

Tell-E-Gram Text Only Version, April 22, 2014

POA Meetings and Events:

- Long Range Planning, 10 a.m. Thursday, April 24, POA Conference Room
- Rec 101, 12:30 p.m. Thursday, April 24, Wellness Center
- Public Services Advisory Committee, 1 p.m. Thursday, April 24, POA Conference Room
- POA 101, 2 p.m. Thursday, April 24, Yacht Club, top floor

General Manager's Report

By Winston Blazer, General Manager

POA Re-Bids Insurance with Excellent Results

This year, your POA took on the task of rebidding our Association insurance. For the past several years, TIS Insurance has been our carrier, and we thought it would be a good time to reach out into the industry and see what else we could find.

Insurance rebid packages were received from three potential agencies, including the incumbent, TIS of Knoxville. The criteria for selection of the renewal agency were price, full coverage and customer service. The incumbent, TIS Insurance, was the low bidder overall, offered full coverage of our insurance needs using a combination of four carriers, and was hands-down the most professional, customer-oriented agency of the three.

Our overall rates are actually down about \$10,000 from last year due to decreases in Worker's Comp loss experience. All three agencies have been notified of our decision, and the insurance is bound and in force.

Kudos go out to Parker Owen for his hard work on getting this done and getting it done quickly with great results.

As a side note, this rebid did not involve employee health insurance.

Bliss Award Visit Highlights Busy March

During the second week of April, Margie Casey of RealEstateScorecard.com (RES) visited Tellico Village. Tellico Village is well known in the East Tennessee area for its scenic vistas and the strong volunteer spirit of its residents. What some people may not know is that Tellico Village is the Happiest Community of 2014 according to the folks at RealEstateScorecard.com.

RES is an industry leader for online *real estate* reviews, providing in-depth information about the most popular master planned communities in the southeastern United States. Margie Casey, founder and owner of RES, visits more than 200 planned communities annually and evaluates them on a wide variety of criteria in order to advise future retirees on the best places to call their new home. RES awards the best communities with the coveted Bliss Award in several categories and by state.

In 2013, Tellico Village was designated at the Best Planned Community in Tennessee and was awarded the Bliss Award in January of last year. During her 2013 visit to East Tennessee, Casey took a more in depth look at Tellico Village and recognized that not only was the community well run by its Property Owners Association, but Villagers seemed to be quite happy with their surroundings and lifestyle.

Casey placed Tellico Village in the final competition for her top award, the Happiest Community. The process to select the very best includes reviews by residents of the competing communities, ratings by RES staff members and finally, an online balloting process where visitors to RealEstateScorecard.com can cast their ballot for the best of the best.

Tellico Village excelled in all categories of the process and has been awarded with the 2014 Bliss Award for Happiest Community. Casey came to Tellico Village last month for her 2014 visit and to present the Bliss Award to POA Board President, Alan Hart. While she was here, she also visited with several local non-profit agencies who can testify to the giving volunteer spirit of Tellico Villagers. Casey also appeared on WNFZ 94.3 radio's morning show, 'The Rude Awakening and WBIR Channel 10's evening news to talk about her company and her visit to East Tennessee.

We in Tellico Village are so glad RES has recognized that in the planned community industry, it really is better at Tellico Village. Many thanks to John Cherry for his hard work in organizing Margie's latest visit to our beautiful community.

Board received 2013 audit

The audit of our 2013 financial statements has been completed, and once again we received an unqualified opinion from our auditors, Coulter & Justus, P.C. The financial statements have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and by management, and were presented at the Board of Directors meeting last week. We worked with the same audit team as last year from Coulter & Justus, PC. Verbal feedback from the auditors was very complimentary. They issued only the standard, required Auditor Communications Letter and did not issue an Internal Controls Communications Letter, because they found no weaknesses in our internal controls.

Many thanks go out to Parker Owen and the entire Finance Department team for their hard work on providing the detail needed to get through the audit with this high rating.

This year's audit went very smoothly with the auditors commenting on how well our POA team worked with their team. Copies of the audit are available by visiting the POA website on the Finance page at <http://www.tellicovillagepoa.org/tvpoa/about-poa/finance>.

The Blue Heron at the Yacht Club Offerings and Upcoming Special Events

- **Don't forget:** Join us tonight for **Tiki Tuesday** with DJ Lou 7-10 p.m. NO COVER CHARGE! Bring your friends and dance the night away.
- Mark you calendars: Friday, May 23, Tiki Bar on the dock with The Tim Flatford Band, 7-10 p.m.
- It's not too early to be thinking about **Mother's Day** Sunday, May 11. Call 865-458-4363 for reservations and details!

Questions? Contact Info for the management team:

Christian Barber: Email: cbarber.awehospitality@gmail.com

Jackie Newton: Email: jnewton.awehospitality@gmail.com

For reservations and information, call 865-458-4363.

How are we doing?

We appreciate your business and are committed to providing you and your family and friends with quality services. Please take a moment to complete a short survey online: **YachtClubSurvey.com**.

2014 Reciprocal Courtesy Cards for Yachting Clubs of America Now Available

Property owners can purchase Reciprocal Courtesy Cards for the Yachting Clubs of America in the POA office for \$20. The card will allow you to frequent the more than 700 yachting clubs

which, like TVYCC, are members of the association. There are YCA affiliated yacht clubs throughout the USA and its territories. For more information about YCOA, go to www.ycaol.com; the website that tells about the Association and all the yacht clubs that are members. Stop by the POA office to learn where member clubs are. For other questions about the program, call Mitzi Lane, 865-458-5408, extension 4116.

Some Other Stuff You Need to Know...

Tiki Tuesday Tonight!

Come to the Yacht Club 7-10 p.m. tonight for Tike Bar and dance the night away with DJ Lou. No cover charge!

Draft of the Summer Directory for Review

The draft of the Summer 2014 Tellico Village Directory will be at The Public Library at Tellico Village for your review now until noon Saturday, April 26. It will go to the printers after that time. If you have sent in changes/additions/deletions, you can stop at the library and check to be sure they have been entered correctly. Change forms are available if you need to have changes/corrections made before printing. Thank you for helping make the Tellico Village Directory as accurate as possible.

[Editor's note: The Directory is not printed by nor delivered by the POA. It is not paid for by the POA. It is produced and distributed courtesy of Loudon County Publishers in Lenoir City.]

Hike White Oaks Sinks Trail April 23

The Tellico Village Hiking Club will depart 8 a.m. Wednesday, April 23, from the Chota Center to hike:

- WHITE OAKS SINKS TRAIL
- Distance: Approximately 5 miles
- Rating: Easy
- Driving Time: 1.25 hours
- Leader: George Zola, 614-937-0767 or zola1029@gmail.com

The White Oak Sinks trail is not an official Smoky Mountain Park trail but it is one of the most spectacular trails to hike at this time of year. Why? Because it is one of three or four of the best trails in the Park for viewing wildflowers. One can expect to see the floor of the Sinks covered with purple phlox. It is also one of the few places in the park where you can see shooting stars and bluebells. If the timing is correct, we may also see yellow lady slippers. It can be a very exciting wildflower hike. There is also a waterfall and the "Bat Cave."

After the hike, there will be an optional picnic at Cades Cove Picnic Area. George will bring charcoal, hamburgers, hot dogs, paper goods and a few sides for a contribution of \$3 per person. Please bring your own drinks. Please RSVP by phone or email to George before **Monday, April 21**, if you plan to attend the picnic.

Hiking boots and hiking sticks are recommended. Driving directions will be provided the morning of the hike. Bring water and a trail lunch. Carpooling is recommended, passengers are asked to contribute \$6 to the driver to help cover gas, etc. Check out the website www.tvhikers.com.

Golf Demo Day April 23

The golf staff invites you to join them for an afternoon of trying out the latest in golf club technology from Callaway, TaylorMade, Titleist, Ping, and Nike noon-4 p.m. Wednesday, April 23, Toqua Driving Range.

Book Discussion April 24

The Vonore Public Library and the Friends of the Vonore Public Library present the third in a series of book discussions on Monroe County history and/or Tennessee authors.

Please join us on April 24 at the Vonore Public Library at 7 p.m. for a lively and informative discussion of the book, Popcorn Sutton: The Making and Marketing of a Hillbilly Hero by Tom Wilson Jester and Don Dudenbostel. The public is welcome to read the book and join in the discussion. Please sign up or call the Vonore Public Library (423-884-6729) to register for this free event. Several copies of the book are available to lend at the Library.

POA 101 April 24: POA 101 is a program presented by TVPOA staff to give property owners an overview of Village governance and history. Maps, governing documents, Tellico Village license plate and more are given to participants. The next session is: **2 p.m. Thursday, April 24, Yacht Club.** Reservations are required. Call Patty Robichaud, 865-458-5408 ext. 4115, or email probichaud@tvpoa.org.

Blessing of the Fleet April 26

The Tellico Cruising Club is sponsoring the annual Blessing of the Fleet 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 26. The event is open to all vessels on Tellico Lake. After the ceremony, join the revelry at the Tellico Village Pavilion on Tugaloo Lane for food, drinks, and friendship. Cost: \$6 per boat. This is a pot luck, so please be reminded to bring a dish to share with others, and your own beverage of choice. For additional information contact Bob Mazzola, ro-mazz321@gmail.com or 865-657-9306, cell 708-227-1871.

The **Blessing of the Fleet** is a tradition that began centuries ago in Mediterranean fishing communities. The practice is predominantly Catholic and a blessing from the local priest was meant to ensure a safe and bountiful season. However, both the ancient Greeks and Romans held elaborate ceremonies when their ships were christened, not much different from our ship launches of today. Parties were held, toasts of wine to the honored deity, a blessing from the high priest, and water poured over the boat were the basic events of the ceremony. Any deviation from these events was considered a bad omen, with the result being a tragedy at sea. Poseidon, who was considered the God of the sea, as well as earthquakes and horses, was a favorite of the Greeks to ask for protection. The Romans preferred Neptune, who was also considered a God of the sea. Some Native Americans, who painted symbols or animals on their canoes, also held launch ceremonies consisting of feasts, prayer and blessings.

Music Reception April 27

The Tellico Village Concert Committee will hold a music reception 3 p.m. Sunday, April 27, at the First Baptist Church of Tellico Village. The reception is free and open to the public. The 2014 TVCCC Scholarship winners and several past scholarship winners will be the entertainment for the afternoon occasion. Refreshments will be served.

Women's Club Meets April 28

GFWC Tellico Village Women's Club will meet 3 p.m. Monday, April 28, at Tanasi Clubhouse for the April meeting only. Please contact Sam McQueeney at samnskip@charter.net or 865-657-9020 if you are interested in finding out more about GFWC-Tellico Village Women's

Club. As we like to say, “your new best friends are waiting for you – you just haven’t met them yet!”

Club meetings are held the 3 p.m. fourth Monday of the month except for the months of May, June, and July. Typically the meetings convene with a social hour 3-3:30 p.m. with the business meeting immediately following. After the meeting many of the women adjourn for dinner and socialization. Some of the husbands like to meet up at Tanasi for dinner at 5:30 as well.

GFWC Tellico Village Women’s Club is affiliated with the General Federation of Women’s Clubs, which has headquarters in Washington D.C. The club is primarily a service organization, and members contribute significantly to their communities through their various volunteer efforts.

We had a fun time at the Ladies Luncheon at the Yacht Club for our April outing. We will be planning more outings in the future, so if you were not able to join us this time, please try to join us next time, it’s a great way to get to know the other ladies.

We would love to have you come check us out. We have a wonderful system of Big Sisters in place to help you navigate GFWC and our chapter in particular. You can volunteer as much or as little time as you like, we would just like you take a little time to get to know us and see if you feel there is a fit. Please check out our website at <http://www.tellicowomensclub.org/> and read what we are all about, be sure to check out our photo gallery, under the About Us tab, to see how much fun we have volunteering our time, as we all know, a picture is worth a thousand words!

Kiwanis Help Orphanage in Kenya

In the evening, robbers came into the Lion’s Academy and orphanage in Kenya, Africa and shouted at the children, “be quiet, we have guns.” The children were so frightened, they lay on the floor, waiting for the gunmen to leave. The robbers broke into the commissary and stole the children’s food. Harriet Nkatha, the head mistress, had just stocked the food supply for the month, and the loss was about five hundred dollars, which was much more than they could afford. The local police said there was nothing they could do, but they should build a fence around the compound. But the compound around the Lion’s Academy is large and a fence would cost thousands of dollars.

Harriet reached out to their angels in Tellico Village, Ruth and Paul Thornton who wired the money for the food to feed the children. Ruth and Paul then asked the Kiwanis Club of Tellico Village for help. Together, they raised enough to pay for the fence, which is shown in the picture. Ruth Thornton said “I don’t know how Harriet does it; raising 48 orphaned children in a hostile environment, but she does. God bless her, and hopefully the children will now be safe from robbers.”

Submitted by Ray Scott

Food City Contributes to Good Shepherd Center

Since 1992, Food City has conducted their campaign to raise funds for local non-profit hunger relief organizations. The holiday promotion, entitled Race Against Hunger is co-sponsored by Miller Brewing Company and Kellogg’s.

“Hunger is a serious problem throughout our region. Food City and our co-sponsors are proud to be a part of the Race against Hunger,” said Steve Smith, Food City’s president and chief executive officer.

“Millions of Americans need food assistance each year. The Food City Race Against Hunger campaign is one way we can help those in need right here in our own area,” added Ron Bonacci, vice president of marketing for Food City.

The Good Shepherd Center is very appreciative of this donation. It is donations such as this that allows the Good Shepherd Center to continue to serve the over 2000 men, women and children each month in the Monroe County area.

Submitted by Jim Decker

Villagers in the News

Have you seen all the Villagers and activities in the news? If you missed anything, go to Telli-coVillage.org and click on the News button at the bottom of the page.

Know of any news stories WE may have missed? Email us and let us know at gram@tvpoa.org.