

Sunrise Pointe of Mill Valley

COMMUNITY NEWS

A Publication for the Owners of Sunrise Pointe

SUMMER 2015

NEW WEBSITE IS HERE...

Now you can access just one site to hear about:

- ◆ **the latest news**
- ◆ **put in a work order**
- ◆ **check your account info**
- ◆ **see the history of Sunrise Pt.**
- ◆ **information surrounding Neighborhood Watch**

A new Combined website featuring Sunrise Pt. and the Vivo site is now available for your easy and one stop access.

Go to: <http://www.sunrisepointe.org>

Acquaint yourself with it and from time to time get accustomed to seeing what is on the calendar and new events happening in our community. This is a work in progress and we will continue to add and fine -tune the various tabs and sections.



Let us know how you enjoy the new site! Special thanks to Action for implementing our new website!

NEW BOARD MEMBERS ARE CONFIRMED FOR NEXT YEAR

At the Regular Board of Directors meeting on July 1 the ballots were counted for election of three additional board members to complete our five member board. A record number of ballots were submitted and the elected board members are as follows:

- **Ray Taylor**
- **Howard Nurse**
- **Bill Wamsley**

Congratulations to all and a grateful thanks to Tom Cannon and Maritza Samartin who also ran for office. Our community is only as strong as we make it by your contributing time and interest. Subsequently at the July 15 Board meeting officers were elected. They are Ray Taylor, President, Bill Wamsley, Vice President, Howard Nurse, Treasurer, and Marlene Capra, Secretary.

The Board also confirmed the choice of Rick Capra as Chairman of the Architectural Committee. Additional members of this committee are Terry Long and Louise Hammond. We owe a debt of gratitude to Madeleine Simborg who has chaired this committee for the last five years and oversaw the installation of new heating systems as our previous heating system was deemed unsafe. It has been tough to satisfy all the needs and desires of owners while at the same time maintain the integrity of our property. We are grateful for the time, tact, and expertise she devoted to this project.

Landscape News

You've noticed the browning of our lawns, I'm sure. Unavoidable, unfortunately, with our requirement to conserve water. Gardener's Guild, our landscape contractor, advises that it is less expensive to replace/renew grass than new plants, so if we have to let anything go, it should be lawn. So far, we seem able to meet our watering requirements without the grass dying, just browning.

The good news is that MMWD reports that they are exceeding their conservation goals. Further details are available on their website. We're doing our part - based on our water bills, we are under budget and using less water than during the comparable period last year. Due to our multiplicity of water meters (8 for residential, 3 for irrigation and 1 for the pool) which are read only every two months, we are only billed every two months. This makes frequent actual water use monitoring impractical (unless one of you wishes to volunteer to read all 12 meters and keep a spreadsheet!), but tracking our bills is a good indicator.



In mid-June, we completed the installation of rip-rap, large rocks, to arrest the erosion our peninsula was experiencing on both the east and west sides at the south end of our property. This was the second such project we've done in the last two years and won't be the last. It's already apparent that further work will be required next year. We will be budgeting accordingly. Goes with the territory when you live at the shoreline.

On a somewhat related subject, since it has to do with protecting our landscape, your co-operation and help in having all dog walkers using our paths conform to the leash law, would be appreciated. Sunrise Pointe is private property, despite what some of our visitors think, and we are responsible for maintaining it. The easement that was granted when it was built, gives permission to use the path but not the landscaping, and the Mill Valley leash laws do apply.

New Solar and Roofing Committee

Al Martin and Don Simborg who have given unstintingly of their time and expertise as Board members are both retiring from the Board but will be taking on another important commitment as members of a Solar and Roofing Committee which will oversee the replacement of our roofs and a reactivated solar heating system in 2016. Don is the Chair of this committee. They will be joined by Ray Taylor and Howard Nurse who will keep the new Board current on all developments of this very important update to our buildings. You will be hearing more from them as we move toward repair and replacement of these major components.

Be A Good Neighbor 10 Good Reasons To Leash Your Dog

Virtually every community throughout Southern California has a leash law. The law requires that dogs be kept on a leash at all times when on public property. While on private property, dogs must be under the control of their owners. The intent of this law is to protect the health and safety of the public and to protect your pet. The use of a leash will benefit you, your neighborhood, and your pet. There are many good reasons to keep your dog on a leash.

1. It's a great good neighbor policy, preventing your dog from trespassing on neighbor's property during your walk. It also keeps your dog from jumping on people you encounter, ensuring that your dog has the chance of being properly introduced.
2. Improved companionship. A well trained and leash-obedient dog is a pleasure to walk with.
3. Walking your pet on a leash will prevent the spread of disease. It is less likely that your dog will be exposed to Parvo or Distemper. A leashed dog can be restrained from sniffing the droppings of other animals.
4. A leash is commonly referred to as "Your Pet's Lifeline," protecting your pet from traffic and unrestrained animals. Accidents or animal bites are greatly reduced when responsible pet owners obey the leash law.
5. An obedient and well behaved dog is a positive reflection of its owner.
6. Re-locating your dog into another household is 100% easier if your dog is obedient and leash trained.
7. It's a great way to reward your dog. Your dog will immediately respond with a wagging tail the moment he or she sees you holding the leash.
8. It's a great identification tool, symbolizing that the dog has an owner, and enabling someone who sees the leash and identification tag attached to the dog's collar to find you if you and your pet should become separated.
9. It's a great relief to wildlife, keeping your dog from chasing squirrels, deer and other wildlife.
10. It's the law! The law is in place to protect other members of the public and your pet from injury.



Be a good neighbor. Be a good friend. Use a leash.

Please Meet Our Newest Board Member, Howard Nurse

By his own definition Howard is an “electronics goofball”. With a degree from Stanford in electrical engineering (BSEE), his first job took him to New Hampshire in 1966 to work for the government (“It was a lot of fun”) designing electronics systems for aircraft used in the Vietnam war era. Three years later in 1970 he returned to Palo Alto where he continued to do electronics development work, eventually founding his own company, COMMSOFT, in 1980. It was a small company with one main product, namely, a software program used by genealogists and family historians. It was the #1 rated genealogy program for ten years but finally in 1997 he sold the rights to return to a first love, amateur radio, which is his primary software interest these days. His software for the iPhone/iPad and Microsoft Windows is now used by a large number of amateur radio operators (“hams”) around the world. Howard holds an FCC Extra Class license for amateur radio and an FCC First Class Commercial license. He served for over 15 years on the Board of Directors of Rural California Public Broadcasting Corporation in Rohnert Park, which operates KRCB-TV and KRCB-FM.

Howard and his wife Pam had been living in Healdsburg for twenty-three years where they had built a home, but two years ago they decided to consider a move back to southern Marin. Using their iPhone (of course) the condo at Sunrise Pointe was the last one of a number of homes listed that they saw, and they knew immediately that this was where they wanted to be. Pam had attended Tam High where her Dad taught biology and her mother worked in the business office, so it must have felt right in a number of ways. The two of them met as juniors in college, she at Mills, when they were chosen by their respective dorms to chaperone a Mills-Stanford freshman exchange, that means party! Apparently things went well. Pam has an elementary teaching credential and a Masters in library science as well as an interest in theology. They have a daughter who lives in Wooster, Ohio with her family including three sons, and a son who lives in Seattle with his partner. Their travels, besides family destinations, now include plans for a trip to Japan in November 2016. That will give Howard plenty of time to get settled in as our resident specialist on all things electronic.

The Sunrise Pointe community extends a belated warm welcome to you both.



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Proudly Managed By
Action Property Management, Inc.
4360 19th Street
San Francisco, CA 94114
p (800) 400-2284
f (949) 450-0303
info@actionlife.com
www.actionlife.com

sunrisepointe.org

Community Manager
Scott Walker Email:
swalker@actionlife.com

SUNRISE POINTE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Ray Taylor, President,
Bill Wamsley, Vice President,
Howard Nurse, Treasurer
Marlene Capra, Secretary
Louise Hammond, Member

Keeping Your Home Safe From Burglary

Here are a few tips that you can use to help decrease the chances that your home will be burglarized:

- Give your home a lived-in look to deter burglars. Inexpensive timers set to turn on lights in different rooms at different times usually work best.
- Close drapes and shades so that it would be impossible to detect interior motion from the outside, especially in high-traffic areas such as the front room and kitchen.
- Place lamps close to windows to obscure the view into a room.
- Leave a radio on. It signals a burglar that someone is home. Also, turn the volume adjustment on your telephone bell down so a prowler will be less likely to hear the ringing of an unanswered bell.
- Secure windows and doors with secondary locks.
- Get to know your neighbors and let them know when you are going out of town so that they can keep an eye on your home while you are gone.
- Don't open your door to anyone you can't identify or can't verify their identity.
- Don't wear expensive jewelry out in everyday situations - don't advertise. Someone might spot you in a store, mall, etc. and follow you to find out where you live.
- If you notice someone walking around your community wearing a uniform, overalls, or a clipboard, and they (or the uniform) doesn't look familiar, don't hesitate to ask for identification. Many burglars will “research” prospective victims by using this approach knowing that very few people will ever question them.
- Join Neighborhood Watch!