

La Casa del Sol

Your Home at the Coast - on North Padre Island

Winter Newsletter

website: www.lacasaresort.com

January 2017

2016 BOARD MEMBERS:

PresidentVicki Vannatta

Vice President..... Steve Gandy

TreasurerGaylen Cox

SecretaryCandy Lamel

DirectorJerry Cigainero

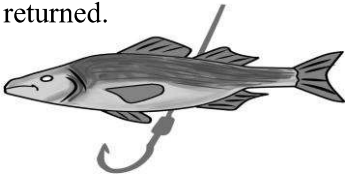
Director Ben Harbour

Director Ben Lowack

Asst. Treasurer Dennis York
(an appointed volunteer who does not vote on business)

NOTE:

To speak with any of the Board members, call the Reservations Office at (817) 396-4676 to leave a message and your contact info for the Board Member you wish to speak with, and your call will be returned.



A Message from the President:

Happy New Year La Casa owners!

2016 was a very busy year. We completed many projects as well as repairs and replacements. The grill area and landscaping have never looked better, and many of the rooms have been updated.

As in the past, this year we will continue our efforts to mitigate any tax increases in the appraised value of our resort. With all the growth on The Island, property values are rising which will make this a high priority for this and future boards.

In 2017 we will continue our work of getting deeds recovered from non-paying owners so that they are available for transfer to new owners. The continued strong financial position of La Casa depends, in large part, upon us getting new owners paying dues along with the rest of us. We need your help! Bring a new owner into the LCDS family and you will be rewarded with a free IP week, so please spread the word that ownership in our beautiful resort has never been cheaper or easier.

This year we will continue to evaluate our costs and expenses and make every effort to save where we can. The board approved a budget for 2017 with no increase in maintenance fees for 2017. To balance the budget we will need to transfer LCDS owned units to new, dues paying owners. This is key in ensuring that our organization will remain financially healthy, this year and in the years to come.

As always, your board is interested in hearing from you. Positive feedback, as well as suggestions for improvement, are welcomed. Please contact the reservations office with any questions or requests for information. I hope to see you at the annual meeting on February 25th.

Vicki Vannatta, lacasapresident@yahoo.com



WHAT: 2017 ANNUAL OWNERS' MEETING and ELECTION

WHEN Saturday, February 25th - beginning at 10:00 a.m. (in the MORNING)

WHERE: Brookside Center – 1244 Brookside Dr., Hurst, TX

WHO: All owners are invited to attend or please cast your vote by proxy.

HOW: Be sure your 2017 dues (and any fees owed) are paid, and sign and mail the enclosed proxy by no later than February 17th

One lucky Owner unable to attend the meeting will win a free IP week at the Resort by sending in their proxy. Another owner attending the meeting will also win a free week at the Resort. Please send in your proxy even if you do plan to attend. Proxies mailed will be returned to owners when they check in for the meeting.

Election of Owners to the Board of Directors:

Two (2) owners submitted applications to run for a position on the Board of Directors in time to publish their information in this newsletter. There are 2 positions open for election at this time, so you will cast your vote for no more than two (2) people. If other owners would like to serve, they need to notify Secretary Candy Lamel at lacasasecretary@gmail.com by email as soon as possible so their nominations may be considered at the Owners' Meeting and their names can be included on the ballot before the final votes there are tallied. Below, in alphabetical order, are letters of introduction submitted from each candidate:

Bud Lowack

Phone: (817) 279-6991

Email: bud.lowack@gmail.com

My name is Bud Lowack. My wife, Kay, and I have been La Casa del Sol Timeshare owners since 2010. I am currently serving as a member of the Board of Directors. This came about because a Board member dropped out early. I've enjoyed working with fellow Board members and I would like to continue. We have great plans for the future of La Casa Del Sol and I hope you will allow me to serve the new term. I appreciate your time and look forward to the opportunities and challenges of serving on the Board of Directors of La Casa del Sol.

Jim Vannatta

Phone: (940) 393-2756

Email: rockinv@embarqmail.com

I am Jim Vannatta and I love La Casa del Sol. My parents bought their deeded week during construction of the resort. My wife, kids and I began coming here in the mid 1990's on their week and we purchased our week in 2001. A year later we purchased my parents' week as they were no longer able to make the journey. So we currently own 2 weeks. We used to visit 1 to 2 weeks per year but since I retired a couple of years ago we have been 3 to 4 weeks per year. Those visits will increase in the future. After being Honorably Discharged from the US Navy, I began a 40 year career in the Aerospace and Defense Industry. During those 4 decades I held numerous positions of increasing responsibility in small business entities and larger corporations in that industry. Those positions ranged from Machinist to Machined Parts Inspector; from Quality Control Manager to Plant Manager; and from Senior Supplier Quality Assurance Specialist at Bell Helicopter to, finally, 8 years as Bell's Product Safety Board Coordinator. I mentioned that I love LCdS and that I've been coming here for +/- 20 years. I understand, at least to some degree, the challenges of the evolving growth/demographics of our Island. I fully understand the effect of the aging/shrinking ownership of our beloved resort. I am asking to serve on the Board of Directors of LCdS as a positive voice benefiting all owners and the health of the resort.

Proposed Bylaws Change:

(Item 2 under VOTE on the enclosed Proxy)

For many years, the bylaws have stated that the location of the Annual Owners' Meeting each February shall alternate between the DFW area and Nueces County. The majority of owners live in north Texas, and attendance at the meetings at the coast is usually very low. In those years, most have had to travel a long distance to attend and pay for hotel or condo accommodations as well. It has been suggested that we adopt a bylaw change this year to designate that all future Annual Owners' Meetings be held in the DFW area to enable larger attendance at each meeting. If accepted, the changed language will be stated as follows:

Section 3.04 Annual Meeting

There shall be an annual meeting of the members. The annual meeting shall be held on the last Saturday of February after the close of the prior fiscal year. Beginning in February of 2018, the annual meeting of the members shall always be held in either Dallas County or Tarrant County, Texas, at such time and place as designated by the Board of Directors.

(Bylaws Change, continued)

If you agree with the proposed change (as shown at the bottom of page 2) indicate YES on item 2 on the enclosed Proxy, or indicate NO if you do not. If you have no opinion, please assign your Proxy either to another owner who will attend the meeting or to the current Board of Directors, to act on your behalf. If you wish to discuss this proposed change with a particular Board Member, you may contact the Reservations and Accounting Office and Andy or Amy will have that person contact you to discuss this further.

PLEASE:

SIGN YOUR PROXY AND MAIL IT (EVEN IF YOU DON'T VOTE) SO IT WILL COUNT TOWARD THE QUORUM NEEDED TO TRANSACT BUSINESS AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING. AND IF YOU DO PLAN TO ATTEND, PLEASE CHECK THAT LINE ON YOUR PROXY AND MAIL IT BACK, SO WE CAN ANTICIPATE THE HEADCOUNT FOR THE MEETING.

Additional NOTES of Interest:

- 1) We have a new employee in the Reservations and Accounting Office: Amy Dobbs was hired to assist Andy Moore, filling the vacancy left when Charlene Glaub moved to England. We are happy to have Amy join the staff and hope that you will welcome her as well.
- 2) Reminder: We have (at least temporarily) relaxed the requirements for using IP (Interval Plus) weeks at the resort, and the new rules and rates for those weeks are on the website. We have units available for use under this new policy until the Memorial Day weekend, with the exception of the Spring Break weeks in March (which are always full). You can reserve any units available as early as 29 days prior to check-in, without using your own IP weeks (which you can reserve at 30 days prior, as designated in your deed). To encourage friends and family to visit the resort, and perhaps join our La Casa family of owners, you can reserve a "sponsored IP week" for them (at 29 days or less prior to check-in) when there is availability. Please see the website and call the reservations office if you have questions. Rather than rent out vacant units to the general public, we would greatly prefer to fill those vacancies with current owners and/or their family and friends. And remember also that if you sponsor someone new who decides to buy a deeded week for themselves, you may qualify to use an IP week this year for free!

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO OWNERS from the ACCOUNTING OFFICE:

REMINDER: The unit/week you own is real property. When an owner dies or is divorced, the deed needs to be updated. We still have some owners who need to update their deeds to reflect the life changes that have occurred.

If the property was in the parents' name and one or both is deceased, the will(s) need to be probated and the deed changed by an attorney. Until this is accomplished, the heirs have no legal right to use the resort.

If the property is awarded to you in a divorce settlement, the attorney(s) will need to update the deed on file in Nueces County. This isn't something we can do for you.

If you have any questions, please contact the Reservations and Accounting Office.



In this issue:

- Out-going President's Message
- 2017 Annual Owners' Meeting Info.
- Letters from candidates running for election and proposed Bylaws change
- Proxy (insert) to fill out and return.
- Other notes of Interest
- Important Notice to Owners from the Reservations and Accounting Office

Fraud Alert:

PLEASE be very cautious if approached with a scheme for renting, selling or trading your LCDS timeshare ownership! Scammers may accept your payment but never transfer your Deed, leaving YOU still responsible for paying your annual fees to La Casa del Sol.

Call the Reservations and Accounting Office if you have any questions.

La Casa del Sol (the resort):

15113 Leeward Dr., Corpus Christi, TX 78418
Phone: 361-949-6050
Resort Manager: Shelly Franklin

IF YOU WILL BE ARRIVING LATE: you must call the RESORT OFFICE before 8:00 p.m. on Friday to make arrangements for obtaining a key to your unit.

Reservations and Accounting Office:

18757 S. Highway 377, Cresson, TX 76035
Phone: 817-396-4676 Fax: 817-396-4740
Office hours: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (Monday – Friday)

TO MAKE A RESERVATION: call AT or AFTER 9:00 a.m. (CT) and leave a message and contact phone number. Calls will be returned beginning at 9:15 (CT) in the order received. **BE SURE TO BE AVAILABLE** – if you do not answer, a 2nd attempt will be made only after the others on the list are called first.