

THE CROSSINGS
The Signal

JANUARY 2016

Visit us online!
www.walnutcountry.com

MOVIE NIGHT
 Friday, January 8th @ 6:00pm
 Spend a night with THE SIMPSONS!

CROSSINGS SOCCER LEAGUE NEWS
 (see page 7)

FRIDAY NIGHT BINGO
 (see page 7)

SUPER BOWL PARTY
 Sunday February 7th at 2:00pm
 Come to the clubhouse and watch the game with us. CHOA will supply the food and you supply the beverages.

Please RSVP to 925-825-0250 or recdirector@walnutcountry.com by February 1st. We had 50+ people last year!

So, pull up a chair, kick back, eat, drink, and have fun!



TOWN HALL MEETING and SOCIAL
 Sunday, February 21st at 2:00pm
 Clubhouse Lounge

The CHOA Board of Directors has been working on many projects for our community; some of which will impact the community's finances and the quality of our grounds and facilities in 2016.

The Board wants to keep you informed and get your feedback with a Town Hall Meeting on Sunday, February 21st, at 2:00pm in the Clubhouse.

Food and drinks will be provided while Board members speak to you about: reserve projects, communications, landscaping, the impact of sports activities like USTA Tennis and the WC Swim Team, architecture, and safety and security.

We hope you can join us!

THE 2016 WALNUT COUNTRY SURVEY IS HERE!

The first community survey in five years is ready for your input! The survey covers things like Walnut Country's demographics, general facility usage, CHOA management, and possible projects to improve our community. All answers will be anonymous and the results of this survey do not mean that the Board of Directors will eliminate or immediately add activities or facilities. The survey will be open for three weeks.

To share your opinion online visit:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CHOA2016SURVEY>

If you'd like to submit answers on paper, visit the CHOA Business Office for a hardcopy.

BOARD of DIRECTORS OPENING

There is currently a vacancy on the Board of Directors. If you are interested in serving your community as a member of the Board of Directors, please contact General Manager Pat Magee at the Business Office, [925.687.9961](tel:925.687.9961), or businessoffice@Walnutcountry.com.

Holiday Lights

Every year the holiday lights on Crossings houses get more spectacular. While we did not have a lights contest this year, we do want to thank all who made the Crossings so beautiful this season.

Special Dates

NOTE: Starting with the February 2016 issue, this space will list CHOA projects. "Special Dates" will only be in the monthly "Signal Singular" insert.

Jan. 5	NO Landscape Committee Meeting This Month
Jan. 8	Movie Night: "The Simpsons" 6:00pm Clubhouse
Jan. 13	Senior Potluck Dinner 5:30pm Clubhouse
Jan. 14	Architectural Meeting 6:30pm CHOA Office
Jan. 19	Book Club 6:30pm Clubhouse
Jan. 28	Board of Directors Meeting 7:00p CHOA Office
Jan. 31	WCST Chili Cook-off 4:00pm Clubhouse
Feb. 2	Landscape Committee Meeting
Feb. 11	Architectural Meeting 6:30pm CHOA Office
Feb. 7	Super Bowl Party 2:00pm Clubhouse
Feb. 15	Presidents Day: CHOA Office and Clubhouse Closed
Feb. 21	Town Hall Meeting and Social 2:00pm Clubhouse

Treasurer's Report (Year To Date)

BALANCE SHEET as of November 30, 2015

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Current Assets

Cash Operating Acct.	\$335,259
Cash Reserve Acct.	2,377,384
Receivables	7,974
Prepaid Expenses	4,315
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$2,724,932

Current Liabilities & Capital

Liabilities	\$70,220
Reserves	2,376,447
Owner's Equity	185,374
Income	92,891
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES & CAPITAL	\$2,724,932

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Year-To-Date BUDGET REPORT

	Actual	Budget	Actual Over (or under) Budget
Total Revenues	\$1,193,336	\$1,169,531	\$23,805
Operating Expenses			
Payroll/Benefits/Taxes	\$110,998	\$119,350	\$(8,352)
Management Expenses	166,032	134,695	31,337
Office Equip/Supplies	19,678	24,728	(5,050)
Professional Services	19,170	25,322	(6,152)
Facilities Repair/Maint.	245,618	288,376	(42,758)
Recreation	15,265	14,476	789
Utilities	157,489	184,794	(27,305)
Security Expenses	38,458	51,117	(12,659)
Insurance	45,376	44,594	782
Tax & Licenses	11,177	11,869	(692)
Reserve Expenses	270,721	270,721	
Miscellaneous Expense	465	5,500	(5,035)
Total Operating Expense	\$1,100,447	\$1,175,542	\$(75,095)
Net Income	\$92,889	\$(6,011)	\$98,900

**HAPPY
NEW YEAR**

Pat Magee, General Manager

The Crossings Business Office
925- 687-9961
Businessoffice@Walnutcountry.com

PRESIDENTS CORNER – January 2016

As we end 2015 and enter the new year, we can pause and look over the many accomplishments and activities of another successful year in Walnut Country – The Crossings.

There’s a lot that will be happening in the next year and we will be facing increasing challenges and choices regarding our association and its expenses. To That end, we need to both let you know what’s happening and also hear your feedback. First, with this issue, the Board is opening up a survey to get your feedback in several areas. Secondly and most importantly, we will be hosting a **“Town Hall and Social” on Sunday, February 21st at 2 p.m. in the Clubhouse.** We’ll have food and drinks while we pass on to you the survey results and important information on: reserve projects, communications, security and safety, landscaping, architecture, and the impacts of our sports activities including USTA Tennis and the Walnut Country Swim Team.

After a year of well-attended and fun activities including our Wine Tasting, BBQ, and Oktoberfest, we closed out with our last community event of the year - our **Crossings Winter Holiday Celebration.** We had a great time and great attendance. Check out the insert in this edition of the Signal to see the **calendar of events for 2016.** Coming up first will be our **Super Bowl Party** on February 7th.

Looking back at 2015, our General Manager, Pat Magee has been with us a year and has become an expert in our community and supported the Board with excellence. We also continued to manage and improve our property with our committees and projects including:

- Meeting our budget, ending the year with a small surplus, and developing our 2016 budget to keep our monthly dues level at \$95/month. This included a comprehensive review of our liability and insurance needs to reduce risk to all homeowners.
- Our Landscape Committee had a great year with the South Slope pilot project and several other water saving and maintenance projects to strengthen our biggest asset and save money.
- Our Architectural Committee has continued to refine processes, increase training, and complete work on an update of our rules and guidelines.
- Our Communications Committee has established a **strong** social media presence and improved overall communications. We are near selecting a vendor to develop a new, modern website.
- Facility improvements such as:
 - Replacement of our tennis court lights
 - Remodeled Pre-school bathrooms
 - Main Pool pump and heater upgrades

We’ll keep you abreast of our activities and invite you to join us a few times this year for one of the monthly Board of Directors meetings. It’s a great way to stay informed and involved. On that note, please join us on January 28th for our next regular monthly BOD meeting.

I wish you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year! Until next month...

Mark Weinmann, President

LANDSCAPE ANNOUNCEMENT

Trees on the South Slope and North Slope and a few trees in the greenbelt will be trimmed January 11-15.

ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE - and - LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Architectural and Landscape Committees each has one seat open. If you would like to volunteer, contact Pat Magee at 925-687-9961, or email: businessoffice@walnutcountry.com.

(855) 371-5300—Security for Common Area

GSG Protective Security



In the last month, several homeowners reported having packages stolen from their front steps. In response, the CHOA Board of Directors had GSG Security run extra patrols during the day, seven days a week, in addition to its regular patrols at night. These additional hours of patrol were at no extra cost to homeowners.

During these patrols, GSG officers alerted homeowners when they saw packages waiting on doorsteps and questioned unrecognized trucks that had packages inside (in these instances delivery companies contracted out deliveries during this busy season).

If you see a suspected theft in progress, call Concord Police dispatch at 925.671.3333. If your package was stolen, please fill out a police report online. The police need to know there is a problem at the Crossings so that they devote more time to patrolling here.

To protect yourself from stolen packages, consider:

- **Delivering it to a work/friend/neighbor** who is home to accept packages or require a signature for delivery.
- **Leaving a note** requesting deliveries behind a gate, shrub, etc.
- **Tracking packages online** with alerts sent to your phone or email so you know when the package is en route. That way you can be home when it arrives or ask a neighbor to pick it up.



REWARD

The Board of Directors is prepared to pay up to \$2,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of anyone who willfully destroys or damages association property, including graffiti. If you know of or see someone using a marking pen, paint pen, or spray paint, etc. to deface property within The Crossings, please contact the CHOA Manager at 925-687-9961 or email businessoffice@walnutcountry.com.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

POLICE (Non Emergency)	925-671-3200
GSG Protective Security	855-371-5300
CHOA Business Office	925-687-9961
Clubhouse Office	925-825-0250
John Muir Hospital Emergency	925-939-5800
CC Emergency Med Services	925-646-4690
CC Water District	925-688-3158
CCC Fire Protection District	925-941-3330

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WALNUT COUNTRY BOOK CLUB

For more information about the WC Book Club you can go to: info@berkshire-books.com or call the Clubhouse at 925-825-0250.

The following books have been chosen by Book Club members for...

January: "My Stroke of Insight"
by Jill Bolte Taylor

February: "The Billionaire's Vinegar"
by Benjamin Wallace

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 19th, at 6:30pm in the Clubhouse.

Feel like joining us? Just read the assigned book and come on down!

MOVIE NIGHT at THE CLUBHOUSE

Friday, January 8th, at 6:00pm

Join the Clubhouse Staff and

"THE SIMPSONS"

For a fun evening of entertainment



View From The Clubhouse

2016 promises to be quite the year for CHOA-sponsored events for Crossings' residents. We kick off the new year with our 2nd Annual Super Bowl party. If this game is half as good as last year's game then we are in for a real treat. And speaking of treats... all the food served at the game will be on us. All you need to do is supply the beverages.

Skipping ahead a couple of months, CHOA is sponsoring a new and improved Spring Egg Hunt. It's taking on a brand new name and brand new location: The "Spring Festival" will be held on the upper greenbelt. There will be more eggs, the usual bunch of crazy cartoon characters, booths filled with oh so many surprises, and who knows what else! All we know is that it's going to be quite the scene.

To wrap up the pre-summer activities is the Cinco de Mayo Celebration. What's better than seeing the kids knock the stuffing (in this case, candy) out of a piñata. Last year we had an incredible turnout with incredible Mexican food. This event promises to be a big hit (pun intended).

Remember: Every CHOA-sponsored event requires an RSVP or ticket. And while we are on the subject of RSVPs: I want to thank everyone who called in or emailed their RSVP for the Winter Holiday Celebration AND showed up. Out of all 37 family RSVPs only three families did not show! This is the best response we've had in a long, long while and is very much appreciated. And for those of you who attended the Winter Holiday Celebration that did not RSVP...please remember that we plan and purchase according to the RSVP numbers. So, please respect the process and let's have fun!

Zhídào xià cì ("Until Next Time" in Chinese)

Andy Steinberg, Clubhouse Supervisor

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Thank you so much for helping make The Crossings a great place to live!

Walnut Country Recreation, Preschool & Communications News

WELCOME TO WALNUT COUNTRY PRESCHOOL

Please mark your calendars to join us for our **OPEN HOUSE** on **Monday, January 11th**, from **7 - 8pm**. We invite all prospective students, their families and friends to visit our classrooms and meet our teachers. Currently enrolled students, alumni, and their families are always welcome!!

WALNUT COUNTRY PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR 2016-2017

January 19-22	Currently enrolled families may register students and siblings
January 25-29	Priority registration for CHOA residents and their family and for Alumni families
February 1	Registration opens to all

You may register at the preschool from 8:30 - 1:00, Monday - Thursday, and 8:30 - 10:30 on Fridays.

Walnut Country Preschool offers the following classes:

3 year olds	Tues/Thurs	8:30-11:00	\$230/month
4 year olds	Mon/Wed/Fri	8:30-11:00	\$280/month
Pre. K	Mon-Thurs	11:30-2:00	\$330/month

Additional fees include:

A non-refundable registration fee per family of \$125.00 due at registration.

A deposit equal to ½ month tuition due by June 1, 2016, to hold your child's spot. This money will be applied to the June 2017 tuition, and is refundable if you move before that time and give a 30-day notice.

A birth certificate and updated immunization record is required at the time of registration, along with the registration fee. You may also schedule a preschool visit for your child by calling our Director, Caryn Borba, at 925-798-9686 or sending an email to wcpreschool@astound.net.

For more information about the Preschool please visit our website at www.walnutcountrypreschool.com.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Communications Committee is happy to launch the 2016 Walnut Country Survey with this issue of the Signal. As seen in the front page article, share your opinion online by visiting:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CHOA2016Survey>

If you'd like to submit answers on paper, visit the CHOA Business Office for a hardcopy. Be sure to check the article on the front page with all of the details. The survey is open for three weeks. All responses and comments are anonymous and we promise to read all of them. Thanks for participating!

The Committee has also received final bids to redesign WalnutCountry.com and looks forward to recommending a company to the Board in January. Also, consider joining more than 500 other homeowners and subscribe to the eSignal newsletter. The eSignal delivers the latest community news at least twice a month right to your email inbox. Recent issues have discussed stolen delivery packages, tennis court light installations, and CHOA job and committee openings. To signup, go to www.Walnutcountry.com, locate the box on the right that says, "Join eSignal - Our Email List", and submit your email address.

POSITION OPEN for CROSSINGS POOL MANAGER

The CHOA Board of Directors is looking for a dependable and organized pool manager to start work in the new year. The candidate should have the ability to train others, manage a schedule, oversee staff, and have experience with pool work. If you are that person, or know of someone with those qualifications, please contact Pat Magee, CHOA General Manager, at 925-687-9961, or stop by the CHOA Business Office for an application. This is a paid, part-time position.

Walnut Country Signal

* SENIORS' NEW YEAR POTLUCK DINNER*

It's a new year and the perfect time to pick out one of those great looking recipes you found in the new cookbook you got for the holiday. Maybe it's a stew, maybe it's a casserole, but make no bones about it, it will be from the heart and soul.

So put on your finest duds and c'mon down to the Clubhouse on January 13th at 5:30pm! By the way, newcomers are always welcome!

And don't forget to contact the potluck queen, Caroline Jackson, by January 6th, for your food assignment. Caroline's contact number is: 925-687-7052.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



FRIDAY NIGHT BINGO

We're getting close to the minimum required number of sign-ups!

All it will take to get this exciting event off the ground is a minimum of 25 people. Those of you who are interested in getting together for a Friday Bingo Night at the Clubhouse let us know. This can be a one-time event, or we can make it as often as you like. You want it, we'll do it!

Email recdirector@walnutcountry.com or call the clubhouse at 925-825-0250 if you are interested. Please leave your name, a contact number and/or an e-mail address.



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SOCCER LEAGUE NEWS

2016 Spring Soccer League Registration

To get the league under way we are looking for a minimum of 10 players aged 5-7 years old. We anticipate the league to start in mid-March and go for 7-8 weeks. The teams will meet twice per week. One day will be dedicated to practicing techniques, developing teamwork, and sportsmanship. The second day will be for games. When we get the desired amount of players, the coaches will announce a date for the kickoff meeting, season scheduling, and a plan stating what techniques will be worked on and when. This is going to be fun for the kids so reserve your spot now by calling 925-825-0250.



The Signal

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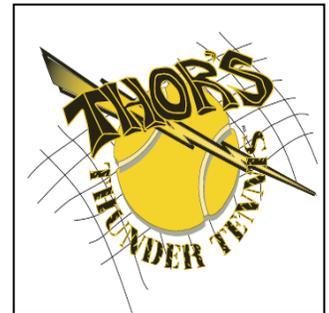
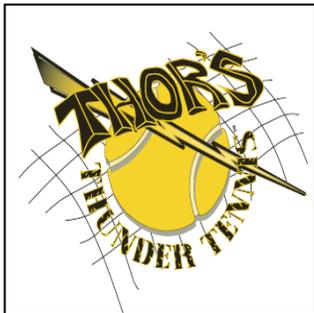


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The Signal Singular

January 2016

Points of Contact

Security

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CHOA Facilities

Business Office 925.687.9961
businessoffice@walnutcountry.com
Clubhouse 925.825.0250
Andy Steinberg recdirector@walnutcountry.com



Clubhouse and Greenbelt Events

(for more information, contact the Clubhouse)

January 8 (Tue)	6p	Movie Night: "A Night With the Simpsons"
January 13 (Wed)	5:30-8p	Senior Pot Luck
January 19 (Tue)	6:30p	Book Club: "My Stroke of Insight" by Jill Bolte Taylor
January 31 (Sun)	4-10p	Walnut Country Swim Team Chili Cookoff
February 7 (Sun)	2-7p	Super Bowl Party! (RSVP to CHOA; food and beverages will be supplied, BYOB)

Weekly Clubhouse Activities

(for more information, contact the Clubhouse)

Tuesdays	6p & 7p	Yoga with Jess (55-minute class, payment required)
Thursdays	12:30-3p	Come and play Bridge!
Thursdays	6-7:30p	Practice Tai-Chi



CHOA Official Business

(for more information, contact the CHOA Business Office)



January 14 (Thur)	6:30p	Architectural Committee meeting (CHOA Office)
January 28 (Thur)	7p	CHOA Board of Directors Meeting (CHOA Office)
February 2 (Tue)	7p	Landscape Committee Meeting (CHOA Office)
February 11 (Thur)	6:30p	Architectural Committee Meeting (CHOA Office)
February 15 (Mon)	All Day	CHOA Office and Clubhouse Closed for President's Day
February 21 (Sun)	2p	CHOA Town Hall Meeting and Social (Clubhouse) (food and drinks included)
February 25 (Thur)	7p	CHOA Board of Directors Meeting (CHOA Office)