

Presidents Report for May 2023

As we pack up to head back to the beauty of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan I began to reflect on this year's time spent at Villas West compared to other years.

The beauty of Villas West, the friends who have become family, the patio gatherings, the warmth of the sun, the beauty of our grounds and the kindness of our neighbors all come to mind.

However, this year I am thinking a great deal about the responsibilities of being President of Villas West. I must say 6 months ago I thought I had an idea of what being President of an HOA would mean but I truly didn't.

Last month I shared with you the things that we have accomplished – trying not to focus on the tasks and challenges that still await.

This has been a challenging time for many of us. So much to learn and then relearn as I forget what I just read 😊, keeping focus on the road ahead and making sure we always keep what is best for the Villas West as a whole as our number one priority and trying to be available to owners and staff.

Speaking of the road ahead. One huge thank you to the entire Documents and Communications Committee, Jeff Miller and Ray Harries for providing us with a map forward. Cleaning up and developing our processes and procedures has been the start of providing up to date and invaluable resources for our office and the owners. The completion and laymen's explanation of the Reserve Study and Ray's long-range plans have provided us with a clear and concise path forward.

Today, as I prepare to head home, I would like to share some of the maybe less tangible things I am focusing on, and I hope you might have experienced some of them yourselves.

- Like the laughter that would happen when I would spend time in the office as owners would stop in.
- The kind words of many of those same homeowners to the Board and the staff
- On my daily walks to the office seeing beauty sprout from an empty graveled lot next to the office transformed into a garden of beauty by volunteers
- Getting to meet new neighbors and learning about where they came from and sharing many potlucks on the patio.
- Seeing the smiles on the faces of the landscapers when there was a donation of blowers and shovels!
- Having the opportunity to meet with the entire staff and listen to the challenges they have been dealing with yet finding such a level of gratitude.
- Cinco de Mayo celebration and watching the smiles on the faces of our owners and staff as they listened to Carlos' band, watched Layla dance, had some delicious hot dogs and the smile on one lucky owner who got a dance with Aaron. Oh and I must not forget winning 3rd place in the salsa competition!!!!
- To the owners who bring donations of food for our mini-pantry. I have seen canned goods, snacks, cereal, and fresh veggies. Very nice!
- Seeing the monthly newsletter bringing people together, thank you Judy Palmer for such a wonderful gift to our community.
- For me this brings an additional gift. I have been given the opportunity to be the roving reporter and interview the staff. It has been pure joy getting to know the men and women who are employed by Villas West. Listening to their stories, seeing things

from a different perspective, recognizing the pride they take in their work. It has been uplifting.

- Zee – And one more BIG thank you to Zee Hussain who volunteers 3 – 4 days a week doing whatever is needed in our office, again I say what a gift she is.
- The amount of work that I have seen from our committees and volunteers is remarkable. Thank you to you all.
- Please remember that your board are also owners who love to go to social functions. When we are at social functions look at us as owners/neighbors and not as a Board Members please 😊 .

There is so much going on at Villas West keeping all of us busy and as the summer moves on we will keep you posted.

My Tuesdays at the office have come to a close. It was a great opportunity to meet with many of the owners and as soon as we get back to Green Valley I will bring Tuesdays with the Pres back. In the meantime you can always reach me at president@villaswest.org.

Thank you and enjoy your summers wherever you might be.