



CROWN HARBOR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

THE CLARION

SUMMER 2014



IT'S BEEN AWHILE

A few months have passed since we last published the Clarion. It has been difficult coming up with interesting topics so future issues will be published when there's information to share. If you have something you'd like to see included in a future issue, please send it to me. My contact information is in the box on the right.

In between issues, you can keep up to date with all the happenings of Crown Harbor as well as search for information in previous editions of The Clarion by checking out our website: <http://crownharbor.org>

SAD NEWS TO SHARE

Former Board member and longtime resident, Jerry Reynolds of Crown Drive recently passed away. We send our deepest condolences to his wife Connie and their family.

NOT A DROP TO SPARE

EBMUD is requesting a voluntary 10% reduction in water usage.

Here are some suggestions they have for home owners :

- **Slow your flow.** Use our WaterSmart Home [Survey Kit](#) to evaluate your home's water use and find leaks and inefficient fixtures.
- **Find and fix leaks.** Toilet and irrigation systems contain some of the biggest and [sneakiest leaks](#)
- **Upgrade appliances and plumbing fixtures** to more water efficient models. EBMUD currently offers water conservation rebates to customers for [toilets](#) and [washing machines](#)

The Association, through the Landscape Committee, is doing its part by closely monitoring the irrigations system for leaks and overspray and adjusting the watering schedule to current weather conditions.

NO VACANCY!

The CC&Rs allow for a maximum of 15 percent (11 units) to be rented at anytime. They also outline a process and establish restrictions for renting the units. Any requests beyond the allowed 11 units are placed on a waiting list. We are currently at our maximum and any further requests will be waitlisted.

As a reminder, if you are currently renting your unit, you must reapply for an authorization to re-rent when your current tenants lease expires. Please refer to the CC&Rs or contact John at Massingham for further details.

BOARD MEETINGS:

4th Wednesday of the month.

7:00 pm

Locations vary and will be announced in the Agendas.

Agendas are available on our website at least 7 days prior to the meeting and are posted on the mailboxes.

<http://crownharbor.org/events/agenda.pdf>

CONTACTS:

Community Manager

John Caffall, 510-896-2683

email: JCaffall@massingham.com

For after-hours emergencies:

1 866-673-5415

Board of Directors:

David Eck - President

Gene McDermott - Treasurer

Scott Sheppard - Secretary

Roseanne Disandro – Co VP

Sean McDermott - Co VP

email: board@crownharbor.org

Clarion Editor:

Peggy McDermott

peggymcdermott@comcast.net

510-521-8688

Crown Harbor Website:

<http://crownharbor.org>

ONGOING IMPROVEMENTS

In the next month or two you'll be seeing some work throughout our community. The street and pathway lights will be replaced with energy efficient LED bulbs that will save energy and substantially reduce our monthly electric costs. You'll also see repairs to the asphalt on the streets and shoreline path as well as concrete replacement on Queens.

WELCOME HOME SCOTT AND SHERYL SHEPPARD!

Scott shared the following:

Thanks for Robert and Rise Hammond for hosting the last TGIF. Unfortunately Sheryl and I could not attend. We spent the month in New Orleans. Where I work, instead of getting extra vacation days with seniority, every four years I get a six week sabbatical. The time has to be taken all at once, so Sheryl and I rented a house on Bourbon Street for the month of April. We sampled 40 restaurants and 15 bars. We ate many things like alligator, beignets, crab, crawfish, gumbo, jambalaya, oysters, red beans & rice, and shrimp. As they say in Louisiana, we certainly did "Laissez les bon temps rouler" (Let the good times roll) but it is great to be back among our friends at Crown Harbor.

Scott promises to share some of their favorite places to see (and eat!) in the next issue.

WHATS THE BUZZ?

The following was submitted by Ron Barrett.

If you have been hearing some buzzing sounds in the vicinity of the green facing the Bay off Kings Road, or seeing some people watching a small radio controlled model helicopter going through its paces, it was Yours Truly having some fun.

I succumbed to a long-time desire to expand my horizons (no pun necessarily intended) and indulge in two, now complementary interests: flying model aircraft (which I've been doing on and off for 20 years) and photography.

I had been reading about the latest so-called "quadcopters" for the last couple of years, but really got interested when they started incorporating high quality stabilized platforms and cameras.

The one that caused me to reach for my wallet was the DJI Phantom 2, Vision +. See www.dji.com for details. It's small, light, stable and relatively easy to fly. Its four horizontal fan engines are electric powered and provide for a maximum flying time of about 25 minutes per replaceable battery pack. It is equipped with some very sophisticated electronics that provides on-board GPS positioning and software that will fly the craft back to its launching point should the airborne battery level drop below 28% of full charge, or if radio contact with the handheld controller should be lost for any reason.

The wallet-reach amounted to about \$1500 with an extra aircraft battery from their local dealer (Century Helicopter) in San Jose.

Diane became very supportive of the purchase of this vehicle, when I told her I was going to learn to fly it upside down and mow people's lawns.

Stop by anytime you see me for answers to any of your questions. You can also check out the Crown Harbor website to see my aerial photos and videos.

Ideas or articles for a future Clarion issue? Send them via email, phone or drop me a note.