



THE ORIGIN OF ST. VALENTINE'S DAY

The holiday's roots are in the ancient Roman festival of Lupercalia, a fertility celebration commemorated annually on February 15.

Pope Gelasius I recast this pagan festival as a Christian feast day circa 496, declaring the date be changed to February 14.

One account was that Saint Valentine of Rome was imprisoned for performing secret weddings for soldiers who were forbidden to marry. It was felt that single men made better soldiers than family men. He also administered to Christians who were persecuted under the Roman Empire. According to legend, during his imprisonment, Saint Valentine healed the daughter of his jailer and before his execution; he wrote her a letter

signed "Your Valentine" as a farewell. Since the 19th Century handwritten valentines have given way to mass produced greeting cards. Flowers, candy, red hearts and romantic dinners have emerged as an expression of affection.

Traditionally, on Valentine's Day in a leap year, every four years, women can propose marriage to their partner. It is not a public holiday in any country!!

**HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY
EVERYONE**



COMMUNITY SPIRIT IN ACTION!!!

Many thanks to Good Samaritans **Darrell Bellamy** and **Ken Smith** who without being asked or reimbursed shovel many residents driveways. I didn't ask how many they do but know it's considerable. They do this for people who they know are not able or are away.

They have had their work cut out in January. This is another example of community spirit in Sonoma Pines.

Thanks guys from an appreciative resident. **D. Murray**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED!!

As the New Year begins, and Sonoma Pines emerges from the challenges of an unusually cool winter, there will be much work to do on behalf of the community.

We need talented individuals who can give their volunteer time to committee work to help our community operate in a timely, efficient and effective manner.

We particularly need help in the Communications Committee, the Administrative Advisory Committee
Call John Cole at 778-754-7265 or email eloconsult@klondiker.com

Library News

If you use the Sonoma Pines Library you may have noticed that there is no longer a "sign in sheet". The library committee has decided to discontinue this as we now have six months of data collected.

What the sign up sheets indicated is that on average 60-70 people signed the sheet per month and between 130-170 books were withdrawn. Thank you to everyone who remembered to sign in. As we can see, the library is well utilized.

We have a new volunteer on our committee who is solely looking after puzzles, removing those that have never

cont'd on page 2

Inside this Issue

Paint'N'Spirits	page 2
Aspiring Musicians	page 3
Upcoming Events	page 3

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.

cont'd from page 1

been taken out and adding new ones. If you are donating puzzles, please make sure all pieces are in the box. Thank you Bev for taking on this task.

We welcome any suggestions you may have for the library. We take each recommendation seriously and as a committee we try and figure out whether we can make it work. Sometimes the suggestions are not always achievable as we cannot think of an easy way to incorporate the idea. But keep suggestions coming in...

Happy Reading!!



Bunnies

Thursday, February 2nd
from 2-4pm



Winter Birch

Tuesday, February 7th - from 7-9pm

Paint'N'Spirits

Hi Sonoma Pines Community, ... my name is Laurie Hoas, and I live on Alvarado Trail. I am offering a fun and easy painting party that I call "Paint'N'Spirits" (which involves sipping some wine if you wish)and painting a fun picture!



So you say you can't draw a stick man???? You will be pleasantly surprised to follow simple instructions, have some fun, and go home with a 'uniquely yours' painting to be proud of. I supply everything except the wine....don't forget to BYOB.

I work with small groups of 6 people in my home or yours. Come meet some new friends, or get a group of 6 of your friends together and host a painting party at your house. The price is a bargain at \$25.

For the February 22nd class I am going to offer 2 choices. Whichever one gets the most votes will be done that night. If the other one is just as popular, I will make another night or afternoon available for that class. Here are your 2 choices. Please call me or go to the Sonoma Pines Facebook page to vote in the comments.

Please call me to join one of these **Paint'n'Spirits** classes, or to get more information. You can see information on the Sonoma Pines facebook site as well.

I am looking for input.....What would you like to paint??? Suggestions are always welcome!

Laurie 250-768-2610



'Rainbow Ferns'
or **'Turtle'**



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Sonoma Pines Calendar Of Events

Calendar click here: <http://www.sonomapines.info/calendar/>



Happy Hour

Our second Happy Hour will be **Friday January 27th** from 4pm–7pm.

Please bring an appetizer to share, but if you are unable to the cost will be \$5.00 per person. We do try to encourage people to bring a dish to ensure we have enough for everyone. We will supply the dessert. Please bring your own refreshments. See you there!

Valentines Happy Hour - Potluck Dinner (Please note time change)

Mark your calendars for **Friday February 10th from 5pm – 8pm.** (this is so that hot dishes are not sitting out for an hour or so). Bring your sweetheart or come alone to our Valentine's Potluck Dinner. Please bring your favourite dish. (*no desserts please*) As this is a dinner, if you are unable to bring a dish, the cost will be \$7.50 per person for this event, (we do encourage everyone to bring food though to ensure there is enough for everyone.) We will also have a wonderful gift basket to raffle off. Please bring your own refreshments.

Happy New Year!



ASPIRING MUSICIANS WANTED!!!

The Sonoma Pines Jammers are meeting on **Wednesday** evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the clubhouse to have fun jamming and learning music from each other. Musicians of all levels and all instruments can come in and enjoy making music in a very welcoming and non-judgemental milieu.

If you wish to introduce a new song, bring copies for other musicians to share.

The acoustics in the main room of the clubhouse are very good and you will have a couple of hours of very satisfying collaboration with other Sonoma Pines musicians. See you there!

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



Have some news that you'd like to share with your neighbours?

The Sonoma Pines Facebook group is growing and you can join by [clicking here.](#)

Letters



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

Sonoma Pines Activities & Contacts

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:
John Cole 778-754-7265

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 under the Clubhouse tab.