**May 2012** 

**Published Monthly by Niguel Shores Community Association** 

Issue 462

### FROM THE HELM

Last month in this space I emphasized two community meetings (April 4 and April 14) that would be opportunities for homeowners to hear and discuss important issues on the ballot that was mailed to your home about April 15. Not very many people showed up at either meeting. For most of us, our home is our largest investment and the community we live in and the neighbors we live near are important to our

lives. Apparently everything is going well in the Shores? If you disagree, please put your thoughts on the website so we can address them. Or use the ballot to vote for can-

~ ANNUAL MEETING MAY 15, 2012 ~ 7:00 in the ClubHouse DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!

didates you agree with and sign your ballot when you mail it.

Everyone knows the most important holiday in Niguel Shores is July 4th. The Men's Club is already gearing up to handle this year's Pancake Breakfast and our Recreation Committee is working on plans for activities that follow the Breakfast, like the Parade and Sand Castle contest. Dick Johns is the point person for the Pancake Breakfast and he can use volunteers to help with serving. If you would like to help,

please contact him at refjoh@cox.net. It takes a lot of planning and food to feed the estimated 600 people who show up for breakfast. Why not get involved and get to know your neighbors, serving breakfast to the hordes of hungry people who show up on one of the happiest sunniest days of the year!

After breakfast we have more activities all over Niguel Shores, including a parade, games at the pool and play-

ground, followed by a sand castle contest and finally BBQ at the bluff. Nancy Tinnes is coordinating the celebrations, as she has for many years. She can use

some help, too. She can be reached at 949 364 5535. Please give her a call and get involved. If you are new to the community, this is a great way to meet your neighbors and make new friends. Our community has so much to offer but if getting involved seems farfetched then forget that thought (really), make the call or send the email, take the plunge and just do it. You will not be sorry (really!).

- Steve Stewart

# PRESERVING OUR PRECIOUS VIEWS -

Read how the View Preservation Committee pursues this goal:

The View Preservation Committee's primary function is to respond to view blockage complaints and judge whether or not an unreasonable view impairment exists. It then recommends either removal, trimming or that no action be taken. If a view blockage is confirmed, a letter requesting trimming or removal is sent to the owner of the offending tree or shrub. If the Committee decides the view is not sufficiently impacted, the complainant is informed of the Committee's decision by letter.



View Preservation Committee Members: (I to r) Joan Ingle, Kathy Jones and Bonnie Gilberstadt. Absent: Kathy Eckstaedt & Diane Young

These scenarios are what happens when everything goes smoothly. Unfortunately, the following conditions can slow down the process considerably:

1. Weather: The Committee cannot not judge a view blockage if there is no view that day due to fog, overcast, etc. The site visit must be rescheduled to the next Committee meeting (the third Monday of each month). In the past this has happened three months in a row resulting in major delays for complaints moving through the system.

#### **BOARD ACTION SUMMARY**

#### APRIL 4, 2012 BOARD MEETING (General Session)

# **APPROVED:**

- —Approved the General Session Meeting Minutes of March 21, 2012
- —Approval to record liens against four properties for delinquent assessments
- —Approval of the Audit for the 2011 fiscal year
  - —Approval of the 2012 Annual Meeting/

CC&R Amendment ballot

- —Approval of proposal to replace damaged post brackets and supports on the Breakers Isle fence
- -Accepted and filed the updated litigation disclosure statement
  - —Accepted and filed financial reports
  - —Accepted and filed General Session committee minutes

#### **DISAPPROVED:** none

#### **DISCUSSED:**

- —Abalone slope project
- —Shackleton slope project
- -Master Landscape project
  - -2012 goals
- -Meeting with City regarding concert noise complaints

#### **HEARINGS/MEETINGS/PRESENTATIONS:** none

#### **REVIEWED:**

-Correspondence regarding rule changes and CC&R amendment -Managers Report

#### **TABLED:**

—Traffic & Safety Committee proposal to add yield sign at Mariner entrance gates

#### **APRIL 4, 2012 BOARD MEETING (Executive Session)**

#### **APPROVED:**

- —Approved the Executive Session Meeting Minutes of March 21, 2012
- —Approved complaint filing against one property
- —Accepted and filed Executive Session committee minutes
  - —Received and filed delinquency reports

#### **DISAPPROVED:** none

#### **DISCUSSED:**

—Legal status report

#### **HEARINGS/MEETINGS:**

- —Meeting with Fleming Homes
- —Hearing for violation of Rule 6405

#### **REVIEWED:**

- —Financial reports
- —Managers report

TABLED: none

#### APRIL 18, 2012 BOARD MEETING: (General Session)

#### **APPROVED:**

- —Approval of the General Session Minutes of April 4, 2012
  - —Approval of Mosaic Consulting contract

for Nauticus Isle slope project

- -Approval of proposed rule changes
- —Approval of the Injury and Illness Prevention Program
- —Accepted and file the General Session committee minutes

#### **DISAPPROVED:**

—Request from guest of resident for reimbursement for tire damage

#### **DISCUSSED:**

- -Abalone slope project
- —Shackleton slope project
- -Camp Hobbledehoy contract

#### **REVIEWED:**

- —Correspondence from the membership
  - —Managers report

#### **TABLED:**

-2012 Board Goals

**HEARINGS/MEETINGS/PRESENTATIONS:** none

#### **APRIL 18, 2012 BOARD MEETING:**

(Executive Session)

#### **APPROVED:**

- —Approved Executive Session Minutes of April 4, 2012
- —Accepted and filed Executive Session committee minutes

#### **DISCUSSED:**

—Legal updates

#### **REVIEWED:**

-Managers report

#### **TABLED:**

-Hearing for violation of Rule 6405

#### **HEARINGS / MEETINGS:**

—Hearing for violation of Rule 3103

NOTE: The NSCA Board of Directors meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday 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 Friday Prior to the next meeting.

REMINDERS: OPEN FORUMS ARE HELD AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH GENERAL SESSION MEETING (6:00 P.M.)

#### **GM REPORT**

Telcome Janine Scott to our Staff: In April, we welcomed a new staff member to the Niguel Shores office staff. Janine will be working with Matt in the office to assist residents, plus will be the staff liaison to the Recreation Committee and Traffic and Safety Committee. She has previous experience working in a Homeowner's Association plus has an extensive background with event planning. Janine grew up in Europe but moved to California in her senior year of High School. Her family is involved in Theatre Arts, owning and operating the San Juan Capistrano Center for Performing Arts / Camino Real Playhouse. Ms. Scott's educational background is in Geography and Environmentalism but also has a strong interest in Holistic Health Care, having a license to practice since 1994. Janine has also been schooled in many classes with CACM (California Association of Community Managers) and formerly held a position as Community Manager / Recreation Director for The Talega Gallery Community Association in San Clemente. In addition, Janine has held positions with JAM Entertainment as an Event Specialist, Young and Rubicam Advertising as Creative Production Manager and Jaguar, Land Rover, Aston Martin as Meeting Planner and The Ritz Carlton as Food and Beverage Sales Agent. Janine has four grown daughters and a 10 year old American Eskimo dog. She loves to paint, cook, surf, snowboard and play tennis. Please stop by to welcome our new staff member!

Audit Mailing: As required by the Governing Documents and Civil Code, the membership mailing of the annual audit was placed in the mail Friday, April 27. Schonwit and Company, an independent CPA firm, audited the Association financials for the 2011 fiscal year and this report is provided to all members of the Association. Please take a few minutes to review this information. The Association is in good financial condition and the Board has adopted an excellent plan to fund the Reserves to 80 percent by 2015.

To save the Association postage, the Board has included with the Audit, the adopted changes to the Rules and Regulations that were approved by the Board of Directors at the April 18 Board meeting and the Special Session held on April 23. The Association is required to mail out the newly adopted rules within 15 days of being approved.

#### **Important Announcements for all Residents:**

Annual Meeting May 15, 2012 — Please vote and return your ballot to the Inspector of Elections by May 12, 2012 to establish quorum. On May 15 registration will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Center, the Annual Meeting is scheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m. A few things to remember when voting: Only individuals listed as the legal owners of the property (e.g. members) may vote, each property gets three votes (three Board

- seats open) and you must sign the outside envelope in order for your vote to be valid. In addition to the candidate votes, there is also an amendment to the master CC&R's on the ballot. Your vote is very important.
- Pool to be closed from May 7 through noon May 11 for maintenance to do the semi-annual pool water 50% removal and replenishment. In addition, during this timeframe, the repair will be completed on the patio area damaged by fire earlier this year.
- Starting June 1, the office will no longer offer Saturday hours. After evaluating the use of the Saturday office hours and the cost of staff time, the Board made the decision to eliminate Saturday hours. This will take effect June 1, 2012.
- Enforcing Rule 6406 Beach Parking Guests parked at the beach lot: Please take care to make sure that your guests have their passes properly displayed on the vehicle dashboard and that they are parked within the designated upper parking tier as posted when visiting the Beach Bluff Park. Guest vehicles found without a properly displayed pass or found parked outside of the top parking tier are subject to tow one hour after a citation is issued per Rule 6440.

How to report vandalism within the Community: Concerned residents in the Community have asked how to relay information to other NSCA residents when vandalism or other incidents occur within Niguel Shores. First thing you should do is **call the Police!** If a crime is not reported, nothing will be done. After you call the police, contact the Mariner Gate to have a patrol officer come to your residence and complete an incident report. (Please understand that the Association has a patrol officer between 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m.) A copy of the incident report will be provided to the office and kept in your file. The Association office is always interested in hearing from the residents what has happened, but the only contact that can investigate the crime is the Police.

If a resident has a concern they would like to share, the Niguel Shores website offers a comment section that can be used for this purpose. In addition, the website provides other channels of communication where the Niguel Shores Residents may review what is happening in Dana Point, such as a link to Dana Point Police Services and the Dana Point Police blotter http://ws.ocsd.org/Blotter/BlotterSearch.aspx for the most updated area information.

The gates do provide access control, but do not make the community as secure as Fort Knox. Remember to lock your house when you leave, lock your car doors when it's parked in the driveway or in the street and be alert to what is going on around you. To help provide good safety tips and

#### COMMITTEE CHAIRS MEETING

Chairpersons of all Niguel Shores Committees were invited by the Board and the General Manager to meet the evening of March 28 for a discussion of their goals and plans and their various interactions between committees. Each chairperson reported on the makeup and activities of their committees and heard those of others along with remarks by the Board Chairman, Steve Stewart. General Manager Deborah Baker and Board Member Pat O'Brien were also in attendance



Meeting of Committee Chairs on March 28 in the Conference Room: Seated left to right: Jack Christiansen—Maintenance, Mary Crowl— Communication, Kathy Jones-View Preservation, Tim Murphy-Traffic & Safety. Standing: Barry Banducci—Finance (representing Chairperson Jeannie Sticher), Alicia Martinez-Recreation, Donna Rosecrans—Landscape. Absent: Jerry Koppang—Architecture, Danielle Mills—Recreation.

#### **ARCHITECTURE**

Jeff Smith has been the consulting architect with our community for over a year. His reviews of plans are comprehensive and detailed reports are provided to the Architecture Committee for review. His analysis of projects is the most professional we have ever had and this makes the job of the AC more complete and accurate. He has an outstanding knowledge of our rules and regulations and provides insights to improve our guidelines. His experience with HOAs is extensive and that knowledge is a great support for the committee. Below is his biographical information:

Jeff Smith is President of Smith Architects, Inc. in Mission Viejo. He has been involved in architecture and construction for more than 30 years and licensed as an architect for 24 years. He has had over 8 years experience as an association board member, president and Architectural Review Committee member. His architectural design experience includes: commercial housing,

custom housing, manufactured and modular housing, daycare facilities, industrial facilities, commercial offices, laboratories and both domestic and foreign pharmaceutical manufacturing facilities.

Smith Architects, Inc. specializes in architectural services designed for the Common Interest Development to assist developers, boards and community managers in the design review, processing and documented completion of homeowner architectural applications. Smith Architects also assists associations with dispute resolution regarding view restrictions and construction defects and provides design services for aging associations in need of modernization. Mr. Smith currently serves as a member of the Community Association Institute's (CAI) Orange County Chapter Education Committee offering his expertise as a facilitator for CLTP training for Community Maintenance. He has also been a guest speaker regarding architectural systems and processes at California Association of Community Managers (CACM) Annual Expo on several occasions as well as a guest speaker at CAI's Legal Forum.

#### Partial list of clients (Design Review):

Nellie Gail Ranch Owners Association, Laguna Hills. Pelican Point Community Association, Newport Coast Ocean Heights Maintenance Assn., Newport Coast Talega Maintenance Corporation, San Clemente The Bluffs Homeowners Association, Newport Beach Broadmoor San Clemente Community Association Estates at Monarch Beach, Dana Point Emerald Ridge Community Association, Dana Point Marblehead Inland Master Com. Assn., San Clemente New Providence Homeowners Assn.. San Clemente Marlborough Seaview Estates Homeowners Association, San Clemente

#### **Affiliations:**

Affiliate Member, California Association of Community Managers (CACM)

Member, Community Associations Institute (CAI) Member, International Society of Pharmaceutical Engineering (ISPE)

Member, American Institute of Architects (AIA)

—Jerry Koppang

#### EMERITUS/EDUCATION COMMITTEE

This committee has decided to change its name to the Education Committee and explore different ways to further educate the NS residents in an enjoyable and enlightening fashion.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

For that purpose, plans are underway to present a variety show, at the end of summer, incorporating the talents of residents of all ages! As an educational committee, we are asking residents who have professional talent or experience in theatrical presentations to volunteer their skills. Participants may have musical, dancing, acting, costume design talents. A place will be found in this production for any individual that wants to perform; some who feel they have "no talent" will also be asked to perform! A list of potential participants will be developed.

When the NSCA hears and hopefully approves further plans for rehearsal and presentation dates, a list of potential participants will be kept in the NS office.

Interested parties may contact me through the Niguel Shores office.

—Bunny Ross

#### **FINANCE**

The Finance Committee is reaching out to the major committees with significant budgets to get a fiscal picture during the year versus a fiscal picture only at the end of the year during budget process. Recently the Landscape Committee chairperson and a member from that committee briefed the Finance Committee on the status of their budget and items that might be on the horizon. The Finance Committee will be inviting Landscape and the other committees to one of our monthly meetings during the year.

A major upcoming event for the Finance Committee will be the review of the Reserve analysis for 2012. As you may be aware, items that are designated for Reserve funding include street repair, pool and surrounding areas, tennis courts, bluff furniture, etc.

The Finance Committee meets monthly to review the status of the current month and year budget. There will likely be upcoming openings for residents to join the committee. If you have interest in participating to assist our community in financial matters, we encourage you to contact the office and express your interest.

—Steve Barrett

#### LANDSCAPE

The Landscape Committee is very pleased to have our general manager, Deborah Baker, along with Harvest Landscape's Nacho Chavez and Nate Bonghanoy, accompany each of us on a "walk around" of our designated areas. They are spending many hours learning about all of the different Niguel Shores areas, types of plantings and soil conditions.

We are in the process of upgrading all of the water controllers. The upgraded software allows for better flow sensing capabilities and more advanced interface with the satellite website.

Some residents have heard that all of the Coral Trees are to be removed. There are a few of the trees that may have to be removed because they are interfering with or damaging their surroundings. However, the majority of the trees will not be involved.

— Karen Linger

#### **MAINTENANCE**

George leaves for vacation and Dave Smith, our lead maintenance man, is in charge. With the Boss gone, Dave and the Maintenance Staff are anticipating a peaceful week. Not so.

It's after midnight and Dave gets a call from the security service. "You need to come in now". The bar code reader at the Manta Court Gate is down. The reader is mounted on a steel post, but someone, or something, has managed to tear the post from its mounting and the entire apparatus is lying in the street. Maybe vandals because this is the same night that most of the letters have been taken from the signage at Selva and La Cresta.

Not wanting to be the only one to have fun, Dave calls Tom, and together they begin working in a dark and soon to be rainy night. Using some duct tape and wood blocks from Dave's truck they get the unit back up, erect, and working. The temporary fix has the reader back in operation, but now it is raining harder. The glass that protects the electronics in this six thousand dollar unit is broken, rain will destroy it. Not to be deterred by this minor problem, Dave duct tapes his umbrella to the top of the post and leaves it there until morning when replacement glass will be purchased and installed. It must have been an interesting sight for any Manta resident returning from a late night event.

Sunday, Dave's day off, he gets a call from Dennis. "You need to come in; there is no chlorine in the spa". After a few hours of trouble shooting and manually adding chlorine, a blown fuse on the chemical controller is discovered and replaced. The spa is in safe operation, the residents are happy, but Dave's Sunday is gone. It does help Dave understand why George is sometimes a little cranky on Monday mornings.

The rest of the week was fairly normal with problems fixed during working hours. An extra large T.P. mess was cleaned up. The Cabrillo gate remained open until an

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

electronic problem was found and fixed. Someone drove through the Selva gate pulling a trailer and taking out the traffic arm. When the sensor sees that the car has passed the gate, the traffic arm drops to the down position. So the following trailer will get the arm every time. And then there is the issue of traffic arm damage at the Garibaldi Gate. It happened four times this week. It is not an expensive fix as we use inexpensive rain gutters for the arm. It does take valuable Maintenance time and we are working to understand and correct the problem.

—Jack Christiansen

#### RECREATION

Many things are planned for the coming months for the residents of Niguel Shores:



May 5 — Cinco De Mayo: 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Taco Cart night with a DJ keeping you in the mood for this celebration. Tickets in the office: \$10.

May 27 — Bluff BBQ: If we can have some volunteers to supervisor the BBQ Grill for everyone to enjoy the Memorial Day Holiday.

**July 4th:** Look for activities planned for all ages throughout the day.

**July 28:** 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. A new event: **Food Truck Night**....The Lime Truck (A winner in Orange county) plus a real Sweet treat. Chunk n Chip truck. This is Cash Only Night as you purchase your meal and sweet treats. Another plus will be the DJ music.

**August:** The month for the famous concert at the bluff night. BBQ Sunday family time if we have the volunteers to help see this happens.

Yes, the committee is busy planning a fun summer for everyone. Please buy your tickets as soon as possible in the office for all the events.

—Carol Yocom



We need a few people to help supervise the BBQs at the Bluff. The grill will be there and the volunteers are needed to start the grill, watch over it during the BBQ and stay until 8:00 p.m. or until the grill is cooled down. If we have enough volunteers, the shifts would only be an hour from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Men and women and couples have an evening of fun together . . .

Dates: Sundays, May 27, August 5, September 2.

Please contact the office and a Recreation Committee member will call you. Thanks very much for your help in continuing these delightful evenings on the Bluff.

#### **WEBSITE**

Just one more reason to visit the Niguel Shores Website!! If you have not viewed the Niguel Shores website lately, take a few minutes and look at the magnificent photos of our community taken and shared by Gary Tinnes, resident of Atlantic Bay. After viewing these photos, I'm sure you will agree, we certainly do live in a very special place. (If you look closely you may even recognize yourself or a neighbor!!) Check it out at www.niguelshores.org.

—Patti Staudenbaur





#### **GARDEN CLUB**

The Garden Club had a great time trekking through the Descanso Gardens in LaCanada Flintridge in April. The gardens are home to one of the largest collections of camelia plants in the U.S. Thirty members were led on a docent tour of the gardens and the estate home of Manchester Boddy, one-time publisher of the L.A. News. The weather was perfect, and everyone agreed that they had a blooming good time!

May Meeting: The Club will hold its annual plant sale at the ClubHouse on Saturday, May 19, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We hope to equal or exceed the huge turnout of last year. All Shores residents are invited, and can purchase some plants to fill in those bare spots in their gardens and patios.

-Morry Meadow



Garden Club group returning from Descanso Gardens, April 17

Life expectancy would grow by leaps and bounds if green vegetables smelled as good as bacon frying. —Doug Larson

#### WHICH PLANTS LIKE LIVING TOGETHER?

Plant	Companion(s) and Effects	
Asparagus	Tomatoes, parsley, basil	
Basil	Tomatoes (improves growth & flavor); said to dislike rue; repels flies & mosquitoes	
Bean	Potatoes, carrots, cucumbers, cauliflower, cabbage, summer savory, most other veggies & herbs	
Beet	Onions, kohlrabi	
Carrot	Peas, lettuce, chives, onions, leeks, rosemary, sage, tomatoes	Annual Garden Club Sale
Chamomile	Cabbage, onions	Saturday, May 19
Chive	Carrots; plant around base of fruit trees to discourage insects.	9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Dill	Cabbage (improves growth & health), carrots	Niguel Shores ClubHouse
Fennel	Most plants are supposed to dislike it.	Admission \$1
Leek	Onions, celery, carrots	Fabulous Plants at Fantastic Prices!!
Marigold	The workhorse of pest deterrents; keeps soil free of nematodes; discourages many insects; plant freely throughout the garden.	Don't miss out on this great community event!!
Mint	Cabbage family; tomatoes; deters cabbage moth.	
Nasturtium	Tomatoes, radish, cabbage, cucumbers; plant under fruit trees; deters aphids & pests of cucurbits (climbing plants.)	
Parsley	Tomato, asparagus	
Peas	Squash (when squash follows peas up trellis), plus grows well with almost any vegetable; adds nitrogen to the soil.	
Petunia	Protects beans; beneficial throughout garden.	
	For a more complete listing see http://www.canadiancountrywoman.com/garden/companionplants.php	

#### MEN'S CLUB

The Niguel Shores Men's Club announces the following scholarships being awarded to Dana Hills High School students for 2012:

Boy's Award: \$1,000 — Luke Wallace Girl's Award: \$1,000 — Lauryn Cerutti Fran & Buck Ewing Arts Award: Shana Hu

The Men's Club is very pleased to be able to present these fine students with scholarships. They are young people that the community can be very proud of. If you are interested in learning more about the Men's Club Scholarship Program, please contact George Schramm, President, or Jerry Pearl, Scholarship Committee Chair.

The Men's Club breakfast meeting on April 3 featured the candidates who are seeking seats on the Niguel Shores Board. There are presently three empty seats and five of the six candidates were present to introduce themselves and answer questions from the members. The sixth candidate was out of town and prepared a statement that was read by one of our members.

The Men's Club meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month for a breakfast and good company. We usually have a featured speaker who will cover a topic of interest to the general membership. We welcome new members. Come at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast and enjoy the good food and comradeship and the topical speakers. We welcome new members.

—Al Thome

#### **WOMEN'S CLUB**

May is the month for mothers and that includes pretend mothers with their baby dolls. The Women's Club will be entertained by Carol Peterson, a volunteer docent at the Bower's Museum, who will display and discuss dolls, toys and children's artifacts and the political and social trends represented by the objects. Members are invited to bring a childhood toy or artifact to display



Women's Club Member with her doll, Julia, ca. 1952

(please identify the toy and specify the time period).

Your luncheon invitation will arrive by e-mail on May 3 and you are asked to please respond by May 6. The luncheon will be in the ClubHouse at 12:00 noon on Thursday, May 10.

\*If you haven't guessed who the member is with her doll in the photo, her identity will be revealed at the luncheon! Spring is in the air when we all feel young again so do be there to relive a bit of your childhood...

-Mary Crowl

#### **ACTIVITIES**

#### WEDNESDAY BRIDGE

Please join us on Wednesday for a friendly and fun game of Bridge. We meet every Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. and we play until about 3:00 p.m. We bring plenty of snacks, chips, crackers, coffee and desserts; Freida always delights us with her Brie. Dorothy brings delicious treats, including birth-day cakes from time to time.

We welcome new players so, if you are interested, please call Helen at 496-4230 and we would be happy to include you in our group.

#### **Our latest winners:**

March 21 – Helen Campbell, Kay Wittmack, Frieda Baskin

March 28 – Helen Hodges, Frieda Baskin, Trudy Buck

April 4 – Margret Brugger, Helen Campbell



Bridge Club —May 2012

April 11 – Frieda Baskin, Judy Bates, Dorothy Horany

Once again, we look forward to your joining us!!

—Helen Campbell

#### **PAGE TURNERS**

Page Turners Book Club will meet this month to discuss *State of Wonder* by Ann Patchett. A doctor working for a pharmaceutical development company in Minnesota takes a trip on the Amazon to find her dead partner. Marina Singh uncovers some unusual secrets in the hidden tributaries.

The Monday morning group will meet at 10:00 on May 21 at the home of Gloria Weintraub, 23841 Marmara Bay. The Monday afternoon group will meet at 12:30 the same day at Ginny Nevitt's, 23862 Marmara Bay. Frances Ozimec will lead both the morning and afternoon discussions. The Thursday afternoon group will meet at the ClubHouse at 1:00 on June 7.

Our combined June meeting, where we vote for next year's selections, will be Monday, June 25.

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 BOOK CLUB

The Club is to meet at the home of Priscilla Agnew on Wednesday, May 16 at 1:30. Under discussion will be a select number of essays from Christopher Hitchens' *Arguably*. To plan ahead, the July selection is *Eisenhower—Year of Danger* by David Nichols.

-Mary Crowl

#### THE SOCIETY FOR CIVIL DISCOURSE

The Society for Civil Discourse met Friday March 30 at the Dana Point Library where we discussed "The Challenge to U.S Competitiveness." Tom Faust led the discussion and provided data that indicated that our country had lost market share in aerospace and defense, in information technology and communications equipment to other countries. Not only has this led to loss of jobs, but bodes ill for our nation's future. Declining income of the middle and lower class and lack of technical education in these groups is a causative factor. These are as much regional problems as national and the solution can be effected by regional political and educational policies.

The Society met again on Friday April 13 at the Library where we discussed "Helping Integrate Retiring Military Officers Back into the Civilian Work force". Rick Lamprecht and Tom Faust led the discussion and provided information on problems and opportunities to help this group of veterans. The danger of ignoring the problem, considering the large number of military that will be returning to civilian life, is that we will leave large numbers of people in a disadvantaged culture. We have enough of that kind of problem in existing groups that we have had only partial success in acculturating. There are positive steps we can take and some of them were enumerated. The next meeting will be May 1 at 10:00 a.m. in the Library and the subject for discussion will be community planning to reduce traffic, obtain better use of community resources and to introduce some coherence into the lives of all of us in our community.

—Norton Schwartz

#### **SPORTS NEWS**

#### MEN'S GOLF

March 27 had us playing at Talega Golf Club. It was a beautiful warm day at this great course located in San Clemente. The format for the tournament was "Low Net Low Gross-Foursome Play." I am not sure who created these format games but it sure makes the scoring interesting.

Flight A: first place went to the team of Roy Dohner, Dave Ontiveros, Morry Dohner, and John Monson. Flight B: first place went to the team of Gary Katsuki, Blair McDonald, and Tom McNicholas. Third place went to the team of Mac Brown, Blair McDonald, and Barry Daniel. Closest-to-the-Pin on #8, Kent Wellbrock and on #12, Mac Brown.

The next tournament was on April 10 at the Aliso Golf Club in Aliso Viejo. This is a great semi-private course and the course conditions were perfect. This course has lots of sand and some very thick fescue grass which makes it very challenging.

We had 16 golfers and the format was "Tin Whistle".

The winners of Flight A: First place 2 tied: Dennis Rosene and Matt Kelliher. Second place: Morry Dohner.

Third Place 4 way tie: Bill Verbrugge, Jack Sweeney, Paul Wager, and Roy Dohner. The winners of Flight B:

First place: Gary Katsuki. Second place: Bob Gutknecht. Closest-to-the-Pin on #5, Bob Gutknecht and on #12, Matt Fry.

Golf Dictionary: Ace—hole in one. Like an ace in a deck of cards, though not quite so common. Completion of a hole in a single stroke. The odds against this happening are about 45,000 to 1—somewhat worse than the odds of finding a brand-new ball lost in the rough (27,000 to 1) but considerably better than the odds of hitting a perfect drive off a crowded first tee (1,195,000 to 1).

-Bob Russell

#### WOMEN'S GOLE

Lovely Spring day...pleasant round of golf...putting them together on a Fun-Day with Niguel Shores Women's Golf group...priceless! In April, these golfers had an especially fine day:

Low gross score for the day, Val Mitchell; Low net score for the day, Linda Ross; Closest shot to the pin on #8, Linda Ross; Longest drive on #9, Val Mitchell (yep, a mighty fine day for that duo); Birdies and Chip-ins, Lee Sweeney, Anne Greenwood, Helena Keeshen, and India Rouse. The foursome, most successful in keeping their pink golf ball out of the creek, and turning in the lowest team score for the game of the day, was

Lee Sweeney, Marge Foster, Pam Strayer and Barbara Brabeck.

The next Fun-Day will take place on Monday, May 14. The golf captains for the day are Chris Beaver, 493-7430, and Linda Ross, 248-3408. You may contact either one to be added to the list of players. Guests and prospective members are always welcome. Call at least one week in advance.

Remember to save the date of July 9 for the Memorial Tournament and luncheon at Gemmell's to follow.

> "The Babe is here. Who's coming in second?" —Babe Didrikson Zaharias

> > —Ceacy Johns



# Carol's Cuisine Corner

Here it is: May for Mother's Day. How about enjoying comfort food like was made by Mom. I am sure it is still enjoyed by all of you. We have several restaurants that are special in comfort food for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Remember to make reservations.

Cedar Creek Inn: 26860 Ortega Highway, San Juan Capistrano, 240 2229. Hours 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Sunday Brunch 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Something for everyone. Coffee shop favorites, but a step up. Try their salads (Marcy's) crab cakes, pot roast. A variety of desserts-all good.

Savannah Chophouse: 32442 Golden Lantern, Laguna Niguel, 493 7107. Heirloom tomatoes are very special, good for the group to share, as well as the wedge salad. Steaks and fried chicken breast. Desserts are good again to share.

**Nieuport 17:** 13051 Newport Ave., Tustin, 714 731 5130. A collection of aviation artifacts. Pricey, but very enjoyable. Old School menu. Spinach salad a must with any items from the menu. Dessert to share a must.

Three Seventy Common: 370 Glenneyre, Laguna Beach, 494 8686. They are having a special Mother's Day menu 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.—prix fixe. Open Tuesday to Sunday 5:00 to 10:00 p.m. I would recommend these in addition to many menu items: oysters Rockefeller, the meatloaf and roasted cauliflower and, for dessert, the chocolate banana bread pudding. These and most of their servings are to share. They also have some small plates.

Sabatino's Lido Shipyard: 251 Shipyard Way, Newport

Beach, 723 0621. This is an interesting place. They have a Mother's Day Brunch. Their menu is Old School Italian—a place for all the Italian family. Specials: sausages, homemade sauces and pastas.

Mollies: 32033 Camino Capistrano, San Juan Capistrano, 240 9261. Open 5:30 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. Breakfast special every day. A favorite is large pancakes and waffles and all the breakfast trimmings. Lunch and dinner specials: chicken fried steak, pot roasts. Good mashed potatoes and waffle fried potatoes.

Marie Calendar's: 31791 Del Obispo, San Juan Capistrano, 661 5977. Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., Brunch: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. You know they always have the pot pies and crispy green beans, plus your favorite pies.

Aldo's Sidewalk Café: 31882 Del Obispo #152, San Juan Capistrano, 443-0423. Hours: 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Another good Italian family menu. Salads are good (Aldo's), baguette bread served with the meals, all handmade pastas and good sauces. Special sandwiches.

Farrell's Ice Cream Parlor: 799 The Shops Mission Viejo, 362 5411. Open: 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Ice cream any way you like it. Of course, you cannot go wrong with a hot fudge sundae. What a way to end that comfort day.

Now, enjoy any day in May with some comfort food. Bon Appetite. —Carol Yocom

- **2. Homeowner not present:** Unless arranged ahead of time, the Committee cannot enter a backyard if no one is home. The homeowners should also be able to point out the specific tree or trees which are impacting their view. A photo is not sufficient to make a determination.
- **3.** Trees not properly identified: It is the homeowners' responsibility to determine the exact location of the tree or trees in question. A Homeowner Request Form must be filled out for every address with an offending tree or shrub. If the tree is on community property, its location should be described as specifically as possible. The Committee passes on its recommendation to the Landscape Committee which makes the final determination.
- **4.** "Vegetation wars:" Some residents use landscaping to carry on neighborly "feuds." The Committee has visited several properties repeatedly for the same issues. The Committee takes every complaint seriously, but going back to the same properties, sometimes over five times, is an unproductive use of the volunteers' time.

The following rules apply to the Committee's responsibilities and guidelines. All tree trimming or removal recommended by the Committee is based on complaints by residents for specific trees. If there has been no complaint, a tree may grow beyond the rule's parameters.

#### 4112 Pad Level Plantings 05-16-06

No tree or shrub growing on private property at pad level shall be allowed to exceed the height of the highest elevation of the nearest adjoining roof segment, unless such height does not unreasonably interfere with the view from another lot. In areas where an unreasonable lateral view obstruction is involved, plantings at pad level are limited to a height of three (3) feet, or the height of side yard walls or fences in the lateral view lines at the view end of the viewing house.

#### 4301 View Preservation Committee 03-21-00

The Architecture Committee consists of two divisions, one of which is the View Preservation Committee, which has authority to require any homeowner to remove, trim, top or prune any tree, shrub or hedge on his/her property which it believes unreasonably impedes the view from any lot.

#### 4302 View Preservation Complaints 03-21-00

The View Preservation Committee shall respond to and evaluate all homeowner requests regarding blockage of views caused by any growing plants or trees. Any view blockage complaint that involves common area plants shall be coordinated with the Landscape Committee and, where appropriate, the Board of Directors.

#### 4122 Trimming Precautions 07-01-85

Homeowners having their trees or shrubs trimmed should bear in mind that trees or shrubs should be trimmed sufficiently below the stated maximum height so that normal growth will not require re-trimming more frequently than once every six (6) months.

#### 4113 Slope Planting 03-21-00

No tree or shrub growing on a slope shall be allowed to grow higher than three (3) feet above the top of the slope or bank unless such height does not unreasonably interfere with views from any other lot. No planting shall be permitted to remain on any slope which might damage or interfere with established slope ratios, create erosion or sliding problems or interfere with established drainage functions of facilities.

-Kathy Jones

GM Report continued from page 3

information, the Association will invite the Orange County Sheriff's Department to a Board Meeting to speak to the residents. Watch the website and *Seashore News* for the date and time.

#### Happy Mother's Day from the Niguel Shores Staff!

"Happy Mother's Day" means more
Than have a happy day.
Within those words lie lots of things
We never get to say.
It means I love you first of all,
Then thanks for all you do.
It means you mean a lot to me,
And that I honor you.
But most of all, I guess it means
That I am thinking of
Your happiness on this, your day,
With pleasure and with love.

—Deborah Baker



#### NIGUEL SHORES RESIDENTS TO THE RESCUE

n a recent Saturday morning, NS resident Stan Reese was returning from one of his regular bike rides when he took a pretty nasty spill. So nasty, that Stan really doesn't remember too much about how he fell. However, he does remember looking up from the pavement on Windward and thinking, "If a car comes now, I am a dead man!" because he could not move. Very luckily for him, rather than a car, two Niguel Shores residents came to his assistance and according to Stan, probably saved his life.

Julie Spiegal and her seven-yearold son, Ethan, were just returning from some Saturday morning errands when Ethan noticed a man on a bike go flying over his handlebars and crashing. Julie's view of the accident was somewhat blocked, but Ethan had a direct view of what had happened and knew that the man on the bike needed help.



Ethan and Julie Spiegal

Ethan told his mom to "Call 911!" and both Julie and Ethan ran from their car to help Stan. They stopped traffic, gathered Stan's belongings and waited until the paramedics and firefighters arrived.

Stan had told me that Ethan was a remarkable little guy and after meeting with him and his Mom, Julie, I would agree. Ethan and his parents, Julie and Jordan, live on Halyard. They all love Niguel Shores and all the wonderful

activities our community has to offer. Ethan is in first grade at John Malcolm Elementary School. He is a very busy seven-year-old. He swims, surfs and boogie boards, plays soccer and baseball. This summer he plans on attending our Hobbledehoy Camp and sign up for the Junior Lifeguard Program; a very busy and ambitious young man to say the least.

Stan considers Ethan his Niguel Shores hero and Julie his angel. His injuries were pretty serious (broken ribs, broken collar bone and a hip replacement). He has put his bike on the rack in the garage for a while, but promises he will be out again fairly soon. Julie and Ethan just think they were being good Niguel Shores neighbors; however, Stan, his wife Carolyn and the entire Reese Family are extremely grateful to Ethan and Julie.

—Patti Staudenbaur

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# Attention all Artists in the Community

The artwork now on display in the ClubHouse will be removed in May. Anyone wanting to display his or her art for the next six months should contact Diane Hearne at 661-6267 or phearne4@cox.net, Kay Wittmack at 661-8177 or kwitt47@cox.net, or Karla Sanders at 496-8413 or karlajoe@cox.net. All artwork is subject to the Art Committee's approval.

—Karla Sanders

# Just one more reason to visit the Niguel Shores Website!!

If you have not viewed the Niguel Shores website lately, take a few minutes and look at the magnificent photos of our community taken and shared by Gary Tinnes, resident of Atlantic Bay. After viewing these photos, I'm sure you will agree, we certainly do live in a very special place. (If you look closely you may even recognize yourself or a neighbor!!) Check it out at www.niguelshores.org.

—Patti Staudenbaur

#### CALLING ALL GRADUATES

The Seashore News would like to once again do a feature article on some of our Niguel Shores students who are graduating from high school this June. If you have a family member who will be graduating from high school and would be willing to share their plans with the community, please let us know and we will be sure to include them in our article scheduled for the June issue of the Seashore News. Please contact Patti Staudenbaur, at umass21@cox.net.

# **WELLNESS** – Farmer's Market

Find Good Health at our local Farmer's Market: Have you had a chance to check out our wonderful Farmer's Market right here in Dana Point? If so, have you been by to see all the **delicious items** that they have every Saturday. When it comes to shopping for a healthy meal, the Farmer's Market is a great place to shop. The produce is pesticide free and grown within a much, much smaller radius than what we all buy at the grocery store, Trader Joe's, and Costco to mention a few. When you buy a bag of bell peppers that were grown in Denmark, do you ever think of all the petroleum that goes into getting it to your local market? Packaging (plastic or worse yet Styrofoam trays wrapped in plastic wrap), storage (building, lights, water, etc.), and shipping by ground, air and/or water (trucks, planes, ships)...you get the picture. Whenever you can buy local products you help reduce the consumption



of fossil fuels and the amount of carbon emissions released into the atmosphere...good for not only the health of our planet, but for ours as well... not to mention you help support hard working "agricultural entrepreneurs"! So every Saturday I make it a point to visit. I check my wallet for cash, grab a shopping bag and head over. Sometimes we drive if we're going out to run several errands, but very often we walk over...ahhh...saving more petroleum! It takes about 15 or 20 minutes and provides us with not only physical exercise (burning calories, building muscle) but also improves our state of mind...you know...we talk together, we check out the neighborhoods along the way noticing interesting landscaping, see the sky, hear the birds... rejuvenating and refreshing our emotional state of mind! We all can very easily neglect the health of our emotions and neglected emotions can erode those precious relationships in our lives...and that is not good for our overall health either.

Anyway, when you buy at the **Farmer's Market** you are buying local, sustainable food...and it's healthier than food grown on corporate farms. And, it is **fun** to meander around and people watch, meet the neighbors, talk to the vendors and go home with a **lot** of **great produce** for a low price! So, if you want to enjoy delicious, nutrition packed fruits and vegetables that are sure to give your health a boost, get yourself over to the Dana Point Farmer's Market! Give it a try and see!

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.



# Travel Tidbits...



Here we are, it's May already and I imagine you, like many others, are thinking about a getaway this year. I have come across two trips that would certainly give you bragging rights at your next cocktail party.

Next July, you could be part of the excitement at the Running of the Bulls in Pamplona, Spain. The package includes a three night hotel stay with private transfers each morning into the old city for the "Encierro" where you have reserved balcony seating. Following the excitement of the stampeding bulls, you are welcomed at the Nuevo Casino Social Club for a buffet breakfast and gifted with a souvenir bandana and shirt.

Running Bulls not your thing? Perhaps you prefer the serenity of a sailing ketch and magnificent icebergs. This December "The Ultimate Polar Wildlife Adventure" is available for just five small-group enthusiasts who are looking for

a rugged wildlife encounter. This is Antarctica up close and personal. The journey is from Dec 4-31 and offered to serious, hardy, adventurers with an expeditionary spirit ONLY. World renowned explorers and wildlife biologists with a special permit from the National Science Foundation will drop anchor and set up camp close to a host of Antarctic wildlife. Only five travelers will be able to join this exceptional adventure... will you be one of them? If so we certainly want to hear about it.



"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

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**For Sale:** Two bicycles (adult) Good Condition, Cannon Dale H 300 \$125. Specialized Expedition \$150. Car rack free with bicycles. Phone (949) 248-3870.

**For Sales:** Work-out equipment for sale. Bench and weights. Best offer. (949) 496-3357.

**Long Term Lease Rental:** Niguel Shores couple looking for a 3 bed, 2 bath home. Minimum 12 month lease. Need to find home before September. Please call (949) 481-6703.

**Want to Rent or Buy:** One Story, 3 Bedroom, Townhouse with Ocean View From Private Owner. Call Niguel Shores Family at (949) 496 7072.

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# SEASHORE NEWS REAL ESTATE REPORT BY CONNIE MCKIBBAN





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