



Your Sonoma Pines President By Mary Trueman

Robert (Rob) Taylor is President of our Sonoma Pines Council. Like many of the rest of us Rob and his wife, Violet, love living at Sonoma Pines. They both grew up in The Kootenays (Nelson & Trail) and moved here from Edmonton after retirement. They have also called Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec City and Halifax home.

Rob has enjoyed his career of 41 years in IT, mostly in middle management and managing a staff of around 30. You may think that Telecommunication has been Rob's life.. but there's more... he was elected Deputy Mayor of Beaumont, Alberta (close to Edmonton) and served two terms on that Council . He also sat on the Library Board there and was very much a part of building a new library. There are other boards & volunteer positions too.

Violet is a retired Travel Consultant. Good thing, I'd say, when you learn about the countries they've visited - China, Russia, India, Africa, Egypt, Turkey, England, France, the Mediterranean... there's more! I asked Rob if he had a favourite, and without hesitation he replied that their visit to Africa was particularly memorable because of the animals they saw in Kenya. The Taylors enjoyed the huge herds of wildebeasts on the Serengetti and the Ngorongoro Crater. The sight of these animals has been



**Robert Taylor, President
Sonoma Pines Council**

indelibly etched on Rob's mind. Because of the animals Africa remains his favourite. Is there anywhere else they'd like to go? Oh yes, more river cruises in Europe are on the list at the moment.

Rob belongs to a motorcycle group of retired people here in the Okanagan named 'Jurassic Riders'. Once a week they go for day rides exploring the Okanagan. Rob claims he "can repair anything", enjoying working with his hands. What does he read? Mysteries mostly are his favourite literary selection and his hobbies are Golf and Hiking . Oh, and travel with a capital T.

Rob and Violet have been married 40 years, have two adult children and four grandchildren, ages 6, 4, 2 and 9 months, living in Edmonton and Vancouver. As an interviewer I have to tell you how impressed I was that Rob came up with all the ages in a flash; he didn't even have to think about it !

Rob's goal as President of the Sonoma Pines Council is to be certain that we are ready to look after ourselves when Rykon and Carrington are no longer a part of running things here.

Rob welcomes your input and ideas. His email is robt.strata@gmail.com and his telephone number is [250.768-8926](tel:250.768-8926). By all means let him know your thoughts. He encourages dialogue and the exchange of Sonoma Pines Residents ideas. Just pick up the phone or send him an email. He's waiting to hear from you.

Introducing the SPHOA Landscaping Committee

- Karen Dickie, Chair
- Jo Luchka, Vice Chair, (Council Member)
- Marshall Wolski – Committee Member
- Darrell Bellamy – Committee Member
- Colleen Zabel – Committee Member
- Gerry Tonn – Committee Member
- Pieter Spierenburg – Committee Member
- Janice Proeahl – Committee Member

The Landscaping Committee accepted the mandate from Council, which was outlined In the Council Meeting Minutes of July 4, 2014.

- To date the Committee has:
- Met with various homeowners regarding issues/concerns
 - Met with United Landscaping and APM regarding a new approach to addressing landscaping concerns or issues
 - Currently evaluating United Landscaping's performance against contract obligations
 - Identifying opportunities to present to Council

The Landscaping Committee is committed to ensure we receive the best value and performance for landscaping services in our community which will meet our agreed upon budget as approved by Council.

Inside this Issue	
Interview with Rob Taylor.....	page 1
Landscape Committee.....	page 1
Fitness Centre News.....	page 2
Smith Creek Fire.....	page 2
Across The Lake Swim.....	page 2
Finance Committee.....	page 3
Dogs.....	page 3
Clubhouse Update.....	page 3
Tell us What you Think.....	page 3
September Calendar.....	page 4



CLUBHOUSE FITNESS CENTRE NEWS

A Fitness Centre sub-committee has been formed

from the actual overall Clubhouse Committee to administer the basement gym and other fitness matters. Sonoma Pines residents Jane and Al Brown have volunteered to organize this sub-committee, with Gord Jackson helping with machine maintenance. We are looking for two additional members without portfolio, who attend the gym regularly and have an interest in keeping the gym operational.

In the past the apparatus has not been cleaned and sanitized regularly. This will change under the new administration, hopefully with the assistance of attendees who are asked to adhere to the rules posted in the basement entrance hall. They should ensure that they change their footwear before entering the workout room and carry a personal towel. When street shoes are used on moving parts sand and gravel makes its way into critical areas. So be ready to be reminded if you do not have clean gym shoes or do not wipe down machines with your own towel. This is just basic conduct in any private gym.

We are able to assist residents with apparatus familiarity and personal fitness programs without cost, having both been marathon runners and group leaders at a running store in Vancouver. So if you need help with fitness matters contact us at the email address below.

Jane and Al Brown
brownaljan@telus.net



For Sale 2003 Sebring LXI convertible, blue with grey leather 142km, new tires and brakes, 6 cd changer.

Wonderful shape it deserve to be in the Okanagan. It belongs to a friend call me for the details....Charlie 778-754-1000

Smith Creek Fire #2 2014

A few photos taken by Ted Fitzpatrick of Sonoma Pines



An Air Tractor AT802F Fire Boss, one of four that worked the fire.



Night view.

We spoke to Terry Savin, Fire Inspector with the West Kelowna Fire Department. He told us that the cause of the fire was suspicious and that the RCMP are investigating.

2014 Across The Lake Swim



If you look closely you'll see your neighbor, George Forshaw getting out of the water after his swim on July 19. The Across The Lake Swim is the largest and longest running open water swim event in Canada, operating for 66 consecutive years. George hasn't been swimming quite that long and I forgot to ask him how many times across the lake. This year his wife Gail joined the swim and it was

probably not the best year for her first attempt due to some very difficult conditions. Even though she was in the water for more than 2 hours and completed considerably more than the 2.1K she ended up catching a boat to shore with quite a few other swimmers. If you know anything about Gail, you know she is a very determined athlete and will be back next year.

Sonoma Pines Finance Committee

The Finance Committee has met twice this summer. We have completed our terms of reference and updated the Sonoma Pines investment policy (how we invest our reserve funds).

At the Council meeting on September 5, we will present both documents for approval and with that, will post the documents on the website. At the same time we hope to get Council's sign off on our next deposit of the reserve fund.

With the sign off of our terms of reference we plan to get started on some of the projects therein. If you have experience in accounting, engineering or business and would like to get involved please email

John Scott (Chair) at jdsctt650@gmail.com

Thanks very much to the committee members:

Don Clark
Arnold Walters
Greg Marshall

Clubhouse Facility Management

The committee is now formed and had its first meeting. We have started a couple of projects, so look for some interesting additions to the facility very soon! At this moment the exercise bike is out of order with parts to repair it on back order. We hope to have that working soon. We do require a few volunteers for a weekly function that needs to be done. On garbage day we need a person to come by the clubhouse and put the trash cans out for the day and return them at night. If we can get a dozen or so volunteers then it would not be a great commitment of time. If you can help out please contact Charlie Milazzo or Gerry Tonn

Charlie Milazzo Chair

More Homes, More Dogs and a potential solution to a persistent problem.

If you go back, go way back, to the earliest days of Sonoma Pines Council meetings, then follow the dialogue over the years, one grumble that consistently surfaces is the disregard of certain pet owners for clean shoe soles of others in our community.

In 2013, Council placed 3 Doggie Stations around the complex for dog owners to deposit their bags. While surveys by the poop patrol indicate that there is a growing loyalty to the stations, there are still problems of pet owners allowing their dogs on others property and failing to pick up after their pets. Repeated appeals by Council have not fixed the problem.

Here are a few potential solutions for your consideration:

- Change the bylaws to not allow pets in the community.

Well! This would certainly reduce the amount of new pets coming into the community but the BC Strata Act does not allow for those who have pets currently to be forced to remove their pets. In any case why should dog owners who are following the rules be penalized for those who fail to follow proper poop etiquette?

- License the dogs in the community. This is a good way to raise some dollars although, doubtful that it would cause any changes to current poor behavior. Some may like this idea as the license fees could go towards the maintenance of the



Doggie Stations and non dog owners would no longer be required to pay for the current efforts to keep the grass clear of lumps.

- Doggie DNA - A new concept in poop patrol.

All dogs in the community would be tested to determine their DNA, which is then recorded. Evidence left on lawns can be sent to the lab and the errant mutt identified and their owner fined. The DNA test would cost dog owners about \$85.00

No cost to homeowners just to dog owners, with only a one time cost for dog owners rather than an annual license fee. A fine for those in violation of the rules and the revenue from that goes towards upkeep of the doggie stations.

Here are a couple of interesting facts from other communities.

Fine for an unlicensed dog in West Kelowna \$300, Westbank First Nation \$75
Fee for a dog license in West Kelowna \$20, Westbank First Nation \$16.

Your thoughts? Let us know.



Tell us what you think.

(and we'll share your thoughts next month)

Do you think more should be done to improve the intersection of Carrington and Sonoma Pines?


Let us know at sonomapinesnews@gmail.com

Do you have any photos of the community you'd like to share?

Please send them to sonomapinesnews@gmail.com

Thanks very much

September 2014 NOMA PINES Calendar of Events Page 4

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Yoga 9am Private Function 1am - 11pm Men's Golf (Back 9 & Breakfast) Two Eagles	2 Cribbage 7pm	3 Yoga 9am	4 Men's Golf (Back 9 & Breakfast) Two Eagles Pool 7-9pm	5 Ladies Golf (Two Eagles) Happy Hour 4-7pm (Art Appreciation Local Artists)	6 Private Function 11am - 11pm
7 Clubhouse cleaning Upper 11am-2pm Lower 1-5pm Gym open all day Private Function 2 - 11pm	8 Yoga 9am Men's Golf (Back 9 & Breakfast) Two Eagles	9 Cribbage 7pm	10 Yoga 9am Canasta 7-9pm	11 Men's Golf (Back 9 & Breakfast) Two Eagles Pool 7-9pm	12 Ladies Golf (Two Eagles)	13 50 - 60's Dance 5:30pm - 11pm 
14 Clubhouse cleaning Upper 11am-2pm Lower 1-5pm Gym open all day	15 Yoga 9am Men's Golf (Back 9 & Breakfast) Two Eagles	16 Quilting Club 9am - 12pm LL Cribbage 7pm	17 Yoga 9am Private Function 11am - 11pm	18 Men's Golf (Back 9 & Breakfast) Two Eagles Pool 7-9pm	19 Ladies Golf (Two Eagles) Happy Hour 4-7pm BYOB & Appie or \$4.per person	20
21 Clubhouse cleaning Upper 11am-2pm Lower 1-5pm Gym open all day Private Function 2 - 11pm	22 Yoga 9am Men's Golf (Back 9 & Breakfast) Two Eagles	23 Cribbage 7pm	24 Yoga 9am Canasta 7-9pm	25 Men's Golf (Back 9 & Breakfast) Two Eagles Pool 7-9pm	26 Ladies Golf (Two Eagles)	27
28 Clubhouse cleaning Upper 11am-2pm Lower 1-5pm Gym open all day	29 Yoga 9am Men's Golf (Back 9 & Breakfast) Two Eagles	30 Quilting Club 9am - 12pm LL Cribbage 7pm		Clubhouse Rental <i>Ivars Dravinskis</i> 778-754-1802 cougs72@shaw.ca		

Upcoming Special Events

September
5th Happy Hour (Art Appreciation Local Artists)

13th 50 - 60's Dance

October
4th **Octoberfest**



Interested in Volunteering??

Please contact:
Lorna Wright
lorna-wright@shaw.ca
or
Sharon McNichol
mcnicholg@shaw.ca



At the September 5 Happy Hour the Social Committee would like to invite all artists, woodworkers, jewellery makers etc. to come and display their wares. Bring your items with your name displayed and place them around the clubhouse for all to see, this is not a sale but a way to show our residents what a variety of skilled people we have in our community. Set-up will start at 2:00pm on the 5th.