Hello fellow Members!

I guess you all were just very busy when we had our last Board of Directors meeting on the 8th of December. I missed seeing you. Maybe you all can join us at the next BOD meeting on the 26th of this month. The Sewer Board is meeting at 9 AM and then we will meet at about 11:00 or whenever their meeting is adjourned.

Our Christmas Party was absolutely awesome. Those that were there had a ball. I was impressed by the camaraderie and all the fun things we did. The gift exchange was a blast!! I don’t think anyone got to keep the first present they picked out. The comments during this time were hilarious. But the very best part of the party was the Auction! Roger Johnson was our Auctioneer. You would have thought he was a real auctioneer in his business life. He had everyone bidding like he was auctioning off super priceless pieces! He was great. We raised more donation money for our Fund Raiser account than we have before. And, of course, Charlie Baker was Santa Claus. He is the greatest! The kids and adults just adored him.

We had 6 members and 3 board members show up for the 4 days we worked on the Deed Restrictions and By-Law rewrites. The first draft has been typed up with the changes added and the old verbiage crossed out. The board itself is going to go over these before we have the proof-reading by the members who volunteered to do this. The reason is to make sure that ALL the changes do conform to the Texas Property Act Title 11, Article 209. Then the rewrites will be printed out with all the changes less the cross outs and ready to be read for content. These proof-readers will also make suggestions and corrections to the Board.

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This actually is the most important part of the procedure. We want input from the membership before we get ready to have the members vote on a final rewrite. Several members have said “Let’s do it right this time and have all the Deed Restrictions, By-Laws, and ACC Rules agree.” So we are trying to do this. More in the next Newsletter on how we are progressing.

ART CLASSES

Everyone who attended to Art Classes had a great time. We made greeting cards and learned how to do Zentangles (doodles). Our next Art class will be on January 24th from 9 till 5. Anyone that wants to order lunch in, let me know and we can do that. The participants chose to have the next class a Watercolor Class. So that is what we will do. I will bring the watercolor paper, canvases, paint brushes, and watercolors for the class.

They use the phone and internet about 1/3 of the time. So they will reimburse us $35.00 each month.

We have not yet heard from the State of Texas on our state sales tax exemption status. It was mailed at the end of December.

The complaint form that was turned in for help bars in the bath house for one toilet and one shower has been answered. The bars for the toilets have been done but the showers have no way for the bars to be secured to the wall. There are no walls except at the front sides since they were fiberglass units that just slid in. We are looking into a way to fix them so the bars can be attached.

An appointment was made with an attorney in Quitman for Monday January 28th for the Board to interview him.

The signatures for check signing have been changed to accommodate the new president’s signature.

The culvert disintegration on Elm Street was repaired before it caved in for a total of $145.00 for concrete and by Tootie Joiner and Steve & Donna Gilmore, members of the Park.

Stump removal was done in the Park for members’ lots and lots belonging to the Park. It was done for the Park for $250 for 40 stumps.

A new sign to be posted at the Gate will inform everyone that all RV’s will be inspected by the AC Committee before bringing them into the Park. The sign will about $100.00.

Julie Danford asked the Board’s permission to use the Office for Art Classes. This was approved. If you want to use the Office for meetings, etc., you just need to appear at a Board meeting and present your request for approval.

We will be getting new street signs. We have in our Budget a $200.00 allowance for this. We will use the $200.00 and Fund Raisers will add the overage amount that they will cost us.

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There no complaints filed with the Office this month and no corrections were turned in for the directory.

It was mentioned again, that anyone selling property in WhiteOak Shores subdivision need to make the buyers aware of the Fees and Assessments owed (if any) and make sure they get a copy of the Deed Restrictions, By-Laws and ACC Rules. Also when the property sells, both the Seller and the Buyer need to visit the Park Office and make Tammy aware of the sale. Too many times, neither the seller nor the Buyer bother to let her know that this transaction has taken place and suddenly someone pulls an RV in and sets it up.

So please help us by letting us know when you are selling any of your lots.

There was open forum at this meeting. A member asked that we include in the minutes when a vote was taken on a motion and a Board member voted NO be listed as voting that way. We will put that in the minutes.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be on Saturday, January 26th at about 11:00 AM, following the Sewer Board meeting.

HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL THERE!!!!!!  ♦♦♦

Pardon Our Mess…. by Debi West, Editor

Well, I hope this newsletter is really not a mess, but I see signs stating something similar when an organization is redoing, revamping, rearranging something, so I thought it might be fitting here.

There has been a newsletter written and distributed for the past few months and I am just reworking the layout somewhat. We want the newsletter to be really catchy and fun to read but at the same time, be informative.

Some of the articles each month will include notes from meetings, contests, reports, lots of pictures, park owner highlights, newcomers (with permission), recipes and articles of interest. Even though, I am an avid sewer and quilter, I have newspaper industry in my work history, so this newsletter is a perfect fit for me. After all, a newsletter is a quilt of sorts, if you stop to think about it. In both cases, you are taking tidbits of something to make a bigger something. Right? But keep in mind, in this case, the tidbits come from you. So if you have news, pictures or anything else for the good of the group, send it my way. Well, here’s to the future of Fork Over The News. ♦♦♦

Letters from park owners

I would like to thank the volunteers that helped with the Christmas party. Gennie Cramer, Lois Compton, Karen Homan and Tammy Johnson, for helping set up. Roger Johnson for doing the cake auction and the white elephant and Nick Garner for helping with the white elephant. And a big thanks to Santa (Charlie Baker) for dropping in for pictures and passing out gifts to the kids. We had a large crowd show up and everyone had a good time. Our cake auction was a great success. We brought in a total of $708.00.

Donna Gilmore ♦♦♦
**CHILI CHILI BANG BANG**

**CHILI COOK OFF**

Saturday February 23

~~ Registration: 9:00AM ~ Cooking starts: 9:30AM~~

~~Judging at 11:30AM~~

Entry Fee: $15.00

Everyone welcome to compete to see who has the best chili in WOS!!!!!!!

At NOON Come taste your neighbors cookin…..

Bowl of Chili with all the fixins’ : $3.00
Drinks: 50 cents

****** Bake sale for your sweet tooth!!!!!!!******

1st place winner: $50.00 CHILI GIFT CARD
2nd place winner: $25.00 JUAN PABLO GIFT

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**Around The Park**

Donna Gilmore reports that volunteers are needed to join the fundraising team.

A meeting is scheduled for February 7TH at 9:30 AM.

Location will be at Tootie’s Bucket List Kitchen on Elm Street.

Refreshments will be served.

Please note the fall leaf photo shown on the front page of this newsletter. Each month Fork Over The News will feature a different wildlife or scenery photo sent in by park owners.

♥ Save celery leaves. Spread them out on paper towels or a paper plate and let them dry. Crumble

♥ Get rid of pet hair on upholstery effortlessly by wiping the furniture with a slightly dampened sponge.

♥ Candles will last a lot longer if placed in the freezer for at least 3 hours prior to burning.