

# The DOMINION

## Sept. 2008 Newsletter

Welcome to another issue of The Dominion News. We aim to inform you of what's going on, and we welcome your comments and feedback. Starting next month we will introduce a new feature: "Letters to the Editor."

### September 2008 Newsletter - Topics

- Texas Night Out - Tuesday October 7
- Polling Station for November 4 Election
- HOA Bonfire - November 23
- Town Hall Meeting - Briefing from Our Neighbor: Camp Bullis
- Recycling Survey - Feedback
- Welcome Program for New Homeowners
- Street Maintenance
- HOA Office Building
- Dominion Overpass
- Hike and Bike Trail

In addition to the newsletter you can always get information at our regularly updated website:

<http://www.dominionhoa.com>

### Texas "Night Out" on Tuesday October 7

The State of Texas has scheduled a "State-wide Night Out" for Tuesday October 7. This can be a fun time to meet the neighbors; contact the Community Outreach Committee or the HOA office for more information.

### Polling Station for Election on November 4

Thanks to the energy and community spirit of a dozen neighbors, voters in The Dominion will be able to cast their vote practically next door on Election Day. We vote at Leon Springs Elementary School from 7 AM to 7 PM on November 4. Voter registration cards can be updated via telephone or internet with the Bexar County Elections Administration till October 6.

### HOA Bonfire - November 23

Mark your calendar for the Annual HOA Bonfire on November 23. Take your family to the Pecan Grove next to the #9 tee, for an evening of fun and games for children, food for the entire family, and a magical bonfire when it gets dark. That evening is the official start of the Holiday Season in The Dominion.

### Town Hall Meeting - Briefing about Camp Bullis

Watch your email and the electronic bulletin boards for time and date of the Town Hall Meeting in mid-October, when representatives from Camp Bullis will give us a briefing about the mission and challenges of Camp Bullis. This is the real thing; if you ever wondered about what exactly happens behind their fence, now is the time to find out.

The meeting came about as a result of six hours the HOA Board spent at Camp Bullis in late September. We were impressed by the extent and depth of training that goes on. Nowadays Camp Bullis trains specialists from all branches of the Armed Services and the National Guard, as well as policemen, firemen, EMS and SWAT teams from all over the US. They train in situations that closely approximate actual war; you can literally feel, hear, smell, see, and experience highly realistic simulations of combat conditions. The briefing will offer vivid details about Camp Bullis that you don't want to miss.

### Recycling Survey- Feedback

Opinions about recycling in our neighborhood have been quite divided. When the Board decided to distribute a community-wide survey about recycling options currently available, we had no preconceived notion about its outcome. We made sure to verify that each vote represented a unique residence. 377 surveys came back.

- 192 residents voted for 'No Change'

- 185 residents voted for some recycling: 164 preferred 1 trash & 1 recycling pickup per week and 21 preferred keeping 2 trash pickups per week plus adding 1 recycle pickup.

Many respondents sent extra messages with their vote; several home owners spoke at the Board Meeting, and their presentations ran the gamut from strongly for, to equally strongly against recycling. The board noted your comments and responses. In our deliberations we considered factors such as structural complexity and cost of modifying trash container storage areas, legal complexity of changing covenants to accommodate recycling; environmental and sanitary aspects of segregating and storing recyclable materials inside the home; feasibility of managing recycling collections under present structural limitations; and more. The Board came to the conclusion that recycling collection is not feasible at this time.

The option to relocate the recycling containers from the Golf Maintenance Area to the side of our parking lot at the new HOA office building will be considered. That will permit 24-hour access to recycling; the containers will be under observation from the main guard building; pickups can be scheduled in a timely fashion, and the HOA will be able to monitor the extent of actual recycling. This project cannot be carried out, however, till the entrance to the Sales Pavilion parking lot has been modified. The new owners plan to widen the entrance by removing the island; thereafter large trucks will be able to enter and empty the containers.

### Welcome Program for New Homeowners

The Community Outreach Committee has worked long and hard to design a useful welcome package for new homeowners. The HOA plans to distribute the package to all residents who have moved here since early August 2008. It includes a reference binder full of practical and reference data, including information from the Country Club, the Women's Forum, the Apron Society, and the Dominion Rotary Club. If you are a recent resident and have moved in from January '08 thru July '08 you may want to pick up a binder at the HOA office.

### Street Maintenance

Street repairs have commenced. Repairs are scheduled on Dominion Drive, Brenthurst Lane, Arnold Palmer, Vineyard Drive, and the North Gate.

### HOA Office Building

The Building Committee continues to work diligently with Prestige Homes and Pape-Dawson Engineering; almost all permits and reviews are completed. Actual construction is expected to start in October.

### Dominion Overpass

Starting in November, emergency vehicles such as fire, police, and EMS will be able to pass underneath the Dominion Bridge. The project should be complete in January 2009. We will continue to update you on road closures.

### Hike and Bike Trail

Ever since the railroad de-activated the line along IH-10, some neighbors have been dreaming about a rail-to-trail conversion. The City of San Antonio has started a new effort to establish a hike and bike trail from 1604, circumventing The Rim, all the way to Boerne Stage Road. TXDoT already owns the old railroad right-of-way, but other property and flood control issues have yet to be solved. We have representation on that task force and will keep you posted on progress.

Sincerely,

Brigitte B. Saidi, Chairman

The Dominion Homeowners Association, Inc.