

THE WILDWOOD HIGHLANDER

Issue No. 4 P.O. Box 87; Datil, NM 87821 February 2000

WHLA 1 - NEW MILLENIUM 0

Well, it sure seems like we made it past all the worry and hype and are enjoying the new millennium with no big problems. The well didn't go dry and the electric co-op didn't lose power any more than they normally do! Business as usual for the WHLA folks in Catron County!

Your WHLA board of directors, Ken, Linda and Marcus hope that this past year has been filled with the best of times for you and your families. The board started as 5, and ended up as the three musketeers. We made a conscious decision to press on as the "we three" because we felt that we could handle the workload. This board evolved with a spirit of cooperation, positive thinking and a good perspective of the job at hand. As it turns out, things did get a little hectic but we were able to tackle the problems that needed our attention. I would like to acknowledge that we did miss the two members who couldn't complete the year for personal reasons. I would like to give a huge thank-you to Linda Ravert and Marcus Clarke for picking up the slack and making the experience a successful and rewarding one. This board only had officers because it was necessary to operate and stay in compliance with the bylaws. Everyone took on responsibility as it presented itself, and we came to agreement after discussing the ways to resolve the issues. The decision was made early on to do what we felt was best for the whole association, and we stuck

with that thought through the year. Trying to be good stewards of the money that the association has in its "coffers", we didn't try to spend it all. But when it was time to fix what needed fixing, it got done. Linda Ravert did a phenomenal job in generating a lot of good will and cooperation with our neighbors in the WLA. There are many areas that lend themselves to savings for both associations, such as the joint bids on road work. We also found kindred spirits in the WLA that recognize the need to do some major work on the Agua Fria section that both association members use to drive to the community well. This project looks like it is going to happen. Linda also spearheaded the rebuild of the well house and the coordination of costs with the WLA. Nice work! Marcus Clarke took on the project of getting the dues announcements out on the annual assessments. He also worked on finding new mailing addresses on some of the WHLA members who hadn't been heard from in a while. This is a never ending task, trying to keep up with landowners who move around. Marcus and I pitched in on the paperwork this year, and gave Linda our moral support where needed.

Did it work? Sure. Could you do better? I think you could! Will you volunteer to work on the next board? I sure hope so.

Volunteer to help and you can make an impact on the continued success of the WHLA.

-Ken White, WHLA President.

GREETINGS FROM PARADISE!

The average high temperature for January was 51 degrees and the low was 23. One day at 69 degrees seemed to bring Spring. Birds everywhere; raucous pinon jays in "intimate" groups of 100, canyon towees, bluebirds, mountain chickadees, plain titmouse, juncos, house finches, woodpeckers, flickers, red tail hawks, and the ever present raven family circling and sweeping overhead calling "Rocks, Rocks." The skies are brilliant blue and light to moderate winds seem to be the norm while the night sky abounds with stars.

There have been a few snows which began in October, with one on Christmas Day. These are not like storms experienced in the northeast and east. The low gray clouds move in on strong winds. One or two inches of snow fall with the clouds then being swept away. A sparkling blanket of snow with rabbit and deer tracks cover the land and the bright blue skyed, sunny days return.

A stillness, a quiet peacefulness pervades the senses. In my opinion, this is a true paradise.

Be seeing you.

Linda Ravert, Treas./Acting Sec.

HAVE YOU EVER WATCHED A FLOCK OF GEESE FLYING IN THEIR TRADITIONAL "V" FORMATION? TWO ENGINEERS LEARNED THAT EACH BIRD, BY FLAPPING ITS WINGS, CREATES AN UPLIFT FOR THE BIRD THAT FOLLOWS. TOGETHER THE FLOCK GAINS ABOUT 70 % GREATER FLYING RANGE THAN IF THEY WERE JOURNEYING ALONE.

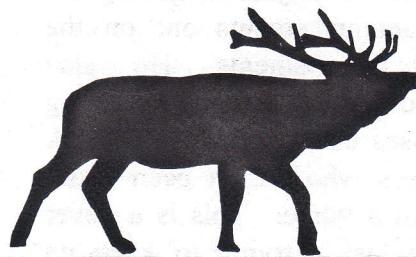
One of the ways we can all make it easier for the next board, is to volunteer a little information for use when projects present themselves. Many of you have building and construction skills that would come in handy on association projects, example - the 1999 rebuild of the pump house. SOOOOO! If you could be available to help on occasion, and have tools that you could bring and use, please fill in the questionnaire below and drop it off at the next general meeting. If you can't make it, please mail it in.

NAME: _____

PH. #: _____

SKILLS:

tent, or mobile home on any lot shall be nearer than 65 feet to the street line, nor nearer than 25 feet to the side lot line, nor nearer than 25 feet from the back lot line. Also, side and rear lot lines have a 20 foot utility easement. This can be a problem if you build on the interior of your property and aren't sure where the property line runs. Common sense tells us that we must check first to ensure we are in compliance, and then "build" or "park the trailer" on our property. Being a good neighbor means staying in compliance with these restrictions. It can also be a very expensive mistake if a permanent structure is built in the wrong place - like on your neighbors land or in the easement. There are professional surveyors who can stake out your lot lines if you intend to build close to the road or near your boundaries. There is not much of a problem if you plunk down in the middle of your property, but take care otherwise.



The other covenant that is pretty straight forward, yet has caused some ill will among WHLA members is in section 5. It states that animals shall be confined within the boundaries of each parcel. I think we automatically think of a loose horse or cows and the trouble they might get into if allowed to roam free. But what about the more domesticated breeds - such as dogs and cats. Cats seem a natural to help keep the mice and rats in check, but are

very susceptible to many of our wild animals such as coyotes. Dogs are also susceptible to the wily coyote but also can be a daunting presence to anyone going for a walk along our roads, trails and loops. Dogs may seem harmless to the owner, and may very well be, but to the stranger out for a walk a large barking dog, or dogs can be a frightening experience. And so we have a covenant that dictates we confine animals to our property. Fence them in, tie them up, or restrain them in some manner. It will make everyone's walk less stressful, and eliminate any danger to playing children. It will also eliminate the problems that will occur if the dogs stray onto your neighbors land.

Our annual meeting and the ELECTIONS for a new Board will be held on 6 MAY 2000 at 1:00 PM. We will meet in the Datil Community Center. All members in good standing may come and participate and vote. There is also a process called "proxy" voting that a member in good standing can use if they can't make the meeting. This day is an important one, so surround it on your calendar and start making plans to attend. Remember, a member in good standing is one who has paid their dues up through the current year. If the dues are not paid, the member cannot participate in the selection process.

Remember, even if you would just like to provide a helping hand, give us your name and number. You might be surprised what is needed and what you can do.

One item that pops up on occasion and, by- the- way, causes some consternation, is the issue of covenant compliance. It seems like only two covenants cause most of the conversation. One of these is in Article III, section 3. It states that no building structure, trailer,

Wildwood Highlands Landowners' Association
Annual General Membership Meeting
May 6, 2000 1:00 pm
DATIL COMMUNITY CENTER

Come and put in your "two cents worth" and vote for your new Board of Directors. All members are encouraged to consider serving on the board. Remember that only members who are current on membership dues are eligible to vote!

If you cannot attend the May meeting, it is important to send in the accompanying proxy or one of your own. The association can only vote and do business if a quorum of members are present or in attendance through proxy. Your proxy, or a copy of it, must be mailed or presented to Linda Ravert, WHLA Secretary/Treasurer, at the following address:

WHLA
PO BOX 87
DATIL, NM 87821

If you would like one of the current board members to vote your proxy you may enter them on your sheet. You may enter the name of any eligible WHLA member.

KEN WHITE – PRESIDENT
MARCUS CLARKE – VICE PRESIDENT
LINDA RAVERT – SECRETARY/TREASURER

Homeowners' Association Proxy

I, (name)
(address), a landowner of record of
Wildwood Highlands Landowners' Association (the "Association") do hereby constitute
and appoint as my lawful attorney, agent and proxy,
(proxy's name), to represent me at the
meeting of the Association to be held on May 16, 1999, or, if postponed, at such time that
this meeting is rescheduled, and at any adjournment of such meeting or rescheduled
meeting.

The above named proxy is authorized to vote on my behalf, and to act for and in my name,
place and stead on all matters and things which may be presented for action or
consideration at such meetings, giving and granting unto said proxy full power in all
respects that I could exercise if present in person. This proxy shall remain in effect until
(proxy term end date), unless earlier terminated by me.

Date: _____

[Member]

[Lot(s)]