

Seashore News



April 2009

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Issue 425

BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATES



Candidate Gary Tinnes in his home in the Atlantic Garden Homes



Candidate Rob Rifkin

GARY TINNES

We are lucky to have community minded and experienced residents like Gary Tinnes who offer their time and expertise to join our Board of Directors. Gary and his wife, Nancy, have been residents of Niguel Shores since 2003 when they moved here from San Juan Capistrano to be near the beach. They had lived in San Juan for many years and both, on approaching retirement, agreed to migrate westward. Gary became involved in volunteering for Niguel Shores activities when his wife, Nancy, started chairing our Fourth of July event which she has done for a number of years. Gary helped out and, exploiting his camera hobby, photographed the July 4th events as well as others for posterity. Many, many of his photographs can be seen on our Web site and, you may remember, he submitted winning photos for last year's photo contest. Gary and Nancy are parents of three grown children who live in the area.

But, back to business, Gary was born in and grew up in New York City, attended Queens College which is part of the City University of New York, off and on, worked in

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ROB RIFKIN

Rob Rifkin comes to us from Philadelphia, PA or, I should say, a suburb thereof. He grew up in beautiful Bucks County in a town called Fairless Hills, attended high school in that area and, on to Penn State where he completed his self-designed degree in "Integrating Computers in the Workplace" within the Liberal Arts curriculum. A series of jobs after college in his field with companies in the Philadelphia area started him off on an interesting career in Information Technology. A visit to a friend in Laguna Niguel in the winter of 1997 lured him to Southern California and all of its charms—he quit his job and just moved out here. He, "not a city boy," bought a house in Laguna Niguel, found that IT jobs were easy to come by in those days, began in consulting and eventually, through a friend, found the one he has now spent ten years in—an IT job with a company that handles research and technology for the pharmaceutical industry. Rob is responsible for eleven of its (ICON Clinical Research) offices in the Midwest, west and Canada. He works early and late—a particular merit of that field. However, his move to Niguel Shores in 2002 and its proximity to the beach make it all worthwhile.

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Meet the Candidates Night

April 15 at 7:00 p.m. at the Community House, 24642 San Juan Street in Dana Point.

Listen to their presentations and present your questions on Association issues.

FROM THE GM

ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTION – The nominees for next year’s board have been finalized and we have two fine, well-known candidates: Gary Tinnes and Rob Rifkin. You will be able to learn more about them and their vision for the Board of Directors in the interviews conducted by the SSN Editor Mary Crowl which appear in this issue. You can also meet them in person during “Meet the Candidates” night on April 15. That meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Community House, 24642 San Juan Street in Dana Point (go south on Del Prado past the post office, left on Violet Lantern and right on San Juan. The Community House is on your right.) Plan on attending as it is an excellent opportunity to present your questions on matters such as the budget, the Clubhouse, the Surf Museum, parking, the trees and any other Association issue that concerns you. The actual election takes place at the Annual Meeting which will be

everyone on the first meeting that was attended by 60–70 people including the mayor Lisa Bartlett. Approximately 20–30 people did speak on the subject and it was very noticeable that not one person supported putting the Museum in Sea Terrace Park. Almost everyone did endorse the concept of the Surf Museum, but once again, the main issue was just the location. At the March 25 meeting, I have been instructed by the board to present a letter to the City Council stating two conclusions by the vast majority of Niguel Shores Homeowners: First, Sea Terrace Park, as well as our other parks should be maintained as just that – parks. Secondly, we support the development of a Surf Heritage Museum, but it should be located in an appropriate location such as the city business center or in the Harbor. We will keep you updated on this issue and the actions of the Special City Council Task Force studying the matter.

CITY COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION – This museum matter has generated many e-mails on how to communicate directly with the council members. To this end, I would recommend that everyone take a look at the very comprehensive city website at Dana Point.org as it has all the information that you may need. Just for the record though, the council’s emails are: Mayor Lisa Bartlett—LBartlett1@aol.com/Lara Anderson—Ida@lara.net/Steven Weinberg—steven@peddlemanagement.com/Joel Bishop—joelbishop@vesllc.com/Scott Schoeffel—sschoeffel@danapoint.org

SECOND SPECIAL ASSESSMENT PAYMENT DUE – Just a reminder that the second \$1,500 payment of the Special Assessment is due April 1 and delinquent on April 30. Look for the statement which will be included in your second quarter assessment mailing which will be mailed during the last week of March. Thanks again to all those who paid the full \$3,000 back in

August and for those homeowners, please disregard this reminder.

FOOD BANK CONTRIBUTION – As part of our involvement with industry associations (Community Association Institute), we help with volunteering our time to their community outreach programs such as beach clean-ups and food drives. We are working with the Orange County Food Bank on Saturday, April 4, and are asking for food donations that will be distributed on that date. There is a donation box in the office and the most needed food items are easy-open food with pop tops (canned meat, canned vegetables, dry food, peanut butter, mac & cheese, etc.). Healthy donations are always better than cookies or snacks, but any donation is greatly appreciated by those in need.

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Cement was poured for the Clubhouse foundation on March 17. Photo by Gary Tinnes

held Tuesday, May 19 in the Community House on San Juan Avenue in Dana Point.

CLUBHOUSE CONSTRUCTION – The building is finally coming up out of the ground and, despite the rain delays, we have reduced the days behind schedule from 28 to 20. With a little luck, our contractor may be able to reduce this even further because he is really keeping up the pressure on the sub-contractors.

SURF MUSEUM – By the time you read this newsletter, the city will have conducted the two town hall meetings on the Surf Museum. As I am writing this, only the first one on March 11 has taken place, so I cannot comment here on the final outcome. I hope many of you were able to attend the second meeting or have read the coverage in the *DP Times* newspaper. I can at least update

BOARD ACTION SUMMARY

MARCH 4, 2009 BOARD MEETING (General Session)

APPROVED:

- Approved the General Session Minutes of February 11, 2009.
 - Approved the January 31, 2009 Financial Report.
- Approved the January 2009 Variance & Delinquency reports.
 - Authorization to record lien on Parcel No. 672-182-53.
- Approved the resignation of George Traver from the Communication Committee.

DISCUSSED:

- Annual Election and 2009 nomination of Board candidates.
- Asphalt, Beach Bluff & Clubhouse projects updates.
- Surf Museum update
- Colima Bay tree matter / Arborist report.
- Monarch Beach HOA joint Board Meetings.
- Slope Maintenance Reserve Fund policies.
- Electronic Board Packet conversion update.
- Pool Strainer & Salt Water conversion update.
- Club House / Beach Bluff rental policies and fees.
- Standing Committee application Form and Policies.
- Public Forum Guidelines & HRF process explanation form.
- Pest Control offer for individual homeowners.
- Art proposal for new Clubhouse.
- County Board Walk project update.

REVIEWED:

- Water usage / Irrigation System update with mapping.

HEARINGS/MEETINGS:

- Appeal hearing for homeowner at 23711 Colima Bay – AC Denial Appeal Hearing.

MARCH 4, 2009 BOARD MEETING (Executive Session)

APPROVED:

- Approved the Executive Session minutes of February 11, 2009.
 - Recording of one (1) lien on delinquent properties.

REVIEWED:

- Attorney, Richard Fiore's status report on pending legal matters.
 - February, 2009 Assessment Collection Status Report.
 - Violation Log.
- Recreation Committee recommendations for Bluff Table / Bench purchase.

DISCUSSED:

- Discussed Paving Company dispute matter.
- AC matters involving four (4) homeowners.
 - PCH bridge matter update.
 - Breakers Isle Palm Tree matter.

HEARINGS/MEETINGS:

- Hearings with (2) homeowners for violation of 6405 – Overnight Parking.

MARCH 18, 2009 BOARD MEETING: (General Session)

APPROVED:

- General Session Minutes of March 4, 2009
- Approval of the resignation of Tim Moore from the Architecture Committee.
- Approval of the appointment of Lori McNaught to the Traffic & Safety Committee.

REVIEWED:

- Special Assessment collections to date.
- Update MPR, Beach Bluff, and Asphalt maintenance Project.
 - Major project list.

DISCUSSED:

- Clubhouse / Beach Bluff project updates.
- PCH bridge matter update.
- Census Taking matter.
- Food Drive Discussion.
- Seashore News volunteer subscriptions/sponsors matter.
- Surf Heritage Museum update.
- Annual Election and nomination of Candidates.
- Colima Bay tree matter.
- Breakers Isle Palm Tree matter.

MARCH 18, 2009 BOARD MEETING: (Executive Session)

APPROVED:

- Executive Session Minutes of March 4, 2009
- Landscape / Irrigation proposals for Beach Bluff project.

REVIEWED:

- Special Assessment Payment / Delinquencies update.
 - Legal Counsel retained services contract.
- Engineering / Paving proposal for 2009 pavement maintenance project.
 - Violation Log.

DISCUSSED:

- Update on AC legal matters.
- Update on paving dispute.
- Update on Small Claims actions.

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 1, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.
NEXT PUBLIC HOMEOWNER FORUM—May 19, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.**

ARCHITECTURE

Though many think of oil as liquid gold, it is water that allows us to survive in our dry and sunny Southern California climate. We have been receiving less precipitation and it is expected that we will officially be in drought conditions shortly. The South Coast Water District has a proposed ordinance to establish new limits on water use under normal conditions. The proposed ordinance affects us in several key areas.

Landscape irrigation will be prohibited any day of the week between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. with certain exceptions. There are restrictions on duration and runoff. New requirements are proposed for irrigation controllers that stop watering when a rain sensor or weather service determines there is no need. New installations will need a smart controller and eventually existing systems will, too.

Leaks, breaks and malfunctions must be corrected to avoid wasting water.

Hard or paved outdoor surfaces cannot be hosed or washed unless they qualify for an exception. Sweeping and vacuuming are suggested as alternatives.

In order to wash a vehicle, we will have to use a commercial car wash, a bucket or a hose with a self-closing nozzle. A nozzle is self-closing if the water will stop when you let it drop.

More stringent water-saving measures are on the horizon should we reach **drought** conditions.

Full details can be at www.scwd.org and the draft ordinance is located here:

http://www.scwd.org/wcs_docs/Draft_Ordinance_for_Jan_27_2009_Board_Workshop.pdf

—*Rob Rifkin*

FINANCE

Niguel Shores' economy is doing very well—in direct contrast to the United States and world economy—one less item for us to worry about in our daily lives.

We have no big news this month. We will soon be working on a five-year plan for our “reserve account.” This is a new requirement and this document will be distributed annually to each homeowner with the year-end financial statements.

Our major categories in the reserves are: streets, clubhouse interior/exterior, office building interior/exterior, fencing, lighting/electrical, entrance gates, pool and spa, tennis courts, slopes, and stairways. During the last five years, we have routinely had a \$1,700,000 balance at year-end in the reserves.

General Manager Leo Riley, Maintenance Department Supervisor George Cooley, and Maintenance Committee Chair Jack Christiansen are currently getting estimates for converting the swimming pool to a salt-water pool. In addition to being a healthier system for the swimmers, we will have significant savings in chlorine purchases going forward.

—*Marcy McNulty*

LANDSCAPE

Water conservation is a year round pursuit here in Southern California. As fortunate as we were to have some rain this winter, we are quickly approaching that time of the year when water conservation becomes even more important...spring and summer. The combination of longer, warmer days, and the possibility of rain being the same as a snowball's chance..., means that we all need to do our part to conserve water. You can help by adjusting your sprinklers to efficiently meet the needs of your landscaping. Also, consider adding some drought resistant plants to your yard to decrease your water needs.

Speaking of water conservation, you can help your community, and reduce our water bill by letting the office know when you see broken sprinklers. Make note of the location, and stop by the office to let them know. Please know that your time in doing so is greatly appreciated.

Moving on to the wildlife, if you have been having trouble keeping rabbits at bay lately, stop by the office for a list of Rabbit Resistant Plants. The list is quite extensive, and can help you plan a landscape that the bunnies won't munch to the ground!

Last, but not least, when you are walking your dog through our lovely community, remember to bring along some plastic bags so that you can clean up after your canine companion leaves his or her “calling card”....curb your pet! Leaving it behind is a health hazard to us all. Thank you in advance for keeping Niguel Shores beautiful!

—*Sharon Stewart*

MAINTENANCE

We live in a gated community but March was not a good month for gates. The Mariner guest lane gate would not close. Maintenance replaced the electrical ground loop that detects the passing of an automobile. This gate is now back in operation.

The gear box on the Selva exit gate failed and an old weld on one of the hinges broke. Thirty years of opening and closing had taken its toll. Maintenance was able to rebuild the gear box with spare parts we keep on hand for just such an

event. The hinge was a little more difficult. We needed a gate service company with welding equipment and a hydraulic lift to remove the gate. The hinges were beyond repair. The gate company built a new heavy duty iron support and welded the hinges to this support. This gate is now better balanced and smoother operating than ever before.

Hinges on the emergency vehicle gate to the beach broke. The cost to repair was quoted at \$800 and there was a question of who owns the gate; our association or the County. Our General Manager suggested “why ask who owns it, we will just ask the County to fix it.” He did and they said they would, thus saving us \$800. However, they did not say when. Hopefully by the time this article comes to print the gate will be fixed.

The County is in the process of extending the walkway in front of the Headlands to the pathway by the life guard stand. In moving in their equipment they damaged our pedestrian gate to the beach. The County agreed to also make this repair, but again they didn’t say when. George Cooley didn’t think our residents would want to wait a few weeks to get to the beach so his Department made an immediate repair.

In addition to gates we had the normal month of various emergency repairs including ten various light outages due to corroded wiring, failed bulbs and photocells. As we have said in a previous article, the aging infrastructure of this community, even in these tough economic times, provides excellent job security for our Maintenance Department.

—*Jack Christiansen*

TRAFFIC AND SAFETY

An ancient roman once made a keen observation when he was reflecting on life, “...Tempus fugit.” Indeed, time does fly, and it seems that as we are just settling down from one set of holidays, we realize that Easter and spring vacations are just about here. During the past few “quieter months” traffic flow passing through the gates has decreased significantly. Unfortunately, the incidents of belligerent and irate, invited and uninvited guests at the Mariner Gate have increased. A majority of these matters appear to stem from an excessive number of unregistered party guests, and simple disregard for our rules requiring all residents to register cars. Some of the conduct of these folks has at best been bizarre and bordered on being criminal. I would like to remind everyone that each of us is responsible for the guests of everyone in our family, and anyone we may be renting a room to. Our security personnel don’t deserve the abuse they are being subjected to. From all reports these men and women are doing an excellent job.

With the upcoming Easter/Spring breaks we will entertain more guests, traffic flow will pick up, the Bluff Park

should be completed for our use and enjoyment, the beach should be warmer, and it should be a good experience for all. During this time, please drive extra safely as school is out and there should be a lot more big and little folks frolicking about.

Even accomplished skateboarders, such as Pat O’Brien, don’t skateboard down at the Bluff. The primary reason is that it is too dangerous, and secondarily it is because it is prohibited throughout our community.

It appears that the Niguel Shores “car clout” struck again. This time he hit a vehicle parked on Taranto Bay between 4:30 a.m. and early evening. The doors on the vehicle could not be locked, and it was easy for the thief as he got away with a “Haus” marine stereo. Please lock your vehicles and don’t leave tempting valuables inside them. It appears that this thief is an opportunist.

During the latter part of March and the first portion of April, census takers will be canvassing our community. All of these folks should have valid identification verifying who they are, and their association with the Census Bureau. If you have any doubts about their identity, please feel free to contact the front office as all of them will be registered there. Of course if their actions are suspicious, contact our sheriff’s office.

Last but not least ... well maybe least! The street sweeper has had some problems lately. Some of them have been mechanical. However, even when his device and its accessories are working properly, he has difficulty doing a good job because of all of the cars that are parked on the street. If we can make an effort to remember to park our cars in garages or off site on the last Friday of each month it would or could facilitate a cleaner community.

—*Michael Card*

SEASHORE NEWS

If you would like to know all the news around Niguel Shores that’s fit to print (and some that isn’t), join our *Seashore News* staff for informative meetings, discussions of the news at hand and, I must admit, some gossip (what’s a newspaper for, anyway?). We are short one person now that George Traver has left us and need someone to share the fun job of gathering the articles together, running a spell check and checking the spell check before sending them on to the editor. Pretty easy and interesting. You can write articles, too, if you like. If you’re interested and would like to talk about it, call me at 489-1738 or send an e-mail to mccrowl@cox.net.

—*Mary Crowl*

VIEW PRESERVATION

Spring will soon be upon us and with it brings new blooms and buds to our trees and bushes and the nesting of birds. It is important to do what trimming needs to be done now. Please be a good neighbor and look around your yard to make sure your trees and plants are not blocking anyone's view. See that your trees are not higher than the roof line and that the bushes not higher than the fences. We want to preserve our trees. If they are routinely trimmed then it doesn't become necessary to cut them down. Thank you for being that good neighbor!

—Joan Ingle

NIGUEL SHORES WEBSITE

In efforts to continue to increase the amount of visitors on the site, we are asking all club members to help us build our club pages on the website. We are looking for photos, club and event information to post on the website to show other residents what each club has been doing and what they will be doing in the future. The club pages on the website can be updated regularly so the information on the website stays up-to-date. We also welcome any other ideas you may have for the club pages. Please send all suggestions to webadmin@niguelshores.org. Thank you to all the residents who have already contributed to making our website more informative and updated!

—Kathleen Capalla

RECREATION

Waiting for Dublin: Lucky Niguel Shores that last year had the pleasure to see the movie *Waiting for Dublin* before it was released in theaters. This was made possible by screen writer Chuck Conaway, resident of Niguel Shores, and his wife Mary Jo. On March 13 the movie opened in New York, Chicago and Boston. If you did not come to our night in Dublin, be sure and see it when it comes to the theaters in our area or on DVD—a beautiful setting for a comedy love story.

Chili Cook Off: Unfortunately our planned Chili Cook Off event has had to be cancelled because we cannot have electricity in the park and renting a generator is much too expensive for our budget. So, we will await the new Clubhouse and plan for a later event.

Taco Night: June 13 will be Taco Night at the Bluff from 5:00 to 7:00. There will be more information in the May *Seashore News*, but mark your calendar now for a Mexican Night of Fun and good food at the Bluff.

July 4th: Information will be in our May *Seashore News* about our special 4th of July that is enjoyed by all the community. Due to the construction some changes will be made, but we will still have an All American Community event for Niguel Shores.

—Carol Yocom

Springtime in Niguel Shores



GARDEN CLUB

A happy April greeting from the Garden Club. Our April field trip is scheduled for Monday, April 20. We will be going to the **Flower Fields of Carlsbad**. Meet at the clubhouse parking lot at 9:00 a.m. Celebrate spring with a wagon ride through acres of colorful ranunculus flowers in full bloom. Lunch afterward at King's Fish House across from the Flower Fields. Entrance fee for the flower fields including the wagon ride is \$14 per person

Rosemary is always a welcome addition to the garden. As we get into spring a familiar herb becomes a fragrant star. Tiny, edible, sky-blue flowers cover rosemary, and they are breathtaking. Over the remainder of the year, the unfaltering plant adds wonderful texture to the garden with its rich green, distinctive, needle-like leaves.

Rosemary was known in ancient times as "Dew of the Sea", because it covered hillsides close to the sea where salty spray glistened in its branches.

Today this classic Mediterranean herb is loved in all of California, from the chilly northern portions, to the warm southern end (*Sunset* zones 4-24). This tough plant is drought tolerant, grows in the poorest of soil, and even endures scorching summers and alkaline soil.

To look its best rosemary needs three things: good drainage, good drainage and good drainage. If the



Garden Club members in Bea's Garden: Left to right: Hansa Sehgal, Marti Poivre, Jerry Koppang, Linda Koppang and Bea Grow

roots remain moist for too long rosemary will die. Furthermore, you should avoid fertilizing rosemary because this causes weak growth without flavor or scent.

Long associated with remembrance, friendship, and fidelity, rosemary is much more than a staple kitchen flavor. Students in ancient Greece wore garlands of rosemary around their necks, or braided rosemary into their hair to improve their memory during exams. Keep in mind that there are various forms of rosemary, including sturdy uprights, squat shrubs and low creepers

Completely low maintenance waterwise, and magically useful, rosemary is as prized today as it has ever been.

The Garden Club had the real pleasure last month of taking a "field trip" to the beautiful home garden of Bea Grow. Bea is legend in Orange County garden circles. She is a lifelong gardener in San Clemente who remembers more than most of us know and is a member of at least six garden clubs.

Happy Gardening.

—Jerry Koppang

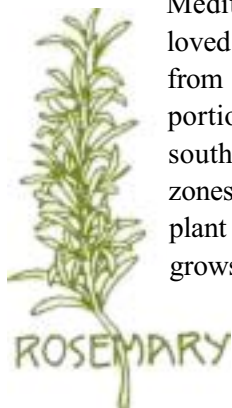
MEN'S CLUB

April Speakers: The candidates for the Board of Directors will speak on April 7 and we expect the President of the Marine Support Group, Pete Hammer on April 21.

In **March**, President McDonald presented past President Jim Clark with a beautiful plaque in honor of his service to the club. Job well done Jim!

The speaker for our March 3 meeting was Norb Garrett, owner and publisher of the DP Times, the SC Times, and the Capistrano Dispatch. Officer Chris Goodwin of the CHP spoke on March 17.

The speaker at our **February 17** meeting was the delightful City of Dana Point Mayor Lisa Bartlett. She was assisted by city management analyst Linda Kelly. Linda organized and Lisa presented an excellent Power Point presentation titled "The City of Dana Point: Harboring the Good Life 1989-2009" Lisa discussed in detail the FY 2008 General Fund End Balance Designations with an actual year end balance of \$22,149,613 and assured us that we are currently in good shape. She discussed the Calle Paloma Revitalization, Sea Terrace Park Dedication, capital improvement project and the city's commitment to water quality improvement. The water treatment facility for Salt Creek is performing well. Looking toward the future she talked about the Harbor Revitalization Plan, the Headlands and the Strand, Dana Point Town Center Plan, improving traffic and circulation including a proposed Three City trolley project that would include DP, SC, & SJC. The P.C.H. improvements have been well received along with the street widening between Harbor Drive and the 5 Freeway. The "Bridge to Nowhere" should be completed by April. Lisa



emphasized the efforts to improve the tourism business in the DP area.

May Breakfast: On May 5 we will have our annual Ladies Day Breakfast Meeting. For this special occasion our speaker will be author Don Lasseter. Don's novels tell the fascinating stories of actual crimes that he had researched. His titles include, "Die for Me" and "Meet me for Murder."

The Men's Club has a breakfast on the first and third Tuesday of each month and all male residents are invited to be our guest at one of our meetings. Come with a member, or call one of the officers such as Bob Ryan at 487-7848, or just come. Meetings start at 7:45 a.m. We are currently meeting at the Community House in DP at 24642 San Juan Street.

—Bob Ryan

WOMEN'S CLUB

The Women's Club enjoyed Chuck Leibert of the Bowers Museum and his presentation of the Forbidden City in China at the March luncheon at the Vintage Restaurant in

San Juan Capistrano. Members appreciated this new venue.

On April 9 the Women's Club will again have lunch at the Vintage. Candidates for the NSCA board will be introduced and give brief descriptions of their backgrounds and goals for the community. A fashion show will be presented by Monarch Silks of Dana Point. Cost for the luncheon will be \$15 for members and \$20 for guests. Please submit your payments to the NSCA office no later than noon April 5. Please indicate your luncheon preference on your check from the following menu items: Shrimp cocktail, chicken, steak or salmon.

Women's Club members can look forward to the bi-annual Home Tour on May 19. See article below.

In June plans are underway to have the installation tea and luncheon at the Dana Point Yacht Club. Members and friends are encouraged and welcome to attend these planned activities.

—Bunny Ross



Recent Home Tour photo courtesy of Aileen Brazeau

Women's Club Home Tour

Between the *Ritz* and the *Ritzier*. The biannual Women's Club Home Tour will be held on Tuesday, May 19 at 9:30 a.m. when we will be promptly leaving the parking lot at the Bluff. Reservations are \$25. We have an exciting mix of homes. After the tour, we will be having a gourmet lunch at the Vintage in San Juan Capistrano.

You may submit your check at the next Women's Club meeting or put it in the Women's Club box at the office, with your check clearly marked "Home Tour." We are keeping a second list for any men who may be interested in the tour as, in the past, many have expressed interest. If we have sufficient space, we will be inviting them to join us.

Volunteers with extra capacity vehicles are needed to drive fellow members. Volunteers and questions, please contact Ginny Nevitt at 488-2678.

—Ginny Nevitt



Women's Club March luncheon at the Vintage Restaurant in the old train station in San Juan

WEDNESDAY BRIDGE

If you are interested in playing casual bridge, please get in touch with Patricia Conway, 240-3559. We would be so pleased to have new players. We bring our own sandwiches and meet on Wednesdays at 11:30 with meeting place to be announced. We have fun, so join us!

The winners from last month are:

- Feb. 11 Doris Deal, Helen Campbell and Shirley Heimstaedt
- Feb. 18 Dorothy Horany and Gloria Thraelkill
- Feb. 25 Kay Wittmack and Dennis (guest from Neb.)

March winners:

- Mar. 4 Patricia Conway, Shirley Heimstaedt and Dorothy Horany
- Mar. 11 Mary Brugger, Helen Campbell and Patricia Conway
- Mar. 18 Rita Lapple, Helen Stevenson and Frieda Baskin.

—Helen Campbell

REALLY SERIOUS OREO COOKIE BOOK CLUB

We didn't solve the Palestinian/Israeli problem but we all agreed to a better understanding of both sides of the issue and benefitted from discussing it after reading, for our March meeting, *The Lemon Tree* by Sandy Tolan, a story of two people who humanize the struggle by becoming friends despite the gulf between their cultures and the warring factions. In April with *The Zookeeper's Wife* by Diane Ackerman, we confront another war and the heroics of a couple in Warsaw who use their situation at the zoo to save hundreds of Jewish people from deportation during World War II. The book is based on a diary kept by the eponymous zookeeper's wife. The April 15 meeting will be at the home of Dick Johns, 33545 Halyard Drive, at 1:00 p.m. Please call Norton Schwartz at 481-2459 for information about the Club or e-mail him at nortlynn@cox.net for information about the Club.

—Mary Crowl

NSCA is not responsible for any work done nor are we recommending any of the advertised companies

PAGE TURNERS

Page Turners will meet on Monday, April 27. Newcomers wishing to join should call Gloria Weintraub at 248-8205. The book choice for this month is *Without Reservations: The Travels of an Independent Woman*, by Alice Steinbach. Gretchen Rask will lead both the morning and afternoon discussions.

The morning group at 10:00 a.m. will meet at the Dana Point Library Meeting Room. Karla Sanders will bring refreshments.

The afternoon group will meet at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Kathy Vonk, 33601 Binnacle Drive, with refreshments supplied by Bunny Mahoney.

Page Turners meets on the fourth Monday of each month, September through June except December. The meeting format includes a brief social time with light refreshments, followed by the book discussion.

—Hope Luedeke

LIBRARY NEWS

We did not receive the Library News for April. Please call the library at 496-5517 for programs and information.



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MEN'S GOLF

On a most beautiful Tuesday in February my fortunate golfers tackled the Meadow Lake Golf Course in Escondido under ideal playing conditions and a good outing was enjoyed by all.

At the end of the day, the winners were the packed low-handicap team of Peter Rask, Bob Hill, Barry Banducci and Charlie Clark. Roy Dohner, Dennis Rosene, Walt Stout, and Mike Baskin were second. Third place honors went to Tom McNicholas's team of Blair McDonald, Terry McLaughlin and Bob Gutknecht. *Lachel Closest to the Pin* awards went to Peter Rask and Blair McDonald.

The yearly schedule has been established and the tour will play next month at Arrowwood followed by San Luis Rey Downs the next month.

Quote of the month:

"Golf Law #12: A golfer hitting into your group will always be bigger than anyone in the group. Likewise, a group you accidentally hit into will consist of a football player, a professional wrestler, a convicted murderer, an IRS agent or some similar combination."

—Bob Borland

WOMEN'S GOLF

Next Fun Day is Monday, April 13. Check-in time is 8:00 a.m. at Aliso Creek Golf Course. A short business meeting and lunch will be held at the course. Sandwiches will be ordered in advance. If you have not already signed up and want to join us for lunch please call Barbara McKlveen 715-9473. For golf please call one of the golf captains: Ceacy Johns 493-8355 or Marlene Lynch 493-6494. If you are signed up and need to cancel please call one of the golf captains. Last minute cancellers also have to notify the starter at the course.

As our Fun Day had been postponed from February to March, we did not have an Irish game of the day but as we had a Scotswoman as one of the golf captains our game was "Scotch Twosome." It was a close game. The winning team was May Gramer and Val Mitchell with 41. 2nd place team was Eileen McDonald and Marlene Lynch with 42. Longest drive on #8 was Val Mitchell. Closest to the pin on #6 was Marlene Lynch. Closest to the pin on #8 was India Rouse.

Come join us on April 13 to find out what game the captains have thought up to make sure we have fun!

—Irene McDonald



Shore birds on Strand Beach. Photo by Joan Beyer.

SURFING HERITAGE FOUNDATION MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER UPDATE

The first of two town hall meetings (or public workshops) put on by the city specifically to inform the citizens of Dana Point of the proposal to locate a Surfing Heritage Foundation Museum and Cultural Center in Sea Terrace Park was held at the ocean Institute on Wednesday, March 11.

Citizens entering the venue were given a Fact Sheet/Frequently Asked Questions handout on the proposal. (Copies of this Fact Sheet are available in our office.) The meeting started with the Foundation Director talking about the background of the Foundation and showing a short video of surfing history and the current museum in San Clemente. Next, the proposed-building architect gave a presentation on the various potential sites considered in Dana Point, the various building conceptual designs, and the museum size requirements requested by the Foundation.

The next speaker was from the city who gave a picture presentation of the view of the two proposed locations in Sea Terrace Park as seen from various locations around the park, at least five locations from within Niguel Shores.

The public was then invited to give its comments, as shown on the front page of the *Dana Point Times* local newspaper, *Critics Speak Out against Proposal for Surf Museum.*” Of the many people who spoke, there was not one person who supported putting the museum in the park, even though most were in favor of a museum located nearer to the center of town where they felt it should be located.

The main objections voiced by the citizens, many from Niguel Shores, were that Sea Terrace Park is to be a passive park, not one that includes a commercial venue. Other objections were voiced about the noise that a cultural center would bring to the area, about the impact on the plans to upgrade the Dana Point Library, and about the benefit to the city by allowing the museum to be on city-owned land.

The second and last Town Hall meeting was held on March 25 at the Dana Point Community Center, after the deadline for this article to be in the April *Seashore News*. More on that meeting next month.

—Karl Kuhn

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Saturday, April 25

Wag-A-Thon

The 16th Annual Wag-A-Thon on Harbor Island to raise money for the San Clemente-Dana Point Animal Shelter. For information see www.petprojectfoundation.org

Sunday, April 26

Dana Point

Grand Prix of Cycling

Join pro and amateur cyclists and kids to race along an 0.8 mile course through downtown Dana Point. For news of this event see www.DanaPointGrandPrix.com

March 2009 Whale Festival Parade scenes...

Photos by Gary Tinnes



Doheny Blues Festival— Tickets for the B. B. King Concert Doheny State Beach, Dana Point

We have two tickets for the B. B. King Concert on May 17 at the Doheny Blues Festival of 2009 that have been donated to Niguel Shores by the organizers of the event. They will be given away to a resident at a drawing at noon in the NSCA office on Friday, May 8. Complete the form below, answer the questions and take it to the office before that date. Names will be drawn until we find one with the correct answers to the questions. You must be an NSCA resident over the age of 21 to collect the tickets. Good luck!



Name _____

Street Address _____

_____ Phone _____

What is B. B. King's real name? _____

What is the name given by B.B. King to his guitar? _____



MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS: Knitters Knitting for Kids

Several residents have been “Knitting for Kids” for some ten years now and a couple of them continue this generous work that provides sweaters for young children around the world. The Knit for Kids organization has distributed 500,000 sweaters as part of an outreach program of Guideposts, a charitable group founded in 1945. Harriet Writer is the most avid of knitters having been at it about ten years and Chris Beaver about eight or so. They think they have done at least 200 sweaters sizes two through eight. Others have contributed in the past and these knitters continue to appeal to anyone who has **washable yarn** to donate to this project and, of course, if you can knit and would like to participate in this wonderfully worthwhile project, please offer. Monetary donations to purchase yarn would also be appreciated. The Women’s Club participates by paying the postage for the boxes of sweaters sent to a central distribution point in New York.

Basic patterns for the sweaters are simple but can be made with any colors or designs depending upon the yarn available and imagination of the knitter. Please save your yarn and contribute your knitting skills as well. Check out the Web site at www.knitforkids.org where you can find the standard pattern with instructions for this simple but practical sweater. You may knit one on your own and send it to the address given or contribute to the Niguel Shores group by calling Harriet at 493-6196 for information about the project and donations.

Another group that knits for kids is called “**Stitches from the Heart**” that started in 1998 to knit or crochet caps and blankets for babies and has grown to the point where



Chris Beaver and Harriet Writer with their “Knit for Kids” sweaters

they send over 100,000 items per year for babies to 1100 hospitals across the United States. Niguel Shores resident, Diane Hearne, is an active knitter and member of this organization and has knitted over 100 baby caps in the past couple of years. She enjoys using different colors for holiday times and a variety of stitches. Tags are provided for the knitter to attach to each item with her name and, sometimes, thank-you notes come back to her from grateful recipients. The caps are sent to a distribution center in Los Angeles from which they are forwarded to hospitals as needed. The organization has an informative newsletter that gives tips and suggestions for patterns as well as instructions. You can find more information at www.StitchesFromtheHeart.org or, call Diane at 661-6267 if you’d like to volunteer your knitting expertise to this worthy cause.

—Mary Crowl



Ten pretty caps knitted by Diane Hearne ready to be sent off for some lucky babies.

GM continued from page 2

CENSUS TAKERS – In April you may see up to 20 individuals walking the community streets with ID badges and small hand-held computer-like devices. They are volunteers working with the Census Bureau on the first phase of the 2010 Census. They will be confirming actual addresses and their GPS locations. As part of this process, they may knock on your door and identify themselves as an official census taker. Please cooperate with them and be assured that any and all personal information you provide is protected under Title 13 of the U.S. Code. Violation of your confidentiality is a violation of this law and is a crime punishable with severe penalties. You can learn more about the 2010 Census by visiting: 2010census.gov. If you have any questions or concerns, just contact the NSCA Office.

—Leo Riley, General Manager

Tinnes continued from page 1

retail, served in Vietnam as an MP and criminal investigator (mostly in Thailand) and eventually graduated with a degree in Liberal Arts (Philosophy). He subsequently spent a year in San Francisco gaining unexpected experience in teaching children who were wards of the state.

Back in New York, Nancy came into his life, they married and, because she was a Californian, they came out to live in Marin County. Gary eventually became involved in marketing for Pacific Stereo and manager of a number of company stores. His next move was to Panasonic (Matsushita Electric Corp. of America) where he was a marketing specialist and sales manager for the communication systems division rising to sales manager of the entire region west of the Mississippi and including Hawaii (the latter great for business trips). Technological developments kept the business evolving and interesting. He quotes an old frontier congressman, Davy Crockett, as one of his inspirations: “Be sure you’re right, then go ahead.” When I asked, “How do you know you are right?” his answer was, philosopher that he is, “discussion and consensus.” His sales team contributed \$2.2 billion during his years with the company.

Gary retired in 2005 after 23 years in the business and spent some time relaxing before becoming involved with a neighborhood architecture matter and was asked to join the Architecture Committee a couple of years ago. This interest led to a further commitment to now run for the Board of Directors. I quote from his Nomination Form and Statement: “My approach has been to discuss with the AC

how we can assist applicants to improve their individual properties benefitting themselves and the community at large following our governing rules and regulations. I ask for your vote to join the NSCA Board where I will use my management skills to further the goals established by previous boards, striving to maintain our exceptional quality of life in Niguel Shores while looking for ways to foster community spirit and encourage wider involvement.”

—*Mary Crowl*

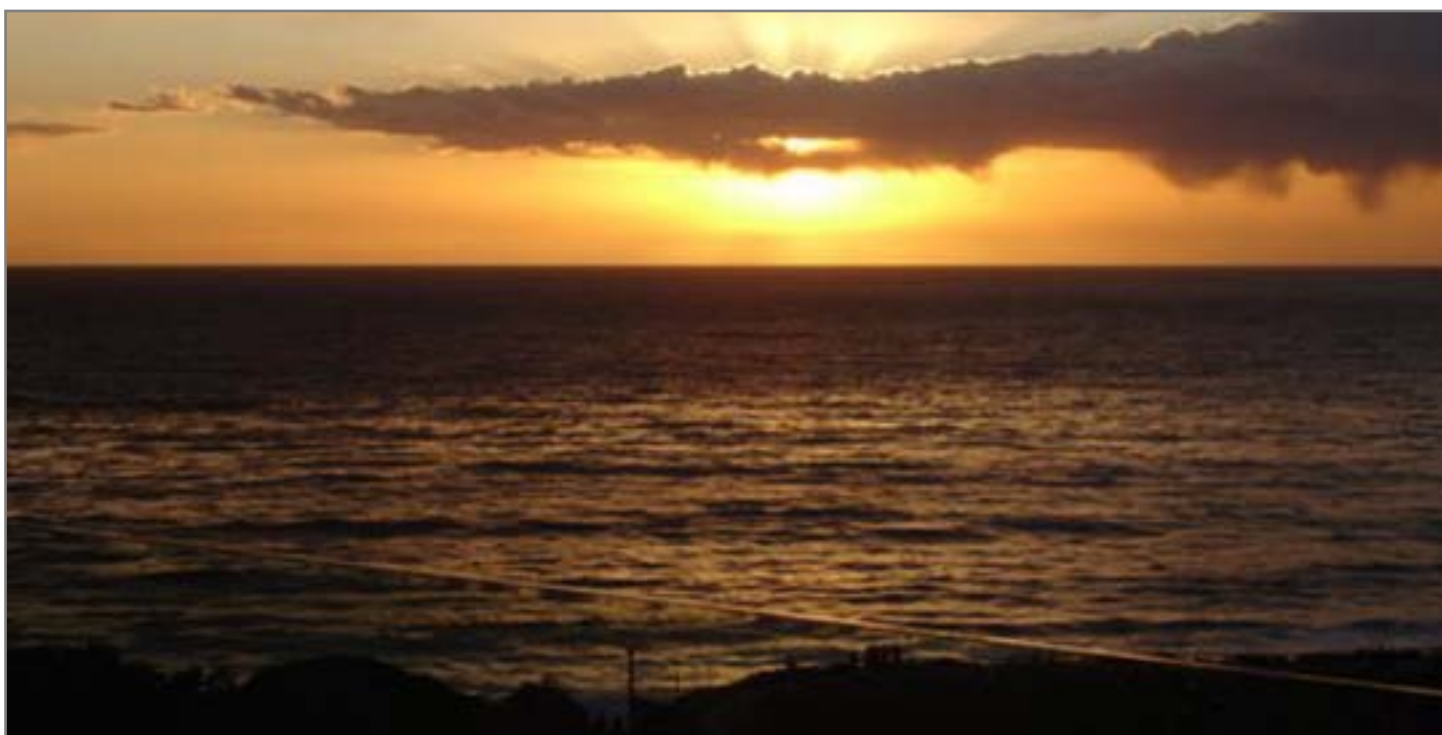
Rifkin continued from page 1

His hobby is cars—that contemporary Corvette is one of them, but he likes old ones, too. Loves to read (particularly California subjects) and travel—also plans a major renovation of his home here and looks forward to updating his “bought as is” property.

Rob repeats how lucky he feels to live in a place like Niguel Shores with its small community feeling, the many residents participating as volunteers and relishes his own involvement in the Architecture Committee, the IT Committee, Co-Chairing the office construction and, now, the Clubhouse construction as well. He adds that he would consider it a privilege to serve on the Board of Directors and believes his experience will be an asset in keeping our community a beautiful place to live and the best value on the coast.

We should consider ourselves lucky to have such an enthusiast to serve on our Board.

—*Mary Crowl*



Another grand sunset scene from Niguel Shores. Photo by Lawrence Mosher.

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Ads for the Seashore News must be submitted by the 15th of the month. Include a check payable to NSCA, \$3 for a maximum of 30 words. Advertisers must fill out a form available at the Association office. Neither NSCA nor the Seashore News assumes responsibility or liability for quality of goods advertised. See Rule 5525 (Non-Commercial Ads Only)

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APRIL 2009 in Niguel Shores

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday Sunday																																																																									
		1 9:00 NSCA Gen. Session Board Mtg.	2 10:00 Women's Club B.O.D. 1:00 Architectural Committee	3 10:00 SSN Staff	4 NSCA Office Open 8:30 - 5:00																																																																									
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20 1:30 View Preservation Committee 3:30 Investment Committee 4:00 Finance Committee	21 7:45 Men's Club Breakfast	22 	23	24  STREET SWEEPING	25																																																																									
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Sheriff's Department: 770-6011 Non-emergency services. Dana Point Community Support Unit 248-3580 Business Services 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday--Friday		MARCH Sun Mon Tue Wed Thur Fri Sat			MAY Sun Mon Tue Wed Thur Fri Sat																																																																									
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1:00 pm, 1st and 3rd Thursdays
 See Calendar
 3:00 pm, 2nd Monday
 2:00 pm, 2nd Wednesday
 10:00 am, 1st Tuesday
 10:00 am, 1st Friday
 9:30 am, 2nd Wednesday
 1:30 pm, 4th Monday

MEETINGS

To be determined
 To be determined
 To be determined

Women's Club

Tina Fornadley, President
Men's Club
 Blair McDonald, President
Garden Club
 Linda/Jerry Koppang, President

Seashore News

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23731 COLIMA BAY



23782 SALVADOR BAY



23601 VERRAZANNO BAY

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