

Mediterrania Homeowners Association

Membership Newsletter -- Fall, 2014

Next issue in
December



President's Message by Viviana Pichler

I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful, and relaxing summer. It's been great to see more people out for leisurely strolls, jogs, hikes and rides. The smiles, nods and sometimes waves are a delightful reminder that our interactions with one another strengthen our sense of community. I would like to take this moment to reach out to Mediterrania's homeowners. Please consider volunteering for the HOA. The Board needs new volunteers with fresh ideas and perspectives. There are six Director positions that need to be filled. Collectively, the Board can highlight issues that affect the community. For example, the board met with Captain Blaine Bolin, Lomita Sheriff's Dept. about theft, speeding and other issues raised by you, the residents. We have a shared interest in keeping our neighborhood safe and beautiful! Thank you very much for your consideration.



It's a welcome sight to enter Mediterrania and be greeted by the sight of our entry signage and well-manicured landscaping (left), courtesy of Don Ott, current Director in charge of this and other projects in the HOA.

It's also a treat to see a yard at the other corner (below), recently bestowed with the "Garden of the Season" award by the Silver Spur Garden Club. Our congratulations to the Lakis family: John, Angela, Angelina, and Juliana.



At the September 9th Board meeting we welcomed Capt. Blaine Bolin and Sgt. Dave Rozas as guest speakers, and learned that thieves are now more inclined to target homes since businesses are installing cameras in and around their premises. Items taken from homes are usually taken to friendly pawnbrokers or "middlemen" who pay cash on a quick turnaround.

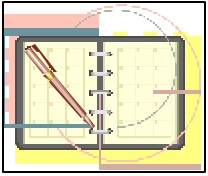
The concept of speed bumps on Ganado was also discussed, but the idea was considered counter-productive since they would also negatively affect emergency vehicles, thus a unanimous negative vote by the Board.

2014 Board of Directors & Committee Heads

President: Viviana Pichler	vivianapichler@yahoo.com
Vice President: Alice Snyder	acsnyder1@yahoo.com
Secretary: Pat Carroll	pecarroll@aol.com
Treasurer: Mort Bauchman	mortpv@yahoo.com
CHOA Rep: Alice Snyder	acsnyder1@yahoo.com
Streets & Landscaping: Don Ott	patty@cox.net
Arts Jury: Carol Morris	gregory.morris1@cox.net
Newsletter: Pat Carroll	pecarroll@aol.com
Distribution: Joyce Kochanowski	joiryed@aol.com
Traffic/Public Works: Amy Sulkowski	amysulkowski@cox.net
Ex-Officio: Lois Karp	jlkarp@cox.net

Newsletter Contributors

Neighborhood Watch: Betty Riedman rabbit943@gmail.com



FYI - You probably don't have a 2015 calendar yet so paste a sticky-note on the fridge and we'll remind you again in December. Our Annual Membership Dinner is booked for Sunday, January 25th, to be held again at the Ladera Linda Community Center from 5:00pm to 7:00pm.

The menu is a work in progress, but be assured it'll equal or exceed last year's very successful event by featuring various kinds of foods. Our MHOA neighbor Kamal Keroles gave the green light for his Babouch Moroccan being a part of the festivities, alas, sans belly dancers. And Gino Cutri, one of our neighbors in the Mira Catalina area, has agreed to have Raffaello's Ristorante there as well. Each establishment is always highly rated in the Daily Breeze's Annual Best Of readers' polls.

An Annual Membership meeting is dictated by the By-Laws and is used to elect Directors for the new year. We have six vacancies coming up: Viviana Pichler (President), Alice Snyder (VP & CHOA Rep), Mort Bauchman (Treasurer), Don Ott (Streets & Landscaping), Carol Morris (Arts Jury), and a current vacancy.

If you have an interest in serving your HOA as a Board member, kindly let Viviana Pichler know so that you can be introduced at the dinner and your name formally placed in nomination. We're required to have a quorum of paid members in attendance in order to conduct this vote, so we ask that you hold your 2015 dues and bring it to the dinner.

The burden on a Director or Committee head is minimal -- 10 evening Board meetings a year for about 2 hours each, plus whatever time you would devote to your Committee duties.



Traffic / Public Works *[it's reminder time]*

Here's a relatively new sign on PVDE just after Via Colonita, and before hitting the Switchbacks. Could use one or two on Ganado. Skateboarders and those who've been filming them have been warned about possible citations. —>



<---- This one's on our residential streets. Speeding can bring you a citation with a price tag of three digits to the left of the decimal. RPV's general fund thanks you, and so we the taxpayers.

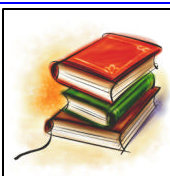
Also note that in August a skateboarder crashed into a resident pulling into a driveway on the Ganado slope. There wasn't serious injury to either party but the fact of skateboarders remains.



<---- This is the Switchbacks sign. Speeding could also carry a Reckless Driving citation. Please be very careful on right-bending curves, especially if you can't see around the curve. If you tend to cross the white line on your right you may encounter an unseen bicyclist in front of you. They don't make good hood ornaments.



Taxation with representation isn't so hot either.



Marymount Update by Lois Karp

Marymount has resumed its application for the enlarged soccer field, which will be usable for NAIA events. Revised plans were submitted to the Planning Dept. along with revisions to their Conditional Use Permit (CUP), however there is scarce information as of this printing.

This large field was not approved in the EIR, and CUP changes are requested to allow plan changes which were originally prohibited. An NAIA field will bring spectators, noise, and no planned additional visitor parking. The CUP revisions include use of amplified sound for some events on this field.

This will bring a large negative impact on our quiet neighborhood. Hearings before the City Council will be held and it's important to voice your opinion by coming to the hearings, and/or sending letters or emails to the City Council. It's too late to complain once it is here!



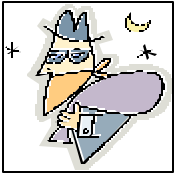
CHOA by Alice Snyder

The 9/17 meeting welcomed guest speakers Capt. Blaine Bolin (Lomita Sheriffs), Capt. Keith Harter (RPV Emergency Preparedness), & RPV Councilman Jim Knight.

Capt. Bolin noted that citywide crime (aggravated assaults, robbery, burglary and other thefts) was down in 2014 compared to the same period in 2013. He urged residents to report anything that looks out of the ordinary, and also asked for community feedback about the station's service to the community.

Capt. Harter emphasized the importance of planning for emergencies with 14 days of food, water, and supplies, as water and power may be cut off for extended periods of time. He suggested practicing exit drills and creating emergency medical info cards.

Councilman Knight related that: (1) RPV hasn't reached consensus to include the utility user tax on the November ballot (may be part of a special election March 2015). (2) The Green Hills mausoleum and location of some burials is being investigated. (3) 49 applications have been submitted for the City Manager position, all of which will be reviewed by an independent consultant. (4) RPV is going through an IT upgrade.



Crime Watch & Safety Tips by the Editors

You've probably noticed that just about every home in Mediterranean has a 2 or 3 car garage, yet drive around our streets and you'll find that a good 40% of the houses have a car or two parked in the driveway or curbside. Hmm, no more room in the garage? Gee, wonder why. Well, just remember to lock the cars, windows tight, and nothing of value in sight. The thief

would rather not waste time on a tough job. Also, if your car key has a remote alarm feature, keep it near your bedroom. If you hear/see a prowler at night, hit the alarm.

On the issue of personal safety, remember that earthquakes, like the recent one in the Napa Valley, have a bad habit of displacing things in one's house. In that regard, do you have a framed picture hanging above any beds? If a quake should hit during the wee hours, will that beautiful piece of art become a weapon? There's every possibility it could dislodge from the wall and fall, corner first. We're just sayin.....!

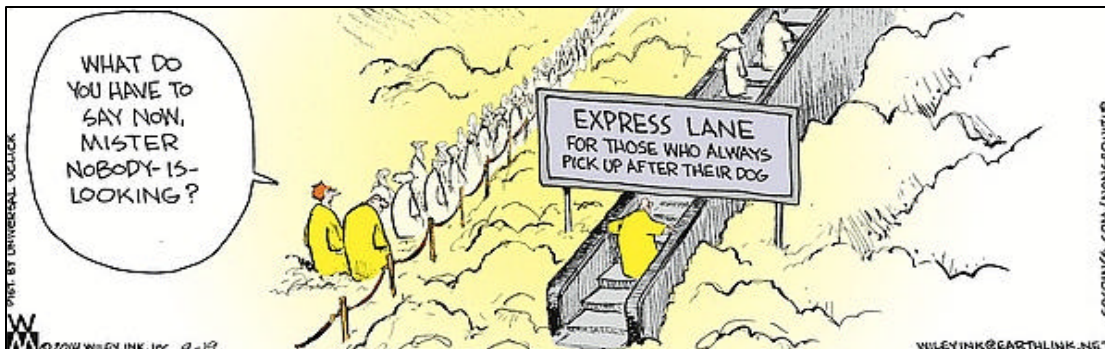


Neighborhood Watch by Betty Riedman

The PVP Coordinating Council will launch "Rx for Life Palos Verdes Peninsula," a medical record-keeping program for Peninsula residents (adults & kids) which will supply individual medication info and a health history to assist first responders in performing emergency first aid in the home. Residents may pick up their free kit, while supplies last, on Saturday, Oct. 18 from 11:00 to 2:00 at the Peninsula Shopping Center (in RHE) at the Paseo entry adjacent to Baskin-Robbins. For more info: www.palosverdes.com/cc

Reminder: there's a height restriction on foliage (no higher than the roof line of your home). People should be considerate and keep foliage trimmed to that height to avoid hard feelings. Those with impaired views, or becoming impaired, would appreciate keeping their views. After all, we paid extra for them.

Lastly, thanks for picking up after your pet, but please don't toss the bags on a hillside.



The Bulletin Board



Calendar of Events



City Council: 1st & 3rd Tuesday
Planning Commission: 2nd & 4th Tuesday
7:00 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room
Hesse Park, 29301 Hawthorne Blvd.
and live on Cox Cable Channel 33

1. The San Ramon Canyon Drain project is coming along as scheduled, looks good, and should be fully completed by early Fall. One comment in the article states that "The drain is capable of handling a 100-year storm event, which exceeds the standard for this type of project." Well, inasmuch as we're in one of the worst droughts on record, it'll be interesting to watch how the new drain handles the next trickle run-off.
2. The PVDE Resurfacing Project is underway and will supposedly be finished by the end of September. Once done, the next road rehabilitation effort on the books will be Miraleste Drive, and if you've driven it lately you can attest to it's need for repair. If you drive children to Miraleste Elementary be mindful of the potential for traffic.
3. Document Shredding will be held on Saturday, October 18, at the Civic Center (30940 Hawthorne) from 8:00a - 11:00a, and limited to 3 banker-size boxes. Bring proof of residency. EDCO will also be collecting unwanted electronics (TV's, computer monitors, printers, etc.), but no hazardous waste. For you gardeners there'll be free mulch (BYO shovel) - limit of 3 cans or bags.
4. Trash collection's on a Thursday? Not on November 27, that's Thanksgiving- pick up will be on Friday.
5. RPV has a unique news update notification outlet entitled ListServ. Head to this website www.pvalert.com and sign up for any or all of 56 areas of interest, including Marymount's plans. You'll receive alerts and news via your email address or a text on your cell phone.
6. Peninsula Education Foundation strives to set new record Oct. 26 with Skechers Pier to Pier Walk in Manhattan Beach in support of PVP schools. Virtual walkers accepted. Donations can also be made to PEF through www.pvpef.org or by calling 310.378.2278.

*In the beginning there was nothing and God said "Let there be light."
And there was still nothing, but now you could see it.*



Streets & Landscaping by Don Ott

CULVERT MAINTENANCE REMINDER - For those with backyard culverts, please walk your area and make sure it's clear of debris. These pictures show some very cluttered culverts that'll be of no use in the event of a good rainstorm. If not freed of shrubs, leaves, dirt, etc., the runoff could/will

harm the hillside and create major problems for neighbors below. Your culvert = your responsibility. If any damage should occur to a neighbor due to your neglect, any necessary repairs could be on you, so take a few minutes to examine your culverts and, if blocked, have a gardener or clean-up crew clear it BEFORE the next real storm. Forecasters say El Niño's still a possibility this Fall.

