

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: C. Richard Smith
Director: Doug Moore
Director: Bob Gunion
*Historian: Betty Helf

Water Company:

President: Norma Simmons
Secretary/Treasurer:
Chris Smits
Director: Jean Swegle
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

Office Hours/Days:

Visit our Website:

rivierawesthoa.com

Mon., Tues., Thurs.

9 am to 3 pm

Wed. 9am to 11 am

Friday 9am to 3:30 pm



Riviera West Country Club

News

November 2020

Visit our WEBSITE ... rivierawesthoa.com

Issue 107

**Next Country Club Board Meeting is November 18, 2020 at 4:30 pm online.
Mutual Water Co. Board Meeting is November 18, 2020 at 5:30 am online.**

President's Report

Philip Hartley, President, Riviera West Country Club

After smoke, blackouts and social distancing, the Riviera West Community bids a fond farewell to the summer of 2020 with hopes of better days to come. Our office administrator continues to divide her time working at home and coming in to the office to complete on site tasks. As you may know, Elvia divides her time between the HOA and our water company and the two organizations share the personnel costs. The HOA is a \$200,000+ per year business with a number of local, state and federal legal requirements that must be met each year as well of all the ongoing activities of the HOA. The office remains closed to foot traffic so you can leave a message on the office phone or send an email to seek information or express a concern.

The PG&E blackout on October 25-27 provided an "acid test" for the new emergency generators installed at the clubhouse and the water company pumps. Both systems worked as designed, so there was no interruption in water delivery or business functions of the office. In times of power outages during high temperatures or low, the clubhouse can serve as a respite center for community members and first responders.

(Cont. next page)

Norma Simmons, President, Harbor View Mutual Water Company

Well, we survived our second annual October Power Shut Off (PSPS) with flying colors. Knowing that our backup generators were in place and functional brought peace of mind that water would not be a problem. At least that was one less thing to worry about during these crazy times.

Our Operators collected the latest meter readings in October. We are asking homeowners to make sure the area around their meter boxes is clear for safety. You may receive a letter notifying you that clearings work needs to be done. If you are not sure where your meter box is located, please contact Jeremiah Fossa at 707-279-4143.

Board meetings will continue to be held via Zoom for the foreseeable future. Meeting ID, Passcode, and Agenda is sent out in an email about a week before the meeting. If you feel uncomfortable using your computer or laptop to attend, remember you can always use your phone to dial in to the phone number provided and to listen and participate. The Meeting ID and Passcode are the same whichever way you want to attend. Our next Board meeting will be November 18. Watch for the email as our meeting information will be different than the Homeowners Association.

(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)

We (the HOAs in our area) have been working lately with the Clear Lake Environmental Research Center (CLERC) that has received federal funding to develop a Lake County Hazardous Fuel Reduction Program. Our mutual interests include Black Forest debris removal, removal of hazardous trees along the Soda Bay corridor, maintenance of the current fire breaks and removal of hazardous trees in the communities. Hopefully, funding will be made available through the CLERC to accomplish these areas of interest.

The swimming pool closed on October 5 after an extended season. We open a couple of weeks later than usual due to the pandemic and having to wait for the County to approve our operational plan for meeting social distancing/safety guidelines. We did manage to be the first community pool to open and the last to close. We spent \$3,564 on propane this summer to heat the pool which was a 27% reduction over last year due partly to the late opening of the pool and partly due to the new passive solar system contributing a greater percent of the energy.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors will be on November 18 at 4:30 pm and will, once again, be an online meeting via Zoom. Watch for an email with the meeting agenda and directions to how to sign on to the meeting.

Cheers.

Ladies Club Presidents Report:

The Ladies Club has no news and no events to report due to social distancing rules. We hope to continue our Holiday donations of food and toys during December. Look for upcoming emails with more details. Positive thoughts that we will be able to gather at some point next year!

Kerry Moore

Current President – Neighborly Noise Control

Our hilly terrain has a way of conveying noises in interesting and sometimes surprising ways. Sounds coming from our homes, vehicles or backyards can often be heard quite a distance away. As we go along our daily routines, it's a good idea to consider how the noise we generate affects our neighbors. One person's classic opera or base-pounding hip hop music played at high volume may not be to the taste of those living nearby. And a loving canine friend may express herself emphatically – and for hours – when left home alone.

Remember to be a thoughtful neighbor. Keep music and other sounds to moderate, reasonable levels. And make sure your dog is being a good neighbor too.

Thank you for making our community a great place to live!

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

And speaking of the Board, we still have one vacant seat that needs filling. If you are interested in learning about the future of Harbor View Mutual Water and Riviera West Country Club, please consider volunteering to serve on the Board. Serving now would be a good way to try it out before next June's elections. Contact Norma Simmons at 707-279-9604 for more information.

This will be our last Newsletter for 2020. So Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas, Happy Kwanzaa, and Happy New Year! Here's wishing everyone a better 2021!

Stay safe and stay well!

Ready for that Home Improvement Project? Talk to us First!

With the fall weather come thoughts of cleaning up and sprucing up your property – repainting the house, cutting down a tree, or putting in that new fence, deck or retaining wall. You may want to re-shingle, install solar panels or build a new garage.

This is a friendly reminder that you must get approval ahead of time from Riviera West for projects like these.

The Riviera West Architectural Guidelines to Building apply to all properties in our community. They spell out the restrictions and guidelines that apply to dwellings, garages, additions, remodels, decks, porches, patios, pools, spas, fences, retaining walls, and accessory buildings in Riviera West.

Before you begin your tree-cutting, painting or construction project, please review your Riviera West Property Owners' Rules and Regulations document, which contains the Architectural Guidelines to Building, as well as a project approval form for you to submit. Your application will be reviewed by the Riviera West Architectural Control and Planning (ACP) Committee. We will help you understand and comply with the guidelines.

The Architectural Guidelines to Building are available online at rivierawesthoa.com, or at the office. The ACP project approval forms are also online, and located in the outside kiosk if the office is closed.

Thank you for helping us keep Riviera West a safe and attractive community.

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.

For more information visit one of our great local museums, and while you are there pick up Lake County Museum Curator Antone Pierucci's fantastic book called “Lake County Schoolhouses.”

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.