



The Grapevine



JULY/AUG 2014

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Jim Foley
Vice-President	Michael Toback
Secretary	Laurel Smith
Treasurer	Gloria Felcyn
Director	Anna Scicinska
Director	Dave Kattleman
Director	Paula Camporaso

VINEYARDS WEBSITE

www.vineyardsofsaratoga.com

- Vineyards News
- View monthly newsletter
- HOA Board meeting minutes

Want to receive e-mail alerts? Please e-mail your name and unit number, indicating if you are an owner or tenant to register@vineyardsofsaratoga.com

HELPFUL CONTACTS

To report problems with outdoor lights or sprinklers and request repairs please call or e-mail our manager:

Luis Heredia, Association Manager

Community Management Services

Telephone 408-559-1977

Fax number 408-559-1970

lheredia@communitymanagement.com

To report a crime or suspicious behavior to the local Sheriff call 408-299-2311



THE NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The next Board meeting is on Thursday Aug 14th at 7:00pm.

The agenda for all board meetings is posted in advance at the entrance to the Clubhouse. Monthly meetings are open to all homeowners. The 15-20 minute *Open Forum* session at the start is an opportunity to have any issues heard by the board, association manager, and others present, and to ask questions about any projects or decisions addressed by the board.

Following *Open Forum*, the meeting is limited to those issues posted on the agenda. Homeowners are welcome and encouraged to stay and observe, but this part of the meeting is closed to owner participation. Minutes of all meetings are posted on the website after they have been approved at the next board meeting.

JULY NEWS

Please come to the Summer Pool Party 3 – 7pm on July 19th. RSVP sheet at the Big Pool. Thank you to all our volunteers who have signed up to help with set up, grilling, and clean up duties.

UPGRADES AND REMODELLING

Before starting any home improvements (replacement windows, air conditioner units, fan vents etc...) please check to see if HOA permission is required for your project. Two useful pages you can access through the home page of our Vineyards Website are *Rules and Regulations* and *HOA Documents*. If in any doubt phone Luis Heredia at CMS, as work done without permits or in violation of HOA rules can result in very hefty fines.

PARKING IN RED ZONES RISKS TICKETING AND TOWING

Parking in the Red Zones is prohibited, as they mark a fire lane, and need to allow fast, unrestricted access for emergency vehicles. Fire trucks (and garbage trucks) require a wide turning circle. Please remind your renters, contractors, and visitors to use only marked parking spaces. This includes not parking in front of your own garage, other than for immediate loading or unloading. Since the parking problem has become worse lately, the board has decided to use windshield stickers on cars that are illegally parked.

WARNING: Windshield stickers will be used on illegally parked cars..

Vehicles parked in Red Zones may also be towed at owners expense.

DOG OWNERS

Please keep dogs off the central lawns around the "Koi Pond" and between the pools and the clubhouse so that children can enjoy a clean play area – let's keep these areas attractive for all. Regardless wherever they "go" in the Vineyards, always pick up poop to avoid smells and flies!

SUMMER POOL PARTY

BBQ favorites fresh from the grill will be served all afternoon – chips & dips, burgers, hot dogs, and watermelon. Please bring your favorite summer drink and a dish to share – appetizers, desserts, beer & wine are welcome! (If you bring your own wine glass or beer tankard, remember to use only acrylic or plastic glasses poolside).



SUMMER POOL PARTY

for Vineyards residents at the big pool

on Saturday July 19th 3 to 7 PM

BBQ favorites Potluck appetizers, desserts, drinks

RSVP: Sign-up sheet at big pool

CLUBHOUSE & POOLS

Pool social hours are 10am to 10pm, so make sure that you are very quiet if you like to swim laps early in the morning. The two pools are heated May through September. Please remember that the Clubhouse and pools are for the use of residents only (accompanied by no more than 4 guests). For insurance reasons children under 18 must be accompanied to the pool by an adult resident at all times. Infants who are not potty trained are **not** allowed in the water even with swim diapers. Please remember to be considerate to neighbors living around our pools and to other pool users – this means no running, shouting or screaming or loud music!!!

GUESTS AT POOLS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY THEIR RESIDENT HOST AT ALL TIMES, WITH A MAXIMUM OF 4 GUESTS PER UNIT. PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE YOUR GUESTS ALONE AT THE BBQ AREA OR POOLSIDE.

The upper floor (and deck) of the Clubhouse is open for reservations. Please contact Luis at CMS. Reservations cannot be made for the pool areas or for the lower floor of the Clubhouse, which is open at all times to all residents.

LANDSCAPE WATERING

While we are in a period of drought the sprinklers are switching on for general watering every other day. If you notice any plants near your unit that could do with more water please do give them a bit more to drink! You may also consider keeping a bucket or watering can by the sink and collecting water from rinsing vegetables or waiting for the hot water to come through – this is a perfect way of giving our shrubs and flowers extra water while being mindful of not wasting water.



Valley Water: <http://www.valleywater.org/drought2014/>

PG&E: <http://wateruseitwisely.com/100-ways-to-conserve/water-saving-products/>



SMOKERS – pick up your butts !!! SMOKERS – pick up your butts !!! SMOKERS – pick up your butts !!!

SECURITY ALERT

submitted by Jim Foley, President

Someone Stole My Battery! Yep! You read that right. Someone stole my battery!

On Thursday June 19, 2014 at around 1:30 PM I placed a marine battery, which I had been charging for my boat, outside next to my garage door to "cool down." I ran errands for a few hours and came back around 5:30 PM and it was gone!

So who would steal a battery weighing 60 lb. and how would they do it? I figure it must have been someone delivering something that could just snap it up into their vehicle Maybe FedEx, UPS, or some other delivery guy that can zoom in and out of our cul-de-sacs and just take anything. . Not the mailman, he delivers in the morning.

So what's the point of this article? Over the years I have left stuff that I might be working on, outside my garage for a few hours, sometimes with the garage open. Sometimes I dash inside for the phone or a glass of water. I won't do that again! We all feel very safe in The Vineyards. Folks from the outside come into our community for various reasons. Some of them may be willing to avail themselves of an opportunity to deftly remove some of our possessions. We must be vigilant.

All considered, we have a very low incidence of crime at the Vineyards and in Saratoga, however we clearly do need to take sensible precautions. Do not leave car windows open or items on full view on car seats, latch patio gates securely, and consider asking for parcel deliveries to be made to the secure mailboxes or pick up from the Post Office. Report anything suspicious to the Sheriff on 4 0 8 – 2 9 9 – 2 3 1 1. You might also request patrol checks while on vacation:

Patrol Check Requests posted July 10th on Nextdoor.com by Sergeant Kurtis Stenderup from City of Saratoga

If you are planning on being away from your home or business for an extended period of time and would like the Sheriff's Office to come check your property, you can now request a patrol check online. Go to www.sccsheriff.org and click on "Services" then "Patrol Check Request." Once you have submitted your request online, we will notify the deputies that patrol that area to check your property during the time that you are away. While we try to fulfill every patrol check request that comes in, higher priority calls will be given priority over the patrol checks. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me either via Nextdoor or via phone at 4 0 8 – 8 0 8 – 4 9 0 5.

DUMPSTERS – AGAIN !!!

Contractors should haul construction and remodeling trash away – the dumpsters are for domestic use only.

Please never fill the dumpsters to overflowing, and use adjacent dumpsters if the one nearest to your unit is full.

Be a good neighbor – remember to flatten delivery boxes, as well as cardboard moving and storage boxes, so all your neighbors have space for their trash too! We pay hefty additional fee for items left outside the garbage containers.

For your convenience there is a copy of the signs posted at each of the dumpsters at the back of this newsletter – please read and abide by these guidelines. Dumpster #3 (hwy 85 wall) has extra capacity for larger items. Also, twice a year in spring and fall supersized dumpsters are available for packing boxes, furniture, pallets, and outsized trash – these should not be dumped next to the garbage enclosures. **Please report any problems to CMS or board members.**

THE NEWSLETTER AT A GLANCE

Next Board meeting – Thursday August 14th @ 7:00pm

Summer Pool Party on Saturday July 19th 3 – 7pm

Resident must accompany their pool guests (max 4)

No open-flame grills or fire pits on patios and balconies

Parking in red zones risks windshield stickers & towing

Check if permits are required *before* remodeling

Use dumpsters for domestic trash only – do not overfill

Smokers – please pick up your butts !!!



DUMPSTER INFO SHEET

**DUMPSTERS ARE FOR VINEYARDS RESIDENTS USE ONLY
MUST NOT BE USED BY CONTRACTORS**



GARBAGE PICK UP DAYS:

- Regular refuse dumpsters – Wednesdays
 - Blue recycle carts – Mondays and Thursdays
- **ALL TRASH** must be placed in the trash containers provided. **West Valley will not collect any trash outside a bin.** If the bin is full, use another one. (Our Vineyards HOA incurs an additional charge if we have to request an extra pick-up)
 - **SEMI-ANNUAL PICK-UP** – Large items should **not** be placed in or around dumpsters but retained until the Spring or Fall cleanup.

RECYCLE

- **BLUE CART Bins** are for cardboard, paper, egg cartons, brown, clear or green glass, aluminum cans, bimetal & steel cans, plastic containers labeled 1-7, books, catalogs, milk/juice cartons, polystyrene, bundled plastic bags, empty aerosol cans, pots & pans. **Refer to web for full list***
- **ALL BOXES AND CARTONS** must be flattened before being placed in the **BLUE** bins.
- **LARGE AMOUNTS OF CARDBOARD** should be flattened and deposited in recycling dumpster #3 (in the south corner closest to intersection of Hwy. 85 and Saratoga Ave)

DO NOT RECYCLE: Batteries, fluorescent lights, waxed paper, food-contaminated paper, mirrors, dishware, pyrex, drinking glasses, bubble wrap, cellophane, photographs, napkins, paper towels, pvc pipe. **Refer to web for full list***



Uh-oh ... who left this mess?

PLEASE CLOSE AND LATCH THE GATE

to prevent costly damage to the gate and vehicles

***Go to westvalleyrecycles.com/serviceareas for more info**

NEWSLETTER

We welcome all input into our Vineyards newsletter. If you are interested in joining the newsletter committee or contributing to future newsletters please contact Anna Scicinska at newsletter@vineyardlane.org. Letters and articles from residents will be published in the next newsletter to go to print.

Anna Scicinska, Dave Katleman, Linda George and Paula Camporaso