



# BellaBuzzy

*BellaVita at Green Tee -- a 55+ Active Adult Community*

An Official Publication of the BellaVita Homeowners Association

## **BellaVita Clubhouse**

1548 N. Riviera Circle  
Pearland, TX 77581  
281-464-3150  
[www.club-bellavita.org](http://www.club-bellavita.org)

## **Board of Directors**

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### **V. President - Diane Clement**

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## **MESSAGE FROM THE HOA BOARD PRESIDENT RON GERLACH**

### **Great Response!**

We had a great response to the Elections Committee requests for volunteers to run for the four open board positions by 6 homeowners. It was good to see those wanting to contribute to the MAGIC we see here at BellaVita on a daily basis. I want to thank each of the 6 and to welcome Dianne Clement, David Dommert, Fritz Ring, and Ken Wright to the board. Thanks to the Elections Committee for a well-run election and annual meeting.

We as a community are seeing our homes and also our common facilities requiring much more maintenance as they have aged over our 15 years. Our reserve funds get used continually to help in protecting the value of our homes by maintaining the BV facilities. An area that the Facilities Committee worked on last year was to evaluate the painting durability on our homes. Several years ago the committee switched to an improved grade of paint and the board approved going to a 9 year, from 8 year, paint cycle. The committee estimates that this will save the HOA about \$12,000 per year. The Grounds Committee has been busy converting some landscape to local plants which are more tolerant to this climate. This is saving us on operations costs. We had a very successful Heath Fair again this year thanks to the Magic of the Community Relations Committee and they will sponsor the Hurricane Seminar on June 11th. Speaking of Magic, take a stroll and see some Magic that the Nature Reserve Committee has applied to improve the trails and bridges in the Reserve. It's great to be in the wild outdoors and still in the city.

We will conduct the annual strategic planning session of the board with committee chairs and club presidents on June 25th this year. If you have suggestions in any area for improvements to BellaVita please contact a Committee Chair, identified on the BV website.



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### **A Man For All Seasons**

**Ted Dombrowa** is a man we all should meet. He was born in Saginaw, Michigan. After graduating from High School and working for a while as a mechanic, he joined the Air Force, became a navigator and air traffic controller. He flew 150 missions in an F4 fighter over Viet Nam and was

awarded several medals. As an air traffic control officer, he supervised 45 men and was responsible for the air traffic at 7 airports.

After leaving the Airforce, he became a home inspector for Amica Insurance, traveling to the DFW area and Austin as well as Houston. Ted also worked as a commercial illustrator and some of his illustrations included a cartoon strip that ran for many years at Ellington Field.

Ted was the property manager of Mt. Olive Lutheran Church and was responsible for the electrical systems and plumbing as well as the rest of the facility. He is still active there, serving on the Church Council, reading scriptures and serving communion. He still changes oil in his cars and helps other homeowners diagnosing problems in their cars and houses.

The Dombrowa family, Ted, his wife Patty, (now deceased) daughter Debra, son John and 2 granddaughters have travelled extensively to Germany, England, the Netherlands, France, Italy, Denmark, Spain, Luxembourg, Japan, Hong Kong, Vietnam, the Philippines and Thailand.

Oh, he is "The Rose Gardener," the man who brings the beautiful roses to the clubhouse for everyone to share. Ted Dombrowa is truly a neighbor worth knowing.



### **2016 Rose Award Presented to Charles Parham and Gene Reddell:**

2015 was all about the fence project. The entire team did an awesome job as you know. Within the Fence Task Force, a measurement team was implemented. Originally, it was intended to have this team rotate however, it was recognized that consistency in measuring techniques and recording data was crucial so 2 measurement team volunteers (**Charles and Gene**) stepped to the plate. After the 1st contractor opted out of their contract, the team remained intact working with the new contractor in 2015. Charles and Gene continued on with the new contractor and agreed to measure the entire project.

While it may sound simple, the measuring consisted of keeping track of the linear feet measurements which the contract was based on for different types of fences as well as the number and type of gates.

Originally, contractor personnel were involved in the measuring but soon realized that the system developed and the records maintained by Charles and Gene were exceptional. They measured 445 homes in 2015 which totaled 613 homes for the entire project. This equals 60,000 linear feet of fencing. All measurements were done manually with a tape measure and documented on a map of BV. During the entire project, they took measurements in all weather conditions -- hot, cold, sunny, damp, and windy.

With a \$1.5 M project, permanent records established were invaluable to the HOA. There was no need to secure an outside source to measure at an additional cost.

In the Spring of 2015 there was an apparent discrepancy between the contract and the actual amount of fence to be constructed in Sections 3 & 4. They pre-measured this area to confirm the amount of fence and resolved any differences. Charles' and Gene's measurement system provided the Board assurance that it was getting full value for the money spent. Their work was an outstanding example of teamwork and mutual respect. Congratulations to the 2016 Rose Award Winners, Charles and Gene, for their above and beyond efforts in 2015.



## **That's Entertainment Club**

*David Kittelson, President*

The TEC's big event in April was a big dance with Ronnie Coleman. Ronnie has played many dances at BellaVita and had fallen and broken his leg and wrist. He was able to play here while still in a wheelchair. TEC placed a donation jar on stage and also donated 1/2 of the 50/50 drawing, which was \$ 160.00. Ronnie thanked everyone for the generous donations which he appreciated very much.

In May TEC sponsored Cinco De Mayo and the Kentucky Derby and a great time was had by all. Upcoming events will include BellaVita's Birthday Party. Hope to see you all there!

# Thanks!

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## **PLAN YOUR NEXT GET AWAY WITH THE GET AWAYS**

Following their successful trip to Chapel Hill, (pictured above) the Get Aways are on deck for the Astros Game on June 22. Although the bus will be sold out by the time you read this, you can always call **Patsy Womack** for last minute cancellations. (She says she always has some.) Come along and cheer our team to victory over the LA Angels.

The next big event will be a visit to Railean Rum Distillery and the Hawk Winery with lunch in between (thank goodness) at the Top Water Grill on August 11. Sign-up to be announced.



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**All Lined Up for Cinco de Mayo**



**Gardeners After the Tour**

## ***Telecom Task Force Starting To Work***

The telecom Task Force, formerly known as the Comcast Task Force, has begun the task of reviewing the current Comcast contract (due to expire in June 2018) and researching trends and potential options for the homeowners of BellaVita.

Technology has changed dramatically over the past ten (10) years. Comcast has not provided the kind of service one might expect from an area supplying 100% coverage. The monthly fee to Comcast has increased significantly each year without updates to homeowner service. BellaVita does not even have an account representative.

The Task Force is in the early stages of researching the trends in program delivery options. We are scheduled to invite experts in the field to speak to the members in order to get a sense of the possibilities. We expect to review demonstrations of technology and share these as appropriate with homeowners through demo sessions and forums. We are beginning to work on a survey to get concrete information on the needs and

behaviors of homeowners that will aid in the decision-making process. There will be regular inserts in the Weekly Announcements.

Currently, we have set up a tab on the website (Telecom Task Force) under the Projects tab. Review this site periodically for meeting notes and other information useful to homeowners as we proceed with our task. An email address specifically to receive comments, suggestions, ideas from homeowners has been established – [telecomTF@club-bellavita.org](mailto:telecomTF@club-bellavita.org).

Recommendations regarding the cable TV contract will affect every homeowner in the community. This contract represents 25% of the annual HOA operating budget. You are encouraged to stay tuned to the workings of the task force and to participate when surveys are issued, forums and demos are scheduled.

The Task Force is committed to working on behalf of the community as a whole and, ultimately, to providing the best recommendation to the Board.



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**Very Active  
in the  
Community**

## BellaVita Men's Club

Cris Barrera, President

It is fun and rewarding to be part of the Men's Club. A great opportunity to mix and mingle with fellow residents. We try to keep the meetings informative and interesting. A Director from the HOA often times attends the meetings and gives us an update on happenings within the Community. The members can ask questions and offer any comments to the Director. Often times we have a guest speaker discussing interesting topics. We discuss upcoming events sponsored by the Men's Club. The meetings normally last 30 to 45 minutes.

Upcoming events sponsored by the Club include **Fiesta Night**, **Casino Trip**, **Pasta Night**, and **Saturday Morning Breakfast**.

To be a member, any BellaVita male resident simply needs to show up on the first Wednesday of the month. We have tasty food and drink at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting starts at 7 p.m. You'll be most welcome and you'll be happy you came.





# Nature Reserve



The **Nature Reserve Committee** has a story to tell: On Saturday morning, April 30, 20 hardy souls showed up for the Harry Reed Nature Reserve. Just as we all gathered at the first oxbow lake, it started to rain. Begrudgingly, the tour director, Larry Alvarez, announced his intent to cancel the tour. Surprisingly, no one turned around to go back. As Larry began ushering everyone back out of the reserve and much to his chagrin, he started getting pushback from the whole group! Everyone wanted to continue! They didn't care if they got wet; they would have bragging rights as the only "tour in the rain", so the tour continued as the light rain became a steady rain. The group arrived at the Beaver Dam Crossing and made their way by using the stepping-stones with relative ease. Then the group arrived at "Mountain Goat Pass", its called mountain goat pass for a reason! Each time a hiker went up the pass it got a little slippery and a little slipperier until finally no one could make it up. The group had been split into two groups; one group up the pass and the other group down the pass. Luckily one of our committee members, David Kettleson was with the down pass group. He guided them back the down pass trail way while Larry guided the others the up pass trail way. As soon as both groups reached the tour's end it stopped raining and the sun came out. Then it became obvious: the **Big Man** wanted to let us know there was more to life and to his plan for us than blue skies and sunshine. Rain was also part of his plan and we should enjoy his blessings, rain or shine!

## Amazon Outreach and Bellavita "Hands of Love Stitchers"

The Bellavita "Hands of Love Stitchers" recently learned that one of our Bellavita residents, **Dr. Warner Heathman**, is part of a mission team, who periodically travel up and down the Amazon River visiting remote villages and providing dental/surgical care to those in need. They live on the boats and routinely perform their procedures in thatched roofed huts with no running water or electricity. Dr. Heathman is a local oral surgeon. His wife, Jaci, who is a native of Brazil, is his surgical assistant and accompanies him on these trips.

When we inquired if there was a need for clothing for the children in the villages they visit, Dr. Heathman responded with a resounding "YES" The "Hands of Love Stitchers" had a short turnaround before the Heathman's were returning to Brazil, but we were able to send approximately 60 dresses for little girls and shorts for little boys. The sewing group will continue to support this opportunity to provide the children with much needed clothing. **Jaci Heathman** has also joined the "Hands of Love Stitchers" and is an active participant in our sewing group.



The picture below of Dr. Heathman and Jaci was taken when the doctor stopped by last week to say hello and to thank the sewing group for their support. If you are interested in finding out more about their work, go to AmazonOutreach.org.



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Club  
**BELLA VITA**  
The BellaVita Belles

*Kay Simpson, President*

It seems like the time flies by so very quickly. Summer is upon us and vacations begin. This is a time to spend with family, friends and neighbors having backyard parties and cookouts. Life in Bellavita is no different. Just look at our monthly calendar. How could you squeeze anything into it but, somehow we do manage. I have been in the neighborhood now 13 years and I can remember when there were many blank spaces on the calendar. Wow, how things have changed. The Belles have been super busy this year and many people are involved making the magic happen for all the events we have had and those to come. The next few months will be filled with exciting activities.

June 15th will be **BellaVita's birthday party** and all the clubs will join together to make this happen and we plan to have a huge crowd to celebrate this event. Be sure to put this date on your calendar.



We always have **Light Movie night** that **Carolyn Beeson** so graciously organizes each month and Pot Luck Bingo organized by **Sue Steik** is also a monthly Sunday afternoon get together.

**LADIES NIGHT IN** will be July 9th to recognize all the ladies of the community. This is a free, and fun event and the ladies need only to bring a nice neutral colored purse as an entry ticket. The purses are donated to DRESS FOR SUCCESS.

The Belles will be offering a new experience August 13th. **Ed Jamison** will be directing our first "**Bellavita Play**" with actors from the neighborhood both men and women. We will be have try-outs and rehearsals starting in June. **Title to be announced.** DON'T miss this...it will be an opportunity to see the acting talent in our community.



Last, but not least, for this newsletter is **Mistletoe Market** on October 1st. **Sandra Rodgers** is working tirelessly with the vendors and we are almost sold out of space for the market with many new vendors coming this year.

Have a great summer and SEE YOU IN THE MOVIES.



Kay



*Kay Simpson, Belle's President, Carolyn Beeson and Sandra Rodgers, Tea Chairs, Sandra Bornstein, Waitstaff Chair*

## CRC Committee Janet Del Sardo, Chair



June 11th is the date for the annual **Hurricane Awareness Seminar**. It will be held in the Ballroom between 2-4PM with **Roland Garcia** as guest speaker. Roland is in charge of Emergency Preparedness for the City of Pearland. Be sure to get an update for the coming season!



## Awards Committee Sandra Bornstein, Chair

The Awards Committee would like to announce the first Volunteer of the Quarter, **Steve Andrews**, BV Veterans Organization. The Volunteer of the Quarter is a new program to publicly recognize the efforts of an individual for BV community service. Steve Andrews is the project manager for the BellaVita flags program. He is responsible for maintaining the flags and the trailer (for storage) in top shape. He arranges for repair teams to repair or replace flags as needed and serves as Vice-commander of BellaVita Veterans Organization. Steve is an overall good guy and is always willing and able to apply his expertise to any task needed. Please congratulate Steve on his outstanding contribution and recognition as Volunteer of the Quarter.



*Steve Andrews*



# GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Becky Spedden, Chair

## Accomplishments, January-May

- Removal of dead and dying vegetation in the parking lot.
- Installation of grass and trees in parking lot.
- Seasonal planting throughout the clubhouse grounds.
- Removal of palm trees at the tower entrance to BellaVita.
- Removal of jasmine and Installation of bullrock around 6 electrical gated entrance boxes.

## Grounds Committee Plans for June-December

- Ensure that common areas trees are trimmed or cut down as necessary
- Review common areas where vegetation is dying. (Lack of irrigation in some of these areas is a problem).
- Monitor water usage for common areas for irrigation breakage
- Oversee fall seasonal planting of flowers around the clubhouse
- Assess common areas where homeowners have planted trees, shrubs or flowers without ARC/HOA approval
- Interface with Rusticscapes concerning the common grounds contract and homeowners' concerns..
- Interface with FSR on home owner issues, invoice procedures and service order issues.
- Keep homeowners informed of grounds issues with periodic news articles
- Sod the putting green area if money becomes available
- Maintain the common areas of BellaVita using the criteria of beauty, safety and cost

## Homeowners DO's and Don'ts

- **Do** make sure your house address is visible from the street by keeping your shrubs trimmed
- **Do Not** put in a request for help with setting your irrigation controller. That is the resident's responsibility.
- **Do** monitor the health of your grass. It is the homeowner's responsibility to keep the grass healthy
- **Do** keep your trees trimmed so that the grass gets enough sun light to stay healthy
- **Do** keep abreast of any email blast or weekly articles that pertain to the maintenance of resident's yards
- **Do Not** plant trees or other vegetation in common areas without ARC/HOA approval.



## Veterans Club

Dennis Mulcahy,  
Commander

We raised the flags for Memorial Day! With the flag renewals and new applicants, the Veterans, with the help of non-veteran residents, posted about 800 flags. A brief ceremony to honor those who gave the ultimate for the freedoms we enjoy today was held at the clubhouse at 11:30 am May 30. The Veterans and volunteers prepared hamburger plates for those who signed up at the clubhouse.

The Veterans have placed black flags beneath the American flags at the Clubhouse and the Memorial Garden. These are POW/MIA flags in remembrance of the tens of thousands of Prisoners of War and Missing- in -Action soldiers and those yet to be accounted for. The Motto on the flag is "You Are Not Forgotten". Since 1990 Congress passed a Public Law recognizing the National League of Families to resolve, as fully as possible, the fates of Prisoners, Missing in action, and unaccounted for in all American wars. Recently the US was given the remains of 400 soldiers. With modern science they will try to identify each soldier and then have them interred with honors in their motherland.

At our April meeting, a Quilt of Honor was contributed by Janice Hassinger and Kelli Fleming who designed and made the beautiful Quilt to be awarded to some lucky Veteran. A drawing was held and the lucky Veteran was Mario Saladino, a WWII Veteran.

For our Community project, we increased our donation to The Military Mothers and Wives of Brazoria County. This organization sends tons of cartons of items for their service men and women serving overseas. Their shipping costs are nearly \$50,000. The BellaVita Veterans contribution helps defray their expenses. Individuals wanting to contribute to this 501C Charity can contact us for information.

# FLAG DAY

June 14th



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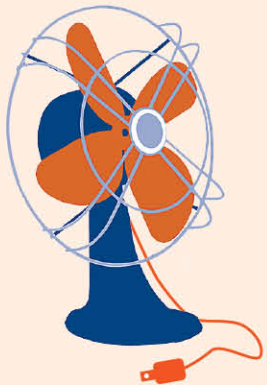
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