

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

Secretary/Treasurer:
Chris Smits

Director: Jean Swegle

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
RivieraWest@gmail.com

Visit our Website:

rivierawesthoa.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 2020

Visit our WEBSITE ... rivierawesthoa.com

Issue 103

**Next Country Club Board Meeting is January 15, 2020 at 4:30 pm.
Next Mutual Water Co. Board Meeting is January 15, 2020 at 5:30 pm.**

President's Report

Philip Hartley, President, Riviera West Country Club

A happy and prosperous New Year is hopefully ahead for all members of the Riviera West Community. 2019 was a busy year for the HOA and we are looking forward to continuing to refurbish, remodel and repair our common properties.

The picnic park with its BBQs, picnic tables, bocce ball court, and horseshoe pit are ready for use. If you can catch a sunny day this winter enjoy the facility. In the spring we will schedule some tournaments and picnic functions. Equipment for the courts is stored in a lock box on site. Contact the office for the combination.

I am unhappy to have to report to you that recently we have had one house burglary. Entrance was gained into the summer home by breaking out a window. Siphoned gas from a vehicle and a stolen gas can have also been reported. Someone removed mail from the HOA mailbox which included checks from parcel owners.

(Cont. next page)

Norma Simmons, President, Harbor View Mutual Water Company

Happy New Year!

Winter is officially here and nighttime temperatures can easily drop below freezing. Now is the time to winterize our homes.

Exposed pipes are prone to freezing. When it gets cold, the accumulated water inside the pipe freezes, expands and creates extreme pressure. Eventually, the ice creates enough pressure to cause the pipes to crack. According to State Farm, a one-eighth-of-an-inch crack in a pipe can release up to 250 gallons of water a day! That amount of water can cause major structural and property damage.

Make sure your pipes are insulated. Our local home improvement stores can show you simple and inexpensive ways to keep the chill off those exposed pipes.

(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)

Some of the checks were cashed (unbelievable!). The post office, Bank of America and the Sheriff's Office are investigating and we are purchasing a more secure mail box. These are very rare events for Riviera West and suggest a local, opportunistic thief. Keep an eye out for persons or vehicles that you know are strangers to your immediate area.

I am happy to report that for the sixth year Riviera West has been recognized by the National Fire Prevention Association as a Firewise Community based on our annual renewal application. Riviera West was the first Firewise Community in Lake County and has since been joined by several other communities.

We have joined with the Riviera Heights community in applying for a CalFire fire prevention grant. If funded, the grant will allow us to remove many of the tall, aging gray pine and knob cone pines that are hazardous, especially those in proximity to our major streets which could block evacuation routes if they fall.

On these frosty winter days, if you need a good book to curl up with be sure to take advantage of our free library located in the clubhouse social hall. A collection of current fiction is available to borrow at your leisure.

Cheers,
Phil Hartley

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

And whenever you are gone for an extended period of time, consider shutting off your main water line and draining your water system. This will leave your pipes empty in the house, so no water can freeze inside of them to cause a rupture. Even if it's not winter, everyone should know how to shut off your main water in an emergency. If you're not sure how to do it, call Jeremiah at 279-4143 and ask him to show you.

As many of you may know, Kurt Jensen left Harbor View Mutual Water to accept a position with another water company. This will be a step up for Kurt and we wish him success. We will miss him around Riviera West.

We were fortunate to find someone to fill Kurt's shoes. Dominic Turner will be starting at the beginning of the year, and under Jeremiah's leadership will be a valuable asset to the water company and to the community as a whole. Welcome, Dominic!

See it? Like it? A Volunteer Probably Made it Happen.

Whether working alone or in teams, Riviera West neighbors donate their time on everything from research to remodeling to rototilling. They serve on committees, organize events and do the unsung, routine work that keeps our administrative wheels turning.

We admire and appreciate their work. Volunteers coordinate infrastructure projects and fire safety programs that make Riviera West a safe and attractive place to live. And everyone's quality of life is enhanced when they host events and launch special projects. Our beautiful new kitchen, wide-screen TV install, new landscaping and upgraded pool surroundings are all there because of volunteer effort.

The bottom line benefits too; without the participation of our fellow residents, Riviera West homeowners would be paying many thousands of dollars more every year. That is because volunteers handle tasks – large and small – that would ordinarily be done by outside services.

The winners of our Outdoor Christmas lights are:

1st place-Mike Patterson on Mountain Crest

2nd Place- Alan & Sandra Estrada on Meadow Wood

3rd Place- Harold and Wilma Taylor on Crestwood



Architectural Control and Planning (ACP) Frequently Asked Questions

It's winter and the perfect time to get a head start on property improvement, lot clearing and tree removal. Following are some helpful tips from the ACP:

Q: Do I need ACP approval before I paint the exterior of my house?

A: Yes. Members are asked to choose paint or stain colors that are harmonious with the neighborhood and surrounding structures. Bright colors are discouraged; subdued and neutral colors are more likely to be approved.

Q: Do I need ACP approval for work on the inside of my house?

A: Possibly. If you are remodeling or repairing the interior and it's not visible from the outside, you only need to check with the Lake County Building Department to see if you need a building permit.

If you are planning an addition, then you do need to contact us and get an approval.

Q: Do I need ACP approval to install new flooring and railings on my outside deck?

A: We appreciate knowing about your project so we can stay informed about new materials and techniques. But you do not need ACP approval if you are repairing or replacing materials on an existing deck. If you change the footprint or shape, add stairways or other architectural features, then you do need to submit an ACP approval form.

Q: The ACP requirements mention a "plot plan." What is a plot plan?

A: For the purposes of ACP review, a plot plan is simply a bird's-eye view of your project. It should show the lot lines, distances from streets, landmarks and structures on your property and neighbor's property if relevant. For a tree removal project, it should show both the tree you want to take out and other trees for reference. You can draw your own plot plan making the measurements as accurate as possible. For a new garage or addition, your contractor or architect would provide a plot plan.

Q: Do I need ACP approval to install landscaping?

A: No, you can choose your own trees, shrubs and ground covers. The only thing you need approval for is hardscaping, such as walkways, stairways, fences and structures. Please remember fire-safe guidelines for installing plants. Check the CalFire and other fire prevention websites for recommendations on distance you should maintain between structures and plantings. Consider using decorative stone next to structures in place of ground cover plants or natural bark.

(Cont. next column)

(Cont. from pg. 3 column 1)

Q: What must I do to control rainwater draining off my property?

A: You are responsible for controlling erosion and run-off if your water drainage could damage your property or a neighboring property. With our hilly lots, damaging run-off can be a problem. Take steps to prevent erosion before it becomes a problem.

Thank you to all Riviera West members for working with the ACP to keep our neighborhood a safe and attractive place to live!

Social Committee:

Upcoming Events

December really rocked the clubhouse!

The HOA Open House on December 14 followed by the Dance Party saw an overflow crowd. Thank you Norma Simmons, Kerry Moore, Jan Wilson and Michaela Keenan for the beautiful Christmas décor and for hosting our annual Open House. And what a job our Dance Party hosts did! Kudos to Tina Gordon, Tony Cruz, and Cathi & Richard Scogin. Thanks for treating us to a delicious main course, drinks, and the sounds the LC Diamonds. What more can you say but "Wow!"

Sandra Estrada and Sherree Morris went all out putting together our first Cookie Exchange Party. Everyone went home with an assortment of yummy cookies. Thank you, ladies.

On Thursday, January 30 we will be having a Game Night at the clubhouse from 7:00 – 9:00 pm. BYOB.

More information to follow, so watch for an email.

There has been a lot of other ideas floated about, but now we just need people to step up to host them. If you've got an idea and want to get it started, please email me at ccsmts@yahoo.com. Please make sure you put "RW Social Committee" in the subject line and include your name and phone number so I can reach you.

Lake County Time Capsule: Hot springs history

Kathleen Scavone

Lake County's heyday of hot springs resorts occurred between 1875 and 1920. Some resorts were well-known prior to that, however.

Our county's hot springs history is remarkable and diverse. Back then, folks from the cities and countryside would flock to Lake County to soak and swim in the many and assorted spring waters that ran from hot to cold. Many of the precious waters were bottled for consumption and boasted healing cures for whatever ailed one.

Lake County's spring waters or resorts numbered in excess of 100. They included Allen, Bear, Grizzly, Harbin, Royal, Siegler, Wilbur and many more.

California Indians took advantage of the many hot springs in what is now Lake County when the springs were used as gathering places and spiritual oases for centuries, long before the Euro-Americans "discovered" them.

Lake County's hot springs originated due to an intense heat deep below the earth's surface.

Layers of rock heat up which are situated above the molten rock. The magma is thought to be located about 4 miles beneath the earth at The Geysers, which is now known as the largest geothermal field in the world. Since the rock is layered with fractures, water is heated naturally, creating hot springs and fumaroles across the land.

The book, "History of Lake County 1881" states:

"The springs of Lake County are a marvel, and to write of their beauty and usefulness would require the pen of a poet. They may be divided into three general classes, as follows: Pure cold water, cold mineral water, and thermal mineral water. Of the first there are thousands and thousands; every hill and mountain side teem with them, and the weary traveler and his thirsty beast find streams of pure water, cool and fresh, gushing from the wayside banks, and gathered into troughs for his convenience.

The flow of these springs vary from a few gallons a day to barrels per minute. The largest flow, perhaps, in the county, is from the Howitzer Spring, the stream from which crosses the road a short distance north of the toll-house on Cobb Mountain. The amount of water which comes pouring forth from this place is something wonderful to contemplate, and, what is more strange, the yield seems to be always the same; winter's flood nor summer's drought seem to have no appreciable effect upon it."

(Continued onto next column)

Anderson Springs was a popular destination for work-weary vacationers. Anderson Springs began operation in 1873. There were accommodations for 30 at the hotel, and there were also bathhouses which utilized the nearby hot springs. One could also take a steam bath on the creek's hot spring. Some of the springs at Anderson Springs were hot and some cold, with a total of nine different springs. The minerals which could be enjoyed included iron, magnesia, sulfur and combinations thereof. Anderson Springs advertised, "No fog. No harsh winds. Sparkling trout stream bordered by trees. Ferns and flowers. Lovely wooded trails. Grand mountain scenery."

Harbin Hot Springs has a long resort history since it was settled by James Madison Harbin. In 1866, soon after his arrival, it became a destination resort. It was a common site for travelers to pull in by stagecoach, having endured a nine-hour journey from San Francisco. Besides "taking the waters," guests had the option to play games such like croquet or bocce ball. It was not uncommon for famous folks like heavyweight champion Jim Jeffries to train at Harbin in the early 1900s.

Another popular hot springs resort was Howard Hot Springs. They were located farther up Big Canyon Road, outside of Middletown, past the road from Harbin Hot Springs. Their brochure boasted, "The door to health. We are sure that one visit is enough to convince you on your future vacations. Ask your doctor."

After World War I, when the Model T Ford car began to pop up across the country, the hot springs resort industry in Lake County declined. Then, folks chose to vacation where the highways led them. Since Lake County was far off the beaten path, the numbers of hot springs resort vacationers diminished almost to the point of no return.

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 formerly wrote 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.