

## A brief history of the Paradise Valley Estates Board of Directors

**Paradise Valley Estates (PVE), which opened in 1997, has a rich history and has created wonderful memories and healthier and happier lives for residents and the team members who work here. PVE was the vision of a number of retired military officers, who in 1992, formed the Northern California Retired Officers Community (NCROC). They selected a beautiful site nestled against the hills and the Paradise Valley Golf Course to develop this Life Plan Community. Originally PVE was home to residents and family members who served in the armed forces. In 2014, the Board opened PVE to qualified civilian residents ensuring a continuing thriving retirement community. Our journey continues to ensure PVE remains a premier and inclusive retirement community.**

Originally, Haskell Community Developers, who also assisted the NCROC Board in developing the NCROC Board governed the operation of PVE. It has evolved since its founding. In 2013, Haskell opted not to renew the management contract with PVE and the NCROC Board transitioned into self-management. Since 2016, the Board has expanded from retired officers to including a PVE resident and several qualified civilian members.

In late 2015, Col Bud Ross, the chair of the Board asked that I join the Board. Since then, I'm happy to see the Board members expand to include more women, civilians and diversity. I've been an active member of the Health Services Committee, the Executive Committee and the weekly update calls from PVE leadership. I'm equally proud to be the new Board Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) representative as PVE continues to raise awareness of the importance of DEI work.

My background is in nursing and I served in the United States Air Force (AF) for 30 years in many leadership roles to include twice as Squadron Commander, Pacific Air Forces Command Nurse and Chief of Medical Operations. I began my AF career at Mather AFB, Sacramento, California (CA) and happily ended my career in CA at Travis AFB in 2010. After the military I returned to my passion

Sandra R. Schmidt-Berringer  
COL (RETIRED)

*Board Chair*

and worked in hospice services from 2012 to 2021. I gained invaluable experience and knowledge regarding end-of-life care in many settings to include the home environment, board and care homes, and Assisted Living and Skilled Nursing Facilities.

Since its inception, PVE has continued to expand services and housing to include an Assisted Living Facility, Deer Creek Memory care, and a new parking garage. In 2011, an eight-acre site adjacent to PVE was purchased for future expansion. In late 2021 this site, the “Ridge” or 6000 area opened and added 70 villas, cottages and apartments, the Oak Dining Room, a café, a library, a new woodwork center (the termites) and many more amenities.

The Board is committed to refreshing the original campus and refining dining and activities/fitness services. The Covid-19 pandemic over the last 2+ years has brought new challenges to enlarge efficiencies with increasing workforce, supplies and food costs. The Board is committed to ensuring insightful and dynamic solutions to these challenges through smart collaboration, technology and innovation. Additionally, the Board understands the importance of keeping commitment and passion alive to enhance resident medical care in the home, assisted and skilled settings.

I want to thank Sean Quinn the first civilian and prior Chair for his relentless leadership. Sean continues to serve on the Board and brings invaluable local community knowledge and experience.

The NCROC Board is committed, as PVE evolves, to ensuring that it remains a vibrant community with a high quality of life. It speaks well that so many past NCROC Board members have chosen to live here. It is the residents and team members who truly make PVE special and a unique place to live and work.

Thank you to all former NCROC Board members and past Chairs for your leadership. Building upon PVE’s history, I am excited for its future.

Sincerely,

**Sandra R. Schmidt-Berringer, Col (retired)**  
*Chairman of the Board, Paradise Valley Estates*