



DIAMOND A REC CENTER NEWSLETTER

April - June, 2018

2018 EVENTS*****RESERVE FUND*****REC MAINTENANCE

Greetings from Your Rec Board!

Your Board has been hard at work planning activities and making sure The Rec is in great shape for the upcoming fun summer season.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!!!

Our annual Pool Party is scheduled for Saturday, Jun 2 from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m. You should have received your formal invitation via e-mail with more details and RSVP information. We hope we'll see many of you at this kick off to summer!

By now, you should have all received your annual membership renewal invoices. Thanks to our members for approving an increase in dues for the coming year. **Please make sure to send in your payments by June 1st.**

Update on our efforts to begin building a reserve fund to cover ongoing maintenance and repairs: Our fund is currently at approximately \$25,000. This includes \$11,000 that was being held in our savings account as well as a recent transfer of \$14,000 from checking to savings. The \$14,000 transfer represents the average monthly surplus (i.e., over normal operating expenses) in the checking account over a 10-month period. We plan to continue building this reserve with the net amount of the dues increase payments received, as well as any monthly surpluses going forward.

Further to these efforts, the Board, on recommendation from the Capital Funding Committee, has agreed to hire a company specializing in the preparation of reserve studies for various types of organizations. We have solicited proposals from a handful of companies, and have tentatively approved a proposal from Association Reserves, based in San Francisco. We are in the process of setting up a time for a representative from Association Reserves to meet with the Board to answer questions.

In the meantime our dedicated Facilities Guy, Mark Hannon, has been hard at work addressing certain issues which were deemed to be of immediate need:

In response to concerns about the looming possibility and large expense of having to replace our aging septic system, Mark arranged for Wine Country Septic to pump out our septic system, provide a Findings Report and also install a riser to allow easier access going forward. The Findings Report documented that the septic tank is in good condition. This work was done in April at a total cost of \$1,985. Going forward, we plan to schedule regular pumping of the system, approximately every five years.

Have you ever been at one of our social functions at the Rec, only to have the circuits go out when one too many appliances was plugged in? This has happened numerous times due to an inadequacy in the capacity of the electrical circuit feeding the plug. Mark met with Schafer Electric at the Rec to analyze the electrical situation, and it was recommended that we install three new 20-amp circuits (to supplement one existing 15-amp circuit). The new plugs are white and marked with 20A, to differentiate them from the existing dark plugs. There is one new 4 plug socket above the sink, also another 4 plug circuit under the cabinets, and a new 20A 2 plug circuit on the wall to the right of the cabinets where we typically have a table for hot plates during events. Please choose the new plugs for your hot plate needs! The electrical work was also done in April at a cost of \$1,605.

Since the last newsletter, we've had two very well attended events: Our Spring Brunch/Egg Hunt drew about 70 people – possibly a record attendance! The weather cooperated, the children loved the Bunny, the egg hunt was a blast, and the food plentiful and delicious!



The Easter Bunny and Easter Egg hunters

Our Spring work day on May 5th was also a success – many people contributed their time and energy to organizing and beautifying the Rec just in time for summer. Some of the tasks completed were: staining the bocce benches, laying gravel around the path, lots of weed

whacking, rodent proofing, organizing cabinets, pulling out the umbrellas and lounge chairs, and cleaning the patio tables and chairs. Thanks to all who participated!

Special thanks to Waldron Landscaping, which donated the gravel for the pathway (a \$200 value) as well as the use of their truck.

After the work was done, and to celebrate the Cinco de Mayo, everyone enjoyed a delicious Mexican lunch from La Taqueria Hacienda.

THE WAY IT WAS:

You think we're having fun now.....here is a recollection from Wayne and Celia Schake about an event that took place in the late 60s-early 70s:

There was a popular event at the Rec Area well before the baseball field was constructed (probably the mid-to-late seventies). During the worst part of the winter rainy season, the "MUD BOWL" began. When the field was already soaked with winter rain, more water was added to make the field a soggy mess. A team of adults faced off against a team of kids in a game of touch football. Cheerleaders, including Millie Merle, wowed the spectators. The game was refereed by Wayne Schake who dressed in a totally white outfit. Unfortunately, the mud-covered players refused to permit the referee to maintain his pristine condition because they insisted on dragging him through the mud at game's end. (Additional photos of this phenomenon are posted at the Rec!)



Look at the vertical on those jumps!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Be sure to mark your calendars now so you don't miss out on more fun!

Saturday, June 2	Pool Opening Party
Saturday, July 28	DANA/DARA Community Picnic
Sunday, October 7	Oktoberfest
Sunday, October 21	DARA Annual Meeting
Saturday, December 8	Holiday Party

We hope that many of you will volunteer to assist with these fun events – the more participation, the better!

As you know, The Rec is available to members for rental for private events. With the spring/summer seasons upon us, we already have numerous events lined up. You can always check our calendar located on the Diamond A website. <http://www.diamondasonoma.com> Please keep in mind that, even if a private event is happening, The Rec is still open to all members.

Finally, please contact any of our Rec Board members if you have comments, suggestions, or questions:

Carleen Faybusovich	President	onztown@yahoo.com
Dave Waldron	Vice-Pres.	davidwaldron1949@gmail.com
Melissa Vaio	Treasurer	melissavaio@att.net
Emilie Eliason	Secretary	epeliason@yahoo.com
Marcie Waldron	Social Activities	marcieStars@sbcglobal.net
Evie Duncan	Rec Rentals	evie@dcdco.com
Mark Hannon	Facilities	14hannon@gmail.com