Chantarelle Gazette

Chantarelle Homeowners' Association Newsletter

OCTOBER 2026 – Issue 37.10

EDITOR MUSINGS

Have You Been Scammed Lately?

Well, I have….sort of. A few weeks ago, I received a voice mail from an Erik Dawson claiming to be from Publishers' Clearing House. I laughed when I heard the message. I couldn't believe that they were still around. Years ago, my husband, busy as he was, would fill out the forms every time we received a mailing from PCH. I told him it was just a ploy to get you to subscribe to one of their magazines. He ignored me and continued to send the mailings back hoping to win millions. Finally, one day he got a letter from PCH announcing that he was a finalist in their drawing and to stand by and make himself available to receive his check. We were scheduled to go out with friends the day the check was supposed to be awarded. He refused to leave the house and I wound up canceling the get together. I couldn't believe he really thought he might win. Well, you guessed it, the check never came and finally he realized it was all a scam. He never filled out another mailing again.

Well, you can imagine how surprised I was when I got the call from Erik Dawson. I answered his call the second time and told him I didn't think PCH was still around. He assured me it was. He told me that I had won 2nd prize and would be the recipient of $2.5 million. I said very calmly, "Oh, really." I didn't believe a word he was saying, but I wanted to see where it would lead. So, I let him continue. He then asked me how I would like to receive the money – one lump sum or $5,000/month for life. Of course I said, "one lump sum!" He told me that I would have to pay 7% in taxes. I said, "No problem!" He then asked me how I would spend the money. I told him I would like to travel more. Then he advised me that I should be investing my money and make it work for me. Yeah, right, OK. He then gave me a code that I had to write down because I would need it to access my BofA escrow account that would be preparing my award. He asked if I wanted one of two presentations for the award. One would be with reporters and cameras and the CEO of PCH and Steve Harvey. I said, "Steve Harvey? The guy from TV? I love him!" My second option was to have a smaller presentation with just the CEO and Steve Harvey. I opted for the smaller presentation. Gee, if I really won I wouldn't want the world to know where I lived, right? Erik then told me to wait until the next day, which was a Saturday for his call.

I laughed to myself when I hung up. Wouldn't it be great if this were really true. I let myself fantasize just a little about the possibilities. Then I decided to do a reality check. I asked Siri if there was a current scam going on with PCH. She said, "No." I went online and looked up a fact checking site called "Snopes". That site led me to the real Publishers' Clearing House website's Fraud page. Sure enough, there it was "2nd prize winner, etc." It was a scam! The site then directed me to the Federal Trade Commission's site that asked me to complete a description of what happened. I gave them all the info I had, including Erik Dawson's phone number.

When Erik Dawson called the following day, I didn't answer but I sent him a text that said, "The jig is up, Erik! I know you were scamming me. I've reported you to the FTC! Don't bother calling me again!" I received a text back from him asking, "How did he scam me? You just don't think you deserve to win." How was he going to scam me – by probably asking me to pay the taxes up front and do a wire transfer to a bogus escrow account. (Is BofA's Escrow department even open on a Saturday?)

Within the hour his phone number and text messages mysteriously disappeared off my cell phone. Wow!

If you ever get a call like this don't trust them. Tell them you'll call them back and then go to the company's website and look up the real phone number. Report them to the FTC. Or, just hang up! As seniors we are targets for these scammers. Don't fall prey to their devious tactics.

-- Valerie Camarda, Editor
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PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Welcome to October which represents transformation, change, preparation, harvest, abundance, prosperity, gratitude….and celebrating Halloween/All Hallows Eve. Honoring all of that will keep us quite busy as we move from the fall into winter.

The following is an overview of the Board meeting in September:

A huge thank you to Russelle Johnson for chairing the Welcome Committee for 10 years. What a generous commitment. Russelle will be stepping down as chairperson, and she will remain on the committee. Mimi Hirai will be the new Chairperson, 408-307-7500. Thank you, Mimi.

Thank you, Russelle! You and your committee have done an amazing job making every new neighbor feel welcome and informed. It meant so much to me when I moved in 8 years ago and made me feel glad to be in such a kind and welcoming neighborhood. From what I hear you have been on just about every committee over the years, giving of your time and energy for MORE than 10 years. Please know your generosity and warm heart have been a gift to us all and greatly appreciated. Thank you, a million times over.

Thank you to Patti and Scott Bailey for stepping in to chair the Safety and Welfare Committee. There is a correction to their contact information: ssbailey70@gmail.com, 925-766-6032. Peggy will remain on the committee and continue to send out the email announcements.

Another email correction: Chairperson of the Clubhouse, Marianne Sullivan's correct email is msullivan101010@gmail.com.

The care and beauty of the area around our mailboxes is the responsibility of the homeowner. Please keep the area free of weeds and care for any plants you have added.

Sue Carson, Chairperson of the Traffic Calming committee finally got the results from the Sonoma County Public Infrastructure regarding the speed trailer deployment. They found less than 1% of the vehicles were speeding and no additional traffic calming measures were recommended. My best guess is people slowed down when they saw the speed trailer. Thank you Sue and your committee for all the work you have done to address this issue.

Board votes of approval: New website design to start immediately and completed in 3 months, approval for spring application of mulch by Waldron, approval to increase Waldron's hours by 8 hours each week.

Research has found switching to solar to heat the pool and club house would not save enough to justify the cost at this time.

Recently, construction/sidewalk work has been happening before 8:00 am. The county says construction must happen between the hours of 8:00 am and 6:00 pm. Please observe these times if you are having any construction at your home. Most people might not realize this so reminding others of this requirement can be helpful to all.

Thank you to the Social Committee and all the volunteers for a fun annual Barbeque dinner. The company and food were delightful. All of the hard work and planning is so appreciated. They are already planning the Holiday Party for December the 12th. Save the date.

A reminder as you decorate for Halloween, please make sure any displays will not interfere with the landscape care by Waldron.

Happy Halloween to you all.

--Susan Carlisle, President

TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF JULY 31, 2026

There were no reserve expenses in August, and the reserve fund remains in good shape at $617,268.16. We're still under budget in our operating expenses by about $20,368, so we are still doing well. We are under budget in all expense categories except for the pool, which is over budget by $1,297.63, again because it is being frequently used and also because of the repair that was done back in June. Operating cash on hand amounted to $26,767 at the end of August. Delinquent accounts continue to be of concern as quite a few homeowners have yet to adjust to the new payment procedures. Those of you who are still having trouble and are receiving late payment letters from the HOA can contact either Ron Yamato at 415-305-1400 or Dona Kinkead at 415-425-3110 for assistance

--Ron Yamato, Treasurer

CHANTARELLE SOCIAL NEWS

Friday, October 2 is our First Friday gathering beginning at 5:30 pm at the clubhouse. As always bring an appetizer to share and a libation of your choosing. Hope to see you there.



Thank you to everyone (all 60 of you!) who came and supported our Annual BBQ, and especially to all who stayed after to help us tear down. We received a lot of positive feedback on the event and hope everyone had a great time. [insert photos sent of BBQ]

Unfortunately, we will not be hosting our Casual Coffee and the Farmer's Market gatherings any longer. However, please do save the date, December 12, for our Holiday Party.

--Marybeth Jacobsen & Debby Bonamassa
Social Chairs

LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Board continues to carefully evaluate our landscaping needs while making responsible use of HOA funds.



Mulch Application

Fresh mulch will be applied in the spring to maximize the value of our landscaping budget. Winter rain, winds and falling leaves would cause mulch applied now, to become depleted before spring. The entire irrigation system will also be checked prior to the mulch being distributed.

Ornamental Pear Trees

We are obtaining proposals from three qualified tree-service companies to remove two dead ornamental pear trees and one additional tree that is in declining condition. The Board will review options once bids are completed for any additional treatment needed.

Water Meters & Landscape Areas

Pending budget approval, Waldron Landscape will install river rock around the water meters to provide a neater appearance and help reduce weed growth.

In addition, dying plants and shrubs have been identified throughout the community. Work will begin soon, starting with irrigation review and replacing plant material where necessary.

We appreciate everyone's patience as we continue to maintain and improve our community while making thoughtful and cost-conscious landscaping decisions.

--Dona Kinkead – 415-425-3110

WELCOME COMMITTEE

What a beautiful time of year to welcome our new neighbor Pandora Yniquez at 172 South

Temelec Circle, 323-899-4345, pandorauniquez@yahoo.com.

We haven't been able to catch the owner of 124 South Temelec Circle. Lots of workers are making many renovations, so I'm sure it will be something to see when they are finished. Will let you know when we get his/her information. Houses still available for new neighbors. 10 St. Mathews Ct, 22 St. Mathews, 110 St. James and 129 South Temelec Circle.

--Russelle Johnson - 707-935-8658
rxrjohnson@yahoo.com

--Peggy Owens - 707-343-7087
powens2@juno.com

--Shelley Lawrence - 951-202-0459
pashelaw@gmail.com

--Marge Christofferson
mmjchris@me.com

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

We've been busy keeping up with fellow residents and have sent out a few cards and small gifts to those who suffered a loss or illness. Please do keep us informed of anyone you think might need some cheering up.

--Jackie O'Neill – 707-292-0261

BOOK CLUB NEWS



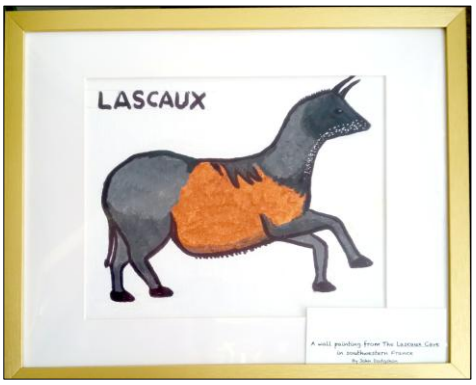
Our host for October has selected *Sarah's Key* by Tatiana de Rosnay. The historical fiction novel alternates between Paris in July 1942, during the infamous Vel' d'Hiv roundup, and May 2002, when a journalist writes about the roundup and discovers a trail of wartime secrets. It is guaranteed to be an emotional read! We will meet in the Clubhouse on Thursday, October 8, at 2:00. New members are always welcome or feel free to read the book on your own.

--Marybeth Jacobsen - 949-290-4757

--Barbara White - 415-377-8712

ART CLUB NEWS

In September we had a John Dodgshon memorial exhibition.



John's travels around the world provided fascinating material for many of his paintings. His personal technique made his work unusual and beautiful.

John inspired us to follow our own styles. His was unique, neatly done and very recognized by all.



The members appreciate Gail's generosity in lending John's paintings, as well as Shelley for lending her painting by John.



October and November we will display paintings with the theme of "Colors of Fall.



All are welcome to join the art club meetings on October 1st and 15th at 1:30 PM in the clubhouse. Please email Mike at (mhashii@gmail.com) or call 415-686-5512 to confirm.

--Mike Hashii – 415-686-5512

SAFETY & WELFARE COMMITTEE

The new committee members, Patti and Scott Bailey, will be sharing news with us about Chantarelle safety and welfare next month. Thank them for serving our HOA.

CLUBHOUSE NOTES

Chantarelle HOA members are welcome to join in fun activities with your neighbors. If you have an interest in joining a Clubhouse activity, please contact the club coordinators for the groups with scheduled activities:

Water Aerobics/Flex Exercise
Peggy Owens – 707-343-7087

Bunco Babes
Russelle Johnson – 707-935-8658

Mexican Train Dominoes
Peggy Owens – 707-343-7087

Art Club
Mike Hashii – 415-686-5512

Poker Night
Ron Yamato – 415-305-1400

Book Club
Marybeth Jacobsen - 949-290-4757
Barbara White - 415-377-8712.

The days and times for those groups with scheduled activities are located on the calendar at the back of this newsletter.

If you are interested in knowing more about starting a new club activity or renting the Clubhouse facility for your next family and friends event, please contact our Clubhouse coordinator, Marianne Sullivan, at msullivan101010@gmail.com or 530-575-9386

--Marianne Sullivan, Coordinator

CLUBHOUSE RENTAL INFO

Plan now for the holidays

I know it's early but the holidays are just around the corner! Is your home getting a bit small to host your growing families or circle of friends? The Chanterelle's Clubhouse may be just right for your next gathering. Previous reservations have included Thanksgiving, Passover, Christmas, birthday celebrations and wedding anniversaries. The venue is beautiful with full use of our kitchen and dinnerware. The rental fee supports our Chanterelle Social Committee. The typical cost is $60 (depending on the number of guests). A refundable deposit of $150 is required. Haven't been to the Clubhouse in a while? I'm happy to give you a tour so you can plan your next event. Please call/text me at (530) 575-9386 or email me at msullivan101010@gmail.com. (Please note my email in the directory is not accurate).

Marianne Sullivan

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

I wanted to share two extremely worthwhile opportunities to volunteer in very meaningful ways in Sonoma County.

I have been a CASA, a Court-Appointed Special Advocate through CASA of Sonoma County for a young child in the foster care system for over a year. The responsibility of a Special Advocate is to be the voice of the child/youth (age 0-18) and to advocate for their best interests as the case proceeds through the system. It involves visiting the child an average of once a week in an effort to become familiar with their needs (social/academic/medical) and to try to assist the various systems of support to try to meet those needs. In addition, the Advocate can take the child/youth out to engage in activities they might not have access to in their current circumstances. The Advocate writes a report that summarizes their findings and submits it to the Court. The Advocate also attends most Court Hearings, which average about once every six months. All applicants are fingerprinted and interviewed extensively before beginning a 4-6 week training program in Kenwood. https://www.sonomacasa.org/

I have also just begun the process of volunteering for Sonoma Valley Mentoring Alliance. I have just completed their orientation and being fingerprinted. Soon, I will be matched with a student in the Sonoma school district. This is a fabulous program generously supported by the people of Sonoma! As a mentor, you meet with your student once a week at their school through the school year

(only). As you get to know them and develop a relationship, you can take them to the many wonderful activities or events sponsored by the Alliance. Of course, you are also free to pursue other activities of your student's choosing on your own. These relationships evolve over time, with most mentors remaining with their mentees until they graduate high school-and beyond!

For more information about either of these groups, please contact the organizations directly.

Denise Lester

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Susan Carlisle, President
415-302-8935
Debby Bonamassa, Vice-President
315-725-8047
Ron Yamato, Treasurer
415-305-1400
David Wildmon, Secretary
415-320-4795
Dona Kinkead, Director
415-425-3110

MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Strong Property Management
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Email: paul@strongmgt.com
24-hour Emergency Number:
1-800-359-2362

CHANTARELLE GAZETTE STAFF

Editor - Valerie Camarda
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Creative Director - Tom McKean



THE POOL WILL REMAIN OPEN, WEATHER PERMITTING
If you are at the Clubhouse/pool and have children who are minors using the bathroom, please supervise them so that the bathroom remains clean.

CHANTARELLE WEEKLY CALENDAR				
Monday	**Tuesday**	**Wednesday**	**Thursday**	**Friday**
Pool Exercise 11:30		**Pool Exercise 11:30**		**Pool Exercise 11:30**

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Art Club 1:30-3:00	**2 First Friday 5:30**	3
4	**5**	**6 Bunco 1:00-4:00**	**7**	**8 Book Club 2:00**	**9**	**10**
11	**12 Indigenous People's Day Columbus Day**	**13 Mexican Train Dominos 12:30-4:00**	**14**	**15 Art Club 1:30-3:00**	**16**	**17**
18	**19**	**20 Social Committee 10:00**	**21 Poker 6:30 Call Ron To Confirm**	**22**	**23**	**24**
25	**26**	**27 Mexican Train Dominos 12:30-4:00**	**28**	**29**	**30**	**31 Halloween** 

Waldron Landscaping is now here on Monday 8:00-4:00 and Tuesday 8:00-4:00.
Garbage, recycling & garden trash pickup is on Monday.