



The Grapevine



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

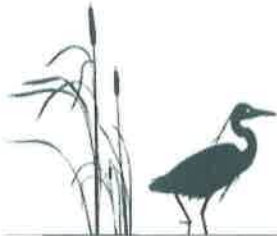
HELPFUL CONTACTS

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 apply for a car parking sticker call Security at 408-806-0729

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



MAR / APR 2014

THE NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The next Board meeting is on Thursday April 15th 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.

OTHER MAR/APR NEWS

At the March board meeting several bids for contracts were reviewed and the following companies were chosen for upcoming projects: for the Reserve Study the Board chose Association Reserves of San Francisco, and the annual tree trimming will be carried out by Davey Tree, the company currently advising us on how to preserve the health of our redwood trees. The bi-annual gutter cleaning will take place in April. The last five pieces of furniture for the clubhouse – a large sofa and four armchairs – are in transit and are scheduled to arrive during the first week of April (ice storms in North Carolina held up shipping).

SECURITY AND MAINTENANCE COMMITTEES

The Board is looking for a couple of volunteers to join the Security and Maintenance committees. Helping the Vineyards community is rewarding and not necessarily as time consuming as you may think! Please come to the next Board meeting or contact Board President Jim Foley directly.

The Board reminds residents to lock vehicle doors and not to leave any valuables, bags or boxes in full view on car seats.

VINEYARDS PAINTING PROJECT

The painting project is nearing completion. As the final stage of the wood replacement project, the pool house at the big pool has been renovated and repaired – the trellis needed complete replacement. A new pool heater was installed, and much of the pipe work was updated.

The front doors of the units will be painted in a few weeks time, when the weather warms up a little more, since the doors will need to stay open for some hours in order to dry. When the painters return to each unit to paint the front doors, any necessary remedial work will be carried out at the same time. In preparation for this **please report any painting issues – unpainted areas, mistakes or concerns to Luis at CMS.**

OUTDOOR COMMON AREAS

Pool heating in preparation for the 2014 pool season is scheduled to start on April 15th. The two pools are heated May through September. The Clubhouse and pools are for the use of residents and their guests only. 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. Please remember to be considerate to neighbors living around our pools and to other pool users - no loud music, running, shouting or screaming!!!

Guests 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.

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.

If you have not received a key for the large pool or a key fob for the small pool and Clubhouse contact Community Management.

BBQ SAFETY

As the weather warms up please be aware of some fire safety concerns. No fire pits or open flame BBQ grills are allowed on balconies or patios. There is a communal gas BBQ next to the big pool for open flame grilling. If in doubt please check - call Luis Heredia.

MAINTENANCE

The two pressure reducing valves on the main water supply, located near the gate will be opened, cleaned, and rebuilt in the coming weeks. The work will be carried out by New Pipes Inc and will take one or two days. There is currently an imbalance of water pressure across the community and this work should fix the problem. New Pipes will coordinate with the city for water shut off and turn on, in an attempt to have only one supply off at a time, although it is possible that the entire property may need to be shut off for a short period of time.

WHAT IS RESTORE SARATOGA? by Chris Burns

In April of 2010, the Saratoga City Council voted to reverse a sixty-plus year history of a two story building restriction throughout all of Saratoga. This could have opened the door to developers to build 3 story, mixed-use buildings (a combination of residences and business) in Saratoga. A group of concerned Saratogans banded together to oppose the change. Out of this Restore Saratoga was formed.

Restore Saratoga is an organization of Saratoga citizens dedicated to the preservation of Saratoga's heritage and lifestyle. Restore Saratoga is in favor of responsible, quality development that is in keeping with the heritage and vision of our City. As the City of Saratoga's Values Statement (<http://www.saratoga.ca.us/about/values.asp>) states, we appreciate the natural beauty of the City and its hillsides and wish to retain the small town, picturesque, residential atmosphere. That is why we live here and not in San Jose or Santana Row.

Restore Saratoga actively participates with Saratoga's City Council, commissions, and staff to assure that our heritage is always considered in all future decisions. One of the main concerns we have here at the Vineyards is the future development of the property directly to our north. There is tremendous pressure growing in the San Francisco Bay Area for high density housing developments near transportation corridors. Currently many folks refer to these developments as "stack and pack." We don't want a "stack and pack" type development to occur next door.

Some Vineyards owners are actively involved with Restore Saratoga to monitor development within Saratoga especially Quito Village and next door. If you wish to know more about Restore Saratoga go to www.restore-saratoga.com.

CLUBHOUSE

The Vineyards Clubhouse is open for member use and reservations – please contact Luis at CMS.

THE NEWSLETTER AT A GLANCE

LAST MONTH

Reserve Study contract to Association Reserves
Tree trimming contract to Davey Tree
Ongoing wood repairs and painting
Pool house new heater, pipework & trellis

NEXT MONTH

Board meeting – Thursday April 15th @ 7:00pm
Pool heater turning on April 15th
Bi-annual gutter cleaning
Spring tree trimming

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.

Anna Scicinska, Dave Katleman, Linda George and Paula Camporaso

SAVE WATER

On January 17th, Governor Brown proclaimed a statewide drought emergency, and asked all Californians to reduce their water consumption by 20 percent this year.

The drought in California is unprecedented. Last year was the driest year in our state's history and similar conditions are predicted for 2014. The drought affects everyone in both urban and rural communities. The Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) suggests ways in which everyone can conserve water – see below for 14 tips we can all follow. For a more comprehensive list on how you can preserve water in and around your home you can visit **SaveOurH2O.org**, a public awareness campaign about the drought sponsored by ACWA and the California Department of Water Resources.



Despite several modest storms in February, severe drought conditions have continued and the federal Central Valley Project (CVP) announced a zero allocation for agricultural water service, and a 50% allocation for municipal and industrial water service, resulting in total district CVP supplies of 43% of contract. Creeks continue to dry up and less fresh water flowing through the Delta, has increased salinity levels. Algae blooms and low storage levels in San Luis Reservoir this summer will also create significant operational challenges. With limited imported and local surface water, the County will be drawing heavily from groundwater reserves. Nearly all groundwater recharge operations have been cut back to conserve supplies for use this summer at the district's water treatment plants. Based on the district's Water Shortage Contingency Plan, the Santa Clara Valley Water District passed a resolution to implement mandatory measures as needed to reach a 20% water use reduction target in 2014. Further information from Santa Clara Water is available at <http://www.valleywater.org/drought2014/>

Santa Clara Water also offers a High Efficiency Toilet Rebate Program. Planning to replace your old toilet? You may be eligible to receive up to \$125 rebate per premium model High-Efficiency Toilet – contact Luis for our utility account info.

Here are 14 ways everybody can conserve water on a daily basis both indoors and out:

Outdoors

- Water early in the morning or later in the evening when temperatures are cooler.
- Adjust your sprinklers to ensure only your yard is being watered, not your house, sidewalk or street.
- Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants to reduce evaporation and keep the soil cool.
- Landscape your yard with climate appropriate plants.
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways, sidewalks and patios.
- Wash vehicles with a bucket and sponge, and make sure your hose has a self-closing nozzle.



Indoors

- Use washing machines for full loads.
- Run the dishwasher only when full.
- When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run.
- Install an aerator on your kitchen faucet to reduce flow.
- Use the garbage disposal sparingly, or compost vegetable food waste.
- Install low-flow shower heads.
- Shower for 5 minutes instead of 10 minutes.
- Turn your bathroom faucet off when brushing your teeth or shaving.

The Landscape committee has made plans with our contractor Tim Dooling to reduce both the duration and the number of times that we water the Vineyards lawns and other plantings each week. In addition to this, the small steps we can all take at home will add up and make a significant difference to our community water usage.

