

Seashore News



April 2011

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Issue 449

FROM THE HELM

April will be a busy month in Niguel Shores. There will be two community meetings this month that you are encouraged to attend. The first, on April 2, will be to explain proposed rule changes and allow discussion on those changes. You should have received a mailing about rule changes in March from NSCA. This will be your opportunity to express your opinion on those changes before they go into effect.

On April 20 we are having Meet the Board Candidates Night and a presentation on the status of our Master Landscape Project. This is your opportunity to hear from the three candidates running for two openings and decide who you want to fill those vacancies.

Our landscape consulting firm will present an update that night on the Master Landscape Project. This project is essential to the long term appearance of Niguel Shores, our slope stability and future landscape maintenance expense. We may need to ask for a special assessment in 2012 to keep this project moving forward at an appropriate pace. Turf typically requires 1,300,000 gallons of water per acre each year. Compare that to low water requirement plants that only need 271,000 gallons

per acre per year. We have too much turf in the community and too many of the wrong plants on our slopes. With water costs rising and water availability potentially diminishing, we need to evolve our landscape toward environmental and financial sustainability. Please attend this meeting to find out what is going on and let us know what you think.

The Board will vote on whether to start engineering work for the Stonehill Gate at our first meeting in April. There are differing opinions on the desirability and safety of this gate. The opinion of Board members at the present time is that the gate will make our community safer by relieving traffic pressure on the Mariner Gate and allow more direct access to a very important artery used daily by many residents. Your comments on this should be directed to the General Manager by letter or email at kdecker@niguelshores.org.

Lastly we ask you to vote yes on the CCR amendment in this year's ballot. It will allow us to configure rules that respect the differences between the various Shores neighborhoods. It is a simple and needed update to CC&Rs that are forty years old.

— Steve Stewart

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNUAL ELECTION

Below are short biographies of the three candidates for the Board of Directors election to be held on Tuesday, May 17. Please read them to help you make your choices and do not neglect to return your ballot. Ballots will be mailed to you on April 15. There will be two openings on the Board: Rob Rifkin and Gary Tinnes are completing their terms. The three continuing members are Sam Johnson, Sue Kichline and Steve Stewart.

Candidate Charlie Clark

IBM executive, grocery entrepreneur, rancher, Christian Missionary, father of four, 26 year resident, past board member and neighbor on Breakers Isle: Meet Charlie Clark.

Born in Cambridge, Massachusetts, Charlie spent his early years in Wellesley, Massachusetts before entering Phillips Andover as a boarding student. High school finished, he attended Amherst for his undergrad degree and MIT for his masters. Scientifically oriented, IBM immediately signed him on for his knowledge of liquid nitrogen as they were just beginning to build super computers which needed efficient cooling systems.



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Charlie Clark

FROM THE GM

I would like to formally congratulate **George Cooley** for his promotion to Facility Manager. George has been an employee of Niguel Shores for seven years and, in that time has been promoted twice, from Maintenance Lead to Maintenance Manager and now to Facility Manager. As Facility Manager, George will be responsible for maintaining facility contracts, landscape, and major construction projects as well as overseeing the Maintenance Department now headed by Dave Smith. Congratulations George on your success and thank you for your years of devoted service!

Update on PCH Landscape Project: The City of Dana Point has signed off on the concept planting plan presented to them in mid March. Once the Association receives the detailed planting plan the next step will be to contract a company to complete the planting. This will be done simultaneously with the removal of the existing plants so the project is completed in one cohesive movement. A copy of the concept drawing is posted in the bulletin board in the Community Center.

2011 Rule Changes: The proposed rule changes were mailed out on March 23. Additional copies of these changes

Board Election continued from page 1

Thirty years later, in retirement, he ran a neighborhood grocery and later bought a ranch and ran it for five years. He is very involved with Vineyard Community Church. Besides running their food bank, he travels to Asia three times a year to help and support the church's educational and development goals in Korea, China and Mongolia.

In answer to the question of how the community differs from when he first moved here he feels, physically, it has not changed a great deal. Landscaping has matured and with the completion of the new community center it looks much more established. He feels we are the premier community in South Orange County and that our culture of volunteerism has been very instrumental in achieving this. This "spirit" however seems to be waning in our community as the current volunteers are aging and younger people are not filling the committees. He suggests maybe the key is to re-think the commitment and enlist residents for shorter term stints on projects to study problems at hand.

In his opinion economics will be the main challenge for the board in the next two years. The volunteers have kept our dues down but, as noted, this is becoming a problem. Also the threat of inflation and the costs of maintaining a competent staff need to be considered. However, the always present threat of litigation is where he thinks he can be of most value to the board. He was responsible for all lawsuit resolution the previous time he served and feels he was

are available in the NSCA Management Office. A meeting will be held in the Community Center ClubHouse on Saturday, April 2, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in order to review the rule changes and answer any questions the membership may have regarding them. Additionally, the Board will discuss the proposed amendment to the CC&R's that will be voted on by the membership as part of the annual election ballot.

Meet the Candidates Night: As traditional in Niguel Shores, a 'Meet the Candidates' presentation will be held as part of the April 20 Homeowner Open Forum in the Community Center ClubHouse. The open forum will begin at 6:00 p.m. Also on the agenda for that evening is a presentation from Silverwood Landscape on the NSCA Master Landscape project.

Slope Issues: With the recent wave of heavy storms, Niguel Shores experienced a few issues with the slopes in the Berkus Home area along Niguel Shores Drive. The Association has received reports back from our consulting geotechnical engineering firm and is now in the process of contracting a company to make the repairs to the slopes.

—Karen Decker

quite successful in resolving several potentially very costly lawsuits against the Association. In addition he has experience as liaison to the Architectural, Recreation, and Maintenance Committees and served on the Finance Committee.

When asked why he decided to run for the board again, Charlie was very frank and said he knew the Nominating Committee was having problems getting candidates and, in the true spirit of a volunteer, he agreed to run.

—Barbara Milner

NSCA Board Candidate John Dougherty

Some of you may recognize his name and his photo. Yes, John Dougherty is familiar.

Needless to say, he has had lot of experience with our community. John and his wife Joanne moved to the Shores 38 years ago and raised both their sons here. He has seen and helped implement many of the positive

changes we enjoy in our community today. He helped oversee the renovation of the Club House, as well as the expansion of the Beach Bluff Park. Professionally, John brings

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John Dougherty

BOARD ACTION SUMMARY

MARCH 2, 2011 BOARD MEETING (General Session)

APPROVED:

- Approved the Special General Session Minutes of February 9, 2011
- Approved the General Session Minutes of February 16, 2011
 - Approved the resignation of Bonnie Gilberstadt as Chairman of the View Preservation Committee
 - Approved the appointment of Kathy Jones as the View Preservation Committee Chairman
 - Approved the appointment of Miriam Roehl as a member of the View Preservation Committee

DISCUSSED:

- Revetment Matter
 - Irrigation Committee update
 - Nomination Committee update
- Master Landscape/ PCH landscape project updates
 - TOPS presentation results
 - Drainage issues
 - Proposed architectural review and compliance
- Resident request: Reimbursement for Tire Damage

REVIEWED:

- Reviewed and filed the January 31, 2011 Financial Report
 - Reviewed and filed the January 31, 2011 Variance & Delinquency Reports
- Resident Correspondence: Lighting at Beach Bluff Park

TABLED:

- Draft changes to Rules & Regulations
 - Homeowner view matter.
 - Assessment collection procedures
- Landscape Committee request to repaint Mariner Drive monuments

HEARINGS / MEETINGS / PRESENTATIONS:

- None

MARCH 2, 2011 BOARD MEETING (Executive Session)

APPROVED:

- Approved the Executive Session Minutes of February 16, 2011
- Approved the Special Executive Session Minutes of February 22, 2011

DISCUSSED:

- General Counsel legal review
- Delinquent account collection matters
 - Architecture Committee matter
 - HR Committee update
- Restructured Silverwood Landscape contract
- Storm Drain Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)
- Resident correspondence: Water damage from neighboring property

TABLED:

- Homeowner view matter

MARCH 16, 2011 BOARD MEETING: (General Session)

APPROVED:

- Approved the Special General Session Minutes of March 2, 2011.
 - Resignation of Scott McCarter from the Finance Committee.
- Appointment of Art Staudenbaur to the Maintenance Committee
 - SWPPP Contract
 - Silverwood Landscape contract
- Draft rule changes to be mailed out to membership on March 23, 2011 for 30 day review
- Reimbursement to homeowner for water damage

DISCUSSED:

- Irrigation Committee update
- Breakers Isle water remediation
 - Staff cross-training update
 - Slope and drainage issues
- 2011 Election of Directors schedule
- Request from Communications Committee regarding *Seashore News* distribution
- Best Management Practices (BMP)/ Water management

REVIEWED:

- Resident correspondence: Stonehill gate opening

TABLED:

- Homeowner view matter
- Master Landscape/ PCH landscape project review
 - Stonehill gate project

HEARINGS / MEETINGS / PRESENTATIONS:

- Meeting with homeowner regarding reimbursement of expenses for water damage

MARCH 16, 2011 BOARD MEETING: (Executive Session)

APPROVED:

- Approved the Executive Session Minutes of March 2, 2011.

REVIEWED:

- HR Committee update.
- Restructured Silverwood Landscape contract
 - SWPPP contract

DISCUSSED:

- Update on delinquent accounts

TABLED:

- Homeowner view matter
- Stonehill gate design contract

HEARINGS / MEETINGS

- Conducted hearing for violation of Rule 4113 Slope plantings — matter continued for further review
- Conducted two hearings for Rule 2752 Suspension of Rights — both matters approved

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 also be posted at noon on the Friday prior to the next meeting.

REMINDERS: NEXT GENERAL SESSION MEETING: APRIL 6, 2011 AT 6:00 P.M.
NEXT GENERAL PUBLIC FORUM: APRIL 20, 2011 AT 6:00 P.M.

lots of expertise to his volunteerism. He served as Director of Corporate Facility Planning for Hunt Wesson Foods; after his retirement, he earned a JD Degree and continues to practice law on a part time basis.

John realizes that the needs of our community are changing. We are no longer a community solely comprised of retirees. Instead, we are a diverse group of residents, including singles, couples and families, all who enjoy the amenities our wonderful community has to offer.

The challenges he sees for the future Board include implementing the Master Landscape Plan as well as continuing and closely watching the financial and management issues the Association faces. John is committed to seeing that our association dues are effectively monitored and, most importantly, that Niguel Shores continues to be the great community we all enjoy.

—Patti Staudenbaur

Candidate Pat O'Brien

Pat O'Brien is a candidate for the Niguel Shores Board of Directors in the coming election. He believes his experience as a member of the Board in 2007 through 2009, and as a current member of the Finance Committee, has given him insight as to the needs of our community.

Pat O'Brien is 63 years old, born and raised in Southern California. He lived in Downey, attended school there, and then went to Cerritos College before joining the Downey Police Department when he was 21 years old. He retired from the Police Department in 2002 as the Robbery-Homicide Sergeant after 32 years of service. He often dealt with the Downey city Council on many shared community issues during those years.



Pat O'Brien

Pat and his wife, Irene, bought their home in the Shores after his retirement. He and his wife saw how volunteers, serving on various committees in our community, help to keep our Homeowners Association running smoothly. Soon Pat and Irene became two of those volunteers. Pat joined the Traffic and Safety Committee where he served until he was elected to the Board of Directors in 2007. He was secretary, and then first vice president during that time on the Board. He sat down with this reporter to discuss his candidacy.

SN: What will be the major challenges for the Shores in the next two years?

The Master Landscape Plan is a major challenge. We have to figure out how we are going to finance it. The Master Landscape Plan is necessary because we can't count on rainfall to supply our landscape needs and the cost of water is escalating. So, we need plants that are drought resistant and easy to maintain.

SN: How do you plan to meet this challenge?

We need to build up our reserves and do the project in stages. We don't want to do a separate assessment as we did with the ClubHouse. We must look closely at the (three) largest items in our budget: One, landscaping, (which includes redoing slopes), two, maintenance of our facilities, and three, Security Maintenance Contracts.

SN: How will you encourage more people to volunteer to serve their community?

I have talked to young residents about the rewards of volunteering, telling them that volunteers serving on these committees have saved our HOA thousands of dollars helping to keep our homeowner fees down.

Niguel Shores has a history of being well-maintained and has the lowest Association dues in the area. I will work to maintain this and keep Niguel Shores one of the best places to live.

—Laurel Livesay

In Memoriam

Josephine Turner
(Mrs. Frank)
February 2011
Resident of Capstan since 1973
Member View Preservation Committee, Member Women's Club

Betty Steinwinter
(Mrs. Hersey)
February 2011
Resident of Vista D'Oro
Member Communications Committee, Member Women's Club

Sandra Zarembor
March 2011
Resident Hobart Bay

Grover Cleveland Brown
March 2011
Resident of Vista D'Oro
Chair Finance Committee 1995-98
President Men's Club 1993

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EMERITUS/EDUCATION

As we move from “ad hoc” to committee status, we continue to invite interested residents to join us in the ClubHouse lobby on the first Thursday of every month at 9:00 a.m.

Plans to provide a creative writing class this summer are stalled. Although there is much “verbal” interest, potential participants must submit their names by leaving a note in the office or contacting a member of the Committee. Chris Stanfield, who gave an enjoyable presentation to the Women’s Club, has agreed to do the same, with her improvisational skills, (to be arranged) at a future Potluck night.

The Committee has initiated discussion for an additional Saddleback College class. Topics to be pursued would be Western Civilization, Art Appreciation, Music Appreciation. Addition of any one of these subjects to a very crowded usage of our clubhouse would be subject to Board Approval. Classes would begin in late August, 2011.

—*Bunny Ross*

FINANCE

The Finance Committee is looking for new members. The Finance Committee is the most interesting committee of all in the NSCA. Practically everything to do with managing the Niguel Shores Community Association involves money and finances in one way or the other. Money and finances are what the Finance Committee is all about. The logical conclusion one can make is that practically everything that happens in the NSCA crosses the desk of the Finance Committee.

Now I admit, you are possibly thinking, “What is he talking about?” Finance is about as interesting as sitting on the 405 at rush hour! All that complicated paperwork, all that MATH! Do I need another headache? Finance is BORING! NO THANK YOU! Unless of course, it is YOUR MONEY.

Notice in casual conversation how you refer to Niguel Shores Community Association. Even though we live in Dana Point, when someone asks, the answer is invariably, “I live in Niguel Shores.” The next time you are taking a leisurely stroll around NSCA, reflect for a moment on the beauty and serenity that surround you.

Niguel Shores Community Association belongs to YOU. It is yours: your Beach Bluff, your ClubHouse, your pool, your spa, your park, your flowers and grass and trees, streets, and tennis courts. The wonderful staff members are your employees. It is where you laugh, cry, reflect, raise your children and celebrate your life. It is your home. And it is YOUR MONEY!

Join the Finance Committee and you will be amazed at the wealth of information you will encounter. You will be astounded at the complexity and gravity of the issues that must be considered and managed to effectively operate your community. You will gain a whole new perspective on, and appreciation for, all of the people involved. You will see with new eyes, the wonderful staff and the awesome volunteers, who love and make this community the “icon of operational orchestra” that it is. You will want to play your part in this sonata.

Come and sit in on the next meeting and see for yourself. Meetings are once a month, for about two hours on Monday. Contact the NSCA office for dates and times. What could be more interesting?

—*Keith Carlson*

LANDSCAPE

The Board of Directors is working with the city of Dana Point to complete the landscaping project on PCH. Please direct any inquiries to the office—attention Karen Decker.

Jerry Koppang was kind enough to supply the following update on the irrigation subcommittee efforts:

As many of you know the State of California and the local water districts are mandating homeowners and HOA’s to reduce water consumption for home and irrigation. Niguel Shores has taken a leadership position in the area of irrigation by developing a long range plan for landscape to reduce water consumption. In addition to the landscape plan we have been working with Wendt Landscape and our Maintenance Department to fine tune our irrigation system and our Weather Trac satellite irrigation system.

We also have been working with the South Coast Water District and the Metropolitan Water District of Orange County to review our non potable irrigation water usage and ways we can reduce consumption. We are currently evaluating a free program from the Metropolitan Water District of Orange County that will provide accurate data for our irrigation water meters by location and the zone coverage they provide within our community. We will be able to establish water budgets for usage and monitor monthly reports that can correlate with our Weather Trac irrigation system. The overall goal is to keep the community looking good and save water in the process. We now control the entire irrigation system from our maintenance computer when we expect rain, by putting the system in a rain pause mode.

Just a reminder: Many home owners forget to turn off the automatic sprinkler home system when it’s raining. Please do so and wait a week or so before turning the system on again. The goal is to reduce water usage.

—*Karen Linger*

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MAINTENANCE

The new dolphin statue is in place at the Garibaldi Gate. The statue is a gift from one of our home owners. Rejuvenating its appearance and putting it in place was the work of the Maintenance Department.

A contractor built the concrete pedestal, and Maintenance designed the mounting hardware, installed power, electrical conduit, and lights.

Finding someone qualified to weld brass took some research. An artist was found in Laguna who did an excellent job and he was able to improve the appearance of the dolphins with some special bronze paint. George drove to Stanton to pick up some Micro-Crystalline Wax. This is a wax used by museum curators to protect bronze and other metal artifacts. The application of this wax and a little elbow grease further enhanced the appearance of the dolphins.

The next challenge was to lift the 400 pound statue into a truck and to place it on the pedestal at Garibaldi without damage to the somewhat fragile welds that hold the dolphins in place. We could rent a fork lift for \$300. George said the Egyptians didn't need a fork lift to build the pyramids and he didn't need one to lift a statue. So our imaginative maintenance guys used a floor jack and many pieces of scrap lumber to carefully lift the statue an inch and a half at a time until it reached the truck bed. Maintenance successfully got the statue on the pedestal, undamaged, and without injury to anyone. Even though George saved us \$300, his use of a floor jack disqualified him for an Egyptian builder's license. (See page 11 for installed dolphins.)

—Jack Christiansen



Maintenance at work on the lifting mechanism. Floor jack and lumber brings statue to truck bed height.



RECREATION

April will find many of you enjoying Spring Break and Easter celebrations. The Recreation Committee has a couple of cooking classes and Potluck for you this month between your vacation times.

Potluck—April

17: Call and make your reservations from the list to bring a dish for everyone.



Kookie Cooking Class—April

21: 11:30 to 1:30. This month will be a fish class. Seared Ahi, Grilled swordfish with chimichurri sauce, Cioppino and bisque, a salad and bread and a small dessert. Due to



the expense of fish the class will be \$39. Tickets in the office.

Tom O'Keefe Class: Chef Peter and Papa Tom will be cooking summer Italian BBQ pork shoulder, twice cooked potatoes and summer salads. Wine will be served and simple dessert. Class member will make their own mayonnaise and chop salads. You will be notified of date, time and cost with tickets on sale in the office.



Reminder: June 11 will be In and Out Burger at the bluff. Tickets are limited and will go on sale May 2 in the office.

See you enjoying one of the activities, our pool, tennis courts or bluff during the month of April.

—Carol Yocom

CLUBS

GARDEN CLUB

The Garden Club meeting in February was kept enthralled by our guest speaker, Annie Hall (no, not the one in Woody Allen's movie) who presented a lot of helpful hints on the plants that are appropriate for our coastal area. Attendees had many questions that

Ms. Hall was able to set us straight on.

By the time you read this, Garden Club members will have paid a visit to the Getty Villa and Gardens, and will be looking forward to hearing our April guest speaker, Gisele Schoniger, who is an organic garden educator. Ms. Schoniger is a member of the "Kellogg Family" where

she oversees the "Natural/Organic" products category with products such as Gardner & Bloome Natural & Organic Soils, Dr. Earth Fertilizers and Soils as well as a whole array of other natural products. She shares her wealth of gardening wisdom as an educator to the industry and consumers all across the West.

CLUBS

Gardeners: Heal Thyself! Whether tending to a houseplant, growing some flowers or turning an outdoor garden into a relaxing retreat, plants have the power to heal our body and our soul. Research has shown that working in the garden can benefit everyone. The physical efforts of gardening - digging, planting, bending and walking are great forms of exercise to keep the body healthy. These activities burn calories, and help to mitigate the effects of osteoporosis.

Gardening can also improve one's mental outlook and emotional mood by reducing stress, anxiety and depression, and even those nasty cholesterol levels. Studies have shown that there seems to be a direct correlation between the time spent gardening and the lowering of blood pressure...more is better! But, if you're just starting out after a long hiatus, don't overdo.

Spring is upon us! Put on your gardening gloves, and start digging!

God made rainy days so gardeners could get the housework done.

—Author Unknown

—Morry Meadow

MEN'S CLUB

Our new officers for 2011 assumed their duties.

April and May are the traditional months for our annual membership drive. We encourage all male residents to attend one of our meetings and see how much fun and fellowship can be had so cheaply. Dues are only \$15 a year with a cost of \$3 per meeting. Your first visit will be complimentary. The meeting costs include a hot breakfast prepared by our rotating cooking crews with surprisingly satisfying food.

Ms. Kelli Lewis from the Pacific Marine Mammal Center [949-494-

3050] was our speaker Feb. 15. Located on Laguna Canyon Road, it is the largest rescue facility for injured or diseased seals and sea lions. Her presentation was educational about the species and the center's operating procedures. This is a totally donation supported program. During the January rains the center suffered flood damage in excess of \$500,000. Did you know that sea lions which can grow to over 1,000 pounds and can slow their nor-



Men's Club 2011 Officers (left to right): Steve Leonard, President, George Schramm, Vice-President and Morry Meadow, Secretary-Treasurer.

Invitation to the Women's Club 2011 Home Tour



Spring is in the Air



Thursday May 5, 9:30 a.m.



Six lovely homes in five Niguel Shores neighborhoods will be welcoming you on the Tour with a catered lunch to follow in the ClubHouse. Tickets are available in the office for \$25 for Women's Club Members and \$35 for non members. Please make your check payable to the NSCA Women's Club and reserve by May 2.

A program with addresses and descriptions of the gardens will be provided. Meet in the Beach Bluff parking lot at 9:30 a.m. for car pooling to the homes.

CLUBS

mal heart rate of 120 per minute down to 4 per minute while diving for food to depths of 900 feet?

Club Secretary-Treasurer, Morry Meadow, entertained the group with a clever DVD he created covering his trip through Morocco. From the mosques, souks, deserts with overnights in Bedouin tents and camel rides, to a few cool ones in Casablanca's Rick's Café, it was an exotic vacation.

The club meets the first and third Tuesday of each month in the ClubHouse. We are really trying to boost our membership. Join the fun and help our community.

—Steve Leonard

WOMEN'S CLUB

The April luncheon will be on the 14th in the ClubHouse at noon. Our speaker will be our own long-time resident, Dr. Wellikson, about whom you can read in the *Meet Your Neighbors* article on page 13 of the March *Seashore News*. Dr. Wellikson will speak on the State of Today's Healthcare, a subject in which we all have an interest.

We have the very important Women's Club Home Tour coming up in May on the 5th and, as always, spaces are limited, so please take your check to the NSCA Office soon or, be sure to bring it to the lunch on

the 14th. The Home Tour lunch, included with the ticket, is to be catered and numbers must be in early. This promises to be one of the best tours yet with six houses in five different neighborhoods. See the "ad" in this issue of the newsletter. Drivers will be needed, so let Ginny Nevitt (vnevitt@cox.net) or me (mccrowl33@yahoo.com) know if you can take other attendees around to the houses.

All women residents are welcome at the Women's Club lunches on the second Thursday of the month. Please join us to make friends and hear interesting speakers and presentations.

—Mary Crowl

ACTIVITIES

WEDNESDAY BRIDGE

We have a real nice group of ladies and would like to expand with some younger players. If interested, please call 496-4230 for a fun day. We have quite a few helpers—Shirley Heimstaedt gets to the ClubHouse first and sets up, also brings a supply of oranges and lemons for everyone. Kay Wittmack collects the dollars for supplies, and is in charge of putting the cards, pads and pencils away at the end of the day. Pouri supplies the coffee which she brews, and a lot of the ladies bring the occasional cake or cookies, as well as bringing their sandwich or snack so we do eat well. We start at 11:00 a.m. and usually finish up about 3:00 or 3:30.

Winners are:

- February 2 Doris Deal, Pouri Fowzi and Lili Bradley tied
- March 2 Doris Deal, Margaret Brugger and Pouri Fowzi
- March 9 Patricia Conway, Helen Campbell, Lili Bradley
- March 16 Doris Deal and Shirley Heimstaedt

—Helen Campbell

LIBRARY

Children's Library:

Spring Session Storytimes: Storytime will continue on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. for Toddlers/Pre-Schoolers through April 12. No registration necessary.

School-Age-After School featuring stories & crafts will continue on Thursdays at 4:00 p.m. through April 14.

Family Pajama Storytime with the Sunshine Readers for children of all ages will be held on April 25 at 7:00 p.m.

*Please note: No May programming in preparation for upcoming Summer Reading Program.

—Carolyn Hopkins

Adult Library:

Confused by your cell phone, netbook, or e-reader?

A volunteer will be available to help you from 3:00 -5:00 p.m. every Wednesday at a table in the library. If possible, please bring your user manual.

Film Night: 3rd Friday of the Month 7:00 -9:00 p.m.

The film on April 15 will be *Storm*. Hannah Maynard, prosecutor at the International Criminal Tribunal in The Hague, is leading a trial against a former commander of the Yugoslavian National Army who is accused of the deportation and later killing of dozens of Bosnian-Muslim civilians. When a key witness commits suicide, it looks like the case will unravel, however Hannah refuses to give in. From Germany, Denmark, and the Netherlands in German, Bosnian, and Serbian w/ English subtitles. Thriller. (105 minutes.) The May 20 film will be an American film, *Helena from the Wedding*.

Job Hunting Workshop: Wednesdays, April 6 and 13.

The Dana Point Library will present a three-part Job Hunting Workshop.

ACTIVITIES

The program will cover:

- a) The do's and don'ts of job hunting,
- b) Online jobs sites and how to use them,
- c) Creating and editing a resume, and
- d) Staying Cyber safe while looking for a job.

Admission is free but registration is required. To reserve your spot or for more information, contact Adult Services Librarian Jennifer Johnson at 949- 496-5517.

Sunday, April 24 Library closed.

—Jennifer Johnson

OREO BOOK CLUB

Led by Mary Crowl, The Really Serious Oreo Cookie Book Club reviewed *Globish* by Robert McCrum which covered the growth of the English language as the worldwide language of international business and commerce. While most of the book was judged deficient in new information, the last part covering the actual use of Globish as an international language provoked discussion of the impact of language on culture. Prior international languages of Latin, then French (and German in science) noted, as well as possibilities of international language change in the future. The future of the semi-secret Plato Society was discussed behind closed doors with no recording devices allowed. The next meeting will be at the home of Rich Schwartz where *Making Democracy Work* by Supreme Court Jurist Stephen Breyer will be reviewed on April 20.

—Norton Schwartz

PAGE TURNERS

Page Turners next meeting will be Monday, April 25. The morning group will meet at the home of Hope Luedeke, 24171 Vista D'Onde at 10:00 a.m. The afternoon group will meet at the home of Diane Hearne, 23802 Cassandra at 12:30 p.m. Refreshments will be provided.

In the heart of China's Sichuan province lies the small city of Fuling. Its position at a crossroads came into sharp focus when author Peter Hessler arrived as a Peace Corps volunteer in 1996. He taught English and American literature at the local college. As he comes to know the people and learn the language he sees that it is a unique moment for Fuling. When completed, the Three Gorges Dam will partly flood the city and force the resettlement of more than a million people. *River Town* is an unforgettable portrait of the city that, much like China itself, is seeking to understand both what it was and what it someday will be.

Page Turners meets on the fourth Monday of each month September through June. If you wish more infor-

mation, or to join the discussion groups, please contact Kathleen Hardcastle at 481-5503 (khlaguna@gmail.com) or Karla Sanders at 496-8413 (karlajoe@cox.net).

—Karla Sanders

POTLUCK

Mark your calendar for Sunday, April 17 and plan to attend the last Potluck for "the season." We will gather at the ClubHouse at 6:00 p.m. You are asked to bring your own table service and beverage of choice.

Please call the appropriate committee member to make a reservation and to determine your contribution of a main dish, salad, or dessert. Serving utensils are provided.

A – E	Irene and Blair McDonald	481-3035
F – O	Gretchen and Peter Rask.....	489-2259
P – Z	Carol Yocom.....	248-2740

—Ann Christiansen

DIPPY DOLPHINS

Time Change

Effective with Daylight Saving Time in March, the Dippy Dolphin water aerobics class now meets from 9:00-10:00 on Monday, Wednesday and Friday for the rest of the summer.

If you haven't attended lately, you don't know what a fantastic routine Cynthia has us doing. She has incorporated lots of new movements that keep us moving along, and the class really is feeling the benefit of her effort. C'mon down and join us! The cost is \$3 per session,

or \$27 if paid monthly. Resident Cynthia Carlson, who doubles as the Dana Hills Girls' swim coach, is our instructor

And because we work so much harder, we felt we could celebrate with a high-caloric party to honor Cynthia's birthday in March. On a gorgeous day on our beautiful Niguel Shores patio we had a wonderful party. See attached picture.

—Hope Luedeke



Cynthia Carlson cutting her cake with Joni Ashworth and Kathy Hill helping.

MEN'S GOLF

The third leg of the Men's Golf tour was the Arrowwood Invitational on February 22. Always a favorite, the competition was 1-2-3- Foursome Game. The team of Roy Dohner, Boyd VanNess, and Blair McDonald were first. Kent Welbrock, Dave Ontiveros, and Dennis Rosene placed second. Morry Dohner, Bob Gutknecht, and Gary Katsuki finish third. Closest to the pin were Charlie Clark and Dennis Rosene.

Next up on March 9 was the Crossings Classic. This great course is beautiful and the weather was perfect. The game this day was 2 best net of 4 balls. The team of Roy Dohner, Dennis Rosene, Paul Wager, and Mac Brown were first. Kent Welbrock, Larry Wellikson, Jack Sweeney and Barry Daniel placed second. Dave Ontiveros, Charlie Clark, Jon Cobain, and Gary Katsuki finished third. Closest to the pin were Dave Ontiveros and Mac Brown.

The next Tournament will be on March 22 at Twin Oaks.

Golf's a hard game to figure. One day you'll go out and slice it and shank it, hit into all the traps and miss every green. The next day you go out and, for no reason at all, you really stink.

—Bob Russell

WOMEN'S GOLF

The Leprechauns were out for St. Patty's celebration all over the newly re-seeded Aliso Creek Golf Course. Thank you to Val Mitchell and May Gramer for setting up this fun day with Shamrocks and all. Closest to the pin on #8 was Jill Banerian.



St. Patrick's Day on the course...

Longest drive on #9 was Barbara McKlveen. There were 4 Birdies: May Gramer, Val Mitchell, Gretchen Rask and Lee Sweeney. Low gross with a 38 was Val Mitchell. Second low gross with a 43 was Gretchen Rask. Low net with a 41 were Ceacy Johns and May Gramer. Winning Team was Team #1 with a 38 — Val Mitchell, May Gramer and Marlene Lynch. It sounds like they had a Great Leprechaun day for all. I am sorry that I missed it. Congratulations to All!

Please join us for our next day of fun on April 11. Call Barbara McKlveen 715-9473 and May Gramer 248-1272 who will be our Golf Captains.

—Maria Elena Banks

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NEWLY INSTALLED DOLPHIN SCULPTURE AT GARIBALDI GATE

Please admire this new bronze dolphin sculpture on your left as you enter the Garibaldi Gate on Selva Road. It has been donated by residents Kimber and Anthony Magidow and installed by the Maintenance Department as you can read in the article on page 6. Many thanks to the Magidows for this very nice addition to our community which also satisfies the city's requirement for a provision of "Art in Public Places" brought about by our construction of the new Community Center. One good work engendered another...

—Mary Crowl



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Enjoy after church on Easter one of the many outstanding brunch offerings in our area. Be sure and call for reservations well in advance.

Pelican Hill Resort: 467-6800, 22800 Pelican Hill Road, Newport Coast. Special Easter brunch with champagne and an Easter Egg Hunt 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Adults \$95 children \$45.

Bayside: 721-1222, 900 Bayside Drive, Newport Beach. Special Easter Brunch: order from menu with champagne.

Balboa Bay Club (First Cabin): 645-5000, 1221 West Coast Highway, Newport Beach. Sunday brunch—adults \$49.

Five Crowns: (For your information, it will be closed for remodeling until June 1.)

Claes: 376-9283, Hotel Laguna, 425 South PCH, Laguna Beach. Easter buffet 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Adults \$45, children \$18.

Las Brisas: 497-5434, 361 Cliff Drive, Laguna Beach. Easter four course menu with champagne \$38, served 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Sapphire: 715-9888, 1200 South Coast Highway, Laguna Beach. Easter brunch pre-fixed menu and price.

Ramos House: 443-1342, 31752 Los Rios, San Juan Capistrano. Big event every year with a brunch from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

St. Regis: 234-3200, 1 Monarch Beach Drive, Dana Point. Easter Brunch 10:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m. with Easter Egg Hunts at 10:00 a.m. and noon. \$105 for adults, \$35 children.

Ritz Carlton: 240-2000. Bunny will be part of the celebration with brunch noon to 4:00 p.m. Adults \$110, children \$55.

Mezzaluna: 276-7900, 2 Ritz Carlton Drive, Dana Point. Enjoy a new-owner restaurant. They serve breakfast on weekends 8:30 a.m., lunch and dinner until 10:00 p.m.. Closed Mondays, open T-W-T-F 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m..

Salt Creek Grill: 661-7799, 32802 PCH, Dana Point. Brunch will be served 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Wind and Sea: 496-6500, 34699 Golden Lantern, Dana Point. Easter Sunday brunch 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., \$12.95 adults, children ½ price.

Enjoy Easter Sunday with your family and or friends in our neighborhood. Bon appetite... Carol Yocom

Travel Tidbits

What to do when you have nine hours to kill at Hong Kong's airport? We have all experienced the frustration of a couple of hours of waiting between planes but nine hours!!!!!!! In the old days the **Hong Kong airport** was right in town. It was a real thrill to land there as the planes came in through a jungle of buildings and you could look out the window, see what was being cooked for dinner, and wave to the cook. No more. Massive bridges now connect Hong Kong with **Lantau Island**.

The **Po Lin Monastery** and the Tin Tan Buddha were the main attractions on the island which was reached by

ferry. The Tin Tan Buddha is the world's largest seated outdoor bronze Buddha. Now however, in addition to the monastery, the island boasts **Disneyland**, the "new" Hong Kong airport, huge high rise apartments and condos, a large factory outlet shopping center and the **Ngong Ping 360 degree cable car** with a transparent floor. But you can escape all this with a 40 minute bus ride over the hills to the old fishing village of Tai O. The village, a center of salt production and fishing, is on the **Pearl River Delta** and is what Hong Kong was. But to keep this "tidbit" a "tidbit" I will tell you about Tai O next month. —Barbara Milner

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MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

The Palmer Family

We have a lively young family who became your neighbors in Niguel Shores in 2010. Nate and Sue Palmer and their four young sons moved from Laguna Niguel into their Spindle Circle home April 1 of last year. I met Sue Palmer at our ClubHouse for this interview because her 13-year-old son, Jake, was ill at home with a viral infection and she didn't want to possibly expose me to something contagious. Sue has a vivacious personality and expressed her happiness with living in the Shores with great enthusiasm. She said she loves the mix of all ages here and the great sense of community. Her husband Nate is particularly enthralled with the sunsets that can be seen at the Bluff. Nate gathers up the family to view them together whenever he can.

Sue was born in Philadelphia and raised in New Jersey until she was eleven years old. Then she moved with her family to White Bear Lake near St. Paul, Minnesota. She attended high school there and then attended Stephens College for women in Missouri, where she graduated with a degree in fashion merchandising. She worked in this career for a year and then she felt a strong urge to see more of our world. Her mother suggested that she become a flight attendant. She welcomed that idea and applied for and was hired by Northwest Airlines at age 23. Sue began to fly all over Europe from Northwest's Boston base. When she flew out of Los Angeles it was to Hawaii and the Far East so she was seeing a good part of our world in her job. While she was at Northwest's Boston-base she met Nate Palmer.

Nate was an engineer with Raytheon. Born in France (his father was working there at the time), he was raised in California. When he was thirteen, his family moved to Massachusetts. Nate studied engineering at the University of Massachusetts and joined Raytheon's Boston facility after graduation. One day, while working out at a health club there, he met Sue. In 1991, three years after they met, they were married. Sue was quite athletic and was a long-distance runner. She ran in the Boston Marathon in 1995, just five months after her first son, Mason, was born.

Sue and Nate and their young family moved to California and lived in Santa Barbara for three years while Sue worked out of Northwest Airline's base at LAX. They moved to Westwood when Nate left Raytheon and there he went to UCLA to earn an MBA degree. After graduation from UCLA,

Nate went to work for a major consulting firm. Eventually, he joined two friends who had started their own consulting firm. Now the three friends have a mutually owned management consulting firm named ACCEL.

Nate's job has always required a lot of traveling. Sue's job with Northwest Airlines used to allow her to take leave from her job whenever Nate was away so she could be with their sons. However, after the 1997 airline strike, rules were changed and the convenient leaves were no longer allowed, so

Sue quit her job to be with her sons when Nate was away. She has enjoyed the extra time she has had to spend at home with their sons but now that the boys are older, she wants to study nursing. She has applied for the nursing certification program at Saddleback College. There are only 61 openings and hundreds have applied so she is not sure she will get in now, but will keep applying until she does. Sue says that the Saddleback program has been judged to be one of the best in the country.

Sue's and Nate's sons keep their parents busy as they taxi them to their different sports. Mason, their 16 year old, is a sophomore at Dana Hills High and is on the soccer team. He was named MVP, playing midfielder, as the team

competed in the United Futbol Club. Max is 14 years old, and in the eighth grade at St. Edwards. He also plays soccer. Jake is thirteen years old and in the seventh grade at St. Edwards. He is the computer expert among the boys. Isaac is 10 years old, and in the fifth grade at St. Edwards. His sport is baseball. He is a real utility man, moving from pitching to several infield positions as well as the outfield. Joey, their little dog, fills out this loving family and brings them much joy.

Sue and Nate can be seen navigating their electric passenger open golf cart, (purchased on Craig's List) around our streets going down to the Bluff or to the pool. I asked Sue what family activities they have enjoyed the most here. She listed the barbecues at the Bluff, the band playing at the Bluff last summer, the Fourth of July celebration and the Christmas party. Nate enjoys playing tennis every weekend.

They regret missing the St. Patrick's Day fun, because the boys had games they attended. Sue summed up all the pleasure she and Nate feel about Niguel Shores, throwing her hands in the air and declaring that it is absolutely the most perfect place to live!

—Laurel Moonier Livesay



The Palmer family: Max, Mason and Jacob in back, Sue and Nate in the middle and Isaac with their dog, Joey, in front.



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