

Seashore News



December 2014

Published Monthly by Niguel Shores Community Association

Issue 492



*Happy
Holidays!*

THIS WAS 2014 IN NIGUEL SHORES

Yes, it's true, as someone said, lots of things did happen in Niguel Shores this past year—the Mariner Gate House was extended and remodeled to accommodate the code and electronic equipment needs, a new pool deck in progress, myriad new landscaping has been added at the Mariner Entrance and, elsewhere, lots of old overgrown landscaping has disappeared from our slopes with replacement plants arriving daily, and the thirsty turf areas have been reduced and replanted with vegetation that thrives on less water. Technology has forced the Gate House work and a drought has forced the landscape renewals—forces beyond our control but, improvements that are all to the good I would say.

What else happened? Lots of activities arranged and organized by the Recreation Committee have entertained us. There were fun nights on the bluff with music, BBQs and food trucks, lounge-style music nights in the ClubHouse, movies in the park, a garage sale, Halloween Party, Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony and we celebrated St. Patrick's Day on the ClubHouse Patio with beer and corned beef.

Nowhere can there be a better 4th of July Celebration than we had in Niguel Shores with the great Men's Club Pancake Breakfast followed by our wonderfully solemn flag raising ceremony and that followed by a lively parade of patriotically decorated people, bicycles, wagons and dozens of golf carts festooned with flags and red white and blue bunting. The fire truck leads the way and thrills the kids. All of this is then followed by the Sand Castle Contest on the beach and many activities for young and old.

And if you didn't find enough entertainment with all that, you could have joined one of our Clubs where, in addition to some solemn speakers and programs, lots of fun goes on. The Women's Club loves its style shows, June Teas, occasional day trips and Holiday Cocktail Parties. The Men's Club entertains their ladies at an annual breakfast, entertains us all at its annual Pancake Breakfast and entertain themselves with lots of golf (Bob Russell mused: *Golf was once a rich man's sport, but now, it has millions of poor players*). The Garden Club, experts at plants and trips and parties, has a Beach Bluff Picnic, a Lobster Fest, a Holiday Party and

Continued on page 5

Happy Holidays

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Happy Holidays: I came across a letter to Santa Claus from his Association manager and thought that you would enjoy knowing that even Santa must follow association rules.

NORTH POLE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION
c/o Mr. B. A. Humbug
Glacial Management Company

December 5, 2014

Dear Mr. Claus:

We are instructed by the Board of Directors to inform you of the following violations:

Your sleigh is a recreational vehicle, which is prohibited by the governing documents. When we told you to move it from your yard, we clearly did not intend for you to place it on your roof. Please remove it from your premises.

Red and green colors on your house clash with the common scheme of the neighborhood. You must choose colors from our approved color list and submit an application for repainting to the Architecture Committee.

You are feeding wild animals which appear to be diseased. The sickest is the one with the shiny red nose; some would even say it glows. You must discontinue this practice immediately, or animal control will be called.

You are storing toys and games in a huge canvas sack on your yard. Be advised that all outdoor storage must be approved by the Architecture Committee and must be of the same style and finish as your house.

It appears that you are operating a day care center and/or workshop in violation of the CC&Rs. Through the fence, we hear the sound of laughing, playing games and shouting out with glee. There are numerous small persons on your property and the clatter and activity is disruptive.

The amount of mail you are receiving exceeds what will fit in your architecturally approved mailbox, so you must make arrangements with the postal service for alternate delivery at a post office box or a business address.

You have made unauthorized modifications to your home which allow you to enter and exit through the chimney. You must submit an architectural application for your new entry, including evidence that this modification meets all state and local codes and is in harmony with other homes.

You have been observed making a list and checking it twice, finding out who is naughty or nice. You have no authority to do that, and it is troublesome. It is the function of the Compliance Committee to determine who is naughty or nice.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding. If you do not comply within ten days, we will refer these violations to our attorney.

Respectfully,
North Pole Homeowners Association

Office schedule for the holidays: The office will be closed at noon on December 24 and all day the 25th and at noon on December 31 and all day January 1. In the event that you need immediate assistance during the time when the office is closed, please contact the officer at the gatehouse for direction.

Wishing all of you, your families and friends a safe and happy Holiday Season From the Niguel Shores Staff

—Marla Miller

BOARD ACTION SUMMARY

NOVEMBER 5, 2014 BOARD MEETING: (General Session)

ACCEPTED AND FILED:

- Financial Reports
- Delinquency Report
- General Session Committee Minutes

APPROVED:

- General Session Meeting Minutes for October 15, 2014
- Special General Session Meeting Minutes for October 29, 2014
- Updated Litigation Disclosure Statement
 - Disclosure mailings
- Villas fence replacement and modification
 - Pool drains
 - PCH West trimming proposal

DISAPPROVED:

- Appeal of bar code waiver disapproval

HEARINGS / MEETINGS / PRESENTATIONS:

- Appeal of bar code waiver disapproval

REVIEWED/DISCUSSED:

- Geotechnical slope investigation
 - Manager's report

TABLED/CONTINUED:

- Gatehouse project

NOVEMBER 5, 2014 BOARD MEETING: (Executive Session)

ACCEPTED AND FILED:

- Executive Session Committee Minutes

APPROVED:

- Executive Session Meeting Minutes from October 15, 2014

DISAPPROVED: none

HEARINGS/MEETINGS:

- Hearing for violation of Article IX, Section 18; Rule 4112; Rule 4121
- Hearing for violation of Article VII, Section 1; Rule 3103; Rule 3130

REVIEWED/DISCUSSED:

- Legal correspondence
- Delinquency reports

TABLED/CONTINUED:

- Hearing for violation of Article IX, Section 18; Rule 4112; Rule 4121

NOVEMBER 19, 2014 BOARD MEETING: (General Session)

ACCEPTED AND FILED:

- General Session Committee Minutes

APPROVED:

- General Session Meeting Minutes for November 5, 2014
- Resignation of Mary Crowl from the Communication Committee
- Appointment of Curt Swanson to the Communication Committee
- Appointment of Karl Kuhn as Communication Committee Chairman
- Approval of Covenant Running with the Land for 8602/072
 - Geotechnical contract for slope failure
 - Removal of 2 trees adjacent to Manta Court entrance
 - Removal of 1 tree on Tampico Bay
 - Removal of 1 tree on Porto Bello
- Removal of trees adjacent to Crossjack Drive parking areas
 - Removal of trees in Halyard Park to alleviate view impairment

DISAPPROVED: none

HEARINGS / MEETINGS / PRESENTATIONS:

- Gatehouse project update

REVIEWED/DISCUSSED:

- Manager's report

TABLED/CONTINUED:

- Harvest Landscape contract

NOVEMBER 19, 2014 BOARD MEETING: (Executive Session)

ACCEPTED AND FILED:

- Executive Session Committee Minutes

APPROVED:

- Executive Session Meeting Minutes from November 5, 2014
- Filing of legal complaint for non-payment

DISAPPROVED: none

HEARINGS/MEETINGS:

- Hearing for suspension of privileges for non-payment

REVIEWED/DISCUSSED: none

TABLED/CONTINUED: none

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 and Executive Session agendas for the next Board Meeting will also be posted on the Friday prior to the next meeting.

REMINDERS: ONLY (1) BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD IN DECEMBER 2014: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3

educational trips to visit gardens here and there. The Page Turners read their books and celebrate their new expertise at luncheons, the bridge players have lunch every week and the Women Golfers manage a lunch or two, too.

We did have an election in June to elect three members of the Board of Directors—two incumbents were re-elected (Pat O’Brien and John Dougherty) and a new member, former Finance Committee Chair, Jeannie Sticher. The two other members are Bob Russell, President of the Board, and Steve Leonard.

There was plenty of committee work that can be fun, too, for those inclined to volunteer their time for this community: business people and accountants make great members of the Finance Committee, there are always a few ex-law enforce-



Gatehouse Renovation with Temporary Entrance Facility

ment people and others to staff the Traffic and Safety Committee (Tim Murphy says *Stop tailgating through the gates if you don't want your tires flattened!*), residents with experience in emergency management are welcomed on the Emergency Preparedness Committee, the Architecture Committee fortunately has a number of long-term experienced members, and the Recreation, Landscape and Communications Committees call for members with varied backgrounds. These many volunteer committee members contributed throughout the year to the day-to-day running of Niguel Shores.

The hard-working and most efficient staff managed things very nicely for us through the year: Marla Miller as General Manager atop it all, Ivy Hsia, our long-time excellent Comptroller, Karen Decker, another long-time competent and reliable member of the staff, Matt Northrop, without whom this newsletter would never get done, as well as the Website and all of the other things he does in the office and, Blayke Miller, our newcomer. Thank you all for another very good year in Niguel Shores.



Plants and boulders added to Mariner Drive landscaping in 2014

Of course, there is also the busy, indispensable and admirably efficient Maintenance Staff to keep the whole place going. They not only maintain but sustain. Kudos to all and many thanks.

We lost some stalwarts of our Community during this past year: Forrest Owen, Jack Broering, Dick Johns, Bill Henderson, Gretchen Rask, and Don Beaver, all former members of the Board of Directors and residents who also served the Community in many other ways. Two of them, Forrest Owen and Bill Henderson were former presidents of the Board of Directors. We miss them all and, to honor them, will endeavor to carry on where they left off.

Of course, even though this is the best of all possible communities, as in any of them, there are always problems but it seems, with our experienced Board of Directors and



Pool deck renovation with pool deck renovators.

excellent staff, they are kept to a minimum in Niguel Shores and that our lives here are, given the vicissitudes of life, generally pretty pleasant. Here's to 2014—soon to be history.

—Mary Crowl

Photos on this page by Curt Swanson.

NIGUEL SHORES BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES – 2014

Once a year we like to publish the names of all those residents of Niguel Shores who volunteer their time on the Board and committees to help make our community what it is. Some, as you can see, serve on more than one committee and the Board Members do double duty by serving as liaison to two committees each. Thanks to all of you for a good year and a job well done!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bob Russell, President

Pat O'Brien, 1st Vice-President

Steve Leonard, 2nd Vice-President

Jeannie Sticher, Secretary

John Dougherty, Chief Financial Officer

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Jim Eckstaedt

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Art Staudenbaur

Christina Rausch

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Ron Cook

Tim Murphy

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Laurel Livesay

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Curt Swanson

Carol Yocom

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Mike & Peggy Oliva and helpers

Distribution:

Your Neighbors

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Leonard Beebe

Jack Christiansen

Martin Dedrick

Suzanne Enis

Sam Johnson

Cyril Jones

Al Thome

Janet Traver

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Kathy Eckstaedt

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Miriam Roehlk

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Kent Wellbrock Chair

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Barbara Milner

Marilyn Moon

Judy Pasek

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Cathy Tyson

David Uslander

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Sue Kichline, Chair

SEA TERRACE II BOARD

Joe Ross, President

Gary Mitchell

Adrienne Ruben

Karla Sanders

Jeannie Sticher

Thank You!

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Are you ready (PREPARED) for the Holidays?

As we all check our list twice for gifts, menus, decorations, etc. for the Holiday's fast approaching, **please** add some of the following to make sure they are safe, too.

- Trees and decorations: make sure your trees are not too close to any fire source (fireplace, candles, space heaters, frayed or overloaded wires)
- And, before you put the angel on top of the tree, **don't** step on that last wrung of the ladder and why not ask one of the elves to hold the ladder for you.
- Water the tree daily so it doesn't dry out and, if you have pets, don't add any fertilizers or other chemicals that they might take a sip.
- Make sure you keep those matches and fire starters away from the little ones.
- In the joy of opening presents, don't have that wrapping paper get too close to the warmth and beauty of the fire.
- When you turn out that last light at night make sure to blow out those festive candles too.
- When you make that list of gifts you have for Santa, give care to choose toys that fit the age of the little ones receiving them (no sharp edges, projectiles, small parts that can be swallowed).
- While you're at it, why not add some other items for the house like flashlights, extra batteries, first aid kits, fire extinguishers.
- Why not celebrate New Year's Day by replacing those batteries in your smoke alarms. You **do** have alarms, don't you? And why not add some carbon monoxide sensors too?
- Last, but not necessarily least, do yourself a favor and **enjoy** the Holidays by not stressing out. Shop early, drive even more carefully, keep a handhold on the little ones in the Mall, don't have that extra one for the road.... And the list goes on....

Happy and **safe** Holidays to all.

—Kent Wellbrock

RECREATION

Santa is coming to Niguel Shores for tree lighting on December 7. See the details and plan to be there. The tree was donated again this year, please see the ad and select your tree from Santa's Little Forest on the corner of PCH and Del Obispo. New Year's Eve celebration this year will have a D.J. that will keep you dancing as you bring in 2015.

Tree Lighting—December 7 at 4:30 p.m. Tree Lighting will start with Santa reading to the children in front of the



fireplace. Afterwards hot chocolate will be served along with coffee, wine and refreshments. This is a celebration for all residents.

New Year's Eve—December 31:

The celebration will be in the ClubHouse from 8:30 to 12:30 p.m. There will be a D.J. that will have everyone dancing all night. When you arrive you will receive a glass of champagne. Tickets are in the office for \$15 per person or at the door.



Merry Christmas, Enjoy the holiday with all your family. Happy New Year in 2015.

—Carol Yocom

SEASHORE NEWS

With this year-end edition I will say farewell as editor of the Seashore News. I am taking "early retirement to spend more time with my family..." The Committee has elected our long-time member, Karl Kuhn, to be the new editor. Karl had previous experience as editor when he took over while I was briefly away from Niguel Shores a few years ago during the remodel of my house.

Many thanks to the many volunteers who have staffed this newsletter over the past years and especially to the current committee members: **Carol Yocom**, our Recreation Committee correspondent and *Carol's Cuisine* contributor, has been with me since I started in 2006. **Laurel Livesay** of *Meet Your Neighbor* fame and **Barbara Milner**, who takes us to exotic corners of the world and gives us tips on travel, came a bit later. **Michael Harrod** and **Patti Staudenbauer** are the sub-editors who collect the committee reports, and news from the clubs and other activities, edit them and add them to the monthly issues. I am very pleased to report that we have a new member, **Curt Swanson**, a professional kind of amateur photographer, who has volunteered to be the staff photographer. **Karl Kuhn**, the new editor, has been an at-large reporter who has written on many subjects of which, more recently, were on city of Dana Point affairs. **Kathy Newport** graciously volunteers to head up the large crew that collates and delivers the newsletter every month.

We all work together at our monthly meetings to ferret out interesting subjects to feature each month and our staff liaisons, General Manager, Marla Miller, who reports on Niguel Shores affairs in her *GM Report* and, the indispensable Matt Northrop, hold up the administrative end. Matt is in charge of the Neighborhood Ads and the commercial ads in seeing that they are paid for and properly displayed in each issue. Then, our Board of Directors

COMMITTEE REPORTS

liaison, John Dougherty, keeps us informed about lofty board discussions.

My experience as editor has given me a great deal of pleasure in working with many staff members over the years, and in meeting so many residents that I would not have met otherwise. The challenge of finding interesting subjects to cover, in finding just the right photo or clip art (yes I admit to that) has been fun, too. I am lucky that writing articles comes easily to me (natural Irish blarney maybe) as I have had no training in that field—not even teaching. So, you have been in the hands of an amateur who had a great time and loved every *month* of it.

As you can see, I leave a competent group to carry on this long tradition of monthly newsletters. The first issue was in April 1973 and there has been one every month since then for 41 plus years. You will see in the upper right hand corner of this December 2014 issue the number 492 (divide it by 12 and you get 41). I trust that, in one form or another (read digital), it will continue for another 41 years and beyond.

—*Mary Crowl*

TRAFFIC & SAFETY

While at times it feels as though we are in still in the summer months, the Holidays associated with the winter solstice are quickly drawing close. As usual, following the post summer lull, we are already experiencing a rise in the number of guests entering our community, and there is no doubt that the visitation rate will steadily rise until just after the New Year. Unfortunately, historically speaking, a small minority of these guests probably will cause a majority of the problems we will experience.

Guest Behavior: Typically, well over half of the negative incidents requiring extra attention by our security personnel involve guest behavior. These range from dealings with visitors who are warned about a “complained of” significant rule violation to guests who become highly irate and belligerent when warned about restrictions. Security personnel are also charged with enforcing our parking rules. Just last month they issued a total of 271 citations, of these 174 were issued to guests who chose not to display valid parking passes or parked in a restricted area. On 37 occasions tow service had to be summoned to have a guest’s car removed from clearly marked restricted parking area at the Bluffs.

Guest Pass and Parking: I mention this because each of these matters needlessly cost us in terms of security personnel and staff being taken away from other safety and crime prevention efforts. Please be responsible for your guests and remind them to park with their guest pass clearly displayed on their dash.

Lock It or Lose It! We still receive rumors that younger adults are prowling the streets, jiggling car/truck doors, and those that are unlocked are being entered and property stolen. At the same time we haven’t heard even a whisper about a locked vehicle being forced open and anything of value taken from them. Should you become a victim of burglary, theft, or any other crime call the Dana Point Sheriff’s Office and report it. There are a lot of reasons for doing that, aside from the remote possibility your property may be recovered. From a community standpoint it insures that we will get a fair share of police resources to address a pattern that may develop.

Lock it! It has been well over a year since our last reported burglary and that suspect was eventually caught. However, with the Holiday season approaching, the caution flags are up. Just recently we have received reports of both male and female adults in our neighborhoods knocking on doors to sell or solicit money. Door to door sales people, or for that matter solicitors in general, are not permitted in our community. Knocking on doors is now one of the more common methods of operation for daytime burglars. They want to find out if anyone is home or not. If you experience this sort of activity call the police right away. The folks that have been identified doing this so far have not been connected to a burglary, but have given less than forthright answers to questioning. We surmise that they slipped in on foot or tailgated behind a car at one of the gates. We sometimes become complacent and don’t lock our doors if we are just going to be gone for a while. Well that’s all it takes. A locked door may well prevent an uninvited guest. Also be a good neighbor and report suspicious activity.

I Almost Forgot: Our “O.G.” skate boarder, Pat O’Brien has not participated in the Senior X Games in several years. However, several skaters have advised me that he is now in training for this year’s games. One thing for sure, what you won’t see is Pat practicing his many skills on our streets and sidewalks. He’ll be the first to tell all skaters that it is way too dangerous. He will go to one of the nearby parks. He has also learned through the years that even at his level it is best to always wear all your safety equipment.

Tell Santa! If a well behaved child in your life asks you to intercede with Santa on his/her behalf for a Go Kart, you would be wise to redirect him elsewhere. You might go to Google or another search engine to check them out and dozens of ads will pop up and continue to pop up touting the fun and low price for either the electric or gas powered kart. These ads might be true, but here in the Shores there is virtually no place that they can legally or safely be driven. We researched them at length last year and according to the CHP representative, the only

COMMITTEES

place in town where they could legally be driven was on a lot specifically designed for them.

Welcome: This year the ranks of the Traffic and Safety Committee was bolstered with the addition of two new members, Jack Webb and Karla Sanders. Both have sharp

minds and keen insights into the needs of their neighborhoods and our community.

This Time of Year: Have a Happy New Year, be careful and as they say in Irish, *Nollaig Shona Duit!*

—Tim Murphy

CLUBS

GARDEN CLUB

The Garden Club met on Monday, November 17. Following lunch, which was provided by several members of the Club, all the members got busy putting together 30 gift bags for the seniors of Dana Point, in collaboration with the Dana Point Senior Center. Francine Stout and Melanie Wilcox did an outstanding job of bringing an assortment of gifts to add to what members had already contributed.

December marks the beginning of winter here in Southern California. The days grow cooler and shorter, shadows longer and plant growth comes to a near halt until sometime in February. Normally December fulfills its winter role with cold and rain although it can sometimes bring a heat wave that makes you swear that August has returned. So if the weather brings hot drying winds, be prepared to hand-water your plants.

If you're too busy to give the garden much attention this month you're in luck as most plants will do quite well with little help from you. So, if you prepared for winter in the fall, sit back and relax and enjoy the holidays. If you still haven't finished your fall gardening tasks, don't worry the fall planting window hasn't quite closed just yet.

If you can find the time, working in the garden this month is wonderful. The weather is cool and when soil dries a little following a rain it's perfect for digging. However be careful



not to go to work too quickly after a rain because working a wet soil can physically harm it. Grab a fistful and squeeze it lightly: If it crumbles when you loosen your grip it's just right; if it stays in a tight ball it's still too wet.

New Plantings:

Azaleas and Camellias: Plant Azaleas and Camellias this month. Camellias and Azaleas are best planted while in bloom which is helpful because you can see what colors you are adding to your garden. Sasanqua Camellia is in bloom right now. Although the Camellia Sasanqua flowers are smaller than and not as long-lasting as the camellia japonica, the plant blooms profusely and can take more sun.

Cool-Season Vegetables: Between harvests you can still plant most cool-season vegetables such as broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, kale, kohlrabi, mustard, lettuce and other greens, and root crops like beets, carrots, radishes, and turnips.

Cool-Season Flowers: Bright colors make for a festive front yard. If you live in a mild coastal zone, there is no need to

wait for spring; you can still fill in those bare spots with flowers, such as cyclamen, alyssum and holly. Evergreens with lights and living wreaths of succulents make for living cheer and color.

Wildflowers: Sow wildflowers. A generous definition of "wildflower" would be any annual or perennial that reseeds itself. Under this definition fall cosmos, gaillardia, annual gypsophila, foxglove, larkspur, nasturtiums, violas and viper's bugloss (*Echium vulgare*). Their display can last into early summer.

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CLUBS

And, finally, since our grandchildren and great grandchildren await Santa's arrival, and we are all concerned about our national security, *What nationality is Santa Claus? North Polish!*

—Lakshman Sehgal

MEN'S CLUB

The Men's Club held just one meeting in November due to the scheduling of the ClubHouse for the election.

The President presented several items for revision to the Club's By-laws. The Members agreed to combine the duties of the vacant Communications Chair with the Club's Secretary position; eliminate the Historian position, and re-energize the Transportation Chair position which will be assumed by Steve Leonard.

The semi-monthly raffle was won by Bob Borland, who generously contributed his winnings to the Scholarship Fund.

The Sunshine Committee reported that Woody Woodward was not well. The members send their best wishes for a speedy and full recovery.

Our guest speaker was Dr. Brad Shapero, DC, who described himself as a "Wellness Doctor." Dr. Shapero spoke about the importance of maintaining all the body systems in balance through proper diet, exercise, and elimination of harmful chemicals. When the body loses that balance, the person must regain his or her "mojo."

Stress can upset the body's systems, is often characterized by lack of vitality, and can be improved by eliminating harmful toxins from our body. Even foods that are labeled "organic," may contain residual pesticides and herbicides.

Our next meeting will be on December 2, when the Dana Hills Choir will once again entertain the members with its outstanding holiday music program.

Quote of the month:

Be careful about reading health books,
you might die of a misprint.

—Mark Twain

—Morry Meadow



WOMEN'S CLUB

Holiday Party:

December 11 is the date of our Holiday Party at the ClubHouse from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

All club members are asked to bring hors d'oeuvres. (Please—no dips or nuts to save our carpet). If you have a hot appetizer, please bring it heated. Board Members will bring desserts. Red and white wine will be served as well as soft drinks. Dress for fun in your favorite Holiday Sweater or whatever inspires you. Everyone is invited.



Five new Women's Club members attended the orientation meeting hosted in October by New Member Chair Ginny Gravely. From left to right: Sandy Homicz, Martha Burns, Barbara Lackey, Barbara Goffman & Yollie Mancino

Please join us to celebrate the joyful season.

Firemen from Station 49 on Crown Valley Parkway came to judge the Sparks of Love Toy gifts from members of our Women's Club. There were prizes for four different categories:

- **Cutest Toy:** Awarded to Gloria Weintraub for a huge stuffed frog.
- **Most Active Toy:** Went to our new member Martha Burns for a little scooter.
- **Most Imaginative Toy:** Was awarded to June Klosterman who brought toy musical instruments.
- **Toy for a child 12 years or older:** was awarded to Cathy Tyson for a book with patterns for a variety of airplanes.

Thank you everyone who brought a toy. They are sure to make many children happy.

—Laurel Livesay

ACTIVITES

BRIDGE NEWS

We are having our Christmas Bridge Party on December 10 and all our regular players will enjoy a lovely catered luncheon in our own Niguel Shores ClubHouse. We will exchange gifts which is fun. Wish we had all our bridgers here to celebrate

but they'll be back for the New Year, and hopefully we'll add to our list of players. We meet every Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. and finish around 2:00 p.m. Everybody brings a little snack and we enjoy sampling. If you are interested in joining our group, please call 496-4230.

ACTIVITES

Our recent winners are:

- October 22 Judy Bates, Margaret Brugger and Trudy Buck
October 29 Mary Ann Theisen, Doris Deal and Lee Farrell
November 5 Lee Farrell, Freida Baskin and Pouri Fowzi
November 12 Helen Campbell, Freida Baskin and Trudy Buck.

—Helen Campbell



Bridge Club Members left to right: Pouri Fowzi, Freida Baskin, Judy Bates, Margaret Brugger, Trudy Buck, Dorothy Horany Jeanne Bookai, Helen Campbell, Lee Farrell, Joanne Ford, Lorraine Aronson, Kay Wittmack

REALLY SERIOUS OREO BOOK CLUB

The meeting was held at the home of Lakshman Sehgal on November 19 where the group discussed the book *Lawrence in Arabia* by Scott Anderson. This well-written and informative book read like a spy novel, pitting the intrigues and double-dealing of the British, the French, the Germans, the Americans, the Jews, the Arabs and, not the least of all, Lawrence, against one another. Britain did not trust France, Hussain did not trust Saud, Secular Jews did not trust religious Jews, America did not trust anyone and Germany spied on everyone. Treaties were secret and broken when convenient. Generals sent soldiers to certain death and the whole Far East theater was a side-show to the main event in Europe. The end of the war was, in the Far East, the last great gasp of the colonial power of France and England. We will not meet in December. We meet the third Wednesday in January at a site yet to be determined.

—Norton Schwartz

PAGE TURNERS

We look forward to our December 18 meeting, when both groups will get together at 1:00 at the ClubHouse. It is a rare opportunity to have everyone in one room. Along with

greeting our friends, we will enjoy cookies and have a book exchange. Everyone who wants to participate in the book exchange should bring a gift-wrapped, gently used or new book you really enjoyed. Four people are bringing cookies. Coffee and tea will be served.

For more information about Page Turners contact: Diane Hearne: Phearne4@cox.net- 661-6267- Monday afternoon.

Lisa Buchner: lisabuchner@cox.net- 496-9546-Thursday afternoon.

—Lisa Buchner

LIBRARY NEWS

The following is a list of programs and events for December, 2014.

Toddler and Preschool:

Toddler Storytime. Tuesdays, December 2, 9 and 16. 10:00 to 10:30 a.m. This event is for children 18-35 months accompanied by a parent or caregiver. It is held in the Community Room, walk-ins welcome.

Preschool Storytime. Tuesdays, December 2, 9 and 16. 11:00 to 11:30 a.m. This event is for children 3 to 5 years old accompanied by a parent or caregiver. It is held in the Community Room and we welcome walk-ins.

Children All Ages:

PJ Storytime with the Sunshine Readers. Monday, December 15, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Walk-ins welcome. This event is for children of all ages with a parent or caregiver. Your children will love the high energy and antics of the Sunshine Readers! The wearing of pajamas is encouraged but not required.

Ho Ho Holiday Magic & Variety Show with Abbit the Average. Sunday, December 21, 1:00 -2:00 p.m.

Join us for a holiday themed variety show by the one and only **Abbit The Average!** There will be comedy, magic and juggling. Appropriate for children of all ages and their families. No pre-registration is required.

Children School Age:

Read to a Dog. Saturday, December 20, 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. This event is for beginning readers and is held in the Children's Area. No pre-registration required. Walk-ins welcome.

Adult:

American Red Cross Blood Drive. Friday, December 19, 10:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. The American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be in the Dana Point Library Parking lot. Sign up at RedCrossBlood.org. Use sponsor code DPL. Identification is required.

—Susan Pina, Librarian

MEN'S GOLF

On October 10 we had 20 hearty souls take on Twin Oaks Golf Course in San Marco's. This course is a favorite and was in very good shape, especially considering the drought which has made it tough to maintain courses this year. The format for the tournament was "Two Best Net of 4 Balls". This meant that the teams of 4 only counted the 2 best net scores on each hole. In my 15 years playing with the group I do not remember us playing this format. The results showed how this format evened the playing field and we had 4 of the 5 teams end in a tie and the 5th team only was off by 3 strokes. Since we had 16 tied for 1st place I'll leave the names a mystery, but last place went to *****. The closest to the pin was won by Dave Sheff on hole #7 and by Roy Dohner on hole #17.

On November 11 our tournament was held at Fallbrook Golf Course. The format was "Combined Net Foursome." This course had more trees than Sherwood Forest. Balls were flying in all directions, but in the end, we all had a great time. Another neat feature at this course is the 1st hole that has you tee up and hit your tee shot over the main road. I was concerned for any car traveling on the road as our group hit, but I am happy to say, we all hit into the fairway without striking a car.

1st Place Team: Jack Sweeney, Pat O'Brien, Gary Katsuki, and Mac Brown with a score of 293. 2nd Place Team: Mike Roberts, Morry Dohner, Charlie Clark, and Vid Klath with a score of 297. The last place team will go

unnamed due to national security reasons. Closest to the pin on #7 was Morry Dohner and, on #18, Jon Cobain.

Coming up on December 9 is our annual putting contest and end of year breakfast awards ceremony. This is held at Talega where they do a great job setting up nine challenging holes on the putting green. Many great and not so great prizes are awarded. You do not have to be a golfer to participate and the breakfast is a winner. In fact, it would be somewhat deceiving to classify most of our golf group as golfers.

Last I would like to congratulate Roy Dohner on completing handicap school. Believe it or not, we are a legitimate golf club and we need a leader who knows the rules. Roy is the man and someday, we may even get some of our group to play by the rules, but that is for another time.

Two dim-witted golfers are teeing off on a foggy par-3. They can see the flag, but not the green. The first golfer hits his ball into the fog and the second golfer does the same. They proceed to the green to find their balls. One ball is about 6 feet from the cup while the other found its way into the cup for a hole-in-one. Both were playing the same type of balls, Top Flite 2, and couldn't determine which ball was which. They decided to ask the golf pro to decide their fate. After congratulating both golfers on their fine shots, the golf pro asks, "Which one of you played the orange one?"

—Bob Russell

WOMEN'S GOLF

On a somewhat cooler Fall day, our theme, arranged by Val Mitchell and Pam Strayer, was Thanksgiving. We golfers are especially thankful to still be golfing in our "golden" years. Still joining us for meetings, luncheons and jobs are Chris Beaver, Ceacy Johns, Joan Beyer, and Ruthie Stahl until they pick up their sticks once more?

For the game of the day, we were each given a turkey with a pine cone body and paper feathers with golf terms such as a par, birdie chip in, etc. We were to pull a feather each time we accomplished one of these skills. The team with the most feathers pulled would be the eventual winner.

The results: Team I (Val Mitchell, Pam Strayer, Linda Ross) 13, Team III (Marlene Lynch, Terri Matrisch, Lee Sweeney) 13. Other wins: Closest to the pin on #6—Helena Keeshen. Longest drive on #9—Val Mitchell. Low putts—Pam Strayer. Low gross—Pam Strayer. Low net—Marlene Lynch.

Next Fun day is December 8. Golf captains are Teri Matrisch (493-9985) and Brenda Tuckley. (249-6912)

Please contact one of them if you are not signed up or need to cancel.

After golf, our Christmas luncheon will be at the Fountains, sponsored by Fran King, our friend who just celebrated year 100! Thanks Fran.

Our board will continue as is for 2015. President—Irene McDonald. Vice President—Marlene Lynch. Treasurer—Lee Sweeney. Social Secretaries—Joan Beyer & Ruthie Stahl. Hospitality—Chris Beaver. Recording Secretary—Brenda Tuckley. *Seashore News*—Liz Kelsch.

Chuckle of the day: Since bad shots seem to come in groups of three, a fourth bad shot is actually the beginning of the next group of three!

—Liz Kelsch

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

Mike and Elizabeth Card

The subjects of this month's column are truly my neighbors, living just two doors away. Mike and Elizabeth Card are very good neighbors and friends. When Mike heard that I needed a ride to the train station the other day, he volunteered at once. Then he waited to help me aboard, making sure I was in the good hands of the conductor before he left.

When I told *Seashore News* Editor Mary Crowl about this, she said, "Why don't you do your "Meet Your Neighbor" column on Mike and Elizabeth?" Probably needless to say, I was delighted with the idea and quickly arranged to meet them at their home.

As I settled into their beautiful and expansive living room of the townhouse they completely remodeled, I was entranced with the windows that opened on to the blue Pacific as well as Monarch summit.

I first met Mike and Elizabeth in the year 2000 as they stood in their driveway on Windward Drive just after the moving van had left. They told me they had moved from a much larger house in San Marino, and were wondering what to do with all the extra furniture. I mentioned that my daughter Wendy Grumet was an interior designer and was sure she would be glad to help. Mike and Elizabeth both looked at each other and asked, "Is Wendy's husband named Dick Grumet?" When I said yes, they laughed and explained that they had both worked for Dick, my son-in-law, when he was the Vice-President of Beneficial Insurance Company in charge of the real estate investment trusts.

Now for some backstory: Mike's father, Clellan Card, was a famous Broadcasting pioneer in the 30s and the most popular radio personality in Minnesota during this period. He was a master comic who created characters that listeners tuned in to hear every week. Mike's mother, Marion, was Clellan's high school sweetheart.

Mike was born in Minnesota in 1939, the youngest of

three brothers, each born five years apart. Elder son Peter was tragically killed at the age of 23 while training in the Air Force. He was a passenger in a T7 in September 1952 when the plane went out of control as they were preparing to land. Both the pilot and Peter died in the ensuing crash.

Just four months later, January 6, 1953, middle brother John was a passenger in a friend's car when the driver lost control. The friend survived, but 18 year-old John was killed. The death of their second son devastated Mike's mother and father, and Clellan briefly considered quitting the broadcasting business. But after several months of mourning, he returned to the airwaves with an old friend in a new format.

On radio back in 1937 Clellan had created a comic character of Scandinavian descent named Axel. In 1954, Axel and His Dog made its debut on the still new medium of television. It became one of the most successful local children's shows in television history with millions of Midwesterners growing up with the show.

Born in Austria, Elizabeth was three years old when her she and her parents came to United States. It was 1951 and they were part of a group of refugees from

still war-ravaged Europe. The group included Yugoslavians, Hungarians, and Austrians. Sponsored by the Los Angeles Catholic Church, Elizabeth's family settled into a home near USC and the Coliseum. Elizabeth attended Catholic elementary, middle and high schools, where she excelled in all things mathematical. So naturally, upon graduation, she gravitated to accounting, which is what brought her to working at Beneficial and meeting Mike Card.

Mike had escaped the cold of Minnesota to attend the University of Arizona, where he studied Finance and Economics. Upon graduation he briefly worked at Union Bank before joining Beneficial Insurance Company in 1962. He soon became enamored of co-worker Elizabeth, who he invited to a company Valentine's Day Party at the Beverly




Mike and Elizabeth Card

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Hills Hotel. It was their first date, and as Mike and Elizabeth like to say now, “the rest is history”.

Well, not quite. That history should include the two children, a daughter and son, born 17 years apart. And the four grandchildren they have, including a set of twins. And the poodle mix they rescued, dubbed Princess Grace of Monarch Beach, and the Hunter 38 sailboat, aptly christened “True Love” they take over to Catalina whenever they can.

Mike and Elizabeth Card are quite an asset to our community, Mike having served on the Niguel Shores Traffic Committee for several years, including some as chairman or co-chairman. And, on occasion, they make time to take an elderly neighbor to the train station.

—Laurel Livesay

Travel Tidbits . . .

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

It's hard to believe another year has slipped by. Last year as you made your New Year's resolutions, were travel destinations on the list? If so did you get to them? If you did, please share your adventure by sending me an email bmilner39@gmail.com. Many of us would love to live your adventure vicariously. I will share your adventures with our neighbors through this column. Your name does not have to appear if you would prefer. (See in this issue the first report from a Niguel Shores traveler.)

Good news and bad news in the travel world:

Royal Caribbean is now offering military fares on many of their sailings. You have to be either Active Duty, Retired, Honorably Discharged after serving two years or have spent six months in a war zone. The kicker is that the passenger has to take proof with them to check in at the pier. If they don't have the proper paperwork they will be charged a higher fare on the spot or denied boarding.

Delta Airlines has added a new fare class in several markets called Basic Economy. They are calling it a low fare option for price driven customers. The ticket is non-refundable, non-changeable, no pre-reserved seats, no standby, no upgrades and these passengers will be the last to board and the last to have access to overhead space.

Marriott Hotels has introduced a new room amenity—an envelope. The envelope is an invitation to tip your

housekeeper. Housekeepers make up the largest work segment in the hotel industry but generally speaking are at the bottom of the pay scale. There is controversy regarding whether the guests should be asked to supplement their income or whether the hotels should increase their wages. (For those of you who are old enough remember when leaving a tip for the housekeeper was just routine.)

Staying fit at the airport: Many airports are encouraging travelers to get a little exercise before boarding their plane. Many have walking paths that identify the number of steps or actual mileage between gates, concourses, and terminals. The trail at Phoenix Sky Harbor goes by water refilling stations and offers great view of Camelback Mountain. Seattle has a half mile Art Walk. Baltimore-Washington's trail is 12.5 miles with a park and playground and circles the airport. Boston's health stations enable you to check your blood pressure, weight and body mass index.

Enjoy your next trip and stay fit....Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



—Barbara Milner C.T.C.,
bmilner39@gmail.com



We'll Never Forget

In the fall of 2014, Pat and I were thrilled to take a fantastic 36 day cruise from Athens, Greece to Singapore with stops in Crete, Israel, Egypt, Jordan, Oman, India, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand and Malaysia.

We loved our Seabourn ship with its 450 passengers and 350 friendly crew. All beverages were complimentary in the bars and restaurants. Being able to dine in any restaurant with no assigned seating and no gratuities on the ship contributed to our relaxation. The delectable soups, the beautifully arranged vegetables and, okay, the croissants and desserts delighted us.

The choice of excursions was vast and the many onboard lectures on sea days expanded our knowledge of the places we'd elected to visit. It's hard to choose, but out of our shore trips three stand out earning a WOW factor:

We walked down a narrow entrance canyon in Petra, Jordan



admiring the color of the rock in the walls close to us on both sides. Finally, we entered the square which took our breath away. Over 2000 years ago, the Nabateans carved stunning monuments and tombs, among other structures, right out of the solid canyon walls. This heritage site was discovered in the mid 19th century by a British gentlemen, but as our guide pointed out, the "locals" had known it was there for years!

Another day, we visited the Gokarnath Hindu temple complex in Mangalore, India. Slowly walking barefoot we admired the fantastic statues of the many gods and goddesses. We saw the priests in the various shrines receiving offerings while dispensing blessings and holy herbs and water. The smell of incense enveloped us. Then suddenly loud music from unusual stringed and reed instruments and the rhythmic ringing of bells and drums invaded another sense. Meanwhile, I couldn't stop admiring the variety of color combinations in the saris worn by the women to celebrate the Diwali holiday which welcomes a new year.

Our third highlight was the Shwedagon Pagoda near Yangon, Myanmar. We rode up a two story elevator and walked into a miniature city with hundreds of glamorous statues of Buddha in shrines and pagodas. They are protected by dragons and other creatures in a stunning setting.

Of the other excursions that impressed us, I was spellbound—and sore—during an hour long wild ride in a 4x4 Toyota across the Egyptian desert to a Bedouin camp. A camel might have been more comfortable. While riding an elephant in Thailand I was a little nonplussed when our mahout, who was supposed to be driving, reached down and accepted a cup of noodles and a fork from a friend. Had he forgotten we were there? After he finished his lunch he began doing something with his hands, which didn't allow for keeping eyes on the road. It turned out he was weaving a necklace and bracelet for me with coconut leaves. We thanked him profusely as we dismounted.

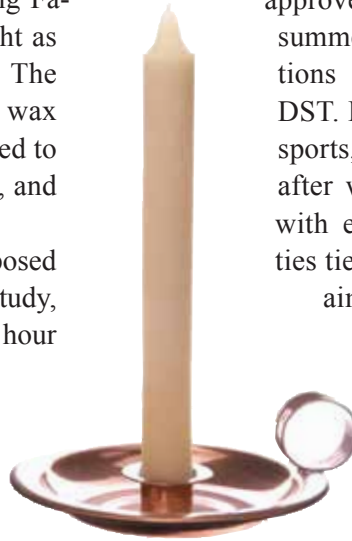
Did I mention not cooking for 36 days?

—Diane Hearne

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

It's astonishing that one man could do so much. But, Benjamin Franklin, for all his inventiveness, his scientific investigations, his publications, is least known for inventing Daylight Saving Time (DST). One of the most beloved Founding Fathers conceived the idea of saving daylight as early as 1784, during his time in France. The idea was to conserve the use of candle wax (tallow), a common element in candles used to illuminate the interiors of homes, taverns, and major structures of the time.

The idea of the modern DST was proposed in Great Britain in 1907. After a lengthy study, the measure to advance clocks by one hour was adopted by the House of Commons in 1916. The practice of advancing clocks during summer months by one hour is to extend light in the evening hours. DST is still practiced in



Great Britain. They call it British Summer Time (BST). After the outbreak of World War I, the United States began looking at Daylight Saving Time. This resulted in a national campaign in 1916. Congress approved the DST act in 1917. However, by the summer of 1919 there were so many objections from farmers that Congress repealed DST. Putting clocks forward benefits retailing, sports, and other activities that exploit sunlight after working hours, but can cause problems with evening entertainment and other activities tied to the sun (farming). Early proponents aimed to reduce evening use of electricity.

Then in 1966, Congress re-established DST. Since then, Congress has amended it at least five times. The question is—*Is it really necessary?*

—Karl Kuhn



Carol's Cuisine Corner

Your family and friends are here for the holidays. Treat them to a restaurant in our area with a variety of foods from different countries.

Amber Cantina (Mexican) 31341 Niguel Road, Laguna Niguel, 488-2858. Hours: 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Carlos (Mexican) 34224 PCH, Dana Point, 496-4470. Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Gen Kai (Japanese) 34143 PCH, Dana Point, 240-2004. Hours: Lunch 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Dinner 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Zakura (Japanese) 30100 Town Center, Laguna Niguel, 218-0877. Hours: Lunch 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Dinner 4:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Thai This (Thai, voted best for 2014 by *OC Register*) 24501 Del Prado, Dana Point, 240-7944. Hours: Lunch 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Dinner 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Driftwood Kitchen (American) 619 Sleepy Hollow Lane, Laguna Beach, 715-7700. Hours: Breakfast 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Lunch 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Dinner 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Inka Mama's (Peruvian) 821 Via Suerte, San Clemente, 369-6262. Hours: 11:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Casanova (Italian) 33583 Del Obispo, Dana Point, 496-0992. Hours: 3:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Brick (Pizza Italian) 216 N. El Camino Real, San Clemente, 429-1199. Hours: 11:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Sunday 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Waterman (American) 34661 Golden Lantern, Dana Point, 764-3473. Hours: 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Harbor Deli 34667 Golden Lantern, Dana Point, 496-0424. Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

To all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Enjoy a restaurant in the area with family and friends.

Bon Appetite! —Carol Yocom

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For Rent: Poipu, Kauai condo for rent at Kiahuna Plantation. Just remodeled 1 bedroom, 1 bath, Sleeps 4. View of tropical trees and ocean. Please call Kevin @ 714-606-8972.

For Sale: Omni Mount: 3 shelf audio tower; tempered glass shelves; grey with clear glass; integrated cable management. Gently used - \$30 OBO. Please call (949) 493-8355.

For Sale: Cannon Elan Camera – 2 cases, 2 lens & tripod. Please call (949) 493-9190.

For Sale: 2 8” Wrist Brace (unused) \$20 ea., both \$35 for carpal tunnel, arthritis. Please call (949) 481-5125.

Vacation Rental: 3 bdrm, 2 bath, expanded townhome. Newly remodeled. Ocean views from San Clemente Island to Palos Verdes. (949) 310-8804. Will consider longer than one month lease.

Rental: Niguel Shores resident looking for long term lease. 12 month min. Call (714) 402-2542.

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2014 Year in Pictures:



In-N-Out Truck for picnics on the Bluff



Newly elected Board 6-14: Bob Russell, Pat O'Brien, John Dougherty, Jeannie Sticher, Steve Leonard



Plant Sale with Garden Club President Jerry Koppang



July 4th Beach Bluff Picnic



Living Room Concert with John Troast



Oleanders in May on Marlinspike



July 4th Sand Castle Contest



July 4th Parade



Last year's tree for the Tree Lighting Ceremony



July sunset from Niguel Shores

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