



Chantarelle News

Sonoma, California

Chantarelle
Homeowners'
Association

APRIL 2016

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April is a time to enjoy the blooms and blossoms; the first full month of Spring! Notable days include: Federal and State taxes are due on Monday the 18th; Earth Day on the 22nd; Passover starts on the 23rd and ends on the 30th. Everyone have a very happy month!

TGIF PARTY

The TGIF this month will be on Friday, April 1st, 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.

PRESIDENTS REMARKS

The Annual Meeting on March 15th was well attended with over 60 present. New keys and Directories were distributed to those in attendance. Strong Management will mail keys and directories to those members who did not attend the meeting. The election results for Board members and officers for 2016-17 were announced. The votes cast were as follows: Mike Hashii 71 votes, Dave Owens 75 votes, Larry Stahr 20 votes, Ron Yamato 71 votes, and Roger Young 28 votes. Each term of office is for two years. Officers were selected for 2016-2017 as follows:

Dave Owens, President; Mike Hashii, Vice President; Ron Yamato, Treasurer and Pat Chace, Director.

Longtime HOA Board member Benny Lee has resigned, so a replacement Board member is needed to complete a term of one year. Benny deserves a rest and I am glad that we had his wisdom and guidance.

Benny's service to the Chantarelle community is greatly appreciated. Larry Stahr has also served this community for the past two years and we wish him well. The HOA Board appreciates the support of all of our residents. Your assistance and support will help the community move ahead with needed projects and new ideas.

The current Landscape project is nearing the midpoint and the rain we have received will certainly help us to get off to a great spring season. There was a discussion of easements at the HOA meeting.

Easements have caused some confusion regarding interpretation of the CC&R's, so clarification was given.

Communication between neighbors can solve most problems. Please contact Paul Strong, our Managing Agent, if more information is needed.

Your HOA Board strives to listen to your requests and ideas. In response to a number

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of requests, the small fogged windows in the Clubhouse will be replaced soon and fence repair on Arnold Drive has been completed. Homeowners have installed new fences to replace those damaged by the wind a few months ago.

Discussion regarding a possible dog waste bag station was tabled, to be reviewed at the May meeting.

For those in need of **additional assistance**, we continue to feature some helpful resources:

- Senior Helpers (contact Marilyn Barnes 251-1540), providers of in-home senior assistance services
- I'm Home Alone (contact Phoebe 939-8850)
- Friends House in Santa Rosa (retirement community 538-0152)

It must be spring! The pool will open on April 15th. Enjoy the upcoming baseball season. Sales of Chantarelle homes are brisk. How lucky we are to live in this beautiful community!

~ Dave Owens

MOVIE NIGHT

The movie for April is *The Intern*, starring Robert De Niro, to be shown in the Clubhouse at 7pm on Wednesday, April 20th. Plot summary: 70-year-old widower Ben Whittaker has discovered that retirement isn't all it's cracked up to be. Seizing

an opportunity to get back in the game, he becomes a senior intern at an online fashion site.

BOARD MEETING

There will be no Board Meeting in April. The next Board Meeting will be on Tuesday, May 17th, commencing at 3pm.

LANDSCAPE NOTES

Hello, lovely friends and neighbors here in Chantarelle! Isn't it amazing, the beauty of this spring? Just as we had hoped, we have indeed received a bounty of rain this winter, and our landscape is reflecting its joy for all the rain by bringing us many flowers and lots of green. We are delighted, indeed!

Update on our Irrigation Upgrade and Spring Planting

You have probably seen the Nyberg Landscaping crew working diligently on the installation of our new, wonderfully water-efficient lawn sprinklers. While the project has gone smoothly in some areas of our community, in other areas, the guys have encountered a great deal of root intrusion into the irrigation system. As you can well imagine, this has slowed down the project from our original projection of its completion time. As I write to you today, it appears that the team will complete the project in mid-April. The completion time is important because we are not able to do any new planting until the crew is finished. That's because the irrigation system is currently turned off, and we must have it back on in order to commence with our planting

because new plants always need extra water in order for their roots to establish themselves. Therefore, those of you who are patiently awaiting replacement plants for ones that are not doing well or have died altogether, don't think we've given up on you! It is just a matter of getting back to normal with our irrigation operating system. We intend to have all plants purchased and ready to plant as soon as the Nyberg crew is complete. Hopefully by the time you read your May newsletter, this will all be taken care of.

Beautiful Ornamental Pear Trees As you may know, many of the trees planted in front of our homes here in Chantarelle are Ornamental Pears. We had a particularly wondrous blossoming of these trees in early March, one of the best blooming seasons in quite a while. Then our March rainstorms came through (yay!) and that took out all the blossoms (it looked like snow all over the ground) and the foliage emerged. So far, these trees are looking better than they did last year, because we had quite the scourge of Fire Blight attacking the Pear trees last year. We may be blessed this year with avoiding the emergence of Fire Blight. Unfortunately, the best prevention for the Blight is to have a hard freeze during the winter at least once. While we had a few days hovering around 32 degrees in December, it is unclear if that was enough to kill the Blight that lives in the branches of the trees. We'll soon see, won't

we? Fire Blight is a problem for Pear trees, both ornamental and fruiting, all up and down the Sonoma Valley, so if it is due to come this year, we will probably see it in our own trees.

Wonderful Tree Consultation

Debbie and I were able to walk the neighborhood with two fantastic tree experts last month, Becky Duckles and her intern, Merlin. The two of them educated us about many tree-related matters and also made some good recommendations for new kinds of trees to introduce into the neighborhood when we need to replace old trees that must be removed. Please keep in mind that our guideline for removing trees is that the tree must either be dead or diseased or potentially causing damage. We are committed to keeping the healthy trees in place until they reach such a stage in their development that would require removal. Now when that does occur, we have good new options for replacement.

So Grateful Lastly, those of you who attended the Annual HOA meeting on Tuesday, March 17, no doubt witnessed the utter surprise that Debbie and I experienced when it was announced that we were chosen by the Board to be Chantarelle's "Residents of the Year". Our names are even on the plaques in the Clubhouse! Wow. Thank you all. We are so honored to have the opportunity to give to our beloved Chantarelle community in the ways that we do by serving on the Landscape Committee. You are truly wonderful people to work with,

so cooperative, and so receptive to our ideas. We are so grateful to be the recipients of this most special acknowledgment from the Board and all of you. That's it for this month's update. May you enjoy a glorious spring throughout the month of April, and we'll see you 'round the neighborhood. ~ *Debbie and Susan*.

SAFETY & WELFARE

This warning from AARP was submitted by Hans Steuck.

IRS impostor Scam

This con is still going strong. "It's our number one reported fraud right now," says Amy Nofziger with AARP Foundation and Fraud Watch Network, "and I think it'll get more sophisticated." Here's how it works: Someone claiming to be from the IRS either phones or leaves a voice message saying you owe back taxes and threatening that, unless funds are wired immediately, legal action will be taken or you'll be arrested. (Or they may say you have a refund waiting but need to verify personal info before sending.) "They're very convincing," says Nofziger, "and they often use aggressive language." And let's be honest, beyond the intimidation factor, who doesn't feel guilty about fudging something on a 1040 at some point? Plus, scammers are getting more devious: Sometimes "IRS" shows up on caller ID, the con artists supply their "badge numbers" and they know the last four digits of your Social Security number. **Your Plan:** Do not return a call from someone claiming to be

with the IRS. The real IRS opens communications with a taxpayer only via the U.S. Postal Service. If you're ever in doubt about an IRS matter, call the agency directly at 800-829-1040. Sometimes for kicks Nofziger actually calls the IRS impostors back. "They usually pick up on the first ring," she says. "The IRS doesn't usually have the staffing capacity to pick up on the first ring, but the scammers do."

Chip Cards Scam

Banks and credit card companies are in the process of issuing customers new "chip" cards. "The data is protected in an integrated circuit [rather than a magnetic strip], and there's a dynamic code that resets after each use," explains Vernon Marshall, senior vice president and functional risk officer for American Express. "They're almost impossible to counterfeit." But here's the scam. The FTC is warning that con artists are impersonating card issuers and sending emails requesting personal and financial information, or asking that you click on a malware-laced link before being issued a new card. The fraudsters are sending emails — purporting to be from companies such as American Express — that convincingly use the company's logo and color scheme, and even have links such as "View Our Privacy Policy" and "Contact Us." **Your Plan:** No credit card company will email or call you to verify personal info it already has on file before mailing a new card. (At most, you'll get a letter in the mail saying it will arrive soon.) If you're ever unsure,

simply call the number on the back of your card (*not the one supplied by the email*) and ask the company if it's trying to contact you.

Also Tax Related

As the Tax Season gathers pace, we are again reminded not to leave envelopes containing checks in our mailboxes for pickup by the mailman. It is safer to drop them in the mailboxes on the sidewalk or at the Post Office.

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 NOTES

To reserve the clubhouse for an event, please call Michael Hashii at 996-4817.

MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Strong Property Management
PO Box 1368,
Sonoma, CA 95476
Paul Strong 933-9151
Email: paul@strongmgt.com

NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE

Our thanks to Cecilia Angel for her continued dedication to delivering the newsletter. Please submit newsletter items to John Dodgshon, 933-8395 or email him at: John_Dodgshon@hotmail.com. Please submit suggestions for the Chantarelle Website to John Dodgshon, 933-8395 or Mary Howland at 650-468-1119 or email John_Dodgshon@hotmail.com or char797@aol.com.

CHANTARELLE WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Yoga 10am	Mah Jongg 10am	Bridge 12:30pm	Rummikub 1:30 Last Thursday only	
Art Club 1pm	Flex Exercise Class 4:30pm		Flex Exercise Class 4:30pm	

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 TGIF 5:45pm	2
3	4	5 Bunco 1-4pm	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 Mexican Train Dominoes 12:30-4pm	13	14	15 Pool Opens	16
17	18	19	20 Movie Night 7pm	21	22 Earth Day	23 Passover Begins
24	25	26 Mexican Train Dominoes 12:30-4pm	27	28	29	30 Passover Ends

Waldron Landscaping is now here on: Monday 8am-12 noon, Tuesday 8am-4pm and Thursday & Friday 1-4pm.

Garbage, recycling and garden trash pickup is every Monday.