



La Palapa Newsletter

September-October 2008

From the Administrator

Believe it or not we are busy doing the initial budget drafts for 2009. The meeting notice, proxy and the budget will be mailed the first week of October. The meetings will be held the week of November 17th at the Pavilion. On Friday November 21, Pat Butler will hold a "Meeting with the Developer". Please mark your calendar to attend these important meetings. Also, on Friday, October 17th we will hold our popular HOA seminar. Our main focus will be on home construction issues, 3rd party contracts and the inspection program. For those looking to build soon, this is a must attend program. Other topics will be announced through the website and flyers.

The weather will be changing soon and we certainly look forward to your return. Many new things and programs are on the horizon. Come full time, come part time and share in the El Dorado Ranch experience.

Individual Trust

Everyone is reminded that if your lot or condo is paid in full, you are obligated by your purchase contract and law to begin your individual trust process. The trust is the legal instrument by which you have ownership in the restricted zone in Mexico. To receive your individual trust, all homeowner dues and property taxes must be current. For more information contact Customer Services at 1-800-404-2599.

Communication

For information regarding electricity payments, property taxes, HOA, etc. visit the Owners Section on our website at www.eldoradoranch.com.

Property Taxes

The City of Mexicali has delivered payment requirements for all owners that owe 2007-2008 property taxes. The HOA will be delivering these to all owners. You can pay on line. Instructions are available in the Owners Section on our website.

Security and Emergency Number

For **Emergency** of any kind call **576-0345**.

Las Caras de Mexico Campo de Golf

The 4th El Dorado Ranch Charity Golf Classic will be held on October 24th – 26th. We have made some minor changes to the event this year. One of the major changes is that we will not have Celebrities. Ernesto Perez Acosta, a Mexican Golf Professional, will hold a clinic on Friday afternoon and then will play in the Shotgun Tournament on Saturday morning. Please

review the website to see sponsorship levels and the Schedule of Events. Websites are www.lascarasdemexico.com and www.universalgolffoundation.com. This year's tournament benefits Universal Golf Foundation's Scholarship Program and Casa de Paco--a hospice in Mexicali.

Activities

Your activities team at El Dorado is gearing up for another great season of events and activities. Our current list of day time activities includes:

- Water volleyball, water aerobics, diverse card games, bocce ball, pickle ball (tennis courts), beach volleyball, bingo, and much more.
- While at pool side you can get a manicure, pedicure or massage from Gris. For information call 686-151-2808.

OCTOBER

3RD. COLUMBUS DAY.
12TH. DIA DE LA RAZA.
14TH. FULL MOON MIXER.
18TH. HALLOWEEN WATER
VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT.
24TH – 26TH. CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

26TH KIDS HALLOWEEN PARTY.
31ST HALLOWEEN PARTY.
EVERY SATURDAY. - SWAP MEET.
DIVE IN MOVIE (TWICE A MONTH) La Palapa

NOVEMBER

2ND DIA DE MUERTOS.
7TH – 9TH SHRIMP FESTIVAL.
13TH FULL MOON MIXER.
18TH LAS AMIGAS STUDENT ICE CREAM SOCIAL.
19TH -22ND BAJA 1000 RACE.
20TH MEXICAN REVOLUTION DAY.
VOLLEYBALL
21ST SNOWBIRD FESTIVAL
27TH THANKSGIVING
EVERY SATURDAY. - SWAP MEET.
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*The activities team is looking forward to your return and involvement in our activities.
See you soon!*

Medical Service Benefits

The grand opening of the new medical services facility will take place soon. We will keep you updated. For more information go to www.bajamedicalcenter.com

Social Security

Last month the HOA offices sent 100 letters to owners on behalf of the Mexican Social Security office. Many owners that have received these letters have not provided appropriate documentation related to payment of their Social Security tax liability. **It is very important that these owners make contact with the social security office.** Ignoring this communication could lead to action taken against the owner which includes, but is not limited to, loss of property and personal items, fines and other legal costs. When doing any kind of construction in Mexico, be certain to register the job, keep receipts of your Social Security payments and get a “legitimate letter of liberation”. The letter of liberation certifies that you have no further tax liability with the Social Security system.

Supervisory Committee

This committee consists of 16 representatives from all of the communities within El Dorado Ranch. If you desire to contact your representative, you can find who your supervisor is on our web site. Go to the "Keeping You Informed" section, select "Supervisory Committee" then select Supervisory Committee Contact List and you will find the names, phone numbers (Mexico & U.S. #'s), e-mails and U.S. address. If you are unable to attend our meetings, you can also read the monthly and annual minutes posted in this section of the website. Your supervisors meet once a month to discuss HOA issues and other related concerns. The meeting dates are September 29 and October 28. Mark your calendar now. There will be no Committee meetings in November and December due to the annual meetings and the holidays. Meetings are held in Juanito's and start at 1:00 p.m. *Las Villas* will meet Sept. 16, Oct. 21, Nov. 18 and Dec. 16. *Las Villas* meetings are held in the Pavilion and start at 1:00 p.m.

Water Contracts

(LVDM only)- Because of difficulties getting appropriate information for owners, the administration has established a new policy for water usage in La Ventana del Mar. The HOA is helping owners establish their contracts and water accounts with CESP. This contract gets the water meter installed and billing initiated. If there is no meter, the HOA is billed at a commercial rate for water usage. This rate is higher than residential and is passed on to the owner. Owners who wish to have water service while processing their paperwork through HOA will have to pay the HOA in advance to receive future water service. Owners must get individual accounts established without further delay. All properties have been inspected to establish whether a meter is installed or not. Homes/condos without a meter have had their water disconnected. For more details on this policy and corresponding charges please contact Lolita Villar e-mail Lolita.villar@doradoranch.com.mx or call 1-800-404-2599 ext. 4022.

Water Delivery

Service is available now through the Ranch to deliver water to all of our owners. We began Aug. 21st. To sign up for water delivery, go to the Property management offices (across the hwy from La Ventana del Mar entrance). Delivery schedule is from 7am to 5 pm. For more information call 577-1683. The price for 2000 gallons is \$40 USD plus tax. Minimum order is 500 gallons for \$16 USD plus tax.

S.a.f.e. Program

S.a.f.e. is an owner volunteer program that provides a sense of security for the owners. This program is absolutely **FREE**. You can feel comfortable when not in Mexico. For those wanting to register their homes into the program, go to the members' area in our web site under the SAFE link.

SHOEBOX PROJECT 2008

Last year we handed out 600 shoeboxes filled with small gifts and supplies for children in the San Felipe area. We are hoping to do the same thing again this year but we need your help in making this project a success. Just imagine the joy your gift will bring to a needy child in San Felipe. Please mark on your package, the sex of the child and age (infant, 2 to 4, 5 to 9, 10 to 14) so we can hand them out according to that criteria. Please wrap the top and bottom of the box but do not

tape it shut. Last year we went through all of the packages and sorted through the contents to ensure that nothing inappropriate had been placed in the packages. We also added candies and small toys.

Drop off locations – The NET downtown, San Felipe Storage and El Dorado Sales department with Dana Young.

Contact person – Debbi Moore – debrahmoore@yahoo.ca

Some suggestions for gifts to be put in the boxes:

TOYS

small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), Slinky®, etc.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

pens, pencils and sharpener, crayons or markers, stamps and ink pad sets, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.

HYGIENE ITEMS

toothbrush, toothpaste, mild bar soap (in a plastic bag), comb, washcloth, small shampoo (in a plastic bag) or anything else you can think that would help.

OTHER

Hard candy and lollipops (please double bag all candy), mints, gum, T-shirts, socks, ball caps; sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, shaky or wind up flashlights. Canned or dry goods.



HAPPY HALLOWEEN!