

President's Message
September 3, 2022

Well, I hope you all have had a great summer, whether it was spent here, elsewhere, or like me, here part of the time and elsewhere part of the time.

I will have to say that the last 2 months as Chateau's Board of Managers President has been anything but boring! Presiding over a new board is always challenging and it makes it even more so when some have never been on an HOA board before.

For those of you who may not know, a "normal" HOA board of directors is just that ... directors ... not managers. They leave that side of it to a managing company that they have hired. The managing company takes care of acquiring contactors to do the work around the complex as well as managing the money and compliance issues and so on. ... AND ... therein lies the difference ... here at Chateau we have a board of managers ... not a board of directors (subtle difference). We do it all ... direct and manage ... double duty ... and a LOT of it is done unnoticed.

For instance... were you there last year to witness us having the cables for the bridge upgraded and inspected or how about getting the bat guys to come out and take care of (what was) our bat problem in the lodge. Did you know that we have our own sewer plant here? I didn't know that until I got on the board. That's monitored 7 days a week by our incredible water tech guy, Derek, who keeps our sewer up to state standards, keeps our drinking water clean, and does all the paper work and written reports ... and much more.

Then there's what goes on in the office ... WOW!!! I've been amazed at the amount of work and the hours that are spent running this place while you all are biking, hiking, river rafting or whatever you enjoy doing here in the valley.

We have WONDERFUL people working for us. I can't say enough good things about our new Park Manager, Colee. She's so efficient and dedicated to Chateau. She's only been here since May and still learning about our quirks and idiosyncrasies and with that said ... she's still smiling!

Joe, our new Park Maintenance guy, has also been truly amazing. He has taken on everything we have thrown at him. Case in point: after our monsoon rain that flooded about everything ... he was out here grading our streets bright and early in the morning and stayed way past when he should have - making sure everything was good... for us.

Brady, who has taken on the part time role of trying to keep all the bathhouses clean, what a challenge that has been at times! What a great guy ... always willing to learn, do more, be better and be our general meetings' Seargent-At-Arms. He takes such pride in this community and works hard at pleasing everyone.

... and then there's our Treasurer, Denise. There is no way I can impress upon you what an amazing person she is! She truly is the Jack of all Trades ... and ... master of them all, too. She's trained Colee to take over being our Park Manager, which includes running the office, while maintaining all her treasurer responsibilities. She probably knows more about Chateau, its ins & outs, than all of us do collectively.

This brings me to your Board of Managers. These are the people who we've entrusted to run our community. (I say "we've entrusted" because we all vote ... you all ... me ... everyone.) What an incredible, intelligent group of leaders. All willing to share their ideas and visions of Chateau's future. We don't always see eye-to-eye, but that's ok. The ultimate goal is always: what is best for Chateau overall, trying to project and prepare for the future so that Chateau can maintain its ambiance and charm while keeping the infrastructure strong.

Last, but certainly not least, is you and all of us ... the members of Chateau. We are a small community like no other in Colorado, I'm proud to say. Much like a family we bicker and that's ok, too.

SO? How many of you know of or have seen the 1988 movie: "Stand & Deliver"? It was a true story about a teacher, Jaime Escalante, who came to the United States from Bolivia. He was assigned to teach Math at an inner-city high school in Los Angeles. When he walked into his math classroom for the first time, he saw a Sophomore class out of control working out of a 7th grade Math book. His (personal) mission was to teach these kids math so they could, in their Senior year, take and pass the AP Math test. This had never been accomplished before in this school – EVER! This required changing the culture of their classroom

behavior (which he did) and summer school for all. One young man decided he wasn't going to make it and stopped coming to the summer school classes. Jaime went to his house and there the young man was working on cars with a bunch of his buddies. The young man explained to Jaime that he was fine. Making okay money now by working on these cars. Jaime asked the young man to take a ride with him, and they got into Jaime's car and drove a little way down the road when Jaime stopped the car. At this point Jaime explained that all the young man was looking at was as far as the end of the hood on the car ... only as far as the hood ornament (we do all remember those, right?) Jaime was trying to get the young man to look down the road, much farther than just the length of the car hood. (The young man returned to Jaime's classes and eventually passed the AP Math test along with everyone else in the class.)

So, hopefully we can be forward thinking like Jaime was ... looking out for Chateau's future. Being pro-active with "what's best for Chateau" always in our minds and actions. Let's continue to strive for my earlier reference of ambiance and charm but also for a strong family ... a strong community ... and a (pro-active) ... **OUR** Chateau.

Respectively Submitted,

Joanie

Joan McCord, President
CCOA Board of Managers