



The COTTAGES CHATTER

*Our Community
Newspaper*



April 2016

Let the beauty of
what you love be
what you do.

-Rumi

Hello Spring!

Puncturevine – Pretty But Nasty!

They cannot help it that their sharp spines impale



young children, hobble dogs, and other wildlife that chooses to cross its path. They grow low to the ground, sprouting prolific pretty little yellow flowers in just a few weeks. These pretty flowers morph

into a green seedpod. Eventually they dry into a tough spiny seed head that can penetrate nearly



anything. Each nutlet is a tetrahedral shape, so no matter how they land they always have one tough rhinoceros like spine sticking up. You need thick skin to be around these plants. The Landscape Committee asks for our help by picking it early when in bloom from our gardens and surrounding lots...I'm heading to the beach where bare feet need protection!

Community Events

Saturday, April 2 - Bottle Drive. Have your cans & bottles out by 9:30 a.m. Please rinse and take the caps off your bottles. Support a small group of volunteers who wish to protect our environment, raise funds for the Social Committee and improve our growing community. If you have a half an hour of time every month to help out, consider volunteering.

Wednesday, April 6 – Snowbird Wine and Cheese- You are invited to another wine and cheese tasting event. Each event will feature a local winery and artisan cheese maker. A great way to enjoy some wine and cheese, meet other homeowners, and visit others from the area. Invite your friends, acquaintances or family who would be interested in seeing the beauty of our community. The events will be in The Clubhouse from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Sponsored by Eric Van Maren.

Saturday, April 16 – Cottages Painting Workshop – Join our gifted artists in a great afternoon of exploring something new during a special painting event. Just \$25 and a willingness to express your individual creativity. Only 25 spots available 2p.m. to 5p.m. at the Clubhouse. RSVP to Anke acantzler@gmail.com Bring your own beverage and a snack, and let's make it an afternoon to remember.

Saturday, April 23 - Board Meeting at 10:30 a.m. It is our responsibility to support our Board as they strive to address our community concerns.

Saturday, April 30 – Chili Cook Off at 7 p.m. Bring your tastiest chili and be prepared to be judged (only in the friendliest way). If interested in joining the fun at The Clubhouse. Please RSVP to Anke or Tina B. by April 15. acantzler@gmail.com or tbnova63@gmail.com. Thx!

Saturday, April 30 – Bottle Drive – Have your cans & bottles out by 9:30

Who's Your Neighbour?



Irene (Rene) & John Sutherland

This friendly thoughtful couple have embraced life at the Cottages.

Favourite Activity at The Cottages... there is so much to offer here – beautiful scenery, wild mustangs with the bonus of being close to family.

Best Winery so far... Rene & John both agreed the friendliest staff & the most fun is to be had at Silver Sage winery. Such an authentic experience!

Dream Vacation... looking forward to experiencing the spiritual, historical mystery of Machu Picchu in Peru.

What brought them here... it was only natural to return to region of John's childhood after meeting Cottages Sales Staff & touring this site. Both were impressed with Eric Van Maren's vision & development, and the proximity of nature.

Greatest Inspiration ... comes from a favourite author, Don Miguel Ruiz & his 4 agreements – be impeccable with your words, don't take things personally, don't assume, and always do your best. Truly, words to live by.

Spring Beach Cleanup, April 2nd

by Robin Battley



As many of you will agree, our location on the northern shore of Lake Osoyoos is one of the 'gems' of this development. Like any 'gem', it needed a careful eye to properly 'design' and 'cut' this feature to attract ourselves and our future neighbours to choose

The Cottages as home. However, like any precious 'gem', our beach does require the occasional 'polishing'. To this end, I, along with Larry Wittchen, discussed a series of options for maintaining our pristine beach access with the Beachfront Committee among others. The result is our very first Milfoil Control Pilot Project to take place Saturday, April 2nd at 11 a.m.

In short, milfoil is an invasive aquatic plant species that grows rapidly along the shores of many freshwater lakes. It can choke out indigenous vegetation affecting the local fish and wildlife, as well as negatively impacting recreational use including boating and swimming. Many online resources exist that provide further details. Although the milfoil concentration is not extreme on our beach, it does exist and ongoing milfoil control measures are required to maintain our continued enjoyment of our natural resources and facilities.

One environmentally acceptable method of removing milfoil includes using hand tools and we chose this technique for a number of reasons. With the water levels still close to winter depths (approx. 2-3 feet lower than summer depths), our access to the milfoil is significantly extended by using such simple tools as metal rakes and hip waders. These shallow depths were confirmed by Larry and myself while mapping our swimming area from the beach to the row of special purpose buoys using kayaks and lead lines last month. Most of the milfoil is growing in patches between 1 ½ to 3 feet deep toward the east side of the swimming area. Our plan is to remove milfoil using metal rakes, and then monitor milfoil growth over the summer swimming season to confirm whether we made any difference in the quantity of milfoil evident in that area.



Although the Okanagan Basin Water Board uses 2 specially designed milfoil harvester boats to control milfoil in many local lakes, private beaches are not a priority, however Neil Bousquet is continuing a dialog with this group. Also, the shallow depth of our beach may be a limiting factor for the services of these boats.

Anyone wishing to pitch in and assist is invited to join us. At this time, we have a group of approximately 10-12 volunteers who will 'be raking it in' on Saturday.

BETSY BYLAW wants to remind you:

An Owner or resident shall not cause damage to trees, plants, bushes, flowers or lawns and shall not place chairs, tables or other objects on lawns or grounds so as to damage them or prevent growth.

1. Reno Requests from the Board are necessary for changes to the exterior of your home. The Renovation Request form is found on our website in the Documents section.
2. If you want something put in The Cottages Calendar contact Trish (not Jody – let her sell) secretary@osoyooscottages.com
3. Anyone with requests to book Club House events should contact Trish Stevens at secretary@osoyooscottages.com



Landscaping Committee is seeking more green thumbs to join them in planning, discussing future thoughts and present concerns. Contact Jeff at directors@osoyooscottages.com

7 Homes Sold!

Pickleball Lovers!!!

New Outdoor Spring/Summer Schedule for Oliver Parks
Tuesday 9am to 1pm
Wednesday 6pm to 9pm
Thursday 9am to 1pm
Sunday 9am to 1pm.

Save These Dates:
July 30 and August 27 for Family Days at the Cottages. Promises of lots of fun for all...stay tuned!



Cottages Weather for April...
Cherry Blossoms and Sunshine!

Welcome to Our New Neighbours!

Gilles Lacroix and Julie Porter #283
Dave and Fay Smith #185



Fire Prevention –

The Fire Preparedness was a great educational opportunity to see the fire equipment in use first hand, and also experience the various volumes of the new emergency siren. Thanks to Greg Curnow for volunteering his time and expertise!

Peace of Mind Property Management

Are you someone who is a part-time resident or a traveller who would appreciate someone to provide home security, inspection, mail pick-up & more? If this is you...contact Fred Ingaldson – Cottages Homeowner and Full-time resident. Cell (250) 938-1685 fingaldson@gmail.com

Support Our Local Organic Farmers

Local Motive is a Co-op of 20 organic farmers selling their produce through various sized hampers. They also supply honey, bread, dairy, meat & more. Check out their website for more information. www.localmotive.ca Contact Donna Fairhurst #111, email camelot2@me.com or (250) 495-4561 if you might be interested in joining other Cottages Homeowners in ordering hampers.

Thanks to all our volunteers that help shape our special community!
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Newsletter created & prepared by Lois Chutter & Robin Battley