

## 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/Treasurer:

Director: Chris Smits

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](http://rivierawesthoa.com)**

**[RivieraWest@gmail.com](mailto: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

## News

January 2019

Visit our WEBSITE ... [rivierawesthoa.com](http://rivierawesthoa.com)

Issue 97

**Next Country Club Board Meeting is February 20, 2018 at 4:30 pm**  
**Next Mutual Water Co. Board Meeting is February 20, 2018 at 5:30 pm**

## President's Report

### **Philip Hartley, President, Riviera West Country Club**

Here's hoping that you have a cheerful, productive and prosperous New Year. We are looking forward to continuing our progress in refurbishing and improving our facilities at Riviera West and adding to our common areas.

In December, the deck at the north end of the swimming pool was replaced to eliminate the uneven surface. During construction a leak in the plumbing to the pool was discovered and repaired (probably the source of the concrete buckling). Leveling the deck allowed us to go ahead with the installation of the second pool shade structure. These attractive metal structures should provide many years of service. Pool maintenance is now being provided by our water company guys. Kurt Jensen, one of the water operators, recently completed a Pool Operators certification course.

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### **Norma Simmons, President, Harbor View Mutual Water Company**

Fellow Property Owners,

The cold winter weather is upon us which leads to frozen pipes and costly repairs, if you have a summer home the water company highly recommends that you shut the water off to your home while you're not here. If you forget to do so you can call the water operators during normal business hours at 279-4143 and ask them nicely to do it for you.

We have hired tank divers to come in this month to clean and leak patch our existing redwood and steel tanks, how much patching they can do depends on the condition of the 50-year-old wood. The diver will video inspect all three tanks and this video will be shown in a future board meeting for community members. We continue to chase Federal funding for tank replacement with Jeremiah fossa attending a 2-day grant education and help course in Sonoma this month.

*(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)

The small park project at the office end of the clubhouse is now underway. This is a volunteer project that will feature benches, drought resistant plants, a pathway and a statuary center piece. We are looking for ideas for the statuary (sturdy, vandalism resistant, representative), so share any ideas/sources you have.

Replacement of the wood pool stairs is next on the schedule. The old stairs will be replaced with manufactured, OSHA-approved metal stairs.

The Board has been working with Supervisor Rob Brown, County and Fire Department staff and the other Riviera Associations and Buckingham Park on a plan to reduce wildfire danger to the area. Supervisor Rob Brown approached the four communities in our area about forming a special services district that would give us the ability to clear fire hazardous lots with non-responsive owners at the owner's expense. To fund upfront costs, the special district would collect from every parcel owner a ONE-TIME fee of \$100 for lots that are one acre or less in size which would go into a revolving fund. Unresponsive parcel owners would in turn be billed on their property tax for the cost which would replenish the fund in perpetuity. The Board approved a resolution to participate in the development of this proposal and will keep members informed of our progress with this project.

The Board approved submitting an application for a competitive state grant from CAL FIRE in partnership with Riviera Heights. The \$607,000 request is to remove at least 300 old, tall and distressed knob cone and gray pine trees that pose a fire hazard with a focus on those trees that also pose a threat to major evacuation routes out of the communities. These trees, by their nature, are major contributors to the creation of fire storms and casting burning embers over long distances. Our grant request is being sponsored by the Kelseyville Fire Protection District and has received endorsement letters from the entire Board of Supervisors, Congressman Mike Thompson, Lake County Fire Safety Council and the Lake County Resource Conservation District. Win or lose on this highly competitive grant, it was nice to receive this widespread support for our efforts.



The air quality monitor device is now operational at the clubhouse. Log on to [www.purpleair.com](http://www.purpleair.com), click on map and enter Riviera West Drive in the search box. Click on reading for detailed information on air quality at our location.

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

The company is working on costs for emergency generator with contractors, our goal is to have them in by next fire season as it seems long power shut downs are the new norm in California. We have applied for Federal funding for these as well but the time it takes to get this money seems prohibitive.

Norma Simmons

#### **Riviera West Volunteers**

"Remember that the happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more."

This old saying perfectly expresses the spirit of Riviera West members who volunteer their time. We have a safer, friendlier and more attractive community because of the efforts of our amazing volunteers. Whether helping us resist fire danger, improving our jointly-owned assets or organizing the social events that keep us connected, volunteers make Riviera West a better place to live.

#### **"Landscaping League" Moves Project Forward**

A crew of hard-working members under the capable designer/supervisor, Clelia Baur, met this month to help implement one of our current property improvement projects: new landscaping for the yard between the clubhouse and swimming pool. The goal: Create an inviting, low-maintenance garden that complements the clubhouse and features plants suitable for our environment.

In just under four hours, our hard-working group dug and leveled the ground, set the edging for future planting beds and installed plants on the upper level. They cleared leaves and debris and spread out weed-barrier cloth. And in a marathon chopping and levering session, they defeated a huge and stubborn tree root located in the future planting bed. This sets the stage for future phases of project development. As weather and people's schedules permit, we will meet again soon to install the decomposed granite and develop the planting beds.

Volunteer heroes for this work day:

Alan Estrada

Phil Hartley

Tim Keenan

Kent Kubach

Doug Moore

We had a great time working together on the landscaping.

You can join us on future work party days! If you are interested in volunteering for this or any other Riviera West projects or committees, just give Elvia a call at the office.

## *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**

**January 12th** Saturday 4-6pm **Paint & Sip**  
**Postponed**

**January 19th** Saturday– **Crab Feed** hosted by Kent and Monique Kubach  
5:30 appetizers, 6:30 dinner. Crab dinner \$40 per person, spaghetti dinner \$15 per person. RSVP & pre-pay at the office by January 10, 3:00 p.m. BYOB and your own tools for the crab.

**February 3rd** Saturday– **Super Bowl Party**  
Begins at 2:00 p.m. \$5 donation at the door, other "games" available before the game starts at 3:30 p.m. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share, BYOB. Wear your favorite teams colors.

**February 16th** Saturday–**Italian Dinner** hosted by Bill Lillo and the Ladies' Club. \$15 per person, 5:30 appetizers, 6:30 dinner. BYOB, RSVP by February 13, 3:00 p.m.

**March 16th** Saturday– **St. Patrick's Dinner** hosted by Kerry and Doug Moore \$15 per person, 5:30 appetizers, 6:30 dinner. BYOB. RSVP by March 11, 3:00 p.m.

**April Brunch or Dinner**– TBD Hosts needed.

**May 4th** Saturday– **Mexican Fiesta Dinner** hosted by Norma Simmons and Jan Wilson. \$15 per person, 5:30 appetizers, 6:30 dinner. BYOB. RSVP by April 29, 3:00 p.m.

**May 19th** Sunday– **Ladies Tea Party**, 2-4 pm,  
More info to follow.

**June 12th** Wednesday– **Ladies' Luncheon**  
More information to follow.



**RSVP MUST BE SENT TO KERRY MOORE AT matmoor1741@hotmail.com OR 707-364-6165 for all dinners EXCEPT the Crab Feed.**

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

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Happy 2019 & All the Best in the New Year!

Calling All Ladies!! Do you like to: give parties, decorate, organize, craft, clean, take notes, cook, bake, fundraise, or brainstorm new ideas?

If so, the Ladies Club is for you! We are actively seeking new members in order to continue to put on our social events throughout the year. Remember, the more people helping, the less the time commitment per person. We all have our specific skill sets and as a coordinated group we can be successful without asking too much of a small number of people. A little help really does go a long way!

Article II of the RWLC Bylaws states our objective as, "The object of this club shall be to promote good fellowship and friendship, as well as social activities, among those owning property in Riviera West and, as possible, to furnish such supplies for the Clubhouse as may facilitate these objectives". As I have always communicated, we are willing to change our meeting time if we get enough people who would attend at a different time. Either way, you are invited to come to a meeting without joining and your positive input is always invited. It may be intimidating to open the door, but we will give you a warm welcome.

*(Cont. next page)*

(Moore, Cont. from, pg. 3 column 2)

As we approach the upcoming Dinner Season, I'd like to give a few reminders about RSVP Etiquette. Because we are a non-profit, we want to keep the shopping costs of our dinners down which, in turn, keeps the costs to attend the dinners down. In this regard, getting an accurate count of attendees is imperative. Please kindly RSVP by the given time and date. If you have RSVP'd and something else comes up, you can cancel up to 5 days before the event. After 5 days before the event, you are still responsible for payment, no matter the reason. If, within the last 2 years, you have RSVP'd and not shown up 2 times, you will be asked to pay upon RSVP of the next dinner. The reason it is so important to abide by these standards is: a. We don't like to turn you down for an event. b. We don't want to run out of food. If you call after the RSVP date, it puts us in a bind for having enough food for the rest of the attendees who have committed to attending. c. We do put our full effort into making the evening enjoyable for everyone so having an accurate count eliminates surprises.

Please remember to check your emails, Newsletter and the Website [www.rivierawesthoa.com](http://www.rivierawesthoa.com) for all upcoming activities. We try to keep them as accurate and up to date as possible.

Thank you for a wonderful Open House! We hope you enjoyed our beautiful new tree and décor. Bake sale goodies from the Ladies Club were exceptional! Thanks to those who were high bidders for the Silent Auction Baskets. Congrats to you! Lastly, CONGRATULATIONS to Gerry Duncan, the winning Outdoor Lights Contest Winner!!

Warmly, Kerry Moore

Ladies Club President

#### **PLEASE SLOW DOWN!**

A number of homeowners have recently contacted us with urgent concerns about speeding vehicles on Riviera West streets. Speeding endangers others as well as yourself. With the winter weather and shorter days, it's more important than ever to reduce your speed in residential areas like ours.

Let's keep in mind that our vehicles can be lethal when operated without due consideration on our hilly, curvy roads. Driving safely and keeping it at 25 helps protect pedestrians, including seniors and children, pets and wildlife. Remember that gaining a few minutes by speeding isn't worth the risk of an accident.

Help us prevent tragedy on the roads by abiding by traffic laws.

If you consistently obey traffic rules, you have the heartfelt thanks of your Riviera West neighbors.

#### **Unused clutter and stuff needs some attention**

The good news: we had a great neighborhood-wide yard sale last October. Members cleared out their "gently used" items and took in some extra grocery money.

**The bad news:** Some unsold yard sale items, and perhaps things left out for some other reason, are still standing outside people's houses or along driveways. These include old furniture, boxes, car parts, etc. Please remove these items so they do not attract pests or get soaked by rain. Help keep the community looking its best. We appreciate your cooperation!

## Lake County Time Capsule:

### School life in the good ol' days

Kathleen Scavone

When I was an educator it was always fun to take a field trip to the Schoolhouse Museum in Lower Lake. The museum “lives” in the 1877 Lower Lake Grammar School. My fourth graders' eyes grew wide with surprise when learning about school days in the olden days.

An education in rural Lake County typically went up to the eighth grade, until the early 20th century. For a more comprehensive, or secondary education students would need to travel to Lakeport's private academy or similar establishments.

The one-room school house was de rigueur for students living in the southern portion of Lake County's Mayacamas Mountains, whose parents worked at the quicksilver mines, to the northernmost areas, near what is now the Mendocino Forest. The iconic one-room schoolhouse was surely a challenge for one teacher to instruct grades one through eight. The teacher needed to pass a qualifying exam, and it was rare for her to hold a college degree. It was characteristic for a teacher to be an unmarried female, who would then give up her career after marriage.

Instruction, which was for a shorter period then – about 132 days long, as compared with today's school year of 182 days – included the “three Rs”: reading, writing and arithmetic. School years were shorter then to accommodate the harvest, since many hands made light work.

As there was no such thing as a gel pen, a Smart Board or a white board back in the day, pupils were expected to work out their sums on a piece of slate. Slates could be spit upon by pupils and wiped off, and slates were practically indestructible. Slate was much more economical than the use of paper.

Typically, the youngest children were learning their ABCs and, hence, were called “abecedarians.” It was standard procedure for the abecedarians to learn their ABCs when they sat in the front of the classroom, with the older, taller students sitting in the back rows.

During recess, known as “nooning,” the children could play games such as “Annie Over” or “Graces.”

Discipline could be harsh in the 19th century. Depending on the infraction and the child's age, punishment could include anything from holding a book for a length of time with arms held out, getting rapped with a ruler, standing in the corner or worse.

Since there was a woodstove in most one-room schoolhouses this was an additional job to accomplish – that of keeping the classroom warm enough in winter months. Teachers had to get the fire going each morning, and older pupils could bring in the wood and kindling.

Students usually walked several miles to reach their school establishment, and it was up to them to remember to carry their lunches, sometimes in metal pails, to school with them, as no school lunches were provided back then. Lunches often included an apple, biscuit and homemade preserves and some meat. A water pump provided fresh water then, often with a single tin cup which was shared by all.

***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 a special thanks to Betty Helf for her efforts.*