



*Thank You* Volunteer Appreciation Dinner & Dance



Volunteer Appreciation Dinner & Dance Oct. 7/15



**Town Hall Planning Forum, Saturday November 21**

Last year council held a planning workshop with a focus on the 3-10 year future of Sonoma Pines as a community. The result was the following list of projects in no particular order, that those present felt would enhance our community.

- Outside Recreation such as Tennis Courts and Horse Shoes
- Large Canopy for out back of the clubhouse
- Correcting very poor Clubhouse acoustics
- Parking around the clubhouse
- Shuttle service within our community
- Outdoor Shuffleboard
- Clubhouse Expansion
- Swimming Pool
- Upper Security Gate
- Move lower security gate down to our property boundary
- Video Surveillance at the security gates
- Expand the trail system along the southern end of property and possibly near the golf course



On Nov 21 @ 10:00 a follow-up town hall is scheduled to further look into these and identify other projects for Sonoma Pines. The objective of this town hall is to help determine the priority for these projects and direct council to further develop planning information. This information could then be included in our budgeting process that might be considered at a future AGM.

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**Sonoma Pines Website and Sonoma Sun Newsletter**

[www.sonomapines.info](http://www.sonomapines.info)

You can check here for most recent articles on the community, back issues of the newsletter, or copies of Council minutes and financial statements. Some pages are password protected so use sonomapines and you should be fine. If there is something that you would like to see on the site or in the Newsletter please email us at [sonomapinesnews@gmail.com](mailto:sonomapinesnews@gmail.com).



## Help Wanted

### Administration Committee -Time To Set Up An Office

Sonoma Pines has had significant growth in population and infrastructure in recent years. Pouring of the last concrete foundation will soon bring the final count to 495 homes. In order to respond to an increasing number of demands and operational responsibilities, Council has made the decision to look into opening an on-site administrative office, a place where residents will be able to turn to for answers relating to home issues and for any other questions regarding Sonoma Pines community living.

Setting up the office will require planning, time and a certain amount of money but most importantly, it will require the involvement of a few residents willing to share their administrative background and work experience. SPHOA is looking for three volunteers to partake in a 6 month Administrative Committee that will be responsible for:

- Planning and organizing the creation of an office at the Club House able to eventually accommodate one paid part-time operational staff, one paid part-time administrative staff and a volunteer in the future.
- Finding ways to minimize cost of implementation and expenses related to the day-to-day running of the office.
- Reviewing electronic and paper filing requirements of the Home Owners Association and implementing a filing system that will allow for safeguarding of information.
- Preparing procedures and instruction manuals.
- In a nutshell: overseeing the implementation of a functional office that will help new hires and volunteers to meet the operational and administrative needs of the community.

Administrative Committee members will be working along side Council, APM and various committee members throughout the process. First meeting is expected to take place in November but subsequent

meetings will be left to the Administrative Committee to decide.

We are very fortunate to have a wealth of expertise living within our community. Volunteers play a key role and their work is essential for preserving our investment and continues making living here an affordable and pleasant place to live. If you have time to spare and are up for a reasonable challenge please email John Scott at [jdscott650@gmail.com](mailto:jdscott650@gmail.com)

## Help Wanted

### Communications Committee

Our monthly newsletter has enjoyed incredible success over the last year and a half. We have consistently published a monthly update for homeowners and have a team of 7 people working on our newsletter, the Sonoma Pines website and Facebook.

We are currently looking to expand our capabilities to include updates of events taking place in the community and news requiring greater frequency than a monthly update. To do so we will need one or two more people to assist with production.

If you are interested, hopefully you have some experience with MS Word and perhaps (but not necessarily) some email and website software experience or are interested in learning.

This is a great opportunity to meet people in our community and work with a dynamic, interesting team who share a passion for news and communications within our community (and you get to practice creative writing).

If you are interested please contact John Scott at [jdscott650@gmail.com](mailto:jdscott650@gmail.com)

## Safety And Security



The speed reader board has been out on Sonoma Pines Drive. Several residents have expressed concern with the speed of vehicles in both directions. Remember that the speed limit is 40 kph - your co-operation is appreciated. Last month I mentioned checking your smoke detectors - also check and replaced batteries (if required) for your thermostat - should be done once a year.

A reminder to all - Report all suspicious persons or activity to the R.C.M.P. and Associated Property Management (APM).

Darrell Bellamy, Chair  
Safety & Security Committee

## Clubhouse Security

Due to a rash of unusual events that have taken place at the clubhouse over the last month, the current practice of using the deadbolt to secure the door open will no longer be available, as deadbolts on the entrance to the upstairs and downstairs have been removed. User groups are welcome to use the door stops provided on the doors to allow multiple entry of groups and the unloading of equipment, however as the last person enters the building the door must remain closed to prevent unauthorized entry.

The intent of the key fob system is to provide homeowners (and only homeowners) secure and easy access to the clubhouse. Blocking the door in an open position allows anyone access to the building, creating a potential security risk to property and/or residents alone in the building.

We encourage homeowners to use their fobs and limit the use of doorstops.

If you need a fob please call Abbas Dharamsi at: 250 452-6754.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Regards,  
Tom McEwen  
S P Community Clubhouse Chairperson  
250.768.3439

## Letters



Please send your comments and letters to [sonomapinesnews@gmail.com](mailto:sonomapinesnews@gmail.com)



Locally owned and operated by Steve & Sara Corothers

Check out our website at [www.homehardware.ca](http://www.homehardware.ca) OR

Visit us beside Save-On Foods,

Tell us you live in Sonoma Pines to save 5%

Proud sponsor of the Sonoma Sun

Store Hours  
Monday to Saturday  
8:30AM - 5:30PM  
Sunday & Holidays  
10AM - 4PM

**250-768-3125**

## Sonoma Pines on Facebook



Are you a Facebooker? Would you like real-time information about what's happening in our beautiful neighbourhood? Search for "Sonoma Pines Community" on Facebook and send in a friend request! This Group page replaces the "Sonoma Pines Info" page for a couple of reasons. This is a closed group - you must be a Homeowner to join and all posts will show in the feed (after approval by a page administrator). Feel free to post anything that will be of interest to the rest of the Homeowners including any events, places of interest as well as anything that you want to buy or sell. If you are having any issues with your posts and need some help, please feel free to contact

[terry.milazzo@gmail.com](mailto:terry.milazzo@gmail.com) Can't wait to approve your request to join! Terry

## Rykon News

Kimberly Burns (nee Westgate) & husband Matt had a baby girl. Last report they are doing well. Kimberly's replacement for Sonoma Pines is Barb McPhee. According to Kimberly, Barb has a solid background in residential construction and stratas, so she should fit right in to her new role including being a member on SP Council. Barb can be reached at: [bmcphoe@rykon.ca](mailto:bmcphoe@rykon.ca) or 250-768-4269 extension 301.

## Golf Course Update - October



Carrington Road Holdings Ltd. (Carrington) as developer of Sonoma Pines is intent on selling/transferring certain lands along Hole #5 to Two Eagles Golf Course & Academy (Two Eagles). This area is currently the Black tee box and the "Buffer Zone" on Sonoma Pines site plans.

Upon learning of such plans your Council suggested to Carrington that an understanding between Sonoma Pines Home Owners Association (SPHOA) and Two Eagles be arrived at that would enhance both the Sonoma Pines Community and the Two Eagles Golf Course. The basis of this understanding may be used in developing a legal transfer of lands in and around the 5th hole between Carrington and Two Eagles.

During September, a number of meetings between SPHOA Council members and Two Eagles representatives took place culminating in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) being signed on September 30, 2015 and approved by Council on October 1, 2015.

The following are the key points under this MOU:

- Carrington Road Holdings will transfer to Two Eagles certain blocks of land along hole #5 that includes the black

tee box area and a portion of the buffer zone. That area represents the sloping southern most peak of the buffer zone.

- Two Eagles will erect, at their cost, new two rail fencing adjacent to the back (black) tee box on the 5<sup>th</sup> hole, to define the new property line to be owned by Two Eagles
- Two Eagles will re-align and install, at their cost, two rail fencing along the revised buffer zone on Hole #5.
- Two Eagles will be responsible for the repair of any irrigation and land reclamation of the adjacent SPHOA property.
- If Two Eagles requires access to Sonoma Pines lands for removal of asphalt pathways they will be granted access, provided they get approval from SPHOA Council beforehand and agree to restore any damage that may be caused as part of the new golf course improvements.

In addition Carrington, Two Eagles and SPHOA have agreed to jointly fund protective fencing along Hole #14. At this time the specific location, timing and size of such fencing is yet to be finalized, however, Two Eagles and SPHOA will work together on this initiative.



October 1st Council Meeting with Rykon representatives & Gord Couch WFN Liason



## Markets may change. Good investing advice is timeless.

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Investment Advisor, Financial Planner

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## BFL Risk Report

As part of the service provided by our new insurance company, BFL Canada, Sonoma Pines Council requested an on site loss control inspection of our property.

The site visit took place on September 18 with a full facility review detailing special hazards, machinery and perils associated with the property. For a copy of the report and the references to the BC building code go to

<http://www.sonomapines.info/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Sonoma-Pines-HOA-LCR-September-2015-1.1.pdf>

Various items in the report have already, or are in the process of being remediated by Council or one of our Committees. Where we will require the action and attention of some homeowners is with regards to the situation where homeowners have added stairs outside of and next to their homes.

Here is an important excerpt from the report:

*"There are a number of exterior staircases on the property that do not conform to the BC Building Code. These staircases were largely created by unit owners, often with natural materials such as timbers or stones and frequently with poured concrete. Non-conforming stairs present a tripping/fall hazard for occupants and visitors to the property. Liability attaches to the development (SPHOA) for stairs and structures that do not conform to accepted codes and standards. Any set of stairs found not conforming to the above general guidelines (see the report) should be removed or remediated as necessary".*

The Sonoma Pines Council asks that homeowners who have stairs on the common property adjoining their homes please ensure that the stairs are in compliance with the BC Building Code. If the stairs are not in compliance then they either need to be brought into compliance or removed. To ensure that the risk assessment report is properly remediated, Council will be asking homeowners for a copy of their building permit, or a copy of the approved alteration request indicating a plan to bring the stairs up to code.

## Considerations from Council - The Buzz

There is considerable business conducted at Council meetings that comes to you in the monthly minutes. This information is available online at

<http://www.sonomapines.info> There are also informal discussions about topics that will be coming up for future consideration.

Here are a couple of recent ones:

Clubhouse expansion- an interesting topic where we seem to have enough room for happy hours etc. but not enough to host a meeting of all the homeowners. Are homeowners prepared to invest in a bigger clubhouse and how big should it be?

Are homeowners prepared to invest in a bigger clubhouse and how big should it be?

Lower RV parking lot purchase- as you are all aware Rykon will be moving on within the next year or so. There are currently two options for the parking lot, 1) where Rykon maintains ownership and management or 2) they sell it back to the HOA who would manage it like we do the upper RV lot.

It is our intention to keep these issues and others on your radar screens via the monthly newsletter. Please feel free to share your opinions with us at [sonomapinesinfo@gmail.com](mailto:sonomapinesinfo@gmail.com)

## Library Update



We are excited to announce that the new shelves for the library are in place. Thank you so much to Marshall Wolski who not only built the shelves but also installed them. We now have lots of room for more books, puzzles, games etc. Be sure to pop by and check the new shelves out.

Recently a Library Committee has been formed to keep the library tidy and up to date. Eight enthusiastic readers met in October to rearrange the library books.

We really appreciate all books that are donated. There are two baskets in the library. One is marked for books that are already stamped with the Sonoma Pines Stamp, the other basket is for newly donated books that require a stamp. Please note that if we have duplicates of books, the duplicates may be donated to a worthy charity.

We are still looking for more DVD's for the DVD collection. If you borrow a DVD, please return it to the library within seven days so that others can enjoy.



**Oktoberfest 2015**

**SUDS CLUB  
(SP, Craft beer tasting club)**

We held our first tasting night on October 21, 2015. While the turnout was small we had a lively discussion about craft beer (and some other important issues).

As the "theme" beer for the evening was Pumpkin Ale, in recognition of the season, we sampled 2 offerings...

1. Nelson Brewing Co, Organic Pumpkin Ale – a crisp pumpkin ale made with real pumpkin mash was by consensus the highlight of the evening.
2. Central City Brewing, Spiced Pumpkin Ale - as the name indicates a more autumn spice tasting ale than actual pumpkin, with a less than crisp finish.

Both ales are limited time fall offerings of their respective breweries. Alcohol content for both is 5%.

It was also agreed that both ales, being seasonal, were not really sessionable but were more of a "one glass and done" style.

We hope to see a few more beer lovers at our next tasting night on Wednesday November 18, 2015 when we will sample and discuss Extra Special Bitter (ESB) style.

Please bring along a bottle of ESB (650ml or 2x 350ml) of your choice to share with others.

Cheers

George Forshaw



**Live Music**

We are once again inviting Sonoma Pines residents out to listen to some live music put on by local Okanagan musicians. We will have the band "Darkhorse" to provide backup to the attending entertainers as well as doing a few tunes of their own. This event is provided free of charge with coffee and cookies during the break (you can bring your own stronger beverage if you like). Any Sonoma Pines musicians are welcome to come and join in, play and/or sing a tune or two with us.

It will be held at the clubhouse starting at **1:00 pm on Friday the 6th of November**. Come out and enjoy.

Any inquiries contact Gerry Tonn at [250-768-4338](tel:250-768-4338) or email [gdtonn@telus.net](mailto:gdtonn@telus.net)

**Clubhouse Rentals**

If you are interested in reserving the Sonoma Pines Clubhouse and require any information please call Tom McEwen at 250-768-3439 or Jean Scheidl at 778-754-1884

Rental Forms and Insurance Information are now on line at

[www.sonomapines.info](http://www.sonomapines.info) under the Clubhouse tab.

## Our 9 Month RV Adventure by Dan & Marnee Barrette

For the past eight years Dan and I have spent many wonderful months traveling in our RV across Canada and wintering in the US. Our RV is "Rambo" and our tow'd is "PeeWee". This past winter our decision was to make good on a major item on our bucket list; to cover the Gulf Coast into Florida and up the Eastern Seaboard. It was an amazing journey and we met so many lovely RVers and still keep in touch.

We love the drive through Washington and Oregon, but our first major stop was in **Palm Springs CA** where my husband surprised me for my 70th birthday with our oldest daughter flying in and our close friends driving from Hemet, CA. We had dinner at a lovely restaurant where we sat and took in the **Palm Desert Christmas Parade of Lights** - lovely.

**Borrego Springs CA**, about one and a half hours south of Palm Springs, was a three week stay and included great hiking, visiting **Julian** in the mountains, (a small wonderful stop for visitors with amazing fresh apple pie and wonderful shops) and touring the badlands and Salton Sea area. There are some amazing metal art sculptures filling the desert scape in Borrego that are a must-see for visitors.

Then we headed back on to Interstate 8 to **Quechan Casino**, just outside of **Yuma AZ**, with free unlimited parking for about 100 RVs and walking distance to **Los Algodones, Mexico**, a wonderfully eclectic town where many Canadians go for dental work as well as shopping.

There is a tiny stop on 8 called **Date City AZ** that no one should pass without stopping for a "date shake", absolutely yummy and a meal in itself! Highly recommended!

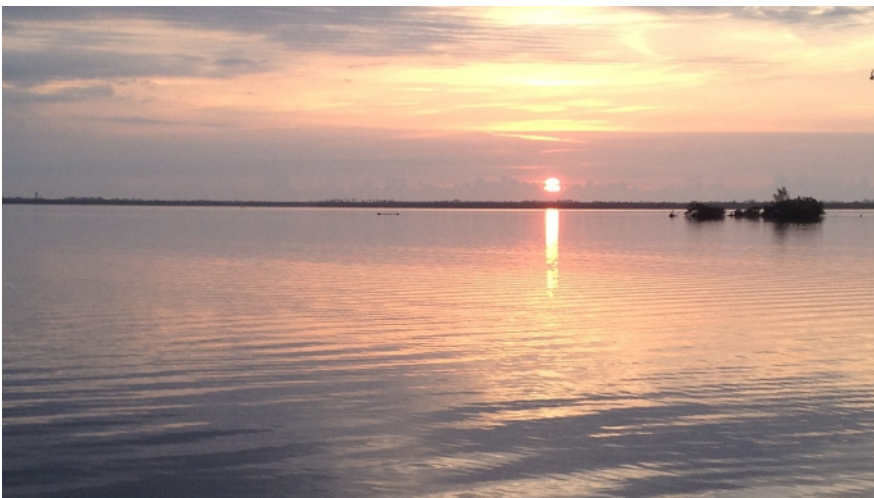
Since we have visited **Arizona** many times, our one stop of interest was "**Old Tucson**" where hundreds of Western movies were made over the years - well worth time spent.

Driving across **New Mexico** brought back memories of visits to Las Cruces, Albuquerque and Sante Fe - so much history, and then we were in the immense state of **Texas** for stops in **Fort Stockton, San Antonio (Riverwalk, The Alamo), and Houston** to visit family.

The excitement builds as we head south into completely new territory and new adventures for us - the **Gulf Coast**; and what a thrill from **Corpus Christi and Galveston TX, to Lafayette & New Orleans LA, Gulfport MS, Mobile AL**, and into Florida where we were able to take in a Grapefruit League pre-season Detroit Tigers game in Lakeland; and then down I75 along the coast into the amazing **Florida Everglades, and Florida Keys from Key Largo to Key West** just in time for Spring Break. The Keys are definitely a wonder to experience with the Gulf of Mexico on one side of you and the Atlantic Ocean on the other.

North then on I95 we passed along Miami, Fort Lauderdale, West Palm Beach, along the coast to **Cocoa Beach, Cape Canaveral**, where we spent a lot of time visiting one of the most amazing historical venues and high on our list, naturally, The **Kennedy Space Center Astronaut Hall of Fame** and, of course, **NASA Space Center** where we were allowed to park our RV with toad in the parking lot free for an eight hour day on site; Spectacular! All along this wonderful drive were some of the most spectacular sunrises and sunsets one could hope to see.

Cont'd on page 7



Cont'd from page 6

After a brief drive on the beach in "PeeWee" in **Daytona Beach, FL**, we got stuck in the sand not far from the paved road and a young man in his "Hollywood movie" jeep with surfboard on top used a megaphone to explain how to get out of the sand to which my husband exclaimed "I've driven in more snow than you'll see in a lifetime of sand and muttered "don't need a young kid's help getting out of this"! It was actually quite comical because the young man was, after all was only doing his job. Another very crowded resort city but also a lot of historical landmarks we enjoyed taking in.

Driving through **Georgia** and **Virginia** we didn't make stops as **Myrtle Beach, South Carolina**, was next on our list; an overnight stay to tour another busy historical resort area, after which we turned inland through North Carolina anxious to get to our next major venue - **Washington DC**, just in time for "Cherry Blossom Festival" - truly beautiful. We took a tour bus from our lovely Cherry Hill RV Park for an evening tour

of the Capitol- for us the only way to do it! So much traffic and thousands of pedestrians everywhere - let the driver worry about it!! Such beautiful monuments to see; Martin Luther King, Lincoln Memorial, Vietnam Memorial, Korean War, World War II to name a few; not to forget Capitol Hill, and the White House along with many other structural beauties. We both agreed that an evening tour was the right choice for us.

Our northward journey took us through **New Jersey** and **New York City**. This visit is now saved for another time, preferably early fall - flying in and a hotel stay will be involved! Overnight stays from here included **Darien Connecticut, Wyoming Rhode Island** and **Dartmouth MA**. Boston was to be another major stop on our list but there was a storm so a quick photo op driving 60 mph through torrential rain certainly left us wanting a return trip.

The final destination on our list was **Cape Cod, Massachusetts**, and we managed to find a lovely RV park that enabled us to take in three days of touring this gorgeous place to its outermost point of Provincetown. The Kennedy's vacation home and John F Kennedy's monument in **Hyannis Port** - again, so much history and so many wonderful old structures are still being utilized and preserved.

The final leg of our eastern seaboard adventure took us through **Maine** and again we were so taken in by the quaint charm of the villages and the friendly people. Since the campgrounds here had yet to open for the season our "overnights were in some pretty amazing travel centers that accommodate all types of vehicles, each in their own area with a central building housing fast food kiosks, small gift shop and information area.

We crossed the border back into Canada at a tiny crossing, **Calais Maine** with a lovely young lady attending to us and then we were in **St. Stephen New Brunswick** heading back across Canada. Five wonderful months covering unquestionably some of the highest highlights on our bucket list, so ended what was to us an epic journey through the southern and northern coastal US. The final leg would take in stops in northern Ontario visiting family, Manitoba visiting friends, one month in Alberta (our previous home) for business, family and friends, and finally a month on lovely Vancouver Island; and we have to say that for the majority of our nine months away, the weather was so cooperative it was almost eerie - **22,500 Km** - and we're home! Now we have visited all but five states including Alaska, in the US and still have the Territories to visit in Canada.



## Ellen Doty Comes To Sonoma Pines



On January 8, 2016 at 7:00 pm Ellen Doty, a soulful Canadian vocalist and songwriter will perform at the Sonoma Pines Clubhouse. Her music is rooted in jazz, yet seamlessly incorporates elements of other genres including folk and pop. Rich, sultry, and sweet, Ellen's voice draws listeners in and takes them on an unforgettable journey. Tickets are \$20.00 per person and will go on sale November 1. Email Pauline at [pemarshall@me.com](mailto:pemarshall@me.com) to purchase your tickets. Tickets will also be sold at the Happy Hour in November. Cash only please. BYOB.



## Remembrance Day

In late September this year I found myself in Ottawa. A visit to The War Memorial was a must, as was The Canadian War Museum with "Lest We Forget" inscribed in Morse Code on the roof. Downtown, on the sidewalk directly across from the Chateau Laurier hotel, was a most unusual, weatherproof art exhibit sponsored by Canadian Heritage and The Canadian War Museum, with the assistance of The Commonwealth Graves Commission, Canadian Agency. As we approach November 11th. this year I decided to share these photos with SP residents.

November 11th Services will be at The Royal LePage Community Centre in West Kelowna. Please arrive by 10:00 am for the Parade, followed by the Service inside at 11:00 am (must be seated well before 11:00 am) In Peachland the November 11th Service will be held in the Community Centre (Recreation Centre). Those attending are asked to be seated by 10:30 a.m. since this is always a very crowded service and seating is limited. All are welcome at the Peachland Legion #69 following the Service.

We all know the poem of Lt. Col. John McCrae  
*"In Flanders Field the poppies blow  
 Between the crosses row on row,  
 That mark our place: and in the sky  
 The larks still bravely singing fly  
 Scarce heard amid the guns below. " ...*

Most of you will want to attend one of these Remembrance Day Services, or watch direct from Ottawa on television.

To all who have made the supreme sacrifice and to all those who fought under such difficult circumstances for this incredible freedom that we have in Canada -  
 Thank you!  
*We Will Remember Them*



painting by Vivian Cummings



The Canadian War Memorial



"Lest We Forget" in Morse Code on the roof of the Canadian Military Museum



Art Exhibit on the street - poppies







Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b>	Yoga 9am <b>2</b>	Quilting Club <b>3</b> 9am - 12pm LL  Cribbage 7pm	Yoga 9am <b>4</b> Canasta 1pm	<b>5</b> SPHOA Council 9am Ladies Shopping 4pm Clem Girardin Old Time Dance Music 7pm	Musical Jam <b>6</b> Session 1pm	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>	Yoga 9am <b>9</b>	Quilting Club <b>10</b> 9am - 12pm LL  Cribbage 7pm	Yoga 9am <b>11</b> Canasta 1pm	<b>12</b> Camera Club 1:30pm	Happy Hour 4pm <b>13</b> BYOB	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>	Yoga 9am <b>16</b>	Quilting Club <b>17</b> 9am - 12pm LL  Cribbage 7pm	Yoga 9am <b>18</b> Canasta 1pm Suds Club 7pm	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Town Hall Meeting 10am
<b>22</b>	Yoga 9am <b>23</b>	Quilting Club <b>24</b> 9am - 12pm LL  Cribbage 7pm Social Committee Meeting 10pm	Yoga 9am <b>25</b> Canasta 1pm	<b>26</b> Camera Club 1:30pm upstairs	Private Function <b>27</b> 4pm	<b>28</b>
Grey Cup <b>29</b> Party Potluck 4pm 	Yoga 9am <b>30</b>					

## Upcoming Special Events

**November 5**  
Ladies Shopping 4pm

**November 21**  
Town Hall Meeting

**November 29**  
Grey Cup  
Party Potluck



**December 11**  
Christmas Happy Hour

**December 31**  
New Year's Dance



**New Garbage Pickup  
Dates Effective  
August 31, 2015**

the schedule is as follows:

**Garbage**

Every Monday starting  
August 31

**Recycling**

Every *other* Monday  
starting August 31 (i.e.  
Aug. 31st, Sept. 14th,  
Sept. 28th, etc.)

## Sonoma Pines Activities & Contacts

**Clubhouse Cleaning  
every Sunday.**

Upper from 11am to 2pm  
Lower from 2 to 4:30pm  
Gym from 2 to 4:30pm

**Photography Club**

Lyle and Karen Larrigan  
250-768-2555

[heritageimaging@shaw.ca](mailto:heritageimaging@shaw.ca)

**Quilting**

Gaye Hunter at  
250 768-0996

**Painting Club**

Glen Heming

[250-768-0991](tel:250-768-0991)

[glenheming@telus.net](mailto:glenheming@telus.net)

**To place notices, on the Bulletin Board, please contact:  
Leslie Asselstine at 778-754-1397 or drop off the item at 2163 Serrento Lane**

If you are interested in past  
copies of the Newsletter or  
more information on

The Sonoma Pines  
Community please check  
out the website at:

[sonomapines.info](http://sonomapines.info)