



# Chantarelle News

Sonoma, California

Chantarelle  
Homeowners'  
Association

## December 2016

## Volume 26 #12

### DECEMBER

December brings even more holidays to follow on from Halloween & Thanksgiving. Notable days this month include: the Winter Solstice on Wednesday the 21st; Christmas Eve on Saturday the 24th; the start of Hanukkah on Saturday the 24th; Christmas Day on Sunday the 25th; and New Year's Eve on Saturday the 31st. Everyone have a wonderful holiday season and a very happy month!

### HOA MEETING

There is no HOA meeting in December. The next HOA Meeting will be in the clubhouse on Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> commencing at 3pm.

### PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

As we turn another page of the calendar to December, we prepare to celebrate in our own way. Whether you're celebrating Christmas or Chanukah or putting your own spin on the winter holidays, this is a season of hope and cheer. We wish all of our Chantarelle family happy holidays with good health and good spirits. Our Annual Holiday Party arrives on December 2nd, a chance to mingle with your neighbors and toast to good times ahead.

### Backflow Project Notes

In unity there is strength. This philosophy applies to our Chantarelle community. While there will always be negative thinking on the part of some, we move ahead here in our neighborhood by working together for positive change. Having been

handed the burden of "backflow," we have worked to comply with the government regulation. After two years of work and discussion, we have reached an agreement with a contractor and negotiated the best price for any homeowner wishing to participate in this consortium.

In accordance with our attorney's advice, the first payment to our contractor Randy will be applied to materials. Many of you have already sent your check. If you have not sent your check but still wish to participate, the deadline has been extended to December 15th.

Our Landscape Committee is reviewing the many options for backflow covers, with emphasis on the aesthetics of our neighborhood. While the basic thermal bag will be included in the cost of the project, there are a number of options to minimize the visual impact of the backflow pipes, such as faux boulders, cages, shrubs and other structures. When the project reaches the "cover" stage, your opinions will be solicited. Regarding the **Rules Review Committee**, thanks again for all who participated in updating the Chantarelle Rules and Regulations. Now that the changes have been submitted and approved by the Board, and with no homeowner objection, the new Rules and Regs are official. You had a copy mailed to your home, and you can also view them on the website ([www.chantarelle.org](http://www.chantarelle.org)). As always, be sure to complete and submit the proper forms for

change requests to the Architectural Control Committee (ACC). The ACC asks for three copies, one to be returned to you, indicating approval or other action. ACC forms may be submitted to Pat Chace. Landscape change request forms may be submitted to Debbie and Susan for review and sign off.

Looking ahead to the **annual meeting** in March, be aware that the terms of two current HOA members, Pat Chace and Roger Young, will expire. Please let Mike Hashii (Nominations Chair) know if you are interested in running for a Board position. Our strength is in our unity and our volunteers.

### Volunteers

After seven years of service, Carl Hofman has submitted his resignation from the Pool Committee. Carl has been an invaluable member of the committee, and we thank him for his service to our Chantarelle community.

There are always activities ongoing and work to be done, so the more volunteers that we get the better! Let us know if you can help in any way – we can use your talents. ~ *Dave Owens*

### LANDSCAPING NOTES

Happiest of happy holidays to you, dear friends and neighbors here in Chantarelle. Winter is almost upon us. So far this year, the rains have been falling in unexpected abundance — over 11 inches since the beginning of this year's annual rainfall, which began Oct 1. What a blessing for us all! Our shrubs, trees and lawns are

certainly appreciating it. As are we humans!

And here's what's happening in landscaping news ...

### **Happier Trees**

When our trees get the blessing of excellent pruning from our skilled arborists with Ryan Garrison's Art & Science Tree, they do thrive.

Though the winter pruning session was all scheduled to take place in December, Ryan's November schedule opened up so he and his colleague began work in our neighborhood a couple of weeks ago. So half the work we had scheduled is now completed, and the remainder will take place the on Dec. 12 and 13. We are so grateful for their annual assistance as we continue to cultivate the beauty and health of these community trees, many of which were planted at or near the beginning of Chantarelle's development.

### **Happy Plants**

Our autumn planting program is near completion. Numerous old, unhealthy, or simply "spent" plants have been removed from home fronts and common areas. The life cycle of some of the plants wasn't entirely complete, so we placed them elsewhere in our landscape. Other plants were at the end of their life, so to them, we simply said "thank you and good bye". In their places have gone fresh, new, interesting and healthy shrubs and plants. They will establish themselves as the winter unfolds, and by spring, we should see a bounty of new growth on these currently small green botanical treasures.

If you wish to make a change in the plants or shrubs in the HOA-maintained area in front of or near your home, do let us know. If we can make a plan for the change and accomplish it before freezing weather sets in, then new plantings will still have a good

chance of thriving into the spring and in the coming years.

### **Rivers of Rocks**

We are experimenting with a new landscape feature to enhance some of the unplanted areas in front of a few homes and in some of the common area spaces. This feature is what we call a "Rock River".

These "Rock Rivers" are being created thanks to the artistry of our Waldron team member, Rafael Casillas. Rafael utilizes Mexican river rocks to craft these "rivers" in areas where there are too many roots below the ground to successfully plant something new. Or else to simply give a new and intriguing look to our landscaping areas. "Rock Rivers" are quite affordable, don't require any water or maintenance, and can be truly appealing to the eye. We hope you will enjoy seeing them around the neighborhood, if you haven't happened upon any of them yet. That's it for our December Landscape Committee update for you. May your December days and nights be filled with holiday joy and cheer, and may the New Year that is almost upon us be amazingly wonderful for us all. ~ *Debbie and Susan*

### **ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES**

*Loretta Hibbard writes ...*

I want to alert the Chanterelle community of a phone number that we should all have. Sometimes we hear of a neighbor who may need more help than we are able to give. Maybe the senior is no longer able to care for him- or herself or you suspect financial, physical or mental abuse. **Adult Protective Services** can send someone out to check on the senior and if needed can get them help. Their phone number is 707-565-5340 or 800-667-0404. This line is open 24 hours a day, 7 days

a week and the call is confidential and anonymous.

### **SAFETY & WELFARE NOTES**

Now that we're in the holiday shopping season, here are just a few reminders about auto/driving safety:

\* When approaching your car in a parking lot, have your keys in your hand with your finger on the alarm button.

\* Keep your gas tank full and your vehicle's engine well maintained to avoid breakdowns.

\* Always lock your car doors, even when you're inside, and keep your windows rolled up.

\* Lock packages and other valuables in the trunk. Do not leave them on the back seat or on the floor of the vehicle where potential thieves can see them.

\* When you return to your car, always check the front and back seat before you get in.

\* Don't keep your car keys on the same ring as your house keys. If your car is stolen with the keys in it, you don't want the thief to also have the keys to your home.

**\* Recently, items were stolen from an unlocked vehicle parked in our community. Please remember to lock your vehicle when it is parked on the street or on your driveway, even temporarily. ~ Peggy Owens**  
343-7087 powens2@juno.com

### **CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION**

Sonoma Garbage Collectors will be collecting Christmas Trees at the curb Monday January 9<sup>th</sup> 2017. Please remove stands and place at the curb the night before. No flocking, tinsel, decorations, or stands allowed.

### **MOVIE NIGHT**

There will be no movie night in December or January.

## **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.

## **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

Michael Hashii, V-President  
996-4817

Ron Yamato, Treasurer  
415-305-1400

Pat Chace, Director  
935-7301

Roger Young, Director  
938-2582

## **CLUBHOUSE RESERVATIONS**

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

## **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 the Chantarelle Website to Mary Howland, 650-468-1119 or email her at: *char797@aol.com*.

## CHANTARELLE WEEKLY CALENDAR

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

## DECEMBER 2016

| Sun                               | Mon       | Tue   | Wed                                 | Thu       | Fri   | Sat  |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|---|-------------------------------------|-----------|---|--|
|                                   |           |   |                                     | <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b><br><br>Chantarelle<br>Christmas<br>Party 5pm | <b>3</b>   |
| <b>4</b>                          | <b>5</b>  | <b>6</b><br><br>Bunco<br>1-4pm  | <b>7</b>                            | <b>8</b>  | <b>9</b>  | <b>10</b>  |
| <b>11</b>                         | <b>12</b> | <b>13</b><br><br>Clubhouse<br>Reserved<br><u>11:30-1:00pm</u><br>Dominoes<br>1:00-4pm | <b>14</b>                           | <b>15</b> | <b>16</b>   | <b>17</b>  |
| <b>18</b>                         | <b>19</b> | <b>20</b>   | <b>21</b><br><br>Winter<br>Solstice | <b>22</b> | <b>23</b>   | <b>24</b><br><br>Christmas<br><u>Eve</u><br>Start of<br>Hanukkah |
| <b>25</b><br><br>Christmas<br>Day | <b>26</b> | <b>27</b><br><br>MexicanTrain<br>Dominoes<br>12:30-4pm                                | <b>28</b>                           | <b>29</b> | <b>30</b>   | <b>31</b><br><br>New Years<br>Eve                                |

Waldron Landscaping is now here on Monday & Tuesday 1-4pm and Thursday & Friday 8am until 1pm.  
Garbage, recycling and garden trash pickup is every Monday.