Chantarelle News

Sonoma, California

Chantarelle Homeowners' Association

July 2015 Volume 26 #7

JULY

July is the first full month of Summer. It also marks the start of a new rain season which we all hope will be much better than the last one! There is only one notable day this month and that is: Independence Day on Saturday, July 4th. Everyone have a very happy July 4th weekend and a happy month!

BOARD MEETING

The next Board Meeting will be at 3pm on Tuesday, July 21st. All homeowners are encouraged to attend. The meeting includes Open Forum which affords all attendees a three-minute opportunity to express ideas on any subject relating to the Association.

TGIF PARTY

The TGIF this month will be by the pool on Friday, July 3rd starting at 5:45 p.m. This will be a nice way to get a head start on the holiday weekend festivities. 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. Desserts will be provided.

MOVIE NIGHT

There will be no movie night in July.

CONDOLENCES TO THE RYAN FAMILY

The Chantarelle Community extends its deepest sympathy to the family of Pete Ryan, one of the original residents in Chantarelle, who passed away last month.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Happy 4th of July to our Chantarelle community! We will soon celebrate our nation's Independence Day with fireworks, parades and BBQ'S with friends and family. Lest we forget, our independence and struggles to win and keep our freedoms have been hard-fought. Members of the armed forces and civilians have sacrificed their lives to allow our country to flourish and progress. Many times the true meaning of the 4th is lost. How fortunate we are, as a result of the actions of those brave individuals who have gone before us, to live in a country with the freedom to debate and question the issues of the day, even among ourselves.

The business issues of Chantarelle are many. The Board and Landscape Committee will meet on June 26th, June 30th, and July 3rd, if needed, to review our attorney's opinion regarding the tree root situation. You may be aware that problems have occurred with the invasive roots damaging some patios, driveways, and sidewalks. We will review our options and policies as a community to alleviate what is possible. This will be no easy task both from a time and monetary perspective.

Pear Tree Problem: Our arborist has also made us aware of an insect problem with the flowering pear trees on St. James Dr. and St. Matthew and St. Patrick Courts (see the Landscape Notes, below, for further details). As has been mentioned in previous articles, the community is now experiencing problems that 25-year-old plantings can cause. Nature has provided much beauty here, but also some problems that need to be addressed. Options need to be discussed and a timeline established to deal with these issues.

Community Garage Sale: Hopefully homeowners participated in the community garage/yard sale on June 20th. Nineteen Chantarelle households participated in offering their items for sale. I think that garages and storage areas in homes are now much less cluttered. The dumpster seemed to be a great hit and was quite full when picked up on June 22nd. Several people mentioned the enjoyment of walking through the

neighborhood and greeting old and new acquaintances. Activities like this bring us together and make us unique. I have heard from residents in surrounding communities say that they wish they had the activities that we have in Chantarelle. We are especially lucky to have so many volunteers provide hard work, service and activities available to our community.

The community is changing very rapidly with homes selling on the days of open house. A new wave of residents has arrived and with that in mind new ideas and hopefully more hands to assist. At times what is needed is some backup to continue the work that needs to be done. Looking ahead to autumn, let's think of what we can do to make Chantarelle even greater. Your talents are needed to move ahead, We are counting on you to step forward with that help. I hope to see you at the July 3rd TGIF and the BBQ in August. Stay safe and enjoy your Fourth of July.

Dave Owens

LANDSCAPE NOTES

Summer greetings to you, Chantarelle friends. Debbie and I have a few things to share with you about the latest and greatest in the landscape department.

The Blight Gave Us Quite the Fright! Our beautiful Ornamental Pear trees in the neighborhood have all been looking most unhealthy this entire year, as I mentioned in last month's newsletter. The bloom cycle in March wasn't as robust as it has been in years past, and now that the leaves are out, they all look droopy and withered. Some leaves are even dying in clumps throughout the trees. What's a Landscape Committee to do? Very fortunately, our community tree expert, Ryan Garrison from Art & Science Tree Service, came to consult with us and now we have the full scoop. Here's the good news: the trees aren't dying, even though they look terribly unhappy. They are afflicted with a bacterial condition called "Fire Blight". The Blight isn't just affecting our trees in the neighborhood -- pear trees all up and down the Sonoma Valley are infected with this disease. The Blight bacteria infects the trees during their spring bloom cycle. So at this point in the year, it is too late to do anything about it. We hope that as the weather continues to be warm and dry, the bacteria will recede. We are already seeing signs that the Blight is not continuing to spread as the summer progresses. You may be wondering if a treatment exists to combat this Blight. The answer is yes, but it requires that the trees be sprayed in early spring. This is an impractical solution for us here in Chantarelle, because the cost would be prohibitive, and we don't want to expose our residents and their animals to the spray. So at this time, we are not planning to engage this strategy. If we have enough cold, dry weather this coming winter, the trees are likely to fare much better next spring and summer. In fact, the Blight has infected the trees because we had such an unseasonably warm winter this year. Recovery is possible, even likely, if the next several winters bring us colder weather. The solution we will employ is to have the Art & Science Tree Service cut back the infected areas when they come to do their regular fall pruning. This should help to contain the Blight. If the weather conditions that promote the Fire Blight disease continue in the next few years, then we may indeed have a serious problem of dying pear trees to contend with. But fortunately, we don't need to cross that bridge yet. Let's hope we never have to. We hope instead that the pear trees can live out their natural life expectancy and will be replaced one at a time as they come to the end of their tree life.

We toured the neighborhood and have determined that out of the nearly 50 pear trees in the neighborhood, only a small number of these pear trees are damaged to the point of needing to be removed. Those trees are slated for removal by Ryan's Art & Science Tree Service sometime in August.

Explorations into Xeriscaping Debbie and I are planning to research the prospect of converting lawn areas to xeriscaping in the near future, in both some of our common areas as well as for individual homeowners who wish to make this conversion. There is a fair amount of planning involved in making xeriscaping a reality in our community, so just know that we are taking steps to provide this as an option in months and years to come.

We'll most definitely keep you updated as we discover more.

Master Gardeners Speak on Water Conservation

We hope to get on the list of the Sonoma County Master Gardener lecture series that focuses on water conservation. Dave Owens, our supportive President, has given us names to contact so we are looking forward to booking a lecture for our community in the near future. Stay tuned; more to come on this as well.

Have a terrific July and look for more from us in the August newsletter.

~ *Debbie and Susan*

NEW NEIGHBORS

Please welcome our new neighbors:

Don and Mary Omodt
133 South Temelec Circle
Phone: 343-7337

DIRECTORY UPDATE

Please note that the phone number for Ann Loftus is incorrect in the 2015 Directory. The correct number is 934-5336.

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.

CLUBHOUSE RESERVATIONS

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

COURTESY REMINDER

Just a reminder that the pool is for the use and enjoyment of all of our residents and their guests. Common decorum, decency and courtesy should reign at all times. Recently the child of a guest splashing in the pool playfully acknowledged out loud that she had peed "again" in the pool. When a nearby resident heard this and queried the father, instead of apologizing for his child or admonishing her for her actions, he was very discourteous to our resident. So, we are asking all residents who have guests with kids to remind them that they are "guests" in our pool and therefore should act accordingly, including telling their kids that intentionally peeing in our pool is not acceptable behavior.

SAFETY & WELFARE

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

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**

JULY 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 **TGIF 5:45pm**	4 *Independence Day*
5	6	7 **Bunco 1-4pm**	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 **MexicanTrain Dominoes 12:30-4pm**	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 **Board Meeting 3pm**	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 **MexicanTrain Dominoes 12:30-4pm**	29	30	31	

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