

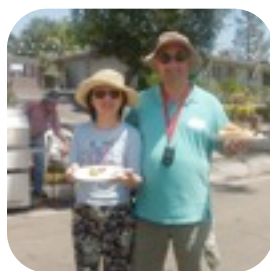
NEWSLETTER

Del Cerro Block Party 2007



Once again the annual picnic was well attended and a great success! Council Member, Steve Wolowicz was able to join us also.

Thanks to our neighborhood photographer, Bernice Green, we have a fine selection of pictures from the event. We have included a few for your enjoyment.



Greetings from the Board

Some information regarding activities around Del Cerro:

The block party was really big, and really fun. Thank you to the wonderful neighbors who set up the party, and thank you to all who attended.

Please be sure to participate in the neighborhood emergency preparedness planning that is being led by the Edgertons.

The new plantings from last year's entrance improvement project add a welcome splash of color.

We still have a few residents who have not paid their annual dues. If you still have not paid, please submit your check payable to The Del Cerro Homeowners Association to Char French, our Treasurer

Thank you and hope to see you at the next Del Cerro activity.

-The Del Cerro HOA Board

PREPARING OUR COMMUNITY FOR A DISASTER

As you are probably aware, Del Cerro residents are taking a major step toward preparing ourselves for a major disaster. With the encouragement of the City of RPV and Neighborhood Watch, all neighborhoods within the City are preparing a basic emergency preparedness (EP) plan for implementation following a major disaster such as a fire or earthquake.

We have initiated a process to establish how the neighborhood will work together as a team to take care of our needs until aid arrives. Our fire fighters and deputy sheriffs recommend that families and neighborhoods be able to take care of themselves for at least 7 days. It is very possible that first responders will not arrive after a major earthquake or similar disaster for a first assessment of needs for up to 3 days. We need to be able to work together to assess and take care of our own needs to protect our families and property.

We have formed a leadership team of 25 residents from all streets in Del Cerro to help gather key information and prepare an emergency plan for our neighborhood. The first step is for residents to complete the Household Disaster Preparedness Survey – which you should have received recently. The survey asks for information regarding resident emergency contacts, available household resources, householder skills, and special needs. The information will be kept within our neighborhood and used to assess needs and care for residents in an emergency.

In addition, we have asked residents to volunteer to serve on one of 3 emergency response teams to be formed on each street in Del Cerro: assessment, communications and special needs. These teams will be mobilized if and when a major disaster occurs in our community.

So far, we have had a very positive response from our residents. Many of you have already submitted your forms and we thank you for your

support.

For those who have not yet responded, we would appreciate your taking a few minutes to complete the form.

If you have any questions regarding Del Cerro EP planning efforts, need a copy of the Household Disaster Preparedness Survey form, would like to find out the names of your block's EP leadership, or would like to submit your completed form, please contact Kathy & Al Edgerton (544-7390 or alnkathye@msn.com). As we develop our neighborhood plan, we will share it with all our residents and solicit your feedback to modify and improve it.

The City of RPV has also recently taken an important step in preparing our community to cope with a major disaster. Recognizing that PV is geographically isolated from the rest of LA County and could potentially be cut off from access to county resources following a disaster, the City Council approved construction of a state-of-the-art Emergency Communications Center (ECC) at RPV City Hall. The center was built and equipped totally by volunteers from the City's amateur radio communications community, with a budget of \$50,000 provided by the City. The center consists of a 112-foot antenna and a trailer containing multi-band radio equipment, computers and multiple back-up power sources – batteries for immediate, short-term use, the City's generator, and a second back-up generator in case the City's fails.

The ECC will be able to communicate with all RPV neighborhoods after a major disaster in our area to determine local conditions and needs, to relay that information to emergency responders, and to coordinate obtaining aid from resources outside the area. The center will also be able to communicate with the Lomita Sheriff's Station, fire stations, local district schools, libraries, hospitals, the LA County Emergency Operations Center, and emergency response offices in Sacramento.

During an emergency, the ECC will be staffed by members of the Disaster Communications Service (DCS), a volunteer organization whose members are highly-trained amateur ham radio operators who provide backup communications in case of telephone failure to the LA County Sheriff's and Fire Departments. DCS personnel will be stationed at the Lomita Sheriff's Station, peninsula fire stations, local schools, hospitals, shopping centers, libraries or other locations where emergency communication support may be needed. One of our Coveview residents, Jim Lee, is a member of the DCS.

A program known as PVAN (Peninsula Volunteer Alert Network) has been formed to provide local neighborhoods with a means of communicating with the personnel at the ECC when there is a loss of commercial power and telephone communications. PVAN provides hands-on, across-the-table basic instruction to amateur radio operators regarding how to communicate with the ECC from their own neighborhoods. We are hoping that amateur radio operators in Del Cerro will volunteer for this instruction to enable us to communicate our neighborhood conditions and damage assessments and needs in the event of a disaster.

We would also encourage residents to become a PVP CERT (Community Emergency Response Training) team member by obtaining training in fire suppression, search and rescue, first aid, CPR, and triage.

If you are interested in obtaining the PVAN or CERT training, please contact Kathy & Al Edgerton.

CRESTWIND RESIDENTS DONATE PLANTS TO DEL CERRO ENTRY

Crestwind residents Merrietta and Leo Fong have recently begun building a new home and offered to give the HOA many of the plants and bushes from their yard. The plants include rose bushes, agapanthus, vines with beautiful yellow flowers, and several green shrubs. They are being relocated to the Del Cerro entry for all

of our residents to enjoy. Many thanks to Merrietta and Leo for your generosity and thoughtfulness.

By the way, did you know that the Fongs are building an entirely new home on their existing lot, but are not demolishing the old one? Instead, they are "deconstructing" the old home. Most of the materials in the home are being carefully taken apart piece by piece rather than being demolished, with the salvaged items being donated to Habitat for Humanity.

The organization that coordinates the process is The ReUse People of America (<http://www.thereusepeople.org>). Licensed contractors accomplish the deconstruction. Appraisers itemize and appraise the value of all salvaged materials. Then the items are donated to the Habitat for Humanity Home Improvement Store. The funds generated by sales of the salvaged items provide a source of revenue for Habitat for Humanity to build new homes for families in need. The deconstruction process is more expensive than a simple demolition, but the value of the donated items is a tax-deductible charitable contribution, and the after-tax value of the donation usually exceeds the cost of the deconstruction process. Salvaged items generally include siding, windows, doors, cabinets, hardware, lighting fixtures, tubs, appliances, vanities, flooring, decking, Casablanca fans, etc. The list of possible salvage items is almost endless.

What an innovative approach to remodeling or new construction!

OF THE HILL...

By now you've filled out the Neighborhood Watch/Disaster Preparedness form that might be of value in case of an emergency. Aren't you glad we live in a neighborhood where we can recognize our neighbors?

You may have noticed a "no soliciting" sign on some doors, a notice that still may be available at City Hall. One door has an additional

warning, "Chat Lunitique". Wonder if that cuts down on unwelcome intrusions.

We had a guest from out of town – way out of town – at our summer barbeque. The young man was Alexander Hans, from Germany, a houseguest of Roy and Nancy Goern. He seemed to enjoy the fine weather, good food, and hamburgers made to order, as did City Councilman Steve Wolowicz, as did we all!

Other welcome guests, who dined only on pieces of ice, were three charming, well-behaved pups. Their welcoming wag was so festive!

City Council election coming up this fall. Stay tuned.

- We welcome articles written by our neighbors for our Of The Hill column.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Neighborhood Watch is reporting an increase in crime in the past year. They also report that most of the crime on the Peninsula is preventable. It seems we need to get back to the basics.

Lock your vehicles when unattended, even for ten minutes, and never leave anything visible inside. Keep garage doors closed unless you can see them. If you have a security system, use it. If it needs repair, have it repaired. It can make a difference. Most residential burglaries occur during the day, so lock up when you leave, even for a short time.

Try to prevent crimes of opportunity!

Please Communicate With Your Board

If you have a neighborhood question, or have any ideas for future newsletters, please contact a Board member. We usually meet on the second Wednesday of each month. If anyone would like to attend a Board meeting to raise an issue, feel free to contact a Board member to find the date of the next meeting and to place your item on the agenda.

Char French 310-541-9877 or charfr@aol.com
 David Seo 310-544-9218 or davidandcindy_seo@hotmail.com
 Ajay Singh 310-377-0406 or bedisingh@yahoo.com
 Arnfinn Velken 310-541-4077 or velken@prodigy.net
 Gigi Villardi 310-544-9777 or gigi@jmkc.us

Del Cerro Homeowners Association FY 2007-2008 Budgeted

Income:			
Dues	\$5,000.00		
Total Income:			\$5,000.00
Expenses:			
Electrical	\$284.00		
Gardener	\$1,800.00		
Water	\$900.00		
Repair/Maintenance	\$200.00		
Replacement of Annuals	\$800.00		
	Total Entrance Expenses:	\$3,984.00	
Annual Membership Meeting	\$100.00		
Holiday Party	\$0.00		
Summer Picnic	\$700.00		
Newsletter Printing, DCHOA P.O. Box, Office Supplies	\$100.00		
RPV Council of HOAs Annual Dues	\$45.00		
	Total Other Expenses:	\$945.00	
Total Expenses:			\$4,929.00
Income Less Expenses:			\$71.00

Del Cerro H.O.A. Annual Dues Invoice

\$50 dues for the July 2007 - June 2008 fiscal year is now due.
Please make your check payable to: Del Cerro Homeowners' Association.

Mail to: Del Cerro HOA, P.O. Box 3704, Palos Verdes, CA 90274

The Del Cerro Homeowners' Association is a voluntary association for Del Cerro residents.
Your nominal dues contribution is primarily used for the maintenance of our entrance.
The balance is used for activities within our neighborhood.

Please complete the form below and include this invoice with your payment.

The DCHOA directory is being updated and we want to make sure the information is correct.

Names of Family Members: _____

Street Address: _____

email: _____

Home Phone #: _____

Work #: _____

Please check here if you do not want your phone number and email address in the directory for homeowner's use.

If you prefer, you can deliver your dues & this form to: Char French, 2 Amber Sky Drive