

BOARD MEETINGS

**Third Wednesday,
every other month**

Country Club at 4:30 pm

Mutual Water Co. at 5:30 pm

BOARD MEMBERS:

Country Club:

President: Philip Hartley

Treasurer: Vacant

Secretary: Clelia Baur

Director: Doug Bridges

Director: Doug Moore

Director: Bob Gunion

*Historian: Betty Helf

Water Company:

President: Norma Simmons

Vice President: Vacant

Secretary: Barbara Eichten

Treasurer: Ginny Leber

Director: Richard Tracy

Administration Office

8475 Harbor View Drive

Financial info: 707-279-8544

Fax: 707-279-0118

Send eMail messages to

RivieraWest@gmail.com

Visit our Website:
rivierawesthoa.com

Office Hours/Days:

Mon., Tues., Thurs.

9 am to 3 pm

Wed. 9am to 11 am



*Riviera West Country Club
Harbor View Mutual Water Company*

News

July 2017

Visit our WEBSITE ... rivierawesthoa.com

Issue 87

**Next Country Club Board Meeting is September 20, 2017 at 4:30 pm
Next Mutual Water Co. Board Meeting is September 20, 2017 at 5:30**

President's Report

Philip Hartley, President, Riviera West Country Club

The annual meeting of the Riviera West Country Club was very well attended. The prior year's activities were reviewed, a well-balanced tentative budget was approved and an informative video on protecting your house in a wildfire was presented. Members offered ideas on improving pool safety and use and how to get lots with unresponsive owners cleared.

I would like to express my appreciation to J. Richard who ended his term on the Board on June 30. J was an excellent board member, very conscientious with good problem-solving skills and a positive attitude. He filled the role of treasurer and was instrumental in arrangements for our new professional bookkeeper.

Riviera West has launched its new website. This attractive, useful and easy to navigate website is located at www.rivierawesthoa.com. Clelia Baur assisted by Elvia Cubilla had primary responsibility for this project and did a great job. The website will be hosted by Lake County Websites in Middletown.

(Cont. next page)

Norma Simmons, President, Harbor View Mutual Water Company

Fellow Property Owners,

After a long wet winter it would seem spring is finally upon us, time to check your drip system for leaks or start installing one. Two thirds of our water use in this community goes towards outdoor landscaping, drip systems are a great way to conserve water in the long hot months of summer.

In early April the water company paid to have a professional leak detection company do an inspection of the entire water system, no leaks were found at that time. This service was last preformed in 2012 by the same company.

In early March a suspected leak was investigated on Broadview Dr. a homeowner had a sudden foot deep sink hole develop in the street in front of his home. A contractor was called in to investigate and a five foot deep hole was dug but fortunately no leak was found.

(Cont. next page)

Water bills

Meters are read during the first few days of every other month, billings are created immediately thereafter, and water bills are sent out, usually by the 5th. Your water bill is DUE UPON RECEIPT since it is for service you received during the two months just prior to the billing. Any question? Call the office ... 707-279-8544.

(Cont. from pg. 1 column 1)

At the July 19 meeting of the Board we have appointed Bob Gunion to serve on the Board on for a two year term.

Also at the July 19 meeting, the Board has approved hiring a debt collector on an as-needed basis to secure payment of past due accounts and to assist us with processing liens and other related matters. Mr. Bruce Kupferman has many years of professional experience in this area, lives locally and provides service to the other Rivas. Mr. Bruce Kupferman has many years of professional experience in this area, lives locally and provides service to the other Rivas.

Accepting the new reserve study rounded out the April 19 meeting.

85 fire safety compliance notices have been mailed out. The Fire Safety Committee will follow up with inspections to check for corrective actions. Approximately 50 piles of combustible materials were set out by property owners for the free chipping service this month.

A neighborhood based commercial website has been launched at <http://rivierawest.nextdoor.com>. It features postings from people living in Clearlake Riviera, Riviera Heights, Buckingham and Riviera West. Check it out.

Stay cool, be alert and enjoy.

Phil Hartley

Register with Nixle at www.nixle.com. This information service allows public agencies to send alerts and notifications about emergencies, traffic problems, crime watch notices, safety tips and more directly to your cell phone or e-mail.



(Cont. from, pg. 1 column 2)

The county department of Public Works was notified of this naturally occurring sink hole and the water company is in the process of trying to get the contractor fee reimbursed as it was a road problem. This problem led to the company hiring the above leak detection company for a survey.

The rate study is almost complete and a report on the findings should be presented at the next board meeting. This rate study was needed in order to seek grant and loan funding for the replacement of our aging wooden water tanks.

Norma Simmons

Is your dirt moving next door?

The good news: Riviera West property owners are diligently clearing their properties and the community is looking better than ever. After five years of drought and attacks by pine beetles, a record number of pine trees have been removed. All of these activities reduce our wildfire risk.

The bad news: Bare dirt is often left exposed after trees and brush are cleared, especially when the entire root systems are removed. With our hilly terrain, even moderate rainfall will start to move exposed dirt downhill. Please survey your property for areas that are prone to erosion and take necessary steps to keep your soil from causing damage to your lot or your neighbor's property.

A small amount of effort today can prevent costly fixes in the future. Prevention measures include replanting the area and placing biodegradable erosion control netting, wattles or other materials. Putting down a layer of straw is not an effective erosion control method. And if you remove a tree on a sloped lot, it is best to leave the tree trunk in place so the root system can continue holding the soil in place while other plants get established.

Visit the Riviera West online at www.rivierawesthoa.com (Architectural Control and Planning page) for links to effective erosion control. Lake County provides some very helpful advice, and a landscaping contractor or home improvement store can also help you find the right solution for your budget and property requirements.

Calendar

Ladies' Club meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 10 am in the Clubhouse, September through May. You don't have to be a member to come and check out a meeting to see if you are interested in joining our club.

Upcoming Events

July 29th Saturday Night Live– Hawaiian Theme
Hosted by: Kerry and Doug Moore

August 12th Saturday Night Live
Hosted by: Roberta Beat

August 26th Saturday Night Live– At the Marina
Hosted by: Carina Deherrera

September 9th Saturday Night Live– Pool Party at the pool
Hosted by: Carol Biggs

September 16th Saturday– Ladies' Club BBQ
Community members are no charge; Guests will be \$10 per person. (RSVP to Jan Wilson)

**RSVP MUST BE SENT TO JAN WILSON AT
JANMAR61@MCHSI.COM OR 279-0490**

October 6th & 7th Fri. & Sat. – Community Yard Sale. The cost to participate is \$5 per owner this pays Penny Slaver, Record Bee & signs.

**Saturday Night Live Events starts at 5:00 pm at the Clubhouse (unless otherwise stated at a later date). No RSVP needed
Please bring an appetizer to share and BYOB.**



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

We need a few good women...

Hi! We are looking for new ladies to join the club and we are also in need of a Secretary this year. We meet on the second Wednesday of the month at 10:00 am at the Clubhouse. The meeting usually last about an hour. You can always come and check out a couple of meetings without feeling pressured to join. Dues are \$15 a year. We are a great group of ladies and would love to meet you! Feel free to call me anytime.

- Kerry Moore Ladies' Club President



Sign up Now for the Riviera West Community Yard Sale

Once again, the Ladies' Club has organized a fabulous yard sale on October 6-7 for all Riviera West households. Participation is easy; reserve your spot today!

Ladies Club is accepting clean, sellable items for the Annual Community Yard Sale. Donation can be dropped off at the Clubhouse during office hours.



The 2017 Summer Concert Series is June 16th to August 18th at Library Park in Lakeport. Concerts begin at 6pm this year.

June 16	Johnny Young Band	Country/Rock/Red Dirt
June 23	Clean Sweep	Classic Nostalgia
June 30	Jake Gill	Country
July 7	The Swinging Chads	Americana Rock & Roll
July 14	Boys of Summer	Eagles Tribute Band
July 21	Funky Dozen	Disco/Funk/Soul
July 28	Brad Wilson	Blues
August 4	Tom Rigney	Cajun Zydeco
August 11	LC Diamonds	Rock & Roll
August 18	Decades	Nostalgic Rock & Roll

Lake County Time Capsule:

The iconic stagecoach

Kathleen Scavone, M.A.

Covered wagons and stagecoaches paint a quintessential portrait of the wild west in our minds.

The 19th century mode of transport has come across into our literature and culture over time. A movie classic example is "Stagecoach" with John Ford.

A stagecoach was good for all purposes – transporting people, mail and goods. They were towed by horses or mules, and were at once a dependable and necessary form of transportation.

The stagecoaches of Lake County's history were derived from the 13th century's "manuscript," according to Encyclopedias Britannica.

In the book, "History of Lake County 1881," Lower Lake's transportation link to the external regions was discussed thusly: "Lower Lake is connected with the outside world by two stage lines, one extending from East Lake to Calistoga, and the other from Lower Lake to Woodland. The mail service has been heretofore daily for some time, but is at present only tri weekly."

When Robert Louis Stevenson lived on Mount St. Helena in 1880 he noted that two of the most popular stage drivers of the era were Clark Foss and William Spiers, who made frequent forays into Lake County.

Driver Foss is described by Menefee's Sketchbook as "second to none in the handling of horse, whip, and lines."

Foss is further described by his rival, William Spiers in his recollections: "Colonel Foss weighed two hundred and sixty five pounds, and could handle six horses like you'd handle that many cats. He would lift them right up off their feet and swing them around the corners so fast you couldn't see the leading team. He drove his stage to the Big Geysers for years, and he'd run down the last hill with a yell to wake the dead."

The Lawley toll road from Calistoga to Middletown was constructed with Lawley and his partners, Henry Boggs and William Patterson, in 1866.

The toll rates for the roads were determined by the Board of Supervisors. Some of the charges follow, below. After public outcry in 1873, the high tolls were reduced.

- Four horse team: \$1.50.
- Eight horse team: \$2.50.
- One horse buggy: \$0.75.
- Man and horse: \$0.25.

The following quote, which is paired with a photo of stagecoach driver William Spiers, in the Sharpsteen Museum in Calistoga and is an excerpt from Ken Stanton's book, "Mount St. Helena & R. L. Stevenson State Park – a History and Guide":

"William Spiers was one of the county's early freight drivers, hauling supplies to mines in Lake County. Thrifty and persevering, Bill bought the Lodi Stable and with the aid of a contract to carry U.S. Mail, operated the Calistoga Clear Lake Stage Line. Bill became one of the counties most familiar pioneers. He served on the city council 36 years. Friendly and optimistic at all times, he answered all questions of health, business or prospects with one answer, 'Finest Kind.'"

Kathleen Scavone, M.A., is a retired educator, potter, writer and author of "Anderson Marsh State Historic Park: A Walking History, Prehistory, Flora, and Fauna Tour of a California State Park" and "Native Americans of Lake County." She also writes for NASA and JPL as one of their "Solar System Ambassadors." She was selected "Lake County Teacher of the Year, 1998-99" by the Lake County Office of Education, and chosen as one of 10 state finalists the same year by the California Department of Education.

For these historical documents, we wish to give a special thanks to Betty Helf for her efforts.