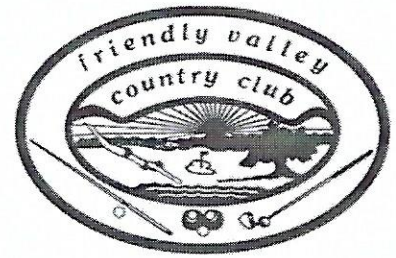


Villager Newsletter

July 12th, 2020 – July 25th, 2020

www.friendlyvalleycountryclubwebsite.com



Friendly Valley Voice

By: Michael Fennick, Board Member

Friendly Valley Recreational Association, Inc.

SPLASH!!

A Siren's call, arising from the water, has always sang a song that infiltrates and soothes my restless beast. My dad was a 36-year naval veteran: a sailor who served in both WWII and the Korean War. My mom always told me that the sea, and not her, was his first love. I guess, in a way, we all have a connection to water if we realize our bodies are estimated to be composed of 60% of that magical and exhilarating compound element. But, like musicians, artists or mathematicians, some will recognize that connection more than others.

Recently, the undertaking of getting those more connected residents back into the water during this unprecedented period of our lives became a mini-quest of sorts. Summer arrived as it always has. But, without being graced by water, for many, a part of life would be missed. Was it partial selfishness on my part to attempt to get us back into our tempting pool? Maybe. But, after processing the events of the past six or more weeks, I can tell by the responses that I have many, many brothers and sisters of the H₂O.

Daria Landress is an Aquarian / Piscean Sea Baby; born and bred feeling the sands of the South Bay leading her feet to the surf of the Pacific Ocean. She has recently spent countless days and hours trying her best to accommodate each and every optimistic resident to safely use our facility while the outside world flounders in confusion. Those of you who expressed interest were contacted and are now all enjoying the pool once again. I have seen many of you swimming laps, relaxing in the spa, floating on rafts and noodles, exercising in make-shift aerobic groups and waving and smiling. Have her efforts made it all as it once was? Of course not. But, have those efforts made a difference here? Absolutely.

All of you should be applauded. You have understood, cooperated and adjusted in order to help us make this a much more enjoyable summer. And because of it, the feeling of anticipation should have once again returned to your lives. *Once upon a time*, The Wizard of Oz was shown each year on TV around Eastertime and we all knew it. And we all watched it. Why? That once a year anticipation left us all helpless to resist. Sadly, pop-in recordings took that same feeling away from our offspring. But this summer, each of you who enter the pool waters can reminisce with that special feeling that anticipation gifts each time "your pool day" arrives. And I bet you might just smile when it does. I can only hope that when you enter through the gate that you will appreciate each opportunity and feel the healing waters that once more become a part of you.

If you wish to use the facility, please contact the Business Office during working hours and request to be contacted regarding available pool days and times.

ROCKSTARS; the Friendly Valley Security Staff:

Please be appreciative of the efforts that Al Sirko and our Security Team are putting forth to keep you safe and healthy. Please do not enter the pool area until authorized to do so and please be in process of exiting at the 45-minute mark of your reservation time in order to assure the next resident adequate safety.

Only guests with prior reservation times are allowed during group sessions. Passes and badges will be checked against the daily schedule prior to entry. **NO UNAUTHORIZED SUBSTITUTIONS ARE PERMITTED and OUTSIDE GUESTS AND NON-RESIDENTS ARE NOT ALLOWED USE PER COUNTY RESTRICTION.**

Pergolas are being assembled this week for comfort and to shade and protect you from the sun this season. Roll down sunshades will be installed following their installation to assist with a more pleasurable session. Feel free to bring down your personal chair, but please always maintain at least six-foot social distancing or wear a mask in the presence of other residents.

July 13th Rec Board Meeting

The July 13th Rec Board Meeting will be held at 10:00am via phone conference. Details on how to access this meeting are listed on Page 4.

Due to ongoing construction, all Club, Class, and Group events that take place in the Recreational Facilities have been **CANCELLED** until further notice.

George Patton Interview
By: Daria Landress



The last time I spoke to my friend George Patton was on Memorial Day 2020 while Michael and I were on a walkabout in Friendly Valley. When we passed by George and Irma's house that day, George was performing his ritual of placing American Flags around the perimeter of his and his neighbor's yards.

George seemed a bit melancholy that day as he explained that this was the first year in memory that there would be no Memorial Day parade... *because of the Virus*. This was upsetting to him. He further expressed his disappointment in having a special trip to Washington DC cancelled. You see, George, a U.S. Army veteran, was one of a handful of Korean War vets selected and invited by the Greatest Generation Foundation to attend the Korean War 70th anniversary and memorial ceremony and to meet the President of the United States, Donald J. Trump, the first lady, Melania, and other White House officials. *The Virus had ruined everything.*

I first met George and his beautiful wife Irma about 2 years ago at the Lawn Bowls green. George noticed me observing the crew play out their strategies and he asked his wife Irma to give me a crash course in lawn bowls. I fell in love with Irma and gained a strong appreciation for the sport of Lawn Bowls. I have met some of the nicest people in Friendly Valley playing Lawn Bowls.

About a week ago, Judy Brothers, President of the Lawn Bowls club mentioned to us that George Patton just returned from Washington DC. I was so excited to hear this news and I immediately picked up the phone and called George to ask him for all the details of his trip! He invited me to his home and granted me an interview, so that I could share his story with our Friendly Valley community.

From the moment I entered George and Irma's house, I felt welcomed. Their home is relaxed and full of beautiful memories of their wonderful life together. Their love for their family, their rural upbringings, and their family history are the most noticeable themes and are blended with their commitment and respect for the United States of America and George's military service.

When I arrived, George was still dressed up from his previous interview with a reporter from The Greatest Generation Foundation and he was eager and ready to tell me his stories. I was immediately immersed, and captivated.

On a recent Sunday morning, George received a call from his contact at the Greatest Generation Foundation. The gentleman told George that the trip to DC was on again and asked if he could be ready to go Wednesday morning. Without hesitation, George responded "I'll be there."

The foundation made it possible for George and the other Veterans to fly to DC to fulfill their mission. The main event was the ceremony at the Korean War Memorial where the President and First Lady paid their respects to the fallen and the surviving heroes of the Korean War. George stood eye to eye with President Trump and in keeping 6-foot physical distance, they saluted one another and exchanged a brief conversation. Recalling the meeting, George remarked that "President Trump is a tall man and Melania is beautiful."

George also met General Mark A. Milley, the 20th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the nation's highest-ranking military officer, and the principal military advisor to the President, Secretary of Defense, and National Security Council. He also met SEAC Ramón Colón-López, the Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. This was an immensely important and memorable day for George, especially meeting these two high-ranking officials at Arlington National Cemetery as they all witnessed the impressive Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

As one can imagine, George is still on 'cloud nine' from his few days in Washington DC. He is also very humbled by his experience. He says he never asked for any of this, especially the notoriety and all the people like me, wanting to interview him. I told him that he is a hero and many people are proud of him and grateful to him for his service to our country. George shrugged it off stating, "I'm not a hero, I am a survivor. The guys who did not make it home are the heroes." I glanced over at Irma and she sweetly replied, "He is both."

[Continued on Page 4]

Business Office Update

If you need assistance, please call the Business Office at 661-252-3223 to schedule an appointment. Masks are **REQUIRED** at all times when visiting the Business Office. Update Address Forms may be mailed or placed in the red Rotunda box or the Drop Box between the Business & Security Offices. Thank you.

Badge Reminder:

Badges are required at all times in the Rec Common Areas. This includes the buildings, Pool, Auditorium, Lawn Bowls, walk paths, and Golf Courses. The lending or issuing of personal badges to other residents, family members, or guests is **PROHIBITED**.

Upcoming Annual Election Reminders

Election season is upon us once again.

- Please be on the lookout for various F.V. Association Election Notices that will be delivered with your Villager.
- Pay close attention to Nomination Form Deadlines and Deadlines for submitting Ballots.
- Ballots will be mailed at least 30 days prior to your Association's Annual Election.
- Exercise your right to vote!

FV Lawn Bowls Club

Come join us! Tues., Wed., Thurs., & Sat. meet 6:15pm, start 6:30pm. Free lawn bowls to use & instruction. For more info call Roy M. (323-850-6569).

No Donations Please

At this time, we are NOT taking donations for the Library or otherwise. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

BOARD MEETINGS

Are you involved with your Association?

Assn. 1	July 7th	Conference Call, See Insert
Assn. 2	No July Mtg	
Assn. 3	No July Mtg	
Assn. 4	July Mtg	Virtual Meeting, TBA
Assn. 5	July 14th @ 2pm	26499 Fairway Circle
Assn. 6	July Mtg	TBD
Assn. 6A	July Mtg	TBA
Assn. 6BC	July Mtg	TBD
Assn. 7	July 22nd	Location TBD
Assn. 8	July Mtg	TBD
Assn. 9	July 20th @ 6pm	Outside, Madison's Home
Assn. 10	July 8th @ 5pm	Location TBD
Assn. 11	July Mtg	TBD

Community Council Meeting

Wednesday, August 5, 2020

TBA

Rec Board Meeting

Monday, July 13, 2020

Conference Call @ 10:00am, See Page 4.

SECURITY NEWS

If you need a Parking Permit or a Decal, please call the Security Office to set up an appointment. NO WALK INS. Masks are **REQUIRED** at all times when visiting the Security Office. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sunday July 12

10am—11am FV Community Church—No Service, but the Church will be available for prayer

Monday July 13

Tuesday July 14

6:15 pm Lawn Bowls

Wednesday July 15

6:15 pm Lawn Bowls

Thursday July 16

6:15 pm Lawn Bowls

Friday July 17

Saturday July 18

6:15 pm Lawn Bowls

NEXT VILLAGER DEADLINE:

Monday, July 20th

Sunday July 19

10am—11am FV Community Church—No Service, but the Church will be available for prayer

Monday July 20

Tuesday July 21

6:15 pm Lawn Bowls

Wednesday July 22

6:15 pm Lawn Bowls

Thursday July 23

6:15 pm Lawn Bowls

Friday July 24

Saturday July 25

6:15 pm Lawn Bowls

[Continued from Page 2]

Indeed, George is both a hero and a survivor. This beloved husband, father, grandfather, and soon to be great-grandfather, has vivid memories extending back to his childhood and to the first time he laid eyes on Irma. His memories also include being on the front line in Korea. He explained how he was assigned to duty in the Pacific theatre. His commander told the guys if your last name falls in the A - M part of the alphabet, they would be going to Europe. If the surname fell in the last half of the alphabet, their duty would be in the Pacific. George served in Korea in a vital role as a Radio operator. He saw front line combat. George was one of the lucky ones, as many of his friends and fellow service men never made it home, losing their lives in combat.

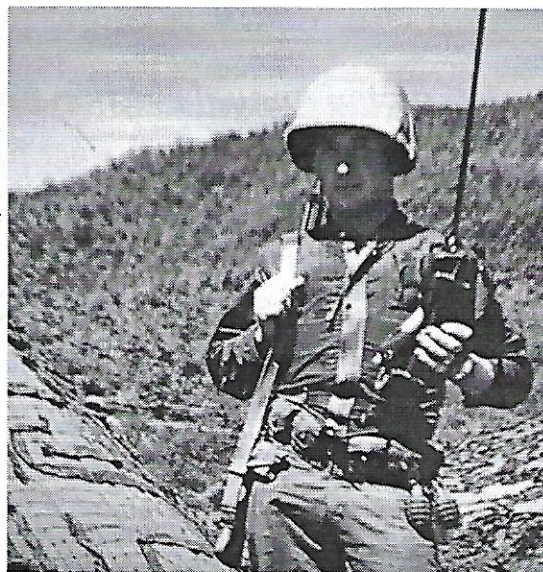
These memories still visibly sadden George, but he always comes back to the present moment where his loving Irma awaits him, and for this he is grateful and humble. George considers himself a lucky and blessed man. Reaching out to hug Irma, he shared, "I've had a great life and I owe it all to this little girl right here." The Patton's met on a blind date while George was enlisted and on leave from Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky. Irma stayed by his side while he was in Korea and waited for his safe return. The couple has celebrated sixty-five years of marriage and are still going strong. You can often find them at the Lawn Bowls compound in the evenings. George is also a longtime member of the Friendly Valley Veterans Club.

George and Irma, thank you both for inviting me into your home and sharing your wonderful stories and conversation with me. Thank you both for being such great neighbors and dear friends to so many in Friendly Valley.

Sergeant, George Bratcher Patton, THANK YOU for your service. You are a Hero. We are all extremely proud of you and incredibly happy that your dreams of going to Washington DC were fulfilled. Virus be damned!

July 13th Rec Board Meeting— Two ways to join this meeting:

- **Option 1:** Listen via Phone
 - Dial: **1 (646) 749-3122** When prompted, enter the Access Code: 410-505-613
 - Once you have joined the meeting, please **MUTE your phone immediately**
- **Option 2:** Listen via Computer, Tablet, or Smartphone
 - Visit: <https://www.gotomeet.me/RuthGauthier/fvra>
 - **If you would like the link for this meeting emailed to you, please contact the Business Office and provide your email address**
 - If you have a microphone, please **MUTE it immediately** after you have joined



Friendly Valley Recreational Association, Inc.

19345 Avenue of the Oaks
Newhall, California 91321
(661) 252-3223 FAX (661) 252-7501

July 9, 2020

This is to inform you the Recreational Association will hold its "Meet the Candidates" forum on **Monday, September 14 at 10:00 a.m. in the Auditorium** at 19345 Avenue of the Oaks, Newhall, California along with the regular board meeting.

State law requires that a common area meeting space be provided for all candidates for purposes related to the election of association directors.

All owners are invited to attend this forum to hear presentations of candidates who are running for the Recreational Association Board of Directors. After presentations are completed, questions from the audience will be answered.

This is an opportunity for you to become acquainted with the people who are running for the Board and to ask them questions in order to become a better-informed voter.

Please join your fellow homeowners at this event and meet the candidates!

Sincerely,

Signature on File

Ruth Gauthier, President
Friendly Valley Recreational Association, Inc.

Friendly Valley Recreational Association, Inc.

19345 Avenue of the Oaks
Newhall, California 91321
(661) 252-3223 FAX (661) 252-7501

July 9, 2020

Dear Friendly Valley Homeowner:

It will soon be time for the Recreational Association Annual Meeting and election of Directors. It is now time to think about taking **your** turn to serve on the Board.

Enclosed is a **Candidate Nomination Form**, which outlines the nomination procedures and deadline for submitting a nomination. Nomination Forms must be completed and returned to the F.V. Business Office by 5:00pm on **Monday, August 10, 2020**. Please take advantage of this opportunity and consider running for the Rec Board.

We rely on homeowners to serve on the Board of Directors to conduct the daily operation of the Rec Association. Any Director can tell you that the experience of being a Board member can be challenging, educational, interesting, and rewarding in many ways. As part of a team, Board members work together to conduct the business of running the Association, to solve problems, and to make improvements. Serving on the Rec Board provides experience in the overall operation of the Recreational Facilities and the community as a whole.

The knowledge you gain as a Director will enable you to understand the reasons for actions and decisions that are made. As a Board member, you will come to realize that a lot is involved in the operation of an Association. This is your chance to participate in making decisions that will affect your daily life.

It is not necessary to be an expert in a particular field or have special knowledge or experience to become a Director. The staff of the Business Office is ready to assist, guide, and support you. Board members who are continuing their terms will welcome your help and input, and they will work with you as you learn. Remember, somebody has to do it, and we can't expect those who already have volunteered their time by serving for several years to continue to do so indefinitely. More people need to step forward and take a turn.

The alternative to a volunteer Board is a paid management company, which would mean a large increase in the Rec Association portion of your monthly assessment. Few owners would want to pay more for the Association to be run by strangers who don't live here and have no personal interest in our community. This is why it is so important to have a sufficient number of candidates for the Board.

Expand your experience outside of your own Association by running for the Recreational Association Board of Directors. Your Friendly Valley friends and neighbors will respect and admire your willingness to volunteer your time for the betterment of the Association and of your community!

Sincerely,

Board of Directors
Friendly Valley Recreational Association, Inc.

CANDIDATE NOMINATION FORM

This form is for owners who wish to run for the **Friendly Valley Recreational Association, Inc. Board of Directors**. Owners (Members) of the Association may nominate themselves or another homeowner, provided that person is willing to serve and consents to being placed on the ballot. Resumes of all candidates will be included with the Annual Meeting mailing to all owners.

The membership will be voting on 3 open positions on the Board of Directors, **2 two-year terms** and **1 one-year term**.

There will be no write-in candidates allowed after the ballots have been mailed, and there will be no nominations from the floor at the Annual Meeting. Ballots will be opened and counted immediately following the Annual Meeting. Please submit nominations early—note the due date at the bottom of this page.

PRINT Name of nominee _____

Address _____

Why do you want to serve on the Board?

Goals for the Association:

How long have you been a member of the Association? _____

Amount of time available for work as a Director: _____

Brief resume of work experience and background:

Candidate's signature

Date

THIS FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED BY 5:00 P.M. TO THE F.V. BUSINESS OFFICE, 19345 Avenue of the Oaks, Newhall, CA 91321 on MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2020.