

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: Clelia Baur

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: Vacant

Director: Richard Tracy

Director: Carina DeHererra

Administration Office

8475 Harbor View Drive

Financial info: 707-279-8544

Fax: 707-279-0118

Send eMail messages to

Visit our Website:
rivierawesthoa.com

RivieraWest@gmail.com

Office Hours/Days:

Mon., Tues., Thurs.

9 am to 3 pm

Wed. 9am to 11 am

Friday 9am to 3:30 pm



*Riviera West Country Club
Harbor View Mutual Water Company*

News

May 2018

Visit our WEBSITE ... rivierawesthoa.com

Issue 93

Next Country Club Board Meeting is May 16, 2018 at 4:30 pm
Next Mutual Water Co. Board Meeting is May 16, 2018 at 5:30 pm

President's Report

Philip Hartley, President, Riviera West Country Club

Projects underway:

- The pool has been newly plastered and will be ready for the summer season opening (usually Memorial Day weekend with cooperating weather).
- All the new appliances, cabinets and granite counters have been installed in the clubhouse kitchen.
- The bus stop has been remodeled and repaired.
- The marina bathrooms have new doors and a new outside screening wall.
- New chairs have replaced the old, dusty couch in the social hall (reports of bug bites from the old couch were greatly exaggerated).

(Cont. next page)

Norma Simmons, President, Harbor View Mutual Water Company

Fellow Property Owners,

It is once again the start of Springtime, flowers blooming, gardening, and starting the drip system. The water company asks that you do a thorough check of the drip system after having been off all Winter long, this is the second most common spot for leaks in your home (toilets being number one).

The second round of income survey forms were mailed a few weeks ago. Please fill out the form and return it, as this is how the state determines our eligibility for grant funding. The next step will be a representative of RCAC will go door to door asking about your yearly income. They need to determine if over fifty percent of our full-time residents earn less than 51,000 a year to be eligible for full grant funding.

The big news is we have signed an agreement with Konocti Harbor Resort to provide our Water Operators to run their water treatment plant.

(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.

(Hartley, Cont. from pg. 1 column 1)

Two new houses are nearing completion in the community, one on Meadowood and the other on North Heights Drive. We have also seen a definite increase in the number of lot sales in the past six months.

In accordance with a service reorganization plan approved by the Board, we are transferring responsibility for the operation and maintenance of the pool to the water company. We will reimburse the water company for the actual hours of service required. We are seeking a cleaning service to provide custodial service for the clubhouse and we have identified a general contractor who will oversee and carry out major repair projects; first on the list is replacing the stairs down to the pool and the failing rain gutter system on the clubhouse.

We hope you have received our fire safety mail out. Please read it carefully as it contains the latest information on preparing for and remaining safe in the event of a wildfire. We applied for and received a small grant from the National Fire Prevention Association for a fire prevention week project. We will be clearing away tree debris left by PG&E from their tree removal/trimming efforts this year. Fire safety inspections will begin shortly and we have scheduled a chipping service for the end of June (more information next month). We invite you to join our fire safety committee and be part of the solution.

TROUBLESOME PINES

Q: A little pine tree started growing at the edge of my property. Should I keep it?

A: That little tree could grow into a giant that threatens your home, your neighbor's home or nearby power lines.

In Riviera West, volunteer pines may be members of some species that can cause trouble when they mature. Some of the large pine species have caused problems in the past, such as dropping branches that damage houses, fences and vehicles. Two types of pines seem to cause the most trouble: knob cone pines and gray pines.

Knob cones were introduced to this neighborhood decades ago to re-vegetate after a fire. Many are now at the end of their life spans. Over the past five years, several knob cone pines have fallen or dropped branches that caused power outages or damage to property.

Gray pines (also known as bull pines or digger pines), can grow to 100 feet at maturity. They are the grayish-green, sparse growing pines seen along Soda Bay Road and on Mt. Konocti. These huge trees can overwhelm Riviera West properties. Their pine cones, which are 10" to 12" long and weigh more than 1.5 lb., can cause considerable

(Simmons, Cont. from, pg. 1 column 2)

This should allow us to offset some of the payroll overhead we have now, this will help keep costs down going forward in the future. Konocti Harbor will pay an hourly fee for time our operators spend over there.

Harbor View water will be hosting a meeting in late May with the public in this area to see if there is public interest in forming a mutual partnership with the other water companies in this area to share operators, office staff, and the like. The meeting will have speakers from the Fire Department, state water quality, Special Districts, and RCAC, who will discuss the advantages of forming a larger water system in the case of emergencies.

Norma Simmons



damage when they fall.

We encourage property owners to consider removing mature knob cone and gray pines before they cause problems. Removing them when they are young is much easier and less expensive. Replanting with a smaller species is recommended. Smaller trees do not threaten power or cable lines, and can be less hazardous during a wildfire. And you can select smaller species that have spring flowers or other attractive features. The Riviera West office has a chart of trees recommended by PG&E for our region, or you can visit PG&E's website for tree selection advice.

Please remember, approval by the Architectural Control and Planning committee is needed before you remove any tree, alive or dead. However, if your tree has a trunk 6" or less in diameter, you can remove it without ACP approval. The ACP will work with you to evaluate your large pines and help you with deciding on a replacement or finding a tree removal service.

Thank you to all of our property owners for helping to keep Riviera West a safe and attractive community!

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

May 19th Saturday- Fiesta Mexican Dinner
Hosted by Barbara Curtis and Sandra Estrada.
5:30 Appetizers, 6:30 Dinner, BYOB \$15 Per Person.
50/50 Raffle-Be sure to bring some extra dinero.

June Ladies' Club Luncheon- Ladies Club Luncheon will be held sometime during the week of June 11-16. All ladies in the community are welcome. Place TBD.



Please bring an appetizer to share & BYOB

June 29th Friday 5:30 pm- First TGIF and Welcome Party for new neighbors. Come on down to the clubhouse to meet fellow new neighbors and the rest of the community. Hosts Riviera West Ladies Club.

July 13th Friday 5:30 pm- Hosts Doug and Kerry Moore, Theme: Red, White, and Blue

July 27th Friday 5:30 pm- Hosts Karen Whittington and Linda Prather

August 10th Friday 5:30 pm- **Need Hosts**

August 24th Friday 5:30 pm- Hosts Moe and John Fox

September 7th Friday 5:30 pm- Hosts Carina DeHerrera and Bobby Gunion, Marina Party

September 15th Saturday 5:30 pm- , BBQ 5:30 Appetizers, 6:30 Dinner, Sponsored by the Ladies' Club. Details to follow.

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

**Ladies Club Dinners: Cash and checks accepted.
Please make checks payable to the
Riviera West Ladies' Club or RWLC**



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Thank you to Bill Lillo and Joetta Kastner for providing such a delicious Italian meal, and to Mitch Kastner and Evelyn Moran for all the help they provided! Great Job!!!

Congrats to Becky Allen for winning the 50/50 raffle!

Looking ahead, we have one more dinner, the Mexican Fiesta before we start our TGIFs. It's always one of the best attended dinners and this year we have some new Hosts, Sandra Estrada and Barbara Curtis. It sounds like they have some wonderful dishes planned. Watch your email for the invitation. Thanks Ladies!!

We will have our annual Ladies Club luncheon in June. We will finalize the date and location at our next meeting on May 9. All neighborhood ladies are welcome and encouraged to join us!! Also, in June, we will have a Sip and Paint party at the clubhouse. Details to follow.

That brings us to TGIFs. We have gone back to Friday nights. Most of the feedback was that Friday was a better time to gather than Saturday. TGIFs are held about every other week in the summer. Neighbors bring an appetizer to share and their own beverages. It's a great place to visit and catch up on all of the activities taking place in the county. Please refer to the Calendar and emails for more information.

Our kitchen should be finished in the next couple of weeks, fingers crossed. We will be so happy to have the extra space and modern new features. Again, thank you to Carina DeHerrera, Barb Curtis, and Joetta Kastner for their time and dedication to this project! Thanks also to Phil Hartley and the HOA Board for their commitment to getting it done! We really appreciate it!!

(Cont. next page)

(Moore, Cont. from, pg. 4 column 2)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Lastly, the president's position is open for anyone who is interested. I have had a great time during my two year term but I am ready to hand over the reins to someone with new energy and ideas. If there are no volunteers, I will stay on for one more year, but that is all. FYI, the past president stays on the Board to help the new president transition into the office. The wealth of experience on the Board is a great support system as well. Give it some thought, I know the next person is out there just waiting to jump in!

-Kerry Moore Ladies' Club President



Annual Yard Sale will be Friday October 5th and Saturday October 6th 2018. Please contact Norma at (707) 279-9604 to sign up.

ANNUAL MEETING

IMPORTANT REMINDER

The Annual Meeting for the Riviera West Country Club and Harbor View Mutual Water Co. will be held Saturday, June 23rd.

Riviera West Country Club at 9:00 am
Harbor View Mutual Water Co. at 11:00 am
We urge you to attend the Annual Meeting. Your ideas and involvement can make a positive impact in the community.

Riviera West Fire Inspections will take place in May, so avoid a fine and take plans now to clear your lot.

Bring Your Lot into Compliance

- ◇ Grass and weeds must be no taller than 3 inches. Remove brush piles and flammable debris.
- ◇ Remove flammable material from under and around your house and deck.
- ◇ Remove dead trees. Contact the Riviera West office for ACP approval before removing any tree.
Remove "ladder fuels" that allow fire to spread from the ground to tree branches.
- ◇ Tree limbs must be trimmed to at least 6 feet from the ground.
- ◇ Trim shrubs and trees, especially of dead branches.
- ◇ No tree branches should be too close to or touching the roof or other parts of the building.
- ◇ Lot inspections will take place in May.
- ◇ Contact the Fire Safety Committee at 707-279-8544 for more information, or for tree removal and brush-clearing referrals.

Let's work together to keep our homes and families safe!

Visit www.rivierawesthoa.com to view the Riviera West Fire Prevention Policy. Riviera West is a certified Firewise Community.
Chipping days will take place in late June!

Clearlake Man Remembered

The Native American Grave Protection Act forgotten?

By: Kevin Engle

It was a hot summer day in July of 1923. Charles Hesse had been digging a pit for his new septic tank all morning over in the Clearlake Park area of Lake County, California. Charlie made pretty good progress with his old pick and shovel. Just before lunch he dug down to a depth about waist high. After lunch, he jumped back down into the pit to continue his labor. As Hesse landed, a portion of the pit floor fell away revealing the top of a human skull. Hesse carefully continued to dig and as he did... Lo and Behold! An entire skeleton appeared. This chance discovery would cut short the spiritual journey of what may be one of North America's oldest known inhabitants and start those ancient remains on a different kind of voyage. The rest of this story exemplifies one of the most unique pre-historic to modern day dilemmas in America.

After languishing in the possession of the Hesse family for over a decade, 1937 marks the year when the ancient bones discovered by Mr. Hesse were examined by Mark Raymond Harrington, renowned Curator of the South-Western Museum located in Los Angeles, California. According to Ruth Tennyson, the daughter of Charles Hesse, Harrington suggested that Borax Man could be the oldest human being ever found in the Western United States. (Keep in mind that Harrington examined the bones when carbon dating and other dating technologies had not yet been invented).

In 1948, after years of archeological excavations conducted by Mr. Harrington at Borax Lake, he claimed that the site was 10,000 to 12,000 years old (Harrington 1948). His bold claim would set the popular perception of California's pre-historic habitation on its scholarly ear. The accepted theory of the day was that early migrations over the Bering Straits bypassed California and went directly East to the Great Plains and beyond. Harrington's orthodox peers, sure of their convictions, ridiculed and discredited his outlandish claims. It would be over three decades until Harrington's vindication.

In 1970, U.C.L.A. Professor of Anthropology: Clement W. Meighan and Southern Methodist University Professor of Geology: C. Vance Haynes published a scientific paper from their work at the Borax Lake Site (Meighan & Haynes-Science 1970), near to where the Hesse specimen was found. They stated the site was first inhabited at least eleven or twelve thousand years ago and said it was likely the site was much older. The Meighan/Hayes findings were backed by modern day Obsidian Hydration Testing and based in part on artifacts obtained from the earlier work of M.R. Harrington. That testing, although somewhat suspect, indicated a few artifacts dated to 48,000 B.P. Later and deeper excavations in the area confirmed and expanded upon the Meighan/Hayes findings. In one such dig, Lake County's own Dr. John Parker has published a paper (Parker 2013:58) in which he discovered artifacts dated to 21,000 B.P.

To this author's knowledge, the revised dates of Borax Lake habitation put forth by this illustrious group of modern day anthropologists could still make the Hesse discovery the oldest human remains found in the Western United States, and a valid rival to other claims of early U.S. habitation by ancient man. The dates confirmed by Hayes, Meighan, Parker and others, in the very least, gives factual support to Harrington's initial claim that California was inhabited much earlier than previously believed by his peers.

The Hesse specimen traveled to a handful of institutions for additional study and has been referred to as: "Stone Hatchet Man", "Clearlake Man" and "Borax Man". For our purposes, we have chosen to use the title of: Clearlake Man.

Among the institutions allowed to examine Clearlake Man was San Francisco State University (UCSF). The skull was cleaned and reconstructed there. Per that forensic examination, the specimen was said to be a surprisingly healthy forty-five to fifty year old male at the time of death. Blunt trauma to the head and a "crude" obsidian point lodged in the shoulder blade surely led to his speedy demise. Skull shape and measurements alluded to a human most likely of Aleut/Caucasian descent. One odd determination was that the skull's ear holes were completely closed over with bone growth. Dr. Parker has stated that this is not an unusual feature of human beings accustomed to hunting, trapping and fishing in cold water. Today, this radical physiological response to such harsh environmental conditions is known as "Surfer's Ear" or Exotosis. Unfortunately, DNA Testing, Carbon Dating and Obsidian Hydration techniques were not available when the UCSF examination was conducted. An additional interesting find in the grave itself was: "a stone hatchet and a crude obsidian point". Currently, the disposition of these two artifacts is unknown. That is a real shame because the obsidian artifact could now be tested to date the gravesite.

The ancient remains of Clearlake Man eventually traveled back to Lake County where for many years he was displayed at Ruth Tennyson's "Indian Museum" in Lower Lake, California. Sometime later, she donated those skeletal remains to the Lake County Courthouse Museum. The bones were shuffled around the county museum system for years, collecting dust in an old aquarium. Along with Clearlake Man, the Lake County Museums had collected twenty-three sets of burial remains, most by "anonymous" donation. It was a strange collection. One was said to have been the finger bone of a human exhumed in Merced County when a dam was constructed there. Another specimen was a skull sent from the San Francisco Police Department. One box was said by museum staff to contain a femur bone of a human estimated to be at least seven feet tall. (There are ancient legends of a race of giants living in the Blue Lakes area of Lake County). Only three sets of remains had enough provenance to definitively determine they were of South-Eastern Pomo origins.

In 1993, newly enacted Federal Legislation known as The Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) required that all indigenous human remains collected by any institutions or archeologists on Federal land, using Federal funds or permits must be returned to the earth. In some cases, other institutions not associated with the Feds, although not required to, also complied with the spirit of the Federal mandate.

It would seem the modern day journey of Clearlake Man had come full circle and he could now be reburied in a traditional manner. Alas, this would not be the case.

Before Lake County's collection of native remains was reburied, an informal archeological inventory was conducted by local Anthropologist Elyn Walker on behalf of the County of Lake. Unfortunately, a lack of funding prohibited an in-depth study with up-to-date technology. Afterwards, the task of repatriation became the responsibility of Lake County Museum Curator: Donna Howard. Ms. Howard wished to return the remains as directed by NAGPRA and her own conscience, but to whom? The Native American Heritage Commission, (NAHC) then stepped in.

The NHAC, a state advisory panel on California Native American issues, reviewed the case and determined the remains were: "in a state of unrest and must be reburied". Local Native American Lake Miwok elder Nelson Hopper agreed with the NHAC. However, the remains were never reclaimed by the Miwok Nation, South-Eastern Pomo, or any other band of the Pomo Nation. According to student researcher Amorilys De Von Gudmunson, an anonymous local tribal member told her, in essence, that the remains could not, in good conscience, be re-buried in any of the local sacred burial grounds due to their state of "unrest."

It was then proposed the remains could be re-interred at Anderson Marsh State Park. Unfortunately, according to local Pomo/Elem leader Jim Brown III, those negotiations fell through due to the inability of a multitude of County, State and Federal agencies involved in the process to work together in a cohesive manner, under such difficult and unusual circumstances. Therefore, responsibility of repatriation was again returned to the hands of Museum Curator Donna Howard. Curator Howard enlisted the help of Eric Krenz and Lower Lake's Special District Two Cemetery Board to complete the morbid task. Mr. Krenz, who later became the cemetery's sexton, stated that Curator Donna Howard urged him and the cemetery board to bury the remains. The board agreed and graciously donated a plot. All of the boxed and tagged remains were then placed in a sarcophagus; an airtight coffin made by modern man. (The coffin was donated by the local mortuary owner, the late Randall Boyett).

Mr. Krenz realized the importance of Clearlake Man and felt that additional research should have been performed before repatriation, but his opinion fell on deaf ears and empty pockets. He added a steel plate over the top of the casket to insure the future integrity of the remains. Good call Mr. Krenz! However, Clearlake Man and this odd collection of Native American remains were not re-interred directly into the earth as is customary to honor the spiritual beliefs of the local native people. Twenty-four ancients have all been entrapped in this casket, buried in an unmarked plot since 1995. No acceptable solution is in sight. In fact, these souls are still in a state of "unrest", as their final journey to the Spirit World has been interrupted.

This situation, although difficult, is not unusual in the world of anthropology in the U.S.A. Despite the repatriation edict of NAGPRA, many of our college institutions and museums still retain many boxes of ancient human remains. It is not that these repositories wish to keep them, but rather that some remains are unidentifiable, or the tribe no longer exists, while others are unclaimed or unwanted by the tribes due to desecration and/or red tape. It is a difficult dilemma that requires a well thought out and respectful resolution.

Will Clearlake Man and the other ancients encased in a modern day casket here in Lake County ever complete their journey to the indigenous people's version of Valhalla? Will the circle ever be completed and proper respect shown? Sounds like a job for Congressmen Garamendi and Thompson, for it is likely that only an act of Congress can make it so. The intent of NAGPRA was honorable, but it would appear that the actual enforcement of this legislation has fallen far short of its goal. This difficult situation demands some sort of closure for the tribes. It is only fair.

Thanks to Dwain Goforth, Linda Lake, Lower Lake's Schoolhouse Museum and Lakeport's Courthouse Museum files for the basis of this article.

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