THE CHANT



Homeowners' Association

Volume 33

The Official Publication of Enchantment at Hamilton

Winter 2014





Newsletter Committee – The purpose of *The Chant* is to provide information and to be the communication vehicle for the residents of Enchantment on the happenings within our community.

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Enchantment at Hamilton Homeowners' Association

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BOARD PRESIDENT - STEVE STATZ



At the beginning of last year I was pleased to report that our Treasurer determined that we had a surplus at year end because of lack of snow. The Board accepted his

recommendation to put the surplus into a snow account. We are not so lucky this year, but are prepared with the account.

Our volunteers are key to keeping our expenses down; since they provide services we would pay for if they did not help out. It is unfortunate that the participation of volunteers has been declining over the years, as the novelty of our community wears down. The volunteers have dwindled to a stalwart few, and as we age, more and more of our community upkeep will require spending money for services. Unfortunately this is in parallel with the aging of our physical plant, which will require more attention as it ages.

Do you know that the volunteers who produce this Chant newsletter actually generate income for us? Our thanks to the volunteers who set up and return the chairs for our meetings, replace the filters in our clubhouse heaters and perform all sorts of other tasks that save us money. Another of our key committees is the finance committee that watches our expenditures to insure we get the best "bang for our buck". A thank you also goes to the Social Committee for all the events they organize throughout the year, and to the Clubhouse Committee that sees to the care and upkeep of our clubhouse and its contents. The Maintenance Committee takes care of the rest of the property, fixing the gates, overseeing the pond care, and more. The Landscape Committee will be working with our landscape contractor to assure the appearance of our community is the best ever.

Volunteers are essential to our ability to "Live

the Dream at Enchantment". Please volunteer your time to support one of our committees. No special commitment of time or talent is required, just a desire to get involved with your neighbors. The Board had been meeting weekly with the landscaper to improve his performance after a very rocky start in the late spring. We met with one of the owners in January, in an effort to avoid startup problems this spring. He committed to earlier application of week control, using a different supplier, as well as increased supervision and training of the workers. He will attend our work sessions in March and April to report on the improvements he has instituted.

The Transition has effectively stopped due to the financial condition of the Robertson Douglas Group. We replaced many road side trees last year and, although RDG promised to replace some, they have not. We are working with the Township to see what we can do to replant all that we need. The supplier will replace those trees that died, when weather permits. Additional trees have been identified for replacement. Some sidewalk replacement will occur when the weather permits.

A major part of the charm of Enchantment is a result of the work of volunteers. Being a volunteer gives you a greater sense of community and helps you develop new friendships. This really contributes to a "small town" atmosphere and helps you to "Live the Dream".

BOARD VICE PRESIDENT -TONY GAMBINO

After the unusually cold and snowy winter we are all looking forward to spring with its warmer weather and beautiful blossoms on our trees, shrubs and flowers. With this in mind your Board and Property Manager have met with our landscape vendor to prepare for the coming spring, summer and fall seasons. We have insisted on a new "man in charge" to stay on top of things and a trained crew in order to lessen problems that may arise. Near the end of last summer we changed companies that spread the community's chemicals (fertilizer, etc.) and they did a better job. We will monitor them closely. Every other year we mulch a portion of the common areas. This year we will be mulching the entire community common area. Homeowner tree and flower beds are the responsibility of the homeowner.

The matter of transition is of the highest priority for your Board. We hope to settle this year with the Robertson Douglas Group (our builder) concerning trees, shrubs, sidewalks and aprons. The township made promises to us in the past and did not keep them. This has been extremely frustrating. We will ask the engineers for a meeting in March. If we are not successful in moving forward with the proper lists supplied to us by the Township engineers to complete the transition process with RDG we will meet with the Mayor.

Your Board appreciates the involvement of volunteers in our community and anyone wishing to volunteer is greatly appreciated. Let's all enjoy our community and continue to "LIVE THE DREAM AT ENCHANTMENT".

BOARD TRUSTEE -STEPHEN FISCHBERG

WE WANT YOU!!! We are looking for volunteers for our different committees. Please consider joining one and passing on your thoughts and ideas while working with fellow residents to continue to make Enchantment the great community that it is.

The snow gods have not been very kind to us this winter; hopefully this last snow in January will be it for quite a while.

The ACC committee had over 30 applications for changes this past year. Please remember to

submit change order forms for any changes to the exterior of your homes and stay within the approved documents.

Just think spring, warm weather and then we will be back to another great pool season.

BOARD SECRETARY -KATHY PLATT

I hope all of you have been able to stay warm during this very cold winter. Coast has done a great job of keeping our community as clean as possible from all of the snow. I think the snow piled on my front lawn should last until at least August. Their men did an outstanding job of cleaning the walks and paths for which we are very thankful.

With any luck spring will soon be hear and the cold winter and snow will just be a memory. Your board is currently working with the landscaper to make the transition into spring a good one. We have had problems in the past and are working very hard to make sure they do not happen again. Hopefully, with a new supervisor/manager our community will continue to look beautiful.

The Social Committee has been working very hard planning and executing events for the entertainment and education of our residents. Many thanks go to this very hard working committee. Please be sure to read the article by Dee Gambino, she will keep you updated on all past and upcoming events. Lots of fun things are in the works.

Clubhouse Committee meets every other month to review items that need attention with reference to the upkeep of the building. They recommended the purchase of 4 smaller tables for the main room

BOARD SECRETARY - KATHY PLATT CONTINUED

to be used for events. We have ordered them, they should seat 8 comfortably. Sometimes the large tables are just too big; hopefully these will be a nice alternative. Many thanks go to the Clubhouse Committee for your hard work and recommendations. A very special thanks goes to Alice Statz for keeping the Clubhouse supplies updated.

It is not to late to join a committee. All are welcome.

BOARD TREASURER - JEFF SCHENKER

Amazing as it may seem Enchantment will be ten years old this year. The board and our property manager have tried and will continue to maintain and improve our beautiful community. This cannot be done without the continued support of our many volunteers. We are very fortunate to have so many residents who give their time, knowledge and experience throughout the year. Thank you one and all.

We had nine homes sold in 2013 so I'd like to welcome all of our new residents. I encourage you to take advantage of all the Enchantment has to offer: trips, parties, games, sports and other activities make our community a great place to live. Check out our website to keep up to date. If you have time, join a committee. Your input is welcome and appreciated.

Since I covered 2013 in January's Treasurer's Report I'll just address 2014. January got off to a rough start as far as snow fall is concerned. I wrote this article on February 2nd and at this time we haven't received the invoice for the large

LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE SERVICES, INC.

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Landscape Maintenance Services, Inc. 491 Amwell Road • Bldg 1, Suite 100 Hillsborough, NJ 08844 *tel:* (908) 904-6400 • *fax:* (908) 904-1995 snowstorm in January. I'm guessing that we have gone thru more than two thirds of our 2014 snow budget. Hopefully the remaining amount and the \$50,000 snow reserve will allow us to get thru the rest of the winter and next fall without breaking our budget. Other than that I'll keep monitoring our expenses, paying the bills and funding our reserves.

Before we know it the winter will be over and spring will be here. (Can't come soon enough). Until then, keep warm dry and healthy.





··· SUDOKU ···

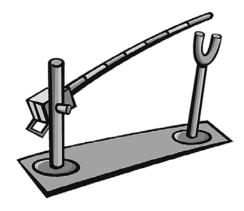
Sudoku #7 © 2013 KrazyDad.com

Answers on page 20 all puzzles by www.krazydad.com/sudoku

Sudoku #8

3	6				4	5	1	
					5	7	8	2
2	8		1				3	6
	4			2				
7		3	5		1	9		8
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5	1				2		4	3
8	7	6	4					
	3	2	6				5	7
© 2013 KrazyDad.com								

Visitor Gate Operating Instructions



There are two ways the visitor gate can be opened:

A visitor can stop at the call box at the visitor entrance lane and using the "A" or "Z" buttons, locate the last name of the resident to be visited. When the name is selected, the visitor presses the "CALL" button. A phone call is placed to the resident, who can answer the phone. The visitor can converse with resident using the call box, and the resident can open the visitor gate by pressing 9 on his telephone key pad. If the resident does not want the visitor to enter, the resident can press the star button (*), or hang up and the call box will be disconnected.

If residents do not have their key fob with them, residents can enter the community by using the visitor gate call box. In this instance the resident presses the pound or number key (#) on the call box followed by the last four digits of the phone number that is on record. The gate will then open. Entering pound (#) followed by 1111 will open the gate up until 8pm.



WANTEDI

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CLUBS

BOOK CLUB

To All Enchantment Readers:



Join the club at 10:00 on the third Tuesday of every month at Barnes & Noble.

BOOK CLUB SELECTIONS February Necessary Lies by Diane Chamberlin

> March **Tales from Finnegans Wake** by Bill Finnegan*

April **Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth** by Reza Aslan

Book Club meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 10 AM at Barnes and Noble. All members of the community are invited.

*Bill Finnegan is an Enchantment resident. He will be at the March meeting to discuss his book with us.

ACTIVE ADULT CLUB sally ashmen, president

Officers for the New Year were elected as follows:

President - Sally Ashmen

Vice-president – Mary Ann Walter

Ass't. Vice- president – Rosina Cifelli

Secretary – Rita Gore

Treasurer – Guido Gianotti

Mark your calendars..... Bingo dates are set for Fridays February 28th, March 28th, April 25th, May 23rd and June 27th. We look forward to seeing our loyal players, many new players, and guests at these evenings of fun and \$\$\$ prizes! Doors open at 6:15 P.M. Games begin at 7:00. Feel free to bring your own snacks.



A special thank you to the volunteers who set up and clean up after each event. Their help is so needed and appreciated.

The 50/50 raffle continues to be held at all HOA meetings.

CLUBS

ENCHANTED LADIES SOCIETY geri cipullo, chair

The Enchanted Ladies Society enjoyed their Holiday Luncheon at Mannino's 3 in December. Approximately 35 ladies participated in this event and feasted on the wonderful food. "Thank You" to Alice Statz and Sharon Weiner for co-chairing this event.

In January, the Ladies prepared a "Soup, Salad, Sandwich and Dessert" event at the Clubhouse. Everyone enjoyed the delicious assortment of goodies. "Thank You" to Denise Raisch for chairing this event.

On February 4, Donna Decker is chairing our "Chinese New Year" luncheon at Little Szechuan in West Windsor.

And, "The Wearing of the Green" Luncheon will take place at Killarney's Publick House in Hamilton on March 4 at 12:30. Come over and enjoy St. Paddy's Day with the Ladies.

April's event is "Wine, Hors d'oeuvres and Dessert on the 24th at 2:00 PM.

So, you see, the Enchanted Ladies seem to enjoy eating. We also enjoy playing Rummikub on Thursday afternoons at the Clubhouse.

We are planning some outings for the spring, including our trip to Duke Gardens, and a Thursday morning trip to Columbus Market. If you have any ideas for activities for the Ladies, don't hesitate to call me.

KNITTERS AND CRAFTERS SARA LEVITT, CHAIR

Welcome knitters.

We are still looking for knitters who have the time to knit/crochet some baby hats which will be donated to the Robert Wood Johnson Hospital preemie unit. We are hoping to receive about 100 knitted and/or crocheted hats to be donated to the hospital. Hats can be dropped off to Sara during our Knitters night which is every Thursday between 7:00 and 8:30 pm, except when there is a Homeowner's Meeting. Written directions for the hats will be on the counter in the club house for those that need them. Thank you in advance for making this a successful activity.

We would also like to thank everyone who participates in our Knitters and Crafters Club to make it such a successful club within our community. We are always looking for residents who have ideas and projects that we can share together.

Hopefully, old and new faces will continue to enjoy our activities at Enchantment.

Please join us on Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm by the fireplace in the clubhouse main room.

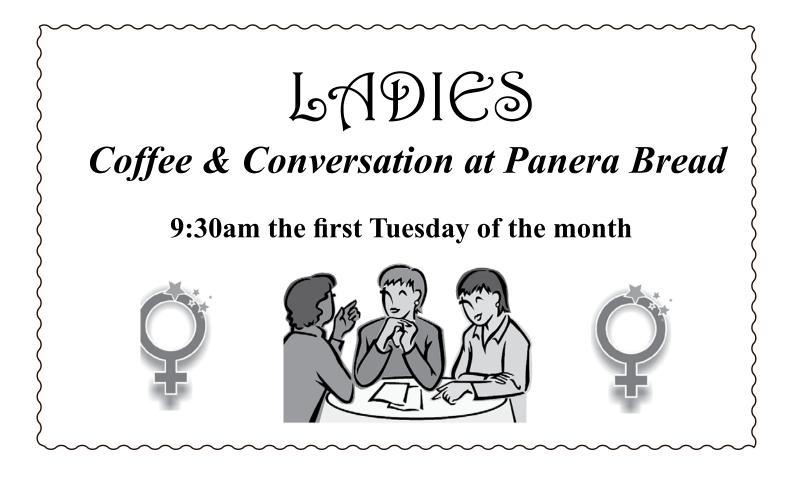


Chorus comes to Enchantment

Do Re Me Fa So La Ti Do...Soooo we started a singing group, a Chorus, at Enchantment. First rehearsal was in December 2013. The Chorus will rehearse on Wednesdays from 1-3 PM at the Clubhouse. The purpose of the Chorus is to have fun singing together. Our repertoire consists of songs from "The Great American Song Book, Broadway, Pop and some ol' Country Western ya'll. The enthusiasm and dedication of the group is already evident after only a few sessions.

Group singing is not only fun but, a great way to lose weight, control your blood pressure reduce stress in your life, stop your hair from falling out, and in general makes you feel like dancing. We will be starting rehearsals again in March. Please join us for some social networking, you may just love it.



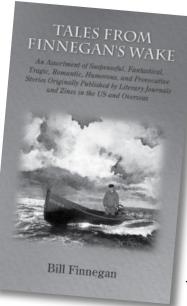




Enchantment resident Bill Finnegan pens "Tales from Finnegan's Wake"

Some Enchantment residents already know

residents about my new book, Tales from Finnegan's Wake, from my broadcast email announcement and from the small poster I put up in the clubhouse. The book contains eleven stories that I wrote here at Enchantment between 2008 and 2012. All of them have overcome formidable competition and been published individually in one or more literary journals and small magazines in the US and/or overseas. But getting them published wasn't easy and there were plenty of rejections and lots of rewriting along the way.



the book 4 out of 5 stars by Googling the book's full title. Amazon has placed an abstract of the review and the video trailer on its product page for the book.

As I said in my broadcast email, I'd be happy to attend any book club meeting at which Tales is discussed. Also I'm willing to answer questions from residents who are considering submitting their own stories, novels, or poems for publication.

Because the biggest markets for stories by unknown writers are fantasy, sci-fi, and horror, most of my stories fall into those categories. But it is possible to write such stories and still deal with real life issues and situations, and that's what I tried to do. As the poet Marianne Moore said, it is possible to "make imaginary gardens with real toads in them," and real butterflies too, I'd add.

The book's cover and illustrations are by Raven O'Keefe, a Native American artist who, with her husband, runs a sheep ranch in Oregon and trains border collies to be sheep dogs. Raven loves animals so much that she refused to draw a dog for one of my stories unless I modified a part involving the protagonist's dog. I love dogs and didn't see a problem but made the revision figuring if it offended her it would offend some other dog lovers too.

You can see Raven's illustrations in a promotional video by searching for the book's complete title, Tales from Finnegan's Wake, on YouTube's internal search engine. The video's music is "You're so Cool" from the movie "True Romance."

FHA REVERSE MORTGAGES

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You can find a Foreword Clarion review awarding

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

MELA GRIFFITHS-SECRETARY, DEE GAMBINO- COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR

Mmmm---Thinking-----"Thinking Green"!!!!! Green is a great color----to me it means fresh and new. When you say the word green you can hear the "crunch" of the fresh veggies. It also means new growth and new beginnings. The world looks beautiful all dressed in "Green". So let's begin a "Green" year.

Thursday -April 10th we hope to see another "Green" -a lot of it as the Malesons plan another wonderful bus trip to Atlantic City. The Casino will be chosen on the basis of just how much "Green" they plan to paint our palms with. Hope it's a bucket full!

Stay tuned for the details.

Tuesday-April 29th-----Isabel Hersh is offering a tour you can't refuse to be on. We will car pool to the Township of Ewing to visit the New Jersey State Police Museum and learn about famous criminal cases like the Lindbergh Kidnapping, etc. Then on to the Regional Intelligence Operations Center----The "CSI" of New Jersey. By then you will be ready for lunch at a restaurant nearby----right now the choice is under cover---watch for the details----They will come by special delivery. (in a "Green" envelope). More fun ahead is planned for you including a poolside "Country Hoedown".

All of the events' details will be announced to you via emails and flyers.

Have a wonderful spring and don't forget to think "Green".



FINANCE COMMITTEE KEN PRIZEMAN, CHAIR

For the last three months the finance committee has not been as busy as in prior years. We have not had to deal with questions of deficits or surpluses in the budget. It is nice to have a breakeven budget and have accurate information to review.

I would like to say thanks to the board for the job they did this past year in keeping the budget under control for the year. Last year the board set up a snow fund with the surplus from prior years. It looks like this should help in 2014 with the amount of snow we have received so far to even out the budget and keep our monthly maintenance at a steady amount.

I would also like to thank the members of the finance committee who served on the committee in 2013 and continue to serve in 2014.

CLUBHOUSE COMMITTEE FLOYD WEINER CHAIR

Your CLUBHOUSE COMMITTEE continues to keep the clubhouse as pristine as possible. Sign up sheets for various events within the development are placed at the front desk or inside main room of the clubhouse.

Keep in mind that the Mah Jongg players (Tuesday evening game 7 P.M-experienced players), Pinochle players double deck (Monday evening 7 PM players needed) (Tuesday evening game single deck 7 P.M. Players needed), Ladies games (Thursday afternoons 1 P.M.), and Thursday evening poker (7P.M.) are always looking for additional players. Support your Bingo game monthly. Follow upcoming events on your E-Mails and in the Chant.

Please keep in mind that there is no smoking permitted anywhere in the clubhouse and that no one under the age of 19 is permitted in the Exercise Room or in the Pool Room.

As more things get done in and around the clubhouse we will keep you advised. Please continue to note any problems you find in the building (problem sheet on front desk). New residents needing pool passes or key fobs should contact Sally Ashmen (24 Monte Carlo 609-585-3476). Our residents are the eyes and ears of the community, and all input is greatly appreciated.

Remember to sign up for committees as new blood is always welcome and everyone is encouraged to join.



HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE SALLY ASHMEN, CHAIR

The Hospitality Committee is happy to welcome new volunteers. Debbie Shuman and Rita Gore will be helping Mary Ann Walter and Rosina Cifelli keep our library shelves well organized. We have an abundance of books of a great variety for your reading pleasure. Returned books should be placed on the cart outside the library doors.

Nancy Christides keeps the bulletin board in the clubhouse updated with pertinent information.

Judy Chauncey-Smith and Gail Woods are joining Alice Statz, Nancy Christides and Arlene Petruska on the Sunshine sub-committee. They send appropriate greetings of caring and concern to community residents experiencing illness, hospitalization and loss of loved ones. Please let one of these ladies know if you become aware of these situations.

Rosina Cifelli and Sally Ashmen are the goto ones for key fob issues, ID cards and pool passes. They will replace batteries as needed in your key fobs at a cost of \$2.00.

Thank you ladies for your service to our community.



Without their support this newsletter would not be possible.



Township of Hamilton

Ketly H. Yaede Mayor

December 10, 2013

Enchantment Ms. Rita Gore 11 Lucaya Circle Hamilton NJ 08691

Dear Rita:

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your help with our 2013 Flu Cinic. We know you answered many questions and were extremely courteous and patient. Your time and energy is appreciated by us and the residents of your community.

We administered approximately 84 immunizations. We could only do that number because of people like you who volunteer their time to help us.

We thank you again and look forward to seeing you at the 2014 Flu Clinic Program.

Thank you, parter

Jeffrey J. Plunkett, Health Officer

ein RN

Jill J. Belviso, RN, BSN, PHN Acting Supervisor of Nursing

JJP:JJB:njd

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8 1

3

6

5

2 7

9 4

Sudoku #7							
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Sudoku #8

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8	7	6	4	5	3	2	9	1
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