

# Seashore News



January 2012

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Issue 458

## FROM THE HELM

I hope your Holiday was joyous and peaceful and your New Year will be prosperous and healthy. As president of Niguel Shores, my New Year will be much better because we now have a complete and competent staff on board. Please take the opportunity to meet our new general Manager, Deborah Baker, if you happen to be in the office.

The Board and our management team will be doing some goal setting in January. We will try to determine what needs to be accomplished in 2012 along with three and five year goals for several different areas of the operation, particularly long term landscape renovation. You can give us some input on where you would like to see Niguel Shores improve or invest in the future. Please use the website to let us know what you think.

We are coming to an important time of the year in Niguel Shores. Yes, January is the month we start the process of

nominations for the annual Board of Directors election. You can start pushing your neighbor or spouse to run for one of the three open seats in this year's elections or just be courageous and nominate yourself. We will need some candidates, people who think they can serve and improve the community. Don't be shy.

Lastly I am pleased to announce that we are ending fiscal 2011 with a very substantial operating surplus. The exact amount remains to be determined by our controller sometime in January but the Board is resolved to put this surplus into our Reserves, strengthening our financial position for the long term and leaving us well prepared for replacing obsolete or worn out community assets.

Happy New Year!

— Steve Stewart

## HARVEST TIME IS HERE...

Orange seems an appropriate color to represent harvest but this Harvest, even though its logo is orange, leans more toward green—that new green that means save water, save energy and, consequently, save money. Harvest Landscape Enterprises, Inc. has won the contract to maintain our irrigation system and landscaping and won that contract by their technical expertise not only in landscaping but with our satellite driven irrigation system.

**The Company:** Harvest was started in 1983 and calls itself: “Three Generations of Excellence. Experience you can count on.” The president



Nate Bonghanoy (left), Account Manager and Nacho Chavez, Supervisor, of Harvest Landscape

is Steven Schinhofen and corporate headquarters is in Anaheim. They have an Orange Yard, an Irvine Yard (from which our personnel come) and a Harvest Nursery in Anaheim. Harvest has won many awards for its success in water savings, most recently from the city of Mission Viejo for a project for the Oso Valley Greenbelt Association. Read about the company at [www.hlei.us](http://www.hlei.us).

**Personnel:** Ignacio Chavez (known as Nacho for short) is the Supervisor for Niguel Shores and Nate Bonghanoy is the Account Manager. Both are landscape professionals with long experience with

## FROM THE GM

**New Years Eve Party:** Hopefully you will receive this issue before January 1st, so you still have time to join in on the New Year's Eve celebration scheduled at the Clubhouse from 8:00 p.m. to Midnight. The Recreation Committee has planned a great evening for you. Lots of music and dancing with a live DJ, champagne and light refreshments provided. Bring your own favorite libations, etc. and ring in the New Year with your neighbors and friends. Tickets are on sale in the office for \$15 per person. Along with the music and dancing - at 9:00 p.m. and at midnight there will be the New York toast and "Times Square Ball Drop" on the big screen projector. For more information please go to the website [www.niguelshores.org](http://www.niguelshores.org).

**Christmas Tree Disposal:** This holiday season, in lieu of dumpster in the Community Center parking lot, residents may call **CR&R SOLAG at 877-728-0446** to schedule a pick-up for their Christmas tree FREE OF CHARGE between **December 26 and January 15 ONLY**. CR&R will also pick-up "Christmas Extras" that include extra bags of trash that do not fit in the normal trash container. Don't wait until the last minute! CR&R must create a work order for each pick-up, so you need to call ahead of time!

**CC&R Amendments:** The ballots for the CC&R amendments will be counted in the open general session forum on January 4, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Center ClubHouse. Results will be announced during the meeting and will be posted on both the website and in the Community Center the following day.

**Parking Waiver & Guest Bar Code Renewals:** Just a reminder that Parking Waivers and Guest Bar Codes both need to be renewed for 2012. The cost for each is \$50 and is payable in the office. There is a grace period until January 15, but the bar codes will not operate the gates after this date and citations will be issued to vehicles with expired parking waivers. If you have any questions, please direct them to the office staff.

**Holiday Decorations:** Please remember that all Holiday lighting and decorations must be removed by January 15, 2012.

*Happy New Year to all from the Niguel Shores  
Community Association Staff*

*We wish you all the very best for the New Year.*

*—Deborah Baker*



## Carol's Cuisine Corner

*Several restaurants with different types of food in areas around Dana Point have been recommended. Let us go and try some for a change.*

**Barths Continental Cuisine**, 27221 Ortega Highway, SJC, 388 4978. Hours, Tuesday to Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and Mon.–Sat. 5 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., closed Sunday

**Aldo's Sidewalk Caffe**, 31882 Del Obispo #152, SJC, 443-0423. Hours Mon.–Sat. 11:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Sunday 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Sushi Plantation**, 28621 Marguerite Pkwy, Mission Viejo, 347 0999 Hours...7 days a week 11:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

**Jerry's Dogs**, 1701 Corporate Dr. Ladera Ranch, 364 7080 Hours.7 days a week 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

**Cinnamon Productions**, 25672 Crown Valley Parkway, Ladera Ranch, 218 1515.....Hours...7 days a week 6:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Italian Cravings**, 105 S. Ola Vista, S.C. 492 2777. Hours Monday–Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Sunday closes at 3:00 p.m.

**Lulu's Café**, 24781 Alicia Pkwy, Laguna Hills, 8555 222. Hours: everyday, 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Ambers Cantina**, 31341 Niguel Road, Laguna Niguel, 488-2858. Hours: Mon to Sat. 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

*Enjoy finding new places to start the New Year. Bon Appetite, Carol Yocom*

# BOARD ACTION SUMMARY

## DECEMBER 7, 2011 BOARD MEETING (General Session)

### APPROVED:

- Approved the General Session Meeting Minutes of November 16, 2011
- Approved the Special General Session Meeting Minutes of November 21, 2011
- Approval of the Landscape Committee recommendation to remove one (1) Eucalyptus tree in Sea Terrace Park
  - Approval of geotechnical firm
  - Accepted and filed financial reports
- Accepted and filed the Communication Committee recommendation of Ellen Dovey as new member
- Accepted and filed General Session committee minutes
- Accepted and filed Litigation Disclosure Statement dated December 2011

### DISAPPROVED:

- Request for reimbursement for tire damage at Cabrillo Gate
- Request for reimbursement for vehicle damage at Mariner Gate

### DISCUSSED:

- Abalone slope project
- Shackleton slope project
- Master Landscape project
- Terms and conditions for adequate coverage of NSCA facility use

### TABLED:

- Proposed rule changes
- Counting of CC&R Amendment Ballots (for lack of quorum)

## DECEMBER 7, 2010 BOARD MEETING (Executive Session)

### APPROVED:

- Approved the Special Executive Session Meeting Minutes of November 15, 2011
- Approved the Executive Session Meeting Minutes of November 16, 2011
- Approved the Special Executive Session Meeting Minutes of November 21, 2011
- Accepted and filed Executive Session committee minutes
  - Received and filed financial reports

### DISCUSSED:

- Legal status report
- Update from Search Committee for General Manager
  - Contract with Tennis Pro
- Terms and conditions for adequate coverage of NSCA facility use

### REVIEWED:

- Delinquency status report

### TABLED:

- Requested meeting regarding project on Colima Bay

### HEARINGS / MEETINGS:

- Hearing for suspension of rights for delinquent assessments
  - Hearing for violation of Rule 6211
- Hearing for violation of Rule 9109 and Rule 9110

## DECEMBER 21, 2011 BOARD MEETING: (General Session)

### APPROVED:

- Approved the Executive Session Minutes of December 7, 2011
- Approved authorization for legal counsel to continue collection of delinquent assessment for one property
  - Approved change order to Abalone slope project
  - Approve change order for Shackleton slope project
  - Approved change order for PCH planting project
  - Approved proposal for mulch on Shackleton slope
- Approved Landscape Committee requests for tree removal
  - Approved change to health benefit agent
  - Accepted and file the financial reports
- Accepted and filed the Finance Committee recommendation of Jeanne Sticher as the committee chairman
- Accepted and filed the Finance Committee recommendation to transfer 2011 surplus finds into the general reserve account
- Accepted and file the General Session committee minutes

### DISAPPROVED:

- Homeowner request to waive consulting architect fees

### DISCUSSED:

- Abalone slope project
- Shackleton slope project
- Master Landscape project
- Interactive roles of Landscape Committee, Facility Manager and Landscape Maintenance Company

### TABLED:

- Review of revised Employee Handbook

### HEARINGS / MEETINGS / PRESENTATIONS:

- Meeting to appeal consulting architect fees

## DECEMBER 21, 2011 BOARD MEETING: (Executive Session)

### APPROVED:

- Approved Executive Session Minutes of December 7, 2011
  - Accepted and filed the financial reports
- Accepted and filed Executive Session committee minutes

### DISCUSSED:

- Legal updates
- Workers Comp matter
- Modifications to contracts for Abalone and Shackleton slope projects
  - Fertilization/mulch on Shackleton slope

### REVIEWED:

- Recommendation to file lien against one property for delinquent assessments
- Proposal to remove eleven (11) Eucalyptus trees from Sea Terrace II
  - Proposal to remove Melaleuca tree from Sea Terrace II
  - Bids submitted from the Landscape Committee for remaining proposed 2011 projects

### TABLED:

- Controller's analysis on legal fees
- Revisions to employee handbook

### HEARINGS / MEETINGS:

- Hearing for violation of Rule 4112

**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:** HOMEOWNER FORUM AND BALLOT COUNT FOR CC&R AMENDMENTS—  
JANUARY 4, 2012 AT 6:00 P.M. IN COMMUNITY CENTER

plants and irrigation systems. They are becoming familiar with our community and have made extensive surveys of the trees and plants and are making suggestions during their sessions with the Landscape Committee. They work with George Cooley, Facilities Manager.

**Irrigation:** Both Nacho and Nate are pleased to find that Niguel Shores has the very best satellite controlled irrigation system, HydroPoint's WeatherTRAK that uses data

from a network of weather stations to predict local conditions which, in turn, govern the controllers of the system. The weather data from the stations is sent to the NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) Satellite from which HydroPoint receives data for WeatherTRAK—hence, our satellite controlled irrigation system. The weather based controllers (called “smart controllers”) automatically adjust irrigation based on daily local weather conditions and local landscape conditions that have been programmed into the system—soil type, plant variety, hours of sun and degree of slope. All of this is designed to use the right amount of water needed at the right time for each area of the community, in turn, preventing overwatering causing excessive runoff and under-watering leaving plants to die.

Correct maintenance of this extensive system has been the persistent problem over the past few years in Niguel Shores because of lack of manpower—Maintenance had only one man to spare for this work—and lack of technical knowledge by the landscape personnel. Harvest has two irrigation technicians working in Niguel Shores every day: Guadencia Martinez and Jose Ramirez. See their photo in this article and look for them around the community in their special truck festooned with PVC pipes and tools.

Connecting the controllers to the sprinkler heads requires long stretches of wiring which is always prone to shorts or breaks, both of which can be difficult to trace. One problem that has resulted in dying plants was in an area near the beach that had 52 stations but only 48 spaces on the controller. Efforts are being made to consolidate the stations to provide water to all 52.

Harvest plans to “establish a water budget based on sites, acreage, plant type and micro climate by irrigation zone.” They then “perform weekly meter readings and compare usage to the established budget according to the previous



Harvest Irrigation Technicians Guadencia Martinez at left and Jose Ramirez

week's and make adjustments to maximize efficiency. The weekly meter reading is key to the management of the water.” The controllers' programming will be fine tuned to “optimize water savings without sacrificing landscape health.” Harvest is dedicated to maintaining our irrigation system at its optimum to arrive at the promised water savings that such efforts will achieve.

**Landscaping:** Our landscaping is to be maintained by Harvest as is, trees trimmed,

color added, grass mowed, etc., but, as you read in the September *Seashore News*, plans have been made for a complete renovation of all of the Niguel Shores landscape to introduce plants that require less water, stabilize the slopes with appropriate planting, improve the aesthetics of the community and, most importantly, save water and lower maintenance costs. Silverwood Landscape was contracted to design landscaping that will achieve these goals and has prepared a master plan that is being implemented as funds become available. Work on the PCH, Shackleton and Niguel Shores Drive slopes was completed in the fall. There are 40 slopes in ten different categories with a plan for each category. The slopes have been prioritized as to imminent need of renovation and efforts are made to cover all areas of the community as much as possible on an equal basis. As other areas on the schedule are in line for renovation, bids will be solicited to complete the work as has been done for the above mentioned slopes. Harvest Landscape Services has expressed a desire to bid on these projects.

In 2012, the next slope to be tackled is the one below Nauticus Isle (above the Beach Bluff parking lot) which is high on the priority list. Here some plants will be removed and replaced in stages so as not to denude the entire slope at one time. In addition to the Nauticus Isle slope, the 2012 schedule, as funding is available, includes Sunset Park along Niguel Shores Drive opposite Halyard and below. Shown in this article is a small drawing of the plan for the finished park. A larger version of this drawing can be seen in the office. The plan is to remove some of the turf and replace it with drought resistant plants that are low growing, that have color and variety, and with walkways to create an attractive parkway which, in turn, will reduce water usage and maintenance needs. Check the website to be informed of what is being done in these various areas.

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# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## EMERITUS/EDUCATION

January classes will continue as follows: “Film as Literature,” and “Political Science” (Current Events). We apologize to residents who attended and enjoyed the Wednesday class, “Western Civilization.” The NSCA Board decided that this class should be canceled. Our wonderful instructor, Charles Welbourne, will be teaching this class at Laguna Woods.

This committee is always open to suggestions for other educational experiences that could be held in participants’ homes or at the public library. Feel free to contact me or members of this committee if you have any interest in attending or developing other educational experiences. Use of our facilities is subject to board sanction and is always subject to revocation.

—Bunny Ross

## FINANCE

The Finance Committee has a new chair—Jeannie Sticher—and two new committee members, Jim Eckstaedt and Steve Barrett. We are excited to have Jeannie accept the chairmanship and look forward to her leadership. Jim and Steve are very qualified and knowledgeable. The Committee is looking forward to an exciting and active new year.

We ended 2011 with a surplus that will be applied to our Reserves for the repair and replacement of items such as streets, gates, etc. This surplus was due in part to receiving a refund from the South Coast Water District for overbilling, our insurances renewing at lower than anticipated rates and our investments producing more interest than budgeted. The Finance Committee appreciates the tremendous effort put forth by staff and committees to keep spending within budget and find ways to save.

The Committee wishes to thank all the staff and committee volunteers for their hard work during the past year. Niguel Shores is a wonderful place to live with many caring staff and volunteers to oversee the needs of our community.

—Sue Kichline

## MAINTENANCE

Almost complete. Seven years ago the Maintenance Committee, chaired by Sam Johnson, with Board approval, began a project to replace all the pressed brick on the Garden Home streets. The pressed brick had deteriorated with numerous cracks and chips. The appearance was not pleasing and there were trip hazards for anyone who might walk across them.

In total there were twenty seven areas to be replaced varying in size from thirty to a hundred feet in length. The

cost to replace each section was six to fifteen thousand, thus the need to phase the project over several years.

The construction process involved removing the pressed brick. A ten foot section between the pilasters is then replaced with a tub like concrete base and one foot concrete ribbon. This concrete base is then filled with sand and bricks are placed on the sand base. The remainder of the removed pressed brick is replaced with asphalt. Each year, competitive bids are requested. West Coast Paving and Quickel Paving have been the successful bidders.

As this article goes to press, West Coast Paving will have completed the entrances at Verrazanno, Tampico, and Sidney Bays. Twenty-six of the Twenty-seven locations are complete. Just one street to go, Salvador Bay, Sam Johnson’s street. So much for a privileged place in line, but thank you Sam for getting this project started.

Also, as this article goes to press, the fire damaged saunas have been repaired and are back in operation. Our thanks to Artie Staudenbaur for coordinating this project with the insurance company, contractor, and inspectors.

—Jack Christiansen

## RECREATION

Happy New Year. Thank you to everyone who helped to make 2011 another successful year for the Niguel Shores Recreation Committee.

January Pot Luck, look for article for the information. Start the New Year with enjoying the food and companionship of neighbors.

The Tree Lighting volunteer for the delicious hot chocolate with the coffee was listed listed incorrectly in last month’s *Seashore News*. This was all complimentary from The Coffee Importers at Dana Point Harbor, and the beautiful tree was from Santa’s Tree Village.

January we will have a new year Happy Hour around the fireplace on January 11. From 4:00 p.m. to ?? Bring your own refreshments and join friends to start the New Year.



The cooking class will be January 19, at 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. with Kookie and Sally giving us tastes of the ideas they will present for Super Bowl parties. Tickets are in the office for \$39. This is a fun group to enjoy tasting and new food ideas.

The Committee is planning 2012 with entertainment for you and your family.



—Carol Yocom

## GARDEN CLUB

The partying season is upon us! The Garden Club held its annual Christmas–Chanukkah–Kwanzaa–Festivus party in the Shores ClubHouse. It was very well attended, and was especially festive with a beautiful Christmas Tree, music and pretty table decorations. It all came together thanks to the splendid coordination of Ann Strauss and her volunteer elves. The food was *weelderig* (for those folks who don't speak Dutch, it means sumptuous!) and the gift exchanges brought smiles to everyone.



Garden Club Christmas Lunch.

The Garden Club's next meeting will be on January 16 and attendees will hear about "organic farming" from Nic Romano of VR Green Farms.

**Organic Farming:** Organic farming is the method by which agriculturists develop and cultivate vegetables, dairy products, grains, meat and fruits. The method of organic farming has been brought into use to preserve water and soil and also to reduce the pollution that can be caused by farming. In conventional farming, synthetic chemicals are made use of to increase growth. However, in organic farming it is preferable to use organic wastes and compost in the form of fertilizers, which can result in increasing the nutrients supplied to the plants.

### More Gardening Myths:

1. Watering the lawn at night prevents evaporation and keeps the grass happy and healthy. Reality: No, watering your lawn at night exposes it to fungal pathogens. That's why you get that orangish rust growing on it every single year. It's quite logical: Fungal pathogens love cool moisture and dark places. Watering your lawn late in the day and/or at dusk gives them exactly what they need to thrive. So stop it! Water your lawn early in the morning; this gives the grass blades time to dry out during the day, while minimizing water evaporation from the soil itself. Buy a timer, attach it to your faucet, set the timer for 5:00 a.m. and hook up your hose and sprinkler.

2. A bleach solution is the best choice for disinfecting pruning wounds and tools. Reality: If you're looking to sterilize your pruning tools and the pruning cuts you've made to your favorite plants, you can do better than chlorine bleach—much better. Bleach is an oxidizing agent, which means it is corrosive. You don't find bleach for sale in unlined metal containers, and there's a reason for that. If you spill it on your clothing when you're out in the back 40, you're stuck with a big, white spot unless you can immerse the affected material in clean water immediately. Isopropol alcohol works best, and is not corrosive to your tools.

I'm no interior decorator, but I just have a feeling that plastic plants in the bathroom... probably not a good idea.

—Kyan Douglas

—Morris Meadow

## MEN'S CLUB

Our last featured speaker of the year, County Supervisor Pat Bates, brought us up to speed on the latest happenings in Orange County. Financially, the county is in quite good shape. The biggest new problem is going to be housing and paying for all the prisoners that the state is transferring off to each county in order to save state funds. It's always something.

It was another successful year for the Club. We gave out three scholarships to deserving students from our local high school, sponsored the Fourth of July Pancake Breakfast and continued our fellowship with twice monthly meetings.

We are hoping the New Year will bring interested residents to visit and join our group. The first and third Tuesday will find us meeting at the ClubHouse. We welcome you to join us. So what are you waiting for?

—Steve Leonard

## WOMEN'S CLUB

The Women's Club will welcome in the New Year at its January luncheon on the 12th at noon in the ClubHouse. Our speaker will be Niguel Shores resident Warren Greunig who will tell us about *Loving Hugs, Inc.*, the organization that distributes stuffed animals to children suffering in crisis areas around the world. The



organization was started in 2007 by Wendy Clark who learned of the tragic circumstances of children in bombing attacks in Iraq. Since then, the organization has expanded through donations and partnering with the U. S. Navy and other non-profits to send stuffed animals

## CLUBS

to children around the world who are suffering from war, natural disasters or extreme poverty.

Please bring a stuffed animal to the luncheon. There are guidelines as follows: New or very gently used, soft

and cuddly, size should be between 8 and 24 inches, not battery operated, no scary animals, no TV cartoon or movie characters (except Disney) and no holiday themed toys (unless holiday decorations are removed).

Look for your e-mail luncheon invitation on Thursday, January 5 and please reply whether or not you can come by Sunday, January 8.

—Mary Crowl

## ACTIVITIES

### WEDNESDAY BRIDGE

The Bridge group had a festive Christmas party on December 14 and everyone had a great time. Presents were exchanged, good food shared and we were even treated to wine from an admirer. Our group is taking a break until the first Wednesday of January, the 4th. We look forward to starting the New Year with a great group of bridge players. We meet on Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. and play until about 3:00 or 3:30 p.m. We welcome all players to come and join us; you'll be surprised what a friendly group we are, even if you should happen to trump our ace!!

#### **This month's winners are:**

November 23 Margaret Brugger and Trudy Buck  
November 30 Freida Baskin and Helen Campbell  
December 7 Freida Baskin and Doris Deal  
December 14 Everyone was a winner!! (Booby prizes)

—Helen Campbell

### PAGE TURNERS

Page Turners Book Club will meet this month to discuss *Unbroken* by Lauren Hillenbrand. *Unbroken* is the true story of Louis Zamperini whose plane crashed in the Pacific Ocean during WWII. He was captured and imprisoned by the Japanese.

The Monday morning group will meet at 10:00 on January 23 at the home of Chris Beaver, 24121 Windward Drive. Chris will also lead the discussion. The Monday afternoon group will meet at 12:30 on January 23 at Irene McDonald's, 24076 Gourami Bay, with Carolyn Sidwell providing refreshments. Diane Hearne will lead the discussion. The Thursday afternoon group will meet at the Club House at 1:00 on February 2 with Kathy Hill as discussion leader.

For more information about Page Turners: Karla Sanders: karlajoe@cox.net, 496-8413 – Monday morning. Diane Hearne: Phearne4@cox.net, 661-6267 – Monday afternoon. Lisa Buchner: Lisabuchner@cox.net, 496-9546 Thursday afternoon.

—Diane Hearne

### OREO COOKIE BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will meet on January 18 at the home of Janet Mackaig to discuss *The Next Decade—Where we've been...and Where we're going* by George Friedman. We meet at 1:30.

—Mary Crowl

### POTLUCK

**WHERE:** Niguel Shores ClubHouse

**WHEN:** Sunday, January 15

**TIME:** 6:00 p.m.



Please plan to join us for an evening with your Niguel Shores neighbors. We ask that you bring your beverage of choice, table service and either a Main Dish, Salad or Dessert plus \$1.00 per person.

Former attendees will receive an email invitation and **we will appreciate a response by Wednesday, January 11.**

If you are new to Potluck please feel welcome to join us. We ask that you call Ann Christiansen, 248-1962, to make a reservation. She will be happy to answer any questions.

—Ann Christiansen

### SOCIETY FOR CIVIL DISCOURSE

The Society for Civil Discourse will meet on Friday, January 20, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at the Dana Point Library. The topic for discussion will be California Schools (K-12), the good, the bad and what's to be done. Discussion to be led by Gloria Sall who notes that California teachers are the second highest paid in the country, but that California ranks 43rd in spending on our students. Our students rank 8th on API tests, but well below average on Science and Math scores compared to other States. Please join us for this discussion.

—Norton Schwartz

## MEN'S GOLF

The Men's Golf group played on October 25 at Twin Oaks Golf Club in San Marcos. Twin Oaks Golf Course includes two signature water features and plays adjacent to a protected wildlife habitat, adding to an experience that is both challenging and picturesque. Elevation changes combine with quick, undulating greens to create a Golf Course of both open and target-oriented holes.

The "Combine New Foursome" was an individual challenge for the day. First Place was the team of Jack Sweeney, Peter Rask, Gary Katsuki, and Bill Verbrugge. Second Place went to the team of Dave Ontiveros, Charlie Clark, Dennis Rosene, and Jim Pinola. Coming in 3rd was the team of Roy Dohner, Bob Russell, and Allen Brown. Closest-to-the-Pin on #5 was Bob Russell and on #16 Dennis Rosene.

Next up the Men's Golf group played on November 8 at The Crossings Golf Club in Carlsbad. This unique course has an unusual layout with challenges at every tee. Named for the five bridges—or crossings—that were designed into the course to meet existing environmental and topographic conditions, The "Tin Whistle" was an individual challenge for the day. Points were earned for net bogies, pars and birdies so it was not the 18 hole total that determined the winner but the total number of "Tin Whistle" points. The winners were: 1st Bob Gutknecht, 2nd Barry Daniel, 3rd Roy Dohner, 4th tie Morry Dohner & Gary Katsuki, 5th Dick Grabham. Closest-to-the-Pin #9 Morry Dohner, #17 Blair McDonald.

Next up on November 22 was Tijeras Creek Golf Club. The game on this beautiful sunny day was "Two best net of 4 balls." The winners resulted in a tie with both the Jack Sweeney, Mac Brown, Bill Johnson group and Bill Verbrugge, Morry Dohner, Blair McDonald, and Paul Wager group both

netting a total of 136. Coming in 3rd was the Jim Pinola, Gary Katsuki, Bob Gutknecht group with a net total of 139. Closest-to-the-Pin on #5 was Bob Gutknecht and on #16 Bill Verbrugge.

On November 29 we had our annual putting contest followed by a great breakfast at Talega Golf Course. The competition was fierce and the Team winners of the Annual Putting Contest were: 1st Place with a combined score 88, Bob Borland / Roy Dohner, 2nd Place Tie at 89, Tom McNicholas / Mac Brown and Bill Verbrugge / Bill Johnson, Third Place with 91, Blair McDonald / Gary Katsuki.

On December 13 mother nature won out and we had to cancel the tournament at Aliso Country Club. Next up is Tijeras Creek on January 10.

Three old men are about to play their regular match when the starter asks if they mind that a lady joins them to make up a four ball. When they see the stunning beautiful 18 year old blonde they all agree that she would make a great 4th. Her standard of golf does not match her looks and after playing 17 bad holes she gets to the 18th and has a 20 foot put for a par. "I would do anything in the world to get a par" she tells the three men.

All three obviously have the same thing in mind. The first man says "hold your hands tight together and aim about 6 inches to the right of the hole." The second man says "No, no, aim just inside the left edge and hit it firm, make sure you do not leave it short." The 3rd gentleman walks around the green surveying the hole from every angle and says "Ah, its a gimmie."

—Bob Russell

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

## WOMEN'S GOLF

Our December tournament was a rainout—bah humbug! But, this didn't dampen our spirits for our Christmas Party Luncheon held at the Fountains at the Bluffs. Again, as in past years, the food and decorations were very special for the 27 that attended. Of special note were the two charter members, Margaret Brugger and Carol Hollinger, who attended.

A big thank you to Joan Beyer and Ruthie Stahl for arranging such a lovely party. We also want to congratulate Gretchen Rask for her hole-in-one at #14 at Costa del Sol.

Congratulations and thanks to the past Board of Directors and now, welcome to the new Board: President – Marlene Lynch, Vice President – Lee Sweeney, Secretary – Brenda Tuckley and Treasurer – Gretchen Rask.

—Chris Beaver



# Travel Tidbits . . .

*is Back !!*



Hopefully this year I can inspire you to get out and enjoy the wonderful world we live in and, maybe share this enjoyment with others. As we all know, life is short. As time goes on and we have regrets it is often about the things we didn't do rather than things we did. If you put off that trip you have been dreaming of, you may not get to do it. So let's all make a resolution (it is the time for them) to visit a place we have been thinking about. Whether it is Yellowstone National Park for the first or tenth time, a cruise in some part of the world you've never been to or a big adventure like climbing Kilimanjaro, do it. My list already has two definites—a cruise from Vancouver to Anchorage with touring in Alaska at the end and a cruise from Barbados to Rio with touring in southern Patagonia.

Let me know what you think. My email is [bmilner@wtbinc.com](mailto:bmilner@wtbinc.com). Best wishes for a wonderful 2012.

—Barbara Milner

*In Memoriam*

*Ann Jones*

*(Mrs. Cyril Jones)*

*December 2011*

*Shackleton Isle Resident, Women's Club Member*

## HEROICS IN NIGUEL SHORES' SEWERS!

Have you ever had that helpless, desperate feeling that you have just let something precious go down the drain or, worse, down the toilet? Well, Tina Fornadley had that in spades when she realized that her most precious possession of all, her large diamond engagement ring had been flushed down the toilet. A frantic call to the Water District office along with tears and pleading convinced them to try to rescue the ring. They started by installing a debris trap in the line to try to catch the ring: a camera was put in the line to have a look but no luck. After several fruitless tries and a new trap and a portable camera down the toilet drain, the ring was spotted in the line. Efforts to flush it down the line with a high pressure hose would not budge it. Additional efforts from another sewer access point, flushing all the toilets in the house and running all the faucets didn't work. Finally, the water pressure and the movement of the camera began to nudge the ring along and, eventually, it got pushed into the main line. Another Water District employee watched at the trap at the manhole cover on the street and, as soon as they shut off the water pressure to the basket and the water calmed the ring appeared at long last. Artie Garcia, the SCWD rescuer said in his 27 years with the District he had a couple of similar calls but this was the first time a ring was actually found. Ironically a ring was found in another Niguel Shores debris trap in 2005 but was never claimed even though they tried for months to find the owner. It was finally sold at auction.



Tina & Bernie Fornadley at center with (L to R) Jimmy Gomez, Justin Davis, Ernie Garcia and Artie Garcia, the Water District team that rescued the ring

So, if you have to suffer such a loss, you have another reason to be glad you live in Niguel Shores—they have good luck in finding rings here. Needless to say, Tina is thrilled to have her well-washed diamond back on her finger, not to speak of husband, Bernie, who gave it to her!

—Mary Crowl

# MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

## Ann and Steven Morris

Many of our Niguel Shores neighbors pride themselves in having traveled and lived in wonderful places prior to making Niguel Shores their home. Ann and Steve Morris, however, are likely to take the prize for having actually lived in many more than most. Steve has visited 35 countries and he and Ann and their children have moved 20 times during their married life. After all their travels and adventures, how then did they end up in Niguel Shores?? Well, as I learned recently, that is indeed

an interesting story. Ann's parents, Dr. Robert and Madonna Freyling were original owners on Marlinspike. They purchased their home, with the incredible ocean view, back in April of 1973. They enjoyed 20 wonderful years together here in the Shores. Robert was an orthopedic surgeon for the United States Navy and they traveled and lived in many places, however, when

they found their home on Marlinspike in the then very new community of Niguel Shores, they both agreed "This is it!!"; they had found a perfect spot to live and retire.

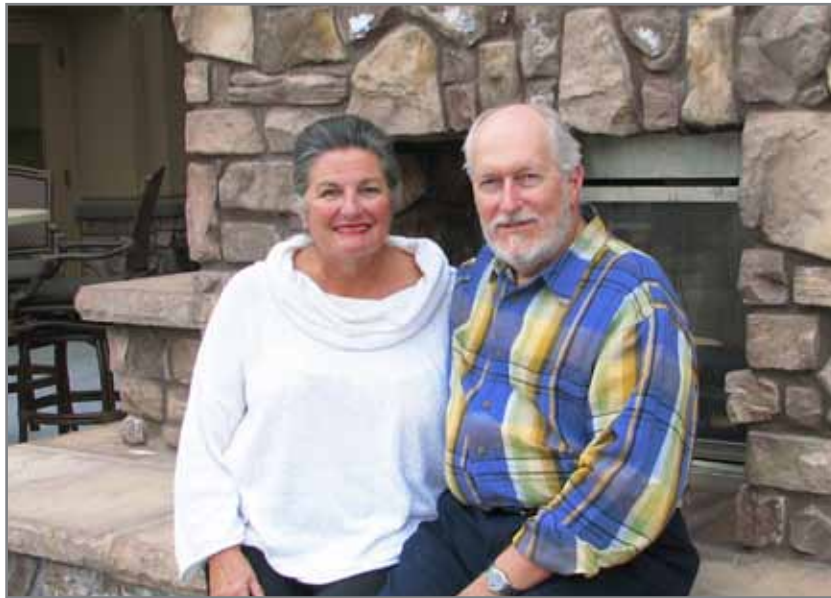
In 1993, Robert passed away and Madonna remained in the house on her own for several years. She enjoyed every day of her life here, especially cherishing our wonderful Niguel Shores sunsets. Sadly, however, Madonna was diagnosed with Macular Degeneration in 1997 and she lost most of her vision very rapidly.

Shortly before that time, Ann and Steve had returned to Southern California, and were settling into their home in Newport Beach. However, settled or not, they made the decision to move in with Ann's mom in her home on Marlinspike and they have been here ever since. Ann and Steve will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in August of 2012 and have now lived in the Shores for 14 years, and as you will learn, that is a very long time for the Morris Family to actually be planted in one place.

Ann and Steve met at USC in 1961. They married about a year later and moved to Hawaii with the U.S.

Navy; however, Hawaii was only the first of many exciting and beautiful places that Steve, Ann and their family (including a son, daughter and 2 Siamese cats) called home. Business and career moves took the Morris family from Hawaii to a variety of cities, Chicago, Sacramento, Pasadena, London, Texas, Paris and Connecticut, to name a few. They have experienced many wonderful things as they moved and traveled. Their two children are well rounded and experienced travelers. In each place

they lived, their children participated in all kinds of activities with a great deal of ease and comfort. They felt that each city, whether it is Texas, London or Hawaii, had its own special culture and charm. Steve said what he often found about the people they met and befriended was that, for the most part, "people are really more alike than different".



Ann and Steven Morris

Now that Steve and Ann have become "Niguel Shores Natives" (in addition to both actually being California natives), they are very thankful that they had the opportunity to travel and experience so many parts of the country (and world). However, they are extremely happy to be finally settled here in Niguel Shores. Much like Ann's parents, they can honestly say that Niguel Shores is one of the most beautiful places in the world to live, high praise considering they have experienced life in Hawaii and the South of France!

Even though life in Niguel Shores was pretty close to perfect, it has not been without adventure. Shortly after moving in with Ann's mom, they felt the need for more space and started a remodel project. In January of 1998 the remodel was just about complete when a fire broke out in the garage. Unfortunately, they lost many personal belongings, including all family photos and important documents; however, the good news was that no one was hurt. Ann will never forget driving down Marlinspike and saying to her mom, "No, that couldn't be our home!" The fire, obviously

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# WELLNESS — Resolutions...They Come and They Go

“It’s the New Year...I can’t believe 2012 has arrived! Ok...so, I need to make my resolutions...hmmm...what should I resolve to change this year...well, there’s always exercise...ok, that’s good...and then there’s my weight...those extra pounds are no good for my health...wait...who am I trying to kid? This list is starting out just like last years’ ...and the year before that, and the year before that...”

Does that sound familiar? New Year’s Resolutions...we make them...and unfortunately, very often break them. Its as if we know in advance that we probably won’t stick with it but let’s make them anyway...aren’t we supposed to? I mean, New Year’s Resolutions can improve your physical, as well as, your mental health over time, and who doesn’t want that?

It’s true, the New Year is indeed a wonderful time to take stock of our lives and identify areas that need to be dusted off and freshened up. Often, though, we make resolutions that lack any real intention of actually keeping them and that doesn’t have to be the case.



**If you would like to comment or make suggestions for future topics, just send me an email at [takeshapewithsharon@gmail.com](mailto:takeshapewithsharon@gmail.com). To Your Health! Sharon Stewart RN, Certified Health Coach**

Resolutions are akin to goals that we set for ourselves. So when making your resolutions this year, you might want to keep a few points in mind:

- Write them down...unwritten resolutions require zero commitment from us and generally don’t last.
- Post them somewhere where you will see them throughout the day every day.
- Make them specific...how will you add more exercise? Walking 5 days a week? tennis on the weekend? Whatever it may be, be very clear.
- Broadcast your goals to your family and friends... they will hold you accountable and provide support should you stray.
- Make them realistic and measurable...something that you can visualize yourself achieving.

So, let’s give New Year’s Resolutions a fresh, new look in 2012! Get your pen, paper, or your computer and take a good hard look at where you could make your life healthier, happier, and more productive! Write down those steps...you’ll be glad you did!

Neighbor continued from page 10

required Ann, Steve and Madonna to move once again, this time to South Laguna, while they waited for the second remodel to be completed.

Today, Steve is enjoying retired life, after having spent 45 plus years in the business world. He earned his undergrad degree at USC in Chemical Engineering and then went on to do post grad work in Business Administration. Steve’s career in business included working in marketing, sales, project management and administration. Ann’s degree is also from USC in English and Speech. In 1961 Ann was a member of the USC Debate Team that won the National Debate Championship. While living on the east coast, Ann pursued post graduate work at Yale University in Spiritual Direction, and maintains a private practice in that field today. Both Ann and Steve love music and were members of the Pacific Chorale for 30 years.

Ann is involved in a variety of activities in the Shores; she is an active member of the Women’s Club, Page Turners and Dippy Dolphins. Presently, Steve has the proud distinction of being the only male member of the Dippy Dolphins. Ann says the club members love having Steve as a member. Steve enjoys the attention, however, he would welcome

some male companions to join him on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings.

Sadly, Ann’s mom, Madonna, passed away in June of 2011, at the remarkable age of 102!! Madonna Freyling loved her many years in Niguel Shores and today Ann and Steve happily share that very same affection for the Shores and their home on Marlinspike. They love the area, the community and most of all the wonderful people they have met and call friends!!

—Patti Staudenbaur

*In Memoriam*

*Madonna Freyling*

*June 2011 (aged 102)*

*Original owner – Marlinspike Drive*

Dr. Wagner

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Drawing of plan for renovation of the Sunset Park along Niguel Shores Drive (opposite Halyard and Capstan)

On the regular landscape maintenance schedule, Harvest will be trimming and mulching all of the trees, removing dead plants, dethatching lawn areas, and adding seasonal color plants four times a year. Nate and Nacho both expressed concern about the coral trees that are old and branches are breaking off, especially when we have Santa Ana winds. They will be caring for these trees as needed. Trees in our community are important and, as we all know, can cause controversy between tree lovers and view lovers. As a consequence, no tree can be removed in Niguel Shores without the explicit approval of the Board of Directors. Harvest will be working with the nine area representatives on the Landscape

Committee to insure that problems in all areas will be tended to. They will attend the Committee meetings at which the representatives make their monthly reports and handle homeowner requests regarding landscape matters.

As a conclusion, we can all expect great improvement in our water usage and, subsequently, water cost, our plant maintenance and, as our Master Landscape Plan is implemented, in the design and layout of our overall landscape. Welcome to Harvest and its expertise, welcome to Nate and Nacho and all the Harvest workers in their orange vests and their participation in our community well being.

—Mary Crowl

## New Year's Quiz – Do you remember these?

**Faeroe Bay**  
**Cabrillo Isle**  
**Manta Court**  
**Magellan Isle**  
**Vista D'Onde**

**Garibaldi Gate**  
**Leeward Drive**  
**Hobart Bay**  
**Ionian Bay**  
**Amundsen Bay**

- Faeroe Islands are a group of islands, a possession of *whom*, that lie northwest of the British Isles in the North Atlantic Ocean.
- Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo was the Portuguese explore who discovered *what* in 1542.
- Manta is a Spanish word for blanket that gave its name to the *what* that was trapped by devices that resembled large blankets and, subsequently, acquired its name from the traps.
- Ferdinand Magellan was a Portugese navigator and explorer for Portugal and Spain. His ships (he died on the way) were the first to *what*.

- Vista, Spanish for view, of *what*.
- Guiseppi Garibaldi was a patriot and soldier who helped unify *what* and fought in liberation wars *where*.
- Leeward is the side of a vessel situated away from *what*.
- Hobart is a city, the capital of the Australian island state of *what* that lies off the south coast of the Australian continent.
- Ionia is the sea between the southern tip of Italy and *what*.
- Roald Amundsen was a Norwegian explorer who discovered *what*.

(Find the answers to this quiz about street names in Niguel Shores on the website. Mary Crowl)

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