



DIAMOND A REC CENTER NEWSLETTER

July - September, 2019

CAR SHOW**DARA ANNUAL MEETING**** REC UPGRADE NEWS**

Dear Rec Members:

It's been a lovely summer so far, and we anticipate several more weeks of good pool weather – enjoy! To make sure that all members and guests may have a fun and safe experience, please follow the pool rules, which are posted on the Diamond A website, as well as on a signboard near the pool.



Bart & Teri Hansen and Val & Carleen Faybusovich enjoying the pool on a hot August afternoon.

COLLECTORS' CAR SHOW ON THE GREEN – FINAL CALL!

This biennial event is coming up **this Saturday, August 31st, 11:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.** There's still time to sign up for a fun day of good food, live music and over 45 car entries; the entrance fee is \$25 per person, and \$10 for children ages 7 – 12. There will also be a raffle and a silent auction. Please contact Evie Duncan (evie@dcdco.com) to sign up, or you can buy a ticket at the door. Bring your friends and families!

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED – If you can help, Shirley Angeloni would be very pleased to hear from you (angeloni@vom.com). We need volunteers on Friday, August 30 at 6:00 p.m. for pre-show set-up (placing tables and chairs, etc.) Help is also needed on Saturday, August 31 at 7:30 a.m. for final set-up.

This event has traditionally been The Rec's biggest fundraiser, so we hope to see all of you there!



BOARD PROJECTS UPDATE

Your Rec Board has been hard at work on a number of projects – Rec upgrades, social events, and maintenance of the facility.

Upgrades to The Rec Facility

As a “teaser” for more to come, we have replaced the two plastic trash containers outside of the clubhouse with sleeker, more modern, stainless steel ones, complete with “Recycle” and “Trash” stickers. Don’t they add “a certain something” to our look?



Our new “cutting edge” trash cans.

On a more serious note, our Facilities Guy, Mark Hannon, has been interviewing various contractors and working to obtain bids for the replacement of the gate/door to the pool area, the resurfacing of the pool deck and the pool itself, and the replacement of the sliding glass doors. In today’s environment, many contractors don’t have time to even take a look at the projects, or think they are too small to be worthwhile. Nonetheless, Mark has spoken to several contractors already, and if things work out, we would like to get these projects underway by year end. We will keep you posted.

If you have referrals for contractors for these projects, please contact Mark! (14hannon@gmail.com)

We’d like to thank Jim Gade and Mark Pierce for offering their expertise and helpful suggestions to Mark as he works through this process. Thanks, guys!

Replacement of Gate to Pool Area

The primary driver to replace the gate is to have the ability to exit the pool area without having to unlock the gate in an emergency. Locking an exit gate from the inside is not an acceptable practice. It is required that people be able to directly exit without having to unlock the exit in emergency situations.

The new gate would have a lever handle on the inside, spring closing hinges, and be configured so it would not be possible to reach through from the outside and operate the lever handle. We are also trying to modernize our look, including possibly incorporating the Rec logo. After all, the gate helps form the first impression of The Rec.

Also, we find people blocking the gate open consistently, even though this is against the pool rules and unsafe. Leaving the gate unlocked allows unsupervised persons, especially children, to enter and perhaps be injured, especially in the pool. There have been cases where the gate has been left open when no one is at the pool. While it is acceptable to leave the gate open during Rec events, it is unsafe to leave it open at other times. With the new lever handle and a better closure system, we feel members would be more inclined to follow the rules.

We have not finalized the design of the new gate, but architect and member Mark Pierce is working with fabricators to come up with an attractive, functional design that meets our needs and budget.

Unanticipated Pests

In the meantime, we had an unexpected turn of events when one contractor pointed out that we have a termite problem on the outside of the clubhouse. Or, maybe it's just woodpeckers! Either way, Mark Hannon is making arrangements to have the wood panel removed and if needed, to hire an exterminator to come in and deal with the termites. This is a perfect example of the kind of "unanticipated expenses" we were concerned about, and for which we were promoting the need for a reserve account. We appreciate your patience and support as we address this and other repair issues.



Is it termites? Or woodpeckers hiding their acorns?

Fire Mitigation Efforts

Earlier this summer, The Rec received a notice from Sonoma Valley Fire & Rescue Authority, informing us that we had several areas around the facility that were wildfire hazards and needed correction. The biggest items were the juniper bushes just in front of the clubhouse, and vegetation around the propane tank. Once again, the Waldron & Schake team came to our rescue, along with additional volunteers Dave Duncan, Ron Matteson and Cameron Morris. Many, many hours were spent removing the juniper and other items, chopping up deadwood and arranging for hauling. Although the front of The Rec currently looks a bit barren, Dave Waldron has a plan for replanting, and promises to have it finished before our 50th anniversary party.



Replanting coming soon!

There is always more trimming work to be done, and we welcome anyone who would like to volunteer some time to help out.

And speaking of fire season, the Emergency Preparedness Committee and our newly-formed Fire Safe Council will have an information table at the Car Show. Brochures and information about defensible space, NOAA weather radios, SoCo Alerts, and more will be available. For additional excitement, the Type 6 engine from Mayacamas will be on display so you can see first-hand the type of engine we're hoping to have at Station 4 here in Diamond 'A'.

Did You Know?

The Rec has long had two fire extinguishers – one is located inside the clubhouse near the sink and the other is on the outside wall between the restrooms. We have now purchased a third extinguisher, and it will be located in a cabinet next to the charcoal grills. Please familiarize yourself with where they are and how to use them so that in case of emergency you'll know what to do.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS – August 2019

Please welcome our newest Rec members :

Anne Berke & Jerry Cmehil - August 2019

Andrew and Nadia Maudsley - August 2019

Zac and Nadia Maufe - August 2019

SOCIAL EVENTS

Below is the list of the remaining 2019 Social Events we have scheduled. Please mark your calendars!

Car Show Fundraiser	Saturday, August 31
DARA Annual Meeting/ Election	Sunday, September 29
Golden Gala Under the Stars	Saturday, October 19
Fall Work Day	Saturday, October 26
Holiday Party	Saturday, December 7

DARA Annual Meeting

The annual DARA meeting will take place on Sunday morning, September 29. Plan on brunch first and then the meeting. We hope many of you will plan to attend so that we can update you in more detail about our finances, projects, and additional matters. More information to be sent out later.

“Golden Gala Under the Stars”

We will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the founding of our beloved Rec Center at a “gala” event on Saturday, October 19th from 6:00 – 10:00 p.m. Plan on a catered event (“heavy hors d’oeuvres”) with a DJ providing music for mingling and dancing, as well as a presentation honoring our Rec members current and past. Wear your party finest! You should have received a “Save the Date” notice recently; look for the invitations in your mailboxes around the first week of September. We are also inviting former Rec members, so if you can suggest any names/addresses/e-mails of people we may have missed that you think might want to attend, please contact Evie Duncan.

IMPORTANT : We would like to collect any photos or other memorabilia you may have from the past 50 years of living in Diamond A. We would like to see photos of past events, former and current neighbors, and anything else reflecting fun times at The Rec. Among these, we hope someone out there has photos of the early construction of the neighborhood. We need to start collecting these as soon as possible. Please put your items in a large envelope with your name on the front, and if possible, your name on the backs of the items. Please deliver the envelopes to Evie Duncan at 4032 Grove Street – or, if you’d prefer, she will be happy to come pick them up from you.

We Welcome Your Feedback

As always, if you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact any of the current Board members:

Evie Duncan	President	evie@dcdco.com
Mark Hannon	Vice-Pres.	14hannon@gmail.com
Cameron Morris	Treasurer	cam@bcmholdings.com
Brigitte Mullin	Secretary	brigittekullin@gmail.com
Marcie Waldron	Social Activities	marcieStars@sbcglobal.net
Cheryl Hannon	Membership	c_hannon@icloud.com
Janet Nusbaum	At Large	janetnusbaum@gmail.com
	& Rec Rentals	