



Chantarelle Gazette

Chantarelle Homeowners' Association Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2021 – Issue 32.11

WELCOME TO NOVEMBER

We celebrate Thanksgiving this month. On November 25, no matter whom you celebrate with and what you eat, it's a day to be grateful to be healthy and safe and thankful that it is finally raining. Covid can make it harder to meet everyone in person, so phone calls, FaceTime, cards and letters can all bridge the gap. I keep a stack of stamped postcards on my desk so I can say hello to someone near or far with ease. They'll be surprised to see a postcard from your home to theirs. Black Friday is the next day for shopping and the 29th is Cyber Monday for internet shopping. Religious celebrations this month include All Saints' Day and Dios Los Muertos, the Day of the Dead on November 1st. Chanukah and Advent begin on November 28th this year. Enjoy November!

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

The children of recently passed Charlie and Jane Berry had a lovely outdoor Celebration of Life for them at our Clubhouse. The Berry's invited each guest to take one of Charlie's paintings that they had on display, and one was also given to put up at our Clubhouse.

We will have an election to replace Roger Young on the Board, and that elected seat will serve until March of 2023. If you are interested in running, please notify me or Paul Strong and include a short Bio that will go out with the Ballots. We need the applications in by November 15th. The Ballots will go out on November 19th and the Election will take place on December 20th. We invite any interested person to please apply to run as this is a great way to serve your community.

I also want to add that we are sorry to have heard that our neighbor Melvin Lillig passed away several weeks ago, as well as the recent passing of our friend and neighbor, Ann Young (Roger's wife).

We are thankful to see the rain finally arrive, to meet and greet many new neighbor's moving in, and we do hope to see some of you attend our next First Friday on November 5th. Weather permitting, we will be out on the patio, if not we will try hosting inside in the Clubhouse.

The County has relaxed the rules for mask wearing so Clubs may use the Clubhouse without masks if all the participants have been vaccinated. It is up to the head of each club to verify that everyone has been vaccinated.

Meantime I would like to wish each of you a very Happy Thanksgiving with family and friends!

--Steve Rogers

TREASURER'S REPORT

We are still doing well as we approach the end of the year. Our reserve account still remains above the legal requirement, and our operating expenses are under budget by about \$10,396.00. Our net operating cash position is still healthy at about \$85,261, which should be more than sufficient to cover any surprises in the next couple of months. One relevant bit of news is that Union Bank will no longer be handling our accounts, as the bank's HOA services division was acquired by an outfit called PacWest Bancorp. Further news about how this affects our bank dealings, if at all, will follow as we get more information.

--Ron Yamato

LANDSCAPING NOTES

Hello neighbors. Fall is here; it snuck up on us with cool weather and rain.

We met with the arborist and, on my morning dog walk, I ran into him already at work on our trees. He had just finished removing three dead birch trees in front of the clubhouse. He will be doing all his work at once instead of splitting it between two years.

The changeover of the irrigation of the shrubs to drip is done and is being checked on and small details taken care of. If you don't like the appearance of the irrigation hoses on the ground, they will be covered up when we mulch this winter.

The Waldron crew will be opening up some of the shrubs that have become compacted and hedge-like, to let air and sun in. It may look a little rough, but will be important for the plants, which will look much better in the long run.

Later this month, we will be walking the neighborhood with Waldron to see how the plants in front of the houses can be improved or replaced. We have noted your concerns; thank you for pointing out problems to us.

For any landscaping problems, please let one of us know. Ben.

--Ben Jones 415-939-8955

benjaminjnes1@verizon.net

--Debbie Yamato 415-696-2424

javagirl0547@yahoo.com

NOTICE FROM SONOMA GARBAGE

NOTICE: Due to the new mandatory CalRecycle SB 1383 legislation, effective January 1st 2022, it will be mandatory for you to put all food waste and yard waste into the compost cart only. That material will no longer be allowed in the garbage.

For more information please visit sonomagarbage.com. If you have any questions please email us at sonomagarbage@gmail.com

SAFETY & WELFARE

TIPS TO SAFEGUARD YOUR FINANCES

From AARP

Some steps that can help prevent Social Security theft:

- **Leave Your Card at Home** – It's best practice to keep your Social Security card in a secure spot in your home and not carry it around in your wallet. If a business requests it to verify your identity, ask to use an alternate form of identification such as your

passport or driver's license. If a business insists that they need your SSN, ask why they need it and how they plan to store it.

- **Increase Digital and Physical Security** – Never send your SSN electronically via email or text, and be sure to shred any bills or paper documents that contain your SSN and other personal information.
- **Watch Out for Scams** – With Social Security scams on the rise, you should watch out for phone calls and emails from fraudsters impersonating Social Security Administration agents. They may use scare tactics and claim that your SSN will be suspended if you don't do what they say, and may demand financial payments via gift card or wire transfer. If you think an impersonator has contacted you, hang up the phone and report the encounter to the Office of the Inspector General (800-700-5952).

From Wells Fargo Bank

Imposter scams use a variety of tricks to gain your trust and steal your money, but they often start with a simple call, email, or message impersonating a person or company you know to trick you into giving them your money.

Here are a few common scenarios to look out for and what you can do to help avoid them:

Family Imposters

Scammers may hack social media accounts to impersonate a relative in need.

How to avoid: Before sending any money, always call your relative to confirm their actual situation.

Scammers can spoof their caller ID number and use bits of your personal information to convince you to reveal your access code and steal your money.

How to avoid: Don't ever share your temporary access codes or PIN with anyone who calls you unexpectedly. Your bank or the government will never ask you for this information.

Refund Imposters

Scammers often impersonate well-known retail and tech support companies to gain access to

your personal device or bank account.

How to avoid: Never give control of your device to a stranger. Never send money to anyone claiming to be from companies asking for payment or offering a refund for something you didn't order.

From FDIC Consumer News

Preparing your finances in case of a natural disaster

Natural disasters such as a flood, severe storm, or fire can happen at any time. These disasters cause damage to homes and property, and create financial challenges. We often prepare for a natural disaster by securing drinkable water, canned goods, batteries, and flashlights. Preparing finances and documents for a natural disaster is also important. Here are some things to help when preparing for, and dealing with, the financial impact of natural disasters.

Safekeeping these documents is vital when dealing with an emergency:

- Originals and copies of your identification such as a driver's license, passport, Social Security card, and birth certificate. These are helpful if you have to prove your identity. It is best to have originals, but copies are also useful if the originals are lost or destroyed.
- Contact information (including phone numbers and websites) for your banks, brokerage firms, and insurance companies.
- Copies of your financial information such as credit and debit cards (front and back) and checks (front). During a disaster, you may need your account information from these documents to authorize payments.
- Current insurance policy information for homeowner/renter, auto, and life insurance coverages.
- Originals and copies of medical information, such as insurance cards and health records.
- An inventory of valuable personal property. Document the value of the items by keeping receipts and/or written appraisals, and perhaps photos.

Ways to store your information:

- Emergency evacuation bag: Along with personal safety items in your bag, you should include copies of some of the important documents listed earlier. Large amounts of cash should always be kept in your bank account; however, you might consider keeping a small amount of cash to purchase food or supplies, in case ATMs and credit cards are not working. Make sure to keep your evacuation bag in a secure and accessible place for a quick exit.
- Safe deposit box at your bank: This may be an appropriate location for documents that are difficult or impossible to replace, and that you do not need to access frequently. Since most safe deposit boxes are not waterproof, you might also seal these items in waterproof bags or containers in preparation for a flood or other water damage.

FALL BACK!

Just another quick reminder that Daylight saving ends on Sunday, November 7th at 2 a.m. Set your clocks BACK one hour before you retire on Saturday night.

EARTHQUAKE PREPAREDNESS

On October 21st Chantarelle participated in the Great California Shakeout. This event is meant to remind you to be aware of how to prepare for an earthquake emergency. Our committee reminded our homeowners in the October newsletter, in our email group and in individual flyers in your mail tubes that this drill would take place. We requested that you place an "I'm OK" sign in a window visible from the street. We had a 45 per cent cooperation rate. Please be reminded that, in the event of an actual emergency, if you do not have this sign in your window, rescue personnel may attempt to enter your home to assist you. This will take time away from those actually needing assistance. Many thanks to all the homeowners who participated in the drill. Be reminded that there are preparedness materials on the Chantarelle website

(www.chantarelle.org) in the Resources section.

HOLIDAY DECORATIONS REMINDER

With the holidays fast approaching and that decorating itch just dying to be scratched, we felt that now is a good time to remind residents of the rules regarding this topic that aim to keep our community looking not only festive but also neat and in alignment with HOA rules. For example, Christmas lights and other decorations can be hung on the outside of the house and along your fence, but **not** on HOA bushes or trees, or in other common areas. The reason for this is so that our gardeners can take care of the common areas unimpeded. Holiday flags can be hung in your existing flag pole holder. Holiday decorations should not be displayed more than 30 days prior to nor 15 days after the holiday has occurred. This and more information can be found on pages 8 and 9 in the *Chantarelle Rules and Regulations* booklet, updated November 2018. If you don't have a hard copy, you can check the online copy at Chantarelle.org.

WELCOME COMMITTEE

If you have new neighbors, please inform Russelle Johnson (707-935-8658) so that she can give them their official Chantarelle welcome mug.

CLUBHOUSE NOTES

The Clubhouse is now humming with weekly activities. All Chantarelle HOA members are welcome to join in the fun. If you have an interest in joining a Clubhouse activity, please contact the club coordinators for the following activities:

Bridge

Phyllis Manning – 707-935-7301

Water Aerobics

Russelle Johnson – 707-935-8658

Bunco Babes

Russelle Johnson – 707-935-8658

Flex Exercise

Peggy Owens – 707-343-7087

Mexican Train Dominoes

Peggy Owens – 707-343-7087

Mah-jongg

Peggy Owens – 707-343-7087

Art Club

Shelley Lawrence - 951-202-0459

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 Linda Jackson 415-987-0021 for more details.

JOIN THE BUNCO BABES

The Bunco Babes are up and shaking. Dice, that is. It's a phenomenon and a crazy game. "What is Bunco?" you ask. Bunco is a dice game, no skill required, generally played with 12 players divided into groups of four, trying to score points while taking turns rolling three dice. We play the first Tuesday of each month in the Clubhouse from 1pm to 4pm. Each member takes a turn to be the hostess, bringing dessert and nibbles for the afternoon. At the moment we have 12 regular players, and would love to put you on our sub list. Most every month we need a sub. If there is enough interest we could add tables or start another group. Learning the game takes about one minute. We would love to meet new people and enlarge The Bunco Babes group. If you are interested and want to be put on the sub list, call Russelle Johnson, 707-935-8658 or [email rxrjohnson@icloud.com](mailto:rxrjohnson@icloud.com).

CALLING ALL BRIDGE PLAYERS!

Bridge players wanted. We play every Wednesday from noon until 4:30 at the clubhouse. We need full time and substitute players. Call Phyllis Manning at 707-935-7301. Hope to hear from you soon.

CONTRACTOR RECOMMENDATIONS

Something new for Chantarelle. We now have a section under **Resources** on the Chantarelle web site that gives contractor recommendations. Mary Howland will post the recommendation and the name of the person who makes the recommendation. No other personal information will be added. If a person disagrees with a recommendation, they should contact the person who made it and discuss it with them.

DO YOU HAVE A GREEN THUMB? OR JUST LIKE GARDENS?

The Chantarelle Gazette needs you! I'd like to have a newsletter column called "How does your garden grow?" Pick a garden, even your own, talk about highlights of the garden, how you did it, things you're most proud of, etc.

ATTRACTING WILD BIRDS



Attracting wild birds to feeders in your backyard in Chantarelle is easy, especially at this time of year when the fall migration is underway, and many birds are returning to the Bay Area for the winter.

The hard part of bird feeding is to locate the feeders for the birds and not for the Western Gray squirrels that frequent our neighborhood. It's best to hang feeders at least 5 feet off the

ground and a good 8 feet away from any perch from which squirrels can jump. Use a squirrel baffle — a plastic dome — above the feeder to keep them from descending to the feeder and metal, cone-shaped baffle below it if you are mounting the feeder on a pole.

Birds are not dainty eaters. I buy shelled bird seed (Wild Birds Unlimited is a good source) because it makes less of a mess. There are many mixes, but sunflower seeds are always in high demand. Niger (thistle) seed dispensed from a special sock or plastic feeder is also a favorite, especially for finches, if winter is cold.

Many ground birds will simply hop beneath your feeder to pick up what the seed pokers have dropped. But scattered ground feed also attracts squirrels, field rats and other critters that aren't welcome (which is why the HOA doesn't want people throwing seed on lawns). Hulled seed helps reduce this problem because the birds scatter less of it. One interesting strategy is to use seed laced with ground hot peppers. Squirrels can't stand it but the spicy seeds don't bother birds.

Hummingbirds will readily find a source of sugared water in clean feeders. Well-designed hummingbird feeders use a small water-trap at the top to capture insects. You should not use food dyes to color the sugar nectar because it might introduce chemicals that will harm the birds. The nectar is easy to make: heat 1 cup of water, dissolve 1/4 cup table sugar in it, let it cool and you are ready to load the feeder.

Be sure to keep all your feeders clean: contaminated feeders will sicken birds. Soap and hot water washes take little time.

--Mike Mecham

TOM'S NOVEMBER RECIPE

CHICKEN THIGHS

WITH CREAMY MUSTARD SAUCE

I have made this twice, everyone loved it, even the dog. So easy and quick, makes its own sauce, 30 minute meal. Made with buttered noodles, which are great. Add some carrots or broccoli and you're done! I've started steaming sheet pans of vegetables on Sunday for the



week. Steam them - carrots, broccoli, green beans - whatever is in season, then have them all week for salads, stir fried for a side dish or eat cold as a snack. A steam oven is a great thing, 8 minutes, 3 racks of vegetables, done. Enjoy!

Prep Time: 20 min. **Cook Time:** 45 min.

Difficulty: Easy. **Yield:** 4 servings.

Source: foodnetwork.com

INGREDIENTS

8 medium bone-in, skin-on chicken thighs (2 1/4 pounds)

Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

Good olive oil

2 cups halved and thinly sliced yellow onions (2 onions)

2 tablespoons dry white wine

8 ounces creme fraiche

1 tablespoon good Dijon mustard

1 teaspoon whole-grain mustard

1 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley

DIRECTIONS

Place the chicken thighs on a cutting board, skin side up, and pat them dry with paper towels. Sprinkle the chicken with 1 1/2 teaspoons salt and 3/4 teaspoon pepper. Turn them over and sprinkle them with one more teaspoon of salt.

Heat 1 tablespoon olive oil in a large (11 to 12-inch) cast-iron skillet over medium heat. When the oil is hot, place the chicken in the pan in one layer, skin side down. Cook over medium heat for 15 minutes without moving, until the skin is golden brown. (If the skin gets too dark,

turn the heat to medium low.) Turn the chicken pieces with tongs, add the onions to the pan, including under the chicken, and cook over medium heat for 15 minutes, stirring the onions occasionally, until the thighs are cooked to 155 to 160 degrees and the onions are browned. Transfer the chicken (not the onions) to a plate and allow to rest uncovered while you make the sauce. If the onions aren't browned, cook them for another minute.

Add the wine, creme fraiche, Dijon mustard, whole-grain mustard, and 1 teaspoon salt to the skillet and stir over medium heat for one minute. Return the chicken, skin side up, and the juices to the skillet, sprinkle with parsley, and serve hot.

HOW TO SAVE THE RAIN



After the terrible drought, I thought now is the time to do something to have water for the next drought. I looked online and found something very interesting, a heavy, plastic building block material that can be your fence and it holds your rainwater. See it online at <https://www.thintanks.com.au>. There are videos on YouTube to play as well. They have up to 4,000 liter storage walls. Most tanks are round and therefore not usable in most backyards. They make narrow versions that can be placed right against your home and you can still walk around it. Australia has had droughts for many years, so they tend to be innovators in anything related to saving energy or water. I've seen rubber bladders or bags you can store water in, barrels, tubs, but this is the first thing I've seen that could hold a significant

amount of water and not take take your entire yard. The idea that you can build a wall behind your fence full of water that could also reduce road noise in your backyard is very powerful.

Tom Flinn

PET OWNERS - DID YOU KNOW?

Keep your pets safe by being aware of little-known hidden poisons in your house and garden.



In late September, Nancy and Mark Mitchell lost their beloved border collie, Rascal, from ingesting an unknown poison. Their vet was unable to pinpoint what poison was responsible.

When talking to Mark recently he said, "Get educated and

learn what the dangers are for your pet. Take this very seriously." Mark did some research on his own and discovered that xylitol, an additive to sugarless gum, is also deadly to dogs.

It made me wonder if we pet owners need to become more aware of possible plants that are very toxic to our pets that we may be planting (NOT in the front yards which Waldron maintains for us) but in our side and backyards.

Some listed (by UC Davis) as top poisonous plants that could be inadvertently planted for their lovely colors in our yards, but are quite toxic are: Daffodils, tulips and hyacinths (all parts of these are toxic), lilies (including Easter lilies! All parts of the lily are very toxic to cats), Lily of the valley (toxins are very potent and deadly to dogs), crocus, chrysanthemums (including daisies), cyclamen (tuber part especially), rhododendrons and azaleas (particularly the leaves), foxgloves (very poisonous to dogs), iris, sago palms and oleanders. And let's not forget marijuana – don't leave your joints in the ash tray! Keep in mind, the holidays are coming and we often like to decorate with poinsettias, which are

deadly if eaten. Keep them out of reach or buy artificial ones.

This is just a very, very small list of toxic plants, but as a loving pet parent you may want to go online to check out various other plants and trees before bringing them into your house or yard. Another quick note: beware of mushrooms growing in your yard. There are many, many types, and unless you are an expert it is hard to know which ones are very toxic to your pets, so dig out all of them! They can grow year-round in warm areas, but you will mostly see them in spring and fall. Patrol your yard regularly.

If you think your pet may have ingested a plant that may be poisonous and you can't reach your vet you can call the ASPCA Poison Control at 1-888-426-4435 for immediate help (A consult fee applies). You can also go to www.poison.org for a complete list of harmful substances.

--Valerie Camarda & Lois Rogers

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Steve Rogers, President

707-771-9290

Tom Flinn, Vice-President

415-621-7572

Ron Yamato, Treasurer

415-305-1400

TBD, Secretary

Pat Chace, Director

707-935-7301

MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Strong Property Management

PO Box 1368, Sonoma, 95476

Paul Strong 707-933-9151

Email: paul@strongmgt.com

24 hour Emergency Number:

1-800-359-2362

NOTICE

The Clubhouse is open for normal activities. Only vaccinated allowed in clubhouse, no masks required. Outside, masked people can take off their masks.

CHANTARELLE WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Flex Exercise 4:30-5:30		Flex Exercise 4:30-5:30	
		Bridge 12:00-4:30		

NOVEMBER 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31	1	2 Bunco 1:00-4:00	3	4	5 First Friday Get- Together 5:00-7:00	6
7	8	9 Mexican Train Dominoes 12:30-4:00	10	11 Mah-jongg 10 a.m.	12 Clubhouse Closed- Reserved*	13
14	15	16 Board Meeting 2:00	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 Mexican Train Dominoes 12:30-4:00	24	25 THANKSGIVING	26 Clubhouse Closed- Reserved*	27 Clubhouse Closed- Reserved*
28	29	30	1	2	3	4

*Contact Linda Jackson at 415-987-0021 for more info.

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

Garbage, recycling & garden trash pickup is on Monday.