



# Chantarelle Gazette

Chantarelle Homeowners' Association Newsletter

JANUARY 2025 – Issue 36.1

## LOOKING BACK WHILE MOVING FORWARD

The beginning of a new year always makes me nostalgic for the past. My iPhone pops up with constant reminders of past trips, people I knew and parties I've gone to. Most of the time I smile when I see these photo memories pop up, but now that I'm older I get a bit sad when I see certain photos of family and friends who have passed. Although it's hard, I try not to dwell too much in the past and try to be hopeful about the future. I focus on what I want to accomplish in the new year.

Mostly, I think about what trips I want to make and what home improvements I want to undertake that will add comfort and value to my home. I try not to think about the economy or politics or things I have no power to control. I do a lot of volunteer work and that helps keep me busy. I made a big decision recently to no longer consult for the City of San Francisco in 2025. Their budget has been cut drastically for so many services. Consulting Services to small businesses was one of them. I'm OK with that. As my mother used to say, "One door closes, ten doors open!"

Nowadays, it sometimes takes a real effort to stay positive but that is what I'm going to do. Go with the flow and only worry about the things I can control.

Here's wishing you a healthy, happy and positive new year!

Valerie Camarda, Editor

415.370.9396

valerie@marketingsense.net



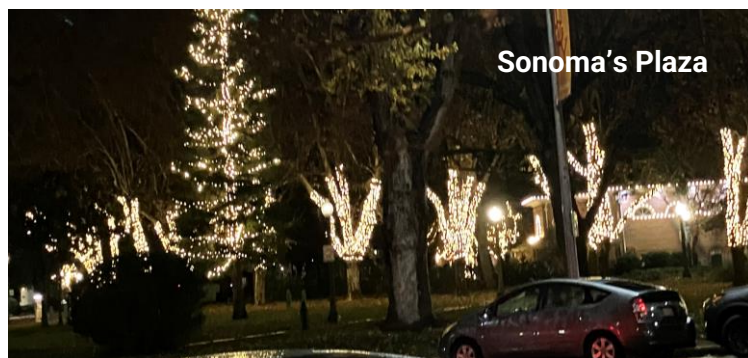
## PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

I hope everyone had a glorious Holiday Season! Last month I mentioned that there was interest in a Bocce Court and a Ping Pong table for the common area. I would like to suggest that we need a champion to guide these two projects to completion. If you have an interest in these amenities and would be willing to serve on a committee, and possibly head the committee, please let me know. I am in the process of pulling together previous plans on the Bocce Court.

Let me know if you are interested. See you at the HOA meeting on January 21 beginning at 2:00 p.m.

My best to you for a very happy new year!

--Steve Rogers, President



## TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2024

There were no reserve expenses in November, so the reserve account remains in good shape at \$587,336.88 at the end of that month.

Operating expenses through the end of November were still over budget by about \$9,939, but this was an improvement from October, when the budget was over by about \$13,793. The three categories that contributed to this overage were landscape, utilities and the pool.

Our operating cash stands at about \$20,817. We also have a total negative liability of about

\$23,872, which bodes well for our cash situation.

The number of homeowners who are behind in payments increased slightly from 6 to 7, and the amount in arrears increased to \$4,850 from last month. Strong Management has been asked to contact the three homeowners who make up the majority of the delinquent amount to see if they need assistance.

--Ron Yamato, Treasurer

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### CHANTARELLE SOCIAL NEWS

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We had a nice group of 52 people sign up and attend our recent Holiday Party.



It was wonderful, despite the rain, to see everyone come and truly have a very good time enjoying the delicious food and wine and socializing with friends! I was truly grateful to receive so many nice notes from people the next day, telling me how much fun they had. It makes doing all the work putting on an event such as this SO worth doing!



There are many people who helped me with all the preparations beforehand and I would like to acknowledge them and thank them for volunteering their time. To my helpmates: Ron & Debbie Yamato, Cindy Adamson (& her sister Gloria), Nancy Ferritti, Randy & Mimi Hirai, Jackie & Steve O'Neill, Ruthie & Dale Lucas, Mike Mecham and Art & Trudy Dollosso (& her sister!) I really could not have pulled this off without all of you assisting me. THANK YOU!!

I also would like to thank all our wonderful bakers (females AND a couple males!) in the Community who made and donated some fabulous cookies for our dessert! We had a huge selection of some really terrific sweets. I would also like to include my thanks to Penny Holbrook who could not attend the party, but brought over 3! plates of her homemade cookies. My sincere thanks to all of you for stepping in to help us out with your yummy donations!

My last two thank yous are: First to Gail Dodgshon, who helps tremendously by creating a spread sheet for me to keep track of all the attendees and checks for each event I do. This is all then turned over to our finance man Ron Yamato at the conclusion of the party. Thank you so much Gail!

Next, is a big thank you which goes out to Goya Jones, who made a very generous donation to our "party fund", just because she wanted to! Thank you, Goya, very much for your most kind, and thoughtful contribution, you are such a gem!

And that's a wrap for the end of the 2024 party scene, and First Friday's this year. I am now going to take a break, and will NOT be doing a January 'First Friday'. We will begin our next 'First Friday' on Friday, February 7th and I look forward to seeing you all then. HAPPY NEW YEAR in 2025!!

--Lois Rogers, Social Chair

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### LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE REPORT

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Happy New Year!

I'm very happy to say we are going to prune 19 trees starting on January 9, 2025. Here are all the addresses:

S Temelec Circle - 153, 161, 176

St Matthew Court - 15, 16, 22, 28, 29, 34

St Patrick Court - 11, 12, 17, 18, 23, 24, 29

This is the plan, weather permitting. There will be noise cutting and grinding branches. If you have a pet nearby you may want to prepare accordingly. We start work 8 am at the earliest and finish by 5 pm. If we have to, we will finish

on a second day. I know it's noisy but I look around at what we trimmed last year, the trees look so much better, healthier, happier. And if you are patiently waiting for your turn, I promise to prune tall trees every year until they are all done. I leave no tall trees behind!

### **January HOA meeting**

Look out for the Agenda for the January HOA meeting. The plan now is to discuss drawings for possible landscape ideas. Please bring your thoughts and an open mind. This is a chance to change how we use our public spaces. Imagine having a handicapped accessible path to enjoy, with a cane or a walker or a wheelchair. A handrail to hold on to for safety. Stroll through a blooming meadow of birds, bees and some new seating to just relax under the trees by the Clubhouse. I'd like to put benches in front of the Clubhouse so when you come out of a meeting you have a place to sit and talk and view the garden. So many good ideas and now is the time to discuss them.

### **Moss on the roof**

As I dog walk, I see some moss growing on some roofs. We had that at the Clubhouse several years ago. The moss grows under the



shingles and can lead to roof rot and leaking. A handy person can pick the moss off your roof, then treat it to prevent the moss from

coming back. You have to treat the roof, even if you remove the moss. Spores are there, you can't see them until they come back next year.

### **Communication with Waldron**

Finally, I have a favor to ask. If you need anything concerning landscaping in your yard, please call or email me and do not make requests for work from the Waldron workers. I speak with the owner and manager of Waldron. I don't talk to the guys working because they have to get permission from the Waldron

managers to do anything. If you ask them to do things in your yard, you are making them uncomfortable. Thank you for your understanding.

Hope to see everyone interested at the January HOA meeting.

--Tom Flinn, Landscape Chairman

415-621-7572 thomasflinn@gmail.com

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### **SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT FROM SONOMA GARBAGE COLLECTORS**

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**Free Christmas tree pick-up:** We will be collecting Christmas Trees at the curb on Monday, January 6, 2025. Please remove stands and place them at the curb the night before. No flocking, tinsel, decorations or stands allowed.

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### **WELCOME NEW NEIGHBOR MARIANNE SULLIVAN**

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Marianne Sullivan and her dog, Scout moved into 181 St. James in August and then immediately got on a plane for a vacation in Europe. She didn't even have time to unpack her suitcase.

Marianne moved from Grass Valley to Sonoma but grew up in San Francisco. She worked as a division administrator for UCSF's Psychiatric department. She loves athletics and in September was inducted into the San Francisco Prep Hall of Fame for her extensive volleyball involvement as a member of the US National Team.

Marianne will be taking over the reins from Linda Jackson for Clubhouse rentals. You can reach her at 530-575-9386.

Please call me if you have any information about new residents, Russelle Johnson, 707-935-8658 or email rxrjohnson@yahoo.com





--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

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### SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

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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.

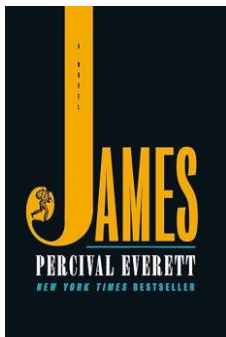
--Jackie O'Neill - 707-292-0261

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### BOOK CLUB NEWS

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The host for the January meeting is Valerie Camarda. She has chosen the New York Times bestseller, *James: A Novel* by Percival Everett.



Mr. Everett is the author of *American Fiction*, which was made into a movie starring Jeffrey Wright.

*James* is a brilliant, action-packed reimagining of *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, both harrowing and darkly humorous, told from

the enslaved Jim's point of view.

It currently is in development as a feature film to be produced by Steven Spielberg.

The Book Club will meet on **Thursday, January 9th from 2:00-3:30 p.m.** at Valerie's home, 178 St. James Drive.

--Marybeth Jacobsen

Jacobsenmarybeth@gmail.com

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### CLUBHOUSE NOTES

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**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

--Linda Jackson

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### GUESS WHO?

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In an effort to get to know our neighbors better, we're starting a new column this month called *Guess Who?* Below you will find photos of two of our Chantarelle residents taken when they were a bit younger. See if you can guess who they are. Winners will be announced in next month's newsletter.



--Valerie Camarda



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### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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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

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### **MANAGEMENT COMPANY**

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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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### **CHANTARELLE GAZETTE STAFF**

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Editor - Valerie Camarda

Proofreader – Linda Jackson

Creative Director - Tom McKean

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## ART CLUB – DECEMBER EXHIBIT AND FUTURE EXHIBIT THEMES

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THE DECEMBER ART EXHIBITION was themed “Winter and More.”

Heather comments: Love June’s tree with the red in, and Shelley’s holiday Christmas tree, plus John’s dramatic tree.

Mike comments: Heather’s barn really gives me a winter feeling. Shelley’s Christmas tree is both festive and a bit foreboding—very interesting. June’s birds at the birdhouse are so peaceful. John’s beautiful tree looks lonely and cold.

May comments: Each of Heather's 3 paintings has a different mood which is very interesting. The background color John chose makes cold air through the tree. June's red happy birds in icy winter scene cheer me up. Shelley's huge Xmas tree is shining around even to the gold frame!



**Future exhibit themes:** January: “New Year's Thoughts and More”

**More Art welcomed!** If you’re interested in showing your art piece for future exhibit(s), please contact Mike Hashii (mhashii@gmail.com)

–Mike Hashii



### From the FDIC Consumer News Bulletin:

#### How Gift Card Scams Work

Gift card scams start with a call, text, email, or social media message. Scammers will say almost anything to get you to buy gift cards — like Google Play, Apple, or Amazon cards — and hand over the card number and PIN codes. Here are some common tactics scammers use in gift card scams:

- **Scammers will say it's urgent.** They will say to pay them right away or something terrible will happen. They don't want you to have time to think about what they're saying or talk to someone you trust. Slow down. Don't pay. It's a scam.
- **Scammers will tell you which gift card to buy (and where).** They might say to put money on an eBay, Google Play, Target, or Apple gift card. They might send you to a specific store — often Walmart, Target, CVS, or Walgreens. Sometimes they'll tell you to buy cards at several stores, so cashiers won't get suspicious. The scammer also might stay on the phone with you while you go to the store and load money onto the card. If this happens to you, hang up. It's a scam.
- **Scammers will ask you for the gift card number and PIN.** The card number and PIN on the back of the card let the scammer get the money you loaded onto the card — even if you still have the card itself. Slow down. Don't give them those numbers or send them a photo of the card. It's a scam.

#### Common Gift Card Scams

Scammers tell different stories to get you to buy gift cards so they can steal your money. Here are some common gift card scams:

- **Scammers say they're from the government.** They say they're from the IRS, the Social Security Administration, or even the FTC. They say you must pay taxes or a fine. But government agencies won't contact you to demand immediate payment, and they never demand payment by gift card. It's a scam.
- **Scammers say they're from tech support.** They say they're from Microsoft or Apple and there's something wrong with your computer. They ask for remote access and say to pay them to get it fixed. Don't give them access to your computer. It's a scam.
- **Scammers say they're a friend or family member with an emergency.** If the scammer uses voice cloning, they may even sound just like your loved one. They ask you to send money right away — but not tell anyone. It's a scam. If you're worried, contact the friend or relative to check that everything is all right.
- **Scammers say you've won a prize.** But first, they tell you to pay fees or other charges with a gift card. It's a scam. No honest business or agency will ever make you buy a gift card to pay them for a prize. And did you even enter to win that prize?
- **Scammers say they're from your utility company.** They threaten to cut off your service if you don't pay immediately. But utility companies don't work that way. It's a scam.
- **Scammers ask for money after they chat you up on a dating website.** Romance scammers will make up any story to trick you into buying a gift card to send them money. Slow down. Never send money or gifts to anyone you haven't met in person — even if they send you money first.
- **Scammers send a check for way more than you expected.** They tell you to deposit the check and give them the difference on a gift card. Don't do it. It's a scam. That check will be fake, and you'll be out all that money.

## **What To Do If You Gave a Gift Card to a Scammer**

If you bought a gift card and gave someone the numbers off the back of the card, that's a scam. Use your gift card and gift card store receipt for these next steps:

- **Report the gift card scam to the gift card company right away.** No matter how long ago the scam happened, report it.
- **Ask for your money back.** Some companies are helping stop gift card scams and might give your money back. It's worth asking.
- **Tell the FTC at [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](https://www.ftc.gov/report-fraud).** Every report makes a difference.

Wishing you and yours happy holidays and peace in the new year.

-- Peggy Owens, Coordinator

SAFETY/WELFARE Committee

[powens2@juno.com](mailto: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

### JANUARY 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Happy New Year!	2	3 No 1st Friday	4
5	6	7 Bunco 1:00-4:00	8	9 Book Club 2:00-3:30	10	11
12	13	14	15 Poker Night 6:30	16 Art Club 1:00-3:30	17	18 Reserved Private Event
19	20 Holiday Martin Luther King Day	21 HOA Board Meeting 2:00	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 Mexican Train Dominos 12:30-4:00	29	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.