



Chantarelle Gazette

Chantarelle Homeowners' Association Newsletter

MARCH 2025 – Issue 36.3

ST PATRICK'S DAY – PAST & PRESENT



I used to always love St. Paddy's Day even though I'm not Irish. It's a fun holiday where everyone becomes Irish for one day. I became aware of the holiday in elementary school when my class celebrated each of our different nationalities. We wore costumes and brought food from our family's ethnic background. I remember that one of my classmates, Francis Cush, told us stories about his grandparents coming over from Ireland.

Many years later, my husband and I went on an escorted tour through southern Ireland. It was a wonderful trip despite the rain and cold weather. The warmth of the Irish people made up for the cold. I remember when we went to the Waterford crystal factory, I was in awe of the artists' craftsmanship. They had designed a memorial to 9-11 and depicted the fallen twin towers and showed firemen and policemen helping people get out of the buildings. The detail was incredible! I cried buckets when I saw it and thought it was a magnificent tribute.

The first pub we went to in Dublin was full of music and laughter. The pub offered a buffet filled with at least eight different kinds of potatoes-more than I had ever seen before. I requested half of a baked potato. The person doling out the food was surprised and asked what other potatoes I would like and was dismayed when I said, "None, thank you." While in one of the lovely country inns we dined at, I naively asked the server why I didn't see

Corned Beef and Cabbage on any menus. She laughed and said, "Aw, that's American!" I didn't know that.

The Irish love Americans! That's because they all have relatives here in the States.

Friends of ours decided to join us on a trip to New York to see the St. Patrick's Day parade in person. We were all originally from New York and had never seen it in person before. We stayed at one of Leona Helmsley's hotels off Central Park and could actually see the parade from our hotel window. We were amazed at how many police and fire fighters we saw. They seemed to go marching on for miles. They came from all over the five boroughs as well as from New Jersey and Pennsylvania. My husband joked that it would be a great day to rob a bank since all the police in the city and beyond were marching in the parade.

St. Patrick's Day brings back some happy memories but also a very sad one. It was on St. Patrick's Day three years ago that my husband was diagnosed with Pancreatic Cancer. I'll never forget how devastated we both were and how much our lives would change. I thank the powers that be that I am here in Chantarelle among neighbors who have become dear friends who have helped me tremendously. My husband loved living here. I think he would be happy knowing that I've made a good life for myself and my little dogs and parrot.

Valerie Camarda, Editor

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PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

We have started on our plan to have a Bocce Court in the common area. The site has been laid out on the lawn area just west of the pool. Art Ferretti is obtaining quotes from several firms for construction of the Courts. Within a

couple of months, we should have all the quotes and at that time we will develop a financing plan which will then have to be put to a vote of the membership. As part of the plan, there will also be a storage area for a Ping Pong table.

Look forward to seeing you at First Friday March 7th.

--Steve Rogers, President

TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF JANUARY 31, 2025

There were three reserve expenses in January, two for common area fence repairs at a total cost of \$6,802, and one for a major tree trimming project at a cost of \$12,000. The reserve fund remains in good shape at \$598,713.49 at the end of the month.

2025 is off to a good start in that operating expenses through the end of January were under budget by about \$7,665 for the month. And our operating cash stands at about \$25,619, which is also comfortable for this time of the year.

The number of homeowners who are more than one month behind in payments increased from 7 at the end of December to 11 at the end of January, and the amount in arrears increased from \$4,130 to \$4,854.50 in the same period. Many of these appear to be just a routine delay between the dues being received versus being recorded. However, the amount in arrears for two homeowners who are notably behind have increased since the last report, so Strong Management has been asked to contact them to see if they need assistance.

--Ron Yamato, Treasurer

CHANTARELLE SOCIAL NEWS

This year Saint Patrick's Day will arrive on Monday, March 17th. We, however, will celebrate it early at our "First Friday" on **Friday, March 7th** at our Clubhouse, beginning at 5:30 p.m. If you are in a festive mood and want to make or buy a special appetizer or dessert to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, please feel free to do so! (Although it's not mandatory!) Also,

don't forget to bring along your favorite beverage. I will be looking forward to seeing everyone at this event.

--Lois Rogers, Social Chair

LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE REPORT

March Gardening Guide for Northern California



As spring begins to unfold in Northern California, March is a crucial month for gardeners to get ahead of the growing season. The weather is warming, but frost is still possible, so careful planning is key. Here's what you should focus on in your garden this month:

1. Prepare Your Soil

If you haven't already, start by amending your soil with compost or well-rotted manure to enrich nutrients.

Mulch around existing plants to retain moisture and suppress weeds.

If you plan to plant in raised beds, top them off with fresh soil and compost.

2. Start Planting

Vegetables: Now is the time to plant cool season crops like lettuce, spinach, kale, carrots, beets, and peas. You can also start warm season crops like tomatoes, peppers, and eggplants indoors or in a greenhouse.

Herbs: Directly sow parsley, cilantro, chives, and dill. Start basil indoors for transplanting later.

Flowers: Sow wildflowers, marigolds, sunflowers, and nasturtiums. Perennials like lavender and salvia can be planted now.

Fruit Trees & Berries: March is ideal for planting bare-root fruit trees, strawberries, and blueberries.

3. Prune & Maintain

Finish pruning roses and fruit trees before new growth takes off.

Trim dead or damaged branches from shrubs and perennials to encourage healthy new growth.

Cut back ornamental grasses and perennials that have gone dormant.

4. Start Pest & Weed Control

Keep an eye out for early signs of aphids and caterpillars. Use insecticidal soap or introduce beneficial insects like ladybugs.

Apply mulch to prevent weeds, and hand-pull any that appear before they spread.

5. Water Wisely

As the days warm up, monitor soil moisture and water deeply but less frequently to encourage strong root growth.

If you haven't already, check the irrigation systems for leaks and make any necessary repairs.

March is a month of renewal and preparation. By taking care of these essential tasks now, you'll set your garden up for a thriving spring and summer growing season. Happy gardening!

--Tom Flinn, Landscape Chairman
415-621-7572 thomasflinn@gmail.com

SPRING IN CHANTARELLE



WELCOME COMMITTEE

WELCOME! WELCOME! WELCOME!

We are so happy to welcome our new residents to Chantarelle. Also, it is time to update your old roster with the new neighbors contact information. Hopefully we will have a new roster at the March meeting.

140 South Temelec Circle

Jim and Susan Jansen

510-300-7244 JimJansen@gmail.com

Please let the Welcome Committee know if you notice new neighbors moving in so that we can call upon them.

--Russelle Johnson - 707-935-8658

rxrjohnson@yahoo.com

--Peggy Owens - 707-343-7087

powens2@juno.com

--Shelley Lawrence - 951-202-0459

pashelaw@gmail.com

--Debby Bonamassa - 315-725-8047

debbonamassa@yahoo.com

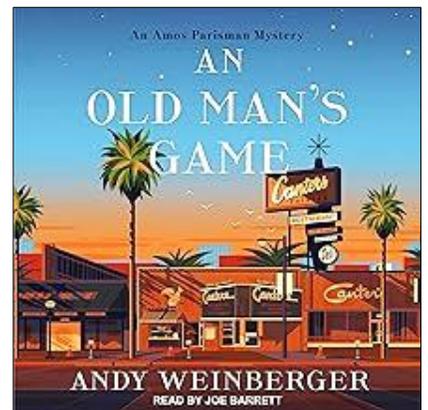
SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

If you know of a neighbor who is feeling under the weather or needs a little cheering up, please let us know. We would like to show that our lovely community cares.

--Jackie O'Neill - 707-292-0261

BOOK CLUB NEWS

The March meeting will be held at the Clubhouse on Thursday, March 13 beginning at 2:00 p.m. The book for March is *An Old Man's Game* by Andy Weinberger.



Andy is a local author and the owner of Readers' Books downtown. The author will be attending to discuss this book as well as the

other books in his series. Don't miss this opportunity to meet Andy in person. Our host for this event will be Debby Bonamassa. All are welcome!

--Marybeth Jacobsen

Jacobsenmarybeth@gmail.com

GUESS WHO . . .

In an effort to get to know our neighbors better, we started a new column in January called *Guess Who?*

Below is the March photo of one of our Chantarelle residents taken when they were a bit younger. Can you guess who it is?



No one guessed who our two residents were in the February newsletter. Here are their names



Art Ferretti



Linda Jackson

--Valerie Camarda

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 new Clubhouse coordinator, Marianne Sullivan, at msullivan101010@gmail.com or 530-575-9386

--Marianne Sullivan, new coordinator

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Steve Rogers, President

707-771-9290

Susan Carlisle, Vice-President

415-302-8935

Ron Yamato, Treasurer

415-305-1400

Cindy Adamson, Secretary

707-931-8832

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

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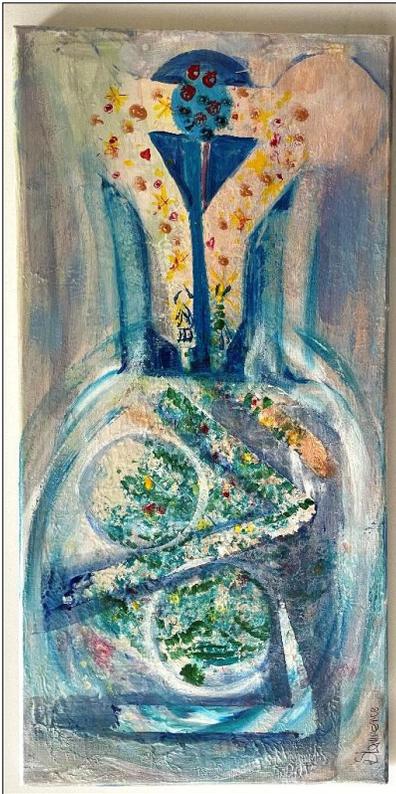
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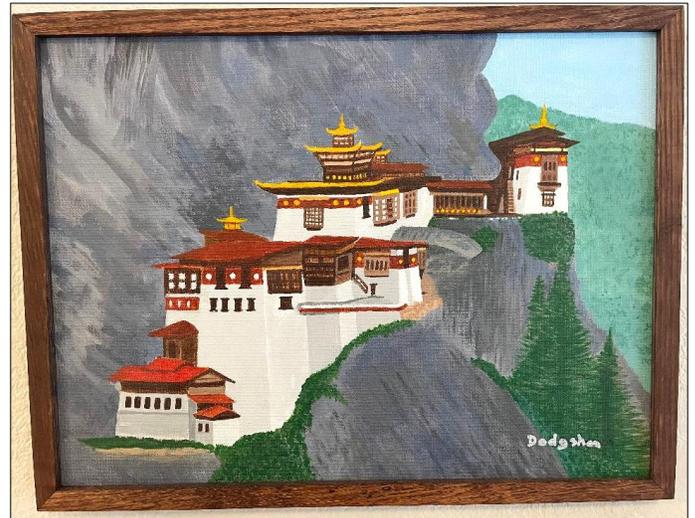


ART CLUB – FEBRUARY EXHIBIT

The Art Club has decided not to submit a column to the newsletter going forward. We will miss the presentation of the talent they represent that exists within our community. They have a monthly show at the clubhouse and in the windows of the homes of some of the artists. You may continue to view them monthly. You will, however, need to contact them to know more of their plans and their themes. We are presenting here pics taken by a member of our community of their work in February. This will be the Art Club's last column. Thank you, Mike, for contributing past columns.



Shelley Lawrence
Bottled Love



John Dodgson
Taro Taksang



May Hashii
Flowers of February



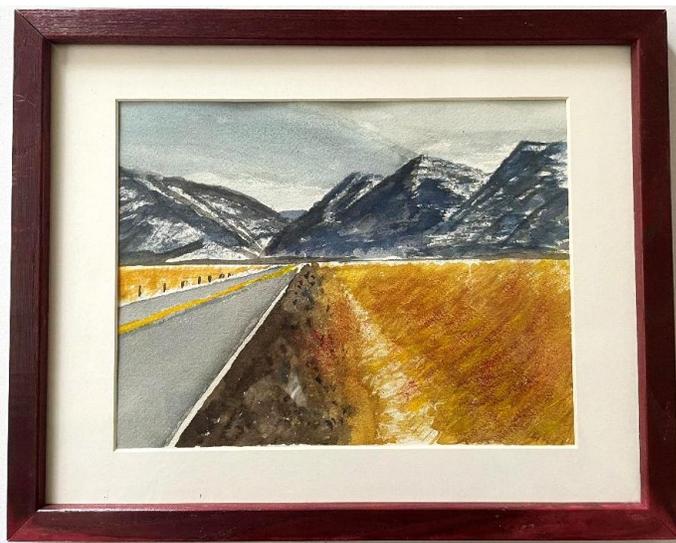
Mike Hashii
Clockwork



Heather Dahlberg



June DeBusk
Pairs of Pears



Jon Stewart
Guest Artist from Temelec

SAFETY AND WELFARE

Dog walking tips from BarkBusters:

Do's and Don'ts

- DO call your dog to you when it's time to leave for a walk and have them sit quietly before putting on their leash and/or collar. Ensure puppies are familiar with the leash before you start using it for walks.
- DO have your dog focus on you before you leave. Hold the leash by the handle – there should be six feet of loose leash between you and your dog.
- DO guide your dog to heel throughout the walk – your dog should walk alongside or behind you. If they are in front of you, it gives them the impression they are leading you.
- DON'T let your dog mark for marking's sake. Cue them to whether they need to relieve themselves.
- DO walk your dog or ensure they get some exercise daily. An unexercised dog can become hyper and destructive.
- DON'T let your dog off their leash unless you're in an off-leash dog area. Even then, do be careful – other dogs can be unpredictable.
- DO walk in different locations. Your dog will like the variety.
- DON'T forget about mental exercise, which can be more tiring for your dog than long walks. Engage your dog in a few simple training exercises, like focusing on you with a basic command or after an unanticipated directional change.

General Tips

- Make sure your dog is wearing proper identification in case of emergency or escape.
- Walking with friends and their dogs can be safer and more fun for both you and your pet.
- Don't stop if you encounter an unsupervised dog – you might be crossing through their territory.
- Always wear comfortable, safe shoes to walk your dog.
- Aim for quality of walk over quantity. Short walks in safe environments provide opportunities to educate your dog about appropriate behavior.
- Always carry bags to pick up after your dog. Bring fresh water to keep your dog hydrated.
- Never jump in if your dog gets into a fight. Stay at the end of the leash and use it to pull your dog away. Spraying water can also be effective.
- Not all dogs are friendly – even a wagging tail can be misleading. Be respectful and always check with the owners before allowing your dog to approach.
- Hot pavement can be painful to your dog's sensitive foot pads. If the ground feels hot to your hand, it will hurt your dog.
- Wipe down your dog's paw pads and between their toes after winter walks to remove ice, snow, or road salts.
- If your dog is unfriendly around people or other dogs, keep a safe distance from others and seek assistance from a trainer.

Is Leash-Pulling Normal?

Pulling is in a dog's DNA – in the wild, a trapped or restrained animal naturally tries to get away. Although canines have been domesticated for thousands of years, dogs still have natural instincts.

To stop them from pulling, we must alter their perception by teaching them to walk on a loose leash, allowing them to relax their impulse to pull when they feel no restraint.

Avoid Retractable Leashes

Bark Busters recommends a 6-foot cotton leash – never retractable leashes, which can encourage pulling, make it easier for dogs to escape and run away, and make it more difficult for dog walkers to gain control in situations with aggressive dogs. They can also cause serious injury to both pets and humans.

Walking your dog is a great way to bond for humans and canines alike.

Spring ahead!

Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 9 at 2 a.m.

Set your clocks ahead one hour Saturday night before retiring.

Enjoy the beautiful weather and extended sunshine ahead!

– Peggy Owens, Coordinator

SAFETY/WELFARE Committee

powens2@juno.com

POOL CLOSED

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
Flex 4:00		Flex 4:00		Flex 4:00

MARCH 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 Private Event
2	3	4 Bunco 1:00-4:00	5	6	7 1st Friday St Pat's Celebration 5:30	8
9 Daylight Savings Time	10	11 HOA Board Meeting 2:00	12	13 Book Club 2:00-3:30	14	15
16 Private Event	17 St Patrick's Day	18	19 Poker Night 6:30	20 Spring Equinox	21	22
23	24	25 Mexican Train Dominos 12:30-4:00	26	27	28	29 Private Event
30	31					

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.