

Seashore News



November 2009

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Issue 432

FROM THE HELM: Budget Time

It's budget time and the Finance Committee has been reviewing committee requests and operating budget numbers for 2010. This year is particularly difficult because of the increase we have seen in the cost of water just as each homeowner has. We have also seen an increase in our legal expenses due to a number of issues.

When Niguel Shores began development in December 1969 water was not an important issue. However today we are entering a new era of water usage and conservation. We took the first step with water when we converted from potable water to recycled water for irrigation. Now we are seeing dramatic increases in water cost even for recycled water. Your Board of Directors has taken this concern to a new level. We are in the process of developing a one to five-year plan to reduce water usage for irrigation. A RFP

(request for proposal) was developed and sent to a number of landscape companies to seek proposals to reduce our water usage. Three replied and were interviewed by a committee consisting of representation of the Board, Finance and Landscape Committees, Wendt Landscape and Niguel Shores staff. We selected a proposal that we feel will help us develop a good plan. The proposal we selected has been sent to the Finance Committee to determine the best way to finance the project. No decision has been made as of 10/15/09 on how best we can pay for this project. The Board supports the proposal to move our community forward to deal with future water shortages. Times will not be easy but we cannot wait for the future. We need a plan now!

—Jerry Koppang

DANA POINT HAPPENINGS

In thinking of what to write about for this November issue, it seemed time to catch up on what is happening in our little city that is about to become 21 years old on January 1. I kept running into our mayor, Lisa Bartlett, at three different events recently and it finally occurred to me that maybe I should talk to her about Dana Point. I invited her to come to Niguel Shores to see our new ClubHouse and, after a tour of it with her being very impressed by its elegance and the remarkable difference between this one and what we had, we sat down for a nice chat in our very pleasant lobby—so appropriate for such meetings. Mayor Bartlett grew up in Southern California, has an MBA from Pepperdine and was, before getting involved in politics, an executive in a computer software firm for which she says she traveled extensively. She has been a resident of Capistrano Beach since 1989 and, because of her present responsibilities on the City Council, she left the corporate world and is now a partner in a real estate investment firm.

We didn't talk about problems in Dana Point (that is well covered in the local media) but rather discussed various developments in the offing. On the subject of Town Center plans, Mayor Bartlett believes, now that the renderings are finished, parking is being studied and infrastructure plans are made, potential businesses have a solid basis for serious planning to invest in Dana Point. Once the economy improves, she said, there are parties interested in opening businesses here. She mentioned a couple of recent arrivals: Verizon with its new outlet in Lantern Bay Plaza and Easy Green Bikes.



Mayor Lisa Bartlett in the ClubHouse lobby

FROM THE GM

CLUBHOUSE / SPA – As you may know, we are slowly getting back to “normal” in the ClubHouse, and many homeowners are enjoying the use of the new facility. The new 52” flat screen TV has been installed in the lobby lounge. If you would like to watch a show, please visit the office so you can check out the controller. You’ll need to sign for it, and be sure to hand it back to staff when you leave.

EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS – If you visit the Niguel Shores Website, you can now see a list of all the “Homeowner Notifications” that are being sent out. As you may notice, on occasion there are several sent out each week. If we do not have your email address in our data base, you are either missing this important information, or not receiving it until the *Seashore News* is published. If you wish to have this information emailed directly to you, please come into the office and fill out the registration form. If you do not want to make the trip, I will be mailing out the form in the next few weeks, along with the ANNUAL EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION form. You can then simply mail the completed forms back to the NSCA Office.

PROPOSED RULE CHANGES – During the first week of November, you will be receiving a notice in the mail regarding the 2010 Proposed Rule Changes. As per California Civil Code, you will have 30 days to submit your comments on the changes to the Board of Directors before their final review. In addition, there will be an opportunity to make your comments directly to the Board at a PUBLIC FORUM which be held the evening of Wednesday, November 18 at 7:00 p.m. You can also email your comments to GM@Niguelshores.org.

HAPPY HOUR AT NIGUEL SHORES – I know most hours in Niguel Shores are “happy hours” but now there is an

official one. Each and every Wednesday, an informal “Happy Hour” is being sponsored by the Recreation Committee on the upper patio by the fireplace. It is held from 4:30–7:00 and it is BYOB for your drinks and snacks. The Association will be providing: ice / napkins / and plastic glassware. Come enjoy the fireplace and a few drinks with your friends and neighbors. Two dozen residents enjoyed the first gathering, and I’m sure I don’t need to remind you, the price is right!

TENNIS SOCIAL – Tennis activity has certainly picked up since tennis pro Gary Dudic has joined the Niguel Shores team. To further generate this interest, Gary has worked together with several homeowners to organize a “Tennis Meet & Greet” on Sunday, November 1 at 4:00–6:00 p.m. on the patio. Snacks and soft drinks will be provided, and you’re welcome to BYOB. This will be a great opportunity to meet other Niguel Shores tennis players, and help to expand the program within The Shores. If you are new to tennis or even just thinking about it, it is a great opportunity to find out more information. You’re also invited to take advantage of Gary’s offer of a “Free First Tennis Lesson”. Gary is also putting together a Niguel Shores email list to distribute all the latest tennis information and playing tips.

FOBS – Lastly, there is good news and bad as it relates to our FOB gates. The good news is the FOB activated gates are back in operation. The bad news is the FOB gates are back in operation. That means that those of you who have been climbing over the gates will now find out that we have new video cameras, and if you are the one who bent the new pillar lights, you will be receiving a nice letter and repair invoice from the Association. The moral of the story is: please start bringing your FOB with you when you visit the facilities.

—Leo Riley, General Manager

Happenings continued from page 1

There are long term plans to improve Sea Terrace Park with a children’s playground and restrooms—no new developments or even discussions have been happening about the surf museum. Dana Point is participating with other local communities in working to obtain a desalination plant in Dana Point. A Community Opinion Survey is in the works. The City Council wants to hear from the residents what they feel the important issues in the city are, and what residents’ priorities are so they can be ranked for budgeting purposes. A professional firm has been engaged to solicit from a random selection of registered voters their opinions on a number of areas of concern to the city. The survey will include questions about the Town Center project, expansion of the library, improvement of community parks & services, the surfing museum, senior housing, recreation activities, etc. This survey is to be completed before the end of the year.

Finally, the exciting subject of an opera festival in Dana Point was discussed with great enthusiasm by Mayor Bartlett. Two gentlemen from Viterbo, Italy were surveying the California coast between Malibu and San Diego in search of an appropriate venue for an outdoor opera festival like their *Tuscia Operafestival* in Viterbo. Mayor Bartlett had an opportunity to invite them for a tour of Dana Point, its hotels, parks and amenities. They were quite taken with and finally chose Lantern Bay Park on the bluff with its expansive views of the ocean, the coastline and the harbor below. The newly formed Italian American Opera Festival Foundation, a non-profit organization, (see logo above—its red and white) is behind the effort along with the conductor Stefano Vignati of the opera festival in Viterbo. The



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BOARD ACTION SUMMARY

OCTOBER 7, 2009 BOARD MEETING (General Session)

APPROVED:

- Approved the General Session Minutes of September 16, 2009.
- Approved the August 31, 2009 Financial Report.
- Approved the August 31, 2009 Variance & Delinquency reports.
- Approved the resignation of Shirley Smith from the Recreation Committee.
- Approved the filing of liens on (4) properties.

DISCUSSED:

- ClubHouse, pool & spa projects updates.
- Proposed Rule Changes.
- Committee revitalization schedule & update.
- Breakers Isle Gate repairs.
- County of Orange Revetment Project.
- Snack Bar operation at pool side.

REVIEWED:

- Major Project list and Board Calendars.

HEARINGS/MEETINGS:

- Conducted Quarterly Homeowner Public Forum.

OCTOBER 7, 2009 BOARD MEETING (Executive Session)

APPROVED:

- Approved the Executive Session minutes of September 16, 2009.

REVIEWED:

- September, 2009 Assessment Collection Status Report.
- October litigation disclosure statement.
- Analysis of legal fees account # 7155 for August 2009.

DISCUSSED:

- Discussed paving company dispute matter.
- AC matters involving six (6) homeowners.
- Headlands matter.
- Pool / Bluff access monitors.

OCTOBER 21, 2009 BOARD MEETING: (General Session)

APPROVED:

- General Session Minutes of September 2, 2009.
- General Session appended Minutes of September 16, 2009.
- General Session Minutes of October 7, 2009.
- Approval of the resignation of Hersey Steinwinter from the Traffic & Safety Committee.
- Approval of the resignation of Hersey Steinwinter from the Maintenance Committee.
- Approved proposed rule changes for mailout to homeowners for comments.

REVIEWED:

- Major Project list.
- Homeowner letter to the board re: Comments on Association BBQ's.
- Homeowner letter to the board re: Comments on the Nominating Committee.

DISCUSSED:

- Club House / Beach Bluff / Pool & Spa project updates.
- 2010 Reserve Study.
- Club House / Beach Bluff / Pool & Spa project updates.
- County of Orange Revetment Project.
- Committee Chair meeting agenda October 23.
- Community Leadership Alliance (local HOAs).
- Association Credit Card holders and card limits.
- Tree removal proposal from Monarch Del Mar HOA.

OCTOBER 21, 2009 BOARD MEETING: (Executive Session)

APPROVED:

- Executive Session Minutes of October 7, 2009.

REVIEWED:

- Fall paving project plan.

DISCUSSED:

- AC legal matters with 4 homeowners.
- A board member conduct matter.
- The removal of a member of a Committee.
- Budget issues / major projects in 2010.
- Update on paving dispute lien matter.
- D&O insurance notification.
- Headlands / City /County meeting update.
- Development of Master Landscape Plan & contract proposals.
- Bluff / Pool access monitors.

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—NOVEMBER 4, 2009 AT 9:00 A.M.

ARCHITECTURE

No report this month.

FINANCE

The Finance Committee is busy winding up details and pulling together the big picture for our 2010 budget. It has been challenging to incorporate advance spending on NSCA's next big project, Landscape Revitalization, into a budget that is already swollen by other needs unmet. We have rising expenses in a number of areas, the most notable one being water, which soared 50 percent over budget in the current year, one very prominent reason why we need Landscape Revitalization. We also put off maintenance of plant and landscape in prior years to better afford the MPR and repaving projects. With cost pressures from so many directions, it is inevitable that dues will increase.

—Steve Stewart

LANDSCAPE

Fall is the time when we turn back the clocks and adjust our automatic sprinkling systems for cooler weather. Remember to help conserve water (and your water bill) change your timers.

Please be respectful of our beautiful Beach Bluff! If you are hosting an event:

Don't pick our flowers to decorate the tables.

Don't move the picnic table so close to the landscaping that it will be stepped on.

Don't put the BBQ units directly on the grass....it burns.

Do have a good time!

We shall soon have a container at the bluff that will be designated for HOT COALS only.

Enjoy our Autumn sunsets!

—Sue Forrest

MAINTENANCE

When the lights go off on Salvador Bay.

Dave Smith arrives for work at 5:00 a.m... His first task is to drive the community to check for light outages, trash pickup, broken sprinklers, and other problems that may need immediate attention. On this morning he observes that the lights are out on Salvador Bay. He checks the fuses and other above ground connections. All seems to be in order.

Must be underground, but where? This happens often in this community where some thirty-five or forty years ago, many miles of bare cable were installed without conduit. Fortunately we have purchased two pieces of equipment that help in this situation.

When George arrives, he and Dave use the Cable Locator. This device allows us to find and trace the location of the underground cable. Having found the location they then use the Ground Fault Locator to determine where the cable might be damaged.

As luck would have it, the equipment indicated that the damaged cable was under the sidewalk. This meant a lot of heavy digging and trenching to get under the sidewalk. Dave, the guy that would need to do the digging, suggested that the equipment might be wrong. George, the boss who is not going to be doing the digging, said "no, trust the equipment."

Dave dug. They found the damage, spliced the line, and had the lights back on three hours after discovery and before the residents on Salvador Bay knew they were out. This is our best work, getting something fixed before the residents know there is a problem!

—Jack Christiansen

SEASHORE NEWS

We are welcoming Barbara Milner as a new editor on our staff who will be responsible for some of the committee reports. Barbara has always been generous in volunteering for various committees in Niguel Shores and her offer to help with the newsletter and her experienced voice at our meetings is greatly appreciated.

People tell us they like reading our "teen/tween" articles and our Teen Editor, Colleen, does like writing them (who knows, we may have a budding journalist/author in our group). Please see her article this month about contacting other young people in our community.

Thanks for your many kind comments about our newsletter. We do pass them on to our fellow staff members at our meetings.

—Mary Crowl

TRAFFIC AND SAFETY

Please forgive my writing about rules all the time, but that's what traffic and safety are all about.

Managing the hundreds of guests within our community is becoming more challenging since the recent improvements to the Beach Bluff Park and the construction of the new ClubHouse, pool area and (soon to be completed)

RECREATION



Happy Hour at the ClubHouse: Enjoy our beautiful fireplace patio every Wednesday with neighbors from 4:30 to 7:00. Bring your own refreshments, and enjoy the evening with friends. Ice, plastic glasses and napkins will be furnished. This will continue every Wednesday as long as it is well attended.



The **Halloween** afternoon was enjoyed by all ages. The parade and candy hunt, plus the games and food. Susan Meredith and her committee continue to have an event that is appreciated and enjoyed by all ages. Many thanks to all the volunteers who made it happen.



Plans are in the process for the **Holiday Tree Lighting** party for December 13 with Santa to listen to the wishes of the children as pictures are being taken. The special time is planned by Alicia Martinez and Danielle Mills with refreshments for all ages. Everyone is invited to share the happiness of the children with Santa from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.



New Years Eve Celebration: Mark your calendar for 9:00 p.m. to midnight. Watch for details about this event which Barbara Milner is planning for \$10 per person for tickets available in the office, \$15 at the door.

Come enjoy the festivities the Recreation Committee has planned for everyone.

—Carol Yocom

jacuzzi/spa. These amenities now rival those of some country clubs in the area and, consequently, have attracted much more attention from residents and their guests.

It has become epidemic that guests are availing themselves of our amenities independent from their hosts, which has detracted from the enjoyment by our residents. It is important to note and understand the obligations of the homeowners and occupants with regard to their guests. Guests are always to be accompanied by their hosts anywhere within Niguel Shores, particularly at the Beach Bluff and the ClubHouse facilities. If it is determined by our security personnel (or any of our homeowners) that guests are using our facilities on their own, they

can be, and most likely will be, asked to leave the community.

It should also be noted that the residents are fully responsible for the behavior of their guests and any damage that may result from it.

Enjoy our new facilities!

—Michael Card

NIGUELSHORES.ORG

The Niguel Shores website has had quite a few new updates since my last article. The biggest will be our new mailing list program. This new mailing list program will allow you to change your email address and join our mailing list straight from our website. In addition, the notices that you receive by email are now posted on the website. Be sure to check out the home page NiguelShores.org for frequent updates.

I want to also say a special thank you for the club members who are taking advantage of our website to help keep other people aware of the different things happening at Niguel Shores. Be sure to check out the “Page Turners” page on the website that just launched this month! If you are part of a club and want to contribute to the website, please email me at webadmin@niguelshores.org.

—Kathleen Capalla

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GARDEN CLUB

Fall, it happens every year. I was reading an article by Cindy McNatt about her garden and this time of year. Several months ago Linda and I had the opportunity to visit Cindy's garden and I understand how she might have felt. She started by saying there is something about fall that has me biting at the bit to get back in the garden. Cool mornings have something to do with it, but also the raggedy nature of landscape after our summer heat waves

I can't wait to deadhead the spent flowers, prune back the perennials that are finished, dig up the weeds that I let go through August and September and dig and divide the plants that have grown too large. On my giveaway list are divided clumps of fortnight lily.

Fall is also a good time to rethink what is going on in the garden. Consider adding new plants. Perennials, shrubs and trees establish themselves over the winter and are ready to face the music next spring.

If you are limited on space consider container gardening. If you want a springtime flower show consider daffodils in pots. Choose a pot that is 16" wide and almost as deep. Buy healthy bulbs avoid ones that are soft, squishy or moldy. Fill the pot with loose fast draining soil mix to within 5" from the rim, then place bulbs atop the soil pointy side up (roots sprout from the round end.) Set them almost shoulder to shoulder and cover them with 4" of potting soil. Water well after planting, then set the container aside in a shaded area. After green shoots appear in late winter or

early spring, resume watering and move the pot to a sunny location.

Remember November is the Garden Club's "forget me not" project to aid home bound seniors. Gift bags will be made of useful items so bring any excess hotel toiletries. Our next meeting will be Monday, November 16 at 12:00 noon in the ClubHouse.

Happy Gardening...

—Jerry Koppang

MEN'S CLUB

It's great to be in the new "digs". The ClubHouse is terrific and our thanks and appreciation go to all the folks that worked so hard and so long to bring it to fruition. Inviting guest speakers that can now enjoy the facility is a true delight. They know that they are dealing with a first class operation.



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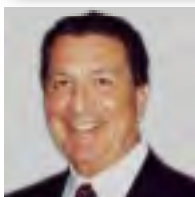
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Our guest speaker on October 6 was Lee Ann Carranza. Lee Ann is the Preserve Manager of the Dana Point Preserve, which is part of the Center for Natural Lands Management (CNLM). The CNLM is a non-profit organization that owns and manages the Preserve. The organization acquires biologically sensitive land to protect for perpetuity. CNLM manages more than 70 other properties throughout California. Through donations they were successful in buying 23 acres of what will be open space on the very prominent vista of the Dana Point headlands. Trails have been added and this will be a wildlife and vegetation sanctuary. Her slide show encompassed examples of animals and native California plants. For more information about this worthwhile organization visit their website at www.cnlm.org or call 949-218-1145.

Jerry Milner, our International Ambassador of Travel, is our guest on October 20. Guests for November will

be Pat Bates, Orange County Supervisor, and officers from the Orange County Sheriff's Department. The Dana Point High School choir will be with us in December.

The Men's Club Annual Dinner Dance will be held on December 8 at the El Niguel Country Club. See notice in this issue. Unfortunately, Early Bird Specials will not be available.

We had some sad news in October. Don Beaver advised that two members of the Club, Bill Boyd and Sid Kahn had passed away. Our condolences go out to the families of these two great guys.

—Bob Ryan

WOMEN'S CLUB

1919: President Wilson proclaims the first Armistice Day with the following words, "To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those...in the country's service..." 1954: President Eisenhower

signs legislation changing the name of the legal holiday from Armistice Day to Veteran's Day. 1978: law takes effect making November 11 the national observance of Veteran's Day.

On Thursday, November 12, the Women's Club will recognize Veteran's Day, by honoring 'Women in the Military' who are residents of Niguel Shores. The program will be a pastiche of their stories of wartime service and of a typical (or maybe not so typical) USO show.

THIS IS IMPORTANT—we want the names of all women who were or are in military service and who live in Niguel Shores. We do not want to overlook anyone. Please contact Women's Club President Nancy Tinnes, or the office, if you are, or you know, a veteran who should be included in this program.

The meeting in November will be the last regular meeting of the year. December is party time, and the first meeting of 2010 will be on Thursday, January 14.

—Ceacy Johns



Niguel Shores Men's Club Annual Christmas Dinner Dance

Tuesday, December 8, 2009
El Niguel Country Club
6:30 – 11:00 p.m.

Black Tie Optional – 6:30 – 7:30. No-host Cocktails
Dinner served at 7:30 p.m.

Music by Sam Conti and His Orchestra

\$65 per person is to be paid at a Men's Club meeting or to the Men's Club mail box in the NSCA Office
Advise Carl Printz (493-2040) if you would like special seating preparations and your entrée preference

WEDNESDAY BRIDGE

We are enjoying playing bridge in our new ClubHouse and would like to encourage bridge players to join us at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday morning. You can bring a sandwich, or you could have lunch before you come. Our hostess for November will be Gloria Thraelkill who can be reached at 661-0763. Give her a call that you are ready to play.

The recent winners were:

September 23: Patricia Conway, Helen Campbell and Betty Cooperman

September 30: Patricia Conway, Kay Wittmack and Francesca Sunness

October 7: Patricia Conway, Helen Campbell and Frieda Baskin

October 14: Ed Reyno, Barbara Enochian and Freida Baskin

We were saddened by the passing on October 4 of our dear friend, Helen Stevenson. She loved playing bridge and was one of the best—she will be greatly missed.

—Helen Campbell

REALLY SERIOUS OREO COOKIE BOOK CLUB

October was our *Omnivore's Dilemma* meeting to which a member's friend brought along properly grown tomatoes from his Italian *vgreenfarms* for our tasting pleasure and generated lots of spirited conversation about the controversial author, Michael Pollan—he made the *L.A. Times* recently as a critic of California's agribusiness.

For the November meeting the Club will be reading *“My Stroke of Insight: – A Brain Scientist's Personal Journey”* by Jill Bolte Taylor who witnessed herself having a stroke and watched how her logical left brain shut down and how the right brain became dominant—a rare telling by a scientist of surviving a stroke, recovering from it and becoming rehabilitated. The meeting will be held at the home of Diane Hearne, 23802 Cassandra Bay at 1:00 p.m. on November 18. Contact Norton Schwartz at 481-2459 for information or e-mail him at nortlynne@cox.net.

—Mary Crowl

PAGE TURNERS

Page Turners meets on November 23, for a discussion of *Cannery Row* by John Steinbeck. Steinbeck is perhaps best known for his novel, *The Grapes of Wrath*, which won the Pulitzer Prize in 1940. *Cannery Row* is described as his “tough but loving portrait of Monterey's laboring class and its emotional triumph over the bleak existence of life in Cannery Row” during the Great Depression. With humor and genuine fondness, Steinbeck brings the denizens of Cannery Row vividly to life.

The morning group will meet at 10:00 a.m. at the NSCA ClubHouse. The afternoon group will meet at 12:30 p.m. at the home of Norton Schwartz, 23621 Sydney Bay. Kathleen Hardcastle will be the discussion leader for both groups.

Page Turners meets on the fourth Monday of each month September through June, except for December. If you wish more information please call Gloria Weintraub at 248-8205 (rdabook@cox.net) or Kathleen Hardcastle at 481-5503 (khlaguna@gmail.com).

—Kathleen Hardcastle

POTLUCK

Sunday, November 15, 6:00 p.m.

Chairman Ann Christiansen is inviting you to come enjoy an evening with friends and to meet your neighbors in our lovely new ClubHouse. Social begins at 6:00 p.m. Bring your own beverage and table service plus \$2 per person.

Please respond to the callers to bring a main dish, salad, or dessert.

A-E	Chris and Don Beaver	493 7430
F-O	Shirley Smith	496 0483
P-Z	Marilyn Pappas	496 7072



LIBRARY NEWS

Children’s Library: The In-N-Out reading program will continue through Saturday, November 21.

On November 12 at 4:00 p.m. Jacque Nunez will perform a unique program that takes students on a journey into the lifestyle of the California Indian. Jacque shares through stories and songs her people’s indigenous tools, instruments, games and clothing. The children view traditional dances and even get to participate. Children leave with an experience of what it means to be “keepers of the earth.”

Pajama Storytime with the Sunshine Readers will be held on November 30 at 7:00 p.m.

Adult Library: The Dana Point Library is proud to present John Hopkins, known local musician as part of our “After Hours at the Library” program, Friday, November 13 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. John Hopkins is a local musician who has performed in Southern California for the better part of the past 30 years. With an incredible song list of over 300 cover songs ranging from the early days of rock and roll to the popular songs from the 70s, 80s and 90s. Mr. Hopkins also has about 50 original songs to his credit that have been played in 15 countries around the world. John has spent the past 13 summers playing at the Doubletree Guest Suites in Dana Point with his band, The Original Local Dudes, and has performed for over a half a million people in his career. John has a unique way of connecting to his audience and playing songs in a manner that feels as if it’s the first time you’ve ever heard them.

There is a slight change to the Book Club meeting schedule this month due to the observance of Veterans Day, Wednesday, November 11. We will be meeting from 10:00-11:00 a.m. in the library meeting room on Thursday, November 12. The book this month is *The Book of Lost Things* by John Connolly. If you’d like to join us, please pick up a copy of this month’s title at the checkout desk.

Note: The Library will be closed for repaving the parking lot November 23, 24, and 25, and for the Thanksgiving Holiday November 26 and 27.

—Judy Pasek

DIPPY DOLPHINS ARE IN THE SWIM AGAIN

It’s great to be back in our pool! We are grateful to our administration for arranging six months at the Laguna Niguel Tennis Club pool and to our instructor Cynthia’s

friend, Michelle, for opening her beautiful yard and pool to us for the remainder of the time. We haven’t missed a single day since the pool closed last November! We met for a luncheon in our new ClubHouse in October and are planning another in December, a great way to see what fellow Dippies look like when fully dressed.

As of October 2 we meet at 9:30 a.m., Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The cost is still \$3 per session or \$28 prepaid for a full month. If you are into having a good workout in the company of fun and friendly companions, please join us. In addition to getting good exercise, you will hear the latest jokes, keep up with the latest local and world news, books and TV programs, and you can watch our big new spa being built just in time for the colder weather. We can hardly wait, and we thank the Board for realizing this need in our large community.

—Hope Luedeke



Dippy Dolphin ClubHouse lunch: L to R seated: Bunny Mahoney, Wilma Lindberg, Linda Rice, Irene McDonald, Barbara Brabeck, Marian Kennedy. Standing: Hope Luedeke, Bunny Ross, Joni Ashworth, Diane Hearne, Sheila Furst



L to R: Rhea Gutknecht, Mary Margaret Leu (visiting), Ann Morris, Instructor Cynthia Carlson, Sally Lee Howd, Carolyn Sidwell, Ruth Levitan

MEN'S GOLF

There are no scheduled golf matches in November. December 8 is our annual putting contest and breakfast at Talega Golf Club in San Clemente. Don't miss this popular event.

All golfers who have a Southern California Golf Association index number will be contacted during the month of November to renew their membership for 2010. Renewal cost is \$45. Checks are to be made to the Niguel Shores Men's Club and turned in to a member of the Golf Committee. This will apply to new Men's Club members who wish to join SCGA. The Golf Committee mentioned consists of Roy Dohner, Dave Ontiveros and Tom McNicholas.

—Tom McNicholas

WOMEN'S GOLF

Next Fun Day is Monday, November 9. Check-in time is 8:00 a.m. at Aliso Creek Golf Course. We always welcome new people and all levels of players. Come join us and see how much fun you can have! Call Golf Captains Eileen McDonald 249-8905 or India Rouse 248-1336 to sign up for golf. Call Chris Beaver 493-7430 or Linda Ross 248-3408 to sign up for lunch. If you need to cancel golf please call one of the golf captains. Last minute cancelers also have to notify the starter at the course.

Our Christmas Luncheon will be on December 14 at The Fountains. All members, former members and potential

members are welcome. The cost will be \$27. Reservations need to be made by December 1. Checks should be made payable to Val Mitchell to be collected at the next meeting. If you have any questions or would like more information call Joan Beyer 496-1428 or Irene McDonald 481-3035.

This month the game was "The Mad Hatter of Golf." All the golfers had to wear a hat and play with only four clubs. We all agonized over which clubs to use but it was a lot of fun. To continue the "mad" theme, the winning team was drawn from a witch's hat. We then enjoyed lunch in our new ClubHouse.

- Gretchen passed out golf balls to the winning players.
- Closest to the pin on #6 was Val Mitchell.
- Closest to the pin on #8 was Marlene Lynch.
- Longest drive on #9 was Marlene Lynch.
- Low putts was Eileen McDonald with 16.
- Low gross was Eileen McDonald with 42.
- Low net was a first time player Marion Sandell.

Always remember
"Swing hard just in case you hit the ball"

—Irene McDonald

NIGUEL SHORES TENNIS PROGRAMS

Junior Tennis Clinics:

Rookies Junior Clinic (Ages 5-8)

Fridays 4:00-5:00 p.m. (Oct 30, Nov 6, Nov 13, Dec 4, Dec 11)
Cost: 5 Weeks - \$66. Price to be adjusted for clinics with less than 4 persons

Minors Junior Clinic (Ages 8-11)

Tuesday 4:00-5:00 p.m. (Oct 27, Nov 3, Nov 10, Nov 17, Dec 8, Dec 15)
Cost: 6 weeks - \$80. Prices to be adjusted for clinics with less than 4 persons

Majors Beginner Junior Clinic (Ages 10-14)

Mondays and Wednesday 4:00-5:00 p.m. (Oct 26 & 28, Nov 2 & 4, Nov 9 & 11, Nov 16 & 18, Dec 7 & 9, Dec 14 & 16)
Cost: 6 weeks - \$160. Prices are to be adjusted for clinics with less than 4 persons

Adults:

Group lessons/clinics can be arranged with groups of 2 or more persons.

Contact Gary Dudic: (949) 636-8605



Great Egret
(that's the species name) symbol of the National Audubon Society... hunting along the edge of the bluff's parking lot on October 16.

Also was hunting along the road down to the beach. It was feeding on lizards...doing quite well. —Joel Weintraub

Grand Prize to Pasek!

Judy Pasek, Niguel Shores resident and member of our own *Seashore News* staff won the Grand Prize in the Ocean Institute drawing on September 25 at the St. Regis Hotel. The prize is: A fully paid trip to Paris, France for two. Now, that is **A PRIZE!** We all whooped with joy as her name was announced. She, unfortunately was not there but did celebrate later with those of us who were present at the drawing. I might add that Niguel Shores resident, Marti Poivre, sold her the ticket and, in keeping with Marti's track record, this is the third prize winning ticket she has sold—a previous grand prize and a second prize. So, the lesson is, if you want to support the Ocean Institute, see Marti!

Bon voyage, Judy, and we hope you enjoy *un bon vin blanc* over there. —Mary Crowl



EMERITUS CLASSES

Because of the positive response to the Saddleback College Class, "Film as Literature," the Emeritus Committee has invited our teacher, Susan Hecht, back for the next semester with the class beginning January 11, 2010. Current students will receive a notice in the mail and can register. Students who have not received a number for registration need to consult with the instructor. Application forms for Saddleback College will be available in the NS office. These will be available for those residents who were not able to attend this class session.

State funding problems have determined that Saddleback will not be able to provide any additional classes for the next semester. However, the committee will be exploring, and possibly initiating, other educational opportunities for NS residents. Leave a note in the office for the committee if you have any ideas or comments you wish to share.

—Bunny Ross

Happenings continued from page 2

current plans are for the festival to take place in September 2010 from the 10th to the 20th in Lantern Bay Park in Dana Point. There will be, in addition to five to seven operas, many Italian tie-ins and festivities. This relationship was enhanced by the sister city agreement last May between Viterbo and Dana Point. Exchanges between the two mayors fostered the opera festival plans. Mayor Bartlett was invited to Viterbo in September to its annual festival where she was enthusiastically received and had the unexpected experience of attending a service at which Pope Benedict presided. Viterbo is an ancient walled city, was a papal residence with a papal palace, important cathedral and other monuments. See www.tuscioperafestival.com for a gallery of photos. We should all enthusiastically anticipate this great event in our own Dana Point.

—Mary Crowl



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MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS: Both are Veterans

♪ *It happened... in Nantucket... not so very long ago* ♪ (63 years to be exact). That is where a young Navy Ensign, commanding an Air/Sea Rescue vessel, was stationed and where he took his meals at the island's Coast Guard officer's mess. There he spotted a pretty young Coast Guard SPAR, also an Ensign, temporarily assigned there. That Navy Ensign, Lee Writer, did not miss that chance meeting to let this pretty lady, Ensign Harriet, get away, for he was soon courting her there and in her permanent station in Boston. They married a year later in 1946 in Salem, Massachusetts.

Obviously, our Meet-Your-Neighbors this month are Lee and Harriet Writer. I felt that, because we will be honoring all military veterans past and present this month, this is one couple where both served their country.

Before I tell you the rest of the story I should clarify one word above. SPAR? Well, during WWII many young women joined the Army as

WAACs and the Navy as WAVES. At that time the Coast Guard had no women in their service and made a request to the Navy to ask for volunteers to transfer to their new Coast Guard Women's Reserve to be known by the acronym SPARs, based on the Coast Guard motto: *Semper Paratus*—Always Ready. The purpose of women in the Coast Guard was to expedite the war effort by providing for releasing officers and men for duty at sea and their replacement by women in the shore establishment.

That chance meeting in Nantucket is significant when you figure that Lee is a California boy born in Monrovia (in 1922) and Harriet was born in Gardner, Mass (in 1920). And now the rest of the story.

At the beginning of the war Harriet was attending Boston University as an art student and Lee was studying at USC. She joined the WAVES, one of the first women to join in Boston in 1942. She had completed training at the University of Wisconsin to be a radio operator translating Morse code, not a service job she liked, when the Coast Guard asked for trained WAVES to volunteer for their new

SPARs unit. Harriet volunteered immediately. She was sent to the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut and, upon completion, was made an Ensign. Following an assignment in Seattle, Harriet reported to a very secret Coast Guard operation in the Commandant's office in Boston and trained to use a new, highly confidential electronic navigation system called loran, which stood for long-range navigation. She had to go to Nantucket on a loran assignment and was stuck there during a storm, and there met Lee.

Lee, on active duty, was in a Navy program at USC for a semester, after which he went first to boot camp in Norfolk, Virginia then to Midshipman's school at Columbia University in New York City and graduated as an Ensign.

(Lee confessed that Harriet outranks him by one month). From there Lee went to gunnery school, anti-sub chasing school, and then to Ft. Lauderdale, Florida to become skipper of an Air/Sea rescue vessel. His vessel was in Nantucket to rescue any Navy pilots who were flying bombing practice exercises from the island.

After leaving the services, Lee and

Harriet moved back to Southern California and into Lee's dad's house. Unfortunately, Lee's mom died just days before they were married so she never got to see the prize that Lee brought back from the East Coast. Lee returned to USC to complete his studies in business management. Lee then went into the Sears Management Trainee program while Harriet started being a full-time mom as the first of their three children was born. Harriet, however, wanted to complete her college education lacking only two years. While Lee progressed through various management positions at Sears, Harriet raised their family, two boys and a girl, and finally, after nine years, graduated from USC with a teaching credential.

During this time Lee had acquired a 30 foot power boat and the family spent many fun summer vacations and holidays on Catalina where Lee's older sister owned a home which Lee had spent many days of his childhood visiting. At this time Harriet was a teacher in the seventh and eighth grades. She taught at some of the toughest schools in the area and finally hung up her credentials after seven years.



The two Ensigns: Lee & Harriet Writer

With the family grown and off starting their own families, Lee and Harriet sold their home in Claremont in 1973 and bought their home on Windjammer Drive. Lee retired from Sears in 1980 to enjoy their retirement in beautiful Niguel Shores. Lee played tennis and naturally, golf (he is pretty darn good at it, too). Lee has been president of the Men's Club and Harriet has been president of the Women's Club. Harriet's rewarding pass-time was knitting and with other members of the Women's Club she has knitted over 300 children's sweaters that have been distributed to needy children all over the world (thru World Vision).

They are very proud of the success of their children. The oldest son, Steve, is a Cardiologist in Boise, Idaho. Their daughter, Linda, just retired from teaching elementary school in Palm Springs after 34 years and their son, Tom, is Operations Manager for all of the properties for handicap people in Houston, Texas.

Do not expect to see Lee and Harriet around our community in June because that is when their whole

family: eight adults, seven grandchildren, and six great grandchildren, all vacation for the month at their home on Catalina. Harriet has only one requirement that all the family must adhere to: everyone must eat dinner together.

I started this narrative talking about the SPARs. Now I would like to end and mention a recent event that Harriet attended. The second highest officer in charge of the whole Coast Guard is a Vice Admiral and a woman. At her upcoming Changing-of-the-Watch when she would relinquish her command position she requested that at that ceremony all remaining original SPARs veterans be invited to attend. So Harriet was invited to Washington D.C. to attend this ceremony. In total nine original SPARs veterans participated with the Vice Admiral in all the panel discussions, social events and final official ceremony. So when you see Harriet or Lee or, for that matter, any of the many other veterans in our community this month be sure to thank them for their service to this great country.

—Karl Kuhn



Carol's Cuisine Corner

Last month all the Dana Point Harbor restaurants were listed. There is such a nice variety in our area some will be listed each month for you to visit. Many have been here for years, which means they are providing the community with food and service that keeps customers coming back. Hope this will help you find a cuisine that appeals to you...

PEKING DRAGON: 34171 Pacific Coast Hwy. – 493-9499. The restaurant has been here 25 years. Featuring family style Mandarin food. Closed on Monday, Tues. to Sat. 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (Lunch) 5:00 to 10:00 p.m. (Dinner) Sunday 4:30 to 10:00 p.m.

MARIO'S BY THE SEA: 32545 Golden Lantern – 240-1967. They have been here since 1989 with great Italian food. Monday to Saturday open at 4:00 p.m., Sunday open at 2:00 p.m.

HARBOR HOUSE: 34157 Pacific Coast Hwy. – 496-9270. A 24-hour café that never closes, serving all walks of life and ages.

CHART HOUSE: 34442 Street of the Green Lantern – 493-1183. A panoramic view with casual dining. Happy Hour Monday–Friday 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. Early specials 5:00 to 6:00 p.m., dinners 5:00 to 10:00 p.m. seven days a week.

FERRANTELLI'S: 25001 Dana Point Harbor Dr. – 493-1401, Classic Italian cuisine from Naples. Happy Hour 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. Lunch 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. with a luncheon menu, dinner 5:00 to 10:00 p.m., Sunday 1:00 to 10:00 p.m. with dinner menu.

ICHIBIRI: 16 Monarch Bay Plaza – 661-1544. Japanese Steak and Sushi House. Lunch Monday – Friday 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Dinner Monday to Sunday 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Early bird dinners Sunday to Thursday 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

CASANOVA: 3583 Del Obispo – 496-0992. This small charming "trattoria" opened in 2001 adding recently a martini bar. On the weekends they have live piano and vocals. Happy Hour Mon.–Fri. 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. Open daily for dinner.

SMOKEY'S HOUSE OF BBQ: 32860 Pacific Coast Hwy. #4 – 388-8102. A place they say for something south in your mouth. Express lunch 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., breakfast Sat. and Sun. 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Open Monday to Friday 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday 8:00 a.m. to 9:00pm.

LUCIANA'S: 24312 Del Prado – 661-6500. An authentic Tuscany menu open seven days a week 5:30 to 9:00 p.m.

JACK'S: 24462 Del Prado – 489-1903. Casual dining offering continental dinners seven days a week from 5:00 p.m. Happy Hour 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. in bar and patio.

Until next month with more places, "Bon Appetit" —Carol Yocom

Teens Talking

This month in the Teens Talking article I am looking for something new or in this case someone new. I know that out of the three thousand who call Niguel Shores home, there must be a teen out there willing to be interviewed. If you are interested in allowing your accomplishments and future dreams to be shared with the rest of the neighborhood, I'm very eager to craft a story with you that convey your feats. I want to hear from you, the teen, that being interviewed would be an opportunity to openly

express your individuality. You don't have to be an all star athlete, or a 4.0 student, we all have different qualities that make us unique. Tell me your story and allow me to share it with the community. You'd be surprised what your life story can inspire others in elements of their daily lives. After sitting down and listening to the teens I've interviewed in the past, I've walked away from each one touched or motivated in some substantial way. We, as a community, are all intrigued by each other and learn from each

other every day. More importantly, teens demand their voice to be heard, and although this article is not to be used to protest or complain, we can use it as a chance to inform. To inform readers of the different level of qualities we have living in the Shores. If you would like to share your story you can e-mail me at colleen.mcnaught@yahoo.com, or call my cell (949) 573-0688. Please don't hesitate to call; I really want to hear from the teens in this neighborhood. Also, if you have any suggestions or ideas for the articles please contact me. Most importantly, every high school student in this neighborhood has a story to tell. I would love for you to give me the opportunity to share yours.

—Colleen McNaught

In Memoriam

William Boyd

September 2009

Resident of Timor Bay

Men's Club and

Recreation Committee Member

Sidney Kahn

September 2009

Resident of Binnacle Drive

Board Member 1992-96

Board President 1994-95

Jack Snyder

September 2009

Resident of Shackleton Drive

Helen Stevenson

October 2009

Resident of Vista D'Onde

Women's Club &

Bridge Club Member

Father Ernest Sillers

Colima Bay Resident

October 2009



Garden Club Lobster Dinner

(left) Lobster chef Bob Borland grilling lobsters for the Garden Club Lobster Dinner 10/22/09

(below) Lobster dinner workers: Jack Sweeney, Linda Koppang, Jerry Pearl, Bob Borland, Jerry Koppang and Tom McNicholas



VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Have you noticed the expanding brown spots in the sod throughout the community common areas? I'm not talking about the damage by the rabbits at the bluff. Specifically, 33882 Manta Court front yard, 5 expanding spots behind 33902 Manta Court in the green belt, thru the Selva Gate onto Windward and directly right are multiple dead sod spots, continue to the top of the community and turn left onto Marlinspike and across the top of the community to Leeward look right and see large dead areas.

One outside expert said it is fungal and needs to be treated. A member of the landscape committee took a sample to Dana Point Nursery and was told it was not fungus damage so have not taken further action. However, dead sod still exists. After looking at three different samples, Armstrong Nursery's expert, Mark, said the damage could be fungus but, this year, in our area, grubs are more likely eating the roots and will continue to do so until treated. Mark said that if you go a foot away from a brown spot and dig down into the green area and lift the sod you will see the grubs eating the roots. The damage will not clear up or reverse by itself.

It may be easier to ignore the problem but that doesn't make it go away. Perhaps a request to Wendt by Leo Riley or the Board of Directors will get the problem addressed before it is too late. The problem could spread to homeowner's yards if unchecked. To replace the sod will cost much more than getting an expert in to tell us what must be done to save it.

—Karla Sanders

Editor's Note: This matter has been referred to the Landscape Contractor for investigation and follow-up.

Note from the GM: The brown spot that Mrs. Sanders is referring to, is not fungus but rather the results of the rabbits that have decided that the "salad bar" we installed on top of the bluff is very tasty. You can tell by the clues that they "drop" in the area, that this is their favorite meeting and dining place. We have been encouraging them to try the buffet next door at the Headlands, and we hope they take the hint. There is no fungus to worry about.


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NEIGHBORHOOD ADS

For Sale: Gorgeous Ethan Allen Couch. 13 foot long sectional, yellow/beige. Paid \$4300 in 06, Selling for \$1000 OBO! Must sell, make an offer (949) 378-4511. Come look!

Garage Needed: 1936 Buick Convertible needs a garage, Jon Cobain 429-1785, (C) 292-5983, joncobain@aol.com

For Sale at the Fountains Dana Point Retirement Community. One bedroom condo. Fee simple ownership. Owned by former Niguel Shores resident. Pristine condition. Details call Frances Ozimec 949-240-8553 cell 714-271-2717.

Wanted to buy: We are renting in the Shores presently & have decided to buy. If you have an interest in selling within the next year please contact Ed or Gaynell Reyno (949) 481-1722

For Rent: 3 Bd 2 Bath apt enclosed. 2 car garage, free laundry- fireplace, patio. (949) 240- 3327

For Rent: 1 Bd 1 Bath Condo. Selva Rd – (714) 962-6358

Handy Man: Struggling college student, will haul almost anything. Help move, packing, shopping, yard work, clean up. Taylor (949) 9204-7635.

For Rent: Beautiful 2 bedroom – 2 bath townhome for rent in PGA West – La Quinta. Newly remodeled in 7th Tee of the Arnold Palmer course where Bob Hope Classic is played. Lake, mountains outside home. (949) 302-4256

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Beautiful vacation rental: Ocean and sunset views. Sleeps 4–6. 2 bedrooms / 2 baths plus convertible den. Available Mid March thru June. Please call Mary Ann Smith at 626-485-4981.

For Rent: Idaho Rental - Sun Valley/ Ketchum, Idaho – Summer / Winter. Very nice 2 br / 2 ba mobile home 3 mi s. of Ketchum Spa. Mtn. views, open spaces – walk to Fly Fishing. Grassy setting near bike path. \$100./night. David 949-290-8420 www.agiftingservice.com/sunvalley.html

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 Finance
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 Maintenance
 Recreation
Seashore News Staff
 Traffic and Safety
 View Preservation

CHAIRPERSONS

Ginny Nevitt
 Steve Stewart
 Rotating
 Jack Christiansen
 Carol Yocom
 Mary Crowl
 Mike Card/Tim Murphy
 Bonnie Gilbertstadt

MEETINGS

1:00 pm, 1st and 3rd Thursdays
 See Calendar
 3:00 pm, 2nd Monday
 9:00 am, 2nd Thursday
 10:00 am, 2nd Tuesday
 10:00 am, 1st Friday
 9:30 am, 2nd Wednesday
 1:30 pm, 4th Monday

AD HOC COMMITTEES

Construction Oversight
 Investment
 Website

CHAIRPERSONS

Rob Rifkin/Roy Dohner
 Gretchen Letson-Rask
 Kathleen Capalla

MEETINGS

To be determined
 To be determined
 To be determined

Sea Terrace Townhomes Assoc. I

Don Beaver, President
 Don Bear, 1st Vice-President
 Meg Werby, 2nd Vice-President
 Ceacy Johns, Secretary
 Al Glatt, Treasurer

Sea Terrace Townhomes Assoc. II

George Traver, President
 Adrienne Ruben, 1st Vice-President
 Rene Cortez, 2nd Vice-President
 Karla Sanders, Secretary
 Frieda Baskin, Treasurer
 Terry McLaughlin, Ad hoc member

Women's Club

Nancy Tinnes, President
Men's Club
 Blair McDonald, President
Garden Club
 Linda/Jerry Koppang, President

Seashore News

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 Bob Converse – Distribution

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