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July 2011

#### **FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK (Jeff Shimmin)**

Our Desert Aire annual meeting was held on June 25<sup>th</sup>. Don Sciascia, Mark Benjamin and I were elected to serve three year terms on the Board. The 2011/2012 budget was approved by 81% and the four changes to the Covenants and By-Laws were also approved.

Three new motions were proposed by DAOA members and approved by a vote of those attending the annual meeting. These three motions will appear on next year's ballot. Two of the motions would provide the membership the opportunity to vote on large Capital expenditures and on any Special Assessments proposed by the Board. The third motion is to initiate a Special Assessment to pay for fencing the entire park including a card activated gate.

Following the annual meeting the Board of Director's met to select officers for this year. Cheryl Wolff will be returning as Vice-President, Richard Kummer remains Secretary, Gary Varney is the new Treasurer and I will be back as your President.

There are going to be several working groups formed over the next several months. These groups will be identifying the options available to us concerning the future of the community Pool and Day Lodge, the Fitness Center and maintenance of the new Marina/River Park. If you have any thoughts or would like to participate contact the Office or a Board member.

*We encourage all members to attend your Board Meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month beginning at 4:00 PM (No meeting in January).*

**Did You Know?**

Even Antarctica has an area code. It's 672.

#### **FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT (James R. Curdy, Jr.)**

I look forward to working with the new committees on all the exciting new things we have to accomplish over the next 12 months including swimming pool, exercise room and shoreline agreement plan. If you or someone you know is interested in getting involved with any of these please contact our office at 509-932-4839.

#### **BUSINESS OFFICE**

Annual meeting attendance was down with only 47 attending (4%) and just 394 ballots turned in of 1209 sent.

Annual billing sent out totaled \$483,363 and as of July 6th we had received \$13,610 in payments.

#### **REMINDERS**

Owners Cards are only sent out when annual dues are paid in full!

#### **PARK**

#### **REMINDER**

**FIREWORKS** are only legal in Desert Aire the evening of the 4<sup>th</sup> and **only** in the Park Parking Lot!

I want to thank all the volunteers from both the Citizens Patrol and the Fire Department that help with this event. Great Job, much appreciated. I was also impressed with the overwhelming crowd size this year and the fact that everyone did a good job acting sensibly.



**Our great new Tennis Courts**

The new Tennis Courts are complete so there is some information everyone needs to know.

To ensure maximum satisfaction by all there are some rules written by the committee and posted on the court gates.

1. There are now Keypad Locks on the gates and owners get the combination in the Proshop.
2. There is a mandatory sign-in sheet that all users must complete prior to using each day.
3. The Proshop will have a few tennis and pickle ball supplies for purchase and may have some rental racquets in the future.
4. Guests need to pay at the Proshop and sign in at the courts like members.

### RIVER PARK

**Reminder:** as of January 2011 all boat operators thirty-five years old and younger must have the Mandatory Boating Safety Education Card. More info is available at: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/boating/boatered>

The high water associated with PUD's test of Priest Rapids dam made the shoreline quite different including the boat ramps. See photo below.



### GOLF COURSE

Over seeding greens this time of year is extremely difficult so we appreciate everyone's patience's as we go through this difficult process. What it requires is to keep the seed moist throughout the day just as if you were establishing a new lawn. This must be done in order to maintain the quality of greens we have come to enjoy

At the last golf cart inspection 54 carts were issued permits putting the total at 75 licensed for the zone carts. Going forward to get your cart inspected you have 2 options; 1) call the sheriff in Ephrata and schedule an appointment in Ephrata which you will have to take your cart there. Or 2) call Pollywogs and get on their list giving your name number and other pertinent information. Pollywogs will be scheduling

various inspection dates as demand dictates, however they must have a minimum of 4 carts to request a date. The day of inspection YOU must have filled out the form with all information completed which the inspector will sign off on. After that YOU must mail in the form with payment to receive your permit. For more info call: 509-932-5708

**Quick Fact;** Syringing a green? Syringing is the process of spraying a light cover of water on a green during hot weather to reduce the temperature of the turf minimizing stress.

### REMINDER

Waste oil can be dropped off anytime the maintenance facility is open M-F 7-3 at 503 Clubhouse Way W.

If you have any questions, thoughts, ideas or concerns feel free to contact me at: 504 Clubhouse Way W or 509-932-4839 or [curdy@desertaire.org](mailto:curdy@desertaire.org)

### ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

Granted: 6 manufactured homes, 1 more than last year; 9 stick-built homes, 5 more than last year; 9 sheds, 5 more than last year; 19 garages, 11 more than last year; 44 miscellaneous, 2 less than last year; miscellaneous includes fences, decks, sun covers, gazebos, swimming pools, retaining walls, etc.

Besides granting architectural building requests, the committee also issues correction notices and works with the Parks & Greenbelt Committee to grant variances for greenbelt use. This past year committee members worked diligently to enforce the CC&Rs and Architectural Regulations. We continue to catch up with past violations. The committee continues to enforce the regulations because the owners expect us to do that.

Some of the areas that homeowners are asking the committee to look into are: a way to start legal action against owners who refuse to correct violations; give the committee the authority for assessing owners that refuse to comply; hire a Code Inspector; ask owners to reassess outdoor lighting/look at a Dark Skies Ordinance.

Thank you to committee members Diane Hanson, Rich Kummer, Bill McCaffrey, Cliff Naser, Carmen Tribble and staff member Chris Guillen. Cheryl Wolff, Chair.

### CHANGE OF MEETING DAY

The Architecture Committee has changed its meeting day. Beginning Thursday, July 14, 2011, the Architecture Committee will meet the Second and Fourth Thursdays of each month, at 3:00 p.m. in the Desert Aire Office conference room.

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## Desert Aire Airport News – David Strand

### Fly-in Breakfast

Rain showers in the local area and low clouds over the mountains limited pilots from attending this year's breakfast, but it did little to dampen the spirits of our community support. This year I would have to say the people of Desert Aire and Mattawa are the heroes. If you stood in the rain waiting for breakfast, and didn't complain, you rock. Thanks to everyone who attended.

This year we fed 346 people plus volunteers, had 5 airplanes fly-in plus the MedStar Pilatus PC-12, and collected \$2163 and cleared \$1613. The money will be used to maintain the airport and bribe the local politicians.

We used 2 cases of pancake mix, 5 1/2 boxes of sausage, 4 gallons syrup, 75 cartons of milk, 6 sleeves of coffee cups, 4 packets of napkins, 55 dozen eggs, 16 oz Pam for grill, 1 box Promise (margarine/butter), 20 cartons of OJ, 2 bags ice for OJ, 1 big coffee can, and 365 paper plates, plastic forks and knives. Whew, can you believe somebody counted all those napkins?

One of our fly-in pilots was a young couple from Bellingham. They were so excited to attend our event that they flew in on Friday afternoon and camped in the marina park. I asked them "Did you and your wife enjoy the camping?" "Yes, very much, aaah except for the gun fire". I guess they don't have cherries in Bellingham.

### The annual Sagebrush Senior Center Golf Tournament and Auction will be held on Friday, July 29th.

The day will start with a continental breakfast for the golfers. There is still room in the tournament so sign up at the Golf Course. After the tournament, lunch will be served at the Senior Center for a cost of \$8.00. If you aren't playing golf, but would like to come and have lunch, please call Nancy Bonander at 932-5183 or e-mail her at [nebonander@embarqmail.com](mailto:nebonander@embarqmail.com). Lunch will begin at 1:00 p.m. (or as soon as the golfers are done). Lunch will be followed immediately by the Auction. There will be live auctioned items, as well as silent auction items. This is the main fund raiser for the senior center. Come and support our wonderful community center.

I would like to thank all those who volunteered their time to support the Airport at this year's Fly-In. What I really mean to say is thanks for getting up at 5:00 A.M. on Saturday morning.

Karen & Mike Mulcahy  
Ralph Herth  
Walt Hawkins  
Art Barron  
Dave Kuchera  
Ruth & Cliff Naser  
Marji & Ray Wells  
Pat & Larry Handberg  
Karen & Jim Court

Bob Kibler  
Bob Hines  
Allen & Sheryl Michler  
Mike Wolff  
Chuck Fuller  
Jerry Main  
Sue & Ken Baker  
Steve Miller  
And my darling wife,  
Linda

A special thanks again this year to Gordie and Eileen Harang for the use of their hangar, grills, propane, and all the rest of the stuff we used. I can't imagine what we'd do without them.  
See you all next year.

### Attention Desert Aire Residents

Aircraft Owners & Pilots Admin (AOPA) in conjunction with the Transportation Security Admin. (TSA) wish to remind residents that unauthorized personnel are not allowed on Runways, Taxiways, or Aircraft Movement areas. If you as a resident observe any unauthorized or suspicious activities please notify airport management @ 509-932-5642 or call 866/GA-SECURE.

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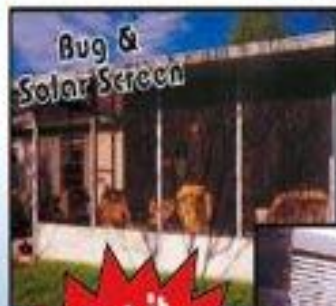
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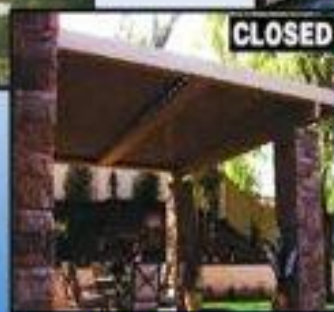
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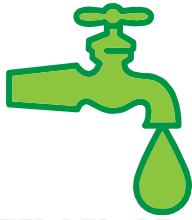
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## **WATERMASTER REPORT – Chris Guillen**

The Water Department has been changing out old meters; these meters are ten years old and have 500,000 cubic ft on the register. 500,000 cubic feet is 3,740,000 gallons and over time the parts in the meters will not read all the water passing through. All the water that is not accounted for goes on our unaccounted for water and the Department of Health wants all water systems to be under 10%. Desert Aire was at 9.8% last year and we have a 12.2% average over the last 3 years.

The Water Department has been testing double check valves; so far I have only found one that needed some repair. The soft rubber parts of the check valves break down and need to be replaced. This is due to the springs in the valve pushing on the seats.

The water/utilities committee is still looking for more volunteers. This committee only meets four times a year and would like more opinions on problems as they arise.

The pool has had its yearly inspection by Grant County Department of Health and had no problems. The new handrail is working out very well and so far there has been no major problem with the pump room equipment this year. Starting the 24<sup>th</sup> of August the pool will be running limited hours, it will be closed on the weekday and open Friday thru Sunday normal hours.

Just as a reminder the new water policies, effective August 1<sup>st</sup> 2009 states members are not to access the meter boxes in any way or they will be subject to the enforcement mechanisms of the policy.

All samples taken have been good. We are currently at 1107 connections to the water system. The total year to date gallons produced for the overall domestic water system is 96,568,588.

### **Conservation Tip**

Use both sides of the sink when washing dishes by hand. Use one side to wash and the other side to rinse. Do not wash dishes under a running faucet.

## **Tidbits**

During his or her lifetime, the average human will grow 590 miles of hair.

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## **PRO SHOP NEWS – Don Tracy, PGA Professional**



The weather has finally turned the corner. Temperatures are back to normal for the first time this year. Our Greens Fees from January 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup> where \$97,192.00 compared to \$91,438.00 over the same period in 2010. We are doing very well compared to most of the courses in the Northwest which are down 10% over the same period. The course is in excellent condition. Make sure to thank Rochelle and the crew for the outstanding job they are doing.

Many golfing events are coming up shortly. Our July Junior Camp is July 12<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup>, we host the

Mid-Columbia Senior Exchange on July 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM, the Moose Drool 3-Person Scramble is July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8:00 AM, the Sagebrush Senior Scramble is July 29<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 AM, the Senior Exchange at Moses Pointe is August 8:00 AM and Hot Desert Nights Scramble is August 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 AM. My next Golf Clinic will be Friday July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:00 PM and the subject will be chipping and pitching. My goal is to help you improve your game and enjoy it more.

The Pro Shop inventory is growing daily. It is getting hard to get around all the new goods we have. Several members have event credit from last year and we are hoping this new inventory will help you use it. As many of you know we match equipment prices you find at Pro Golf Discount, Puetz Golf or other similar outlets. We can't always meet their sale prices, but we will meet their regular every day prices. Be sure to stop by and check out our Men's and Women's apparel, clubs, bags shoes and novelties. Hope to see you soon.

### **DESERT AIRE CITIZENS PATROL**

I would like to thank all of you who helped support the spaghetti feed last month. We will be able to continue the Patrol.

HOME WATCH FORMS will soon be available at the COP Shop in a holder on the door. You will be able to slip the completed form into a mail slot in the door. You also can download a form from the DAOA website and send it to Citizens Patrol, PO Box 1657, Mattawa, WA 99349

Have you been watching your neighbor's home while they have been gone? How about just keeping an eye on the area that you can see out your windows? We need everyone to keep a lookout for anything out of the ordinary that happens in Desert Aire and report it to the Grant County Sheriff's office by calling 911 or toll free 1-888-431-9911.

The DAOA office has a form that you can fill out to have reflective home numbers placed on your lot for \$5.00. A small price for the secure feeling that emergency personnel will be able to find your home quickly.

We have a team of drivers now but we are in need of volunteers to replace those whom have retired. Please call Mike at 932-0822, Walt at 932-2463 or Larry, 932-5183.

Thanks and be safe.  
Mike Wolff,  
President, Desert Aire Citizens Patrol (509) 932-0822

**IMPORTANT DATES:** Board Meeting Schedule: Effective August 2011 through June 2012 board meetings will be held the 2nd Friday of each month at 4:00 P.M., with no meeting scheduled in January. Meetings are held in the lower level of the Multi-Purpose building.

### **BUSINESS OFFICE**

Betty Skinner, Sue Anderson 509-932-4839  
James Curdy, Jr.

### **HOURS OF OPERATION**

Summer\*: Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm  
Winter: Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm  
\*Summer Hours are March thru October

### **MAINTENANCE / GROUNDS**

James Curdy, Jr. – Superintendent 509-932-4466  
Rochelle Detering – Asst. Grounds Superintendent

### **WATER DISTRIBUTION OPERATOR**

Chris Guillen, Watermaster 509-932-5202  
**Water Emergency (After hours)** 509-830-4332  
Swimming Pool 509-932-4896

### **GOLF-PRO SHOP**

Don Tracy – PGA Professional 509-932-4439  
Tom Johnson, Tom Truax,  
Carolyn Holmes, Brian Mullen, Linda Vincent