

## **BIOGRAPHY JOHN CRESS**

I was born in San Diego California. My father was in the Navy, and we traveled quite a lot during my childhood. We were stationed places like the Philippines and Hawaii. We settled in Levittown Pa, where I grew up. I graduated High School and became a Millwright, repairing and installing industrial machinery. In 1985 I was promoted to production supervisor and transferred to Michigan, by my company. I was then promoted to plant Manager. While in MI. I obtained an associates degree in Business Management, and again was promoted and transferred to a plant in New Jersey. When the economic crisis became severe last year I was laid off from a job of 20 years. I am on the planning and finance committee at Emerald lakes which gives me a good understanding of our community's finances, and what is needed to manage our budget.

I have lived in Emerald Lakes for five and a half years. I am married and have six children by two marriages. My private interests are golf, politics and reading.

## **RESPONSE TO GENERAL QUESTIONS**

1. I want to be a board member to help the community and act as a voice of reason to stop the childish behavior of some board members. It is not a crime to disagree with the board.
2. I am a member of the finance and planning committee, and understand the problems with our budget. I am ready to make the hard decisions that confront this community.
3. My contribution so far is serving on the finance and planning committee.
4. I believe I can bring my many years of experience as a manager to the board. I have created many budgets in my career. These budgets had to be adhered to if events changed, decisions had to be made. I made these hard and often unpleasant decisions.
5. I am proud of record as a problem solver; as a plant manager. I managed plants in Michigan, New Jersey, and Illinois. Each of these plants had serious problems with employees, safety, environmental compliance, and profits. I turned each plant around to a successful operation.
6. The most pressing problem at Emerald Lakes is addressing the budget shortfall. A balanced budget has been submitted. This budget has cuts in it but they are not draconian. In fact there are still areas that can be looked at for additional opportunities.
7. As far as long range plans are concerned I believe what the economist John Maynard Keynes said, " In the long run we are all dead" we should address our immediate problems. After that we can address strategic planning.

## **WHY VOTE FOR ME**

I only have two pledges if I am elected, to plow the roads in the winter, and keep the roads repaired in the summer. This sounds simple but I believe these are the chief

concerns of all residents, but neither is being done well. I will use my experience as a manager to keep dues low. There are many things Emerald Lake's residents want. The question is what due they need. We have a budget that will work for this year even though it is not sound; because actual dues collected is incorrect. The last area I will address, or perhaps it should be the first is to stop the petty bickering on the board. Different ideas our strength to a community like ours; not a threat. The board seems to have an attitude of; it's us against them. This needs to change. We all live here; we should be working toward common goals.