



An Update From Your Council

As we move into the 2015 we wanted to share with the owners in Sonoma Pines some of the key changes your council is introducing to ensure there is more opportunity for all owners to influence the budget, our priorities and the bylaws that make Sonoma Pines one of the most desirable communities in the Okanagan Valley.

There will be a series of “Town Hall” meetings, leading up to the Annual General Meeting that is scheduled for May 28 in the Lions Hall in West Kelowna. Each Town Hall meeting will have a specific focus and provide an opportunity for all owners to express an opinion and help shape the direction of our community. We will try to schedule the Town Hall meetings for Saturday mornings to accommodate as many owners as possible. Those that are enjoying the winter down south can provide input through email and there will be a wrap-up town hall in mid April.

By the time this is published we will have had one town hall meeting related to parking. The input from this meeting and all submissions by email will be incorporated into the draft parking bylaw that will be further distributed and included in the AGM agenda.

The next Town Hall meeting scheduled for Feb 07 will focus on Landscaping issues

and the draft guidelines tabled in the January Council meeting will be reviewed. The Landscaping Committee has been very active over the past while to establish some standards that residents of both single family and multifamily homes can understand and our landscaping contractors can deliver on.

There will be two more Town Hall Meeting scheduled for the March & April time frame but the dates have not yet confirmed. The March meeting will focus on budget planning and will be an opportunity for citizens to provide input on what council should be doing next year. In addition this is where owners can tell us what they think we should be doing over the next 2 or 3 years or more that we can include on our planning horizon. The April town hall meeting will focus on the bylaws that will be tabled at the AGM and we can hope to get most of the details cleaned up in advance.

The Finance Committee in concert with APM will be starting the budget preparation in February and expect each committee will be bringing forward priorities that council will need to incorporate. The clear focus of all our budget activity is to ensure our strata fees are adequate for our needs and we don't get surprised.

The key overriding aspect of the work being undertaken by your council is the expectation that our developer, Rykon, is very close to being complete and a transition of the final stages and ultimately the whole complex may happen faster than was planned.

If you have any question, comments or ideas you would like to share you can see any of your council, attend a town hall meeting or send us an email.

Rob Taylor (robt.strata@gmail.com)

Charlie Milazzo


(charliem.strata@gmail.com)

Jo-Anne Luchka (joluchka@gmail.com)

Karen Dickie (karenjdickie@shaw.ca)

John Scott (jdsconfig650@gmail.com)

Update On Carrington and Sonoma Pines Intersection

This continues to be a concern for the residents of Sonoma Pines. 

We wanted to let you know there have been discussions and although not at glacial speeds, things are progressing.

The current status, based on a discussion with Westbank First Nation engineering is that the BC Ministry Of Transportation and Infrastructure will be evaluating traffic analysis of this location. WFN will

Cont'd on page 2

Inside this Issue

Community Spirit	page 2
Town Hall Meetings	page 2
Interesting Websites	page 2
Valentine's Happy Hour	page 3
Around Home Tips	page 3
Sonoma Pines Map	page 3
Clubhouse Booking Agent	page 3
New Years Bash	page 4
Snowshoe and Photo Club	page 4
Calendar	page 5

Sonoma Pines Website and Sonoma Sun Newsletter

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.

Community Spirit in Sonoma Pines

The recent record snowfall has resulted in many acts of kindness throughout our community. There have been many stuck cars that neighbours have helped push and dig out. Many driveways have been cleared by friends and neighbours, in some cases, repeatedly. One resident out walking her dog found keys that were returned to the grateful owner through a process that included our clubhouse key-fob manager.

The volunteers who get involved, shovel, push and simply do the right thing are a tribute to our community spirit that makes many of us proud to say that we are residents of Sonoma Pines.

Rob Taylor, President,
Sonoma Pines Home Owners Association



Photo courtesy of Karen Larrigan

Sonoma Pines Town Hall Meetings



Photo courtesy Lyle Larrigan

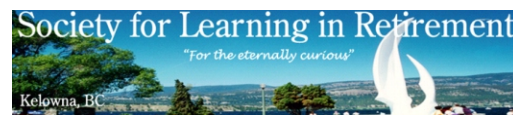
A successful meeting was held on January 17 at the Clubhouse to discuss proposed changes to the parking regulations. There were about 70 residents in attendance and an excellent exchange took place with many Sonoma residents airing questions and concerns. Members of Sonoma Pines Council were on hand and the feedback received at the meeting will be passed on to all of Council for their consideration.

We will be having our next Town Hall to discuss new landscaping guidelines on February 7th 10:00 am at the Clubhouse. Hope to see you there.

Interesting Websites For Retirees



Here are 2 links residents might enjoy - please note that I have no affiliations with either one of these groups. I am a young retiree and have enjoyed reading their newsletters for the past few years. They give a positive outlook on aging that we often forget or even know about.



Society for Learning in Retirement Kelowna

<http://www.slrkelowna.ca/Courses.html>
They offer a wide variety of courses that might be of interest to some. Very few people know about the organization.

The Positive Aging News Letter

<http://www.taosinstitute.net/positive-aging-newsletter>

Enjoy...

Suzanne Swaré, Sonoma Pines

Intersection

Cont'd from page 1



Also be issuing an RFP for quotes to get an understanding of the costs associated with a traffic circle at Carrington and Sonoma Pines, along with another at the Carrington & Elk road. WFN are aware of

the development plans being considered for both the vacant lands adjacent to Sonoma Pines Drive and the impact this may have on future traffic patterns. They have advised that there are potential solutions to mitigate traffic flow such as simple 4 way stops or adding traffic calming designs to reduce the speed of traffic along Carrington, that may well be used before a traffic circle is built.

The Sonoma Pines Safety & Security Committee has also met with MOT and is part of any ongoing dialog. In addition, we have engaged our WFN Advisory Council to help with the priorities of this project. If you have any questions please direct them to one of your members of council.



Letters



Please send your comments and letters to sonomapinesnews@gmail.com



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Check out our website at 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

Valentines Happy Hour Potluck Dinner

Friday February 13th is our Valentines Happy Hour. Instead of an appetizer we are planning a potluck dinner. As this is a dinner, if you are unable to bring a dish, the cost will be \$7.00 per person for this event. The time will be from 4pm - 8pm. Feel free to bring your favourite dish to share and don't forget to bring your Sweetheart or just come by yourself. We will have our chocolate fountain so you can indulge your sweet tooth. Please bring your own refreshments. Mark your calendars! EDD.



Sonoma Pines Map

Look no further for a complete map of Sonoma Pines. You can find one on our website by clicking here. <http://www.sonomapines.info/map-of-sonoma-pines/> Thanks to Rob Taylor for getting this put together.

Sonoma Pines Irrigation Committee

In a complex as large as ours in the Okanagan, irrigation is bound to present some challenges. Sonoma Pines Council has set up an irrigation committee under the leadership of Charlie Milazzo. If you are interested in helping out please contact Charlie at charliem.strata@gmail.com

Booking Agent For The Clubhouse

We are looking for a booking agent. This person will help out the Clubhouse Committee with bookings of rental events for Sonoma Pines residents and ensure those bookings are added to the Clubhouse Calendar. If you are interested in helping out please contact Charlie at charliem.strata@gmail.com

Sonoma Pines Around the Home Tips Carpet Stain Removal



The other afternoon our little red wiener dog (Oscar) found the After Eight mints we had bought for Christmas and by the time we noticed what he was he was up to he had already eaten ten of them. After watching him for several hours to make sure he wasn't showing any signs of sickness we left to meet some friends for dinner.

Upon returning home for coffee and desert we discovered that Oscar had not been able to digest all those chocolate mints - so he decided to leave us a big chocolate surprise on our new beige living room carpet right in front of the fireplace.

We immediately tried to remove the chocolate mess using our old standby – Oxi Clean. However after about half an hour of wetting and blotting we finally gave up with at least half the stain still remaining.

Now here's the good news – our friends asked us if we had ever tried a product called Formula 101. They said they were

sure it would get our chocolate stain out as they had used it successfully on their carpets to remove red wine and coffee stains. So bright and early the next morning we dropped by our friend's house to pick some up. When we returned home we sprayed Formula 101 on the stain, worked it in, blotted it out and to our amazement the stain was virtually gone.

So if you have a carpet stain that won't come out, or just want to have something on hand in case you spill something in the new year, just Google "Formula 101 cleaner" to find their website and how to buy it. You can also try going directly to their website www.formula101.tv however you may have some trouble (like I did) using this website address.

When you visit the Formula 101 website it will tell you about the other cleaning applications it has. It also says it is 100% biodegradable, non-toxic, non-corrosive, PH balanced and manufactured right here in West Kelowna.

Norm Asselstine, Sonoma Pines



Sonoma Pines New Years Eve Bash



Janet Johnson & Bob Waterfield



Sandi McIlavish and her guests
Karla and Bruce Thompson from Red Deer, Alberta



Markets may change. Good investing advice is timeless.

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Sonoma Pines Logo Contest

We have a few ideas but are looking for more. Can you describe what Sonoma Pines is all about? Now we are looking for a community slogan or tagline which best exemplifies why you live here. As part of the Sonoma Pines brand we would like to have a distinctive logo and slogan on our publications, stationary and any official documentation.

Every homeowner in Sonoma Pines has an opportunity to contribute. We ask that you submit your slogan along with your name and phone number by March 15 to sonomapinesnews@gmail.com



Sonoma Pines Camera Club – January 15, 2014

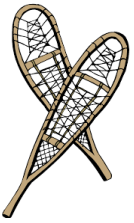


From l to r: Lyle Larrigan, Anne Marleau, Kate Fawcett, Pauline Marshall, Jim Marshall & Gaye Hunter. Photo: Karen Larrigan

The first meeting of the Sonoma Pines Camera Club was held on January 15th in the Sonoma Pines Club House. There were eight people at the meeting with three more who are currently out-of-country. Six are shown in the group photograph taken by Karen Larrigan. The next meeting will be on February 12th with subsequent meetings to be on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month from 1:30 to approximately 3:30. Photographers of all skill levels (beginner to advanced) are welcome.

For more information contact Lyle Larrigan at 250-768-2555.

Snowshoe Club Update



The Snowshoe Club has been exploring local mountains as snow conditions have improved to awesome. Here is the latest information: The schedule shows the date, meeting time at the venue (times vary), snowshoeing venue; trail name, distance and estimated hiking time.

SCHEDULE

Wednesday February 11, 10:00 am

-Kelowna Nordic (McCulloch), Snowy Hilton Trail, 12 km, 4 hours *****

Friday February 20, 10:00 am

-Telemark Nordic, Jack Creek Trail, 10 km, 3 hours.

Wednesday February 25, 10:00 am

-Telemark Nordic, Panorama Trail, 8 km, 2.5 hours.

In most cases there are short cuts to reduce distance if you prefer a shorter route. Anyone wanting to car pool should send an email to the group to organize; otherwise we will meet at the Telemark Chalet at the time shown.

The February 11 trip to Kelowna Nordic (McCulloch) is approximately a one-hour drive from Sonoma Pines. We will definitely organize carpool. Bring a lunch and we plan to pack it with you on the hike! We will snowshoe to the warming hut (about half way) and eat lunch before making our way back to the start. There are no snowshoe rentals available at Kelowna Nordic so other arrangements must be made in advance.



George, Gail, Pauline and Jim.

More pics on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/sonomapinesresident>

If you have an SP neighbour who is interested, please invite them to join us.

Any questions ???

George Forshaw

gfsquaredf@gmail.com

CPR Course At Sonoma Pines Clubhouse

If you are interested in signing up for a CPR Course at the clubhouse this coming spring let us know and we will add your name to the list.

CPR A with AED

This course teaches adult resuscitation only and is suitable for adult caregivers, family members, seniors, high school teachers, coaches (for adults) and the general public. There is no written examination.

Course content includes:

- roles and responsibilities
- adult resuscitation (1 and 2 rescuer CPR, automated external defibrillation (AED), and first aid for choking)
- use of universal precautions including gloves and pocket mask

Cost of the course: \$39.

Sonoma Pines Activities & Contacts

ATV Enthusiasts
Glen Lesmeister
250-707-1151
glesmeis@shaw.ca

Photography Club
Lyle and Karen Larrigan
250-768-2555
heritageimaging@shaw.ca

Quilting
Gaye Hunter at
250 768-0996

Snowshoe Club
George Forshaw
250 768-8070
gfsquaredf@gmail.com

Something New!
Big White Car Pool
mcnichol@shaw.ca

February 2015 SONOMA PINES Calendar of Events Page 5

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Yoga 9am	3 Quilting Club 9am - 12pm LL Cribbage 7pm	4 Yoga 9am Canasta 1:00pm	5 Pool 7-9pm	6 SPHOA Council Meeting 9am	7 SPHOA Townhall Meeting Landscaping Guidelines 10 am
8	9 Yoga 9am	10 Quilting Club 9am - 12pm LL Cribbage 7pm	11 Yoga 9am Canasta 1:00pm	12 Camera Club 1:30 pm Pool 7-9pm	13  4pm Valentines Pot Luck Happy Hour	14
15	16 Yoga 9am	17 Quilting Club 9am - 12pm LL Cribbage 7pm	18 Yoga 9am Canasta 1:00pm	19 Pool 7-9pm	20	21
22	23 Yoga 9am	24 Quilting Club 9am - 12pm LL Cribbage 7pm	25 Yoga 9am Canasta 1:00pm	26 Camera Club 1:30 pm Pool 7-9pm	27 Happy Hour 4-8pm	28

Upcoming Special Events

SPHOA Council Meeting
February 6, 9:00 am
Clubhouse

SPHOA Townhall Meeting
Proposed Landscaping
Guidelines
February 7, 10:00 am
Clubhouse

Valentines Potluck
Happy Hour
February 13, 4 -8:00 PM
Clubhouse



Clubhouse Cleaning every Sunday.

Upper from 11:00 to 2:00 am. Lower from 2:00 to 4:30 pm

Gym closed from 2:00 to 4:30 pm

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