

del Lago Newsletter

Prepared by the del Lago District Advisory Committee

Vol. 20, No. 10 – November 2021

Next Scheduled del Lago DAC Meeting November 11, 2021 at 9:45 a.m. via Teleconference Zoom



Chairman's Message

Greetings to all del Lago residents from your DAC. The holiday season is almost here. Watch for flyers inviting you to help put up the holiday decorations on Lake Garda Drive.

We are still in a drought but the last storm was a welcome sight. We want to thank all those who made an effort to reduce your household water use. In July/August we consumed 9.5% LESS resident water than May/June. Look for the latest water use info on your condo, which was delivered recently to your tube. It contains info on how to obtain water kits from Anahid Gregg. We believe that we can do more. For instance, we can all cut back on our patio fall/winter watering schedule. Keep it up!

Your DAC is preparing turf reduction plans to submit to the Association Board for budget consideration for this year and several years to come. We believe we have a source of money in this year's budget to do a few projects. As these proposals are considered, we are at the same time mindful of any impact on our future HOA dues. Please see **Turf Reduction Projects Update** in this newsletter for additional details.

We are here to serve. Please contact us for questions or unresolved problems.

Emil Pisarri
DAC Chairman

del Lago Quarterly DAC Meeting

Our next del Lago Quarterly DAC Meeting is Thursday, November 11, 2021, at 9:45 a.m., via teleconference. Nutritionist Valerie Simler, MS RD, will present *Eating Healthy for the Holidays*. We are fortunate to host Valerie, an expert in the field of nutrition. She holds a Master's Degree in Nutritional Science and a Credential of Registered Dietitian. During her 22 year tenure as an Outpatient Clinical Dietitian at ValleyCare Hospital in Pleasanton, Valerie managed a program for Weight Loss Surgery and counseled patients with a wide variety of

medical diagnoses like diabetes, heart disease, autoimmune conditions and more. She taught patients how changes to their diet could improve their health. One of the best parts of her job was interacting with her patients, listening to and learning from the many interesting people she encountered. Valerie brings to us many years of valuable knowledge and experience. There's certain to be a pearl of wisdom that we each can apply to ourselves. Please join us for this informative presentation. The Zoom link is: **Meeting ID: 823 1776 1165** **Passcode: 382707**

Holiday Decorations

With the retirements of Don DeVincenzi and Jim Grove, recruitment continues for Leads to set-up and remove del Lago holiday decorations. If you have a few hours a couple times a year to volunteer, please consider this project. This year del Lago DAC leadership will coordinate the event. Set-up of the decorations will take place on Saturday, December 5, 2021, at 10:00 AM. Removal will be on Saturday, January 8, 2022, 10:00 AM. This is a great way to meet your neighbors. We look forward to seeing you out there. For additional information or to indicate your interest in volunteering as a Lead, please contact Emil Pisarri, DAC Chair, at (408) 781-4216 or puffycat@sbcglobal.net.

Village del Lago Financials

Operating Budget - We are one-quarter of our way into FY 21/22. For the quarter, our expenses exceeded our income by \$12.5K, but this was planned because we have a \$36.1K surplus carried over from last year. As of September 30, 2021, our surplus is \$23.6K. Here are a few numbers: YTD Income \$218.2K; YTD Expenses \$230.8K (primarily Landscape \$78.2K, Utilities \$75.1K, Insurance \$43.4K, Club Transfers \$27.4K).

Reserve Budget – YTD Contribution \$145.8K; YTD Funds Used in del Lago \$16K; YTD Funds Transferred to Club \$25.8K; YTD Addition to Reserve \$120K; del Lago Total Reserve Balance \$1.82 million.

Turf Reduction Projects Update

Nearly all of us enjoy the look and smell of freshly mown and well maintained grass outside our patios and windows. But, as we know, it takes a lot of water and labor to keep the grass looking that way. Again, in California we are faced with drought conditions that bring the need to conserve the precious and dwindling water supply. As you have seen, the del Lago DAC has been collecting opinions and information regarding turf reduction while awaiting ABOD guidance on how The Villages intends to move forward on these drought related turf reduction efforts. The ABOD has now established the process and the deadline (November 11) for district proposals for next year's budget. Del Lago's proposal will be based on survey feedback, discussions with other villages' DACs, meetings with parties that will have involvement in the turf reduction work, and budget constraints. There also may be ways to work within this year's budget to do some turf reduction within this fiscal year, and your DAC leadership is pursuing this possibility. Stay tuned for further details; as always, you are encouraged to reach out to your DAC with any additional comments or suggestions.

Annual EPC Drill

The Emergency Preparedness Committee (EPC) held its annual earthquake preparedness drill on October 18, 2021, and the results are in. In del Lago's 174 homes, 138 displayed their 'OK' sign, just a fraction under 80%. Good job, del Lago! Accolades to Co-Sector Chiefs Joe Spatafore and Tony Branco and their enthusiastic team of Area Reps! Thank you for a job well done! Keep those signs handy, should the "big one" happen; and take precautions to keep your home prepared – just in case. If you would like to be a part of the del Lago EPC Team, please contact Tony at tony49er1@comcast.net, or Joe at joespata4@yahoo.com.

Reminders from the Association Board

Age Certification Form – Have you returned yours? **ALL** del Lago residents – our neighbors who rent and homeowners alike – must submit one form for each household to comply with Federal law that requires we annually establish our community's status as a senior

The del Lago District Advisory Committee (DAC) voting members are: Emil Pisarri, Chairperson, (408-781-4216); Judy Bushey, Deputy, (408-930-2985); Valerie Dimmick, Secretary, (408-813-3985); Everett Jacobson, Newsletter (408-629-7210); Melinda Dobbs (408-267-1777); David Dimmick (650-804-9378); Anahid Gregg (732-742-4874). Associate members: Cheryl Allmen (408-307-3979); Gary Lohr, (408-912-5124); Margaret Spatafore (408-532-1966). We welcome your comments and questions.

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community. So far this year the forms submitted are falling short of the 80% required. If you need another form, you can access it on the Resident Portal, pick up one at Building A, or you can ask your DAC for help. You may mail the completed document or drop it in the white Drop Box located in the parking lot adjacent to Building A. We're certain that all of us want to ensure our continuing status as a 55 and older community. Thanks to those who have submitted your completed form. If you haven't, please do so. Thanks, everyone.

Trim those trees – The Association Board is reminding us of AC Rule D-25, that trees and plants in our patios must be trimmed to a height no more than 7 feet. Fall is the perfect time of year to get out the clippers or hire a tree trimmer. Thank you for your cooperation.

Part of AC Rule D-25 says: "Plants or trees within the Limited Common Area must be limited to dwarf trees or small shrubs with a mature height not to exceed seven (7) feet. Space must be maintained between plants to allow access for maintenance. If a resident desires a tree height in the limited common area in excess of seven (7) feet, the owner may apply to the AC for a waiver of the tree height requirement. The general AC tree height guideline for requests for tree heights in excess of seven (7) feet is that the tree shall not exceed a mature height greater than the height of the villa eaves and shall be planted no closer than four (4) feet from the villa. All mature tree foliage must be kept at least 12" clear of the villa structure and fencing. The height of the tree shall not block the view of an adjoining residence."

Next ABOD Meeting

Next Regular Association Board Meeting is Tuesday, November 16, 2021, 9:30 a.m., at the Foothill Center or via teleconference.

Save the date: Sonata/del Lago Ladies Luncheon, March 26, 2022

**Daylight Savings Time
Ends Sunday, November 7th**



To receive these Newsletters via Email, contact: Anahid Gregg at anahid.villages@gmail.com or by phone at 1-732-742-4874.

DAC=District Advisory Committee, ABOD=Association Board of Directors, CBOD=Club Board of Directors, AC=Architectural Committee