

www.belwoodhomes.org

2013 Board of Directors

President

Todd Harris: 408.250.5229

Vice President

Mitch Cipriano: 408.206.8862

Secretary

Ed Sharpe: 408.358.7661

Treasurer

David Klenske: 408.829.3283

Directors

Natalie Adee: 408.402.5655

John Csubak: 408.914.5844

Lloyd Grant: 408.358.4956

Scott House: 408.655.3691

Silvia E. Lee: 408.922.9020

Facilities Manager

Gina Wagner: 408.358.2229

President's Message

The Belwood of Los Gatos Homeowners Association starts 2012 with three new directors, but before I introduce them, I would like to thank two outgoing Board members for their contributions over the years. First, Roy Chadwick who shocked us all when he announced he would not seek re-election to the Board, but if anyone has earned a break from Board duty, it's Roy. Roy has served on the HOA Board for the majority of the nearly forty years he has been a resident, his knowledge of the facilities, the unselfish volunteering of his time, and advice has been appreciated, and will be missed. Second John Bills, although he has only been on the Board ¼ the length of time as Roy, he has spent most of his tenure as Board President, and all that comes with it. John's calm demeanor has helped the Board maximize its effectiveness when we have tackled challenging issues. Finally, our new Board members are John Csubak, Scott House and Silvia E. Lee. The Board is looking forward to your contributions and the new perspective you'll bring. FYI, Silvia has agreed to take over the Bellringer!

You may have noticed, the pool deck / grounds modernization project is officially complete! The final touch was added late last year with the addition of updated lighting along the fence that borders the parking lot. I want to recognize current director Lloyd Grant for his efforts. Lloyd acted as project manager, and devoted a huge amount of his personal time to overseeing the project the past two years. Please thank Lloyd for his efforts when you see him. There were a few things the Board desired to include that were in the original plans, but as the project proceeded implementation had to be modified to deal with, and pay for, unanticipated challenges. I am sure any of you who have remodeled your home understand. These remaining items, such as a bocce ball court will be considered by the Board, and weighed against other potential improvements or repairs in future budget cycles.

Speaking of future repairs or improvements, a number of directors, including myself, have been asked about the Cabana bathrooms. Questions have ranged from, will the men's fourth showerhead be replaced; to can we do a full remodel of the women's bathroom? I can assure you the Board has spent many meetings and devoted many hours to this topic. As you can imagine, work on bathrooms can be exceedingly expensive, especially for a facility like ours, which requires commercial grade product and must comply with stricter codes than our homes. Most likely, there will be no improvements made to the bathrooms in 2013, except for repairs required to keep the bathrooms functional. Our reserve study does not call for bathroom replacement until 2017; however, the Board is considering ways to accelerate that timeline. But again, this needs to be weighed against other priorities, like a bocce ball court.

In closing, I personally invite you to join us in our efforts to maintain the value and enjoyment of our community. You do not have to be on the Board to contribute. We meet the 3rd Tuesday of each month and would enjoy any and all that would like to join us in our endeavor.

Todd Harris – President

Treasurer Report



It's March, and many of us have signed our kids up for swim team and are planning our summer parties. Now's a great time to reserve the cabana for your events so you can have your choice of dates.

Most of us have paid our annual dues by now. If you have not, please make sure you send in your check. The association incurs extra expense by having to mail out reminder bills, and I'm sure you don't want to receive them either. :)

Our balance sheet is looking good. We have a little over \$53K in reserve funds as of January, so we continue to save for the future expenses. Our annual reserve study which you receive in the fall lists out the projects we are considering in the future.

One of the questions I regularly receive is whether families need to pay the \$75 key fee. The short answer is that it is optional. By buying a key, you gain access to the facility from 6 AM to 10 PM, and can use the pool either by yourself or with your family when the pool is open and lifeguards are not around. If you don't have a key, you're not allowed in the facility except when lifeguards are present. We instated a key fee many years ago so that those who use the facility more pay a bit more. Many of us appreciate the added flexibility the key provides. On hot nights, we can come down to the cabana and cool off in the evening, or perhaps enjoy a BBQ in the picnic area with friends.

BTW, many of you are aware of our website (www.belwoodhomes.org) but may not know we have an email address. If you ever have any questions or want to send the board your thoughts, feel free to send an email to hoa@belwoodhomes.org. Thanks and I look forward to hearing from you!

David Klenske – Treasurer

2013 Annual Member Meeting

Pursuant to the bylaws, the 2013 annual meeting of the association will be held at 8:00 o'clock PM on the third (3rd) Tuesday of May at the Cabana (May 21st). The agenda will include introduction of board members, review of board goals for 2013, review of association finances, and facility status and plans for 2013.

Ed Sharpe – Secretary

Cabana Improvement

The Cabana facility is getting ready for the 2013 summer season. The following improvements were recently made:

- new lighting at the fence
- additional bench seating
- BBQ area gravel area was expanded
- new basketball backboards and pads around the poles

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.belwoodhomes.org

Belwood Street Tree Trimming And Replacement



The Town of Los Gatos will resume trimming the Belwood Area Street Trees which include Camphor, Chinese Pistache and Liquidamber in early April. If the city runs out of funds before the job is completed, they will return in early July when new funds are appropriated.

The Town will also provide a free Street Tree to anyone who does not currently have one in their Park Strip which is within the first 8 feet of the property and the street. The Town currently is providing Bradford Pear, Chinese Pistache, and Crepe Myrtle varieties. Due to budget cuts, the Town asks for the homeowner to be responsible for the actual planting of the tree. They also ask that the trees be watered regularly for the first two years while they become established.

Recently, the Town was offering to remove Liquidamber trees and grind the stumps to save on future trimming costs. Again due to budget cuts, that program has been scaled back. The town will grind the stump, but the homeowner is responsible for the removal.

Permits are required to remove trees and they must be replaced within 60 days. The size and number of trees required to replace the removed tree depends upon the size of the canopy and the circumference of the trunk. The complete Tree Ordinance can be found on the Town's website under Parks and Public Works

Lloyd Grant

Nextdoor Belwood-Belgatos

The Belwood Belgatos neighborhood is part of Nextdoor, by a private social network for neighbors. The network currently has 237 neighbors or 180 households from our neighborhood.

Join the group at <https://belwood-belgatos.nextdoor.com/login/> or have a member refer you.

Network Info:

Only real neighbors allowed -- each member must verify their address to join so you know you can trust who you are sharing with.

Build a stronger neighborhood --- Connect with your neighbors to stay informed and share useful local information.

Keep the neighborhood safe -- Look out for each other and send updates to keep the neighborhood safe.

Share goods and recommendations -- Find a great babysitter or trusty dentist. Borrow a ladder or sell that old bookcase



Silvia E. Lee

Email us:

hoa@belwoodhomes.org

Cabana Phone:

408-358-2229

HOA Mailing Address:

Belwood HOA
P.O. Box 1372
Los Gatos CA 95031

Spring is in the air

Flowing tree on Belhaven Drive



Blooming tulip flower pots



Please submit a summer photo to be included on the Bellringer Summer issue. Prize: bragging rights and a \$10 Starbuck card.

In the spring I have counted one hundred and thirty-six different kinds of weather inside of four and twenty hours.

-Mark Twain

Spring Homeowner's to do list

There are many website with do it yourself advise. Here is one with a great seasonal check-list <http://www.household-helper.com/spring-checklist:>

Excerpts from their Outdoor Tasks List

- Check trees and other landscaping for winter damage, prune as needed
- Airate lawn
- Fertilize/ weed and feed lawn
- Trim bushes and trees away from house
- Clean gutters and downspouts, check for leaks and cracks
- Check drainage ditches and drain tiles for large obstructions
- Check fencing for problems, repair if needed
- Check for and repair any driveway cracks
- Test outdoor lights and replace bulbs as needed
- Prepare soil for planting
- Add compost if needed
- Plant cold-crop vegetables
- Have soil tested (done free by many stores and agricultural centers)
- Clean lawn furniture/ check for cracks or other problems
- Remove debris from pool cover
- Check exposed seals and gaskets, replace if necessary

Around the Pool

The pool opens for key holders only on April 13. Pool keys are \$75 for the season and can be obtained from Gina Wagner, 408.358.2229.

Lifeguards begin May 25, weekends only, from 1PM-7PM. Daily lifeguards begin June 14 from 1PM-7PM.

At home swim meets are scheduled for: June 8, 22 and 29.



Belwood Dolphins

The Belwood Dolphins are excited to begin the 2013 season! We placed 3rd at Champs last year and we have plans to improve our standings in 2013. Practices begin in April and our first meet will be June 8th. All home meets run until about 1:00. Come down and cheer on the team! For more info, check out our website.

<http://www.hometeamsonline.com/teams/?u=BELWOODDOLPHINS&s=htosports&t=c>

Meet Schedule:

- June 1: Time Trials
- June 8: Los Paseos @ Belwood
- June 15: Belwood @ Almaden
- June 22: Oaktree @ Belwood
- June 29: Belwood @ Montevideo
- July 6: BYE
- July 13: Belwood @ Silver Creek
- July 20: Champs @ Morgan Hill Aquatics Center

Recreational Masters at Belwood

We will be running a Recreational Masters Program at the Belwood pool. The program will run from May 1 to September 30, 6:00-7:00AM. The cost for the session will be \$150 to \$200 depending on the number of people that sign up. The program will be run by the Belwood coaches: Tommy Killen, Hillary Hunt, and Eric Louie. Please contact Tom Sandoval at thomassandoval@yahoo.com by April 5 if you are interested.

Water Aerobics

Ladies Water Fitness classes return for another season at Bellwood pool! If you are looking for a cardio workout that is not stressful to your joints, and provides muscle conditioning, this class is for you.

Classes begin Tuesday, April 16th and run through September 24th. Classes run in three 8 week sessions. Tuesday evenings 7.00-8.00PM. *** 10 ladies are needed to sign up to hold each session, so register now***

Session 1 begins April 16 - Session 2 begins June 11- Session 3 begins August 6

The Price is 96.00 for 8 week session or 20.00 drop. No pro-rating. ***some sessions may be less than 8 classes and members will be notified if applicable***

To register please contact Cindy Adams at 408.655.5696 or cindys_pilates@yahoo.com

Community Board

MONTHLY EVENTS

Belwood Homeowners Board Meeting

Open to all Belwood members - Cabana Club - 7:30 pm, third Tues. of the month unless a **change** is posted on the bulletin board.

Santa Clara Valley Mineral /Gem Society:

Fourth Tuesday of the month.
Please call Kathy McChristian (Junior Program)
408.258.8400 or Frank Mullaney 408.266.1791

Schedule Cabana Club

Gina Wagner 408.358.2229

COMMUNITY ADS

Need Help?

Belwood Residents: Free advice to solve home repair, maintenance, or improvement problems.
Call Roy Chadwick 408.356.5431

Gutters, Roof, Plumbing, Tree Trimming

You name it! I have a list of workmen who can help you.
Call Gail Bordi, 408.356.4624 or email gailbordi@yahoo.com

Precision Locksmiths, Inc.

I have heard through Bellringer that there has been vandalism and burglary throughout the neighborhood. I own Precision Locksmith, Inc. and as your neighbor I would like to waive all trip charge fees with a free home security check. Please contact me with any of your security needs. Precision Locksmith, Inc. 408.377.5625, Robertgolter@yahoo.com

Rentals

BEACH HOUSE:

Aptos Beach House, spacious 3BR/2 bath, short walk to Rio Del Mar/Seacliff Beach. Available year-round for monthly, weekly, mid-week, weekend rental. Call Sheryl at 408.348.3237.

KAUAI CONDO:

Kapaa Kauai Hawaii Condo for rent. Located in the Pono Kai Resort on the East Shore Coconut coast. 2BR/2 bath on ground floor, facing beach. Full kitchen, dining and living rooms. Sleeps 6. Swimming pool, clubhouse, close to shopping. For photos, details and contact info, go to: <http://www.vrbo.com/33499>. Call Sal Leonardi at 408.356.5205.

OAHU LUXURY TOWNHOME:

Fabulous, newly furnished Oahu townhome for rent. 3 BR, 3 BA + den, 1700+ square feet, 5 min walk to beach in the luxurious Coconut Plantation in Ko Olina. Perfect for families. See our website for pictures, details and contact info: <http://www.koolinahome.com>

TAHOE DONNER RENTAL

Beautiful, spacious home in Tahoe Donner available for rent: 3 bedrooms, 2 bath & large loft (sleeps 6-11). Corner lot amongst pine trees, green belt behind & 700+ sq ft decking. Amenities: premiere golf course, fitness club/pools, tennis courts & more. Info & pictures go to: VRBO.com # 323668 and mention "Belwood Resident", or call Sue Ahmadian at 408.356.5276.

Editor's Note

The purpose of a newsletter is to inform the Belwood neighborhood about board news, community events, offer free advice,

and advertise skills and rental postings. **Article submissions for the Bellringer from the community are very much encouraged.**

The summer edition of this newsletter will be published in June 2013. Please send your contributions or ideas for Bellringer improvements

or additions to Silvia E. Lee at bel.editor@gmail.com by June 15, 2013
Thank you!