

NEWSLETTER

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RIVER CRUISE, Cheryl Beckett

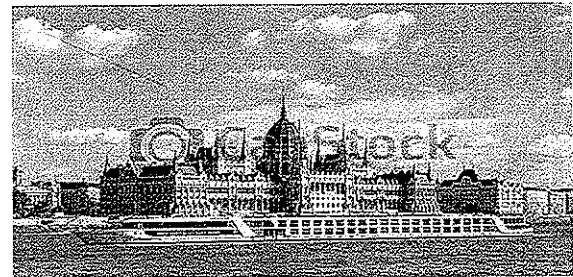
After John and I moved into what we call “our forever home” in Adriel Hills, we were invited to join family and friends on a Viking river cruise. We asked ourselves, “If not now, when?” Without hesitation we responded with a resounding “Yes!”

Our tour began on arrival in Amsterdam two days early. We were met at the airport by Viking guides and taken to our hotel. There, a Viking concierge guided us on a tour of the “hot spots” of Amsterdam such as the Van Gogh Museum. Canal tours, other museums and the “red light district” (yes, we did) consumed us for two fun-filled days. But when 5 o’clock came on Saturday we were boarded and head out to places beyond for a 14-day lifetime adventure on the “high seas” ... not really, but I will get to that later. It didn’t take too many days onboard for us to realize that 14 days weren’t going to be enough.

188 guests from English-speaking countries had the same idea: unpack, relax, and enjoy the efforts of professional tourist organizers as they planned our daily excursions and our superb gourmet cuisine. The eating decadence was savored by all, but food won’t be the topic here, other than to say—wine, beer and desserts at lunch and dinner are not our norm, and the consequences (to our hips) linger on. So ... departing from Amsterdam in the midst of Gay Pride weekend and canal parade to the windmills of Kinderdijk our first 24 hours onboard began. At our first stop and every one thereafter tour guides gave us informative, interesting facts and perspective on local history and culture. Since we were in groups of 20 or fewer there were ample opportunities to take photos and get answers for “inquiring minds.”

Next stop, Cologne, Germany. where we were guided to the spectacular Gothic cathedral. Then we proceeded on the Middle Rhine to Koblenz. Our “boat guide” gave us notes on

the history of castles and vineyards as well as their history which enhanced our appreciation of the preservation of man’s amazing achievements. (Of course none of us could pass a test on the info.) We saw several UNESCO sites during our tour. Our itinerary included guided tours and free time in Nuremberg, Vienna, Passau, Melk, Krems, Bratislava, and the grand culmination—Budapest.



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“Breathtaking” would justly describe the amazement and intensity of our entering Budapest at midnight with its ambience of dancing lights, wheeling flocks of birds and crowds of people on bridges passing shops. We knew then that our guides had saved the best for last. Truly a lifetime memory. What pictures!

We spent the following day touring Buda and Pest and after one more night onboard we disembarked on Saturday morning. Fourteen days were over and no one wanted the trip to end. For twelve of us, fortunately, it didn’t. We extended our trip to include three nights in Prague where we met with more Viking employees and more hospitality. After three nights and two full days enjoying Prague we sadly boarded our planes and headed back to our home destinations. As a side note, we went through sixty-seven locks. We enjoyed going through them and we learned to admire the engineers. The rivers were very low. The Main-Danube Rivers past Nuremberg were impassable. However, Viking had a plan. We were moved to another ship on the seventh day so we could continue our adventure.

All passengers exchanged with little inconvenience. Everything was identical except for the employees' faces. The new staff met us with moist hand-towels, cold drinks and an open bar! We do love and highly recommend Viking River Cruises. If you would like to ask us questions, please feel free to call and talk with us. We are now researching our next river cruise. We truly feel: "If not now, when?"

Ralph's Review **Clubhouse Re-landscaping**

It looks like the weather will stay with us for a while so we can continue working on the clubhouse landscaping. Re-landscaping the front of the clubhouse may not look or seem like a huge task; however, when considering the infrastructure needs, including new wiring and lighting, a trench under the ramp to relocate natural gas-line and complete regrading for proper drainage and setting all the huge stones, it is a big project. We anticipate completion on the hardscape by the end of the first week of November.

In addition, we are going to use the Colorado Buff stones to update and tie in several of the landscape corner beds between the entry and the clubhouse. Ryan and Kali will be doing this work. Please give them plenty of room while they are working around the clubhouse and drive slowly while they are working on the entry drive and roadsides.

Fall Clean Up

With an in-house maintenance or field crew of only two who have been working hard most of the summer on the irrigation system, mowing the golf course and doing numerous landscape projects including the clubhouse, we have no one to do the fall clean up. The Board of Directors recently approved clean up being done by a landscape contractor. We are reviewing bids from several contractors one of whom may ultimately be our landscape maintenance service provider. At this point leaf clean up will begin the first week of November

and occur as conditions require. Gutter cleaning will begin when most of the leaves are down.

Well #2

We recently had the 100-plus feet of well #2 videoed to determine over-all conditions of the well casing. For the most part, it is in good condition. The problem that the video showed is small rocks coming through the perforations of the PVC well-casing. This is consistent with the ongoing problems we have experienced with this well and well meter. We are obtaining final information and proposals to reline the well with pipe that has smaller perforations and install a new pump and motor.

Winter

We know that snow will be here before long. Community-wide snow plowing costs \$800 to \$1000 per plowing. It's a difficult call to make with the budget allowing for only five to seven plows for the season, when reasonable, particularly early and late winter plowing may not occur. **When plowing is required: please yield to snow removal equipment at all times, giving them plenty of room.**

Giving Thanks

As much as we were thankful for all the rain this spring, it put our service providers and consequently Adriel Hills sixty days behind on summer projects. We have accomplished a tremendous amount of work in a shorter window than in years past. Frankly, it has been quite the push! I am extremely grateful for the patience and understanding each of you has extended while we have worked through projects. This summer's work was completed only due to the persistence and professionalism of our service providers, including carpenters, painters, and many others.

My heartfelt thanks also applies to Bonita, Kali, and Ryan who have each had their hands full since spring. The crew and I are extremely

thankful for the opportunity to work in this outstanding community. We truly appreciate the tremendous support and thoughtfulness from so many of you! *Happy Thanksgiving from the Adriel Hills Crew.*

Welcome New Residents

Marie and Paul Froeba have recently moved to Adriel Drive from Beloit, WI, where they have lived most of their lives. After four of their five children moved to Colorado, they felt it was time for them to come this way also. One of their daughters, Susie Rasmussen, and her husband will join them here after their house in Castlerock sells.

Bob Mohr is not new to Adriel Hills since he has owned the home he just moved into at 1951 Adriel Drive for almost a decade. He has lived in Fort Collins just off Lemay, but the timing was right to make a move here. He is looking forward to the amenities Adriel Hills has to offer.

~Cheryl Beckett

November Blurbs/Reminders

October Soup Supper

The October Soup Supper was once again a great turn-out. Thank you, Shirley Hohn, for doing another fantastic job!

Required Annual Homeowner/Non-Resident Record Form

Homeowner/Non-Owner Resident Record form will be distributed to pigeon holes and mailed to non-resident homeowners the first week of November. There are two different forms: 2016 Annual Homeowner Resident Record Form, and 2016 Annual Non-Owner Resident Record Form. **Homeowners who lease their unit must complete a 2016 Annual Homeowner Resident Record**

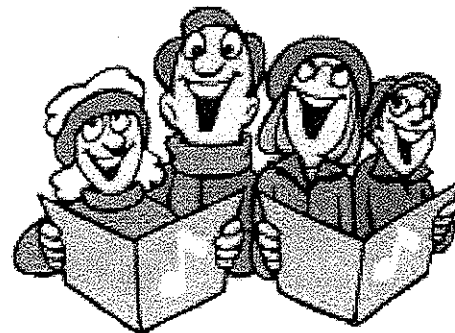
Form including the tenant information on the reverse side of the form. All non-owners must complete a 2016 Annual Non-Owner Resident Record Form. Homeowners are responsible to assure tenant's form is accurate, complete and submitted to the office. Both of these forms are available on the Adriel Hills website. Please be sure to read the form, complete all sections, sign, date and return to the office by December 7th. It is very important to have all the information requested to keep Adriel Hills' records accurate and up-to-date. **The information on these forms is for Adriel Hills' records only; it will not be shared with any other entity.** If you have pets you must complete a pet registration form, also available on the website. If you have questions, please contact Bonita in the office.

Adriel Hills' 2015 Annual Meeting

Adriel Hills Association annual meeting will be held Tuesday, December 8th at 7:00 PM in the clubhouse. Look for the annual meeting notice which will be distributed to pigeon holes or mailed to non-resident owners mid-November. If unable to attend the meeting please return a completed Proxy or Absentee Ballot (these forms will be included in the Annual Meeting Notice Package to be distributed mid-November.

Hose Disconnect Reminder

Remember to disconnect your garden hose from the faucet; freezing temperatures will be here soon.



Invitation

If you have an interest in singing Carols with an end-result of going caroling in Adriel Hills mid-late December, please give Sandra Brooks a call at 303-808-3633.

Considerate Neighbors

I think we would all agree that Adriel Hills is a beautiful, peaceful and supportive community to live in and we all want to be considerate neighbors. Despite that, there are times when any one of us can unknowingly and unintentionally do something that is insensitive to others around us. In those cases, most of us would want to be made aware of the behavior so that we may change it. None of us is looking to get into an argument or dispute. In light of that I'd like to suggest how we can communicate in a respectful and sensitive manner.

When bringing up a potentially sensitive issue with your neighbor, do so in a calm, relaxed manner, both in body-language and voice. It is often helpful to stand beside your neighbor rather than face-to-face. We are hard-wired to perceive head-on posture as aggressive.

Acknowledge that you do not believe the behavior in question was done deliberately and that your neighbor—like you—wants to get along and maintain a harmonious relationship and that he or she was not aware that it was bothering you and/or not in compliance with Adriel Hills' Rules and Regulations.

With that atmosphere of mutuality established, you can describe the *specific* behavior and how it affects you. Generalizations really aren't effective in communicating. For example, you might say, "Monday night at eleven o'clock your music was loud enough to keep me from sleeping and I have work in the morning."

Try not to belabor your point. End it by thanking your neighbor for their attention and for taking the time to listen to your concerns so that you can continue to enjoy friendly relations.

I hope the above helps us to continue enjoying living here in beautiful Adriel Hills. I have heard it said that, "Everything boils down to 'the Golden Rule,' and everything else is mere commentary."

~Laurie Sneider

Petunia Mystery @ 1917 Kedron Circle

Cynthia and Bill Tremblay are baffled (in a good way) by the appearance in late summer of blooming petunia plants in the common area between their condo and the next-door neighbor. Background: we asked Isabel Garity, chair of the Landscape Committee, whether some bushes that grow in that space were possibly affected by the hard frost last winter. Her first response was delivered with typical terseness. "Dead," she declared. Yet a week later she said, "There are a few new green leaves. Why don't you try cutting back every branch that looks breakable? Maybe you can salvage some of the bushes?" So Bill cut the bushes back severely.

Weeks later, after returning from their trip to Paris, a few petunias began to flower pink and white and purple in the open space between the pruned and reviving bushes. It is true that they have two baskets of petunias hanging in their patio beyond their driveway, but it seems unlikely that they "volunteered" to implant their seeds by themselves twelve feet away. If anyone knows the origin of these fragrant strangers—a budding botanist perhaps—please inform the Tremblays as the puzzlement they are experiencing is taking up all their disposable hours.

~Cynthia Tremblay

November Calendar

Operations Committee Meeting	Thursday, Nov. 5 th	10:00 AM	Clubhouse
Rules & Regs. Comm. Meeting	Tuesday, Nov. 10 ^h	5:30 PM	Clubhouse
Board of Directors Meeting	Tuesday, Nov. 17 ^h	6:00 PM	Clubhouse
Water Babes	T,Th	8:30 AM	Clubhouse
Water Aerobics	MWF	8:00 AM	Clubhouse
Tennis	M,F	AM	Tennis Courts
Pickleball	W, Sat	8:00 AM	Tennis Courts
Book Club	Last Tuesdays of each month	12:30 PM	Clubhouse
Adriel Hills Annual Meeting	Tuesday, Dec. 8 th	7:00 PM	Clubhouse

New residents are welcome to join any/all of the above activities.

OFFICE CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING: THURSDAY-FRIDAY, NOV. 26TH, 27TH