

BELWOOD BELRINGER

MARCH 2019

www.belwoodhomes.org



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On behalf of your Board of Directors, I wish you all a peaceful and productive 2019!

Your Board had a very productive 2018, including the following significant accomplishments. Some have been mentioned in prior Belringer articles. I include them again in this list because they bear repeating:

1. After a one-year hiatus, the Board hosted a well-attended Halloween party. We are again looking for volunteers to help organize this year's party. Perhaps we can go above and beyond last year's great offering and bring back the haunted house, a highlight of many past Halloween parties? Please contact the Board (hoa@belwoodhomes.org) if you are interested in helping in any way.
2. We repainted the basketball court, our second most used year-round asset.
3. We repaved the parking lot, our most used year-round asset.
4. We created an online calendar to facilitate the member facility rental process.
5. We implemented an electronic dues payment system as an option to mailing paper checks. The 2019 billing mailer includes the details. Note that we do *not* accept PayPal.
6. We now provide members with the option to consent to electronic communications instead of hard copy postal mailings. See <http://belwoodhomes.org/forms.html> to enroll.
7. After an extensive audit, we updated our insurance coverage to comply with current legislative and regulatory requirements, at a significantly lower cost than our previous coverage. We also enlisted a new insurance agent, specializing in servicing the asset-protecting needs of HOAs like ours.
8. Last, but not least, we passed all financial and tax audits.

Together these form an impressive list, each item carried out in the interest of our members. Admittedly, this is a blatant tooting of our own horn, but it also bears repeating that your Board members are unpaid volunteers, selflessly dedicated to representing your interests in maintaining and enhancing the value of our shared asset. It is a pleasure to lead this organization with such dedicated individuals who accomplish so much.

Looking to 2019, your Board does not plan to implement any significant new strategic initiatives. 2018 was the year for that! Instead, thanks to last year's hard work, your club is positioned to serve its members efficiently and effectively throughout the year. The only thing we need is you. We are grateful to our

membership, whose support makes possible the Belwood Dolphins swim team, the summer Bingo/movie nights, the quarterly Belringer newsletter, and much more.

I close by asking that each of you consider how you might volunteer for the HOA this year. Email your thoughts to hoa@belwoodhomes.org.

Thank you,

- Tom Martin, President, Belwood Homes Association

TREASURER'S REPORT

As the winter starts winding down, it's clear that Mother Nature has done a great job in the moisture department and the Sierra snowpack which provides us water throughout the year is in excellent shape. Likewise, the board has done a great job of managing our finances. Income was 3% higher than plan, and expenses were 4% less than plan, which resulted in a 40% increase in end of year income. We made a \$45K contribution to our reserve fund, and we now have about \$221k in our reserves, higher than we expected when we put together our expectations over the summer. Our strong balance sheet helps ensure we keep dues reasonable in years to come as we plan today for future expenses.

As happens every year, the California legislature has been busy creating new laws for HOAs. Through our membership in an organization called ECHO, we are able to keep up with these and make sure we are compliant. One major change for 2019 is a new fiscal review the board must undertake every month. Due to some rare instances of fraud and embezzlement, all HOAs have to have a monthly review of bank statements and financial statements, and have a vote to ratify them. We previously had a quarterly cadence, so a monthly review just results in some incremental time and work for the board, and of course a board vote.

A few of my goals for 2019 include trying to get as many homeowners as possible to authorize electronic consent of standard mailings, and documenting our financial policies and procedures. We now have about a third of the 281 homes in Belwood who have provided consent, which will save us all money going forward.

Looking forward to seeing you soon, and having a bit more sunshine after our rainy winter.

- Dave Klenske, Treasurer, Belwood Homes Association

SWIM TEAM, POOL



The Belwood Dolphins turn 50!!!

50

The Belwood Dolphins swim team is comprised of children, ages 5 to 18, living in and around the Belwood neighborhood of Los Gatos, California. Sandy Mahin and her friend, Rosemary Frame, started the Belwood Dolphins Swim Team in 1969. They both worked at the pool and coached. The team soon joined the Junipero Serra Swim League, which also included: Saratoga Woods Courtside, Laurelwood and Brookside.

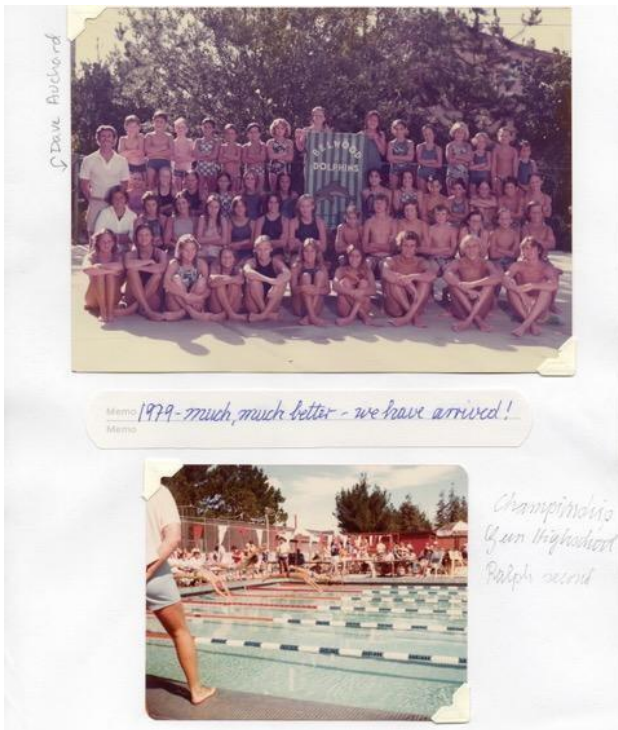
Belwood has been part of the Valley Cabana Swim League since 1999. The other teams in the league include: Almaden Country Club, Los Paseos Aquatic Club, Montevideo, Oaktree Park Swim Team and Silver Creek Country Club.



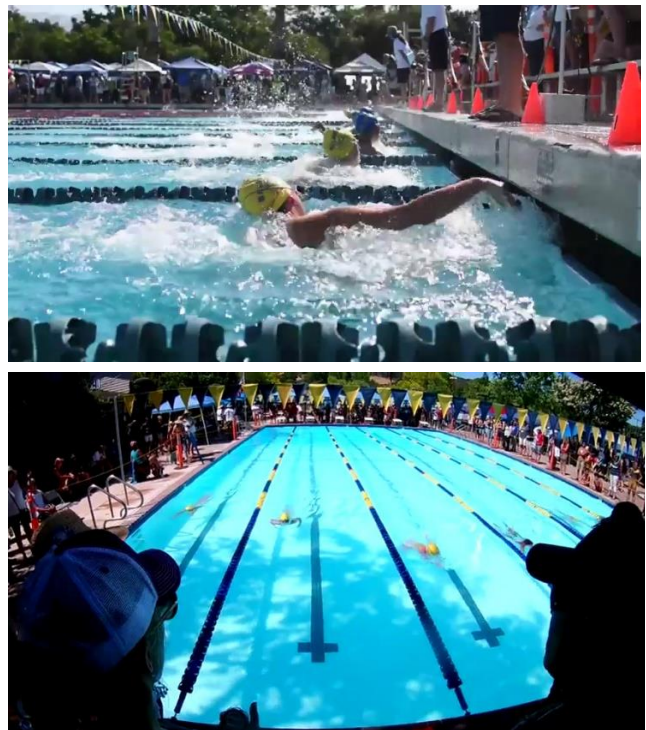
1972 – The early days -wooden, home constructed starting blocks



1977 – progress, but still no goggles



1979 – Forty years ago, going strong...



2018 - That was then...and this is NOW!

GO DOLPHINS!

Champs for this year is 7/20/2019. (You must be present at Champs to be on the team).



Pool Schedule

Pool opens for keyholders starting April 15, 2019.

Lifeguards will be on duty starting Memorial Day Weekend.

The Belwood Pool is Hiring!

Starting in April, Belwood will be looking for lifeguards to staff the pool. This is a great opportunity for a high school or college student looking for a fun way to earn some cash over the summer. Applications are available in the “Forms” section of the Belwood HOA Website

http://www.belwoodhomes.org/ewExternalFiles/LIFEGUARD_APPLICATION.pdf

Please send completed applications to HOA@belwoodhomes.org.

Application Deadline: April 1, 2019

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Daylight Savings Time



Daylight saving time 2019 in California will begin at 2:00 AM on Sunday, March 10, 2019

Recipe – Just in time for Mardi Gras!

New Orleans Jambalaya

From: <https://www.daringgourmet.com/jambalaya/>

Taste all the goodness of the South in this authentic New Orleans Jambalaya!

Prep Time 10 mins

Cook Time 35 mins

Total Time 45 mins

Servings: 4 servings

Calories: 583kcal

Author: Kimberly Killebrew

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 pound chicken breast, cut into bite-sized pieces
- 1/2 pound andouille sausage, sliced in 1/4 inch slices
- 1 yellow onion, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 green bell pepper, diced
- 1 stalk celery, diced
- 1 cup long grain white rice
- 1 14.5 ounce can diced tomatoes
- 2 tablespoons Creole seasoning (see recipe below)
- 1-2 teaspoons hot sauce
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 2 cups chicken broth
- 2 bay leaves
- 3/4 teaspoon salt

- 1/2 pound medium raw shrimp, deveined (optional: tails removed)
- 4 green onions, thinly sliced

For the Creole Seasoning:

- 2 teaspoons garlic powder
- 2 teaspoons onion powder
- 2 teaspoons sweet paprika powder
- 1½ teaspoons dried thyme
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1 teaspoon dried basil
- 1 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- ¾ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

Combine all the spices in a coffee or spice grinder. Grind to a fine powder and store in an airtight jar until ready to use.

Instructions

1. Place the chicken in a bowl with 1 tablespoon of the Creole seasoning. Set aside.
2. Heat the butter in a large skillet over medium-high heat and brown the chicken on all sides. Add the andouille sausage and cook for another 3 minutes or so until the sausage begins to brown.
3. Add the onion, garlic, celery, and bell pepper and cook for 3-4 minutes. Add the rice, diced tomatoes, remaining tablespoon of Creole seasoning, hot sauce, Worcestershire sauce, salt and pepper and stir to combine. Add the chicken broth and bay leaves.
4. Bring it to a boil, reduce the heat to medium-low, cover and simmer for 15 minutes, giving it one stir around the halfway point. Add the shrimp, cover, and simmer for another 10 minutes or until the rice is tender.
5. Serve sprinkled with some sliced green onions.

Spring Craft Fair



Sunday, April 14, 2019

11:00 am – 5:00 pm

Location: The Belwood Cabana

100 Belwood Gateway

Los Gatos, CA 95032

If someone would like to participate, they can email to Sandra Miller at glittermoose11@gmail.com to get the registration information.

Anyone volunteer help with set up that morning would be greatly appreciated. Please email at the above-mentioned address.

COMMUNITY BOARD

Monthly Events

Belwood Homeowners Board Meeting

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

Cabana Club Schedule

Gina Wagner: 408.358.2229

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

Y Adventure Guides

For dads and boys in K-5. Meets at the Cabana the Third Thursday of each month at 7 PM. Contact is Matt Quadro at 408.398.4522

Belwood Community Forum on Facebook

The Facebook page “Belwood Area Residents” is a closed user group, i.e. a forum where you can interact with other members of our community. If you are not already a member of the group, we encourage you to go to [Log into Facebook | Facebook](#) and click on 'Join Request'. As soon as you are approved you can create postings to the group. Turn on notifications so you know when there is a new posting.

We hope to see lot of activity in the group, but don't forget to join the group. If you have any comments or questions, you can send them to bentjensen@yahoo.com.

Community Ads

Music Lessons

Looking for a music teacher for your children or yourself? GREAT teacher just moved near your home. Claudia just moved to Belwood, she holds a Master in Music from the Geneva Conservatory of Music. She has more than 20 years of experience teaching piano, recorder, ear training and theory to children and adults.

She also trains with great success students wanting to take the London Royal Academy ABRSM Music test. For more information please send to: cgantivar@yahoo.com, and visit www.claudiagantivar.com.

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

Guest Speaker

Betty Auchard is an author and speaker. She lives in the Belwood neighborhood and is available as a guest speaker. You can email her at btauchard@aol.com or check out her website or current blog: bettyauchard.com.

Middle School/High School Math Tutor

California Mathematics Single-Subject Teaching Credential Belwood Resident since 1984 Tom Martin:
408.656.4017

Succulent Creations - DIY



Sign up for a 2-hour succulent terrarium workshop at the Belwood Cabana one Sunday a month.

If interested, please email Sandra Miller at mysucculentparty@gmail.com to get more information

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.

OAHU LUXURY TOWNHOME

Fabulous, luxuriously 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: www.koolinahome.com

SOUTH LAKE TAHOE RENTAL

Beautiful home for rent: 2 BR + Den, 2 BA, 1600 sq ft, sleeps 6. Large open concept living/dining room, fabulous views, spa tub, fireplace, wifi, close to lake, heavenly, casinos. Pets considered. For details go to:

<http://www.vrbo.com/451904>

EDITOR'S NOTE

Youth Science Institute - Looking for educational summer fun for your child/ren aged 3 1/2 to 12? Registration is now open at Youth Science Institute for summer camps at Vasona Park. As a parent whose child thoroughly enjoyed his experiences there over several years, I give it a thumbs up!

- Renai Fitzpatrick



We encourage all who would like to volunteer for any event during 2019, to contact hoa@belwoodhomes.org

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform the Belwood neighborhood about Board news, community events, offer free advice, and advertise skills and rental postings. If you would like to see something in a future Belringer, please send relevant information to the Editorial Board at hoa@belwoodhomes.org