

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: C. Richard Smith
Secretary: Clelia Baur
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

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RivieraWest@gmail.com

Office Hours/Days:
Mon., Tues., Thurs.

Visit our Website:
rivierawesthoa.com

9 am to 3 pm

Wed. 9am to 11 am

Friday 9am to 3:30 pm



Riviera West Country Club

News

January 2021

Visit our WEBSITE ... rivierawesthoa.com

Issue 108

**Next Country Club Board Meeting is January 20, 2021 at 4:30 pm online.
Mutual Water Co. Board Meeting is January 20, 2021 at 5:30 pm online.**

President's Report

Philip Hartley, President, Riviera West Country Club

Here is to a Happier New Year to all. Your homeowner's association hopes to move ahead with a number of maintenance and improvement projects. The following proposed projects were discussed at the regular meeting of the Board with additions and suggestions made by those members in attendance or through email:

2021 Proposed Project List

- Install additional street signage for Shoreline View Way
- Install speed reduction signage
- Install double pane windows in the offices
- Replace pool gate and front section of fencing
- Replace entrance signage
- Extend pest control contract to cover restrooms in the marina
- Research and install if feasible a traffic mirror at the entrance
- Continue to monitor the progress on the implementation of the fire siren alarm system at Clearlake Riviera for consideration of a system at Riviera West.

(Cont. next page)

Norma Simmons, President, Harbor View Mutual Water Company

Welcome 2021! We're glad you're finally here.

As the nighttime temperatures dip, remember that exposed pipes are prone to freeze causing the water to expand and putting pressure on your pipes. This can cause your pipes to crack and leak. Even a small leak can create major structural and property damage. So now is the time to take preventative action.

Last year, Harbor View Water tackled several projects: new billing software, moving forward on our storage tank replacement, and upgrading to radio read meters. And while the pandemic and the fire season slowed things down, we still made a lot of progress.

We've received positive feedback on our newly designed statements. And after the January statements are safely in the mail, we will be moving information to our online Client Portal. Watch for more information via an email soon.

The Special Assessment account has deposited checks from the majority of our property owners. Some owners have requested a payment plan which we gladly accommodate. And we will continue to reach out to those who are not current.

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

- Repair clubhouse soffit and eaves
- Install handrail on stairs down to bocce ball park
- Replace metal shed behind the pool area
- Secure bids for repainting the clubhouse

We hope we can get back to sponsoring social events in the community next summer.

Be well and don't pass up your turn to get vaccinated.

A Gentle Reminder

7.3 Cul-de-sac or street parking is limited to 72 hours, per county ordinance. This includes all vehicles, including RV's, boats, trailers and other equipment.

7.4 All off-street RV's, boats, trailers and other equipment must be obscured by landscaping or approved fencing (6 ft. max) from the view of streets, common areas and neighboring properties and must comply to Architectural Control Planning (ACP) guidelines.

From Riviera West Rules and Regulation

Being a lakeside community, the HOA has historically been lenient on the enforcement of the boat/RV storage regulations. We do ask that boats be at least covered and be parked entirely on your own property, not on an unowned vacant lot, the street or a cul-de-sac. For RVs, they need to be "obscured" which is generally taken to mean that the length of the RV should not be visible from the street.

We have noticed some decrease in the level of observance of these regulations. The purpose of these is to avoid the appearance of parcels becoming storage yards. Therefore beginning in February, The Board will be issuing citations for unobscured trailers, RVs and boats. ACP Committee volunteers will assist the Board in this effort.

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

This fund has allowed us to pay for the preliminary reports required by the USDA before any funding/grant commitment is made while leaving our Reserve Account in good condition for any emergencies. Once we hear from the USDA, our efforts will move into high gear to get the project out for bid. We'll keep you posted.

And the first 40 radio read meters have been installed. Jeremiah and Dominic are working hard to integrate the new technology with our existing procedures and equipment. This project will continue throughout the new year until all meters have been upgraded.

Water is vital to the health of our community and an active and engaged Board of Directors is an essential component just like the pumps and tanks. Are you interested in being part of it? There are a lot of talented people in our community who would be a valuable addition. Please consider volunteering your time and expertise.

FOR WATER COMPANY EMERGENCIES

CALL

(707)279-4143

Happy New Year and an update from the Architectural Control and Planning Committee

- The Riviera West ACP is pleased to welcome a new member, Meadow Wood Drive resident Jose Casas. Thank you, Jose for lending your knowledge and time to help keep our neighborhood safe and attractive. Serving with Jose are ACP committee members Roberta Beat and Clelia Baur.
- ACP Basics: Are you building or modifying a house, garage, addition or accessory building? Are you installing or changing a deck, porch, patio, shed, spa, fence, retaining wall or driveway? Perhaps you are considering repainting, removing a tree or installing solar panels. If the answer is yes to these or other projects, please contact us first and complete a project approval form. Generally speaking, you must have approval ahead of time if the project is visible from the outside of your house. All HOAs have some level of building and design requirements. At Riviera West, our members maintain standards that make us a safer, more attractive and more fire-resistant community. These standards apply to everyone and are described in our CC&Rs and Architectural Guidelines to Building.

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(ACP Committee Cont. from pg. 2 column 2)

To be sure your project is in compliance, you are asked to complete a project approval form before beginning work on your property. For larger projects such as a new home, garage or addition, payment of a fee and/or deposit is also needed.

The project review is straightforward, and we do our best to help you through the process. To begin, simply complete the one-page form and include relevant drawings, plans, paint chips or materials lists. We will visit your property and discuss the project with you. We can answer questions and help you make modifications if needed so that your project complies with the requirements. The forms are available online at rivierawesthoa.com, or at the office in the outdoor kiosk.

The Riviera West Architectural Control and Planning Committee is comprised of volunteers who check that building and design projects are within the established guidelines. Please allow for adequate time for us to review your project application. Though the ACP officially has 30 days in which to reply, we try to process your application as quickly as possible. It's best to not schedule your contractor, tree service or other vendors until you receive your ACP approval.

To learn more, visit the Riviera West website and click on Architectural Control and Planning. Please contact the office if you have any questions prior to planning your project. The ACP members will be happy to speak with you and clarify the restrictions and guidelines. Thanks to all our members for working with us!

Ladies Club Presidents Report:

Happy New Year,

Congratulations to Ray Oliva, 3480 Riviera West Drive, the winner of the Outdoor Lights Contest!! Ray's bright and colorful display wins him the \$100 Prize.

Second Place was the Taylors, 3522 Crestwood Drive and

Third Place was Gunion/Deherrera, 3572 Crestwood Drive.

All of the neighbors who entered did a fabulous job! Thank You for participating! Those who didn't enter, great job too! We encourage you to sign up next year.

From the comments I received, we were all winners. We were able to drive around and enjoy the beauty of the lights. It was a good distraction from what has been going on with Covid this past year.

I would also like to thank the community for their generous outpouring of food and toy donations. The Food went to the Lake County Gleaners. The toys went to Toys for Tots. We live in such a kind and generous neighborhood!

Kerry Moore, President

Riviera West Office and Facility COVID-19 Related Updates

As of Saturday, November 28, the State has moved Lake County into the "purple" tier in response to our COVID-19 case and hospitalization increases. As you will see in the coverage from Lake County News, Kelseyville has more reported cases than anywhere else in the County. Please take precautions to keep yourself and everyone in the community safe by following state guidelines.

The Riviera West/Harbor View office is closed to visitors. To help protect the health of our staff and essential workers, you can use the drop box near the entrance of the HOA office for payments and paperwork. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the office by email or phone rather than visiting the office in person. We will ensure that the message reaches the appropriate person for response.

Thank you for joining us in taking responsible action during the COVID-19 crisis. Maintaining best practices for public health during these next few months will help keep everyone healthier in the long run. For California's COVID-19 public health guidelines. Please visit <https://covid19.ca.gov/>.



Riviera West Holiday Toy and Food Drive



The Riviera West Ladies' Club would like to thank our neighbors for their generosity this Holiday season.

We know this outpouring of donations will benefit many in the community. Thank you!

Lake County Time Capsule: Superior Middletown

Kathleen Scavone, M.A.

Unnumbered springs and rills that from the earth
Leap forth in melody,

And take, down mountain-side, and valley sweep,
Their graceful, sinuous way."

– From "In Lake County" by poet Carrie Stevens Walter

Lake County's southernmost town, Middletown, sits near the heart of the Loconoma Valley on St. Helena Creek, with beautiful Mt. St. Helena standing watch. The southwestern portion of Middletown is guarded by the Mayacamas Mountains, which range to southeastern Mendocino County and northeastern Sonoma County.

Our special part of Lake County hosts rocks of the Franciscan assemblage and the Great Valley sequence with their magnificent igneous rock groupings.

Over time, landslides have occurred in association with the unique serpentine terrain here. If you look carefully, evidence of the Tertiary age and its marine sedimentary rocks can be seen, along with Pliocene volcanic rocks, according to Brice 1953; Bedrossian 1980; Wagner and Bortugno 1982.

Middletown is 16 miles from the town of Calistoga and nearly as close to the town of Lower Lake. Since it sits at this halfway juncture it was given the moniker of Middletown. Once upon a time it was known as Middle Station, then it was called Middleton.

In 1871 we were furnished with our own post office. Later, in 1875 our town's name was changed to Middletown.

According to the USGS Geographic Names System, Middletown was founded in 1871. The first house constructed in Middletown was J.H. Berry's home, built in 1870.

Here in Middletown was a thriving mercury, or quicksilver mining industry which was ongoing until the conclusion of the 19th century. The Bradfords once owned the Mirabel Mine, later selling it to three gentlemen: Mills, Randol and Bell, hence the name "Mirabel" which combined the first parts of the three names. Mines such as the Great Western, Ida Clayton, Oat Hill and Yellowjacket were being worked. Some, such as the Mirabel mined silver, as well.

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While driving in south Lake County, note the names of these old mines on street signs. Also seen on Middletown's street signs are the names Young, Armstrong and Berry.

O. Armstrong opened his saloon in 1870, then a brewery followed, by Muntz and Scott in 1875.

Charles March Young, who hailed from Illinois arrived in Coyote Valley in 1867, then settled in the Middletown region. He learned to plow at a tender age and once dragged 4,000 pounds of spuds to Sonoma.

Young constructed the first hotel in Middletown, a brick building, in 1875, which was the reason for the first brickyard here. He was the proprietor of a general store, as well, but unfortunately it burned down long ago.

The book entitled, "A Description of Lake County, California: Showing its Advantages as a Place of Residence," published by Authority of the Board of Supervisors 1888, states, "This section possesses superior and peculiar advantages that recommend it to home and health-seekers. The atmosphere is exceedingly pure and bracing and remarkable for a softness caused by the entire absence of sea winds or fogs. Malaria does not exist, and gnats, bugs and mosquitoes are unknown."

It further expounds on Middletown's wonders: "This location is undoubtedly the sanitarium for asthmatics, consumptives and persons affected with nervous diseases; and in this respect it has no superior on the continent."

Kathleen Scavone, M.A., is an 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 extend a special thanks to Betty Helf for her efforts.

Wildflowers of Riviera West – Tarweed

One of the pleasures of living in Riviera West is enjoying the wild plants that thrive on Mount Konocti. As a special feature, our newsletter will highlight a different local wildflower in every issue. These delightful volunteers are a cheerful presence in the neighborhood, particularly on vacant properties and in the surrounding countryside. Please do not pick the wildflowers; try taking a selfie instead! Left undisturbed, they will create seeds and we will be able to enjoy future generations of beautiful flowers.



TARWEED (*Madia elegans*)

- Bright, cheerful yellow blossoms
- Multiple flowers on slender, 12" tall stems
- Their sticky resin has a distinctive smell
- Seen along Lake County paths and roadways

Tarweed is an annual herbaceous plant species in the daisy family. It is generally known as the common madia, but there are several subspecies known by various common names.

The tarweed plant is native to western North America from south-central Washington to northern Baja California. It may be found in dry open forest, disturbed areas and grasslands from low to high elevations. This plant is covered with short, stiff hairs.

The showy flower varies in appearance across subspecies and even within subspecies. Typically, it is a bright yellow daisy-like bloom with numerous thin ray flowers and several central disk flowers. It may be solid lemon yellow or have a center of a different color, from white to maroon. Several strongly scented, uncrowded, flower heads grow at the end of a slender green stem. The ray flowers curl up during the daytime, opening in the late afternoon and staying open all night until mid-morning. It flowers from April

through early November. Its fruits are achenes which were historically used as food by Native Americans, including the Pomo and Miwok, who baked them or ground them into flour. The foliage exudes a fragrant oil, hence the common name of tarweed.

Text credit: Wikipedia, 1/2/21. Photo credit: Pacific Horticulture Society website

HELP OUR WILDFLOWER population survive by not planting invasive species. Invasive plants can spread aggressively, endangering wild plants and the wildlife that depends on them. Invasives in our area include vinca major (periwinkle), pampas grass, leafy spurge, purple vetch, French broom, Scotch broom and other broom plants, and the infamous yellow star thistle. Some of these bad actors were planted by folks who didn't know they were introducing a problem. And some even continue to be sold at local nurseries! Before buying, be sure your selection is not an invasive plant. If you have a problem plant on your property, ask a reputable nursery or the UC Master Gardener program (<http://mg.ucanr.edu/index.cfm>) for advice on non-invasive alternatives.

HELPFUL LINKS:

California Native Plant Society <https://calscape.org/>

North Coast California <https://northcoastca.com/blog/a-wealth-of-wildflowers-in-the-north-coast/>

Lake County Resource Conservation District and <https://www.lakercd.org/>

California Invasive Plants Council <https://www.cal-ipc.org/plants/profiles/>

and <https://www.lakercd.org/2019-native-plant-list.html>