

Vista Del Lago

January 2010 Newsletter

Happy New Year to everyone! I hope this finds you warm (snowbirds) or enjoying the snow (VDL'ers)! I haven't put out a newsletter in a while, so will try to catch everyone up on the little bit of news I have!

Welcome to VDL's newest resident.....



This little guy was just adopted by proud parents Bob and Terrie Dreisbach. His name is "Steve Johnson Dreisbach." I asked Bob what the story was in regards to naming him Steve Johnson and in true Bob fashion, he told me, "I just wanted to name him Steve." Bob didn't want the little guy to get confused with any other Boston Terriers named "Steve," so he gave him the second name of "Johnson!" Now Steve Hodgson won't get confused with Steve Johnson!!! He has been with Bob and Terrie for all of two days now and they adore him from the sounds of it. Elvis is quite excited to meet his new little friend and hopefully Steve will join us at the dog play sessions this summer.

Ringing in the New Year, VDL style.....

According to those who attended the VDL New Year's eve party, it was quite a success! Janet Bollinger reported that the gift exchange was its usual raucous game. Some of the prized gifts included a salad tossing set, made by Cindy Sneesby and a Starbuck's mug. I don't think anyone suffered any lasting injuries in the pursuit of their prized gift, so that is definitely good news! It did sound like there was quite a crowd, 25 in all, and a lot of good food and good fun! The winter crowd may not be very tan, but they do know how to have a good time!!

Health updates.....

Mike Torres received a stem cell transplant from Fred Hutch/Seattle Cancer Care Alliance in Seattle this past April. I am very happy to report his cancer is in remission and he is hopefully on his way to a very healthy several years! My VDL sources tell me that Mike is staying strong and healthy by exercising, rain, snow, sleet, hail or if lucky, in the sun!! Mike has reminded us that exercise is the best way to fend off illnesses and he should be a good reminder to all of us to make sure to work some exercise into our daily routine.

On a similar note, most of you know by now that Lyle has a little health challenge of his own. He was diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma (the same cancer that Mike has) just before Thanksgiving. They caught it early and although it was quite the shock initially, we are adjusting to the treatment schedules. Lyle will have the exact same stem cell transplant treatment that was so successful for Mike. I am not telling you all this because I want to be the bearer of bad news, rather to let you know that due to Lyle's treatment, we won't be around VDL much until late summer. We are hoping to be over in August at which time we hope to report Lyle is in full remission.....or on his way to it!!

Lyle is doing very well and is tolerating his chemo pretty well right now. We are very hopeful and excited to get on with the treatment so he can be healthy again very soon.

I will gladly continue to do the newsletters even though I won't be in the park much, but that means you all have to forward information to me, since I won't be around to collect it on my own. If you don't give me information, I will make it up!!

Thanks to the VDL Board members.....

I don't think I had a chance to properly thank the 2009 Board Members, Dave Sneesby, Joe Blackmore, Jenny Sharp, Emily Bachel and Sherry Lane at the end of the summer. They had full plates all summer long and managed to get a lot of work done. I speak from experience when I say they have a very difficult job. There is no way they can make everyone happy all the time, so they must focus on what is best for the park as a whole and not let individual interests cloud their vision. I for one am very appreciative of all the time and effort they put into attending meetings, meeting with the county, conducting research and even lending physical labor to make the park look and operate in tip top form.....all for no compensation! If you haven't thanked them yourselves, and you appreciate all the work they have done, please take a moment to drop them an email and let them know their work is valued and you appreciate them!

There are a few board openings coming up in the spring, so if you feel you would like to take an opportunity to serve on the board, now is a good time to start thinking about running for one of the positions.

Park maintenance.....

Also, thank you very much to Dennis Bachel for providing outstanding landscaping and maintenance service to VDL last summer. I am not sure if the Board has signed another contract with him for next summer, but I sure hope they plan to if they haven't already. I have owned in the park for about 10 years now, and I can say it has never looked better! Dennis spent a lot of time on projects that were not really included in his scope of responsibility, and the pride he took in his work, showed!

I trust Dennis is taking the winter off to re-charge his batteries and to enjoy a few months without pushing a lawn mower or digging a trench!!

That's about it for this edition.....

Like I mentioned before, if you have anything you think might be good for the newsletter, please drop me an email (Lyleandlesie@msn.com) and I will be happy to include it. I hope you all have a very nice, safe and healthy winter and lets hope spring gets here quickly!!!

-Leslie

