

# SPLASHER

Shadow Brook HOA and Swim Club | Where family is at the heart of community

## 2021 Dues Deadline is February 15



As a reminder, your 2021 Annual Dues deadline is February 15, 2021. Invoices were mailed in early January. If you did not receive an invoice, please send an email to [president@shadowbrook.org](mailto:president@shadowbrook.org).

## Board Meeting Feb. 9

The next monthly Board Meeting is at 7:00 p.m. on February 9. Watch the [www.shadowbrook.org](http://www.shadowbrook.org) website for the agenda and zoom invite.

## Social Corner by Meera Desai, VP Social

Hi Neighbors! Happy New Year! While this year's holiday celebrations were certainly more subdued, we were so happy to see the neighborhood go all out for the Holiday Season. Congratulations to our neighbors at 6667 Bret Harte Drive and 6784 Heathfield Drive for winning the First Annual Holiday Lights Contest. The People's Choice award went to our very own Communicator in Chief, Steve Ferree. Honorable mentions to the neighbors at 1030 Shadow Brook and 1089 Hedgecroft Ct. Great job to Nightfall Court for being chosen as the Best Decorated Street. If you liked the sidewalk arches on display on Heathfield Drive, our neighbor, Colleen Kimmel has volunteered to host an Arch building Workshop next November/December. Details to follow...months from now, of course!



We hope everyone has been enjoying the Food Trucks. There is another Food Truck Night coming on February 10 from 4:30 to 7:30 pm see page 2). We hope to have more social events, but will need to wait until the County and State have given the green light for gathering. Fingers crossed that we can return to normalcy in the next few months. On behalf of the Board we wish everyone a Happy Lunar New Year!

## Shout Out to the 2020 Red Bow Brigade by Lydia McClure

We had 84 holiday trees staked and lit in the neighborhood. There were multiple first-time yard tree participants and many who stepped up to fund or put-up trees to brighten dark sections of our neighborhood providing light and caring to some of our homebound neighbors. Many thanks to the neighbors who helped with orders, stacking, counting, pickup, and rescheduling delivery of the trees. It was a late night but we got it done.



The Red Bow Brigade hung 563 red bows on street trees, lampposts, sign poles and anything else that wasn't moving.

Check out the website at <https://www.shadowbrook.org/red-bow-brigade-and-holiday-trees/> to learn about all those who made Shadow Brook shine this year!

## Chocolate Covered Strawberries for your Valentine



### INGREDIENTS

- 6 oz of semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 3 oz of white chocolate chopped
- 1 lb of strawberries with stems (about 20) – washed and dried well

### DIRECTIONS

1. In a double-boiler or microwave melt the semi-sweet chocolate until smooth being careful not to burn the chocolate.
2. Holding the strawberries by the stem carefully dip into the melted chocolate and place on a cook sheet lined with parchment paper.
3. Once all strawberries are coated, set aside for 30 min or refrigerate for 15 min.
4. While the chocolate sets melt the white chocolate in the double-boiler or microwave.
5. Dip a small spoon into the white chocolate and splatter lightly in stripes over the set strawberries. Allow the white chocolate to set and ENJOY!

## Food Trucks Feb. 10 by Charlotte Ferree

We have received lots of positive feedback about our monthly Food Truck Wednesdays so we will continue to have them for now. Personally I look forward to not having to plan and cook for one day a month. And my family and I enjoy having a gastronomic adventure - i.e. something that I myself wouldn't make.



So please mark your calendars for the second Wednesday of each month. Our next Food Truck Wednesday will be on February 10, 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm. Hope you'll come out and support Lemongrass Lane (Cambodian); Grillzillas, The Dudes Sandwich Makers; and Falafel Fresh. Go to [www.shadowbrook.org](http://www.shadowbrook.org) to learn more. Ordering links will be added a day or two before the event.

If you have any questions about Food Truck Wednesday, please email [social@shadowbrook.org](mailto:social@shadowbrook.org).

## Lighting up Shadow Brook: Lunar New Year

by Jessica Brookshire

Did you know Lunar New Year is coming up? This year it falls on Friday, February 12th. Lunar New Year, also known as Chinese New Year or the Spring Festival, is the most important and widely celebrated festival in Asian communities around the world. This is a special time for family reunions to welcome the new year.



Growing up in Taiwan, Chinese New Year is absolutely my favorite holiday. Not only did we celebrate and feast for 15 days, but also my family prepares all kinds of special and delicious dishes which have symbolic meanings, hoping the new year will bring good luck, prosperity and happiness. After the huge meal on Chinese New Year Eve, we will stay up until midnight and light up firecrackers. Why? You ask. According to legend, the wild beast called "Nian" (which means year) would attack the people and eat livestock at the end of the year. However, Nian was scared of the loud sound and bright red color. That's why firecrackers are lit and red is used everywhere. One of the important traditions is that kids are given red envelopes with money, blessing them for their growth.

Happy Lunar New Year Shadow Brook and Gong she fa tsai (means wishing you great happiness and prosperity.)

## From the Pool Deck By Kevin Ryan, VP Pool

### Welcome to the Winter Swim Season!

As of January 30<sup>th</sup>, the pool will open for lap swimming on a trial basis, through March 31<sup>st</sup>. This is, of course, dependent upon COVID, and available personnel to act as monitors. No lifeguards will be on duty. Waivers will need to be signed before you will be allowed to swim. We will also be allowing 20 associate memberships for the 2 month period.

Times will be:

- Monday - Friday 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.
- Monday, Wednesday, Friday 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, Thursday 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

This is a small change from the previous schedule, but again, we are experimenting to see how it goes. Sign ups will be as before with Sign-Up Genius, and the same limitations will apply. You can check the website for more information on that.

### Work Continues for Pool Maintenance

Work continues on the facility. By the end of January, repairs to piping and valves, the cleaning of the filters, and the installation of the security cameras should be completed. The lawn area is being treated to eliminate the clover which attracts the bees, and the lawn area will be thatched and reseeded in spring, once the clover has been eliminated. Bee stings account for almost all the injuries at the pool. Hopefully this will eliminate the problem. We are working with Comcast to provide a faster more reliable wifi system at the pool, unfortunately, a cable has to be brought in from across the street which means trenching the street. Currently, this is in the permit process, hopefully completed before the end of February.

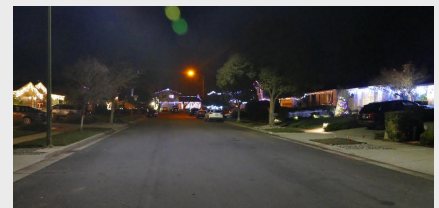
Come Spring, I will be looking for volunteers to help with some landscaping chores and painting projects. Do you have a particular skill set and would like to join in to help? Please email your skill set and let me know how you would like to help. Opportunities available from the simple to the complex. If you have a child over age 12 who is looking to get credit for volunteer hours, please let us know. We are a non-profit after all. I promise no one will be worked to death, and who knows, perhaps food and libations may be available.

In closing, the pool is open! Come and get your exercise, and use one of the great benefits of living in Shadow Brook.



## Street of the Month:

Nightfall Court is a quiet street off of Bret Harte Drive but it is a welcoming area with friendly active neighbors. During the Holiday season the street was shining brightly with every home well lit for the season. In the summer all of Shadow Brook shows up on Nightfall to enjoy July 4th celebrations.



## How to Decrease Crime

Suggest you keep your front porch lights on all night long, empty your mailbox each evening, check for packages that may have been delivered late, remove valuables and garage door openers from cars in driveway, bring in garbage cans (and your neighbor's cans if they are working late or out of town), have a light on timer in your front room when you are away to give the appearance that your home is occupied, and turn on a radio while you are away. Thank you for your help in keeping Shadow Brook a safe, wonderful community to live!

## Meet Our Newest Volunteers — and We Still Need Your Help by David Heindel, President

Do you love living in Shadow Brook? Join us along with our new volunteers, Zhiyun Zheng (“ZZ”) and Valerie Waagen, to maintain our beautiful and welcoming neighborhood and swim club. (Thank you ZZ and Valerie for jumping in to help!)



As you recall, this Board came together with several specific goals

- increased communication
- Expanded use of our pool facility
- Encourage broad participation as “many hands make light work.”

So far, we are delighted with the volunteerism reflected in our 10-person Social team and five-person Communications team. However, Shadow Brook needs three additional volunteers to join the Architectural Control Committee (ACC) in stream-lined and well-defined rolls. Current ACC members Don Hale and Sheryl Stroh have created a simplified ACC process that spreads the workload by splitting Shadow Brook into three sectors. Each of our Sector Leaders would be responsible for 106 homes, and we are estimating the annual time commitment would be about 20 hours. Yes, that is 20 hours for the year! We need your help, so please email me to learn more.

I am excited to share a little more information about our newest volunteers:

**Zhiyun Zheng (“ZZ”)** will be serving as our Board Treasurer. ZZ, her husband and three children have lived on Heathfield for more than three years. Their two oldest are Shadow Brook Sharks swimmers. As the Controller at a Silicon Valley start-up in the AI space, ZZ is well qualified for this position. I am absolutely thrilled that she has come on Board officially as of our January 12 meeting. On behalf of the entire Board, thank you for volunteering, ZZ!

**Valerie Waagen** has agreed to take on the role of Staff Manager for the upcoming Summer Season (May through September). We all hope that conditions allow for a normal season, but we just don’t know yet. Valerie will be working with Kevin Ryan, our VP Pool, with assistance from other Board members. This allows us, again, to broaden participation so that Kevin can focus his limited time on the needs of the facility. Valerie, on behalf of the entire Board, thank you for volunteering.

As always, I hope all of you are managing as well as can be expected in this difficult time, and I’m sure we are all looking forward to the prospect of a regular summer season.

## The Board

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