

# Seashore News



December 2012

Published Monthly by Niguel Shores Community Association

Issue 469

## YEAR END STORIES BY STAFF

### 2012 IS ALMOST LAST YEAR...



We are reviewing our past year which you may read in the following pages with each *Seashore News* staff member writing about her experience while working on this newsletter. It always seems a useful exercise to

look back at what we've been doing during the past year before going on to a new one.

Niguel Shores has had lots of newness during 2012—a new general manager, a new landscape contractor, three new board members, new MarketPlace on the Website, new street surfaces, new plantings and, some new rules...

Our new general manager, Deborah Baker, actually came in mid-December 2011 but she was still pretty new in January and you read about her in our February issue (you can find it and all the other 2012 issues on the Website), her background and goals for her new job here. We at the *Seashore News* have appreciated her regular attendance at our meetings, her help and advice when needed and general interest in the success of the newsletter and the Website. Thank you very much, Deborah.

The new landscape contractor, Harvest, with its plethora of orange vested men all round, was a special new sight at the beginning of the year. You read about that company and its history in the January issue. It is known for its water saving expertise and is in the process

of implementing our master landscape plan designed earlier by the Silverwood group. Certainly progress is very evident with the massive replanting of the large Nauticus slope above the Bluff parking lot, a job which Harvest won in the bidding. The other major test of Harvest's expertise is our watering system that the special team has been working on most of the year and that will be the means to the hoped for water savings once it is working correctly and efficiently.

The two new board members, Steve Leonard, Secretary, and Bob Russell, 2nd Vice President, and returning member,

Steve Stewart, Treasurer, had biographies in the April issue—you may reread those if you're interested, and you may read about their work in the monthly Board Actions printed in the *Seashore News*.

Let's not forget the many exciting events put on by the Recreation Committee throughout the year: The

happy hours and Bluff BBQs, the Food Truck night, In-N-Out Burger treat, the August concert, Cinco de Mayo with the DJ, green beer on St. Patrick's Day and, best of all, the great 4th of July event. Dick Johns got the Men's Club Pancake Breakfast organized, Suzanne Enis managed the Sand Castle Contest and old reliable, Nancy Mrs. 4th of July Tinnes did all the rest! See all the other photos on the Website of these affairs.

Those are some memories of what we hope was one of the best. Have a very good new one.

— Mary Crowl  
continued on page 9



July 4th at Niguel Shores



# BOARD ACTION SUMMARY

## NOVEMBER 6, 2012 BOARD MEETING: (General/Executive Session) — CANCELLED

## NOVEMBER 20, 2012 BOARD MEETING: (General Session)

### ACCEPTED AND FILED:

- Financial reports
- General Session Committee Minutes

### APPROVED:

- General Session Meeting Minutes of October 16, 2012
- General Session Minutes of October 19, 2012
- Special General Session Minutes of October 30, 2012
- Special General Session Minutes of November 12, 2012
  - Proposal to authorize Schonwit & Company to prepare 2012 audit
  - Assignment of David Goldberg as Finance Committee Liaison to Gatehouse Committee
- Bill of sale for gate software equipment from dwellingLive
- Proposal for additional labor for irrigation repair
  - Landscape proposals
  - 2013 Harvest Landscape contract
  - Proposal to paint beach bluff fence

**DISAPPROVED:** none

### HEARINGS/MEETINGS/PRESENTATIONS:

- Meeting with Fascher family regarding neighboring remodel project
- Gatehouse Committee report

### REVIEWED/DISCUSSED:

- Nauticus slope project
- Gatehouse project
- Petition from Emeritus participants
- Correspondence/compliment from resident about Securitas
- Correspondence from resident about remodel project on Mercator Isle
- Correspondence from resident about remodel project on Cockleshell Drive
- Manager's Report

### TABLED:

- Proposals from geotechnical consultants

## NOVEMBER 20, 2012 BOARD MEETING (Executive Session)

### ACCEPTED AND FILED:

- Executive Session Committee Minutes

### APPROVED:

- Executive Session Meeting Minutes of October 16, 2012
- Special Executive Session Meeting Minutes of October 26, 2012

**DISAPPROVED:** none

### HEARINGS/MEETINGS:

- Hearing for violation of Rule 4112

### REVIEWED/DISCUSSED:

- Legal correspondence
- Employee Compensation and Healthcare Benefit package
- Employee wage report

**TABLED:** none

*NOTE: The NSCA Board of Directors meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month unless otherwise posted. 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 Thursday prior to the next meeting.*

**REMINDERS:** OPEN FORUMS ARE HELD AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH GENERAL SESSION MEETING (6:00 PM)  
THE NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2012

## Joel Emery Construction Services

Room Additions—Remodel Interior—Major/Minor  
License #480708—Plans—Engineering  
Exterior Siding—Gates—Patio Covers  
Handy-Man Services  
Many Niguel Shores References

For Estimates Call:  
Cell: (949) 874-8257 or  
Off: (949) 661-8239



## SEA TERRACE II TOWNHOMES ASSOCIATION

**Nominating Committee:** Election for board officers for 2013 will take place during the 2nd week of February. A firm date has not yet been chosen. There are currently two positions open on the board. A nominating committee has been formed to accept nominations. Janet and George Traver and Joe Ross are the committee members and they can be contacted at 949-248-1629 to accept nominations.

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

## FROM THE HELM

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I would like to thank all the members of the Finance Committee for their hard work in the preparation of the 2013 budget. We all are thankful to Ivy for her expertise and guidance through the budget process. The Board approved the 2013 Budget and homeowners will be receiving their annual mailing by the first of December. Oh yes, there is no increase in homeowners quarterly assessment.

We asked the members of the Gatehouse Committee to look into making improvements to the gatehouse and the cost for improvements. Such areas as overall size, separate

water closet, small eating area, work stations and how many, are some of the needs the committee will address. The committee completed its report and presented recommendations to the Board at the November 20 meeting. If the Board believes improvements are feasible, the information will be provided to the community for your input.

A reception for our volunteers is scheduled for December 18 to show our thanks to all volunteers, past and present, for their service to our community.

—Pat O'Brien

## GM REPORT

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**Happy Holidays.** I cannot believe how fast this year has gone by. Being my first year as your General Manager, it has been full of new experiences, getting to know the residents and the workings of the community. It has been a pleasure working with the staff, the Board of Directors and all of the Committees. NSCA has the hardest working volunteers that I have had the opportunity to be associated with. This is a special community and many are working hard to keep it special. To show our appreciation to our many volunteers, an appreciation reception is being held in their honor on December 18.

The Holiday Boutique sale on November 10 was a great success and many thanks to Alicia Martinez and Danielle Mills, as well as the entire Recreation Committee, for donating their personal time to putting on these extraordinary community events. Don't forget the Niguel Shores "Tree Lighting" on Sunday, December 2 and the New Year's Eve Party in the Clubhouse. See the notice later in this newsletter for details on all events.

**2013 Budget:** The Finance Committee met with the Board of Directors in a special meeting October 30 to present the 2013 budget for approval. The Finance Committee, the Association Controller Ivy Hsia and Board liaison Steve Stewart have been working on the 2013 budget since July. As part of the budget preparation, they worked with the Reserve Analyst to ensure that the Reserve Study is accurate; they met with all of the Committee Chairman and staff members to discuss their need for funds and the feasibility of their requests. After many hours of working with the numbers, they were able to propose a budget to fulfill the needs of the community and keep the assessments at their current level. The Board approved the budget on November 12. Thank you to all members of the Finance Committee, the Board of Directors and especially to Ivy for all of the hard work. It is appreciated by all.

As required by the Governing Documents, the Budget Mailing which includes many important disclosures was mailed to all NSCA members by the end of November. Please review this information and keep it with your important documents.

**Guest and Party/Event List:** To help with your holiday planning, here are a few reminders to prevent any unwanted issues for your guests when entering the community:

- Each guest entering the community must be on your party or event list, not just the vehicle driver. Guests not on the list will not be admitted.
- Lists of ten (10) individual guests or more must be submitted through the NSCA Management Office no less than 48 business hours before your party or event. Lists exceeding ten individuals will not be accepted at the Mariner Gate.
- All guest passes must be displayed on the vehicle dashboard so that the pass can be easily identified by the patrol officer in order to prevent unnecessary citations or vehicle tows.

**Post Commander Change:** At the end of November, we had a change in our Securitas on site staff. A new Post Commander was assigned to Niguel Shores, his name is James Heygster. He brings excellent experience and knowledge to this position. James has stepped right in with a friendly authority. If you get a chance, please welcome him to our community.

**Office schedule for the holidays:** The office will be closed on December 24 and 25, plus December 31 and January 1. In the event of an emergency, when the office is closed, the quickest way to get information to the proper staff member is to call the gatehouse and advise the office of the nature of the emergency.

**Happy Holidays and Best Wishes for 2013 from the Niguel Shores Staff.**

—Deborah Baker

# NIGUEL SHORES BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES – 2012

*This is the annual public thank you to all the volunteers that serve on the Board of Directors and the many committees that offer their services for the wellbeing of our community. Thanks to you all, especially to the board members and those who serve on multiple committees. We couldn't do it without you!*

## **Board of Directors:**

Pat O'Brien, President  
John Dougherty  
Steve Leonard  
Bob Russell  
Steve Stewart

## **Architecture**

Jerry Koppang, Chair  
Marilyn Moon  
Joe Ross  
Bob Ryan  
Neal Singer

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Ellen Dovey  
Laurel Livesay  
Barbara Milner  
Kathy Newport  
Patti Staudenbaur  
Carol Yocom

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Steve Barrett  
Jodi Bradshaw  
Martin Dedrick  
Jim Eckstaedt  
David Goldberg  
Art Staudenbaur

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Sue Forrest  
Kathy Jones  
Linda Koppang

Karen Linger

Linda Ross

Janet Traver

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Don Beaver  
Suzanne Enis  
Sam Johnson  
Cyril Jones  
Art Staudenbaur  
Al Thome  
Janet Traver

## **Recreation**

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Danielle Mills, Co-Chair  
Maria Elena Banks  
Suzanne Enis  
Barbara Milner  
Marilyn Moon  
Judy Pasek  
Nancy Tinnes  
Carol Yocom

## **Traffic and Safety**

Tim Murphy, Chair  
Dick Ashworth  
Mike Card  
Ron Cook  
Geoff Dunlevie  
Lori McNaught

## **View Preservation**

Kathy Jones, Chair  
Kathy Eckstaedt  
Bonnie Gilberstadt  
Joan Ingle  
Miriam Roehlk  
Diane Young

## **Sea Terrace I Board**

Larry Wellikson, Chair  
Al Glatt  
Chip Stuckmeyer  
David Uslaner  
Gaye Vaughan

## **Sea Terrace II Board**

Joe Ross, Chair  
Gary Mitchell  
Adrienne Ruben  
Jeannie Sticher

## **Newsletter Collaters**

Shirley Smith, Chair  
Joan Beyer  
Jack Broering  
Pat Broering  
Margaret Brugger  
Pat Elder  
Georgianna Emery  
George Freundlich  
Alice Freundlich  
Sam Johnson  
Barbara Lindsay  
Jill Henderson  
Bill Henderson  
Barbara Lindsay  
Hilary McGrath

## **Newsletter Deliverers\***

Chris Beaver  
Charlie Clark  
Patricia Cook  
Lynn Dawson  
Sue Edison  
Suzanne Enis  
Beth Eriksen  
Barbara Hall  
Lisa Hartman

Paul Huggins

Ceacy Johns

Cyril Jones

Liz Kelsch

Bob Kilmurray

Diane Kilmurray

June Klosterman

Jerry Koppang

Carol Kuhn

Karl Kuhn

Carl Kukkonen

Karen Linger

Steve Leonard

Alicia Martinez

Lori McNaught

Tom McNicholas

Morry Meadow

Danielle Mills

Dorothy Mosher

Ginny Nevitt

Forrest Owen

Marti Poivre

Claudia Ransom

Lee Richards

Jane Roberson

Thomas Roberson

Donna Rosecrans

Ian Ross

Anna Ryan

Bob Ryan

Jan Sener

Ruthy Stahl

Walt Stout

Jack Sweeney

Mark Sweeney

Teri Sweeney

Woody Woodward

*\*An old list that needs updating.  
Submit changes to the office.*

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## ARCHITECTURE

Recently the Architecture Committee made a number of site visits in the Shores to evaluate requests for architectural property improvements. During these site visits we have noticed a number of properties that are in need of repair. Niguel Shores historically is not a community where the Architectural Committee goes out in the community to look for problems; however, during our site visits, many properties were found to be in need of painting, siding repair, concrete repair, fencing replacement and we could go on and on.

Many of our residents are not aware that home owners are responsible under the CC&R'S to maintain their property. Failure to maintain is a violation that can and will be enforced. We have an obligation to this community to maintain our property.

The Committee realizes that many properties in Niguel Shores are rental properties which require the tenants to request home repairs from the owner. If home owners are not responsive to requests, the tenant should notify the Niguel Shores office of the repair concerns. We are a 40-plus-year-old community that needs to maintain its properties to ensure that the value of individual properties not be reduced because of neglect.

—*Jerry Koppang*

## LANDSCAPE

This year has been one of change and improvement for our beautiful community. A big thanks to Harvest Landscape, celebrating their first year at Niguel Shores. You see the orange and white trucks and the many gardeners working tirelessly. The hard work shows. Thanks to them all.

Tree trimming and grass scalping are completed. You can already see green grass in many of the scalped areas. The medians in the Atlantic and the Shores Garden homes are getting a refresher look with new red geraniums and variegated plants and the trimming of the *Rhaphiolepis* (Indian Hawthorn).

Irrigation has been and continues to be a main concern. Harvest is working to root out problem areas which will eliminate dry grass and plants dying. In case you didn't know, the lavender sprinkler heads are for reclaimed water.

Niguel Shores is always a work in progress. We are a 40 year old community which means, in plant life, some existing shrubs and trees are **OLD!** We are striving to update, with minimal cost, a refreshed and current look.

Enjoy the Holiday color and Good Holidays to all.

—*Joan Beyer*

## MAINTENANCE



Maintenance Staff (l to r): George Cooley, Dennis Cannon, Tom Shimkus and Dave Smith

The year was 1892. Mrs. Anna Pitcher initiated an effort to mark the route of California's first highway, El Camino Real (Royal Highway or Kings Highway), the highway from San Diego to Sonoma linking 21 missions founded by Father Junipero Serra.

Mrs. A.S.C. Forbes and the California Federation of Women's Clubs adopted the initiative and decided to mark the route with distinctive bells. Mrs. Forbes designed the 85 pound cast iron bells. The bell has the dates 1796 and 1906 and A.S.C. Forbes copyright notice. The 1796 date refers to the founding of the first mission and the 1906 to the placement of the first bell. The first bell was unveiled in 1906 at the Plaza Church near Olvera Street in Los Angeles. Between the years of 1906 and 1913 the installation of 450 bells marked the route of the original highway.

Due to relocation and rerouting of the highway, most of the original 450 bells had disappeared by 1933 when the State of California took over maintenance of the bells. In 1960 the State began a restoration program, installing new bells that are fabricated using the original 1906 molds.

Dale Baltimore, founder and first president of the Niguel Shores Men's Club, owned one of the original bells. In memory of Dale and Helen Baltimore, the Baltimore family gave the bell to Niguel Shores in 1995. It was first installed by the old club house and later moved to its present location near the tennis courts.

2013 is the centennial year for the bell. There is a plaque on the supporting pipe to commemorate its first installation in 1913. After 100 years, the old bell was in need of a little refurbishment. The Maintenance Department wanted the bell to celebrate its one hundredth birthday with a fresh new look.

The bell and its support pipes were brought to the maintenance shop where several layers of paint were removed. The plaques, which were difficult to read, were acid washed and

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

polished several times and then waxed with a special monument wax. George Cooley even worked the small details with an electric tooth brush. Some welding repair was necessary on the support pipe. The original paint specification was researched and found to be available from Dunn-Edwards. A professional painter was hired to apply the paint.

The bell has been reinstalled by the tennis courts, looking as good as new and ready for another hundred years.

Come by and wish our community's little bit of history a happy one hundredth birthday.

—*Jack Christiansen*

## RECREATION

Last month of 2012! We have had many reasons to celebrate with the planned events for the families of Niguel Shores and we still have some coming with December:

**Holiday Tree Lighting:** Sunday, December 2, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Come see the tree with new decorations this year. Santa wants to see everyone as they enjoy the complimentary hot cocoa, coffee and cookies.

Remember when you buy your tree at Santa's Little Forest, he donated the beautiful tree to us and will give you a percentage off.



**Happy New's Eve Celebration:** Club House 8:30 to 12:30 New Year's Eve. Tickets are for sale in office for \$15 per person. Enjoy a good D.J. as you try our new signature drink—a Champagne Bellini—when you arrive. Bring your friends to welcome the year 2013.

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

—*Carol Yocom*

## SEASHORE NEWS

We, at the *Seashore News* send holiday greetings to our readers—all 960 households of you! We hope you've learned a few things from our newsletter, been a bit entertained and have been kept well informed of the doings of Niguel Shores. We have enjoyed our year and pride ourselves on making fewer mistakes this year than last, but when we did make one, it was notable (I don't know if that's an improvement). We wish you would let us know what different or new things you might like in the newsletter—ideas are always welcome. If any of you feel like writing a piece for us, don't hesitate to send it in. With that, we shall carry on—into 2013.

—*Mary Crowl*

## TRAFFIC AND SAFETY

**Happy Holidays.** With significant holidays such as Diwali and Thanksgiving just behind us, we can anticipate

the other festive days which are quickly approaching. Hopefully, for all of us this month proves to be the "*happiest time of the year*." To reduce the level of anxiety many of our guests will experience during this period, we have several suggestions. Ensure that our guest lists are updated, or for larger gatherings, the office has a list of the folks attending forty-eight hours before the event. For people that haven't been here for a while, give them specific directions on how to enter our community. For instance, if I were to query my wife's GPS for directions to our house, from anywhere outside of Dana Point, it tells me to go to the Stonehill gate. I think I would get pretty flustered if I waited for someone to open it. Other such directional systems have been reported to send travelers to the Selva and Cabrillo gates. As a disproportionate number of problems that arise in our community are the result of unruly guests, an easy tenet to remember is: if we allow someone into the community we have to assume responsibility for their conduct.

**Don't Let Santa Get Ticked Off:** On a real regular basis some residents, but generally guests and service providers in a hurry, have their day literally ruined by the control arms and spikes at the various entrances and exits in our community. The spikes more often as not flatten either two or all four tires of an offending vehicle (could even derail a sled). Recently, Mr. George Cooley from our staff made a presentation to our committee and explained the intricacies of the computerized control system. He also had a videotape of vehicles driving through the gates and making contact with quickly rising spikes or descending control bars. To make a long story short, we are not yet aware of an instance where the system was at fault for the flattened tires. In each instance the driver was either trying to beat the system, confused, or improperly rushing in or out. We are assured that the computerized control of the gates is actually state of the art and it appears that all contingencies have been thought out. Mr. Cooley offered several easy to remember points to pass on to ensure a trouble free entrance and exit. The bar code reader is generally effective from a distance of two to six feet, but this can vary depending upon fading of the sticker or harsh sunlight. When approaching the bar code reader, slow down and ensure the bar code was picked up (green light). Most importantly, **do not tailgate**. It is recommended that we maintain at least a two car distance from a vehicle in front of us. I believe that all of us will remember these simple points and we should caution our guests and service providers.

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Santa to be Welcomed to a Safe Community:** We recently spoke with several residents on Halyard who are pleased to report the incidents of property being stolen from parked cars and other suspicious conduct has stopped. They attribute this to a willingness of neighbors to report crimes and suspected criminal activity to *our police department*. It appears that both patrol and enforcement activity by our deputies has been effective. Our liaison deputy has assured us that we will receive more visible patrol and appropriate enforcement action to address the complaints of speeders and stop sign violators. Not completely stopping for a stop

sign is normally a careless habit we have developed and for which we have not suffered any consequence. However, in the long run it can also result in a four-hundred plus dollar ticket and worse yet, an injury to someone. If you want to see an example of this sort of sloppy driving, watch the intersection of Periwinkle and Niguel Shores sometime. I am sure Santa will fly over this area and not take any unnecessary chances.

As my father and his father used to tell everyone this time each year “Nolliag Shona Duit”. Be safe and God Bless.

—Tim Murphy

## CLUBS

### GARDEN CLUB

**November Doings:** The Garden Club held its annual Lobster Fest for a sold-out crowd. Members left with smiles on their faces. Master grillers Bob Borland and Jack Sweeney got rave reviews for their usual great work.

A large turnout of Garden Club members showed up for the Club’s annual “Forget Me Not” project. Many gift bags were filled to overflowing with toiletries, sundry items and other goodies. These bags were delivered to the Dana Point Senior Center for distribution to housebound seniors.

Members also signed up for the annual December Holiday Party (see below.) in our ClubHouse. This will be a pot-luck with the club providing main courses and refreshments.

The Garden Club was honored by the California Garden Clubs by receiving the **Blue Ribbon Certificate of Achievement** for its good works for the year 2011.

**December Meeting:** Ending 2012 with a bang! The annual Holiday Party is scheduled for December 17. Attendees are requested to bring wrapped garden-related items for the gift exchange. Gifts should be in the \$10 range. Don’t forget to wear something red!

**Looking ahead to the New Year:** 2013 looks to be another fun-filled and informative year for the Club. Field trips are planned to the Plant Stand in Costa Mesa; and Greystone Manor in Los Angeles, followed by lunch at the Farmers’ Market. The Club will hold its annual Plant Sale, and all members of the Shores are invited. Closing out the Club’s year will be the ever popular Beach Bluff BBQ and potluck.

**Another gardening myth:** *Piling mulch up against the trunks of trees and shrubs helps to keep them cozy warm all winter long.*

**Reality:** Mulching in this manner is asking for trouble, because it holds moisture against the tree or shrub bark—for months at a time in our climate. Bark simply is not designed to be constantly wet; if it is, opportunistic pathogens may infect the plant. So: when applying mulch, think “doughnut,” not “volcano”: Keep the mulch a few inches away from the base of the shrub or tree, and pile it a few inches deep from there.

**Gardener’s Glossary:** Humus—Decomposed organic matter used as a soil conditioner.

**Note:** not to be confused with the Mediterranean and Middle Eastern food, hummus, a tasty dip or spread

made from cooked, mashed chickpeas (garbanzo beans) blended with tahini, olive oil, lemon juice, salt and garlic.

### Gardener’s quotation of the month:

Valuable gardening vocabulary includes:

x<~\*!@%@!+!\*#@%#!+??\*%@!!!

—Anon

—Morry Meadow

### MEN’S CLUB

The Niguel Shores Men’s Club meets every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month for a hearty breakfast and good fellowship. There usually is a special speaker at the breakfast whose topic is of interest to our resident members of the Shores and of Dana Point in general. We welcome residents of the Shores to join us for breakfast.

This past Tuesday, our own Vice President, Charlie Clark, spoke regarding his involvement with the Food Bank of his Church which distributes food to approximately 1,000 individuals every week. The Food Bank has a 24,000 sq. ft. warehouse and walk-in freezers and refrigerators for the food storage. Food is mainly donated by local merchants. This was a timely topic for this time of year as there are still many in need.

# CLUBS

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The members were reminded of Toys for Tots and that unwrapped gifts can be left by the Christmas tree and the ClubHouse.

There will be two more meetings in December — the 4th and the 18th. Next meeting after that will be January 15, 2013.

—*Al Thome*

## WOMENS CLUB

*Holiday Party* — Members are invited to come and bring a guest to the annual Holiday Party in the ClubHouse on Thursday, December 6. The time is 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. A light holiday buffet will be accompanied by wine and soft drinks. Members should bring a hearty appetizer to

grace the bounteous table (no chips, dips, candy or nuts, please). You may enjoy the newly decorated tree and fabulous table decorations.

There is no luncheon meeting in December. Happy Christmas and New Year to all—we shall meet again in January.

—*Mary Crowl*

# ACTIVITIES

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## BRIDGE NEWS

Our Niguel Shores Bridge Group meets on Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. in the Niguel Shores Community Center. We play from 11:00 until about 2:30 p.m. and we welcome new members. For additional information please feel free to call Helen at 949-496-4230.

### Our recent winners:

- October 24 Margaret Brugger, Helen Campbell, Dorothy Horany
- October 31 Dorothy Horany and Helen Campbell
- November 7 Kay Wittmack, Judy Bates and Doris Deal
- November 14 Jeanne Bookai and Freida Baskin

—*Helen Campbell*

## PAGE TURNERS

We look forward to our December 18 meeting, when all three groups will get together at 1:00 p.m. at the Clubhouse. It is a rare opportunity to have everyone in one room. Along with greeting our friends, we will enjoy cookies and have a book exchange.

Everyone that wants to participate in the book exchange should bring a gently used or new gift wrapped book that you really enjoyed. Each group will be responsible for three dozen cookies, one group coffee, one group tea and lemonade or water and one group napkins and cups. The details will be discussed at our monthly meeting.

For more information about Page Turners you can contact: Gretchen Rask: grask707@gmail.com, 489-2259- Monday morning. Diane Hearne: Phearne4@cox.net, 661-6267- Monday afternoon. Lisa Buchner: lisabuchner@cox.net, 496-9546-Thursday afternoon.

—*Lisa Buchner*

# SPORTS

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## MEN'S GOLF

October 30 we had a tournament at Aliso Golf Club. This bright sunny day brought out 11 hardy participants. The course was in great condition and all had a great time. The game that day was team play: “Two best net scores.”

1st place went to the team of Bill Johnson, John Monson, and Bill Verbrugge; 2nd Place went to the team of Roy Dohner, Al Brown, Kent Wellbrock, and Bob Russell. Closest-to-the-Pin on #5 and #12 was John Monson.

We had a tournament on November 27 at Arroyo Trabuco and, we end the golf season on December 11 with our putting championship and breakfast at Talega Golf Course.

Thought for the day:

Few golfers are born with a natural talent for hitting the ball, but every player is blessed with the God-given ability to roll the ball over, kick it, knock it back in bounds, or throw it into the middle of the fairway!

— *Amateur*

—*Bob Russell*

## WOMEN'S GOLF

The golfing ladies “pinned the tail on their turkeys” at the golf course last month. Playing as a team, each player could add a feather to their turkey with a par score, a one-putt hole or a birdie score. The team with the most feathers on the turkey was composed of Pam Strayer, Val Mitchell and Brenda Tuckley. Other individual winners of the day were Judy Boitano, Mary Berberich and Marge Foster. And, the rest of the golfers planned to dress their turkeys at their Thanksgiving tables.

So, now to Christmas. The golf captains for December are Gretchen Rask (489-2259) and Marlene Lynch (493-6469). They wish to remind you to call to add your name to the list or, to cancel if you must. They also wish to remind



you that the first tee time of the day will be earlier to allow all golfers and guests more time to enjoy the Christmas luncheon following golf. The day is Monday December 10; the place is The Fountains at Sea Bluffs; the time is 12:00 for social hour—12:45 luncheon. For information about the luncheon, call Ruthie Stahl (248-5750) or Joan Beyer (496-1428).

This will be the 29th annual Christmas luncheon for the Niguel Shores Women's Golf Club. Through the

years we have gathered for holiday cheer at members' homes, in the old Rec Room and the new ClubHouse, and at various local restaurants. Through the years we developed close friendships and we met new neighbors and friends. Through the years, we promised to improve our golf swing and find a better putting stroke by the next year's party...

"All I want for Christmas..." Are you listening, Santa?

—Ceacy Johns

## YEAR END STORIES BY STAFF continued from page 1

### CAROL'S YEAR



What fun I have had putting together *Carol's Cuisine Corner*. I do eat out a lot but now, I can say I have a reason. I want to see if my Niguel Shores neighbors would like this place. The restaurants do not know that I am there to test them. I generally just want you to know about the type or restaurants in our area. I am not a food critic. I do try to feature the type of food that is served and their hours for serving and their Happy Hour.

The Recreation Committee article is to let you know about the variety of activities that have been planned for you and your family. You can mark your calendar and know the cost, and where to purchase the tickets. Join with neighbors at the events to enjoy our beautiful area.

I have appreciated being a part of both of these committees for this community that is so special.

— Carol Yocom

### PATTI STAUDENBAUR'S YEAR



Several years ago, a board member approached me and asked if I would consider becoming involved with the *Seashore News*. I have always enjoyed writing and meeting new people, so I decided to give it a try and I am certainly glad I did. With the assistance of Mary Crowl, our remarkable editor, I have had the opportunity to meet, interview and get to know some of the many interesting residents living here in Niguel Shores. I am constantly amazed at the number of fascinating people who live in our wonderful community. I also am involved with the editing process, which gives me a chance to interact on a monthly basis with many of the Clubs

we have here in our community. Lastly, along with Ellen Dovey and Matt Northrop, our Community Administrator, I have been working on the Website ([www.niguelshores.org](http://www.niguelshores.org)).

Our community Website is really beginning to grow and hopefully serve as a very useful communication tool for all of our residents. If you have not taken a look at it at all or lately, please take a few minutes to do so. I promise you will find lots of useful and interesting information about our community. So as this year comes to a close and we put finishing touches on the last issue of the *Seashores News* for 2012, I just want to say thanks to all of you for your input, positive feedback and ask you to please keep reading!!

*My best to you this Holiday Season, Patti Staudenbauer (Patti is a member of the Website Sub-committee and editor of club and activities articles and writes some Meet Your Neighbor and other articles.)*

### ELLEN DOVEY'S YEAR



The Niguel Shores Website ([niguelshores.org](http://niguelshores.org)) is intended to be a source of real time information about our community. The commitment to improve communication with and for all our residents continues. We began the year with new and improved graphics and a more timely uploading of comments and suggestions from residents. One of these suggestions was to make it easier to find the gate login information and a new tab was added. The comments section was quite busy, especially regarding Architecture Rule changes and landscape projects.

During 2012, we saw an increased interest in the Website as indicated by the number of visits. In May, we exceeded 100,000 visits and in November, over 200,000.

When Harvest Landscape released its color coded maintenance schedules, they were immediately added to

## YEAR END STORIES BY STAFF

the Website. All of the Master Landscape plans, along with pictures, were and will continue to be added. Several residents submitted photos of the various Niguel Shores events and thanks so much and keep them coming. We can never have too many. If you take any pictures of the upcoming holiday events, please share them on the Website by simply sending them to Matt Northrop at [mnorthrop@niguelshores.org](mailto:mnorthrop@niguelshores.org).

We also added more information regarding Niguel Shores clubs, activities, committees and upcoming events. Thanks to all the Committees and Clubs for providing the details. You can always find the necessary dates, times and whom to contact by visiting our Website. Finally, as described in the November 2012 issue of the *Seashore News*, we added a new feature called **MarketPlace**. For a three-month trial period, all paid neighborhood and business ads will be viewed in both the *Seashore News* and on the Website. We hope this will be a useful and successful link for all residents and advertisers.

As this year comes to an end, we want to give special recognition to Matt Northrop, our Community Administrator. He does all the heavy lifting and uploading. We appreciate his patience with our many requests. Once again, thanks to all of you for your continued support and contributions. Please feel free to contact us with your suggestions, comments or questions.

Wishing you a wonderful Holiday Season and the very best in 2013!!

—Ellen Dovey

*(Ellen is on the Website Sub-committee with Patti Staudenbaur and is also the editor for all of the committee articles and library news and writes occasional articles.)*

### LAUREL LIVESAY'S YEAR



A little more silver color keeps creeping into my hair as each year goes by but, with that change, comes many memories of my rich experiences meeting the remarkable neighbors I have interviewed for the *Seashore News* column, *Meet Your Neighbor*. Our esteemed editor, Mary Crowl asked that the staff members review their experiences of the past year working on the paper.

A year ago, on a rainy day in December, I called on the Hykes family. I was impressed by the good manners of the young children of Kristie and Kevin Hykes, as each of three children, Emily 12, Ben 10, and Sam, 6 came over to me and shook my hand as they were introduced. The closeness

of this family was evident throughout the interview. I have seen the same closeness in many families here in the Shores throughout the 39 years I have lived here.

There is also something else that I have discovered among the many residents I have interviewed. Many of them have chosen helping careers such as nursing, social services, or education. Emily Carlson, my *Meet your Neighbor* column subject in April, and daughter of Cynthia Carlson, who coaches our Dippy Dolphins aquatic exercise class, has chosen nursing as her academic major at UC Irvine.

My February subject, Maxine Russell, was a teacher before her son's death inspired her to begin helping wounded Iraqi and Afghanistan war veterans, visiting them with her therapy dog, Dara. Maxine also became a certified grief counselor.

Kathy Egan in March told of her work in social services helping the disabled. John Hall, artist, in June told me about teaching classes in painting for many years. In the August issue, Janet McCaig, also an artist, told of earning a standard teaching credential as well as a community college teaching credential, and René Cortez, in the October issue, told of his volunteering for multiple community service projects for many years.

We have a roster of outstanding helping citizens here who I have been honored to be able to meet and write about this past year. I want to thank Mary Crowl for giving me this opportunity and for her dedication as editor of the *Seashore News* for so many years.

—Laurel Livesay

### BARBARA MILNER'S YEAR WITH TRAVEL TIDBITS



A time to look back and a time to look ahead before we all get so involved with decorations, parties and presents. It's a good time to reflect on whether we traveled to the places we wanted to go this year. For me it was a good year. I added one country, Suriname, to my "been there" list (more about that next month). I also visited a few places (not countries) in Europe that I had missed on other trips. I saw Hubbard Glacier in Alaska for the first time and decided it was more spectacular than Glacier Bay. (To see these glaciers you need to hurry - they are melting). How about you? Did you check any place off your list of "want to see"? If so, we'd love to hear about it. Remember this column is Travel TIDBITS. It would only take two or three sentences to share with us where you

## YEAR END STORIES BY STAFF

went and what you thought of it. My email address is at the bottom of this article

A few tidbits in the travel news: Royal Caribbean has changed its long standing policy that prevented guests from bringing their own alcohol on board. They now allow guests to bring two bottles of wine per cabin.

American Airlines no longer accepts paper tickets. They join Qatar, British Airways, Vueling, Copa, Singapore, Silk, Insel, Frontier, Emirates and Iberia.

It's "Ice Hotel" time for those wanting a really "cool" getaway. You can choose between a room in Quebec for \$400 per night, Jukkasjarvi Sweden for \$370 or Norway for \$375.

Best wishes to all for a happy holiday season.

"The World is a book and those who do not travel read only one page"—*St. Augustine*

—*Barbara Milner, C.T.C., [bmilner@wtbinc.com](mailto:bmilner@wtbinc.com)*

### KATHY NEWPORT'S YEAR



My job for the *Seashore News* is to pack up the newsletters and distribute them throughout the community to the various volunteers who will then disperse them to the next tier of volunteers. This group is in charge of bringing them to your neighborhood, where a final volunteer will distribute them door to door.

—*Kathy Newport*

## WELLNESS —

### Giving and Gratitude this Holiday Season

Giving and gratitude... they're always on my mind, but they're especially on my mind this time of the year, starting with Thanksgiving and on into the Holiday Season; we have so much to be thankful for, so many blessings. Blessings can be defined in different ways by different people, but the good fortune that we experience on a daily basis, whether it be a hug from a family member or a smile from a stranger are all truly a gift...a gift that feeds the soul and has the power to pull us toward giving back to those around us. When we do, we are generally filled with a feeling of satisfaction and well-being.

What does this have to do with health and wellness you ask? Well, I think it has a *lot* to do with it. Have you ever noticed how, when we just slow down and simply *be*, and *do* good things that we feel good about ourselves? And when you feel *good* about yourself you tend to make *good choices*! So, to put this in the healthy body context, you're at the holiday table and desserts being served are

big, rich slices of chocolate cake—you kinda' want it...but... you think how good you'll feel in the morning if you just skip it and have coffee instead...so you skip it with a smile and a "looks delish, but no thanks".



**If you would like to make a comment or suggest a topic please send an email to . . .**  
*Sharon Stewart RN, Certified Health Coach — [sharonstewart@cox.net](mailto:sharonstewart@cox.net)*

In the morning, you look at the Boss in the mirror, and tell yourself your story and how good you feel about the choice you made, further empowering yourself and pulling yourself toward that daily goal of a healthy lifestyle, especially during this Season of Eating! If you simply cannot resist, steal a bite from a friend or loved one, thank them profusely and sip that coffee!! The feeling of gratitude you will have for giving yourself such a valuable gift (good health) is priceless.

So as we all gather together this Holiday Season, count your blessings of family, health, friends, and employment; the list is truly long; however, be sure to remember one blessing—that is the blessing of *choice*. Even when it comes to your health, caring for your one and only body that is your one and only vehicle to travel this journey called "life" and all that goes with it. Our good health is the foundation upon which all else is built, and while appreciating that blessing, be sure to give back to those around you to keep the power of gratitude and giving in your life and in the lives of others. When you share your enthusiasm about feeling as good as you possibly can with those you love, that is lead by example, you're giving them a *gift*. Keep that in mind as you consider the possibilities of giving and gratitude this holiday season. Happy Holidays!



# Carol's Cuisine Corner

*Yes it is Christmas shopping time. That means you will need breakfast while you make the list and plan for the day. You also have to be thinking where you are going to take the company and decide where you will celebrate. Let me help you.*

## BREAKFAST PLACES:

**R.J.'s:** 25001 Dana Point Harbor, Dana Point, 218-5757. Hours: 6:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Open Christmas Eve, closed Christmas Day.

**The Brig:** 34461 Golden Lantern, Dana Point, 496-9047. Hours: 6:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Open Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

**Carlos:** 34224 Pacific Coast Highway, Dana Point, 496-4470. Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Open Christmas Eve, closed Christmas Day.

**Proud Mary's:** 34689 Golden Lantern, Dana Point, 493-5853. Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Open Christmas Eve, closed Christmas Day.

**CHRISTMAS EVE OR CHRISTMAS DAY:** *All the nice hotels in our area are open for Christmas Day buffet. You may also want to consider one of the following. Please call for reservations.*

**Queen Mary Ship:** 1126 Queens Highway, Long Beach, (877) 343-0738. All the restaurants on the ship are open Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, offering a choice from casual to formal. Here are a few: **Promenade Cafe:** Casual, **Chelsea's Chowder House:** Dressy, **Sir Winston:** Formal

**Marie Calendars:** 31791 Del Obispo, San Juan Capistrano, 661-5977. Hours: Christmas Eve 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Christmas Day 10:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Bakery open for pie pick-up 7:00 a.m.

**Antonello (Italian):** 1611 Sunflower Ave., South Coast Plaza Village, (714)

751-7153. Hours: 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. Christmas Eve, order from menu. Closed Christmas Day.

**Anaheim White House:** 887 South Anaheim Blvd., (714) 772-1381. Hours: 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve, order from menu. Closed Christmas Day.

**Hunter's Steakhouse:** 30100 Town Center, Laguna Niguel, 296-2945. Hours: 11:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Christmas Eve. Christmas Day 11:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Order from menu.

**Claes:** 425 Pacific Coast Highway, Laguna Beach, 376-9283. Call for hours.

**Chart House:** 34442 Golden Lantern, Dana Point, 493-1183. Hours: 3:00 to 9:00 p.m. Christmas Eve. Christmas Day 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Order from menu.

*Enjoy the meals with your family and friends. Merry Christmas! Carol Yocom*



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## MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

### LYDIA AND RICHARD REESE

During the recent October annual community garage sale, the high point for me, as I sat in my driveway next to a table full of things no longer needed or wanted, was that I met some neighbors that I hadn't met before. Among them were Lydia and Richard Reese, who had just moved into their home on Vista D'Onde a week before. What a delightful couple they are!

As we talked I knew that I wanted all of our neighbors in Niguel shores to meet this couple in a "Meet Your Neighbor" column. I soon set up an interview time with them. After arriving at their villa home and enjoying tea and some delicious pastries, they started to tell me about their lives. Both Richard and Lydia are California born. Lydia is a second generation Californian. Her grandparents emigrated from Mexico and she grew up in Lakewood. Richard's grandfather helped found the town of Carmichael, near Sacramento, where he grew up.

Both Richard and Lydia are avid tennis players, and they actually met on a tennis court in Carmel, California in 1996. It was a real love match, as they have been married for 16 years. They are one couple for whom good things seem to come in twos. This is a second marriage for both of them and each had two children from their previous marriages. Lydia has a daughter who lives in Orange with her two children and a son who lives in Denver with his two children while Richard has two daughters who live near Sacramento, and, you guessed it, each also has two children.

Lydia is now semi-retired from a distinguished career in Education. After doing undergrad work at Cal State, Fullerton, she earned a Master's Degree in Inter-Cultural/International Communication and later a Ph.D. in Institutional Management and Leadership at Pepperdine. After

holding administrative positions at UC Irvine, Cerritos Community College, and Hartnell College in Salinas, in 1995, she became President of Skagit Valley College in Mount Vernon Washington, becoming the first Latina president in higher education in Washington State. She was also President of Oxnard College in Ventura County from 2002 to 2006.

Dr. Lydia's professional focus has been the learning process. She knew from observation that subject matter was not really learned when the students studied for tests by rote. It was only learned when the subject matter made a real connection with the student, it meant something to them and they wanted to learn more about it because it was not just a series of numbers or words to memorize. Understanding grew as excitement grew within the student, which in turn energized the teachers and made them more effective.

Her outstanding work won her many professional commendations, and in 1987 she was invited to the White House by President Ronald Reagan in recognition of her educational and community leadership. In 2008 Pepperdine honored Lydia with a Distinguished Alumna Award for outstanding accomplishments in the field of education, her special service to the community, and for her personal and professional character.

She now works part-time as an educational consultant and gives presentations which cover topics of leadership, management and organizational development in higher education.

Richard has retired after a long successful career in social services, first in adult protective services and then in child protective services. He found that the last segment of his career, working with children, was the most self-fulfilling.

Now living here in the Shores, tennis is still a passion for them both. They often start their day at the Laguna Niguel



Lydia and Richard Reese

Racquet Club tennis court at 5:00 o'clock in the morning and then play most of the day with their friends there. They also love to bicycle and you may see them navigating one or more of the many bike pathways that are near Niguel Shores.

They are also enthusiastic travelers. Favorite places to visit include Carmel, where they met, and Whistler Mountain in Canada. On the other side of the pond, they have also enjoyed Dubrovnik, Croatia, and Sorrento, Italy, (Who wouldn't).

Most of all they say they are most thankful to have their home now in Niguel Shores, and are looking forward to meeting many of their new neighbors.

—Laurel Livesay

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