

Fleur du Lac Estates

Summer 2019 Newsletter



FLEUR DU LAC

SUMMER 2019

SUMMER AT TAHOE

The West Shore of Lake Tahoe pretty much skipped right over any kind of Springtime this year. Winter held a tenacious grip on this side of the lake with significant piles of snow lingering in the shadows well into June.



Measurable snowfall ceased in late May but then the incessant rainfall began! As for April Showers bringing May flowers, we weren't even close... Gathering Morel Mushrooms in May? Not a chance! When the precipitation finally quit and

temperatures rose, the grounds at Fleur du Lac spilled forth an abundance of blossoms that has managed to persist all summer long. The summer's mild temperatures held off the fire danger and

allowed the proliferation of color to endure well into the Fall. We're still enjoying the colorful show even now as the deciduous trees begin their seasonal conversion, which makes for some stunning Autumn photos!

BEARS!!!



Our local Bears have made their presence quite well-known here at Fleur du Lac this summer, leaving muddy smears on numerous doors each night and ruining some screen doors in the process. The front door at Unit #22 was broken but, fortunately, there was no damage inside. Several homeowners have now witnessed the furry marauders and many are opting to place electric deterrent mats from Bear Busters (tahoebearbusters.com) at their doors as a safe and humane method of keeping the bears at bay.

SUMMER 2019

SPOTLIGHT ON

... Cool Kitty ~ "Elwood"



We normally include a profile on a Fleur du Lac newcomer (as in, a new homeowner). This edition features a newcomer of the feline variety. I am sure all of you have seen or pet our new addition. Here is the back story.

Elwood came to Fleur du Lac last winter. There were about 4-5 feet of snow on the ground, and Elwood was quite thin and gaunt. Ed Platt started feeding and caring for the cat. Elwood slept happily in the Maintenance Shop and occasionally would visit us in the Office. She clearly loved and appreciated Ed; she started following him around the property like a dog!

Lane called the cat "Elizabeth" due to her likeness to Elizabeth Taylor, with the characteristic thick

black eyeliner Liz always sported. KT called the cat "Kaiser" for obvious reasons. Ed just called her "KIT-TEN". The cat would run clear from Ed's office and land on Lane's desk, sending paperwork flying everywhere. While annoying, it also kept things real. She would play rough with the employees too, sometimes hiding behind a desk or under chairs only to jump out and startle the poor unsuspecting pedestrian and attack an ankle! We all became very fond of her ... I mean him. (KT determined it was, in fact, a male; unconvinced, Lane continued to call her "Elizabeth").

In early September, our kind homeowners/petmavens from

Unit #15, Doug and Gabriella Stuart, started asking about Elizabeth. They had met the new addition to our staff, and they too were smitten by her frisky, friendly personality and her classy looks. They volunteered to take her to the vet for a check-up and shots. We owe the Stuarts a shout of thanks for their care and time. Doug and Gabriella renamed *him* "Elwood" (part Elizabeth, part Homewood). Everyone is getting to know our feline friend and he is proving to be a good mouser as well as a good stabilizer when things get too stressed in the office. So officially, Welcome Elizabeth! ... (I mean Elwood!)

PROJECTS & PROGRESS

ROOFING & RAFTER TAILS



Jay Lebel and his Roofing crew got a late start due to the relentless rainstorms, pushing their start date back a full month to the beginning of June. Nonetheless, they pushed hard to get Units 9 & 10 done in record time and did a wonderful job keeping the area clean and tidy and looking good. Thank You, Jay!

Dave Johnson and his team from Timbercraft Construction worked wonders on the restoration of the beams and rafter tails at the Yacht Club and Units 19 & 20. There are many yet to be done but the hope is to resurrect a few each summer season to whittle

down the magnitude of the project and ensure that repairs are done properly to curtail further damage from the elements.

NEW SERVICE ROAD

After many months of planning and reconfiguring, our improved service road project has taken shape. Passing approval by the Board as well as the TRPA and keeping within our desired coverage allowance, the road finally went in the first week of October. The old road will be restored and revegetated.

This improvement will mean that our machinery, tools, work vehicles, and materials storage, as well as the dumpster, will now be out of sight. It will also provide a more efficient and out-of-the-way workspace for projects-in-progress.

IRRIGATION & FIRE SUPPRESSION

Early this summer, we learned that a controller for our Fire Suppression System (the irrigation system is tied into this plumbing) had burned out and needed to be replaced. Finding the replacement part proved to be quite a chore as it

is considered obsolete. Ed was finally able to find a replacement for around \$300 rather than replacing the entire unit for \$20,000! The even bigger surprise was when the installation was complete and they were testing the system. A previously unknown and unnecessary valve buried deep beneath the roadway near Unit #5 blew out, creating an enormous five-foot deep hole and the need for everyone to scurry madly about to get the repair made lest the newly planted areas dry up and die. Repairs were made quickly but this episode further reinforced the knowledge that the entire system is in need of more detailed investigation and upgrades going forward.

SIGNS

We've had reports of fewer trespassers from Grand Ave. after new "No Trespassing" signs were installed notifying the public of the high water demarcation at the North end of our beach and along the waterfront. "Private Marina" signs will be added at the Harbor entrance soon.

ANOTHER FABULOUS WEDDING!

With many months of anticipation and planning, the Price-Schmunk wedding was executed in grand style!
Here's a heartfelt letter we received from Gwen Price after the Big Day.

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*On September 14th the Price Family celebrated the marriage of their son, Nick to Hannah Schmunk at Fleur du Lac. Family and friends gathered together from as far as Nepal, Australia, England and across the country to celebrate Nick and Hannah.*

*The groom and groomsmen arrived by the Prices' Riva captained by Tom. Nick and Hannah shared their wedding vows and at the completion of the ceremony, each guest had an envelope with a butterfly that they released into the air celebrating love and new beginnings.*

*The guests enjoyed cocktails in front of the Yacht Club. Dinner and dancing followed in a tent on the lawn under the spectacular harvest moon! It was a day that the Price Family will cherish and remember forever.*

*We thank Lane Murray and our fantastic Fleur du Lac staff for helping us prepare for the wedding. Everyone was happy to contribute towards the day and we appreciate it so very much!*

*Our Fleur du Lac property was stunning and our guests were in awe saying that it looked like a movie set. We reminded them that it had been!*

*We also want to thank our Fleur du Lac neighbors for their patience and understanding over the four days of set-up and clean-up. Everyone was so kind and sent their best wishes to Nick and Hannah. We feel so fortunate to live in such an exceptional place. Our heartfelt thanks to all from Tom, Gwen, Greg, Nick, and the most recent, Hannah Price!*





## SUMMER FUN...

Board President Paula Boldt and family led the charge this summer, hosting a Crawfish Challenge to any and all who would accept, (and those who wanted to join the fun as spectators as well). The Boldt family challengers scored this year's win at 118 crawfish with second and third-place finishers, Allreds and Kochs respectively, all vowing to return for a rematch next year.

General Manager Lane Murray was on hand to supervise the count, and Volunteer Chef Nick Garcia organized the spread and orchestrated the simmering cauldrons of goodness, all the while offering expert tips and tricks on how to extract the tiny succulent morsels from their shells. Attendance included about 36 FDLE family members and guests, and a good time was had by all. We look forward to more and diversified challenges in the years to come! *Bring-it-ON, Fleur du Lac!*





# HISTORY DAYS...



Another fun event launched by the Boldts in early September was a continuation of their ongoing Fleur du Lac History Presentation series in conjunction with the book they are writing. They have been busy collecting memorabilia and interviewing previous owners and inhabitants of the estate for a few years now, and their presentations are educational and enlightening for all. They answered such questions as: Have you ever wondered the motivation behind the purchase of this property by owners following Henry Kaiser, like James Viso, owner number 3? Why did Governor Reagan veto the bill that would have made Fleur du Lac a State Park? And... What was the original number of units Placer County had approved for the redevelopment effort at Fleur du Lac Estates?

Earlier this summer, the Boldts generously installed historic photos and other artifacts from the Kaiser era depicting their lives and favorite pastimes of the day. They added a lovely display of colorful burgee flags and even a replica model of one of Henry J. Kaiser's famous hydroplane racing boats, *The Hawaii Kai III*, "The Pink Lady", in the Yacht Club. Doug and Gabriella Stuart will be donating some more historical photos soon which will be a welcome addition to our growing collection.



## FALL FAVORITES...

As always, fun events around the North Shore can be found by visiting [GoTahoeNorth.com](http://GoTahoeNorth.com) or the website for the [Tahoe City PUD](http://Tahoe City PUD) to learn of the annual Pumpkin Patch, and Downtown Tahoe City Trick-or-Treat activities. Or check out the local Octoberfest fun at SquawAlpine [oktoberfest-lake-tahoe](http://oktoberfest-lake-tahoe) or at Commons Beach in Tahoe City [tahoe-city-oktoberfest](http://tahoe-city-oktoberfest). Find Tahoe City events all year long at [visittahoeconomy.org](http://visittahoeconomy.org).

For something new just down the street check out "Halloweekend" and the Haunted Chairlift Ride at Homewood Mountain Resort: [halloweekend-at-homewood](http://halloweekend-at-homewood). The weekend kicks off with a spooktacular dinner on Thursday, Oct 24<sup>th</sup> at West Shore Café, and the rest of the "Halloweekend" will be filled with free scary movie showings, face painting, pumpkin decorating, frighteningly fun games for the whole family and more...



## FARMERS MARKET...

Many here at Fleur du Lac enjoy freshly picked fruits and vegetables and delicious baked goods that can be found at the Tahoe City and Truckee Farmers' Markets. With summer and the outdoor markets over, there's a new option in town! An "Online Farmer's Market" brought to us by the Tahoe Food Hub [tahoefoodhub.org](http://tahoefoodhub.org). The Food Hub focuses on sourcing local foods from no more than a 150 Mile radius of the North Shore, and they have a new Farm Shop located in the Truckee Airport Complex at 12116 Chandelle Way, Unit D-1. One can sign up for their weekly newsletter: *Harvest to Order* (or H2O), to learn what's being picked that week: [farm2market/harvest-to-order](http://farm2market/harvest-to-order). Pick your favorites and order online. Then just pick up your farm-fresh items at their location by the airport in Truckee. A great option for those who come into the Tahoe region via the airport anyway!

### Board of Directors

President: Paula Boldt  
Vice President: Woody Shackleton  
Treasurer: Stewart Koch  
Director: & Secretary Doug Allred  
Director: Gary West  
ACC Chair: Bob Zerbst

### Security / Maintenance

Security Supervisor: T.J. Sheehan ~ Swing  
Pete Mondschein ~ Day Shift  
Jamie Fawcett ~ Swing shift

### Landscaping Staff

Danny Corona  
Lisa Finlayson

### Fleur du Lac Staff

General Manager: Lane Murray  
Maintenance Supervisor: Ed Platt  
Maintenance Foreman: Wayne Brackett  
Landscape Supervisor: Marty Devanna  
Administrative Assistant: Kathy Taylor (K.T.)

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