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Sept. 2011

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

Since the annual DAOA Owners meeting we have added another Board member. Paul Meredith has joined the Board filling the last available vacancy. Paul's term will run through June 2013. We appreciate his desire to join the Board and volunteer his time to help the community.

Minutes of the 2011 Annual Owners meeting are now available on our Desert Aire web site. You may also pick up a copy at the office

Several working groups are being formed to identify 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.

**Due to a resignation from the DAOA Board of Directors we have an open position. If you are interested in filling this position please submit a personal resume of 150 words or less to the DAOA Office by October 7. The Board of Directors meeting is on the Second Friday of each month, at 4:00 p.m., except for January, in the basement of the Multipurpose Building.**

The DAOA Board thanks Larry Bonander for his years of service and the time he has given to our community by serving on the Board of Directors.

#### **FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT (James Curdy)**

##### **BUSINESS OFFICE**

The office will switch to winter hours (8-4:30) beginning November 7<sup>th</sup>.

It seems that all of our amenities were busy over the holiday weekend including the airport. I don't think I've seen that many planes here at one time except for the fly in breakfast.

##### **A HEADS UP**

2011 was good summer with virtually no burglaries; however, as we go into winter and people aren't around so much, it is time to start thinking about neighbors looking out for neighbors. What got me thinking about this already was learning that over the holiday weekend an airplane parked in the tie down area had 10 gallons of fuel stolen from one of its wing tanks. While this is a first, we definitely don't want it to continue.

##### **PARKS**

It is times like these busy weekends that we can truly appreciate the size of our facilities.



##### **RIVER FACILITY**

The river campground was extremely busy over the holiday weekend with income levels virtually identical to last year. It's good to see usage increasing again this year. One can only imagine how busy this place will become once the improvements are made.



### EXERCISE ROOM

A new commercial treadmill has been added and it sounds like most think it is a great machine.

Reminder:

On January 16<sup>th</sup> we will be changing the combination to this facility. Members will again be given the combination when they renew their annual membership.

### VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED

We are still looking for members who are interested in helping plan for the future needs of our Swimming Pool/Exercise Room/Meeting Room Facility. Please contact the business office at 509-932-4839.

### MAINTENANCE

REMINDER: Waste oil is wanted to heat the shop during winter months. Just drop it off anytime we're open. Mon.-Fri. 7-3 at: 503 Clubhouse Way W.

### GOLF COURSE

The golf course handled 803 rounds over the Labor Day weekend, just 64 rounds down from 2010. We are on track to finish this season 'based on rounds played' as our fourth best ever.

A big thank you to Mike Wolff, Mike Mulcahy, Doug Jepson and other men's club volunteers who installed the new patio and tables next to the Snack Shack and tennis courts.

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

Since the July Newsletter, the Committee has approved 1 manufactured home, 1 stick-built home, 1 garage, 2 sheds and 14 miscellaneous structures. **Please note that if you plan to build any structure on your lot,**

**you must first apply to the Architecture Committee.**

You may view/print the Architectural Regulations and Request Form at the DAOA website (address below) or you may request a copy from the Office.

Below you will find sections of the By-Laws as they pertain to the Architectural Regulations.

**Article 9.07 Architectural Standards:** "The Association has adopted the Declaration and the Architectural Regulations in order to ensure the development of Desert Aire as an attractive community with a high quality of life. The Board of Directors is empowered to implement and enforce the Declaration and Architectural Regulations as the same now are or may hereafter be amended." **In Article 11:** "A lot owner is responsible for all maintenance and repair of all improvements upon his/her lot, and the Association shall have no responsibility therefore, except as otherwise provided in the Declaration. All lot owners, including their occupant families, guests, and tenants, shall have the obligation to comply with these bylaws, the Declaration, and the Architectural Regulations." **In Article 13:** "All notices given pursuant to these bylaws shall be in writing, unless otherwise provided herein, and shall be delivered or mailed. If mailed, the notice shall be sent by U.S. first class mail, with postage prepaid, to the recipient's address of record with the Association or last known address, as the case may be."

### The Restated Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions of the Desert Aire Owners Association,

beginning with Article 2 further describe regulations governed by the Architecture Committee. Please review these documents from time to time and be diligent about following them. You will find all of our Governing Documents on-line at [daoa.org](http://daoa.org) under the Desert Aire Owners Association tab. You may also request a hard copy from the Desert Aire Office at 509-932-4839.

### CHANGE OF MEETING DAY

The Architecture Committee has changed its meeting day. The Architecture Committee now meets the Second and Fourth Thursdays of each month, at 3:00 p.m. in the Desert Aire Office conference room.

### **Found!**

Several sets of keys have been turned into the Desert Aire Office. There is a mixture of car keys and boat trailer keys. If you think they might be yours, phone the office at 509-932-4839 and describe them to the office staff.

# Halloween Costume Party

October 29<sup>th</sup> 8:00 PM  
Come join the fun at

## Sandtrap Restaurant & Lounge



Prizes throughout the nite.

**GET YOUR PICTURE IN THE COFFIN!**

21 and over only!

### Desert Aire Airport News – David Strand

#### Hot Desert Nights

This year's event really showed what a great community we live in. Although we had major equipment failures, everyone was determined to make the best of it. The Mattawa / Desert Aire Lions Club event included a golf tournament, drag race, car show, music and great food. The drag race had 107 race cars and over 700 fans who witnessed the race in almost perfect weather. The airport's share of the gate was \$2780, which will provide us matching funds for future airport aid grants.

Next year we should have the equipment issues corrected and we hope to grow the event even more. Thanks to **David Kuchera, Dan Roden, Barbara Dickson, Mike Haas, Linda Strand, and Ralph Herth** for the help. Also thanks to all who supported the event and see you all next year.

#### Grant County Airport District #1

I'd like to take a moment and remind our community how our airport district works. GCAD#1 is a valid taxing district, just like the Port of Mattawa, and although the statutes allow the district to tax the residents within the district for the upkeep of the airport, we do not exercise that privilege. Other than help with insurance we do not ask the Desert Aire Home Owners Association for funds to support the maintenance or capital improvements on the airport.

The Port of Mattawa has generously contributed to the airport for many years and we greatly appreciate those donations. Thanks to each of the Port Commissioners, past and present, and to the Port's Business Manager.

Most of the funding for the airport district comes from our voluntary assessment plan. The residents of the airport contribute to this plan depending on how they use the airport. We also receive funds from the Washington State Department of Transportation, Aviation Division when grant requests are approved.

The airport has two fund raising events a year, our Fly-In Breakfast and Hot Desert Nights. That's how we fund the airport, so now you know.

#### EMS Heli-Stop and East End Parking Apron

Speaking of grants, last week we submitted a grant request to Grant County for funds to construct an Emergency Medical Support facility on the airport. This will provide our community with a known rendezvous point which MedStar and our Fire District can use in an emergency. We encourage the Grant County Economic Development Council to give serious consideration to this request because it would greatly benefit not only Desert Aire but the surrounding area.

We are all painfully aware of the terrible traffic accidents, farm related accidents and how far we are from a major medical facility. Needless to say, we have given this our best shot. To increase our odds, we have received Letters of Endorsement from **Fire District #8, The Desert Aire Volunteer Fire Department, the City of Mattawa, MedStar NW, the Desert Aire Mall Association, the Port of Mattawa, and Desert Aire Owners Association.** A special thanks to **Rich Kummer** for his help with these endorsements.

Also included in the grant request is a parking area on the east end of the airport for three to four airplanes. This area will be on airport property, approximately behind the Sagebrush Center and will include a pathway with signs that lead to the mall area. Pilots enjoy flying to airports where a restaurant is nearby.

Wish us luck with the grant request, and if you would like to be part of our organization, please join us at our monthly airport meeting. The meeting is held in the Desert Aire multi-purpose building, lower floor, on the second Thursday of each month, at 4:00 PM. Hope to see you there.

#### Attention Desert Aire Residents

Unauthorized personnel are not allowed on Runways, Taxiways, or Aircraft Movement areas. If you observe any unauthorized or suspicious activities please notify airport management @ 509-932-5642 or call 866/GA-SECURE.

**John L. Scott**  
REAL ESTATE

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**WATERMASTER REPORT – Chris Guillen**

The Water Department is in the process of doing hydrant inspections. I have found some hydrants with small problems, like turning too hard or letting water leak when it's fully on. None of these issues are emergencies but they need to be corrected as soon as possible. I am a little under half-way done with the inspections.

The pool had a great season, but now is closed for the season. The pool will reopen next year on the Friday of Memorial Day weekend.

Please remember that the water policy, 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 163,801,363.

**Conservation Tip**

Keep your sprinkler systems in good repair. Fix leaks and adjust the sprinkler heads to eliminate overspray onto paved areas or buildings. Investigate any source of unusual runoff or puddling.

**Fun Facts!**

The Earth gets 100 tons heavier every day due to falling space dust.

A coffee tree yields about one pound of coffee in a year.

Chrysler built B-29's that bombed Japan, Mitsubishi built Zeros that tried to shoot them down. Both companies now build cars in a joint plant called Diamond Star.

It takes eight and a half minutes for light to get from the sun to earth.

**Hands of Ann**  
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- Complete Home Care
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- Fire and Flood Restoration
- Interior Painting

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962 Orchard Drive South  
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509-630-9909



## PRO SHOP NEWS – Don Tracy, PGA Professional



The summer has gone very well for Desert Aire Golf Course. Even though temperatures have been lower than normal, play has increased. Our Greens Fees from January 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup> were \$154,537.00 compared to \$140,465.00 over the same period in 2010. Also, shop sales have increased over the same time frame from \$101,487.00 to \$109,344.00. We continue to do very well, compared to most of the courses in the Northwest, especially considering the economic times.

Many golfing events are coming up this fall. The Six-Pack Tournament is September 16<sup>th</sup>, the Country Club Championships are Saturday and Sunday September 17 & 18<sup>th</sup>, the Senior Exchange at Wildhorse G.C. is September 21<sup>st</sup>, Colockum Ridge Home & Home here on September 28<sup>th</sup>.

Our Annual Frostbite couples Tournament is October 1 & 2<sup>nd</sup> and our Fall Bestball and Chapman is October 15 & 16<sup>th</sup>.

My next Golf Clinic will be Friday September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00 PM and the subject will be curing your slices and hooks.

As you can see we have a packed schedule of events from the middle of September to the middle of October. Come on out and enjoy these events with us and our traditionally beautiful fall weather.

Be sure to check out our Pro Shop inventory this fall. We have new fall merchandise arriving daily and always have specials on selected merchandise throughout the shop. Several members have event credit 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. Hope to see you soon.

## NOTES from YOUR SECRETARY – Richard Kummer

### SAFETY ~ **25 MPH**

In August, we had a FATAL auto accident on Desert Aire Drive. Folks, our roads are not designed nor built for the type of traffic flow that we currently have! Cars, trucks, RVs and boat/camping trailers **were** the norm. Now, add to that mix golf carts, bicycles, joggers, walkers, motorcycles, and we have a mix that requires your best driving skills and absolute attention at all times. Golf carts, pull to the right and **STOP** when emergency vehicles approach. Please do your guests and visitors a big favor and remind them our speed limit is **25 MPH**. We all need to remind ourselves that the “5 over the limit rule” does not work in and/or for Desert Aire. **30 mph is way too fast for us!**

Joggers and walkers, walk on the left side facing traffic, all others obey the rules of the road.

### WHAT MAKES DESERT AIRE WORK?

#### **VOLUNTEERS~VOLUNTEERS~VOLUNTEERS!**

I would not and could not live in Desert Aire without our wonderful volunteer structure. Can you picture this place without; the Citizens Patrol, Fire and EMS service, Sagebrush Senior Center, DAOA Board, all committee members, Cozy Comfort Quilters, Airport Commissioners and staff, food bank and the residents that pick up the roadside litter on their daily walks?? It would not be a pretty picture.

I ask that each of you, full timer, weekender, snowbird, or coasty, please consider ways that you could donate a little time to this community. Some committees only meet quarterly. That could fit in your schedule. Oh, did I mention Hot Desert Nights and the Ronald McDonald House Auction? I know there other groups. I will highlight various groups in future issues of this newsletter.

Speaking about volunteers, Grant county PUD is looking for committee members and feedback regarding the coming shoreline changes.

**The Parks, Marina and Greenbelt Committee need members to serve on a Swimming Pool and Day Lodge renovation committee.**

### DESERT AIRE CITIZENS PATROL

#### YOUR CITIZENS PATROL NEEDS YOU!!!

Please join the **DESERT AIRE CITIZENS PATROL**. We need help and we need it now. Drivers receive 3 gallons of fuel per shift. Call Mike Wolff at 932-0822, Walt Hawkins at 932-2463 or Larry Bonander at 932-

5183. As we enter the fall and winter months a few of our members go south for the winter and we need replacements for them.

#### HOME WATCH FORMS

We have installed a box on the exterior wall of the C.O.P. shop (across Desert Aire Drive from the Shell station) filled with blank HOME WATCH forms and a mail slot in the door to put the completed HOME WATCH forms. You may also mail the completed forms to D.A.C.P., PO Box 1657, Mattawa, WA 99349. Forms are also available on the DAOA website at: <http://www.daoa.org/bulletins.htm>

#### UNIFORM ADDRESS MARKERS

We are having trouble reading some of the home numbers here in Desert Aire. The DAOA office has a form that you can fill out to have reflective home numbers placed on your lot for a fee of \$5.00. This form will also be in the box on the outside wall of our building. This is a small price to pay for the secure feeling that emergency personnel will be able to find your home quickly.

#### GOLF CARTS

Please note that if you have not had your golf cart inspected by the Grant Co. Sheriff's officers and are caught driving on the road, YOU could be fined up to \$250.00. You need to have two mirrors, two seat belts, four amber reflectors on the front and four red reflectors on the back of your cart; also the **driver** must have a valid driver's license.

#### HOME WATCH

Have you been watching your neighbors 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.

#### WALKING SAFELY AT DUSK

When walking at dusk, be aware that drivers may have trouble seeing you if you are wearing dark colored clothing. Please wear light colored clothing, Walk on the left side of the road facing the oncoming traffic and take a flashlight with you.

Thanks and be safe.

Mike Wolff,

President, Desert Aire Citizens Patrol (509) 932-0822

### **Did You Know?**

If you unfolded your brain, it would cover an ironing board.

## **Parks, Marina and Greenbelt Update – Gary Varney**

### **Shoreline:**

Grant County Public Utility District (Grant PUD) is developing plans for management of the shoreline areas adjacent to each of the communities along the reservoirs of the Priest Rapids Hydroelectric Project – Desert Aire, Sunland Estates, and Crescent Bar. Grant PUD approached each of the communities to work in a collaborative effort to develop a plan for the respective areas. Although each community will have different issues, many will be the same and will be dealt with consistently. These lands are for public use. Public access, safety and vegetation management will be guiding principles in the final outcome.

Desert Aire is part of the Priest Rapids Recreation Area Development Plan (PRDP). The area affected in this plan is the Grant PUD land that extends the length of the Desert Aire shoreline, adjacent to Desert Aire homeowners' property. Grant PUD is currently assessing this land to determine future uses. There currently are many violations of the property including yard waste dump sites, unauthorized trails, steps and docks, yards encroaching onto Grant PUD lands, and boat buoys. Once the assessment is complete and decisions are made, any homeowner in violation will be contacted by Grant PUD.

The plan will also include feeder trails to the shoreline. Those trails that were not chosen to be part of the plan will be re-vegetated by Grant PUD. In addition, Desert Aire Owners Association (DAOA) will be working with the Grant PUD to develop an official buoy plan to be incorporated into the overall plan. Once the comprehensive plan is developed, there will be several meetings with Desert Aire property owners.

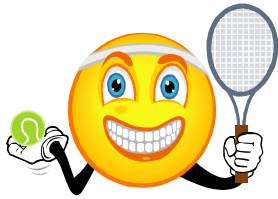
The DAOA asks for your cooperation with Grant PUD. We are privileged to live in this community and to have a part in helping shape this plan so all of us benefit.

### **Marina and Shoreline Trail:**

The New Marina is still on schedule for completion by Memorial Day 2013. Construction of the trail will start as early as the spring/summer of 2012 with in-water work for the marina taking place in late fall and winter.

### **Public Lands Clean Up Day:**

There will be a clean-up day for the shoreline area on Saturday, September 24. Grant County PUD will be participating as well and we ask for all of you to take time that day to help with removing any trash from the shoreline lands adjacent to Desert Aire. Everyone taking part should meet at the boat launch at 8:00 am.



# COURT NEWS

The response to the new tennis/pickleball courts has been very positive. Not only are they a beautiful looking asset to the Clubhouse area; they are also well-used by DAOA members. The newly-formed pickleball group has several members and welcomes any interested persons to come out and give this fun game a try. They have paddles that prospective members can borrow to see if they enjoy the game before purchasing their own personal paddles. The pickleball and tennis groups have designated times reserved for organized play but there is plenty of opportunity for pick-up games by any DAOA member and guests. (See schedule below) The guest fee policy is the same as for the pool.

The tennis group has divided into two levels this year. The A group consists of more experienced players who like to play a fast game, The B group consists of less experienced beginner/intermediate players. (See schedule below) The tennis group also invites players to come join in the fun and competition.

The Men's Club added an additional patio with tables and umbrellas to the area just south of the snack shack which is available for use by court players and observers.

## DAOA Court Schedule

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Pickleball</b> 4pm All levels welcome	<b>Tennis</b> A's 9:30- 11:00am B's 8-9:30 am	<b>Men's Pickleball</b> 9am All levels welcome	<b>Ladies' Pickleball</b> 9am All levels welcome	<b>Pickleball</b> 9:00am All levels welcome	<b>Tennis</b> A's 8-9:30am B's 9:30- 11:00am	<b>Pickleball</b> 3pm All levels welcome

## Desert Aire Tennis/Pickleball Court Rules

These rules exist for the purpose of maintaining our courts and providing an opportunity for all to use them. Each DAOA member is asked to cooperate and to assist in enforcing them.

The tennis/pickleball courts are for the exclusive use of DAOA members and their guests. The courts will have gates with combination key pads. *Each and every* DAOA member using the courts must present his/her current Desert Aire membership card to obtain the lock combination. Members are not to share the lock combination with anyone else, including other DAOA members.

Either or both courts may be reserved by the Tennis/Pickleball Club for special events such as tournaments, league competition, social play, etc. Notice of such events will be posted at the courts and/or Pro shop at least one week in advance of an event.

All other times, the courts shall be available for use on a first come, first served basis. No more than four players per court are permitted.

The gate to the courts must be locked at all times. Please relock the court upon entering and when leaving.

No food or breakable objects are permitted in the tennis/pickleball court enclosure.

Sneakers or tennis shoes only may be worn on the courts. (Absolutely no shoes that leave black marks are allowed!)

Players are expected to wear appropriate attire. Shirts must be worn at all times.

Wheeled vehicles including bicycles, rollerblades, skateboards, shoe skates, scooters and pets are not permitted on the courts. (Wheelchairs are permitted). No ball playing of any kind other than tennis /pickleball is permitted.

Use of the tennis/pickleball courts must be conducted in a safe manner with due respect and consideration for others who are sharing the courts. . Rough play or abusive conduct is not permitted. Tennis/pickleball court rules and courtesies apply at all times.

- Do not enter courts when play is in progress on court nearest entry gate.
- Do not walk or stand in back or between courts while play is in progress
- Return balls to other courts without interfering with play in progress

Tennis ball cans and all other debris must be placed in the trash receptacles provided.

Sitting or leaning on the nets is damaging to the nets and net straps and is strictly prohibited.

The Desert Aire Owners Association is not responsible for loss or damage to any personal property used or left in the court area.

All users must comply with any other posted rules relating to the use of the tennis/pickleball courts.

## **WHEN DAOA MEMBERS WITH CURRENT MEMBERSHIP CARDS ARE WAITING FOR A COURT, THE FOLLOWING RULES APPLY:**

Use of the courts shall be limited to a one (1) hour time limit for singles play and a one and one half (1-1/2 ) hour time limit for doubles play if there are persons waiting to use the court.

A player awaiting the arrival of an opponent may not hold a court vacant.

Rallying or practice counts towards the allotted time limits.

Adult Privilege:

On Saturdays, Sundays, Holidays and after 6 PM on weekdays, children not yet graduated from high school must vacate a court promptly upon request of any adult DAOA member, unless playing with an adult DAOA current member.

## **GUEST POLICY**

Guests must be accompanied by a DAOA member who is required to remain with and be responsible for the guest. [Exceptions as noted: Renters are considered guests of their landlord and campers staying in the RV sites or the River Campground are considered guests of Desert Aire.]

Guests must register at the Pro Shop, pay a fee of \$1.00 per day, Monday through Thursday; \$1.50 per day Friday through Sunday, and maintain their receipt with them at the courts.

Questions regarding tennis/pickleball: call Gary Varney 932-4556 or Sharon Stearns 932-3131

**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

### **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