Chantarelle News

Sonoma, California

Chantarelle Homeowners' Association

June 2015 Volume 26 #6

JUNE

June brings us the last bright days of Spring and the first long days of a beautiful Summer here in Sonoma, as the Summer Solstice occurs on June 21st. Other notable days this month are: Flag Day on Sunday, June 14 and Fathers Day on Sunday, June 21. Everyone have a very happy month!

BOARD MEETING

There is no Board Meeting in June. The next Board Meeting will be on Tuesday, July 21st.

TGIF PARTY

The next TGIF is at the clubhouse on Friday, June 5th, starting at 5:45pm. All residents are invited and we look forward to seeing you there. There is no admission charge, just bring a beverage of your choice and a small item of food to share.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

The spring season brings fresh changes. Plants, trees and flowers are blooming with vibrant colors and growth. Vegetables and fruits are growing and some are ready for the table. Chantarelle is also looking brighter since the benches and fence near the walk-through are now painted. The clubhouse sign will be here soon and that will also add to beauty of our community.

Speaking of community, some **new homeowners** have joined us-- Cindy Adamson at 257 South Temelec Circle and Steve and Lois Rogers at 186 St. James Drive, with new homeowners coming soon to 284 South Temelec Circle. You can see Chantarelle is in transition. New homeowners will bring new ideas and (hopefully) a desire to volunteer to continue the work that has occurred. Thanks to our 25-year original homeowners' efforts that set the tone for the Chantarelle that you see today.

HOA Meeting: There are always new ways to move ahead; it just takes the willingness to add your voice to the conversation. That was true at the last HOA meeting on May 19th where the Board and homeowners in attendance had a lengthy conversation regarding the legal opinion from our attorney on the subject of tree roots affecting patios, walks, and driveways. We tabled a motion to approve an amendment on these issues until we have time to further discuss and interpret the legal opinion, and consider the options. A committee of 9 was established (5 Board members, our Managing Agent, the Landscape committee and another homeowner who volunteered). This committee will meet to review possible solutions so that we can make our recommendations at the July Board meeting.

Historic crossroads: since the community is now 25 years old, the past has now caught up with us and the time to plan for the future is now. We are in good financial shape, thanks to past Board actions, and we continue to work within the existing budget to maintain, repair, renew and in some cases buy new equipment and products that are needed. The idea of alternative methods of landscaping using differtent materials is voiced more and more. I will have the opportunity to be present at a discussion with a master gardener who will offer four distinct ways to add a new look using drought-tolerant water-efficient landscapes. I am looking forward to this presentation and will give specific information to our Board and Landscape members. I will also invite the master gardener doing this presentation to a future HOA meeting.

A Community Yard Sale is scheduled for Saturday, June 20th. We will advertise in the local paper and have signs available that day to draw in the public. We will have tables in front of the clubhouse, and possibly a dumpster available to help us do a thorough "clearing out." As of this writing, Creekside is having their yard

sale on the same day, which should add to the volume of customers. Look for a reminder flyer in your mail tube prior to June 20th. As you can see, a lot is happening. I encourage you to get involved and share your ideas and talents to ensure that Chantarelle continues to be the much sought-after community in which we live. Remember TGIF on June 5th and Movie night on June 17th. Stay safe and active. *Dave Owens*

MOVIE NIGHT

The movie for June will be *Tim's Vermeer*.

Plot summary: Documentary film about Inventor Tim Jenison as he seeks to understand and replicate the techniques used by Dutch Master Johannes Vermeer. Produced and directed by master magicians Penn and Teller. The movie will start at 7pm on Wednesday, June 17th in the Clubhouse.

LANDSCAPE NOTES

Hello Chantarelle friends and neighbors. We've had a busy month with all things related to beautifying our landscape here in Chantarelle. So here are the latest updates.

New plantings: In April, we began our spring round of planting new shrubs in front of the homes of residents that were most seriously in need of improvement. May was our month to complete our spring planting project. By the time you're reading this update, Rafael and his crew will have just finished installing the latest group of plants. In some cases, we stuck with familiar plants you already see around here, such as Boxwood and Azalea. But we also continue to introduce new leafy friends, mainly low-water plants that will provide as much color and beauty as possible, such as Hebe, Cestrum Newelli, Salvias, and Spanish Lavender.

Mulch time: June will be our month for a major mulching project. There are a number of bare spots in common areas that we will be mulching, along with the homes that have received new plants this spring. This will add to the consistency of appearance as you walk or drive through the neighborhood, as well as providing the benefit of helping retain the precious water the plants receive.

What's up with the lawns? You may be noticing that even though the real heat of the summer hasn't even set in yet, some of the lawns are turning brown, or brown-ish. The reason for this is that we are only watering lawns twice a week, at night. Though we are not in the Sonoma city limits, we are abiding by the Sonoma restriction of watering lawns on this schedule. It may be helpful to know that where the lawns are turning brown, they haven't actually died. The green will return when we start to receive our much-needed rains this coming fall and winter.

Lawn conversion: At the May Board Meeting, a couple of residents expressed interest in the prospect of converting their lawns to xeriscape. Xeriscape is the term that refers to a style of landscape design requiring little or no irrigation or other maintenance, mostly used in arid regions. Many homeowners in Sonoma County are eliminating lawns, and Debbie and I are very interested in researching just what it would take in terms of cost, time, and resources for residents here in Chantarelle to make this conversion if they desire. We'll keep you posted on this as we learn more. We are actually beginning to convert lawns to xeriscape in some of our common areas. The first of these projects is eliminating the grass beneath the Redwoods on the "cut through" walkway between St. James Drive and S. Temelec Circle. Rafael has already turned off the irrigation of the lawn in that area, and soon will be removing the lawn. We will add some beautifying touches -- keep an eye out next time you walk that way!

Irrigation conversion: Debbie and I are well aware that the current irrigation system used for our lawns and shrubs is not ideal for water-efficiency. Beginning later this year, one solution we seek to implement is to slowly convert from the spray-style irrigation to drip irrigation. We are looking into the cost of making this conversion in the front areas of our residents' homes as the first step in this direction.

Our poor pear trees: There are many Ornamental Pear Trees in our neighborhood. They are the ones that have the glorious white blossoms in spring and regale us with exquisite reds and golds in the autumn. During the summer, they wear a lush thick coat of green leaves. But this year, something seems to be wrong. Their spring blooming cycle

wasn't as robust as it has been in recent years. Now that the green leaves have emerged, the leaves look shriveled. Some have even died. No doubt they are very stressed from the drought. But there may be additional problems, such as a spreading disease. Our tree expert, Ryan Garrison, has taken a look at them and is now researching to find the cause of the problem. He will meet with the two of us in early June to tell us what the problem is and what course of action to take. Meanwhile, just know that we are aware of the problem and are hoping this is solvable with Ryan's expert help.

Water-wise education -- are you interested? We would like to hear from you with regard to your interest in learning more about water-wise gardening. There are numerous Master Gardeners in Sonoma who speak very articulately on the subject. If we assess that there is enough interest here in our community for us to schedule one of these Master Gardeners to speak to a group of us, we'd be more than happy to make that happen. So if your answer is "yes" to this idea, please call or email Debbie or me, or if you happen to see us out walking in the neighborhood, just give us your "thumbs up" and we'll get a water-wise talk on the community calendar.

Okey dokey, lots to say this month! Thanks for taking the time to read these updates. Looking forward to providing you with more news and updates next month. Till then, have a happy June! ~ *Debbie and Susan*

NEW NEIGHBORS

Pease welcome our new neighbors:

Cindy Adamson
257 South Temelec Circle

Steve and Lois Rogers
186 St. James Drive

DIRECTORY UPDATE

Please note that the phone number for Mary Howland is incorrect in the 2015 directory. The correct number is: 650-468-1119.

SAFETY & WELFARE

The Safety & Welfare Committee still needs additional volunteers. Interested residents should call Hans Steuck at 939-1103.

CLUBHOUSE RESERVATIONS

To reserve the clubhouse for an event, please call Liz Wardimon at 343-1132.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

If you know of anyone at Chantarelle who is sick or if you have a new neighbor, please let Willy Hoekstra know, so that she can contact them. Willy's number is 996-0661.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Please refer to your 2015 Directory for a list of our Board of Directors and Committee Members.

NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE

Please submit items for the newsletter and the Chantarelle Website to John Dodgshon, 933-8395 or email him at: *John_Dodgshon@hotmail.com.* Our thanks to Cecilia Angel for her continued dedication to delivering the newsletter.

Advertisement

All Walks of Life: Need a little help around the house for you or a loved one? Personal Assistance and Elder Care available. Certified & Bonded. References available.
I live here in Chantarelle. Flyers and Cards are in the Club House.
Dona Kinkead 415-425-3110

Note that advertisers are not endorsed by the HOA

CHANTARELLE WEEKLY CALENDAR				
Monday	**Tuesday**	**Wednesday**	**Thursday**	**Friday**
Art Club 1pm		**Mah Jongg 9:30** **Bridge 12:30pm**	**Rummikub 1:30**	**Mah Jongg 9am**
Water Aerobics 1-2pm	**Water Aerobics 1-2pm**	**Water Aerobics 1-2pm**	**Water Aerobics 1-2pm**	**Water Aerobics 1-2pm**

JUNE 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Bunco 1-4pm	3	4	5 TGIF 5:45pm	6
7	8	9 MexicanTrain Dominoes 12:30-4pm	10	11	12	13
14 Flag Day	15	16	17 Movie Night 7pm	18	19	20 Community Yard Sale
21 Fathers Day Summer Solstice	22	23 MexicanTrain Dominoes 12:30-4pm	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Waldron Landscaping is now here on Thursday and Friday 8am until 4pm.
Garbage, recycling and garden trash pickup is every Monday.