

DPOA News & Events



Official Newsletter from Your
Diamante Property Owners Association

Volume IX, Issue 9

September, 2020

Dear Neighbors!

We are receiving a lot of interest from people relocating from out-of-state who want to live in the Diamante neighborhood. This interest has never been greater with many of them moving to the Village from a private club atmosphere and wanting to continue that experience. We need to capitalize on this, and, as a result, the DPOA is taking on two projects to enhance their experience. First, we are partnering with the Diamante Members Club (DMC) to clear lots to make them more visually appealing. David Dolstein, who is heading up our end of this project, offers more information in the Maintenance article on page 3 of this newsletter. In addition, we have initiated an outdoor lighting project to light up the front of the clubhouse, as well as add some landscape lighting in the back of the clubhouse. For those of you who come by the Club for dinner, the Club may appear deserted, especially in the Fall and Winter seasons.

Continued on page 2



Talking Points

inside this issue

- 2 Treasurer's Report as of September, 2020
- 2 Update: Calico Pumpkin Fundraiser
- 3 Maintenance—Our Existing and Future Residents Have Spoken!
- 4 Meet Your Neighbors! Doug Zook and Jon Lilley
- 5 History of our Country's Flags
- 6 DPOA Board of Directors
- 6 Did You Know?



Dear Neighbors! continued from page 1

Dennis Riordan is leading this project and doing a terrific job. Both of these projects will make our neighborhood and Club more attractive and stronger going forward.

On a continuing project, Heidi, our Neighborhood Watch committee chair, still has not received much of a response from her plea for Neighborhood Watch block captains. Please consider giving her a call and volunteering.

As you may have noticed, Arkansas now sits at number 9 in the country for the number of coronavirus cases. Wearing masks and maintaining social distancing remain paramount guidelines. ♦

—Tom Ellers, DPOA President



Treasurer's Report

as of September 9, 2020

Membership Count: 212

Representing 214 Properties

Fund Balances

Funds available for use:

\$18,955.71

Reserve (emergency fund):

\$7,500.00

**ALICE
HINCKLEY**



Our Calico Pumpkin Fundraiser Sale offers our residents the opportunity to clear out their garages or attics by either donating items or by purchasing a table, selling their items, and keeping the money. Although the Fall Calico Pumpkin Sale had to be canceled this year, we have rented a larger storage unit and now have room for all of your unwanted "stuff." We are accepting donations now. ♦

—Heidi Hilbert

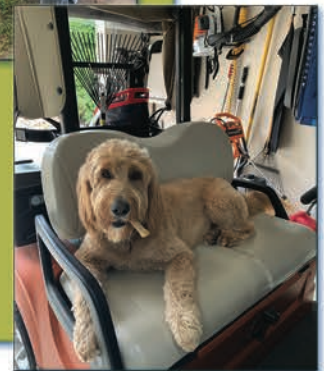
The DPOA News & Events newsletter is published monthly for active members of the Diamante Property Owners Association. If you have questions, need information, or would like to submit an article of interest, please contact your editor, Dana Peick, or one of your DPOA Board Members.

Maintenance

Our Existing and Future Residents Have Spoken!!

Beautifying One Lot at a Time!

As announced in Tom Eller's "Dear Neighbors!" message, the DPOA has partnered with the DMC to clear lots to make them more appealing to people who are relocating from out of state. Many have expressed an interest in belonging to a private club and living in the Diamante neighborhood. Earlier this month, David Dolstein and Dennis Riordan conducted a trial run using the Kubota tractor to load brush on a trailer. The intent was to minimize the physical labor and still get the lots cleared. Using the Kubota tractor, David loaded the brush on three trailers, which were pulled by Jim Bodge, Bob Walker, and Dennis Riordan. The brush was then taken to the burn pile behind the maintenance area. Additional volunteers included Tom Ellers, Richard Carlson, and Neil Phelan...not to mention Danny with his dog bone ready to go. Tom cut some of the larger logs, which helped with the loading process, and Richard and Neil assisted the drivers with the unloading process. This month's goal was to finish clearing the first two lots, and this goal was met! ♦



Maintaining the Beauty of Diamante

As reported in earlier newsletters, a plan for picking up limbs and other discarded items continues to put a shine on the Diamante

Boulevard entrance. Rather than organizing volunteers, residents have been encouraged to stop as they arrive and depart our neighborhood to throw a limb or two in the adjacent woods or put a piece of trash in any container. Recently, John Sutey was observed carrying enough wood to fuel a camp fire. To everyone who is helping, "Thank you! Country Club Drive looks great!" ♦



MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

DOUG ZOOK AND JON LILLEY

In May of 2020, Doug and Jon purchased their home in the Diamante neighborhood after visiting several times during the last 10 years. They looked at several other destinations, including Florida, California, Hawaii, St. Thomas, and St. Martin. However, something about the natural beauty of the Village kept drawing them back. During the COVID pandemic, Jon, an avid online real estate researcher, found a house online, only to find that it sold in 1 day. Jon and the realtor agreed to look at some other options in the Village during the following weekend. Upon arriving for the showings on a cold Saturday in March, they soon learned that the original house Jon had inquired about in Diamante was going back on the market because the deal had fallen through. Once inside, they instantly knew that this was their future home, and Doug's dream shop sealed the deal.

Jon has been in public education for over 30 years as a teacher, counselor, principal, and as the Director of Instruction for incarcerated students with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice system. He holds Masters Degrees in Business, Counseling, and Education Administration from Texas A&M University.

His daughter, Jacey, is a sophomore Education major at Baylor University, and she loves coming to spend time in the Village and especially spending time on Lake Balboa.

For 25 years, Doug was the Director of the Forest Heritage Center Museum, which is located in Southeastern Oklahoma. Doug is also a master woodturner. Woodturning is the art of using the wood lathe with hand-held tools to create a variety of forms (see samples below). One of Doug's highlights includes turning a piece of the survivor elm tree from the Oklahoma City Memorial and presenting it to President Clinton. Doug's woodturnings have been highlighted in many publications and showcased in collections and exhibits all over the country, as well as displayed around their Diamante home. ♦



"We have already met some of the most incredible Diamante neighbors. The first question everyone asks is, 'What are you going to do in that huge shop?'" Doug responds, "I hope to share my love of woodturning with our Diamante friends and neighbors."

**THIS ARTICLE CONTINUES TO ADD
TO THE HISTORY OF OUR COUNTRY'S FLAGS**

Flags of the Union During the Civil War

The United States of America went through four different flags during the Civil War—the **33-Star Flag**, **34-Star Flag**, **35-Star Flag**, and **36-Star Flag**. The 33-star flag, created in 1859 after the admission of Oregon into the United States

of America, was the original flag used during the attack on Fort Sumter. On July 4, 1861, the 34-star flag became the official flag of the United States of America to honor the admission of Kansas as a state. In June, 1863, a 35th star was

added to the United States flag after Virginians, who wished to remain part of the Union, created their own state of West Virginia. In 1865, the admission of Nevada to the United States led to the creation of the 36-star flag. ♦

33-Star Flag



34-Star Flag



35-Star Flag



36-Star Flag



Flags of the Confederacy

The first flag associated with the Confederacy was known as the **Bonnie Blue Flag**, which was flown at the convention, during which Mississippi voted to join South Carolina in secession. The Bonnie Blue Flag was blue with a single star in the middle to represent South Carolina, although it came to symbolize a united South. However, the Bonnie Blue Flag was never officially adopted as the national flag. In March, 1861, the Confederate government

decided on the **First National Flag**, or the “Stars and Bars” flag as it was sometimes called. It was remarkably similar to the American flag; it had three red and white stripes and a blue canton, featuring a star for each state of the Confederacy. Because the First National Flag was too similar to the Union Flag, which caused confusion in battle, the **Second National Flag** was adopted in May, 1863. The new flag featured the famous battle flag of the Army

of Northern Virginia in the top left corner with a white field. Similar to the First National Flag, the Second National Flag, or the “Stainless Banner” flag, was also easily misidentified. When the wind was calm and the flag hung limp on its staff, it was difficult to distinguish it from a white flag of truce. In response, a **Third National Flag** was created in March, 1865, featuring a red stripe on the right side of the field to represent fortitude and courage. ♦ **—Dennis Riordan**

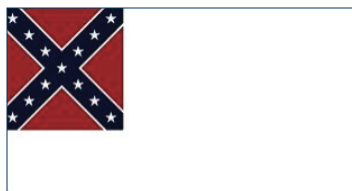
Bonnie Blue Flag



First National Flag



Second National Flag



Third National Flag



DPOA Board

Tom Ellers

President
ellerst@comcast.net

Bob Walker

Vice President
whataboutbob734012001@yahoo.com

Paul Reinsch

Secretary
paulreinsch51@gmail.com

Alice Hinckley

Treasurer
alicehinckley@aol.com

David Dolstein

Maintenance
ddolstein@gmail.com

Heidi Hilbert

Neighborhood Crime Watch
 Annual DPOA Picnic
 Calico Pumpkin Fundraiser
hhilbert@eicc.edu

Dana Peick

Newsletter
peickgc@gmail.com

Dennis Riordan

Flags
dennisriordan47@gmail.com

Phil Tyree

Exterior Lights
 Christmas Decor
k_tyree@yahoo.com



From its beginning in June of 1995, golf has been an integral part of Diamante Golf and Country Club...and why not? One look at our beautiful golf course will tell you why! However, it did not take long before dining and social functions were added to the Diamante calendar. The following relatively unknown facts and highlights provide a look back at some of Diamante's first months of operation. Happy reading!

- 1** When *Golf Digest* released its list of the best new courses in America in 1995, Diamante finished #4. Ours was the highest-ranked new course in the south; the three courses that ranked higher than Diamante were located in the northern and eastern parts of the country.
- 2** In September of 1995, Diamante competed in Club Corp's Associate Team Championship held in Pinehurst, North Carolina. Members Bob Oblinger, John Stewart, and John and Rebecca Whelan, along with Head Golf Professional, Don Lackey, played Pinehurst courses 2, 4, 5, and 7 in a five-person, elimination scramble format. They shot 25 under par and tied for 41st!
- 3** Special dining nights, such as Lobster Night, Prime Rib Night, Mexican Buffet, Gourmet Pasta Night, Octoberfest, and Christmas in the Caribbean, peppered the Diamante calendar.
- 4** Three golfing events—the Ladies', Men's, and Couples' Championship tournaments, respectively, were held on the first three Sundays in December. Who needs warm weather when you are playing the #4 ranked new course in the country?
- 5** Speaking of Diamante's inaugural tournament champions: Men's Gross Winner—Bob Oblinger; Men's Net Winner—Barry Jacobsen; Ladies' Gross Winner—Robin Radez; Ladies' Net Winner—Janet Fulk; Couples' Gross Winner—John and Jeane Stewart; Couples' Net Winner—Robert and Janet Fulk
- 6** If you were looking for bridge players, Diamante had them! Bill and Donna Yester hosted Diamante's first bridge party on January 16, 1996. Lunch preceded a fun-filled afternoon of cards.
- 7** Did someone say party? Well, Diamante's first Cart Barn Dance was held in March of 1996. Members wore casual attire and, after dinner, danced to the country sounds of the Wendell Craig Band. ♦ —**Jeanne Godbold**

