



THE VILLAS OF ROCKY RIDGE RANCH

Condominium Corporation No. 9811303

c/o 113 Rocky Ridge Villas NW
Calgary, AB T3G 4R2
Website: rockyridgevillas.ca

Villa Views

July 2023

What's Happening Around The Villas

2023 BBQ AT THE VILLAS



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Thank you Jane Rizolli for hosting and organizing the Villa's annual BBQ on Sunday, August 27th

Time: 4 to 7 p.m. in front of unit 226.

Please contact Jane if you plan to attend and if you can volunteer to help that day. A reminder invitation is posted on the board at the mailboxes.

Garbage, Recycling and Compostables Pick-Up

All three of these materials are picked up every Thursday, often early in the day by Calgary Urban Recycling (CUR). The black cart provided to you is to be used for garbage. This cart should be stored inside your garage except for the time it spends on the road on pickup day. All trash should be placed into garbage bags before being put into the bin. CUR workers will not handle or take away loose items.

Since we have no blue bins, owners will need to purchase clear plastic bags to hold recyclables before placing them at the curb. Large cardboard boxes should be folded flat and placed either under one of the bins or between the bins to ensure they don't blow away.

Every unit is provided with a small green cart to hold compostable materials. Please purchase compostable bags to collect kitchen scraps. These bags should be tied when you transfer them to your green bin for collection. Compostables must be in compostable, not ordinary plastic, bags.

Yard waste collection is not part of the agreement we have with CUR so it will result in extra charges to our corporation if you put out branches, twigs and leaves with your green bin. Instead, these items should be placed into large paper bags and placed at the curb in front of your home on days when Green Acres is normally here doing yard maintenance. Please inform our landscape director, Russ Hughes, at russdhughes@shaw.ca so Green Acres can be notified, and your bag will be collected free of charge. Please do not use plastic bags for yard waste.

25th ANNIVERSARY ROCKY RIDGE VILLAS STORIES

After 23 years living here, Stephen and Pat Hardy recently sold their unit and are moving on. We will miss them and the warm greetings they offered to all when we were checking our mail or simply driving past their corner home. Here are stories they shared based on their recollections of their early days at the Villas.

Pat Remembers the Early Days

In 1999 we were looking for a new home because Steve's mother June was moving from Toronto to live with us. We toured most of the condos in every sector of Calgary until we came across Mapleland's Villas of Rocky Ridge Ranch, a new area of the city. The units were not cookie-cutters (one unit looking exactly like the rest), lots of space between duplexes, lots of trees and land, and a good choice of floor plans. Also, a bus stop was very close, and we had quick access to the mountains. Most of the units at the front entrance were already purchased, and one duplex on east side was a show home. At first, we chose the last lot at

Pat and Steve's home at the foot of the stairs



the southeast corner (now #132) because of the view of downtown and the mountains (of course, there's no "view" there now!). But, needing extra space for the three of us, we opted for a single-family unit at the corner.

It took us a few months, but we completed our move into our new home in May 2000, three months after these photos were taken. We were the only home on the west side of the Villas. Not being a gardener, I took our wheelbarrow and picked up a bunch of river rock from the west end and put it around our foundation. I was trying to make inukshuks, but it was really difficult with round rocks and our Chinook winds! It was interesting watching the construction of units on the east side and then, finally, the west side. Other than construction noise, it was very quiet and peaceful here - no airplanes or helicopters flying over our area, but, around midnight, you could hear the lonesome train whistle.



February 2000: From the entrance to the Villas the stairway is visible.

A few other interesting episodes: Before the complex was completed, weed control was a bulldozer scraping the hillside. We even had an outsider "relocate" some decorative rocks the developer had stockpiled. A few resourceful people from

our Villas (without naming names) took on a new hobby - "dumpster diving". A great place to get wood and stuff for the garden, crafts, home décor. One lady got some items she wanted but, unfortunately, couldn't get out of the dumpster. A couple of gallant residents came to her rescue with a ladder!

Before the staircase was removed, I would hold my breath while watching kids on bikes riding down those stairs and in wintertime they would slide down on toboggans. Now that the stairs are gone, we still have a few people jumping the fence to get to the bus or to the Ranch Centre.

One ex-neighbour had an outside hot tub and enjoyed using it while nude to the shock of people strolling on the pathway above. On an icy winter morning while having breakfast I witnessed an ex-neighbour rushing to get to work as they sped around the corner and slid within a foot of our dining room window. I don't think I finished breakfast that day! Thank goodness the present landscape company takes better care of our roads.

Another ex-neighbour gave the rest of us a chuckle. He was feeling frustrated about waiting so long to get grass on his front yard. So, he found a small piece of sod, laid it in the middle of the yard with a sign declaring "KEEP OFF THE GRASS". It wasn't long before he had a nice green lawn!

Because we're close to the city limits, we would get lots of wildlife - moose, deer, coyotes, bobcats, rabbits, prairie hens. We have a bird feeder and it attracts various birds - chickadees, robins, northern flickers, sparrows, nuthatches, blue jays, finches - even mallards picked up what the birds discarded. Quite entertaining. But to the dismay of some folk, I really like watching the pretty magpies in our tree cracking open seeds left behind by other birds. They are very intelligent and can even mimic barking and whistling. Another interesting fact: there used to be a

coyote den where the Rocky Ridge Retirement residence is now located. We still have a coyote and bobcat that patrol our area looking for a meal or two.

Pat Hardy (#202 Rocky Ridge Villas)

Steve Remembers the Villas' First Board of Directors

Our very first Board of Directors was created in 2002 and consisted of:

Steve Hardy, President

Alf Darragh

Lindsay Watson, Vice President

Dianna Wreford

Jim Dickie

Don Bratt

Bob Laurien

Alf Darragh was a great help in setting up the Policy & Procedures and Preventive Maintenance manuals for the Villas. One item was a mystery regarding double billing of charges for the Villas and had Jim Dickie searching to solve the puzzle. The Board relied on lots of volunteers to help maintain the complex which saved the residents a considerable amount of money. Of course, we were a lot younger then - being in our 50's to 70's. Now that we are between 70 and 90 years old, there are fewer volunteers and we've had to turn more work over to contractors and the management company.

Steve Hardy (#202 Rocky Ridge Villas)