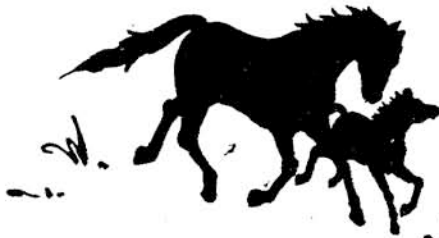


Diamond A Gazette
Official Newsletter of the Diamond A Property Owners Association



JANUARY 2008

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DIRECTORS & OFFICERS
ANNUAL MEETING
FEB.24 ~ 4:00PM @ REC CTR.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Now that 2007 is behind us, we can look back at our accomplishments and shortcomings. It is with a great deal of pride that I can inform you that Jack Nisson and Star MacKay have designed the first step of our VERY OWN DIAMOND A WEBSITE. To access this you need to type in www.diamodasonoma.com and enter. You will see a side menu of various groups in Diamond A. Just click on one of these and you will receive the information as provided by that group. This is a "work in progress" and we certainly will be adding information to it as needed. A big "THANK YOU" to Jack as he has had this vision for a long time and we can finally see it taking shape.

We have also attempted to get our Neighborhood Watch program in place. Now that the county has installed the signs, we have a lot of work to do to get us into our areas (with our neighbors) and "Look Out For Each Other." This project has been headed up by Gill Inskeep, but now we need a resident (Not a Board Member) to follow through with organizing it, getting our phone lists together and just getting others to help. We have a pamphlet to assist us in getting started. We probably will have about 6 or 7 units. We are hoping someone will volunteer to take this project on, to keep us all as safe as possible. Give Beverly a call at 935-3907.

We have had some problems with vegetation encroachment into the Diamond A roads/walkways. If you notice this happening on your property, please be sure to be a good neighbor and cut it back. In some cases, walkers were having difficulty getting out of the way of on-coming cars.

A very special big 'THANK YOU' to our Volunteer Firemen/Ladies. This group has worked tirelessly for years and without very many "KUDOS." Dick Hanna heads up this group and if you would like to volunteer to help out, please give Dick a call. His number is in our directory.

During the last part of 2007, we lost a couple of our long time residents and we will greatly miss them. Bob Black and Ann Viswat both passed away without most of us knowing they were not well.

The sheriff has been patrolling our neighborhood for speeders. Please be sure to obey the speed limits, and you will not meet him/her. If you have teenage drivers, please be sure to remind them so we can all stay safe.

Keep your eye on the pole, for information in Diamond A from time to time.

Many thanks to all those who have helped me during my recent surgery. You are the Greatest and we have a Wonderful Neighborhood.

Beverly Perrin, President

TREASURER'S MESSAGE

The Property Owners Association dues are \$35.00 per year. I invite all of you who may not be members to get involved. Your dues brings you two neat get-

togethers in your neighbors' homes, a periodic newsletter, a telephone and email directory, periodic garden group visits and other informal sharing of common interests. Please consider joining.

Happy Trails.

Dee Young, Treasurer
939-9440

HILL WARMING PARTY (SUMMER)

Jim and Shirl Gay were the gracious hosts at our latest Hill Warming Party at their lovely Grove Street home, one that is complemented with a panoramic view and a large sheltered garden area at the rear. The guests sipped beverages and shared delightful sandwiches and foods, some from Whole Foods where a family member of Jim & Shirl is a staffer. Again these occasions are great for newcomers and chatting with neighbors that we sometimes only get to wave to occasionally. Generally, our chatting is to revel in what a neat community we live in, and how quickly time flies.

Next Party: Springtime TBD. We are looking for even more neighbors interested in hosting these delightful parties. Set up and clean up are provided by the Hill Warming Committee, of course. If interested, please contact Teri Hansen 933-9823

EQUESTRIAN UPDATES from the "Trailblazers."

The annual end of the season Barn Party was held at the Lyon's Barn on September 22, 2007. This was the 16th Annual Trailblazers' BBQ and, as always, it was a very special event which was immensely enjoyed by everyone! We had our 4th Annual Silent Auction, which was a big success, and the array of delectable pies

entered into the pie contest was very impressive.

A group of neighbors presented Robin and Rob Lyon with a large rooster sculpture as a small token of appreciation to them for all that they do for us and for our community!! They were pleasantly surprised and very grateful to receive it.

Teri Hansen

DIAMOND A REC. CENTER REPORT

The 2008-09 Directors & Officers were elected at the recent Annual Meeting:

President, Rich Cooper

Vice President, Wayne Schake

Secretary, Pat Angeloni

Treasurer, Wayne Mehl

Supporting Board members: Bart Hansen; Lee Brown; and Janet Nussbaum.

The Rec. Center "Annual Crab Feed" will likely have taken place by the time you read this.....Thanks Fred, Susie, and talented chefs & helpers.

Movie Nights are also an on-going Event.

The Rec. Center email contact is:

diamondarec@gmail.com

Thanks, Your Board

FIREMEN APPRECIATION EVENT

SERIOUS FIRES HAVE BEEN HAPPENING IN CALIFORNIA, OUR OFFSHORE ISLANDS AND OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY. WE HILL AND WOODS' DWELLERS ARE OVERDUE TO RECOGNIZE OUR LOCAL HEROS AND SHOW OUR APPRECIATION. AN EVENT IS BEING PLANNED FOR JUST THAT. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO FOLLOW.

NEW NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH SIGNS ARE UP

With guidance from our Director Gillian Inskeep, several **Neighborhood Watch** roadside signs were purchased and are now in place on our roadways. The signs were installed by the County Road Crews, whom also determined location. These have proven to be a viable deterrent to unwanted visitors for other rural areas. Neighborhood Watch, a nationally recognized organization, in conjunction with our local Sheriff's Dept., oversees the Guidelines that the program follows with our cooperation. Periodic meetings are required, **MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW**, and a "telephone tree" to go into action, if needed. Thanks, Gillian.
 Comments to: diamondapoa@yahoo.com

MISCELLANEOUS:

- ROADWAY LANDSCAPE ENCROACHMENT
- EARTHQUAKE SURVIVAL KIT
- IDENTITY THEFT
- RELAY FOR LIFE, 2008
- POA WEBSITE
- KSVY RADIO
- PROPERTY OWNERS' GUIDE
- PROPERTY OWNERS' DIRECTORY

ROADWAY LANDSCAPE ENCROACHMENT

A review by POA members has noted that approximately 30% of properties have an overgrowth of trees and vegetation into our roadways. The obvious results are poor visibility for drivers, scratches to car paint finishes, debris accumulation in drainage ditches, also a clear and safe pathway for walkers. The **County Road Crews** are responsible for these obstructions for the distance of 14 feet from the road centerline. They can be reached at 707-565-7280.

WHAT'S IN YOUR EARTHQUAKE SURVIVAL KIT?

Check out the Red Cross website at www.redcross.org. Click on "Get Prepared."

IDENTITY THEFT FYI:

A popular topic which often appears in our local newspapers is identity theft. We wish to share some *general* information for action to be taken if this should happen to you.

- REPORT THE CRIME TO THE POLICE
- CONTACT ALL CREDITORS AND YOUR BANK, AND FOLLOW UP EVERY PHONE CALL IN WRITING
- PUT STOP PAYMENTS ON ANY OUTSTANDING CHECKS
- SEND EVERYTHING BY CERTIFIED MAIL, KEEPING COPIES OF EVERYTHING
- CONTACT YOUR LOCAL DMV OFFICE AND ASK THEM TO PUT A FRAUD ALERT ON YOUR DRIVER'S LICENSE
- CALL THE FRAUD UNITS OF THE 3 MAJOR CREDIT BUREAUS TO REPORT THE THEFT:

- EQUIFAX: 1-800-525-6285
- EXPERIAN: 1-888-397-3742
- TRANS UNION: 1-800-680-7289

CONTROL YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION TO LESSEN THE CHANCES OF IDENTITY THEFT:

- CALL 1-888-567-8688 TO STOP PRE-APPROVED CREDIT CARD OFFERS.
- REMOVE YOUR NAME FROM MAIL AND E-MAIL MARKETING LISTS BY REGISTERING ON-LINE AT www.dmaconsumers.org
- REMOVE YOUR NAME FROM TELEMARKETING LISTS BY CALLING 1-888-382-1222.

Do Not Call 900.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE RELAY FOR LIFE FUNDRAISER, 2008

Save the date for the Sonoma Valley Relay for Life American Cancer Society Fundraiser for our Diamond A Team: **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25, 2008**

A 50'S PARTY: CRUISIN' TO THE SOCK HOP.

Further details will be forthcoming from Shirley Angeloni. Please contact her at 996-3854 if you'd like to help with the party by being on a committee, or to sign up to walk on our team at the event in August.

POA WEBSITE: OUR NEW WEBSITE IS UP AND RUNNING:

Thanks to Jack Nisson, and his long time effort, the Inaugural Diamond A Ranch website is in operation. There likely will be further enhancements and other features. A great function being initiated is to have this singular site as the gateway to relevant interests for all of our Ranch, Ranch Estate and adjacent property owners.

The historical and current information and photos were gathered from our local entities: the fire department, water service, recreation center, trailblazers, garden and vineyard groups. We will be looking for someone to maintain our site. Likely a password will be used for access by POA members after our initial launch. If you have any thoughts or input about this project please contact Jack Nisson at jacknisson@sbcglobal.net. It is rumored Jack may not be returning to the POA Directors Board. He has been a loyal and dedicated Director for many years. Long, long vacations are going to be his next priority, it is rumored.

KSVY RADIO

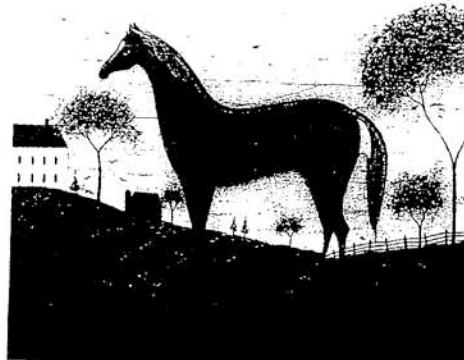
We are very fortunate to have a local public radio station in our community which deals with a myriad of topics like the valley's past history, current cultural and social happenings, agriculture, etc. You can see a schedule of shows by visiting their website at ksvy.org **DIAMOND A RESIDENT, WALLY BREITMAN, IS THE "SONOMA SUNRISE" MORNING SHOW HOST** from 7:00 to 8:00AM. with a great format. A new voice being heard as a regularly invited guest on the Wednesday AM, Ken Brown show, is Roger Young.

PROPERTY OWNERS' GUIDE

The Property Owners' Guide, a loose-leaf binder, is available to all new property owners. There have been NO UPDATES since JUNE/2007.

JUNE 2007 DIRECTORY OF PROPERTY OWNERS

The bi-annual address & telephone directory of property owners, POA Officers, Directors and related contact information is available. It can be requested through our Treasurer, Dee Young. If you have any changes to your personal information please email ~ diamondapoa@yahoo.com





DIAMOND A RANCH

SONOMA CA

Diamond A Ranch is a 175 home rural residential subdivision located on a former 1,400 acre cattle ranch in the western hills of Sonoma off of Grove Street.

It was developed in the 1960's with emphasis on equestrian activities with parcels ranging in size from one to over ten acres. In addition to the Property Owners Association, we have three other organizations:

- The Mutual Water Company
- The Recreation Association
- The Equestrian Association

There is also a small volunteer fire station operated by Sonoma Valley FireMed.

