

## **Application for Gainey Ranch Community Association Board of Directors**

First & Last Name: **Richard Bowman**

Gainey Ranch property owner who lives in **Arroyo Vista**

Lived / owned on Gainey Ranch for **17 Years – in two communities. Part time resident, November – April plus monthly visits other 6 months**

Candidate has read and is familiar with the GRCA governing documents and thoroughly understands the working relationship between the Board and the Administration.

### **Background / Biography**

I graduated from Cornell College in 1962, The University of Minnesota Law School in 1965, practiced law with a Minneapolis law firm for 19 years, started my own law firm in 1985 called Bowman and Brooke and have been a product liability defense lawyer for over 40 years. My firm has offices in Detroit, Los Angeles, San Jose, Richmond, Phoenix, Minneapolis and Columbia, South Carolina (just opened Columbia office on Dec. 1, 2009). I have been the Managing Partner of the firm for its first 24 years, and just stepped down from that position 11 months ago. I remain a consultant to the Executive and Management Committees.

We have over 400 people on our payroll, 150 of which are lawyers. Our primary business is the defense of manufacturers who are sued on product liability cases, alleging that the product was defective and caused some catastrophic injuries or deaths. My firm is the largest supplier of defense lawyers for the world wide auto industry. We try cases to juries in all 50 states. We were just selected a few months ago by the Legal 500 as the NUMBER ONE product liability defense firm in the nation.

I recently stopped trying cases and my management duties are not full time, so I am able to devote abundant time to non employment pursuits.

I am a member of the California Bar Association, the Minnesota Bar Association, and the International Association for the Advancement of Automotive Medicine. I was the founding General Counsel of the Product Liability Advisory Council and was a long time member of the Defense Research Institute. For about ten years I was a member of the Board of Directors of Calvary Lutheran Church, a 5000 member church in one of the Minneapolis suburbs, and also a member of the Executive Committee of that Board for over 5 years.

I am in my second year as a member of the Board of Governors of the Lafayette Club, a 1,000 member golf, social, athletic and tennis club located on Lake Minnetonka on the west edge of the twin cities. I also serve as chairman of the Board's Membership committee, last year's chairman of the House committee, and I am in my second year on the Board's Finance committee.

Terri and I built unit 8 in Arroyo Vista in 1993. We sold that unit in 2003 and purchased Unit 3. Shortly thereafter we started spending at least 6 months a year living at Arroyo Vista. Terri has been on the Arroyo Vista Board for several years. In 2004 we purchased and renovated unit 147 in Sunset Cove. We sold that unit and applied the proceeds to purchasing and remodeling Sunset Cove unit 133 in 2005, which we still own. We plan to spend our retirement years at Arroyo Vista and are heavily committed to the long term success of the Gainey Ranch.

### **PLATFORM**

Since Terri and I plan to spend most of the next 20 plus years at Gainey Ranch, we have a strong commitment to the Gainey Ranch thriving and staying at the cutting edge of PLACES PEOPLE MOST WANT TO LIVE. This will require a continued investment in our community property so that our designs, landscaping, lighting, colors and amenities are just as much NUMBER ONE as is our location. As Gainey

Ranch continues to be rediscovered by those who have learned that owning a home 20 miles north of us is not desirable, we have a duty to be persistent and robust STEWARDS of our property.

Yes, we are not all in the same economic boat, so we need to be careful to allocate and prioritize how and when we spend our limited resources, just as each of us as homeowners and business owners have done over the years with our own spending. But we do need to continue reinvesting in those things which create the most value for the community. We absolutely need to do those things for community property which we would surely do if we owned the property ourselves. Where we, as individual homeowners, would not tolerate a lack of paint, or a lack of tending and care, or broken fixtures, or outdated amenities, we, on behalf of the Association, must not tolerate such things either. In short, do unto and for the association as you would do unto yourself. To the end that we remain current, we need to continue color upgrade programs, entrance upgrade programs, and landscaping and lighting upgrade programs. And, because all of us are not living here all of the time, and so may not know that our individual homes are in need of attention, we need to study what other associations have done to cope with and assist absentee owners (buddy systems? neighborhood watch systems? ) so we can implement steps to assure that ALL of our properties are maintained ALL of the time.