

BOARD MEETINGS

**Third Thursday,
every other month**

Country Club at 4:30 pm

Mutual Water Co. at 6 pm

BOARD MEMBERS:

Country Club:

President: Philip Hartley

Treasurer: J. Richard

Secretary: Clelia Baur

Director: Doug Bridges

Director: Christian Sidwell

*Historian: Betty Helf

Water Company:

President.: Tom Smythe

Vice President: Vacant

Secretary: Barbara Eichten

Treasurer: Barbara Eichten

Director: Norma Simmons

Director: Richard Tracy

Administration Office

8475 Harbor View Drive

Financial info: 707-279-8544

Fax: 707-279-0118

Send your eMail messages

Visit our Website:

Riviera-West.com

to

RivieraWest@gmail.com

Office Hours/Days:

Monday-Friday

10 am to 4 pm



*Riviera West Country Club
Harbor View Mutual Water Company*

News

January 2016

Visit our WEBSITE ... Riviera-West.com

Issue 78

Next Country Club Board Meeting is Jan. 21, 2016 at 4:30 pm
Next Mutual Water Co. Board Meeting is Jan. 21, 2016 at 6:00 pm

President's Forum

Philip Hartley, President, Riviera West Country Club

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Happy New Year to all! The 2015 year saw improvements to our community assets including a new heating/air conditioning system and kitchen/hallway flooring. A successful fire safety program continued as well as an active calendar of social events.

Ginny Leber, our most excellent bookkeeper, has decided to retire back to retirement. Her helpful, friendly presence in the Riviera West office will be greatly missed. To meet our bookkeeping needs we have contracted with Mary Terou, a professional in private practice, to provide comprehensive bookkeeping, payroll and bill services. Mary comes to us with a wealth of knowledge and relevant experience. She holds a Masters Degree in accounting and served for a time as the bookkeeper for Clear Lake Riviera. Her current clients include small businesses and non-profit organizations.

(Continued on page 2)

Tom Smythe, President, Harbor View Mutual Water Company

Dear Neighbors,

The last few months have been quiet. We continue to learn more about the new plant and are making small adjustments to make it function better. It has been a steep learning curve, but I think it has flattened out considerably over the last few months.

Jeremiah and Eric have started the demolition of the old water treatment plant. This includes removing piping and emptying and cutting up the old filters. Our goal is to have demolition completed prior to summer.

We submitted our paperwork to the State showing our water conservation efforts. We showed over a 30% reduction in water produced this summer when compared to 2013. Part of that is due to the new water treatment plant, but much is due to conservation among our members. Thank you all.

Tom Smythe
President, HVMWC

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.

Jim Govern, our maintenance and all-around handyman, has returned to work after recovering from by-pass surgery.

Doug Moore, who volunteered to become the Chair of the Marina Committee, has been very active in moving ahead with our planned renovations to the marina. A metal plate extension has been added to the boat ramp to provide support when the lake becomes low and cost estimates have been gathered for replacing one of the docks.

The Board of Directors has adopted an amendment to our Fire Safety Policy & Regulations in the face of what was learned from the Valley Fire. This amendment targets dead trees and calls for a year-round effort to have them removed. This process will depend on a "Neighborhood Watch" effort. Therefore, if you note dead trees in your area please be sure to report them to the Riviera West office. In a meeting held in November with County officials and representatives from each of the four communities on our part of the lake, the County agreed to cooperate with the communities to get dead trees and other fire hazardous materials removed from properties with unresponsive owners.

Finally, a gentle reminder to drive slowly in the community. We have a posted speed limit of 25 mph but your dog walking, guest unloading, and home repairing neighbors will greatly appreciate even slower speeds around our many road curves and turns.

Volunteers are needed to serve our Committee . For further information call (707)279-8544

KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE

Please lower your speed limit when entering our community. Our speed limit is 25 for our roads, which is posted at the entrance. Drivers driving over the speed limit can cause danger to pedestrians and other drivers.

Association E-Mail Blasts

All Riviera West homeowners are encouraged to sign up for e-mail from the Association. Simply go to www.riviera-west.com to sign up to keep informed about current community



Emergency Contact Information

In the event of an emergency at your home or in the community, we should be able to contact you easily, please fill out our Contact Information Form. Page 5 of this Newsletter will have this form.

Thank you for your cooperation.



Ladies' Club



Ladies' Club meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 10 am in the Clubhouse, September through May, Ladies' Club Luncheon is in June.

Upcoming Events

Jan 23rd Saturday - There is no Crab Feed this year due to the unavailability of crab. The menu has been changed to a Spaghetti Feed.

Hosted by: Thomasine Griesgraber & Barbara Eichten

Feb 20th Saturday - Valentine Theme Dinner, 50/50 Raffle

Hosted by: Wilma and Harold Taylor

Mar 19th Saturday - St. Patrick's Dinner, BYOB 50/50 Raffle

Hosted by: Kerry and Doug Moore

April 16th Saturday - Brunch 11-2 p.m. 50/50 Raffle

Hosted by: Ladies' Club

May 14th Saturday - Mexican Fiesta

Hosted by: Norma Simmons and Jan Wilson

June- Ladies' Club Luncheon, Date and Time to Follow

BYOB

Cocktails & Appetizers served at 5:30 p.m. and Dinners at 6:30 p.m.

Cost of most Dinners and Brunch are \$12

- Norma Simmons Ladies' Club President



Casey Quarry a long time resident passed away of natural causes on December 18, 2015. He will be missed by many.



The Ladies' Club thanks you for your generous contribution to the Lake Family Resource Center.

Lake County Time Capsule: Chinese New Year in times past

Once upon a time in Lake County we had a myriad of mines – gold, silver and, most of all, quicksilver, also known as, mercury mines.

Lake County borders what are now Napa, Sonoma, Colusa, Mendocino, Yolo and Glenn counties. In the south county. The Middletown region is where much of the mining action occurred in the 1800s. As you are driving out of town toward Mount St. Helena, note the names of the streets, as many denote names of mines of times past. Some of the more prominent mines were the Bradford, Great Western, Ida Clayton, Oat Hill, Mirabel and Yellow-jacket.

As per my student's book written for the California State Sesquicentennial along with former Coyote Valley Elementary School teacher, Joyce Anderson's class in 1999, which now resides in the State Archives, Sacramento, "The Mirabel Mine was the fourth largest of all of the quicksilver (mercury) mines. The last time it operated was in 1945. They got real silver from this mine, too. The Bradfords used to own the Mirabel Mine, then in the 1890s they sold it to three men: Mills, Randol and Bell. They got the name 'Mirabel' from the first parts of all of their names – Mirabel."

The Great Western Mine in south Lake County was written about extensively in the 1950s by Helen Rocca Goss. She was the daughter of the mine's owner, Andrew Rocca. According to Ms. Goss, her father, Andrew Rocca, was the superintendent of the Great Western Mine from Sept. 12, 1876 to May 1, 1900. In the foreword of one of her books, entitled, "The Life and Death of a Quicksilver Mine," Helen Rocca Goss states, "For many years it has seemed to me that the long and interesting life my father led in the gold and quicksilver mines of California deserved to be recorded as a modest contribution to the state's history. To that end I began as long ago as the middle of 1930s to collect the necessary facts about his life and the milieu in which he lived by researching contemporary newspapers, mining reports, county archives

county archives – such as the assessment rolls, the recorded deeds, the court records, etc. I also talked with many people who had known Andrew Rocca, and most important of all, I asked my older sisters and brothers to write down for me their own memories of the events they themselves had witnessed or heard Father recount on numerous occasions."

Helen Rocca Goss also relied upon her mother's diary, an invaluable wealth of information. Mary Thompson Rocca kept records in her diary from Jan. 1, 1891, to July 19, 1896. The mine employed anywhere from 200 to 250 Chinese workers at a time, who performed the majority of the manual labor. The Chinese laborers, known as "celestials" at the time, came from different areas of China, speaking differing dialects. The newspapers of the time displayed blatantly bigoted monikers for the Chinese workers, such as "pigtail wearers" and "almond-eyed heathens." The Chinese workers at the Great Western Mine resided in two camps. The camps were basically crude huts, and sanitary conditions were not provided for. Anything that was salvaged, such as used shingles, boxes, bits of lumber or hammered-out kerosene cans, were fashioned into huts.

Each year in the Chinese camps – sometime in late January to the third week in February – one of the grandest events of the year would occur: the celebrations of the Chinese New Year. Then, the Andrew Rocca family, and many other non-Chinese families at the mine, would be presented with loads of gifts from the Chinese workers. They received so many celebratory gifts, that they considered the Chinese New Year as one of their own traditional holidays. The gifts from the Chinese included poultry, nuts, candy, silk handkerchiefs, bourbon, cigars, cakes and more. Prior to the Chinese New Year's festivities the Chinese would present gifts of Chinese sacred lily, or narcissus bulbs. Sometimes lovely brocaded silk fabrics were given, as well as Chinese slippers, vases, fans and foods like litchi nuts, coconuts, ginger, tangerines and sugar cane.

(Adapted from an article by Kathleen Scavone for Lake County News, January 18, 2015.)

For these historical documents, we wish to give a special thanks to Betty Helf for her efforts.

Riviera West Contact Information Form

We need information to be able to inform anyone within a home of danger or of a 'boil water' notice.
We may use a Reverse 9-1-1 call to you or your renter's home.

Riviera West address: _____ Parcel ID: _____

Owner's Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Residential land-line phone: _____ eMail: _____

Day-time Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Other contact/cell phone info: _____

Emergency contact person: _____ Ph: _____

My Riviera West house is:

Primary Home: ___ Secondary Home: ___ Rental: ___ or Vacation Rental: ___ Unoccupied: ___

Other (please explain): _____

Number of people in home: _____ Does anyone need assistance during an evacuation? _____

What kind of assistance? _____

If it is a vacation home or monthly rental, please continue:

Property Manager: _____ Ph: _____

Renter(s) Name: _____

Day-time Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

eMail/Other contact/cell phone info: _____

Emergency contact person: _____ Ph: _____

Number of people in home: _____ Does anyone need assistance during an evacuation? _____

What kind of assistance? _____

Other relevant contact or emergency info: _____

For Office Use ONLY:	Block List _____	eMail _____	RVS _____	
Pool Key # _____	Directory _____	Excel _____	QB _____	Copy for Betty _____

As of 07-19-2013