



Greetings Members,

I would like to welcome everyone to another summer of sun and fun. As I sit in my office writing this letter, I look out my window and see mountains of snow and a thermometer that reads two degrees below zero. Will summer ever get here?

As a new pool season draws closer, the Board of Directors have been very busy replacing, updating, and revising many things in our efforts to make this a successful season. You will see more new picnic tables and pool deck chairs. One of the things that I'm proud of is our new and improved social calendar. There are new events added, an old event or two dropped, and revamping and improvement of all of our social events.

Another change you'll see this year is a big push in fundraising. As you may or may not know, our pool is fifty-three years old. Having a facility this old presents a lot of problems. The time has come to begin planning on replacing our facility. Unfortunately this comes with a very large price tag. We need your help in raising as much money as possible so we can begin building the new VFC.

I am very happy to announce that the VFC will begin recycling this year. A big "Thank You" goes out to Hannah Flynn for organizing and implementing our new recycling program. There is a small cost to going green: A single voluntary fee of \$5.00. Pretty inexpensive compared to the environmental benefits. Following is Hannah's introduction of our new program:

"Did you ever notice how many recyclables the VFC throws away every season? I did, and I wanted to do something about it! My name is Hannah Flynn; I'm a 7th grade Girl Scout at St. Louise de Marillac and a member of the VFC swim team. I'm currently working on earning my Silver Award in scouting. I'm excited to announce that I will be starting a Recycle Program at the VFC. To get the program off to a great start, won't you please consider making the optional donation of \$5.00? The money collected will be used for the recycling service and recycling bins. Please join me by making the V a greener place." Again, many thanks go to Hannah for getting us on the environmentally conscious path.

The Board of Directors was faced with a very difficult decision this winter. Since November of 2009, the Board has been diligently working with engineers and the State of Illinois to modify our main drain system to comply with the new drain safety legislation. We budgeted in accordance with the site plans and requirements presented. As is all too common with governmental entities, the State of Illinois changed their requirements in midstream, forcing the VFC to make significantly different and significantly more expensive changes to our main drain system. Much of the bottom of the deep end will need to be excavated and replaced. The simple fact is if we don't comply with these new State mandates, the State may prohibit the pool from opening and operating this year. So, after a much exploration and discussion, the Board made the difficult decision to levy a one-time assessment to cover the cost of these improvements. I want to thank you for your understanding in this difficult situation the State of Illinois has put us in.

I would like to remind everyone that this will be the first year that all pool communications will be delivered to members via e-mail. Please make sure that the VFC has your current e-mail address so we can keep you informed of all the great happenings at the VFC throughout the summer swim season.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the pool and can't wait for another great season at the VFC.

Sincerely,

Rich Paeth

Richard Paeth
VFC President