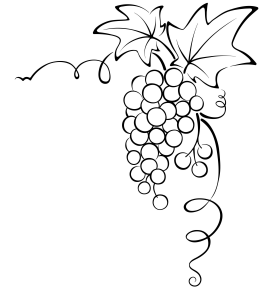




The Grapevine



ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP

FEB/MAR 2018

The Annual Meeting of the Membership was held on February 8th at 7PM in the Association's Clubhouse. Three existing directors ran unopposed for re-election and start a new 2 year term. CMS received 73 ballots in favor of approving the minutes of the 2107 Annual Meeting.

President, Jim Foley, presented a report on 2017 accomplishments and 2018 goals. Here are some of the points raised:

Report on 2017

- New CC&Rs and Operating Rules completed and approved
- New security cameras installed outdoors and in the clubhouse
- Damaged mailboxes (owned by USPS) replaced. Security video sent to Sheriff.
- Koi Pond cleaned by vacuuming
- Annual tree trimming and removal
- Contract signed for rehabilitation of the reflecting pools
- Ongoing concrete repairs
- Drought resistant planting and drip irrigation expanded
- Resolution of water billing with SCVW (audit in progress)
- Sanitary sewer responsibility issue (ongoing)
- Pavement sealing (deferred to 2018)
- Flat roof repair and refurbishment (ongoing)
- VTA ballot measure passed for SR85 toll lanes (stalled by pending lawsuit)
- Garbage / trash – slightly better?
- New budget released – no increase in monthly dues
- Grapevine editor and Welcoming Committee continue to do good work
- New signs at front gate, refurbished all pagoda lights, new umbrellas and gas BBQ grill by big pool
- Refurbished fitness center (new equipment, weights, regular maintenance contract)
- Homeworx is the new vendor for all small maintenance and repair jobs
- Increase in number of rat baits stations since EPA banned d-Con (new poisons are not as effective)
- New historical display in the Clubhouse
- Regular social events – summer pool party, holiday party, wine tasting, Superbowl party

Goals for 2018

- Pavement sealing
- Refurbishment of flat roofs
- Rehabilitation of the reflecting pools
- Water conservation. Continue to add drip irrigation and native plants.
- Complete the reflecting pools rehabilitation project (contractor Roddick Pools)
- Ongoing koi pond maintenance and vacuum cleaning
- New picnic benches and tables for the BBQ areas by both pools
- Update the reserve study figures
- Reconcile water billing from SCVW
- Monitor rat issues with a focus on units along the creek (new commercial poisons are less effective)
- Monitor security (door to door solicitors are trespassers)
- Monitor garbage / trash (fold cardboard boxes, do not litter on the floor of dumpster enclosures)
- Speeding! North side has biggest issue. What is going on???

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Jim Foley
Vice-President	Michael Toback
Secretary	Laurel Smith
Treasurer	Gloria Felcyn
Director	Anna Scicinska
Director	Jeff Klopotic
Director	Tom Schmidt

VINEYARDS WEBSITE

www.vineyardsofsaratoga.com

- Monthly newsletter
- HOA forms and documents
- Bylaws, CC&Rs, Rules and Regs
- 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

Welcome Committee for new residents

Contact Katherine Weiss by email
welcome@vineyardsofsaratoga.com

HELPFUL CONTACTS

Community Management Services

To report problems with outdoor lights or sprinklers and request repairs please call or email CMS customer service:

cs@communitymanagement.com

Telephone 408-559-1977

Fax number 408-559-1970

Bill Oldfield, Association Manager

boldfield@communitymanagement.com

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



THE NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The next Board meeting is on Thursday March 8th at 7pm.

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 during the next board meeting.

FEB/MAR NEWS

Spring Wine Tasting on Friday March 23rd at 7:30pm

The theme will be South American wines. Please bring one bottle per unit, an appetizer to share, and wine glass(es). Make sure you arrive on time – the tasting starts promptly at 7:30PM. Many thanks to Carole D. for organizing these events!

The second gutter cleaning of the rainy season has been completed this month. Should you experience any issues with blockages, please call CMS.

Quiet hours are from 10pm to 8am. Please be aware that sound carries very easily through our wooden construction 1970s buildings. Residents, in particular those in lower / upper units, need to be aware that the sound of footsteps, running water, and music can become a major nuisance. Please be thoughtful and considerate to your neighbors and refrain from running noisy washing machines or dishwashers, whose vibrations and gurgling wastewater can cause annoyance to others during quiet hours.

Parking spaces are becoming more difficult to find, particularly on the south side. Each unit has a one or two car garage, and Vineyards rules state that residents of each unit must be able to park **at least one vehicle** in their garage space. Therefore all single garages must be able to accommodate a vehicle and cannot be used as a storage lockup.

The work on our many reflecting pools will be starting shortly. They are going to be refinished using fiberglass and given a new travertine stone coping. This is same durable finish that was used in our swimming pools refurbishment a few years back. Indeed, the same company, Roddick Pools, will carry out the work. The landscape committee has looked into many different options over many months, in their quest to get a reasonable quote on a refurbishment that will look great, and last a long time.

SAVE THE BIG STUFF – the spring cleanup containers are scheduled for the May 12th – 22nd. These are perfect for disposing of your unwanted furniture, carpets, blinds, moving boxes, and bulky trash items. The Vineyards provides this service twice a year in May and October.

Remember that large items may NOT be left in the regular garbage enclosures. Residents who flaunt this rule face fines.

VINEYARDS RECIPES FOR FEBRUARY

from the kitchen of Chris Burns

MEDITERRANEAN SEVEN-LAYER DIP

Serves: 6 – 8

Time: 10 minutes

This easy recipe switches up the traditional Mexican-inspired 7-Layer dip. A variety of textures and a hint of spice make this dip a party pleaser. Serve with warmed Pita Bread, or Pita Chips.

Ingredients

- 1 c. TJ's Original Hummus
- 1/2 can White Beans (optional)
- 3/4 c. Plain Greek Yogurt
- 1 tsp. + Harissa
- 1 c. Persian Cucumber, chopped
- 1/2 c. Tomatoes, chopped
- 1/4 c. Feta Cheese
- 1/3 c. Kalamata Olives, sliced



Directions

- 1 In a baking dish or wide clear bowl, spread hummus to cover bottom of dish.
- 2 Drain and rinse white beans, then layer evenly over hummus.
- 3 Stir together Greek yogurt and harissa until combined. Spread Greek yogurt mixture on top of white beans.
- 4 Add chopped cucumbers, chopped tomatoes, and sliced Kalamata olives, respectively, on top of dip.
- 5 Sprinkle with Feta cheese and fresh ground black pepper, if desired.

BAKED ZUCCHINI TORTA WITH MUSHROOMS

Serves: 4 – 8

Time: 1 hour

This is an Americanized version of my Italian family's favorite Zucchini Torta.

Ingredients

- 2 T. olive oil
- 4 medium zucchini (about 1 lb.)
- 1/2 lb. mushrooms, sliced
- 1 large yellow onion chopped
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon pepper
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 3/4 teaspoon Italian herbs or oregano
- 1/2 cup bread crumbs
- 1/3 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 4 eggs slightly beaten
- red bell peppers (optional)



Directions

- 1 In large pot, heat olive oil, add onions and sauté a few minutes. Add mushrooms and garlic. Sauté 5 more minutes.
- 2 Stir in salt, pepper, and Italian Herb seasoning.
- 3 Wash, trim and finely shred zucchini (I do in a food processor). Add zucchini, bread crumbs, all but 2 T. of cheese to onion and mushroom mixture. Spoon into greased 8" square baking dish.
- 4 Pour eggs over zucchini and stir gently with fork. (I add the eggs to the zucchini mixture and stir altogether.)
- 5 Bake uncovered in 325° F. oven until custard is set (35-40 min. – test with knife – done if it comes out clean.)
- 6 Serve topped with remaining cheese.

COMMUNITY CORNER

A FEW REMINDERS ...RATS, TRASH, DOG POOP AND BEING A CONSIDERATE DRIVER ...

1. **Let's start with the easy one ... carry poo bags and pick up after your dog!** Finding dog poop on the roads, lawns, or creek side is not at all pleasant for others. Tell your guests and dog-walkers too. If you see something, say something!
2. **The next one should be a no-brainer too ... cars on Vineyard Lane should keep below the posted limit of 15 MPH.** The Vineyards is a residential neighborhood with very few sidewalks, so drivers, cyclists, children, pedestrians, joggers, and people out with their pets all have to share the perimeter road.
3. **Trash, dumpsters, recycling, and unintended consequences.** Every time an item is left on the ground in the dumpster enclosure someone has to put it right. The HOA additional garbage costs are running at about \$500 per month. So please, don't overfilled dumpsters – go to the next enclosure. Make sure cardboard boxes are flattened. Save large items for the Spring and Fall cleanup containers, or take your stuff elsewhere.
4. **Many wild creatures, especially rats, venture up from the creek at night.** Since the EPA banned rat poisons with d-Con, that could harm domestic pets, our rat problem has become worse. We can discourage rats quite simply – do not feed wild birds or pets outside, tie up garbage bags, and do not store food in the garage. We have increased the number of bait stations; you may have noticed the ground level small black plastic boxes, especially in the areas adjacent to the Saratoga Creek. Please set traps and call CMS as soon as possible if you have a rat problem in your unit. Residents have recommended the Tom Cat Rat Snap Trap, available at OSH for under \$10. Evidently peanut butter is a most effective bait!



MARCH FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Here are some local activities the whole family can enjoy. If you know of an upcoming event you think other Vineyards parents or grandparents would like to hear about, please e-mail the full details to grapevine@vineyardsofsaratoga.com.



HOLI

Date: March 2, 11:30am – 2:30pm

Distance: 4.6 miles

Cost: Free

Activity: Celebrate the festival of colors at the DeAnza College. Pre-book your spot online. Dance to the beats of music, play with powdered colors, and have delicious food and drinks! One day parking permits are available for \$3.

Location: S Quad, De Anza Community College, 21250 Stevens Creek Boulevard, Cupertino, 95014

Website: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/holi-tickets-42704262599?aff=es2>

AFTER HOURS LASER TAG AT THE CAMPBELL LIBRARY

Date: March 2, 6:30-9:30pm

Distance: 4.2 miles

Cost: Free

Activity: Laser tag for middle school students.

Location: Campbell Library, 77 Harrison Avenue, Campbell, 95008

Website: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/after-hours-laser-tag-at-the-campbell-library-tickets-42542110598?aff=es2>

9 TO 5 THE MUSICAL

Distance: 10.3 miles

Cost: Tickets \$12-\$32

Date: March 1-18

Activity: This musical is based on the 1980 movie of the same name, with song lyrics by Dolly Parton. Set in the late 1970s, this hilarious story of women's roles and friendship is outrageous, thought provoking, and even a little romantic.

Location: Lohman Theatre at Foothill College

Website: <https://www.foothill.edu/theatre/productions/9to5.html>

25th ANNUAL AUCTION & CRAB FEED

Date: March 2, 6pm – 9pm

Distance: 12.9 miles

Cost: \$55, Early Bird: \$50

Activity: Enjoy delicious food, silent auction, live dessert auction, crab pot bonanza, and much more.

Location: Napredak Hall, 770 Montague Expy, San Jose, California 95131

Website: <http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07eet1gttx0460bf94&llr=whzprubab&showPage=true>

MINDFULNESS IN THE WORLD

Date: March 15, 7:15pm

Distance: 0.7 miles

Cost: starting at \$45

Activity: The course will emphasize teachings and practices from Buddhism that make the difference between increased stress and increased well-being with family, in the workplace, and in life in general. Register online.

Location: Social Hall of Westhope Presbyterian, Saratoga, CA 95070

- <https://www.imsb.org/event/register-to-attend-a-course-in-mindful-speech/>

Website: <https://www.imsb.org>

THE NEWSLETTER AT A GLANCE

Summary of the annual meeting

Dog poop, trash & drive at 15 MPH !!!

Next Board meeting – Thursday March 9th @ 7:00pm

Wine tasting – South American Theme Friday March 23rd @ 7:30pm

NEWSLETTER

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

Anna Scicinska, Carole Lunny and Par Moroak

