

The ProComm Press

Fall 2011

LEGAL SEMINAR IS A SMASHING SUCCESS

ProComm hosted a Free Legal Seminar for all our boards on October 27th. We invited our local boards to come meet and mingle with other board members from local homeowner associations and see an informative presentation from Carey Gunn Helm of the Planned Community, Mixed-Use & Condominium Practice Group Winstead PC regarding the new legislative laws and how it affects their associations. The boards were greeted with a great spread of light refreshments and then were introduced to an in depth and concise explanation of the most pressing issues facing HOA's after the recent changes in the state statues. There was a Q&A session after the presentation and the boards all left with a new sense of how to continue to guide and serve their communities through these new challenges. Knowing that we are here to help them every step of the way as their managing partners left everyone with a great sense of promise for a great 2012.

The presentation was hosted on October 27th from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm at ProComm offices and we hope to have continuing Board Training Seminars throughout the year. Our commitment to education and a solid partnership with our communities is one of our major 2012 resolutions. We hope to continue to bring important issues facing Homeowner's Associations and effective solutions to our boards and communities.



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Are your gates protected?

Is your limited access gate system protected from nature's creepy-crawlers?

Function of your gate system could halt unexpectedly if equipment is not routinely treated for rodents, insects and reptiles. These invaders are nuisances for gated communities, but their presence can be avoided by scheduling additional gate maintenance for your community.

Standard gate maintenance contracts customarily include monthly, bimonthly or annual inspection of gate tracks, wheels, chains and other moving mechanisms; seldom do contracts include pest prevention.

Are you protecting your gate system against these invaders? Prevention is the key to saving thousands on costly repairs caused by critters. Rodents, insects and reptiles tend to make cozy homes in gate equipment when weather conditions change. Rats and mice are attracted to gate equipment throughout the year. When communication is interrupted by these pests the gate unit cannot operate correctly.

Usually found in gate operator housings, rats and mice chew on wiring and cause communication error of moving gears and belts. Gate motors deactivate when gear and belt motion is hindered. A non-functioning motor typically results in a service call by a gate technician. The cost to an association is higher when a gate motor is stressed or destroyed.

As part of extended gate maintenance, rodent deterrent should be strategically placed around the gate unit and semi-exposed gate equipment access points. Likewise ants are treated in rainy seasons or when soil becomes moist after drought.

Ant colonies are typically discovered in untreated gate keypads. A maintenance technician should spray insecticide on conduit that leads into/out of the keypad housing. These insects are attracted to the electrical points; infestation shorts out important connectors and capacitors. Ant colonies damage memory boards and remote receiver cards. Extreme corrosion is the end result.

Gate winterization aimed at lizard prevention is an important part of proper gate maintenance as well. Your gate system should be inspected regularly during the colder weather season for lizards. Maintenance safeguarding includes checking the keypad housing for small gaps that lizards use for access into your limited access entry system. Lizards can cause damage to main processing boards, wiring, remote boards and memory components.

Until disaster strikes these invaders are rarely thought about. Gate technicians can suggest ways to better protect these access points. Start today by scheduling gate maintenance on your entry, exit, pool and pedestrian gate systems. Contact the gate department at (210) 545-1888 or by email at gates@procomm-mgmt.com.

DON'T LET YOUR FEES MOUNT...

We are coming upon on a new year with new assessments. Here are a few tips to ensure your payments are made on time and to avoid late fees and penalties. Update your mailing address, if you have recently moved or plan on moving send a written notice to your association requesting the change of address. The association mails your statements to the last

known address so keeping your mailing address current will ensure you get your statements in a timely manner. If your mailing address is current and you still have not received your statement by December 31st contact the association immediately.

Review your statement carefully. The statement lets you know of any changes to the assessments and the due dates. The statement also explains the late fees and penalties once the due date expires. Typically,

the association provides the members with an approved expense budget, so be sure to check your envelope.

Track your bank statement to ensure your payment went through. If it has not cleared in a timely manner, contact the association immediately.

Continued communication will ensure a great relationship with you and your association.



AssociaLiving is a fun and insightful online magazine created specifically for our Associa communities and homeowners.

A resource of useful and inspiring information for residents and community associations across North America, AssociaLiving includes relevant stories about Entertaining, Home, Practical Living and Community, each geared toward enriching our homes and building stronger community associations.

Sign up for AssociaLiving (www.associaiving.com) to get great recipes for fall or to discover activities for the whole neighborhood. Keep reading to be inspired with holiday decorating ideas or to learn the ins-and-outs of weatherproofing your home. AssociaLiving has something for everyone in your family and community.

For those everyday clever ideas, visit AssociaLiving's *NeighborlyNotes* blog. *NeighborlyNotes* provides quick and savvy ideas to help make your home a happier, healthier and more efficient place to live. Blogger Carol, like many of our homeowners, juggles a life comprised of many

roles: spouse, parent, child and working professional, to name just a few. She has hectic days like everyone else, but no matter where they are spent, she ends them all at the same place: home. The editors of AssociaLiving hope the helpful tips and tricks about everything from organizing things around the home to entertaining with a twist will help make your days run a little smoother.

Celebrate the best of community living. Visit www.associaiving.com and sign up to get the latest ideas in Home, Community, Entertainment and Practical Living.



● ● ProComm Events

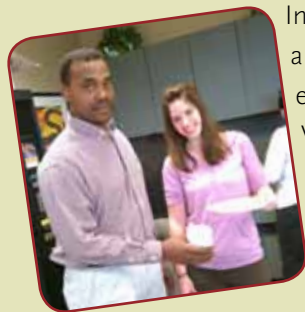
This past quarter went GREAT! We had so many wonderful events and want to thank everyone for helping make these events so much fun.

Happy Boss's Day! In October, we started our celebration by honoring our extraordinary ProComm leaders that put their very best foot forward everyday to make this company such a joy to work for. We wanted to recognize and acknowledge their hard work and dedication to the company and staff. Even with all the stress of everyday work, they still have time to ask each and everyone "How is your day going?" We truly appreciate your hard work and dedication and could not have asked for better bosses!



In honor of our fall season finally arriving to Texas, we ran a first time event this quarter. We called it our Wacky Wednesday Waffle Day! This event was held on October 19th and we had more hungry ProComm employees than we had anticipated. The waffles were

delicious along with the chocolate chip, strawberry and blueberry toppings. This was an appetizing and fun event that has left many employees saying, "I want another Wacky Wednesday Waffle Day!"



Our Halloween Spooktacular event was held on October 28th and it was full of ghouls, witches, goblins and some other unknown/unidentified creatures. Everyone participated and did an outstanding job in really making our office a scary place to work. We had a lot of scary, funny and creative costumes; it was hard to vote for the best ones! After countless votes, we had our winners: Best Decorated Department - **Administrative Department**; Most Creative Costume - **Victoria Hierl**; Scariest Costume (3 years in a row winner) - **Cruz Costilla**; Funniest Costume - **Sybil Baran**.

Thanks to everyone for participating and making ProComm more than just a workplace. We have scheduled many fun upcoming events for everyone to enjoy. Let's have another outstanding quarter full of fun and joyful events, ProComm family!



Meat Dressing Recipe

Ingredients

- 2 lbs. lean ground beef
- 2 lbs. ground pork
- 2 eggs (*may need more but you'll know*)
- 1 container of chopped celery (*suggest produce department, saves time*)
- 1 container of chopped onion (*same as celery*)
- 4 loaves of broken up/torn potato or other white bread
- salt and pepper
- 1 tsp. of sage
- 1 tbsp. of parsley (*fresh looks prettier*)
- 1 tbsp. of oregano
- A bit of water



Directions

Mix all together (yes, it is messy) until moist. Cook at 325-350 degrees covered until center is cooked through. If cooking inside the turkey, spoon into the bird about 2-2½ hours before it is done. Let the dressing continue cooking inside the bird while it rests. Just before carving, remove and enjoy.

While I was raised on onion and sage dressing, my daughter served this last year while cooking her first Thanksgiving dinner for her family including a grandmother. I had concerns with meat inside a turkey but it was truly delicious. If this recipe makes too much dressing for your bird, do what my daughter did and tuck "dressing balls" around the turkey as it cooks. The dressing balls were crispy and delicious and served as an appetizer.



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