please contact Bonnie Siegel. Just a reminder- Sullivan Infra West is the company that took over the Old Liberty Road Sewerage Company. This charge is separate from the \$25 per month charge that is collected with your monthly maintenance charge that is sent to the HOA.

## Slow Down and STOP

The speed limit on Hidden Ridge Drive and Terrace is 15 miles per hour.

**SPEED  
LIMIT  
15**



## MAINTENANCE REQUEST FORMS

**ALL** requests for exterior maintenance must be written on **Maintenance Service Request Forms**. Copies may be picked up in the **pocket envelope** on the bulletin board. All requests should be placed in the **maintenance mailbox** on the right side of the main bulletin board.



### Use one form per request.

If you have any questions regarding maintenance, please contact Lenny Kirschenbaum or Bonnie Siegel. Thank you for your cooperation.

## FROM THE BOARD

### According to the State Department of Health:

If you're swimming in the pool, remember the rule - two is company but *no one can swim alone!* Please be sure that you have a buddy with you or that there is someone on the pool deck when you are in the water. This is for your safety!

Thank you for keeping us from being cited and for keeping our pool opened for the enjoyment of all.



## BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Any homeowner with a beautification issue/request, please complete a Maintenance Service Request form and leave it in the maintenance envelope at the bulletin board near the safety booth. On the top of the form, please write "beautification" or "attn. Robbie." Also, keep in mind that owners are responsible for the area 3<sup>1/2</sup> feet from your home, unless trimming is needed to keep foliage from gutters, roofs or siding.

Thanks, Robbie (347) 385-4373;  
rschecter0409@hotmail.com

### *Get Well Wishes*

*Wishing a full and speedy recovery*

*Michael Mondschein*



## Cul-de-Sac Liaisons

Cul-de-Sac	Numbers	Liaison
Azaleas	15-25D	Karen Seltzer
Birch	29-43D	Micheal Zwicker
Camellias	59-73D	Betty Fuchs
Daffodils	89-103D	Fran Zatz
Elms	107-125D	Julia Glaz
Firs	149-171D	Lenny Kirschenbaum
Gardenias	173-187D	Jerry Bassik
Hemlocks	193-205D	Michael Valcin
Iris	196-214D	Debra Fanning
Juniper	126-148D	Jeff Lynn
Kerrias	74-96D	Rhoda Hertz
Laurels	44-58D	Robbie Schecter
Magnolias	29-43T	Sheila Cole
Narcissus	45-58T	Joe Gluck
Oaks	28-46T	Jill Friedman
Petunias	6-26T	Bonnie Siegel
Roses	8-14D	Karen Seltzer

## WINNERS' CIRCLE

### Monday/Wednesday Night Canasta Tournament Weekly Winners

#### July 19

Jeff  
Jackie/Linda  
Izzy

#### July 25

Harriet  
Carole  
Meryl

#### August 7

Harriet  
Larry  
Espi

#### August 9

Jackie  
Larry  
Meryl

#### August 14

Espi  
Jane  
Seymour

#### 50-50 Winners

July 2 - Janet Lieberman  
July 8 - Lenny Kirschenbaum  
July 15 - Fran Katz  
July 29 - Charlene Perez  
August 5 - Fran Zatz  
August 12 - Lenny Kirschenbaum

## Hidden Ridge needs you!



The Board of Directors request that you as a resident of Hidden Ridge sign up for one or more of our committees.

Please consider offering your expertise and experience to our community.

Contact the Liaisons listed on page 2. We especially need volunteers for the Advertising, Beautification, Community Activities, and Audit, Budget and Finance Committees. We look forward to hearing from you and working with you. Thank you.

## Terry's Fitness & Health Corner



### Help Fend off Prediabetes and Diabetes at the Supermarket

by Terry Steinberg

Once a rarity, Type 2 diabetes is becoming commonplace in America. The Center for Disease Control says that more than 29 million people suffer from this disease and 86 million have prediabetes which is blood sugar levels high enough to indicate a risk of developing the disease in the near future. Chilling numbers, yes, but these statistics can be improved with a fork and knife. Modern research shows that a shopping cart full of the following foods, eaten as part of your daily meal plan, can HELP in the battle against diabetes:

**Avocado** - Contains a powerful mix of health boosting antioxidants, beneficial fats, vitamins, minerals and fiber. These help put on the brakes on a metabolic syndrome which includes high blood glucose and obesity.

**Lentils** - Plant protein (legumes) used in place of starchy carbs (bread, rice, potatoes) helps keep diabetes at bay as the fiber content helps to keep blood sugar numbers more stable. Lentils are especially beneficial.

**Strawberries** - Antioxidant polyphenols in berries may make cells more responsive to insulin, enabling better blood sugar control. So make strawberries sliced or whole a fixture with all yogurt, oatmeal, fruit cups and snacks!!!

**Oats** - Whole grains such as these, also quinoa and brown rice, bump up the fiber within your gut and high fiber improves the functioning of our insulin-producing beta -cells!!!! These foods are all easy to buy and are delicious and all purpose. So, do a good thing for you, your health and your body - add them to your diet (but, always remember your daily exercise, too).



## CASINO NIGHT

**At Hidden Ridge.**

**Come join us for a fun filled night.**

- BLACK JACK, ROULETTE, WHEEL OF FORTUNE  
HUMAN HORSE RACING & DOG RACING  
(All for gamblers and non gamblers).
- No real money used.
- Lots of prizes.
- FREE for homeowners and renters.
- Refreshments served.
- You don't have to be a gambler to enjoy a fun night.

♥♠♦ August 19, 2017 - 8:00 PM ♥♠♦



## GAME NIGHT

*Join us for a night of fun & laughs...*

*featuring Name That Tune!* 🎵

August 26, 2017

8:00 PM



*Guest MC!*

Pizza and Prizes





Collection for the 2017 holiday greetings began in January. There are two more opportunities this year to share your greetings with your neighbors, September and December. If you have not already done so and would like to

participate, complete the form below and send to the editor with a check for \$3.00. Thank you to all who have contributed in the past. We look forward to seeing your names listed here again for the September issue!

Please complete this form and submit with \$3 to Linda Solomon, GEM Editor-in-Chief.

Name(s) (as you want it to appear in the Holiday Greetings)

---

Your Name

---

HR Address

---

Send to: Linda Solomon  
6 Hidden Ridge Terrace, Monticello, NY 12701

## HIDDEN RIDGE ATTIRE

*Wear your Hidden Ridge wardrobe around town and show your pride in our community!*

### **Hidden Ridge T-Shirts:**

*Navy blue cotton tee shirt in sizes Small - 3X  
All sizes: \$10*

### **Hidden Ridge Polo Shirts:**

*White piquet with HR logo in sizes Small - 3X  
S-XL \$16; 1X-3X \$18*

### **Hidden Ridge Sweatshirts:**

*Navy blue zippered hoodie with 2 pockets sizes S-3X  
All sizes: \$20*

*Most Sizes STILL Available!*

Submit your order to Bonnie Siegel, 6 HR Terrace **or**  
**pick them up at our General Meeting, Sept. 3, 2017**



## FROM THE BOARD

*By Fred Hirsh*

### **READ THIS CAREFULLY BEFORE YOU HAVE ANY WORK DONE TO THE EXTERIOR OF YOUR UNIT**

A reminder to the members that pursuant to the Declaration of Covenants, Restrictions, Easements, Charge and Liens contained on pages 22-39 of the Offering Plan, no work may be performed on the exterior of any unit at Hidden Ridge without first presenting the plans for the proposed work to the Board of Directors and before the Board of Directors approves the nature and scope of the proposed work. A copy of the Declaration can be found on-line under the documents section at the Hidden Ridge web site, [www.hiddenridgehoa.org](http://www.hiddenridgehoa.org).

Additional rules relating to the construction of decks and patios can be found in the Hidden Ridge A to Z booklet. Each member has been provided with a copy of this booklet. This booklet is also available under the documents tab of the Hidden Ridge web site.

Examples of work that requires prior Board approval includes but is not limited to the construction of a deck or patio, replacements of windows, replacement of storm or unit doors, replacement of basement doors, repairs or replacement of vinyl siding.

The Board has learned that certain contractors have recently constructed a deck at one of the units using materials that were not approved by the Board and replaced a basement door at a unit without first obtaining the approval of the Board for this work. The work done to replace the basement door caused damage to the retaining wall appurtenant to the unit that will have to be repaired.

While any owner may hire any contractor to perform work in or on a unit, work done in violation of HOA rules will have to be repaired or replaced at the homeowners' expense. Please make certain that before you perform any work outside of your unit, you present the proposal to the Board and obtain Board approval for the work. Please make certain that your contractor only performs the work approved by the Board, only uses materials for this work that have been approved by the Board and repairs or restores any HOA property such as retaining walls, sidewalks, roofs, siding involved in the work to the condition it was in prior to the commencement of the work.

If you have any questions regarding whether the work you want to do requires prior Board approval, speak with any member of the Board before starting the work. The names of the Board members are listed in the *GEM*.



## FROM THE PEN OF....

Peter Morello



### All in the Family – Part II

*Recap of Part I: Brothers Sam and Greg Stewart hadn't seen each other in five years. Sam was a career Marine drill instructor visiting his brother and wife, Nancy, in Brooklyn. Greg was a former Marine who served a three-year tour of duty, some of which was served with Sam.*

*Sam had never married and wanted to spend quality time with his family while Greg seemed to want to reminisce about their time in the Marine Corps.*

Come on Sam, what was the name of that mamma's boy – you know who I'm talking about? His name is on the tip of my tongue; he was a tall dark-haired guy – very skinny."

"His name was Henry Wasser, Greg."

"That's the name I was looking for," said Greg almost shouting while looking at Nancy. Every night when he took a shower he could be heard crying in the shower and talking to himself about how much he missed his mother back home. This guy wasn't a true Marine and we all rode him hard during boot camp.

"Sounds like you guys treated Henry rather badly," said Nancy while looking somewhat disappointed.

"Oh, come on Nancy, that's what we did in the Corps. It was fun and it broke the monotony. I could tell lots of stories like that for the next hour."

"Here's one for you – there was this guy Mike who was married and one day when the mail was distributed he received a 'Dear John' letter from his wife. She said she wanted a divorce and was through with him forever. Mike started to cry and expressed great sorrow over what was happening to him. Well, there was this other guy with us by the name of Willie. He was from South Carolina and when Mike read the letter and was in the throes of despair Willie said, 'Don't worry Mike, maybe she won't be your wife anymore but she'll still be your sister.' Everyone in the barracks broke out in laughter but poor Mike was too humiliated to say anything. I gotta tell you that was a great time."

I got another one for you. These two guys were talking to each other and one kept asking 'Who, who?' The other guy who was from Arkansas said, 'Do you sit on a branch? Do you shit through feathers?' I mean, those Southern boys sure had a way with words but were as dumb as a screwdriver. I mean, they provided the rest of us with a lot of entertainment."

Greg took a break from his reminiscing to take a long and hearty laugh. He tilted his head back and laughed loudly as Nancy smiled and Sam seemed disinterested and cast his eyes downward. Greg was too busy being a raconteur to notice any else in the room. He was thoroughly enjoying himself and was more than happy to share his stories with Nancy and Sam.

"Hey, Sam – tell Nancy all the fun we had making fun of those Marines who, how can I say this, 'liked other boys.'"

"I really don't remember what you're talking about, Greg," Sam replied.

"Sure, you do. You were right there with me joining in on the festivities."

"Do I really have to listen to this boy talk?" Nancy questioned.

"This is what we did for fun, sweetheart. You know how it is with guys who have a lot of idle time on their hands. You have no knowledge as to the boredom we went through doing a lot of mindless stuff that we were ordered to do by our D.I. We needed something to do to break the endless monotony. That's why some guys can't take it. They go stir crazy. Not Sam and I. I tell you, we never tired of poking fun at others. It was something to do and no one got hurt."

"I don't know, Greg. It sounds like you guys were being rather cruel to some of your fellow Corpsmen."

"Nothing could be further from the truth, Nancy," Greg countered. These guys we made fun of wanted to be just like us. We were on the top of the pecking order and guys looked up to us. We were part of the 'in crowd' and admired by all. Even our D.I. laughed at our shenanigans, right Sam?"

"Well, they certainly laughed but I don't know how they felt and that's especially true for our targets. These guys never really had a chance to discuss their feelings considering they were being victimized."

"What victims – they were lucky that we even noticed them when you consider how odd most of these people were. I think they were honored that we even noticed them," Greg explained seeming somewhat annoyed. "Nowadays, everybody is a damn victim. I really think folks need to be broader minded and accept who they are and not be so uptight. That's exactly how I feel. Lucky for me I had my brother with me who was always there for me and joined in on the fun, right Sam?"

"Well, yeah, but that was a long time ago and like I said before, can't we discuss something else that maybe involves Nancy too? I mean, it's great to reminisce and all but this is just a lot of military stuff and it's not really..."

"When we rode those sissies, we rode them hard. We let them know who was in charge. There were a couple of guys who couldn't take it and resigned from boot camp faking a nervous breakdown."

Greg buried his head in his right hand and laughed uncontrollably as Sam and Nancy politely looked at him. "Those were the days before that 'don't ask, don't tell business.' I mean, even though those guys tried to hide it, we knew who went which way and what not. You could just smell it. Once we found out that's when the fun started. Boy do I miss those days. You do too, Sam, don't ya?"

"Well, they were certainly unique times but things have changed a lot over the years in the Corps. and..."

"Yeah, now you can be a he, she or an it and no one says nothing. It's all a crock if you ask me. I'm as good as any five of them"

Nancy began to clean up the snacks and plates and excused herself as she went into the kitchen.

"Hey, let me help you," Sam said as he followed Nancy into the kitchen. I'll be back soon, Greg."

(continued on page 9)



(continued from page 8)

"Yeah, sure. Hey, can I trust a Marine with my old lady even if he is my brother?" Greg jokingly asked as he continued laughing.

"Sam, I'm sorry that Greg hogs the conversation but you know your brother; he's always like that." Hopefully, he calms down a bit when we go out to dinner."

"Listen, Nancy – about dinner. I think I better go..."

"No no, Sam. It's not that bad – he'll calm down. I'll see to it. Please stay."

"It's not that, Nancy. Look, give Greg this note after I'm gone, would ya?" Greg reached into his pocket and took out a folded envelop and handed it to Nancy.

"You had this prepared? What's up Sam; you can tell me."

"No, it's alright. I prefer to leave quietly." He kissed Nancy on the cheek and left through the back door."

Seconds later, Greg came into the kitchen. "Hey, where's Sam?"

"He left."

"Left? He didn't even take his bags. What's going on, Nancy."

"I know, Greg. He left abruptly and I'm just as puzzled as you. But he asked me to give you this."

Nancy handed Greg the envelope as Greg looked perplexed.

"What the hell is this? What's all the mystery around here?"

Nancy stood staring at Greg as he opened the envelope and read its contents aloud.

*Greg,*

*There are some things that are better said in writing than face to face and I guess this is one of them. You know that ever since we were kids I was always rather shy and quiet and I thought this was the best way for me to tell you what's been on my mind for a long time.*

*I knew from past visits where our conversations would eventually go and that I had to set the record straight once and for all. The question was how. How could I approach a brother who always looked up to me and had great admiration for me? How not to disappoint you and still be able to say what I have to say to a person who means the world to me?*

*It's extraordinarily difficult to have something bottled up inside you for so many years and not be able to discuss it with anyone, let alone your own brother. I knew the day would eventually come and I guess this was as good a time as any. As you know, being a Marine is everything to me but that's not my whole life. I have a life outside the Corps. that is completely separate and private and until now unknown even to you.*

*It was around the time I entered boot camp that I realized I was gay. You can understand that it was impossible to let this out in the environment that I served. I had no choice but to go along with everything and make it all seem right even though that was far from the truth.*

*I can only hope my saying this doesn't ruin our relationship but I wouldn't blame you if you never speak to me again.*

*Sorry to let you down.*

*Sam*

Greg slowly lowered the letter and stared at Nancy. "I can't believe what I've just read." Greg's face became red and he became incensed as the impact of what he just read began to sink in. "Well he's right about one thing, I'll never speak to him again. This guy never was a true Marine! My brother, of all people! He was a fake all these years and I'll fell for it. He's humiliated me and I'll never be able to live this down. Imagine what our parents will think when this hits them."

"We always confided in each other and knew everything there was to know about one another." Greg ripped the letter to pieces and through it out the door where Sam had just left.

Nancy was upset at her husband's reaction but understood the shock he was going through and wasn't sure what was the right approach to use to quell Greg's anger.

"Listen Greg, I know how you feel..."

"No, you don't, Nancy."

But she did. She knew that once she could get him to listen to her reasoning, he would understand how important his brother still was to him and what he would need to do.

"Now stop talking and listen for a change. You can't monopolize every conversation, Greg. He's still your brother and he's not the first person to make such a shocking announcement in this world. Of course, it's unexpected and maybe upsetting to you because of how you've led your life. But try to think of Sam who had to go along with everyone else in the Marines at the risk of expulsion. He could never be himself unlike you and the rest of the guys – always hoping never to be found out and keeping a completely separate life from his family and friends. You never had to go through that, did you? The fact that you always looked up to him as your older brother, the D.I., is not lost. When you think about it, he was more of a Marine than you were."

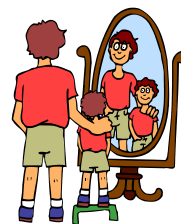
"Now look, we've had enough excitement for one evening. Why don't you call Sam and have a heart to heart talk to him? He must have been awfully upset for him to leave as abruptly as he did."

Yeah, you're right. Listen, I got to make this right. I'll call him on his cell phone – I'll get him to come back. He can't be too far."

Greg took his cell phone that was attached to his belt and before he could look up Sam's number, he quickly lowered it. "I don't know what to say to him, Nancy. I mean – all these years he went along with all we did as Marines and joined me in ribbing all those gay guys never letting on. I just don't know where to start or how to approach him. I feel terrible knowing he kept this inside for so long."

Nancy walked over to Greg and stared deeply into his eyes for several seconds, neither uttered a word until Nancy broke the silence.

"Why don't you start off by telling him you love him?"



## ALLAN'S ALLEY

*submitted by Allan Meyers*



### BUY ME SOME PEANUTS & CRACKERJACKS

When is a ball that we hit off a bat and only rolls 10 feet or a broken bat dying Quail single become hard hit line drives?

When you talk about your prowess as an athlete, when you were a kid.

When I was in high school, I joined a hard ball league in the Parade Grounds located at Prospect Park in Brooklyn. Since everyone on the team was from Bensonhurst, the coach called for baseball practice at St. Anthanasius Church located on Bay Parkway in the East 60's.

Before the church built a school on the property, they converted the empty lot into a baseball field for the kids to play. It's 90 feet from home to first base, but the right field fence was only about 40 feet past it. The fence was 30 feet high. Left field was a normal distance with a 5 foot fence.

When the team arrived at the church there were other kids tossing a ball around. So instead of practice we had a choose up for the game. Some of the kids played on our team and some of our team played for the other team. Neither our number one nor number two pitchers pitched in the game.

The first three batters on our team tried to hit the short right field fence. The lefty and one other player hit the ball off the fence. So when I got up to bat, we had a runner on second base.

There was no way that the pitcher would throw an outside pitch. In order to prevent another ball hit towards right field he had to throw a pitch inside. The ball came in at medium speed, middle left of the plate and belt high. When I swung I knew the ball hit the sweet spot of the bat since there was no feeling of pain or vibrations on my hands.

The ball took off as if it were hit with a 2 iron. A rising line drive that cleared the five foot fence and landed on the other side of Bay Parkway. When I touched home plate, an old man approached me. He must have been in his sixties.

He grabbed my shoulder and told me that the last person to hit the ball that far was Tommy Holmes who was then playing for the Boston Braves. He further said that he knew a scout for the Philadelphia Phillies and that he was going to get him. "Wait for us," he screamed.

I wanted to play for the Brooklyn Dodgers. Play for the Phillies? So be it.

So I waited, and I WAITED. Would you believe it's been 60 years since that game and I'm still waiting?



## Reminders from the Board of Directors

**Barbeques:** Barbeques may not be used on any front lawn and emptying coal on any common area is prohibited. (A fire extinguisher is recommended nearby.) You may use the barbeque away from your unit in the rear of your house. Never leave a barbeque unattended.



**Outdoor Furniture:** May be left on the grass areas. However, please move it to allow for lawn care from our maintenance crew/landscapers. Please do not leave outdoor furniture outside during the winter months.



**Wood:** Stacking of wood for your fireplace is permitted. **Do not stack the wood against your house or vinyl siding.** A distance of 3 feet is recommended. A wood holder is recommended.



**Antennas:** Any and all TV and radio antennae are prohibited from being erected on the roof or within 2½ feet of the home. Satellite dishes are not allowed on any exterior surface. Any violation voids HOA responsibilities. A release will be available through the HOA to hold harmless the HOA for any damage caused by a satellite dish to your unit or any other unit or personal property.



**Landscaping:** Each homeowner is responsible for the landscaping within the 3 ½ feet of their unit in the front, back and sides (if an end unit). The common grounds of our community will be maintained by the maintenance crew. If a homeowner wants to exceed the 3½ feet, they need approval from the Board.



**Flushing:** Do not flush anything but toilet paper down your toilets. **Cottencelle or other freshening wipes** will clog the sewer system and will disrupt the flow of sewerage from the community. We recently had an incident where feminine sanitary items and paper towels caused a problem in our clubhouse.



Need firewood?  
See Mike Bauer.

# The Treasurer's Report

Submitted by Chuck Greenberg



Treasurer's Report  
As of August 10, 2017

## CASH IN BANK

Chase: Operating:	\$ 38,252.88	
Reserve:	\$ 150,115.85	\$ 188,368.73
Wayne: General:	\$ 2,932.22	
Money M:	\$ 3,021.66	\$ 5,953.88

Total Cash: \$ 194,322.61

This is <\$18,760.50> compared to last year.

EXPENSES	YTD	vs. LY		YTD	vs. LY
Clubhouse:	13,600	<8,500>	Payroll:	41,700	7,100
Electric:	3,700	1,800	Paving:	27,500	15,500
Equip. Rental:	3,400	2,800	Pool:	10,600	<1,700>
Insurance:	3,500	2,200	Roof Repair:	25,800	<3,500>
Legal Fees:	6,500	6,500	Misc. Maint:	3,100	3,100
Maint. Of Equip:	2,500	2,500	Refuse Rem:	4,300	1,800
General Maint.:	32,900	12,000			

Expenses total \$ 207,100 which is \$20,400 more than last year.

Net Income is <3100> which is <26,800> more than last year.

Resident Balances due:	\$84,900
Advance Payments included:	\$14,900
Total actually due:	\$99,800

## IN MY OPINION... By Fred Hirsh

In light of the events in Charlottesville this past week, it is important for us all to take a stand against any kind of prejudice. As I am sure most have you have heard, I was involved in a rather heated argument with a guest of one of our members several weeks ago.

The guest asked me if he and a group of his friends could purchase a unit in the development and convert it to a shul\*. I advised him this could not be done because the individual units can only be used for residential purposes.

The conversation deteriorated rapidly from there and became very animated.

This was just another occurrence in which a member or guest has expressed a disgusting, intolerable and unacceptable attitude or opinion about some people who reside in our community.

At a recent community meeting, one of our members asked the Board what it is doing and what can be done to keep people this member described as "undesirable" from purchasing or renting in our community. Other members have stopped me and asked me what we can do to prevent people these members found "unacceptable" from purchasing or renting in our community.

When I was at the pool recently, a member advised me that the Board has to do more to bring "our kind of people" to the community. I looked around at the people who were at the pool at the time and responded "All of these people are my kind of people." The member blanched and walked away.

Other people have advised me that the only way we can "Save Hidden Ridge" is to aggressively market the community to people of certain religious, ethnic and/or demographic groups.

These comments demonstrate bigotry, bias, intolerance and ignorance that is totally unacceptable. These comments and these attitudes negatively affect our community and make it far less desirable or attractive to people who are considering purchasing.

One of the original lures of Hidden Ridge was the ability of members to join Kutsher's which enabled them to use Kutsher's facilities as guests at the hotel. This perk of living at Hidden Ridge is no longer available.

I am sure that Hidden Ridge is a far different and more diverse community today than it was when it first opened in 1985. The Catskills, like all of our great country have changed dramatically since then. The opening of the Casino and the Veria Health Spa and the re-opening of the Kutsher's golf course in the next year will bring additional changes to our community, the effects of which cannot possibly be determined.

Hidden Ridge does not need to be saved. Hidden Ridge can and will continue to evolve and flourish if our members are open and welcoming to all. Hidden Ridge has to adapt to the times and needs of its current members. The only way Hidden Ridge will be saved is if all who live in our community work together to make Hidden Ridge a better and more tolerant, accepting and enjoyable place for all.

\*Shul - synagogue



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE BOARD

Please be advised that the manner in which the Board of Directors will be dealing with members who are in arrears has been modified. The following policy is in effect August 12, 2017:

1. Any member who has not paid the monthly HOA fee within 30 days of the due date (the first of every month) will receive a letter from the HOA bookkeeper advising them of their failure to pay the HOA fee when due and advising the member the member now owes the specific month's fee plus the \$25 late fee.
2. Any member who is more than two (2) months delinquent in payment of the HOA fee will receive a letter from the Board advising them of their failure to pay the HOA fee and advising them that they will be suspended as a member if the fee is not paid and the consequences of suspension.
3. The name of member who is more than three (3) months delinquent in payment of the HOA fee will be presented to the Board for action on suspension. If the Board votes to suspend, the member will receive a letter advising the member that they have been suspended and the consequences of the suspension.
4. Any member who is more than four (4) months delinquent in payment of HOA fees will be referred to the HOA attorney for immediate legal action.

If anyone is interested in being on the Advertising Committee, please contact Warren Berkowitz (WarrenB107@aol.com) or Fred Hirsh (Factor328@aol.com)



### End of Summer Pool Party!

Sunday, September 3, 2017 2-5 PM  
Pool Pavillion



Come say goodbye to summer with your neighbors and friends,  
share an afternoon of food and music!

## Upcoming Events at Hidden Ridge *Ben Lorick, Community Activities Chairperson*

### Saturday – August 19 – 8 PM

Casino Night – see page for details

### Saturday, August 26 – 8PM

Senior Prom - Cancelled –

Game Night featuring Name That Tune see page 6 for details

### Saturday, September 2 – see page for details

Labor Day Dinner (Italian Buffet) 6:30 PM

Show (8:00 PM) featuring  
“A Tribute to the Drifters”

### Sunday, September 3 – 2 PM

Pool Party

### Sunday, September 3 – 8 PM

(Midnight at Hidden Ridge!)

Special Movie Presentation of  
*The Rocky Horror Picture Show*

***Be sure to check the bulletin boards, emails and our website for updates.***



## Labor Day Party at Hidden Ridge



Saturday September 2, 2017 (BYOB)

Italian Buffet Dinner

(Catered by Frankie and Johnny's)

Showtime with Dancing in the Clubhouse

Featuring

The Drifters Tribute Band

Dinner: 6:30 PM, Showtime: 8:30 PM

please reserve your tables (of 10) and pay  
by Monday, August 28th\*\*

reservations in advance only

Dinner cost - \$21 for residents \$26 - guests of residents  
\$31 - non-residents

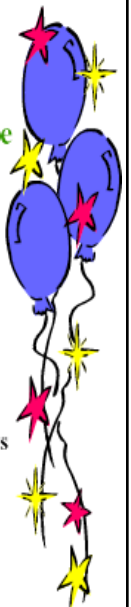
Karen Seltzer at 845-794-2752

(15 Hidden Ridge Drive)

Please bring checks only - no cash - to Karen  
payable to "Hidden Ridge HOA" by August 28, 2017

Showtime ONLY • Guests • \$5.00/ Non-residents • \$10.00 • See Bonnie Siegel

\*\*Late reservations for dinner will not be accommodated so please get your reservations by the cutoff day. Thank you.



## Thursday is Movie Night at Hidden Ridge with Jeff Lynn

For more than ten years, Jeff Lynn has provided us with Thursday night entertainment here at Hidden Ridge in the way of current movies, some just out of the movie theaters! With no cost to the community, Jeff has willingly provided us with great times. His "connection" in the movie business has allowed us most enjoyable evenings watching movies that we might have missed in local theaters for whatever reason so that we are catching up with the rest of the country! As we chew on our pretzels and Tootsie pops and sometimes other snacks while watching the movies in our own Clubhouse, we are comfortable, can hear and see the movie very well and we get to enjoy the experience with our friends and neighbors. Kudos to Jeff for enhancing our summer seasons!

If you have not yet joined us, note that in the next couple of weeks, we will be seeing "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" which is a 1975 British-American musical comedy horror film directed by Jim Sharman. "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" didn't invent midnight screenings but instead turned an off-Broadway musical into an art form that became a phenomenon within itself. If you have never seen "The Rocky Horror Picture Show," you are in for a real 'cult experience - don't forget to wear your costumes! "The Rocky Horror Picture Show," will be shown here at "Hidden Ridge midnight" - 8 PM on Sunday of Labor Day weekend!

### Coming to a Clubhouse near you: **The Rocky Horror Picture Show**

starring: Tim Curry, Susan Sarandon, Barry Bostwick, Richard O'Brien, Patricia Quinn, Nell Campbell, Jonathan Adams



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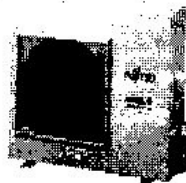
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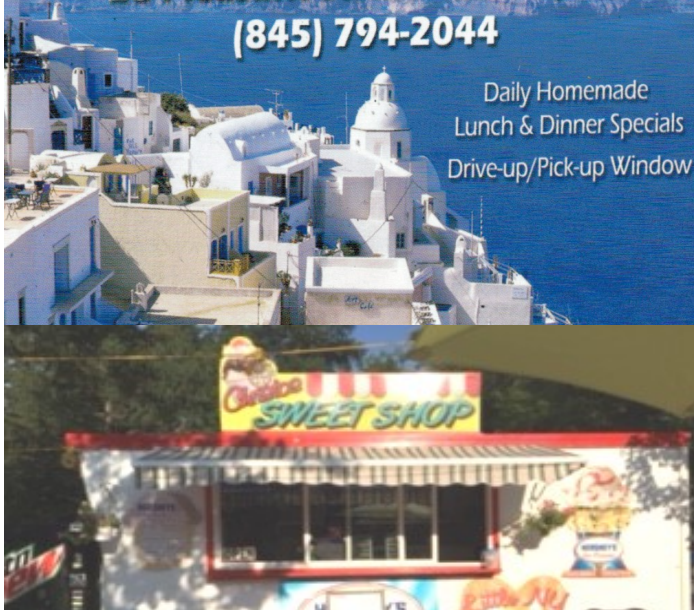


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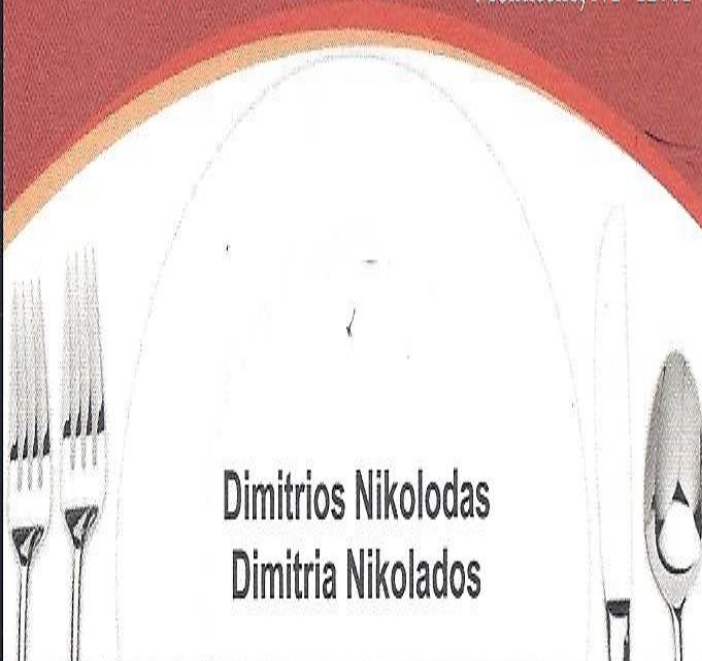
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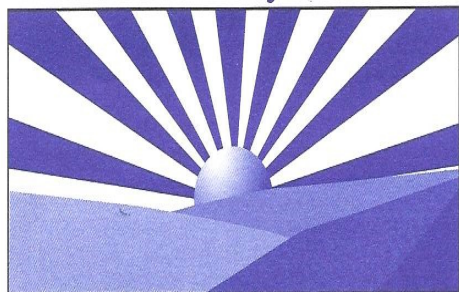
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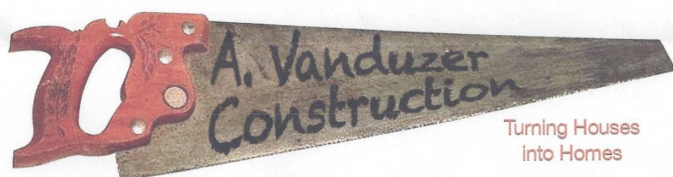
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