

## **New Amenities for the Visual Arts Club**

As you have all heard by now, Del Webb/Pulte will be building some new structures and moving some clubs to different spaces. As a result, the Visual Arts Club has been offered space across the street next to the Stained Glass studio. The old village store, now the Community Association communications room, will be enlarged to 1009 sq. ft. and will be the new Visual Arts studio. Another room of 700 sq. ft., now part of the present Fabric and Fiber room, will be the Photography Club studio. The smaller space will be a shared room to be used for both Photo Club and VAC needs.

At first most of our members were disappointed that the main studio will be smaller than the present one, by about 100 sq. ft., and is separated from the Photo Club. I met with a representative from Property and Grounds to see if we could have a bigger space, or to find out if we could stay where we are now. After talking with Pulte, the answer came back with a firm "No" because of budget restraints and the need to have other clubs go into our present location.

I've looked at the new space for the Photo/VAC use and I was pleasantly surprised how well this room can work for us. There are already large windows, storage space and a sink and counters. After talking to some of the painters, we envisioned having free painting time there, small classes and possibly some small meetings. The mat cutter can go there to free up floor space from the large studio. The VAC studio can be planned to use our work space more efficiently.

Soon I will be given a copy of the floor plans. We already have a group of interested artists and photographers ready to start designing the new spaces. Pulte will have a representative from Pulte and a person from Property and Grounds to work with us on the plans. We are aware of the need for good ventilation, lighting, a patio space, etc. If you have some ideas to input into the plans, please contact me.

According to the information given at the New Amenities meeting on January 18<sup>th</sup>, the building could be started in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of this year and be finished in the spring of 2009. After talking with many of the members, we are starting to feel that this will be a very good move and will work for our benefit.

Thank you.

***Barbara Wilder*, President, Visual Arts Club**