

Seashore News



September 2011

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Issue 454

FROM THE HELM

You will be receiving a ballot from Niguel Shores toward the end of September. No, we are not electing Board members again, so no one will ask you to run or beg for your vote. This time the election is to approve an amendment to the CC & Rs for Niguel Shores. There is unfinished legal business that this amendment will resolve and we have to get your vote in favor of that amendment. If you don't send back the ballot, we will probably call you and ask that you mail it back. This issue will not go away and we will continue to hold votes and mail ballots until a majority of homeowners give their consent by voting in favor of the amendment.

What is this amendment about, that it is so important and worthy of continued effort and expense by your community association? In essence the amendment says that the Association can enforce rules on a neighborhood appropriate basis. We need that right because applying the same architecture or parking rule for every home on every street makes no sense. Different streets have different parking needs. Different neighborhoods require different architectural standards. Making rules apply across the board for each home and area does not work. Our current practice is to contour rules to the individual

sub community, such as Berkus homes or Custom homes or Breakers Isle. The CC & R amendment will make our governing documents congruent with our current rules and practices.

The ballot will include an explanation of the amendment. Please save us all a lot of trouble and mail your ballot marked yes. If you do that, I will never write another article about this amendment again and that will definitely make the *Seashore News* more interesting.

While I am asking for things, please consider getting involved by joining our Finance Committee. You do not have to have been previously employed by Goldman Sachs or Price Waterhouse to be qualified for this committee. We need people with a background in accounting or related fields who have an interest in making sure that our Association spends its money wisely. Previous members of this committee are presently serving on the Board of Directors, so if you have further ambitions this is a good place to start. We really need capable people in this area, so please step up by contacting our GM (kdecker@niguelshores.org) if you can serve your community by being a Finance Committee member.

—Steve Stewart

MASTER LANDSCAPE PROJECT — THE GREENING AND BEAUTIFICATION OF NIGUEL SHORES.

Greening to become environmentally effective and **beautification** to give a facelift to our sagging slopes and to give a 21st century treatment to the rest—so, it's throw out the old and bring in the *older*—those old desert plants that know how to live in our desert climate.* We will save water, save the slopes and save our money...

Although a number of articles have been written on the subject of this major project with various bits of information, the

Seashore News staff thought it might be interesting to do this feature story about the project and the players involved.

Driving Needs: The idea for a long-term project to renovate Niguel Shores' landscaping plan and plants was motivated by several compelling reasons as follows:

- California in 2009 cut allowed water usage by 10 percent with another deadline of 2020 when usage must be cut by an additional 10 percent.
- The cost of non-potable irrigation

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Color coded master plan of slope types

FROM THE GM

Community Crime: The NSCA Management Office has been notified by the Dana Point Police Department that several residents in the community are reporting theft of items from their cars, garage, or home. Although Niguel Shores is a gated community it is important to remember that we are not impervious to crime. Make sure to keep your vehicles and homes locked at all times and report any suspicious or criminal activity to the police department immediately. Non-emergency Police Services: (949) 770-6011.

Niguel Shores Wildlife: In addition to the recent coyote sightings, Niguel Shores also plays host to a family of bobcats, numerous rabbits, and a few snakes. Predators hunt mainly at night but this does not mean that a hungry animal will not still hunt during the day. While most of the wildlife here is passive and non-threatening it is still a good idea to be vigilant in caring for your family pets.

—Karen Decker, Acting General Manager

Master Landscape Project continued from page 1

water went up by 50 percent in 2009 and will have gone up another 13 percent by this time next year.

- A number of slopes are eroding or are not adequately covered with erosion preventive plantings. They could become unstable and unsafe without proper attention.
- The current landscape is 40 years old, requires excessive maintenance, is overgrown and, in some cases, dying due to old age or infestation by disease and insects.
- Our turf areas require heavy watering, costing \$5,200 per acre per year for water. Low water/drought tolerant plants only cost \$1,100 per acre per year for water.
- Demographics are changing. Our homes are evolving into more expensive and contemporary residences that reflect increasingly major financial investments. That, in turn, creates a renewed community that demands comparable facilities and surroundings to support that kind of investment.

In considering the harsh facts above and the unacceptability of brown landscaping or lack of landscaping, the Board decided that something must be done. In 2009 it took the bold step to launch this major project and engaged Silverwood Landscape to study our community and present an overall plan to accomplish the goals of reduced water consumption, lower maintenance cost, stabilization of the slopes, and to create an improved aesthetic in Niguel Shores' landscape and entrances.

Silverwood Landscape, headquartered in Costa Mesa, was started 35 years ago in Newport Beach as Lancaster Enterprises. The owner, Steve Lancaster, incorporated his growing company as Silverwood Landscape in 1995 and recently added the SilverWood Landscape Design Studio to provide complete services of landscape architecture, design, construction and maintenance. Mark Garrity, Director of the Silverwood Design Studio, is director of the project for Niguel Shores. According to the company website,



Master plan of Mariner Gate Entrance

Mark has many years of experience in landscape design and related fields. Please see www.SilverWoodLandscape.com for a portfolio of the company's projects, staff members and mission statement.

Master Landscape Project Committee: In conjunction with the hiring of a landscape firm, the Board created an ad hoc committee to supervise this major long-term project. The members of the Master Landscape Project Committee are: Ellen Dovey, Chris Griffiths, Cyril Jones, Kathy Jones, Jerry Koppang, Irene O'Brien, Donna Rosecrans and Jeanie Sticher. Sam Johnson is the Board Liaison and the meetings are usually attended by Shawn Wendt of Wendt Landscape, the Niguel Shores landscape contractor, Karen Decker as Acting General Manager and George Cooley, Facilities Manager. Board President Steve Stewart often attends. The members represent several committees such as Landscape, Finance, Maintenance, View Preservation, etc. Mark Garrity and Yvonne Lindgren attend as representatives of Silverwood Landscape.

Design phase: Silverwood Landscape has made a thorough survey of Niguel Shores' soils, vegetation, structures, climate conditions and surrounding properties. They created color coded drawings of all forty slopes of the community with a key to identify slope types. Slope descriptions have been made and their relative stability and irrigation problems have been determined and those needing immediate attention have been identified and plans are in progress for the necessary renovation. A *Slope Bible* is in draft stage

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BOARD ACTION SUMMARY

AUGUST 3, 2011 BOARD MEETING (General Session)

APPROVED:

- Approved the General Session Meeting Minutes of July 20, 2011
- Accepted resignation of Patty Therolf from the Traffic & Safety Committee
 - Accepted and filed financial reports
- Accepted and filed 2010 Tax Returns as submitted and recommended by the Finance Committee
- Accepted and filed the July 2011 Litigation Disclosure Statement
- Recognized Ginny Nevitt for her years of volunteerism and dedication to the Architectural Committee

DISCUSSED:

- PCH landscape project
- Abalone slope project
- Shackleton slope project
- Issue with tables at the beach bluff

REVIEWED:

- Master Landscape Committee update
 - TOPS training progress
- Request for reimbursement for tire damage
- Request for reimbursement for damage to driveway
- Notice regarding damage to private landscape
- General Session committee minutes

TABLED:

- Review of rule changes proposed by Architectural Committee

HEARINGS / MEETINGS / PRESENTATIONS:

None

AUGUST 17, 2011 BOARD MEETING (General Session)

APPROVED:

- Approved as amended the General Session Meeting Minutes of August 3, 2011
- Accepted the appointment of Kathy Newport to the Communication Committee
- Approved change orders to slope restoration project
 - Approved contract to design irrigation system for Abalone slope project
- Approved reimbursement for damage to driveway as a result of Association tree
- Approved request for variance to Rule 3132.2

DISCUSSED:

- PCH landscape project
- Abalone slope project
- Shackleton slope project
- Resolution to issue with tables at the beach bluff
 - Irrigation specialist position
- Landscape Committee recommendation for change to Mariner entrance monument letter style and color
 - Draft CC&R Amendment

REVIEWED:

- General Session committee minutes

TABLED:

- Recruiter service contract of General Manager position
 - Securitas contract renewal

HEARINGS / MEETINGS / PRESENTATIONS:

- Held hearing for variance to Rule 3132.2

AUGUST 3, 2011 BOARD MEETING (Executive Session)

APPROVED

- Approved the Executive Session Meeting Minutes of July 20, 2011

DISCUSSED:

- Legal status report
- Report from geotechnical firm regarding Shackleton slope
 - Search Committee for General Manager position

REVIEWED:

- Delinquency status report
- Executive Session committee minutes

TABLED: None

HEARINGS / MEETINGS

- Held hearing regarding violations of Rules 519, 6406, 6406, 9201, 9202
- Held meeting regarding dispute over consulting architect fees and fine for architectural violation

AUGUST 17, 2011 BOARD MEETING: (Executive Session)

APPROVED:

- Approved the Executive Session Meeting Minutes of August 3, 2011

DISCUSSED:

- Pending legal issues
- Existing issue with failure of homeowner to pay fees/fines
 - Search Committee for General Manager position
 - Landscape maintenance contract

REVIEWED:

- Delinquency status reports
- Executive Session committee minutes

TABLED: None

HEARINGS / MEETINGS:

- Held two hearings to suspend rights for unsettled assessment debt

NOTE: The last approved General Session Minutes are posted on the Bulletin Board across from the NSCA Office entrance. In addition, the General Session Agenda for the next Board Meeting will be posted at noon on the Friday prior to the meeting.

REMINDERS: NEXT GENERAL SESSION MEETING: SEPTEMBER 7, 2011 AT 6:00 P.M.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EMERITUS

The Emeritus Committee is hoping that NSCA residents, their friends, and relatives are enjoying the three days of Saddleback Community College classes that have been arranged for the Fall semester. Please refer to the previous *SSN* for info regarding these classes. It is not too late to register or attend! Committee members have expressed interest in “bonding” with the Recreation Committee to provide future offerings in the evening and weekends for residents who work or tend children during the daytime hours. We hope to be able to pursue these endeavors. For further information, contact me.

—*Bunny Ross*

LANDSCAPE

We hope everyone has had a chance to view the new Selva/PCH slopes. September can be very warm. Plan your watering early in the morning or late afternoon. We had a very wet season this past winter but we still need to remember to conserve water. Keep your eyes out for dry areas and broken sprinklers and please notify the office staff. Our sprinkling system is very old and keeps the maintenance crew and Wendt busy repairing sprinkler heads. Please remind your children to stay off the slopes and flower beds and, dog walkers, please pick up after your dog.

When you have a chance, drive through the Mariner Gate to view its new look.

—*Janet Traver*

MAINTENANCE

How do you start your Sunday morning? Perhaps you simply enjoy the ambiance of this seaside community in which we are privileged to live. Recently Frank Geck wrote some instructions for a new employee who was opening the community on his first working Sunday morning. This will give us some idea how Maintenance starts Sunday morning and their contribution to all our Sunday mornings. Frank Geck to Shane Fregin (edited version)—basic opening sequence:

5:30 a.m. Open:

1. Bluff gates and tie off overfilled trash cans to keep birds from spreading trash.
2. Club Room: check for event breakdown and kitchen for trash.
3. Main restrooms: check general condition. Specifically, diapers on the sink or in the showers, hair in sinks or showers, replenish toilet paper,

towels, soap, etc. Flush toilets, use plunger if necessary and check for spit wads on the ceiling, mirrors, and behind the doors.

4. Tennis courts and pool gates.

6:00 a.m.: Water balance the pool. This must be completed by 6:30. Chemical test in order, total alkaline chlorine, and pH. Clean spa, adjust chlorine and add sodium bicarbonate which is always low. Clean pool and adjust chemicals as necessary.

6:30 a.m.: Open the lobby, newspapers will be on the sidewalk. Unlock and clean restrooms in lobby and outside unisex restrooms.

7:00 a.m.: Begin trash run keeping an eye out for litter along roads, lawns, and bushes. Begin with the beach trash cans, mutt mitts, and parking lot trash. Remove pool trash, straighten furniture and check filter baskets. Remove trash from tennis courts and handball courts checking for litter and broken bottles. Check and remove any hot coals in the park BBQs. Remove trash from cans and mutt mitts at the playground, Garibaldi and Tasman Bay. Check all pedestrian gates.

8:00 a.m.: Basic opening procedures should now be completed leaving an hour for other duties.”

So, on your Sunday morning walk, if you are greeted by one of the Maintenance guys with “have a nice morning,” he really means it. He has just spent the last two and a half hours trying to make it so.

—*Jack Christiansen*

RECREATION

What a summer we have had with many attending the events that were offered to you. The Recreation Committee thanks you for your attendance. We know you enjoyed it as much as we did providing the events for you. Now get ready for the remaining months of the year.

Beach Bluff BBQ: Sunday, September 4: A Beach Bluff BBQ where you get to come and enjoy the food and drinks you bring for you and your friends. The coals will be fired up at 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Remember: You cannot reserve tables in advance without a person being there at all times.



Kookie's Cooking Classes: Thursday, September 15, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. is the time Kookie's cooking classes start. How about having Indian recipes? and/or vegetarian? Come enjoy the dishes and see how to make them with the fun group. Sign up in the office for \$39.

Chili Cook Off: Sunday, October 2. Chili Cook Off with a Beer Garden, 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Pick up your

COMMITTEE REPORTS

form in the office to enter that chili you make that everyone raves about. The beer garden will have three different beers as you taste and vote for your favorite chili. There will be judges from local restaurants, plus your vote. Win one of the three trophies. All this for \$6. Tickets are in the office with the entry forms.

Garage Sale: Saturday, October 8 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The forms to enter are in the office. Maps will be in the office to find your way to buy and /or sell those items you do not need anymore, but you know someone will enjoy much as you have.



Pot Luck: Sunday, October 16. It is Pot Luck time again. What casserole will you bring, or that good dessert. More information will be on website and next *Seashore News*.

Halloween: Sunday, October 23. Yes, it is our wonderful Halloween party for the kids and you to come and

see those costumes. You may want to join in with a costume, what fun that would be.

Holiday Boutique: November 12, Saturday this year 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Vendors with a variety of items you will want to give as gifts or for just You.

Tree Lighting: December 4, Sunday, will be the tree lighting party,

December 31: New Year's Eve party

A note about the Movie night for "the kids": The attendance was not enough to continue this event. The committee was trying to listen to you about events for the young ones and it was not to be a *baby sitting night*. We tried but feel like there are many other events for the children to enjoy.

Mark your calendars to the end of the year for everyone in the family to enjoy. Reminders will be on website. See you at many of the planned parties from this committee.

—Carol Yocom

CLUBS

GARDEN CLUB

The Garden Club resumes its activities in September, following the summer hiatus. The first meeting of the 2011-12 year will be held at noon on Monday, September 19, in the Shores ClubHouse. The guest speaker will be Dee McCartan of the Living Green Growers Nursery who will educate the members about planning succulent gardens.

Members will be able to sign up for a field trip scheduled for Wednesday, October 19, for a carpool trip to Rancho Los Alamitos Adobe, part of the Bixby Rancho. This outing will be held in lieu of the regular monthly meeting in October.

When weeding, the best way to make sure you are removing a weed and not a valuable plant is to pull on it. If it comes out of the ground easily, it is a valuable plant.

—Author Unknown

—Morry Meadow

MEN'S CLUB

As a result of the very successful July 4th Pancake Breakfast the Club was able to add over \$500 to our Student Scholarship fund. Thanks to everyone for supporting this honorable event.

In late July our members paid close attention to a riveting and action packed presentation by race car driver Dick Simon. He showed a short video of a spectacular accident

where he lived to tell the story of flipping nine times and walking away from what was left of his racer. This footage was shown nationally on *That's Incredible*, and indeed it was. Dick is really a colorful guy with an amazing career from dirt track racing to Indy type cars and even owning race teams that fielded several cars in numerous Indy 500s. Now, as owner of Dick Simon Yachts in D.P. Harbor, he spends his time in slower moving vehicles but he hasn't slowed down a bit.

Early August brought us quite an inspirational talk by Al Langer. As a small child living in the Sudetenland, the German speaking portion of Czechoslovakia, he and his entire family lived the experience of massive relocations after the war. All inhabitants of this region were expelled from Czechoslovakia and forced into war ravaged Germany and refugee camps. Penniless, but with his family together, he was raised in Bavaria where they were treated as outcasts. He was able to move to the U.S. as a 21 year old with nothing but a desire to succeed. His career turned out very well and now, as a citizen, he has written a stirring book of his life that stresses overcoming hardships with determination and a strong family faith. Truly a self-made man.

The club meets the first and third Tuesday of each month in the ClubHouse at 8:00 a.m. with a hot breakfast. All male residents are invited to join the fellowship, and interesting meetings.

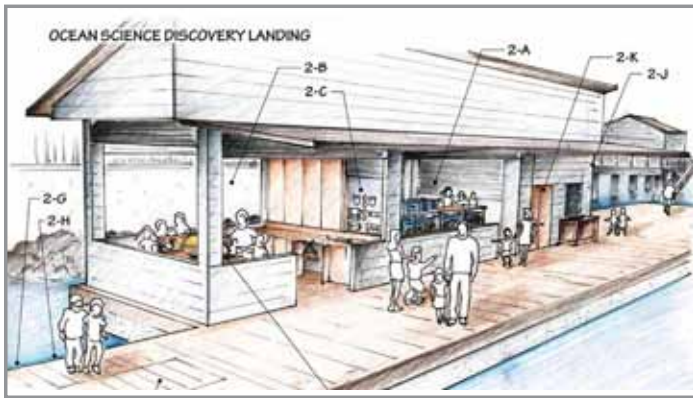
—Steve Leonard

CLUBS

WOMEN'S CLUB — *An Invitation*

The Women's Club is inviting all women in Niguel Shores to kick off the new season on September 8 to celebrate a new year and to enjoy a special program about our local Ocean Institute Seaside Learning Center. The new Center will replace the old dock with an exciting new 300 foot science dock and a 100 foot historic pier—a teaching platform that will increase the annual visitor capacity above the 115,000 that the Ocean Institute experiences today.

The lunch meeting will be in the ClubHouse at 11:30 a.m. on September 8. Lunch will be served at noon. You need bring only \$2. Be our guests!



Ocean Institute Seaside Learning Center

New luncheon arrangements: If you are a member, you will be called or receive an e-mail for an RSVP by which you must reserve. Replies will be confirmed by return e-mail and for each month, half those attending will be asked to bring a salad to serve 10-12 people (this will be determined alphabetically for the first luncheon of the year). Under this new arrangement, desserts and breads will be handled separately.

Guests or interested Niguel Shores residents may e-mail Ginny at vnevitt@cox.net or Jeannie at beaglesjs@aol.com for your questions or news of the Women's Club. Do come to meet your neighbors and learn about this excellent program at the Ocean Institute. —Mary Crowl

In Memoriam

Frank Taylor

August 2011

Original owner on Spinnaker Drive

ACTIVITIES

WEDNESDAY BRIDGE

We are looking for more bridge players—please give us a call and come down and play in our beautiful Niguel Shores ClubHouse. We start at 11:00 a.m. and usually are finished at 3 or 3:30—our number to call is (949) 496-4230, and we will greet you with open arms! Remember to bring a sandwich or snack to have between games—we are a casual group who enjoy getting together and trying out our skills.

Winners are:

- July 20 Frieda Baskin, Bernadette Bloom and Margaret Brugger (tied)
July 27 Judy Bates, Frieda Baskin, Dorothy Horany
August 3 Pouri Fowzi, Mary Ann Theisen, Marcia Winick
August 10 Marcia Winick, Pouri Fowzi, Frieda Baskin
August 17 Margaret Brugger, Pouri Fowzi

—Helen Campbell

PAGE TURNERS

The Page Turners Book Club will meet on Monday, September 26 to discuss *The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson. Between 1915 and 1970, more than six million African Americans, fleeing Jim Crow laws, migrated from the South to the North and to California. Wilkerson offers new understanding of this migration by focusing on the stories of three people. She interviewed more than 1200 people and did a decade of research while writing the book.

The morning group will meet at 10:00 at the home of Lyn Long, 23781 Timor Bay, with Patricia Hewitt providing refreshments. The afternoon group will also meet at Lyn Long's at 12:30 with Priscilla Agnew providing refreshments. Lyn Long will lead the discussion for both groups.

For more information about Page Turners: Karla Sanders karlajoe@cox.net, 496-8413—morning. Diane Hearne: Phearne4@cox.net, 661-6267—afternoon.

—Diane Hearne

OREO COOKIE CLUB

The Really Serious Oreo Cookie Book Club met on August 17 at the home of Sally Lee Howd to review a book on Genghis Kahn, his life, his empire, his military tactics and how he could drink his wives under the table. European kings and their knights trembled at the thought of the Mongol hordes who killed millions and conquered more territory than any kingdom before him or since. Yet his tolerance for local religions, customs and scholars was great compared to kings and popes. He incorporated ideas and inventions of the cultures he conquered. He

ACTIVITIES

promoted on merit, not on family or political connections. But his herd raising culture eventually crumbled under the growth of cities and politics after his death. At the next meeting on September 21 at the home of Norton Schwartz, Diane Hearne will lead a discussion on the book *Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand, about a man who was shot down in World War II, drifted at sea for 39 days, was beaten and starved in a Japanese prison camp, became a drunk and finally was successful by giving talks on his life. Reported by *Norton Schwartz* from real life.

LIBRARY

Children's Programs: Fall **Storytimes** for Toddler/Pre-Schoolers will get underway September 20–October 25 on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. **After-School Club** for Ages 5 and up on Thursdays at 4:00 p.m. Starting September 22–October 27. Registration required. **Family Pajama Storytime** with the Sunshine Readers September 26 at 7:00 p.m.

The Summer Reading Program ended with 1,000 readers and 270 children completed the program by reading 50 books or more. Each weekly program we had over 200 children. It's been a great summer!

—Carolyn Hopkins

SOCIETY FOR CIVIL DISCOURSE

On Friday, August 12, The Society for Civil Discourse met at the Dana Point Library to discuss **Illegal Immigration in California**. The education, social services, and prison costs were reviewed, along with the benefits the illegal immigrants brought to California. Positions on the matter varied from: we should allocate whatever resources are required to build a wall along the border and round up all illegals for relocation to their countries of origin to: the rate of illegal immigration cost is sustainable and the benefits of their labor and intellect in our society easily compensates for the costs. There were individual differences of opinions on specific actions and proposals of the State and we reviewed the history of the Bracero Program, Reagan's Amnesty program, and Pete Wilson's attempted legislative action.

Next meeting at the Library will be Friday, August 26. The subject will be **Jobs—How to Create Them and why we Lost Them**. The jobless rate in California is now about 11 percent.

—Norton Schwartz

In Memoriam *Jerry Milner* August 2011

Jerry Milner came to Niguel Shores in 1994, joined the Maintenance Committee in 1995 and the Finance Committee shortly afterwards. He ran for the Board in 1996, was president 1997-98, president in 1998-99, Chief Financial Officer in 1999-2000. He chaired the Landscape Committee briefly in 2001 and then was re-appointed to fill a vacancy on the Board in 2001 and was president in 2002-03. That's not all: After two years traveling and following his other pursuits, he ran for the Board in 2004 and was president in 2005-06. He



was also an active member of the Men's Club and had been president of the board of the Friends of the Library. Also, having been widowed before he came to Niguel Shore, during this busy time he was married to Barbara, his world-wide traveling partner.

Jerry had retired from a long career with the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company, was involved for many years in politics in Glen-

dale, served as a member of the city council and as mayor of that city and continued his interest in politics in Dana Point. If Niguel Shores occupied his penchant for work, his passions were reading and traveling and photographing his travels. Jerry had been to 171 countries and never lost his wanderlust to visit islands, rivers, mountains (he climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro) and whatever corner of the world caught his fancy. A life certainly lived to the full.

He leaves many friends in the community and his good works will not be soon forgotten.

(A Bon Voyage Party for Jerry will be held in the ClubHouse on September 18 from 3:00-5:00 p.m.)

—MC

MEN'S GOLF

If you like to play golf, or just want to get started, consider joining the Niguel Shores Men's Golf Group. We have a diverse group of players who range from single digit handicap to high handicaps. We format the tournaments so you can play from whatever tees suit your ability. If you want to meet some of your neighbors and have a great time at some of the beautiful courses we play, contact Roy Dohner at roy@dohner.com. We play two Tuesdays a month so come join us.

The Men's Golf group played on July 26 at Aliso Viejo Country Club. This beautiful private course is great to play. Combined Net Scores was the format played. First place went to the team of Roy Dohner, Morry Dohner, and Al Thome. Second place went to the team of Doug Lewis, Mac Brown, and Bob Gutknecht. Closest to the pin was Roy Dohner on hole #5. The second closest to the pin #12 was left on the course as no one landed on the green.

Next up on August 9 was Tijeras Creek. This great course is beautiful, close to home, and the weather was perfect. The format this day was Two Best Net of 4 players. First place went to the team of Roy Dohner, Gary Katsuki, Blair McDonald, and Morry Dohner. Second Place went to the team of Bob Russell, Jim Pinola, Bill Verbrugge, and Dick Grabham. Closest to the pin was Gary Katsuki on hole #5 and Bill Verbrugge on hole #16.

The next Tournament will be on August 23 at Arrowood in Oceanside.

Peter was not feeling well, bad enough that his wife Sharon had to go and get the test results from the doctor.

"Now Sharon, I don't exactly know what is the problem is— Peter may even die if he doesn't get the right treatment. The only thing is the right treatment is going to seem a little strange. Peter needs to golf as often as he has strength and you need to give him all the sex he can handle." Sharon nodded and left. When she got home, Peter was anxious to find out what his test results were. "Well Sharon, what did Doctor have to say? Sharon looked him straight in the face: "You're gonna die."

—Bob Russell

WOMEN'S GOLF

Our golf day and meeting was held on Monday, August 1 at Aliso Creek Golf Course. The meeting and lunch followed at the Clubhouse Café.

Lee Sweeney, our president pro-tem, thanked our Golf Captains, Ceacy Johns and Brenda Tuckley for organizing this month's activities. The winners of the team game were Barbara Brabeck, May Gramer, Bev Macke and Maria Elena Banks. May Gramer had low gross of 38 and low putts with just 14. Bev Macke was the runner-up with 39 and also, the longest drive on hole #9 and closest to the pin on hole #8. A great start for a new member on her first outing with the Club. "Go Girl!" Lee Sweeney had the low net of the day.

Call our Golf Captains for September reservations: Lee Sweeney 661-5924 or Gretchen Rask 489-2259. Come join us for golf, fun and lots of camaraderie the second Monday of each month at 9:30 a.m.

—Chris Beaver

Master Landscape Project continued from page 2

and is to be delivered to the Committee shortly for its review before a final schedule and time table can be established for all subsequent slope repair and renovation. This slope work is expected to extend over a period of several years.

Master Design: As an initial proposal to create a unified look to the community, Silverwood has prepared a major redesign of the main entrance at Mariner Drive to include hardscape as well as landscape. This main entrance renovation is a long-term goal but the master design is needed to provide a central plan from which improvements for other entrances can derive. Elements of the main entrance will be translated to the other entrance gate areas as they appear on the schedule.

Trees: A survey has been made of the existing trees in the community which can be seen on a color-coded drawing on the Master Landscape Project web page on the Niguel Shores website. The long-term plan includes replacement of

older and problem trees and the planting of shrubs on slopes rather than trees. The Committee plans to display pictures of proposed tree replacements on its Master Landscape web page with their common names to keep residents informed of this phase of the project.

Construction: Work is complete on the slope along PCH near Selva where a complete relandscaping was accomplished. Renovation is in progress on the slopes of Shackleton and Niguel Shores Drive/Dosinia. This work will be completed in 2011. Several slopes are scheduled for work in 2012-2013, including portions of Nauticus, Mercator and Cabrillo. In addition, there will be relandscaping in the Sunset Park area along Niguel Shores Drive and the cul de sacs of Cockleshell and Abalone. Replanting will be with vegetation that is drought tolerant and low growing and will offer variety and color. Relandscaping with low water plants has been done at Cabrillo, Selva, Manta Court and Garibaldi Gates. On-going

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work is being done and adjustments made to the irrigation system to reduce water consumption.

Communication with residents: The *Seashore News* has carried several articles about the Project and Board President Steve Stewart has written about it in his *Helm* articles. The residents are always invited to the Committee meetings and encouraged to ask questions as well as at Open Board Meetings at which the Project has been discussed. **Website:** The Board and the Committee want to inform the residents as thoroughly as possible about this project and receive feedback from them. A link on the Niguel Shores website to a “**Master Landscape Corner**” displays regular updates and drawings of the progress of the project. Please check it regularly to keep informed about this major work in our community. Use the e-mail contact to send your comments to the Committee. **Concept Boards:** The Committee has requested of Silverwood that they create *Concept Boards* to be posted at work sites explaining what is happening where phases of the project are in progress. Residents can see a graphic drawing of the plan and send their comments to the Committee. **Drawings** of many phases of the Project are available for viewing in the ClubHouse lobby.



Committee Members left to right: Jerry Koppang, Cyril Jones, Irene O'Brien, Jeannie Sticher and Kathy Jones



Left to right: Shawn Wendt of Wendt Landscape, Committee Members Ellen Dovey and Donna Rosecrans and Board Liaison Sam Johnson



Committee Member Chris Griffiths at left and Mark Garrity of Silverwood Landscape at right

Funding: The design phase of the Project has cost \$180,000 and current plans are to fund the bulk of the work by an increase in the annual assessment of \$300 per year starting in 2012. The Board feels it is its duty to reduce the water use and protect slopes with drought tolerant stabilizing vegetation. To accomplish these goals, along with extensive renovation of the landscape, it has committed to spending \$500 per household for each of the next five years. The long-term plan to redo the Mariner Entrance will cost \$750,000 to \$800,000 and will be done only if the community supports the project through a future vote for a special assessment to fund the project.

Conclusion: Many of us often congratulate ourselves for living in this excellent climate and wonderful community. Our climate is our glory and our burden as we need scarce and expensive water. Our community is our glory and our burden because it is on a hillside affording us lovely ocean views but it suffers from groundwater and wanting to slide down into that ocean. So we must do what must be done to plant it right and shore it up in the good old *bipartisan* American way.

—Mary Crowl

*If you want an unsubtle hint, drive into Dana Point Nursery today and look at what surrounds you.

In Memoriam

Mary Gustafson

July 2011

Original owner on Manta Court

Member Women's Club

— Art in ClubHouse —

Stop by to admire the art work displayed in the ClubHouse. Gary Tinnes recently sold one of his photographs and several other works are for sale.

For information call Karla Sanders – 496-8413, Kay Wittmack – 661-8177 or Diane Hearne – 661-6267.

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*Do you know how many restaurants are in Ocean Ranch??
Are you aware we have some new restaurants in our area??
Let me bring you up to date:*

Five Guys which is in Ocean Ranch. 32341 Golden Lantern, Laguna Niguel, 493 1463. Hours 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Vito's Pizza and Italian Restaurant, San Juan Capistrano, 31781 Camino Capistrano, 481 8300. Hours 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., weekends 10:30 p.m. Happy Hour 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. Weekend 9:00 p.m. to midnight.

Little Kitchen, Asian, Dana Point, 24831 Del Prado. Open 7 days a week 11:00 a.m. to midnight. 276 7799

Shwack: 24502 Del Prado, Dana Point, 218 2731. Hours 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Happy Hour 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Sunday.

Chipotle: 32391 Golden Lantern, Ocean Ranch, 272 5605. Open 11:00 a.m., to 10:00 p.m.

OCEAN RANCH RESTAURANTS

(both sides of Camino Del Avion):

Subway: Hours 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., 248 3300.

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I Love Bagels: Hours 5:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. 443 3300

Quizano's: Hours 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. 240 6161

Z Pizza: Hours 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. 481 3948

Peet's Coffee and Tea: Hours 5:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. 325 0540

Savannah Chop House: Hours 5:00 to 10:00 p.m. 493 7107

Fred's Mexican Café: Hours 11:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Bar open until midnight. 218 8508

Round Table Pizza: Hours 11:00 a.m. to 9:15 p.m. 496 9800

Burger King: Hours 10:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. 493 9664

Pick up Stix: Hours 11:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. 443 0506

El Pollo Loco: Hours 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. 443 0506

Mario's by the Sea: Hours 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. 240 1967

Jamba Juice: Hours 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. 488 3435

Yogurtland: Hours 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. 234 0360

Chipotle: (see above)

Five Guys: (see above)

Beach Pit BBQ: Hours 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. 496 7427

Starbucks: Hours 5:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. 487 7043

Golden Spoon: Hours 10:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. 248 4338

Chick Pita Grill: Hours 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. 1 877 716 8886

*How lucky we are to have all these in Ocean Ranch area.
I am sure I will see many of you at one of the above. Bon appetite, Carol Yocom*



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PROFILE

The Niguel Shoals Communication Committee welcomed a new member to its staff at the August meeting: Kathy Newport who has been a resident here since May of 2010. When Kathy moved to the Shores she decided she wanted a real beach house so, while fighting shingles for months, she lived in her house during an extensive remodeling process. She now enjoys a new, bright airy open home. (It's very different from her more traditional Studio City house, which is full of pieces accumulated over those years when she owned an antique store). Kathy shares her home with a friendly black female Labradoodle, Ruby, who greets all of Kathy's friends with the invitation to play catch. Kathy says Ruby also has a fervent hope that they will pet and adore her. Ruby is a remarkable dog, as one can see in the accompanying photograph. When Kathy goes to the bank, Ruby gets in line with other customers with a check and a deposit slip that Kathy has put under her collar. When it is Ruby's turn, the teller comes out and takes the deposit, records it, and puts the receipt back under Ruby's collar and gives her a treat. Kathy proudly watches all of this from a remote corner of the lobby. As you can guess, Ruby is a favorite customer at Chase Bank.

Kathy is a California native. She was born in Palo Alto and, except for three years in New York shortly after she was born, she and her family have lived here in the Golden State. Her father was with Southern California Edison for about 30 years in various senior positions, including president. Kathy graduated from South Pasadena high school and then went on to UC Santa Barbara, graduating in 1966.

Kathy has always had an adventurous spirit, and while traveling extensively after graduation, found herself in Israel during the 1967 War. Hitchhiking is a common mode of transportation there, and Kathy accepted a ride from a truck driver in order to cross the Negev desert. However, when the truck driver made improper advances she demanded to be let out of his truck. He stopped and let her out, but said he would see her when he came back in two days after he made his deliveries because no one else ever took this remote road. As Kathy looked out at the vast empty

desert she wondered how she was going to get out of this predicament. Then she saw a dusty bus approaching; she ran out in the road waving frantically. The astonished driver slowed to a stop and picked her up. Kathy didn't see another vehicle of any kind for the hours that it took the bus to reach a populated area. Spain was the next destination, where Kathy studied art and architecture at the University of Madrid. One of her next stops was London where she worked in a deli while enjoying the sights and sounds of that cosmopolitan city.

After a year and a half abroad, Kathy returned to California. An aptitude test showed she had a talent for teaching and, shortly thereafter, she was offered a job teaching at a school in San Jose. After a year and a half there, she met a man who, recognizing her talents, helped her to get a job in the film industry as a production assistant. Her first job was ironing sheets. Luckily this didn't last, because ironing is a task she definitely dislikes. She became a script supervisor, a key job that involves working closely with the director to ensure continuity in filming movies, TV shows and commercials, making sure that the action being filmed matches the script. She has enjoyed this career for many years. Kathy eventually married the man who had helped her get into film and they had a son who is now a 33-year-old business planning analyst. He rents Kathy's house in Studio City, keeping a room for her in the house so she has a place to stay when she works in the Hollywood area. Kathy is semi-retired now, only accepting occasional jobs doing commercials that do not take her away from her Sydney Bay home for too long.

The Communication Committee is glad to have this multi-talented Kathy Newport as the newest volunteer member of our staff.

—Laurel Livesay



Kathy Newport



Ruby making a deposit in the bank.

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MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

We all have heard and perhaps even shared interesting stories about how we or fellow Niguel Shores' neighbors have been fortunate enough to find their homes in our wonderful community. Cynthia and Stan Talley's story is a bit unusual; it was actually a catastrophe that brought them to Niguel Shores in the spring of 2005.

Cynthia and Stan married in 1983 and in 1985 they blissfully bought their first home in the Landing Community of Dana Point. The Talleys knew early on that their neighborhood was very special and, for twenty years, they loved their lives, their neighbors and especially their home. They raised their two sons, Bobby and John and describe their many friends and neighbors in that community "like family".

However, on Easter Sunday morning 2005, the wonderful life they knew and loved was about to slip right from under them. Their home, along with three of their neighbors' homes, were sliding down the large hillside adjacent to their backyard, which backed onto Camino Del Avion. When Stan stepped outside that Sunday morning, he noticed a major shift in the elevation of his backyard. From that point on, things began to get seriously worse and, eventually, extremely dangerous for all of the families involved.

Together the families hired engineers and geologists and finally attorneys. Cracks in the foundation and walls were appearing daily and loud popping sounds "like explosions" could be heard throughout the house day and night. At the advice of the geologist, they moved all of their belongings and furnishings, including appliances, to the front of the house. Their neighbors and friends in the Landing were wonderfully supportive. They prepared meals, stored precious belongings for the Talleys, and gave them endless moral support. Finally, in April of 2005, the main water line to the home broke and the Talleys very reluctantly were forced to move out and face the possibility that they may not be able to ever go back to their home.

During all of this incredible chaos, Cynthia continued to teach kindergarten, Stan continued to run his restaurant and their sons continued to attend school. They set up a very temporary home base at the Marina Hotel down in the Dana Point Harbor and began the task of finding a home. They looked at a variety of properties; they knew they loved Dana Point and their son, John, still had to attend Dana Hills High

School. On a Friday morning before it was even officially on the market, they found their home in Niguel Shores. That Friday evening, at Stan's Ball Park Pizza Restaurant, they signed escrow papers and made the decision to make Niguel Shores their new home.

For a long time, Cynthia and Stan continued to hold out hope of going back to their original home. Surely, they thought "we can fix this," and they prayed that their home could be repaired and that this was just a temporary stop. However, slowly, the reality of the damage to their family home became increasingly clear and, at the same time, they began to appreciate their new home, community and neighbors here in Niguel Shores.

Cynthia and Stan will be married 28 years this October. They and their sons have visited every one of our fifty states on their annual vacations. Their son John is 22, an accomplished drummer who is studying music in college. Bobby, 25, just completed his teaching credential. However, he is a very competitive pole vaulter and is trying out for the 2012 Olympics.

Today, six years later, Cynthia and Stan look back at what they have been through and although no doubt incredibly stressful and heartbreaking, they realize in many ways, "What a blessing!" Although they miss their wonderful neighbors and home, they have also grown to love their home and their lives here in Niguel Shores. The Talleys feel that Niguel Shores is really the perfect place for them right now. They love the beach, the bluff and the many wonderful friends and neighbors they have met. Sometimes dark (in this case very dark) clouds really do have a silver lining.

— Patti Staudenbaur



Cynthia & Stan Talley

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