



Sonoma Pines Dragon Boat Racers! by Mary Trueman

There are interesting people here at Sonoma Pines doing all sorts of interesting things. Adrienne and Farrell Louie are two such residents. Over an hour went by in absolutely no time when I interviewed Adrienne Louie about the Louies' Dragon Boat Racing. Adrienne's enthusiasm is positively infectious: it was almost enough to make me want to try it myself. Almost.

Adrienne is on two Dragon Boat racing teams, the all women 'Valley Vixens', and Farrell and Adrienne are both on the mixed team, 'High Frequency'. I went to the 'High Frequency' practise on a Wednesday night, talked to several team members and got photos of the team, all high energy and committed to paddling/racing. It's great exercise for one's core, but not good for anyone with rotator cuff problems. There are 20 paddlers, 1 coach/drummer, and 1 steersman on each team. A highly coordinated human paddling 'machine'.

Adrienne told me that it is thanks to a man named Ivan, who kept nagging at City Hall, that there is such a large group of Dragon Boat racers in Kelowna today. I met Ivan and talked to him - a remarkable person. "Did you know?" he said, "that we have a Seniors' Dragon Boat team too and their average age is 76. They are dedicated and proficient paddlers and they are winners at the B.C. Seniors Games competitions."

What does all this fun on the water cost I asked? According to Adrienne one needs to own a life jacket and a paddle. It's \$200



**"High Frequency"
Dragon Boat Racing Team**



**On Lake Okanagan
at Kelowna**

a season to cover the practises, and they do fundraisers for travel expenses, hotel costs and entry fees for competitions outside of Kelowna (Penticton, Kamloops, Steveston, Seattle & Kent, WA.) Some of the entry fees can be as high as \$1500. There's a "Spirit Team" that goes overseas to competitions (China, for example) but the costs are so high that the costs have to be borne by individuals who can personally afford to go. I think a love of

being on the water in almost all kinds of weather, enjoying a team sport, a life jacket, a paddle and \$200 will get you started - oh, and a "bum pad", water shoes, and tee-shirt too. That's the basics. The Dragon Boat paddlers are a diverse group, according to Adrienne, all ages, nationalities, and all having lots of fun. If you think you may like it, why not give it a try? A life jacket and paddle can be borrowed to give it a try! It looks like a lot of fun to me.

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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.



Council News

There was lots of activity at the first Council meeting of our 2015/16 fiscal year. It is shaping up to be an exciting year with a full compliment of councillors and a number of new initiatives. We will be focusing on service levels from our contractors, streamlining some of our operational processes, implementing maintenance & infrastructure standards and providing homeowners with better access to information.

The first [council minutes](#) outline the new council roles and committee portfolios. If you are interested in helping out in any of the committees please contact Jo Luchka at joluchka@gmail.com.

Also if you missed the AGM in June, the minutes of the AGM are published on the website www.sonomapines.info as well as our new insurance contract.

[SPHOA AGM Minutes June 2015](#)

[SP Multi Family Association Minutes June 2015](#)



The Annual General Meeting was well attended and went so smoothly and efficiently that both meetings were over by 8:08 pm.

Alteration Request

Reminder to Home Owners:

Please check our bylaws regarding renovations or alterations. The majority of alterations (see excerpt from our Rules and Regulations, below) require an approved Alteration Request (which is available on the sonomapines.info website) before commencement of alterations. Failure to obtain the appropriate approval could result in:

- order to reverse alteration, at owners expense.
- reversal of alteration by HOA, and subsequently charged to home owner.
- fine

The contractor hired should be provided a copy of the approved alteration request.

SCHEDULE E SONOMA PINES RULES AND REGULATIONS:

EFFECTIVE JULY 2005 (With Amendments - August 2006, October 2006, May 2009, May 2014)

Obtain approval before altering a lot

6. (1) An owner must obtain the written approval of SPHOM before making an alteration to a lot that involves any of the following:

- (a) the structure of a building;
 - (b) the exterior of a building including the color of the building;
 - (c) chimneys, stairs, balconies or other things attached to the exterior of a building;
 - (d) doors, windows or skylights on the exterior of a building;
 - (e) fences, railings or similar structures that enclose a patio, balcony or yard;
 - (f) common property located within the boundaries of a lot;
 - (g) those parts of the lot which the SPHOM must insure;
 - (h) removal or addition of vegetation, planting of any hedges or trees, except for annuals and perennials.
- All trees planted by homeowners must not exceed 3 meters when grown to maturity. (Added May 2009)

(i) Acceptable Satellite Dish & Antennae locations.

- a) 24" or less in diameter (dish) (Amended May 2009)
- b) Board approval is required before installation (Added October, 2006)

Note to Multi-Family Owners:

Common area for multi-family units is defined as anything that is passed the halfway through the wall definition. This means that the outside of the building you live in is all common property, therefore, alterations agreements are required to add anything to the outside of the building; including hose reels, decorations, shrub and trees. The irrigation system is all common property **and is not to be tampered with.**

SPHOA Council

Letters



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



Locally owned and operated by Steve & Sara Corothers

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

Dear Residents:

It seems there has been some confusion lately about who to contact regarding various questions and concerns.

Contacting the wrong party can result in delays to your concern being addressed. APM and the SPHOA Council are not involved with Rykon's service procedures, and vice versa. Therefore please contact **ONLY** the appropriate party, as sending your concern/request to multiple parties simply bogs down all correspondence channels, and again causes delays.

RYKON CONSTRUCTION:

- For service requests regarding your home, please contact Rykon Construction in writing, by email at service@sonomapines.com or by submitting a service request online, at www.sonomapines.com. If it turns out that the request includes items that are non-warrantable, Rykon will advise you of this and direct you to the appropriate contacts.
- For service requests regarding installation of landscaping within the first year from the occupancy date, please contact Rykon Construction in writing, by email at service@sonomapines.com or by submitting a service request online, at www.sonomapines.com. Landscape installation is warranted for one year, by Rykon Construction. [After one year, multi-family owners should contact APM with these concerns. After one year, single family owners are responsible for the repair of their own yard/landscaping.]
- Any construction site related question/concern should be directed to Rykon Construction.

ASSOCIATED PROPERTY MANAGEMENT:

- Please contact Greg Bickert at Associated Property Management (APM) at sonomapines@associatedpm.ca regarding:
 - o Landscape maintenance (mowing/pruning/weeding/fertilizing/irrigation)
 - o Landscape repair (only for multi-family homeowners after one year warranty has expired)
 - o HOA fees and services (including water, sewer, recycling, garbage, snow removal, street sweeping, etc.)
 - o Alteration requests/correspondence
 - o Community related questions and concerns
 - o Multi-family insurance
 - o Bylaws and Rules/Regulations
 - o RV Parking (APM manages both the Upper Lot, on behalf of SPHOA, and the Lower Lot, on behalf of Carrington Road Holdings Ltd.)
 - o Any concern which you wish to be addressed by SPHOA Council

UNITED LANDSCAPING:

- Please address your landscaping questions/concerns as directed above.
- Please do not contact the office of United Landscaping directly.
- Please do not approach landscape workers on-site regarding questions/concerns (these on-site conversations are not documented, and may not be followed up).

OTHER CONTRACTORS:

- Please address concerns with private contractors in the community (such as garbage removal, snow removal, etc.) to Associated Property Management.
- Please address concerns with construction trades to Rykon Construction.



Markets may change. Good investing advice is timeless.

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The Huge Garage Sale Was A Success!

The garage sale with over 70 houses participating was very successful. A profit of close to \$750 was realized. It looks easy but it's a heck of a lot of work. Thanks to Lorna and all the volunteers that pulled it off.



Larry McLavish and Gerry McNichol provided the hot dogs and fix'ns.

Rykon Barbeque July 24th

"The Rykon team looks forward to hosting the annual Residents BBQ again, at 12 noon on July 24th at the Clubhouse. Catering by Neil Martens and his staff from the always fantastic 19 Okanagan Bar + Grill. Kimberly Burns will be taking maternity leave in September, so come by for a delicious burger, and say hello this summer!"



Sonoma Pines July 31 Happy Hour Art Appreciation



Join us at the Clubhouse to admire the beautiful art created by our residents.

Featuring:

paintings to adorn your home, jewelry to die for,
 quilts to brighten your day & night, finely carved wood-craft to cherish,
 beautiful photographs to keep, outdoor sculptures for your garden,
 a published book on 'healthcare' to energize your life,
 and much more

Most items will be for sale (cash or cheque)

Door prizes, Raffle draws, and lots of Fun

The show begins at 4:00 pm

Friday July 31, 2015

As usual, bring our own beverages and don't forget your favourite appetizer to share with the starving artists, otherwise \$5.00 entry per person.

For further information, contact
 Ed Dorosz edndenise@telus.net or 778-754-1238 or www.sonomapines.info

Golf Tournament & Dinner Announced



Bookings for the Sunday September 20 SP golf tournament & dinner are now available. The game will be limited to 80 players (20 teams of 4) with T-times starting at 1 pm. If you don't have your own foursome, we'll put teams together. The organizing committee is finalizing the 'form of play', but will ensure fun for players of all skill levels including novices. This will be a 'rain or shine' event.

A catered gourmet dinner with tastes to suit everyone will be served at the SP Clubhouse that evening. This year's event will be BYOB. Though it reduces the proceeds for the fund-raising event, it results in a lower overall cost for the participants and creates less work for the already-busy volunteers. Fun prizes will be available for everyone to win.

Bookings are limited to SP residents only. The dinner-only option is available for 15 non-golfers and only to those of golfing spouses/partners. Golf & dinner prices are \$75 and the dinner only for \$40. To avoid disappointment, make your bookings now (cash or cheque only) by calling Jean Scheidl tel# 778-754-1884 or Hazel Wolski tel# 250-768-3546.

Painting Club

Our new Painting Club will be meeting every Thursday starting April 14th, from 9:00am – noon, in the clubhouse multi-purpose room. It is an opportunity for painters in all mediums and at all levels to meet and share their art creation experience. "By sharing and encouraging we all make good paintings better."

The contact person is Glen Heming [250-768-0991](tel:250-768-0991), and his email address is glenheming@telus.net





Have You Had Your Water Pressure Checked Lately?

For the December, 2014, issue of the *Sonoma Sun*, my 'good neighbor' Norm Asselstine, had written an article in which he outlined a water pressure problem that he and his immediate neighbor recently had corrected. The problem was that the **Water Pressure Regulator** (which we all have) had failed and was allowing the water pressure to increase to a dangerous level. All three of our toilets were making unusual after-fill noises. Norm came down to our home with his water pressure meter and discovered that

our water pressure had risen to about 120 PSI (pounds per square inch) instead of the usual 40 to 60 PSI.

Because high water pressures are a significant cause of very damaging household floods, the Maintenance Committee of Sonoma Pines decided that most homes should have their water pressure regulators tested. To that end other 'good neighbors' in Sonoma Pine's answered the call and have tested the pressure of the majority of homes. One of these testers was Glen Heming, pictured here, who tested 170 homes himself.

Supposedly the water pressure regulators have a life expectancy of about ten years but several that have been replaced in the last year had only lasted between five

and six years. If you want to test the water pressure yourself each year you can buy an appropriate tester gauge for under \$20.00. Home Depot stocks the pressure gauges. See the photo of a tester that does the job.

Further information from the Maintenance Committee will follow as necessary.

Lyle Larrigan



Sonoma Pines Homeowners Association (SPHOA) Irrigation Committee

At the request of Council, the irrigation component of landscaping operations is to be handled by a separate volunteer committee, and to coordinate with the Landscaping Committee on overlapping issues.

Founding members are Charlie Milazzo (Chair and Council rep), Shannon Dickie, Dan Nedelec, Ivars Dravinskis and Dennis Storer. And we welcomed Judith Gregson as a recent addition. Our first activity was developing an updated the Irrigation System map.

The committee started in late January and formulated a Terms of Reference which includes facilitating, prioritizing and tracking progress on homeowner's irrigation service requests, and through our Property Manager, directing the Irrigation Service Provider during Spring startup, Summer operations and Fall shutdown.

The committee also is charged with controlling irrigation costs, initiating and tracking emergency response to such issues as broken water pipes that could cause property damage and excessive water consumption, recommending to Council future upgrades and replacements, maintaining the safety and security of the irrigation system and encouraging water conservation.



This Spring the committee has prepared a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Council approval to secure an Irrigation Service Provider for the next and subsequent years.

The committee goal is to address irrigation issues through maintenance and review of a "hot list" arising from service requests submitted by homeowners to our property manager. So, Homeowners, if you notice an irrigation problem please email sonomapines@associatedpm.ca with the details. We prefer that homeowners do not tamper with the system and our service provider repairs the problem to make sure the overall integrity of the system is maintained.

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

Mowing/Fertilizing Schedule



Here is the fertilizing schedule for the **week of June 29th**. Due to the Wednesday being a holiday, we are going to start mowing and fertilizing on the Monday already but the fertilizer will not begin until the afternoon so that the mowers can get well ahead. (this is weather dependant of course)

Mowing:

Tuesday's mowing will be re-scheduled for the Monday. Wednesday's mowing will be re-scheduled for the Tuesday. Thursday will be back to normal schedule.

Fertilizing:

Monday – Entrance, Mesa Vista, Pine Vista, Single Family homes on Sonoma Pines Drive.

Tuesday – Multi-family homes on Sonoma Pines Drive, Solana Place, Terrero Place

Wednesday – Holiday

Thursday – Serrento Lane, Candalerra Place, Alvarado Trail, Siringo and Madera

Friday – Talavera, Del Mar and Verona

Shelley Koehler

Director of Client Services

250.860.3753

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-----------|--|---|---|---|--|------------------|
| | Men's Golf Back Nine and Breakfast 7am Yoga 9am | Quilting Club 9am - 12pm LL Cribbage 7pm | Canada Day BBQ1 Happy Hour Yoga 9am Canasta 1pm Canasta 7pm | Men's Golf Back Nine 7am Painting Club LL 9am Mah Jong 1pm | Sonoma Pines Ladies Golf | |
| 5 | Men's Golf Back Nine and Breakfast 7am Yoga 9am | Quilting Club 9am - 12pm LL Cribbage 7pm | Yoga 9am Canasta 1pm Canasta 7pm | Men's Golf Back Nine 7am Painting Club LL 9am SPHOA Council Meeting UL 9am Mah Jong 1pm | Sonoma Pines Ladies Golf | |
| 12 | Men's Golf Back Nine and Breakfast 7am Yoga 9am | Quilting Club 9am - 12pm LL Cribbage 7pm | Yoga 9am Canasta 1pm Canasta 7pm | Men's Golf Back Nine 7am Painting Club LL 9am Mah Jong 1pm | Sonoma Pines Ladies Golf Happy Hour 4-8pm | Private Function |
| 19 | Men's Golf Back Nine and Breakfast 7am Yoga 9am | Quilting Club 9am - 12pm LL Cribbage 7pm | Yoga 9am Canasta 1pm Canasta 7pm | Men's Golf Back Nine 7am Painting Club LL 9am Mah Jong 1pm | Sonoma Pines Ladies Golf Rykon BBQ 12 noon | |
| 26 | Men's Golf Back Nine and Breakfast 7am Yoga 9am | Quilting Club 9am - 12pm LL Cribbage 7pm | Yoga 9am Canasta 1pm Canasta 7pm | Men's Golf Back Nine 7am Painting Club LL 9am Mah Jong 1pm | Sonoma Pines Ladies Golf Art Appreciation Happy Hour 4-8pm | |

Upcoming Special Events

July 1
Canada Day BBQ
Happy Hour



July 24
Rykon BBQ



July 31
Art Appreciation
Happy Hour



August 9
Car Rally



September 20
Sonoma Pines Golf Tourney



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

Quilting

Gaye Hunter at
250 768-0996

Painting Club

Glen Heming

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

glenheming@telus.net

**To place notices, on the Bulletin Board, please contact:
Charlie Milazzo at 778 754 1000 or drop off the item at 2150 Alvarado Trail**