



# Chantarelle News

Sonoma, California

Chantarelle  
Homeowners'  
Association

February 2016

## FEBRUARY

February is a busy month! Notable days include: Groundhog Day on Tuesday the 2nd; Chinese New Year on Monday the 8th; Mardi Gras on Tuesday the 9th; Ash Wednesday on the 10th; Valentines Day on Sunday the 14th; and Presidents Day on Monday the 15th. Everyone have a happy month!

## PRESIDENTS REMARKS

February is the month of Valentine's Day; love is in the air. Rain is also in the air and if all goes well more rain is yet to come. Our rainfall should be above average and that is good news. Speaking of good news our **Chantarelle irrigation project** to improve the water flow to our front lawns will be underway very soon. Eric Nyberg is the contractor approved by the HOA Board. Since this is a maintenance and repair project, rather than a capital improvement, our attorney Barbara Zimmerman has informed us that a referendum is not necessary. The new drip systems for our lawns will distinguish Chantarelle, especially regarding the water conservation factor. Real estate agents should highlight this advantage compared to the surrounding communities that have a more traditional approach. Debbie and Susan as well as the HOA Board have

spent much time on researching and discussing this project as was apparent at the Jan 19<sup>th</sup> HOA meeting. Thanks to all for their efforts.

We are also looking into the **next community day trip**; the social and activities committees will research and report back to us. Anything that brings us closer as a community is great. Please remember to check on your neighbor to see if any assistance can be provided, either by running errands, making calls to contractors, or providing agency referrals; all are examples of being a caring community. To assist this, a list of helpful numbers and contacts will be printed in each edition of the newsletter as recommended at the last HOA meeting. As we approach March the **Annual meeting is scheduled for March 15<sup>th</sup>**. Board members will be elected, 2016 Chantarelle Directories distributed, and new keys will be distributed. For each household there will be a single key to open the clubhouse, pool gate, and restrooms.

**Enjoy the rain and sun**; we don't have to worry about blizzards as the east coast did last week. Spring training will begin soon and Super Bowl 50 will more than highlight San Francisco in a week with all the hype of the Super Bowl.

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**Please remember to curb your dog** and take care of waste; we will be sending reminders to the surrounding communities about this issue, as well. A suggestion was made at the recent HOA meeting to have waste bags available for pet owners, similar to what Country Meadows currently supplies.

**Board nominations are now underway with Pat Chace 707-935-7301 and Mary Howland 650-468-1119 seeking homeowners to run for the HOA Board.** (Resumes of candidates already recruited appear below.) **Anyone else interested in serving on the Board please contact Pat or Mary by Tuesday February 9th** to place your name in nomination. Three Board seats are currently available. The community is now 27 years old and vibrant in forward-thinking and dedicated volunteers who work behind the scenes. On any given day, the normal running of our great Chantarelle community calls for great work on the part of our volunteers and committees, including budget, repairs and emergencies. We are comprised of 122 homes with people who want the best that can be provided. That is Chantarelle.  
~ Dave Owen

## **PROSPECTIVE BOARD MEMBER DAVE OWENS**

Dave has served as President of Chantarelle HOA since March 2014. In 2013 Dave, a retired school guidance counselor, and his wife Peggy moved here from New York, where he had served as President of both a large HOA and also a professional union (NYSUT). On the Board of Directors Dave has tried to expand the recreational activities on clubhouse grounds; continued to budget funds to provide sufficient reserves, while maintaining and expanding services; and encouraged the increased involvement of all residents in decisions and activities. Dave has a B.S. in Behavioral Sciences, M.S. and Diploma in School Guidance and Counseling, and M.S. in School Administration and Supervision.

## **PROSPECTIVE BOARD MEMBER MICHAEL HASHII**

For the last four years Michael has served on the Board of Directors as Vice-President. Michael grew up in Southern California and served four years in the US Air Force in the 60's as an electronic technician. After the service, he studied engineering and spent 20 years working in electronics. Mike and his wife Mayumi moved to the SF bay area 17 years ago. Before retiring in 2008, he worked as an aerospace engineer at the UC Berkeley Space Sciences Lab. doing software & hardware design for research satellites. His hobbies are hiking, fishing, photography, and computers. Mike & Mayumi moved to Chantarelle in July 2011 and are very happy here.

## **PROSPECTIVE BOARD MEMBER RON YAMATO**

Ron was born in Utah and grew up in Los Angeles. He served in the

US Army both stateside and in Vietnam and, upon returning home, attended California State University at Los Angeles, where he obtained a BS in business while also working for the US Postal Service. He later became a Postal Inspector, performing criminal investigations and forensic audits. After serving a brief (but cold) stint in Detroit, he moved to the Bay Area in 1979. He retired from the Inspection Service in 2000 and started a second career managing a co-op building in San Francisco. Ron met his lovely partner in crime, Debbie, during this time and in 2014 they both pulled the plug and retired to beautiful Sonoma. Ron likes to travel and (surprise) work on the house.

## **BOARD MEETING**

There is no Board Meeting in February. The next Meeting is the Annual Homeowners' Meeting in the clubhouse at 3pm on Tuesday, March 15th.

## **TGIF PARTY**

The TGIF this month will be on Friday, February 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.

## **MOVIE NIGHT**

The February movie will be *The Longest Ride* based on a Nicholas Sparks novel. The movie will be shown on Wednesday, February 17th, beginning at 7 p.m. in the Clubhouse. Plot summary: The lives of a young couple intertwine with an older man, as he reflects back on a past love.

## **LANDSCAPE NOTES**

As you may know by now, we are eager to commence a major upgrade of our irrigation system. We now have good news: the first phase of the project is now set to begin in early February. At the last HOA meeting the Board approved a measure allowing the Landscape Committee to submit a vote to residents to approve the use of reserve funds for the irrigation upgrade. Since then, our attorney informed us that this project is not new capital investment but only maintenance, so that the Board's approval of the project is sufficient to allocate the reserve funds for the project. So the project can move forward! We are thrilled!

### **What does this mean for you?**

During the month of February, and most likely into March, you will be observing the irrigation specialists from Eric Nyberg Landscaping in our neighborhood upgrading our lawn sprinklers to the more modern and much more efficient MP Rotator system from Hunter. We don't anticipate any disruption to residents but there will be more landscape activity than usual around the neighborhood. Once installed, then each year as the rainy season ends and dry season begins, our lawns are going to be much greener throughout the summer because of this highly efficient watering system. Also, we will be much more respectful of the water table from which we draw when we use our well for irrigation. Whether or not the drought continues, we will be much more in alignment with appropriate water usage for the dry climate in which we live. Also, we will be saving thousands of our homeowner dollars that will not have to be spent in the Landscape Budget for shoring up the old, inefficient and obsolete irrigation system.

Good news all around!

### **Just one more thing ...**

It has been brought to our attention that there are occasions when residents approach either one or both of our Waldron Landscape guys while they are doing their work on our landscape. While we very much understand that residents have questions and concerns regarding their landscaping, we want to refresh everyone's memory that the appropriate approach to dealing with any landscape matter is to contact either Debbie or myself. We will happily work with you on whatever your concerns are and then we will communicate to Rojelio and Arnulfo what needs to be done. So please, when you see the guys out there, let them do their jobs and bring your concerns to us. We thank you so much for this! Have a lovely February! And may it bring us plenty more rain.  
~ *Debbie and Susan.*

### **FRONT-YARD FENCES**

Debbie & Susan, our dedicated Landscaping Committee, have been working so hard in their endeavor to beautify and improve our community that it would behoove us show our support to them and the community by improving and maintaining the fences in the front of our houses. This can be done by repairing or replacing fences where necessary, or by improving their appearance by power-washing and staining them. The required stain color is Natural Redwood, made by Superdeck, which can be purchased at Friedman's. All homeowners are required to maintain their fences as stated in the CC&Rs, Article VII, section 7.13. We hope that when our rains are over there will be interest in freshening up

the appearance of our homes and community. If there are any questions, please contact:  
Pat Chace, *ACC Chair & HOA Board member*  
Phyllis Manning, *ACC*  
Russelle Johnson, *ACC*

### **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.

### **COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE**

If you or a neighbor needs assistance, the following agencies may be able to help:  
**Salvation Army 996-4761** (PG&E and Rent assistance)  
**Society of St. Vincent De Paul at St. Francis Solano in Sonoma 935-7314** (for food, rent and PG&E assistance)  
*Additional referral agencies will be listed next month.*

### **SAFETY & WELFARE**

**Annual Emergency Preparedness Exercise**  
The Safety and Welfare Committee has scheduled its annual emergency preparedness exercise for **Saturday, February 13, 2016 starting at 10:30 A.M.** We sincerely hope that you will participate in this exercise by placing your "I'M OK" or "NEED HELP" sign in your front garage window. (For your convenience the color coded sign has been attached to this newsletter. Please detach and save it.) Members of the HOA Assessment Team will be coming around and checking whether you have placed your sign in your front

garage window. This will show team members your participation in this exercise. Should there be no sign in the garage window, a team member will ring the doorbell and inquire as to what assistance can be offered. Your participation in this exercise will help to make Chantarelle a more prepared and safer place to live. *Hans Steuck, Chairperson, Safety and Welfare Committee*

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

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

### **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: [strongmgt@aol.com](mailto:strongmgt@aol.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](mailto: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](mailto:John_Dodgshon@hotmail.com) or [char797@aol.com](mailto: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	

## FEBRUARY 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Bunco 1-4pm	3	4	5 TGIF 5:45pm	6
7 Super Bowl	8 Chinese New Year	9 Mardi Gras Mexican Train Dominoes 12:30-4pm	10 Ash Wednesday	11	12	13
14 Valentine's Day	15 Presidents Day	16	17 Movie Night 7pm	18	19	20
21	22	23 Mexican Train Dominoes 12:30-4pm	24	25	26	27
28	29					

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.