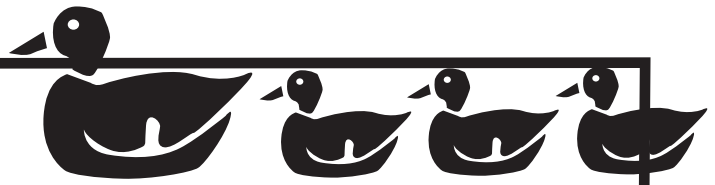


The Richardson Duck Creek Quacker



United for Fellowship, Safety and Civic Pride

Richardson Duck Creek Homeowners Association, Inc.

September 2005



October 20th - Fall General Meeting
Dartmouth Elementary
6:30 PM

November 19th - Holiday Lighting Setup
Apollo and Yale
9:00 AM

November 26th - Holiday Lighting Ceremony
Apollo and Yale
7:00 PM

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The election of the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer for the 2006 calendar year will be decided at the DCHOA Fall General Meeting October 20, 2005 in the Dartmouth Cafeteria beginning at 6:30pm. Also being elected will be the nominating committee who will submit their slate of officers to the membership in October, 2006 for the 2007 calendar year. Nominations will also be taken from the floor for both the 2006 officers and the 2006 nominating committee. Please put this meeting on your calendar.

MAYOR TO GIVE "STATE OF RICHARDSON" ADDRESS

Mayor Gary Slagel will give a "State of Richardson" message to the membership at the fall DCHOA General Meeting October 20th at 6:30pm in the Dartmouth Cafeteria. Joining the Mayor will be the City Council and the City Manager, Bill Keffler. Following the Mayor's message there will be a question and answer session.

BEAUTIFICATION

YARD OF THE MONTH

April through August
Nominate a yard.

HOLIDAY DECORATING

We need help in putting up the decorations. Set up is November 19th at 9:00am.

If you are interested in nominating a "Yard Of The Month", Be a member of The Duck Creek Garden Club or help with the Holiday Decorations please call Michael Wortman at 972-235-1036.

GARDEN CLUB

If you would like to help organize "The Duck Creek Garden Club" or be a member

RECYCLE

Recycling helps us all!
Purchase your blue bags at Huffines Rec Center.

GARAGE SALE

Saturday, October 15, 2005, at 8:00am
First Christian Church (corner of Beltline & Grove)
Proceeds directed to Richardson/Plano Family Outreach.
Donations accepted, call Ann Mozley 972.690.9429



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A FLIGHT THROUGH HISTORY

This year's Annual Duck Creek Independence Day Parade began with a fly-over by a North American AT-6, WWII trainer aircraft provided by the Cavanaugh Flight Museum at the nearby Addison Airport.

The Cavanaugh Flight Museum is the vision and passion of founder Jim Cavanaugh. His uncompromising standards and patriotism have produced a world-class museum and award winning aircraft. Over 30 planes fill 50,000 square feet of immaculate, fully enclosed museum facilities at Addison Airport.

One person who has contributed to the success of the museum through his volunteer efforts is also the person who helped Bill Denton secure the fly-over for the parade, Richardson resident John Awezec. John's interest in aviation goes back many years, and here is his story.

John Awezec enlisted in the Army Air Corps on January 30, 1943. He graduated as a rated pilot on March 12, 1944 with the rank of Second Lieutenant and was sent to Smyrna, Tennessee for B-24 transition training for first pilots. The next stop was Lincoln Nebraska where he and his fellow airmen were assembled into bombardment crews. The next stop brought him to Biggs Field Army Air Force Base in El Paso, Texas for Replacement Training Unit (RTU) training. The RTU training consisted of practice bombing, gunnery, and formation flying both as a squadron as well as a group. In August 1944, the majority of the crews were sent to Italy to join the war. A select group of about 6 crews (John's included) were sent to Will Rogers Field, Oklahoma for reconnaissance training. John trained in an F-7 (a B-24 modified for photo reconnaissance). To make the F-7, the rear bomb doors were sealed shut and three cameras were installed. Two auxiliary fuel tanks were carried in the front bomb bay. According to John, "Other than that, it was a standard B-24 with no difference in operating characteristics".

In October 1944, training was completed and the crews were sent to Georgia for deployment to Italy. Before deployment, it was determined that they were not need in Italy so they were once again transferred, this time to Buckley Field, Colorado. Three crews, John's included were selected for deployment to the Pacific, but before their departure, the flight leader replaced John and his crew with a crew led by the flight leader's friend. Disappointed at being replaced but determined to do his part, John applied for a transfer to a nearby B-29 transition school at Lowrey Field Colorado. On January 10, 1945, John received his first flight in an F-13 (a B-29 modified for photo reconnaissance). He was subsequently assigned to the 1st Photo Reconnaissance Squadron based at Smokey Hill Army Air Force Base, Selina, Kansas. In August 1945 after completion of his training, he was sent to Topeka, Kansas for deployment to the Pacific. John's mission was to map the coastline of Japan in preparation for invasion. The Japanese islands of Honshu and Hokkaido were scheduled for invasion in

November 1945 and March 1946, respectively. On August 6, 1945, the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima and on the 9th a second atomic bomb was dropped on Nagasaki; the war came to an end shortly thereafter. John's group was deployed to the Pacific and spent a short time at Tinian Airfield, quartered with the 509th Composite Squadron (the outfit that dropped the atomic bombs). He was eventually based at Kadena Airfield, Okinawa. John returned from overseas in August 1946 and was relieved from active duty. He elected to remain in the Army Air Force Reserve, and was based at Westover Field, Massachusetts. While flying with this unit, he met one of the pilots of the three crews deployed to the Pacific in F-7s. It turns out that the pilot and crew that replaced John and crew (the flight leader's friend) went out on a mission and did not return: Such is fate!

John did not follow a career in aviation; he went to college on the GI Bill and entered into the petroleum industry. He went to work for Magnolia Petroleum Corporation, which later became Mobil Oil Corporation. John retired from Mobil Oil in 1985, and has been volunteering at the Cavanaugh Flight Museum since 1994.

The Cavanaugh Flight Museum is a non-profit 501(c)(3) educational organization devoted to promoting aviation studies and to perpetuating America's aviation heritage; the museum fulfills its mission by restoring, operating, maintaining and displaying historically-significant, vintage aircraft, and by collecting materials related to the history of aviation.

The museum is open 9-5 Monday through Saturday and 11-5 on Sunday. Admission to the museum is \$8.00 Adults, \$4.00 Children 6-12, 5 and under are free.

For more information, call the museum at (972) 380-8800 or visit us online at www.CavanaughFlightMuseum.com.



Second Annual Duck Creek Homeowners Association 4th of July Parade
A HIGH FLYING SUCCESS!!





A VERY PATRIOTIC THANK YOU!!

The Richardson Duck Creek Homeowners Association would like to extend their thanks to the following for helping to make our 2nd Annual Independence Day Parade a great success:



Pepsi Bottling Group



Con Agra Foods and Eckrich Franks



Blue Bell Creameries

Frank Lanza for supplying the hot dog buns

Cavanaugh Flight Museum



United States Army



United States Navy



United States Air Force



United States Marine Corps

And, a special thanks to the Duck Creek Homeowners Association Board and volunteers for making this 2nd Annual Independence Day Parade the great success it was...LOOK OUT NEXT YEAR!!



Bob Townsend
Richardson City Council, Place 1



Rhea Allison
Richardson City Council, Place 2



John Murphy - Mayor Pro Tem
Richardson City Council, Place 3



Gary Slagel - Mayor
Richardson City Council, Place 4



Steve Mitchell
Richardson City Council, Place 6



Larry Zacharias
City of Richardson Chief of Police



Alan Palomba
City of Richardson Fire Chief



WHAT EVERY DUCK CREEK RESIDENT NEEDS TO KNOW...

Neighborhood Integrity Program

The Neighborhood Integrity Program was created to help maintain property values and neighborhood desirability and to encourage revitalization. This takes a concerted effort from all of Duck Creek's owners and residents. By working together, we can help keep Duck Creek an attractive, healthy, and safe place to live. Over the years, minimum property maintenance standards have been established to help realize this goal.

High Grass and Weeds

Residents are responsible for maintaining the grass and weeds at their property. Grass and weeds are in violation when they reach a height of 12 inches. Owners or residents are also responsible for maintaining the alley easement adjacent to their property.

Vegetation

Trees, bushes, shrubs, vines, etc. must be kept trimmed 7 feet above sidewalks, 14 feet above streets and alleys and 1 foot back from the alley pavement. Vegetation should be maintained so that it does not obstruct the view of persons using public streets and alleys.

Fences

Property owners are responsible for maintaining the condition of the fences around their property. Fences which are leaning severely or which are missing slats or sections are in violation of the City's Code. New fences or significant replacement of existing fences require a building permit. Call the Building Inspection Department at 972-744-4180 for more information.

Address Numbers

To enable the Police and Fire Departments to respond quickly to emergency calls, address numbers must be posted so that they are plainly visible from the street and alley. Numbers must be posted on the curb or curbside mailbox. Street numbers are also required on the front of the residence on the house, garage, fence, or other structure between 3 and 10 feet from the ground. Numbers must be a minimum of 3 inches high.

Outside Storage

Storage is prohibited in the front yard, carport, and front porch. All items stored outside must be screened from adjacent properties, streets and alleys by a 6-foot, solid wooden fence. Outside storage is limited to 1 percent of a residential lot. This ordinance does not pertain to operable vehicles with a valid state license and registration.

Trash & Debris

Residents are responsible for ensuring that their property is free of any litter or debris. In an effort to control litter, residential trash must be contained in approved plastic bags and placed out only on your collection days. If you wish to dispose of (rather than recycle) small bundles of branches, they should be cut to 3-foot lengths and placed out on your regular collection day. Call 972-744-4111 to collect brush and bulky items placed at the curb on your special collection day. Branches of any length can be collected from your curb and converted to mulch, which is available to all Duck Creek residents for free. Duck Creek has convenient recycling known as the Blue Bag Recycling program.

Minimum Property Standards

All buildings are required to be maintained by keeping all exterior materials (brick, wood, siding, roofs, glass, windows, doors) free of holes and breaks. All wood surfaces are to be painted, protected from the elements, and in good condition.

Vehicles

Junked or inoperative vehicles may not be stored in public view. Trucks with a rated capacity of more than 1.5 tons and construction trailers greater than 8 feet in length may not be stored in a residential district.

Yard Parking

Vehicles may not be parked on the grass between the front building line and the street, or between the side building line and the street on corner lots. In addition, vehicles may not be parked on the grass on vacant or unimproved lots

Home Occupation/Garage Sales

If you want to operate a business from your home, please contact us to ensure that your business does not violate the home occupation ordinance. Each resident may conduct no more than three garage sales per year, lasting no longer than three consecutive days.

We Need Your Help!


With the help and cooperation of Duck Creek residents, we can maintain attractive, healthy, and safe neighborhood and ensure that Duck Creek remains a city in which we are proud to live.

Volunteer Program

Neighborhood Integrity has a volunteer programs to assist homeowners who are unable to maintain their property due to physical limitations or other difficulties. If you or someone you know needs assistance, or if you would like to volunteer your time and resources, please call us at 972-744-4166.

Questions

If you have any questions or comments, please call Neighborhood Integrity at 972-744-4166. Regular office hours are Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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RETIRING OLD GLORY

It started with 13 stars and has grown to 50. It flies over this great country of ours in so many places to numerous to mention. But, there comes a time when it deserves the honor of being retired. We all know how to do it, but never seem to have the time.

If your "Old Glory" is ready for retirement, contact Greg Duvall, Cubmaster-Pack 871 at 972-699-0024. The pack performs a retirement ceremony at their fall campouts.

Isn't it great! When one is retired, another takes its place to proudly fly over this great country of ours.

Neighborhood Play Group "Little Ducklings"

Three and a half years ago, stay-at-home moms in the Duck Creek neighborhood formed a play group for our preschool age children called "Little Ducklings." We meet twice per month in each others' homes or attend outings. After attending the recent July 4th parade and cook-out, we realized that there are many other young families who might like to be a part of a play group. We would like to help you form other playgroups in the neighborhood. Some groups may want to meet in the evening, while others may want to meeting during the morning or afternoon. Dads may want to form groups as well. Please note the time of the day that you would like to meet as well as the ages and sexes of your children. Give any other information to help us form compatible playgroups. Three times a year we hope to join all of the groups together at Huffines Park for a picnic and to play. We hope that these play groups will bring our neighborhood families even closer to each other. Please email Cheryl at rcpay2000@yahoo.com or call her at 972-235-9221.

Cheryl Payton



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HUMANE SOCIETY

The purpose of Richardson Humane Society is the rescue and re-homing of adoptable pets, promotion of spay and neuter, education of our community regarding the prevention of cruelty to animals, and the extension of humane education.

It is the policy of the society to provide humane care and treatment for animals needing protection in the area served by the society; to seek to return lost animals to their owners; to seek suitable homes for animals without owners; to promote spay/neuter in the community; to encourage a network of foster homes for adoptable animals, to aid in encouraging adequate conditions in our city shelter and to educate this community in living with their pet and being responsible pet owners, i.e.-education on health, training and behavioral care, as well as ways to recognize abuse, neglect or cruelty. In its care and disposition of animals, the society shall maintain the highest level of care and integrity in placement, care and education.

We will be active in our community educating the children in our schools, bringing the community together with fundraisers and pet friendly events and ensuring each pet owner has all the resources/information necessary to care for their pet.

We are available to answer questions, provide resources and referrals and assist in any way to help you keep your pet throughout their lifetime, keeping them healthy and happy and an active part of your life!

September 23, 2005, 6-10 pm

American Red Cross Touching Lives Animal First-Aid, Registration Required.

October 8, 2005

4th Annual Canine Classic Golf Tournament

October 15, 2005 5th Annual Holiday Pet Photography Fundraiser

November 12-13 From The Heart Craft Fair, St Joseph's Catholic Church, Richardson

Visit our website www.richardsonhumanesociety.org for more information on these and other upcoming events.

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Neighborhood Trends

- Duck Creek is home to a population that is growing older.
- Residents are drawn to the neighborhood by its parks, recreational areas, convenient location and good home values.
- Residents are perceived as friendly, respectful of others, and proud of their neighborhood.
- The homeowners association is seen as being very important to the area, but as having room to improve.
 - Could be better at reaching out to new residents.
 - Could be better at providing interested residents with opportunities to contribute in leadership positions.
- Crime prevention remains a priority in the neighborhood, which continues to experience lower crime than the City as a whole.
- Enforcement activity in the area is slightly lower than the City as a whole and tends to be related more to routine maintenance rather than property standards:
 - Maturing trees require more maintenance.
 - Buildings are well maintained and structurally sound.
 - Small number of problem properties.
- While traffic in the area has shown slight overall increases, it has not worsened considerably over the past few years.
- Rental property in the neighborhood accounts for a lower incidence of residential properties than the City as a whole.
- Homes in the neighborhood are selling on average for less per square foot than homes in the City as a whole.
- Although certain properties remain issues of concern for the neighborhood, commercial property in general has shown signs of improvement.
 - The Block is seen as being a positive development for the area.
- Re-tenanting in developments at the corner of Belt Line and Plano Road (Target, Staples, Conn's) demonstrate the area's viability

Improved Commercial / Retail

Strategies.....

- *Work with the City, County, and Chamber of Commerce to explore potential existing incentive programs to attract development.*
- *Reach out to local business owners to establish partnerships and promote positive interactions with the neighborhood.*
- *Encourage the viability of local businesses through targeted support and promotion programs within the neighborhood.*
- *Establish partnerships with nearby associations to create and promote a shared vision for commercial redevelopment.*

Next Steps.....

- Begin working with neighborhood leaders to prioritize and implement action items.
- But first.....
 - Take names of volunteers interested in helping implement action items.

Come Join us rebuild our community

- Annual Activities
- Monthly meetings with action plans
- Annual Easter Egg Hunt
- Annual Golf Outing
- 4th of July Parade
- Holiday neighborhood lighting program and Ceremony
- Neighborhood block night out
- Annual neighborhood directory

Neighborhood Benefits

- Voice at the city council meetings
- Voice in city council decisions on neighborhood
- Revitalization of the neighborhood
- Support of our neighborhood schools and parks
- Better vision of a community that works together
- *Encourage compliance with an established standard of residential property maintenance in the neighborhood.*
- *Promote a pedestrian-friendly environment through the creation and enhancement of walkways in recreational parks and trails in the area.*
- *Minimize the affect of on-street parking*
- *Increase lighting throughout the neighborhood.*
- *Encourage continued improvement in beautification and identification infrastructure*

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Fred L. Bolanz, Jr.

The Richardson Duck Creek Quacker



Richardson Duck Creek Homeowners Association
P.O. Box 851691
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TO:

The Quacker is published four times each year by the Richardson Duck Creek Homeowners Association.

Please call with news about new neighbors, new babies, promotions, long time neighbors leaving or deaths. We would like to hear from you on nominations for Yard of the Month, concerns about the neighborhood or any information to be included in the newsletter. Call us for new yard signs or reservations for meals at membership meetings.

President: Bill Denton - billdenton2003@sbcglobal.net

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