



THE DELANO DISPATCH

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DELANO NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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September 2006

The Tuesday **September 19th** meeting is a **Pot Luck Supper**. Please bring a 'carry-in dish' and your table service and we will meet at **6:30pm** to sup together. The General Meeting will start at **7:00pm** at West Side Christian Church, 1819 W. Douglas

President's Comments September 2006

Wayne Wells

My comments this month will have a little different "flavor" and may be quite lengthy. My goal is to arouse your thinking concerning the DNA. Some of you may become upset with me, but I am sure an equal number will agree with me. I want to address three groups of people who reside within the DNA.

The first group is those who are or are becoming established in the neighborhood. Those who are in the "owner occupied" category. I challenge you to think where your neighborhood ranks on your priority list. I recognize there are family, work, and charitable responsibilities, but where does it rank after that? We have many who, in the past, were very active in the DNA and many who have attended a few meetings, but for some reason or other have not returned. Why? If there is something different we can do to get more people involved, please give me, or any Board Member, a call with your suggestions. If the DNA is to move forward with the Revitalization Plan, we need more property owners to get involved so we can speak with a united voice to those who are in authority.

The second group I want to address is those tenants (renters) who have lived, or plan to live within the DNA. We want and need your support. By attending the General Meetings you will learn what we are trying to accomplish. Also, if you have problems, perhaps we can assist you. Who knows, you may become a property owner in the future. I would challenge you to work with your landlord to keep where you live as attractive as possible.

The third group is those tenants (renters) who are temporary residents. In other words those who move into the neighborhood with no intention of staying. We have far too many people within the DNA who are not willing to help keep the neighborhood attractive and clean. As I tour the DNA area, I see trash and tall grass in yards and around the houses and people sitting around doing nothing. I realize you do not own the property, but if you are living there it is your responsibility to clean it up or have your landlord do it. There are steps you can take to pressure your landlord to keep up his property.

For the first seventeen years after I left home, I rented. It took me that long to get in a position so I could purchase; I know what tenants have to put up with sometimes. I learned if I treated the property the way I would treat it if I owned it, it was much easier to get the landlord to keep up the maintenance and improvements.

Let us do a little math. Just using "round" figures, there are approximately 2,000 residences in the DNA. Now let us say there is a 10% vacancy which would leave 1,800. Now let us say there is a 50% rental property which would leave 900 "owner occupied" property. Now let us say 50% of those, for their own personal reasons, are really not interested in the DNA. That leaves 450 who think Delano is the best place in Wichita to live. If those 450 "owner occupied" property owners would get involved in the DNA what a difference could be made in Delano in just a few short years. Will you be one of those 450?

Since I was elected President in October of 2004 to December 2005, we had a total of 74 different people attend the General Meetings with a monthly average attendance of 15. So far for 2006 we have had 51 different people averaging 19.5 per meeting. So you see a very small percentage are attending! I am very grateful for the "faithful few" who attend most of the meetings and for the Board who has supported me. I have done the best with the abilities I have, to conduct interesting, informative meetings. I have been heavily involved since the fall of 1997 and am getting pretty much "burnt out".

With the Election in November, we need some "new blood" to get involved and run for office. Even if you have not been involved up to this time, don't let that hinder you. If you have leadership and communication skills, please consider submitting your name for the office of your choice. I know of an organization which was on the verge of collapse, when some individuals, who had not previously been involved, volunteered to accept an office position and now that organization is going "great". I have been informed by one of our present officers that they will not be submitting their name for any office; so even if the remaining officers submit their names for re-election, we will need at least two new

continued next page...

Submitted by:
 Officer W.D.D.Perkins #1724
 Patrol West Community Policing
 Wichita Police Department
 337-9400

Identity Theft

1. Identity theft is one of the fastest growing crimes in America. It affects each and every one of us directly, either as the victims of identity theft, or indirectly through higher prices companies have to charge to regain loss profit. While we probably can't prevent identity theft entirely, you can minimize your risk by managing your personal information wisely and cautiously with an awareness of the issue. Here are some ways you can help guard yourself against identity theft:
2. Before you reveal any personally identifying information, find out how it will be used and whether it will be shared with others. Ask if you have a choice about the use of your information: can you choose to have it kept confidential?
3. Pay attention to billing cycles. Follow up with creditors if your bills don't arrive on time.
4. Guard your mail from theft. Deposit outgoing mail in post office collection boxes or at your local post office. Promptly remove mail from your mailbox after it has been delivered. If you plan on being away from home and can't pick up your mail, call the U.S. Postal Service at 1-800-275-8777 to request a vacation hold.
5. Put passwords on your credit card, bank and phone accounts. Avoid using easily available information like you mother's maiden name, your birth date, the last four digits of you SSN or your phone number, or a series of consecutive numbers.
6. Minimize the identification information and the number of cards you carry to what you'll actually need.
6. Don't give out personal information on the phone, through the mail or over the Internet unless you have initiated the contact or know whom you're dealing with.
7. Keep items with personal information in a safe place.
8. Be cautious about where you leave personal informa-

tion in your home, especially if you have roommates, employ outside help, or having service work done in your home. Find out who has access to you personal information at work and verify that the records are kept in a secure location.

9. Give your SSN only when absolutely necessary. Ask to use other types of identifiers when possible.
10. Don't carry your SSN card; leave it in a secure place.
11. Order a copy of your credit report from each of the three major credit bureaus every year.
12. You can order them together at www.AnnualCreditReport.com or by calling 1-877-322-8228.



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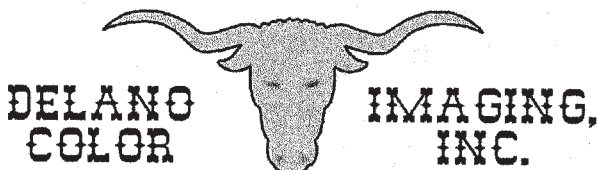
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The Master Gardener's Corner

By EMG Chuck Guenther

Poison Ivy Identification and Control Learning to identify poison ivy is vital if you wish to avoid the rash that accompanies exposure. Unfortunately, poison ivy can make identification difficult because it occurs in three forms: an erect woody shrub, a groundcover that creeps along the ground, and a woody vine that will climb trees. When poison ivy climbs, it forms numerous aerial roots that gives the vine the appearance of a fuzzy rope. The leaves of poison ivy also vary. Though the compound leaf always has three leaflets, the leaf margins may be toothed, incised, lobed or smooth. The size of the leaves can also vary though usually the middle leaflet is larger than the other two. Also, the middle leaflet is the only one with a long stalk; the other two are closely attached to the petiole (leaf stem). The number of leaves gives rise to the saying: "Leaves of three, let it be!" Poison ivy is often confused with Virginia creeper. Virginia creeper, however, has five leaflets rather than three. There are three methods commonly used to eradicate poison ivy. These include pulling or grubbing out the plants by hand, cutting off the vine, and then treating the regrowth, and spraying the plants directly. The method used depends somewhat on the plant's growth form. If the plant is growing as a groundcover, direct spray or grubbing the plant out is often used. If grubbing, wear gloves and a long-sleeved shirt. The soil must be moist for grubbing to work well. Wash the clothes (and yourself) immediately after you finish. It might also be a good idea to rinse the washing machine. If the plant is in the shrub form, direct spray is the most common control method. If the plant is a woody vine that has climbed a tree, the preferred method is to cut the plant off at the base and treat the sprouts after they emerge. Some triclopyr herbicides also have instructions on treating a freshly cut stump directly. Herbicides that can be used include glyphosate (Roundup, Killzall Weed and Grass Killer, Nutgrass, Poison Ivy and Vine Killer) or triclopyr (Brush-B-Gon Poison Ivy Killer, Brush Killer Stump Killer). Poison ivy is tough. Repeat applications

may be necessary. (WU)

Summer Care of Strawberries . The care you give your strawberries this summer and fall will make a difference in the amount of fruit you harvest next spring. Next year's fruit buds will be set in September and October of this year. Larger, healthier plants set more fruit buds. If you use a garden cultivator, a rototiller, or a hoe for weed control in the rows and between rows, throw about a half inch of soil over the crowns. Strawberry plant crowns continue to develop at the top, and new roots are initiated above old roots on the crown, so about a half inch to an inch of soil should cover the crown. You will provide a good rooting medium for new runner plants if you keep the soil pliable or resilient rather than allowing it to become hard on the surface. Don't forget to keep moisture in the soil. Strawberry plants need about 1 1/2 inches of moisture each week when temperatures reach 90 degrees.

Information provided by K-State University Research and Extension.

You contain within yourself a unique combination of talents and abilities which, properly identified and applied, will enable you to achieve virtually any goal you can set for yourself.

Spend eighty percent of your time focusing on the opportunities of tomorrow rather than the problems of yesterday.


After every difficulty, ask yourself two questions: "What did I do right?" and "What would I do differently?"

Because of our publishing deadline, the results of our 10th Year Anniversary Celebration and Fundraiser will be in the October issue.

DELANO BUSINESS ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President, Gerald Marsh Dentbusters e-mail gmar4442@aol.com	Vice President, Annie Best Photographers'Gallery e-mail ATBest@cox.net
Secretary, Chris Rausch What's Brewin' Phone: 263-1342	Treasurer, Ellen Botts Dig This Phone 267-3373

Meetings are Second Wednesday of each month at 6:30PM
at the Masonic Towers,
407 S Martinson



SPECIAL MEMORIES

1725 W. Douglas
Wichita, KS 67213
262-4030
Tue. Sat.; 10:30 am - 5:00 pm
British - American Antiques

Description of Office and Duties of Officeholders

President: The President shall be the principle officer and shall supervise and control the business and affairs of the DNA, subject of agreement among the Executive Board. When present, the President shall preside at all meetings. The President shall be the official DNA representative at all other pertinent meetings.

Vice-President: In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President, and when so acting, shall have the powers of and be subject to all limitations upon the President. The Vice-President, from time to time, may perform other additional duties as assigned by the President or the Executive Board.

Secretary: The Secretary shall keep minutes and written records of all meetings. All records shall also contain written records of majority and minority opinions, including reports or stated opinions offered by expert consultants appointed to the Executive Board. The Secretary shall be responsible for the keeping of all records and correspondence of the DNA. The Secretary shall make records of the DNA available for inspection at a mutually agreed upon time and place.

Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be responsible for all financial affairs and shall give an accounting at each General Meeting and at the Executive Board Meeting. Prior to the end of the Treasurer's term of office there shall be a complete audit of funds. The Treasurer, the newly elected Treasurer and the President shall conduct the audit. The

Treasurer shall receive and safe keep all funds and pay bills owed by the DNA. Any disbursement of funds shall be by check. Other reports regularly representing the business of the organization to governing parties shall be completed by the Treasurer.

Activities From Your Library

September 29-30 is the free Kansas Book Festival at Lawrence-Dumont Stadium. Enjoy family-friendly events on three stages, meet authors, listen to great music, watch dancers, and experience history coming alive - all free of charge. For more information, visit www.kansasbookfestival.ks.gov.

Fall into free fun at your library! Enjoy storytimes, book discussions, historical re-enactments and more-all free, at your Wichita Public Library. Visit www.wichita.lib.ks.us for more.

September 15-October 15 is Hispanic Heritage Month at your Wichita Public Library. Visit www.wichita.lib.ks.us for a complete listing of free events for the entire family or drop by your favorite branch.



think big

Homecoming Events

- Oct. 2, 6 p.m. – Falcon Soccer vs. Kansas Wesleyan
- Oct. 5, 7 p.m. – Lady Falcon Volleyball
- Oct. 7, 9 a.m.- 5 p.m. – Class Reunions
- Oct. 7, 5 p.m. – Parade
- Oct. 7, 5:30 p.m. – Block Party
- Oct. 7, 7 p.m. – Football Game and Crowning

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Tips to Keep Our Water Clean

- Pick up after your pets.
- Maintain your vehicles to prevent leaks of automotive fluids.
- Use commercial car washes – they are more efficient and they have mud traps that catch oil and sediment.
- Follow the directions on insecticides and herbicides very carefully.
- Use slow release fertilizers.
- Use compost and natural fertilizers and alternative pesticides when you can.
- Pull weeds by hand as an alternative to chemicals.
- Don't apply lawn and garden chemicals if rain is in the forecast.
- Plant native grasses to reduce the need for lawn chemicals.
- Use soil barriers to stop erosion during grass planting, gardening and construction.
- Pick up and properly dispose of litter.
- If you have a septic tank, be sure it works properly.
- Don't use products made of Styrofoam – they never degrade.

Did you know?

The flowers around the clock tower and the trees and bushes along Douglas Street are taken care of by the City Park Department.

This newsletter produced and printed by
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IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:

- Department of Environmental Services
(weeds, junked cars)
268-8351
- Stanley Neighborhood City Hall
303-8008
- West Patrol Substation/CPO
337-9400
- Central Inspection (substandard housing)
268-4481



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