



Chantarelle News

Sonoma, California

Chantarelle
Homeowners'
Association

December 2017

Volume 28 #12

DECEMBER

December is a month of celebrating faith, feasts and festivals. We mark these special occasions with lights and gifts, family gatherings and religious observances. Here in California, the rains renew the earth and continue the cycle of life for the greenery around us. *(Dave Owens)* Notable days this month include: The start of Hannukah on the 12th; Winter Solstice on the 21st; Christmas Day on the 25th; and New Year's Eve on the 31st. Everyone enjoy the holidays and have a very happy month!

CONDOLENCES TO THE GUTIERREZ FAMILY

The Chantarelle Community extends its deepest sympathy to Monique Gutierrez and her family following the recent loss of George Gutierrez.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Annual Chantarelle Christmas Party is on Friday, December 1, from 5pm to 7:30 pm. Our thanks to the wonderful ladies of the Social Committee who have all worked so hard to prepare for this event.

HOA MEETING

No HOA Meeting is scheduled for December. The next HOA Meeting will be on Tuesday, January 16.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

As our volunteers decorate the clubhouse, we prepare for our **Chantarelle Holiday Party**, an opportunity for our neighbors to toast the beginning of the holiday

season. We gather together as a community to share with each other the stories that make us who we are. And who are we? We are 122 households who have decided to live here in this community and with one another. New neighbors have joined us recently and they will help to determine who we will become. We are indeed in transition. Over the last 6 years or so the Chantarelle community has added 30 per cent new neighbors. We are also fortunate to have among us many of our "originals," those who moved here when our neighborhood was established almost 30 years ago. Wisdom is to be gained by the original residents since they have the history and facts as to why and how things have been done. Honoring our past enhances our future.

Some updates: The backflow devices (yes, it's been four years since we were first informed) are currently being installed in both Temelec and Creekside. Installations for Chantarelle are planned for the spring of 2018. As per VOM Water District the installations are going very well to date.

In the new year, we will convene a committee to review **rules and regulations**. You will receive further information about this committee in the next newsletter. Participation on this committee will be open to all interested homeowners.

HOA Fees: You will soon receive a letter from the HOA with the proposed budget for 2018. It has been 11 years (2006) since our monthly fee was increased, from

\$125 to the current \$150. It has become necessary to increase that fee to \$165. As with all expenses, the cost of landscaping, legal fees, utilities and management have increased. In order to maintain sufficient reserve funds, this fee increase must be made.

Specific improvements have been made in the last year, including some window repairs and removal of the arbor at the clubhouse. Safety rails have been installed, and entrance signs will be arriving momentarily.

What still needs to be done? The pool resurfacing, last done 11 years ago, is vital for continued usage. Although a costly item, this must be done to ensure the health and safety of our pool users.

When the resurfacing is done, the steps will be improved to make entering and exiting the pool easier. Tiles and ladders are also planned improvements.

Other projects being considered are improving HVAC in the clubhouse, as well as the lighting around the clubhouse and leading to that area. The lighting in front and back of the clubhouse needs improvement. As with any home, funds need to go into maintaining and improving, in order to extend the life of the home and effect more efficient systems.

We are also looking at some improvements to the clubhouse interior. Just as many of you are improving your own homes (you can see and hear these projects most days in our community), in the same way our common areas and buildings must be addressed

sooner than later. The nominal dues increase will help to finance necessary improvements and ensure that Chantarelle retains its first-rate appearance and infrastructure.

Volunteers: You can further help the community by serving on the HOA Board. Three two-year director positions will be up for election in March. Our nomination committee consists of Pat Chace, Roger Young and Cindy Adamson. Please contact them if you are interested in running.

We welcome Ben Jones to our Landscape Committee, joining Debbie Yamato. We extend our gratitude to Susan Moreschi, who gave a number of years of hard work and creativity to that committee, and we wish Susan and her husband John much happiness as they leave our community for other adventures. We thank you, Susan, for your insight, dedication and smiling attitude, helping to make Chantarelle a community to be envied.

Firestorms: Please keep in your thoughts and prayers those who continue to suffer the effects of the recent firestorms. Check your local papers for ways that you can help the survivors. Enjoy this holiday season, as we celebrate our good fortune to live in beautiful Chantarelle. ~ *Dave Owens*

LANDSCAPING NOTES

Hello Chantarelle Neighbors. We are well into the beautiful Fall season in our neighborhood. Many are saying the color of all the trees has never been so beautiful. They are truly a glorious addition to these cooler and shorter days. With their color changes the leaves are falling at a steady rate and our Waldron crew is doing their best to keep up with their on-going cleanup. Please be patient

and know that they will get to your area as quickly as possible.

As many of you already know my longtime partner Susan Moreschi is no longer on the Landscape committee. I will miss her much need ideas and her involvement in working to keep our community looking so lovely. Even though Susan will be missed I am thrilled to say that Ben Jones has stepped up and will be joining me on the committee. Ben will bring new eyes and new ideas to our community and I look forward to working with him. As always you can reach either of us by phone, email, or a note in our mail tube. We both will continue to try and keep Chantarelle a beautiful place to call home.

Our fall planting projects are just about to get underway and you will see our Waldron crew planting new shrubs, moving others and initiating some interesting landscape areas around the community.

Tree work remains of utmost importance and to that Art and Science Tree Company did a walk around with us to determine what areas need our attention at this time of year. Due to a back log of essential work caused by the fires our work will be scheduled for early in the New Year.

With the beginning of the rains our irrigation is turned off. Should nature's watering not be sufficient we will be keeping an eye on our watering needs and adjust our schedule to keep our community looking beautiful.

Happy holidays to all our neighbors .

~ *Ben and Debbie*

SAFETY AND WELFARE

Here are some holiday safety tips from *Independence4seniors.com*:

Decorating

- Use simple, non-cluttered decorations. Make certain there is

plenty of room to walk.

- Do not spread extension cords across the floor.
- Use colorful paper garlands strung high instead of breakable objects placed within reach.
- Remove anything that someone may stumble over.
- Replace candles with bright centerpieces of fruit or flowers.

Lighting

- Make sure all locations are properly lit, including doorways inside and out. Dim holiday lighting can hide tripping hazards and make it harder for seniors to see their way around furniture.
- In the guest bedroom, make sure that any light switches are accessible from the bed or a nearby chair.
- Add a night light between the guest bedroom and the bathroom.

Be aware of what's on the floor

- Keep electrical and telephone cords out of the way.
- Keep floors clutter-free.
- Keep outdoor walk areas clear of rocks and tools.
- Arrange furniture so that people can easily move around it (especially low coffee tables).
- Add a non-slip pad underneath any throw rugs on floors in bathrooms or hallways that tend to be slippery, or simply remove the throw rugs completely.

Foods

- Keep candy and sweets to a minimum to prevent sugar highs and lows.
- Keep alcohol to a minimum or avoid it altogether. Medications could create unwanted side effects with alcohol.

The Chantarelle Safety/Welfare Committee wishes you and yours happy and safe holidays!

~ *Peggy Owens, Coordinator*

CLUBHOUSE RESERVATIONS

To reserve the clubhouse for an event, please call Linda Jackson at 415-987-0021.

CHRISTMAS TREE PICKUP

For free Christmas tree pickup Sonoma Garbage will be collecting Christmas Trees at the curb on Monday January 8th 2018. Please remove stands and place at the curb the night before. No flocking, tinsel, decorations or stands allowed.

NEW NEIGHBORS

Please welcome our new neighbors:

Christine and Bob Flahive
16 St. Matthew Court

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

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

NEWSLETTER

Please submit items for the newsletter 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.

CHANTARELLE WEBSITE

Please submit items for the Chantarelle Website to Mary Howland, 650-468-1119 or email her at: char797@aol.com.

MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Strong Property Management
PO Box 1368, Sonoma, 95476
Paul Strong 933-9151
Email: paul@strongmgt.com
24 hour Emergency Number:
1-800-359-2362.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dave Owens, President
343-7087

Ron Yamato, Treasurer
415-305-1400

Pat Chace, Director
935-7301

Roger Young, Director
938-2582

Mike Dietrick, Director
757-375-8793

CHANTARELLE WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			Mah Jongg 10am	
Art Club 1pm	Flex Exercise 4:30-5:30pm	Bridge 12:30pm	Flex Exercise 4:30-5:30pm	

DECEMBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Christmas Party 5pm	2
3	4	5 Bunco 1-4pm	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 <u>Start of Hanukkah</u> Dominoes 12:30-4pm	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Hanukkah Ends	21 Winter Solstice	22	23
24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26 Mexican Train Dominoes 12:30-4pm	27	28	29	30
31 New Year's Eve						

Waldron Landscaping is now here on Monday & Tuesday 1-4pm and Thursday & Friday 8am until 1pm. Garbage, recycling & garden trash pickup is on Mondays (except for Christmas Day & New Year's Day, when pickup will be on Tuesday).