



Talk Like a Pirate Day,
Tuesday Sept 19

Peaceful Valley Property Owners Association Newsletter



Fall Begins Sept 22nd

Visit our website at www.peacefulvalleylake.com
September 2017

If you would like to receive the splash via email, send an email to pvl.gary@gmail.com

Welcome to September. September marks both the unofficial end of Summer (Labor Day Weekend) and the official Start of Fall (Friday, September 22nd at 3:02 PM). Fall marks the wrap-up of a mediocre season for the Cardinals, who may miss a second post-season, the return of high school and college football, and the start of the pre-season for Blues hockey. The unusually cool August, with an average

temperature of 82°, made it a very pleasant last few weeks, but also increased the frequency of cutting grass. The horseflies are out in droves, and seem to be bigger and more aggressive than ever, but relief is in sight—they generally die off for the season in September. Don't forget "Talk like a Pirate Day on Tuesday, September 19th. AARRGGHH!!

September Events: (see the PVL Things to do calendar at <http://www.peacefulvalleylake.com/things-to-do-calendar.html>)

- Saturday, Sept 9th 9 AM-Noon. PVPOA Office Summer Hours:** This is the last Saturday office hours until next Spring. The office will be open MWF from 9-4 for the rest of the winter and early spring..
- Wednesday, Sept 13th 9 AM—Noon. Tech Support Day at PVL.** Gary Hacker will be at the lodge basement from 9 to noon to help with any technical issues—computer, phone, popular software, etc.
- Friday Sept 15th, 5:30PM to 6:30 PM, Public Water Supply District #1 Board of Directors Meeting.** This is the regular monthly meeting.
- Friday Sept 15th, 7:30PM to 9:30 PM, PV Property Owner's Association Board of Directors Meeting.** This is the regular monthly meeting.
- Sunday, Sept 17th, Noon-5 PM. Wine and Cheese Tour of Gasconade and Phelps County (Tentative)—** See item below for details

Road Resurfacing to Begin Soon

A head's up—most state and local entities schedule their road maintenance for the spring and summer adding to your commuting and general travel frustration in the summertime. We chose (wisely) to wait until late in the season for road resurfacing this year, partly to avoid the higher traffic volumes during the summer months, and partly to allow for the backfill over the culverts installed earlier in the year to settle and compact prior to resurfacing. The downside of waiting until late in the year for this very weather dependent project is that we're at the end of the line, calendar-wise, and any delays to the contractor's other projects ends up delaying the start

for our project. There will be more detailed information in the “News and Happenings” portion of the website as details and specific dates become known.

Wine and Cheese Tour of Gasconade and Phelps County Sept 17th, 2017 Noon-5 PM

With the onset of fall and the grape harvest season upon us, we’re planning a Sunday afternoon wine and cheese tour of Gasconade and Phelps County for Sunday, Sept 17th. Since we don’t want to have a bunch of folks drinking and driving, we will rent a party bus from noon-5 PM. We leave from the lodge at Noon and will visit Cool Cow cheese near Owensville, then work our way to Wenwood Farms Winery for a tasting, then to the Gardens at St. James Winery/Public House Brewery. We’ll stop there for wine and beer tasting and spend some time in the gardens, taking advantage of bocce, chess, cornhole, or just enjoying the weather in their beautiful outdoor gardens. Next, we head to Three Squirrels Winery for a tasting, then to Heinrichaus Winery, and then back to Peaceful Valley around 5 PM.



Twilight in the Gardens at St. James Winery

Good Times Bus Company in Gerald has a party bus that seats 18 comfortably. The cost is \$70 per couple or \$35 per individual, and includes bus rental, driver gratuity, and cheese and crackers and other snacks on the bus as we travel between stops. You’re on your own for anything you want to buy at the different stops along the way.

Before I make any commitment to the bus company, we need to get at least 14 people to commit. If you’re interested, please contact Gary Hacker at 314-809-5118 (cell) 573-437-2619 (Home) or send an email to gary.a.hacker@gmail.com.

Class Action Lawsuit for Cruise Ship Robocalls Could be Worth up to \$900



So, do you remember if you got one of those annoying robocalls between 3 and 8 years ago offering a “free cruise?” Neither did I, but I checked

into their settlement website at <https://www.rmgtcpasettlement.com/Home.aspx> and guess what? They have the call logs from back then, so all you need to do is enter your phone number and it will tell you if you’re a member of the settlement class. If you are, you could receive up to \$300 per call received, up to a maximum of \$900. We were living in Illinois during this timeframe so I entered our old phone number and sure enough, it was there. If your number is on the list you can submit a claim right there on the website, and it only takes a few minutes. Hurry, as claims must be made before midnight November 3, 2017. Don’t be impatient,

however, as the final hearing for the settlement happens in April 2018, and it may take months or

years before you see the payment as it may be subject to appeals that could drag it on for a while.

Restaurant Review: Westphalia Inn, Westphalia, MO

On one of those beautiful weekends in August, Ricky and I decided to put the top down on the car and headed out for a “destination dinner.” I had driven through Westphalia several times and saw the billboard for Westphalia Inn so we decided to go there and check it out. The Inn is tucked away in the middle of Westphalia, an old German town that reminds me of a mini-Hermann without the river. Westphalia is on US Hwy 63, about 3 miles south of the 63/US Hwy 50 intersection. The all brick Inn was built in 1930 as a hotel, but now the rooms have been converted into a restaurant on the first floor, and a bar/wine tasting area on the second. The bar serves pizza, nachos, and appetizers, while the restaurant, which is only open Friday and Saturday for dinner, and Sunday for lunch and dinner has a simple menu--fried chicken, German Pot Roast, ham, and hamburgers. Dinners are served either by the plate, family-style, or a smaller portion in a basket. We got the family-style German Pot Roast and Fried Chicken. For



starters, they brought out homemade bread, real butter and jelly, and freshly made sweet and sour slaw. Dinner came out with real potatoes mashed by hand, with brown gravy, string beans, a sweet cucumber and onion salad, and sliced tomatoes. We

learned that the chicken is pan fried in an iron skillet, and is hormone-free and locally-sourced from Backes Poultry in Loose Creek, MO. The ham is from Burger's Smokehouse in California, MO. The tomatoes and cucumbers came out of the inn's garden and could not have been

fresher. The Inn's owners, the Neuners, also own Westphalia Vineyards and Winery and feature their sulfite-free Norton wine (along with 10 other varieties) in the bar and restaurant. The Neuners also are one of only about 150 farms in the US to raise legendary Kobe beef, which they use for their pot roast and hamburgers. If you're up for a weekend jaunt in central Missouri, stop by and visit. The Inn gets a 🍴🍴🍴🍴 rating.

Salute to Volunteers (continued from last month)

As mentioned in the last newsletter, literally thousands of volunteer hours have been spent recently on taking care of Peaceful Valley Lake. One of the more significant efforts has been on the lagoon project. Below are just a handful of the accomplishments over the last two years, with much of the effort done with a combination of paid and mostly unpaid volunteers.

- Locating, mapping, and tagging 95% of our sanitary sewer system.
- Smoke-testing and camera- and visual-inspections of all known “high trouble” areas
- Raising of 9 manholes near the shoreline that were susceptible to flooding
- Rehabilitation of the 5 worst manholes at the shoreline to reduce lake and rain water infiltration
- Locating line breaks and separations and scheduling repairs

- Daily collection of data on water level, well water consumption, rainfall, and lagoon flow, for future analysis

Significant savings estimated at over \$100,000 on engineering work is done by volunteers using their engineering skills to do many of the above items, and working directly with the engineering firm to determine how best to repair the system. Special thanks to Karl Kloster and Gus Hoernschmeyer for all their work in this area over the last few years.

We also want to say thanks to the ladies of the Garden Club who do a wonderful job of beautifying some of the common areas around Peaceful Valley. I don't know who they all are, but I "caught" Mary Thompson and Toni Kayser cleaning up and planting around the lodge just prior to the annual members' meeting in April, and Elizabeth Rowe and a helper were out sprucing up the garden area around the flagpole near the marina just prior to Labor Day. I know there are many others who deserve thanks as well but I don't have all the names.



Mary Thompson (L) and Toni Kayser (R) clean up landscaping and sidewalks in front of the lodge before the annual member meeting (April 2017)

Lastly, thanks to all the current and past board members of both the Property Owners' Association and the Public Water Supply District #1 of Gasconade County. These two boards are the equivalent of a Mayor and Board of Aldermen taking care of running the small town of Peaceful Valley, and a board of trustees for a public utility company. The main difference here is that our boards are staffed by volunteers. Most board members spend much more time than just the few hours each month at the board meetings—most are out monitoring activities, cleaning up, emptying trash, interviewing, hiring, and supervising paid employees, contacting contractors for work to be done, spreading copper sulfate for weed control in the lake, sinking fish cover in the off-season, and publishing the newsletter and maintaining the website. The board members of the Property Owners' Association are Tom Eilermann, Don Burrows, Mike Garlock, Kim Burkhardt, Geri DeAngelis, Glen Boettcher, Charles Kinworthy, Tom Bush, and Gary Hacker. The PWSD#1 board is Mike Garlock, Bob Kayser, Jean Gill, and Jim Verhulst.

By the way, if you see someone out raking the beach, watering trees, trimming bushes, or picking up trash, whether they're paid employees or volunteers—how about stopping and offering a simple "Thank You?" It costs so little and means so much.