

Seashore News



December 2015 Published Monthly by Niguel Shores Community Association Issue 504

HONORING MORE NIGUEL SHORES VETERANS

FROM THE EDITOR: Before I write about the accomplishment, activities, and events of this past year in my feature article I want to acknowledge several Niguel Shores veterans that I did not receive their names in time to be included in November's issue honoring all Niguel Shores veterans. It is an honor to list them now and a special honor to include a woman because this gender is often not recognized. Women have been servicing in our military since World War One. So here is the list of these additional N.S. veterans:

NAME	SERVICE BRANCH	YEARS SERVICE	DUTY/AREA STATION
Richard Brame	Army	1951-1955	Korea
Bill Halbert	Army	1962-1964	Viet Nam
Ronald Kuhn	Air Force	1977-1985	Hahn AFB Germany
Sal Pace	Navy	1962-1967	Sea/Rescue Helicopter Pilot
Charles Palmer	Marines	1950-1954	Capt. Bunker Hill Korea
Bob Ryan	Air Force	1956-1959	SAC Pilot
John Schaefer	Marines	22 years of service	
Denny Walters	Navy	1951-1954	USS Coral Seas
Kay Wittmack	Waves	1938-1940	Hydrographic Div.

FROM THE HELM

THE ICONIC DOLPHINS HAVE NEW HOMES!

The retired Niguel Shores dolphins were in high demand, and the following are the winners of the drawing: Linda Curie, Marilyn Dedrick, Don Duffer, Bill and Christy Manetta, Tim Tyson and Robert Wagner. The winners were very excited and surprised to have won one of the dolphins, in fact some were speechless! Congratulations to the winners!



Dolphin winners—Linda Curie and Christy Manetta

the annual tree lighting ceremony and this year will also include the decoration of our Mariner Entry pots and new wreaths and garland on the monuments and other entry gates. As you drive through the community, the Recreation Committee is hoping to see many homes participate in the Holiday Decorating Contest. (*see flier*)

In addition to the festive celebrations, owners will receive their annual mailing of the upcoming

The busy holiday season is in full swing at Niguel Shores and there are many activities in which to celebrate with your neighbors and guests. One of the main events is

budget, disclosure statement, and other important Niguel Shores information. The Board was pleased to approve a Finance Committee recommendation for the 2016 budget



BOB GINO



BOB GINO BRINGING BUYERS & SELLERS TOGETHER IN NIGUEL SHORES C 949.584.9070 | bgino@surterreproperties.com

Raised in Dana Point, having lived in San Clemente and San Juan Capistrano, and a current resident of Niguel Shores, Bob Gino offers an “insider’s perspective” to his clients. Bob, a broker-associate with Surterre Properties®, specializes in South Orange County, which offers a coastal environment unlike any other.

As a resident of South Orange County for more than 40 years, Bob Gino knows the region’s wide array of coastal communities inside and out. His expertise and impressive portfolio of real estate transactions combine to give his clientele the utmost in experience-backed service, guidance and knowhow.

A graduate of Chapman University, where he earned his BSBA finance degree, Bob has owned his own mortgage company since 1988 – the same year he acquired his real estate broker’s license.

Having partnered with Surterre Properties, Orange County’s leading luxury real estate firm, Bob enjoys access to an extensive array of services. An award-winning, in-house advertising studio, the latest in industry technology, not to mention the support of over 400 top real estate professionals who work in a unique team-oriented environment are just some of the unique features that benefit both the team and their clients.

When he’s not busy introducing buyers and sellers to premium properties, Bob enjoys spending time with his four daughters. He also takes full advantage of South Orange County’s acclaimed climate by pursuing his love of both surfing and golf.

7 out of 9 NIGUEL SHORES HOMES SOLD BEFORE THEY HIT THE MARKET

STATUS	ADDRESS	BED/BATH	APPROX. SQ. FT.	LIST PRICE
Sold	33391 Cockleshell Drive*	4/3	2,267	\$1,700,000
Sold	33581 Marlinspike Drive*	3/2.5	1,674	\$1,499,000
Sold	33675 Flying Jib Drive*	3/2.25	1,510	\$1,327,500
Sold	23621 Verrazanno Bay*	3/2	1,930	\$1,259,000
Sold	23811 Cassandra Bay*	3/2	1,700	\$1,425,000
Sold	33512 Spinnaker Drive*	3/2.5	1,594	\$999,000
Sold	23672 Sidney Bay	3/2	1,528	\$940,000

*Represented Buyer

For more information on active and pending listings, please contact Bob Gino. This representation is based in whole or in part on data supplied by the Multiple Listing Service (MLS). The MLS does not guarantee and is not in any way responsible for its accuracy. Data maintained by the MLS may not reflect all real estate activity in the market.

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

GM REPORT

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

I cannot believe how fast this past year has gone by and how much fun I have had. The editor wrote about all that has happened throughout the community in 2015, so I will not bore you with more of that detail. I did have an opportunity to attend the 4th of July festivities and Concert at the Bluff this year and they were both amazing. It was wonderful seeing how much fun everyone had at these events and how great it is for all that live in this community.

LOCK YOUR DOORS

Although you live in a beautiful community, with gates and patrol service, that does not mean you can leave your cars and doors unlocked. It is surprising to me how many people believe that because this is a gated community no one is able to enter unless they live here or are called in by someone that lives here; this is simply not true. The gates are opened by cars and people walk in all the time. I have watched people hop the block wall along Stonehill. I have seen surfers push their board under and slide themselves under the gate at Cabrillo; this all happens and quite frequently. Remember that you are your own best protection, so lock the doors in your home and cars and do not leave packages or items in your car that are visible to someone else. If you see someone that you believe does not belong in the community, call the police.

2016 BUDGET

The Finance Committee met with the Board of Directors in a special meeting on October 28, 2015 to present the 2016 budget for approval. The Finance Committee, the Association Controller Ivy Hsia and Board liaison Art Staudenbaur have been working on the 2016 budget since July. As part of the budget preparation, they met with all of the Committee chairman and staff members to discuss their need for funds and the feasibility of their requests. After many hours of working with the numbers, they were able to propose a budget to fulfill the needs of the community and keep the assessments at their current level. The Board approved the budget at this meeting. Thank you

to all members of the Finance Committee, the Board of Directors and especially to Ivy Hsia for all of the hard work. It is appreciated by all.

As required by the Governing Documents, the Budget Mailing that includes many important disclosures was mailed to all NSCA members the end of November. Please review this information, keep with your important documents and let us know if you have any questions.

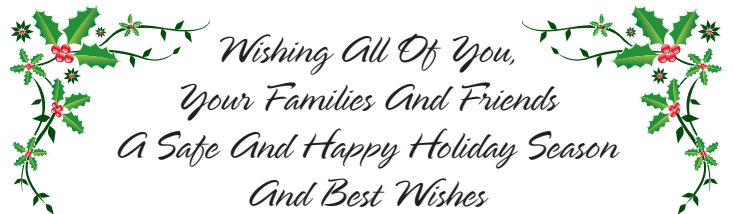
2016 MASTER LANDSCAPE PLAN

As part of the Master Landscape plan, we are currently working on landscape and irrigation plans for the Cabrillo slope. This is the slope that is below Cabrillo Isle and above Breaker's Isle streets. The landscape architect is currently finalizing the plans and demolition will begin in the spring of 2016, once the rainy season is over. On this slope there is some plant material (including areas of Lantana and Tecomaria) that are doing well, so we will incorporate these areas in the plan. Although the plants may stay, the entire irrigation system will be replaced to provide better coverage and thus allowing the plants to flourish.

OFFICE SCHEDULE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

The office will be closed at 1:00 p.m. on December 11 for the staff to enjoy a holiday luncheon. The office will also close 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 patrol service at the gatehouse for direction.



From the Niguel Shores Staff

—Marla Miller

SEA TERRACE TOWNHOUSE ASSOCIATION I

The **Annual Meeting for the Sea Terrace I Townhomes** will be held on **Tuesday, January 12, 2016** at the NSCA Community Center at 7:00 p.m. This meeting will include review of the budget, setting of the annual dues, and election of board members. All Sea Terrace I homeowners are encouraged to attend.

BOARD ACTION SUMMARY

NOVEMBER 4, 2015 BOARD MEETING: (General Session)

ACCEPTED AND FILED:

- Financial Reports
- Delinquency Report
- General Session Committee Minutes
- Drawing for Dolphins

APPROVED:

- Litigation Disclosure Statement
- Removal of dead trees on Vista D’Onde
- Amendment to Bylaws

DISAPPROVED: none

HEARINGS / MEETINGS / PRESENTATIONS: none

REVIEWED/DISCUSSED:

- Resident correspondence
- Manager’s Report

TABLED/CONTINUED: none

NOVEMBER 4, 2015 BOARD MEETING: (Executive Session)

ACCEPTED AND FILED:

- Executive Session Committee Minutes

APPROVED:

- Executive Session Meeting Minutes from October 14, 2015
- IDR correspondence
- Offer of payoff

DISAPPROVED: none

HEARINGS/MEETINGS:

- Use of Clubhouse: Rule 5108
- General Failure to Maintain: Article IX, Section 16; Rule 4121
- Nuisance: Article IX, Section 15
- Overnight Parking: Rule 6405

REVIEWED/DISCUSSED:

- Legal correspondence
- Delinquency reports

TABLED/CONTINUED:

- IDR results

NOVEMBER 18, 2015 BOARD MEETING: (General Session)

ACCEPTED AND FILED:

- General Session Committee Minutes

APPROVED:

- General Session Meeting Minutes for October 28, 2014
- General Session Budget Meeting Minutes for October 28, 2015
- General Session Meeting Minutes for November 4, 2015
- Proposals for updating irrigation and planting
 - Disclosure mailing
- STI/STII drain process/procedure

DISAPPROVED: none

HEARINGS / MEETINGS / PRESENTATIONS:

- Harvest Landscape Services

REVIEWED/DISCUSSED:

- Manager’s Report

TABLED/CONTINUED: none

NOVEMBER 18, 2015 BOARD MEETING: (Executive Session)

ACCEPTED AND FILED:

- Executive Session Committee Minutes

APPROVED:

- Executive Session Meeting Minutes from November 4, 2015

DISAPPROVED: none

HEARINGS/MEETINGS:

- Overnight Parking: Rule 6405 – 6 hearings total
- Completion of Construction: Rule 3115

REVIEWED/DISCUSSED:

- Legal correspondence

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) MEETING WILL BE HELD IN DECEMBER 2015. THE NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2015

2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND MEMORIES

In my January issue of the *Seashore News* I wrote that this was the year of the Sheep/Goat. Well that year is rapidly coming to a close. So in this month's issue I want to review all the things that have happened this past year in the Shores.

The first thing I want to do is extend a warm welcome to the 32 new homeowners that have joined our special community this past year. They obviously recognized what a unique community they are joining. While I'm at it let us go back one more year and extend a warm welcome to the 49 new homeowners who chose to live in our community in 2014.

Let us now turn to the obvious visual accomplishments achieved this year. You only have to enter any of our entrances, especially the main entrance on Mariner Drive, to see the first visual accomplishments—the new monuments. As reported in the October *SSN* after several years of study, research, and approvals the monuments now beautifully adorn our entrances. As you continue driving up Mariner Drive you can't help but feel pride in the remodeled Gate House that was finally completed this year. Once inside our community you start to notice, on many streets, the smooth resurfaced asphalt (called seal coating) that projects our continued emphases on preserving the beauty of our community (no potholes allowed sir). Motoring around Niguel Shores there were times when the slope landscaping was not up to the standards we all expect. But many of these slopes were planted 40 years ago, were overgrown, and in desperate need of rehabilitation. That was accomplished on Mercator Isle.

Should you now drive down to the Bluff you may have noticed the changes at our Beach Bluff Park. South Coast Water District requested that we make changes that will prevent water run off from our irrigation. The result is a great new look throughout the parking area and a new concrete drop-off area next to the beach access gate. And to end our drive around Niguel Shores you notice that removing turf in our water conservation effort and replanting with drought tolerant, drip irrigated plants did not significantly change the beauty of our community landscaping.

However, the visual accomplishments are just like the frosting on the cake. Now let us delve deeper into the non-obvious accomplishment. Did you know that our maintenance dept. replaced over 120 street light bulbs? What about the 720 hours spent this year keeping the swimming pool and spa crystal clear for our owner's enjoyment. Can you guess how many hours were

spent this year setting up and taking down chairs and/or tables for club meetings, the Emeritus movie class, potluck dinners, bridge, the Board of Director's meetings, and special parties in the community center. Would you believe 360 hours? Janitorial and Dog waste stations required another 1320 hours. (Thank you facility personnel, George, Dave, Tom and Ray).

There were so many wonderful events planned by our Recreation Committee this year that I don't know where to start. So lets get going, In January through March you could enjoy a pleasant evening with family and friends at the Pot Luck dinners. In February there was the Movie in the Park. In March you only needed to wear green to dance the Irish jig at the St. Patrick's Day celebration. Did you pick up any neat items at the Garage Sale in April or October? In May there was Cinco de Mayo and the Memorial Day BBQ, in June the In N' Out Night, and, of course the biggest event of the year, the July 4th celebration with the Pancake Breakfast, patriotic parade, hot dog lunches, kids games and a sandcastle contest.

During summer there was the HAPPY SUMMER DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN as a new, exciting, and rewarding Summer camp that took our youngsters for memorable activities. If it was good food you desired in July I'm sure you headed to the Bluff when the Hungary Food Truck was there or Taco Night. It was food for the ears in August during the Concert Bluff night, followed in September by the Labor Day BBQ.

For the adventurous, one could enjoy a free ride on Dana Point's new Trolley that travel from Niguel Shores Drive down PCH all the way to Capistrano Beach with many stops to jump off and back on as you explored Dana Point.

I have saved the best community news topics for last in this year-in-review. Why this first news is considered the best, in my opinion, is that we elected two new members to our Board of Directors: Suzanne Enis and Art Staudenbaur. Thank you Suzanne and Art for taking on that important job, you are outstanding members of our community. Finally, the last topic to speak of is the financial position of Niguel Shores. According to our Finance Committee we should end the year slightly under budget in most categories. This excellent condition is the result of fiscal monitoring by our staff and the finance committee.

I now take this opportunity to thank the members of my Communication Committee for helping me produce a quality newsletter.

—Karl Kuhn

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMUNICATION

The preparation of the monthly *Seashore News (SSN)* involves the help of many Niguel Shores volunteers. At the start there are the dedicated newsletter article writers who produce the interesting stories every month. Once the articles are assembled by the Layout editor, approved by the *SSN* editor, they are sent to the printer, which is the Minuteman Press Co. on PCH and Golden Lantern (They do an exceptional job in printing 1100 copies and delivering them to us by the end of the month).

Once we receive the copies in the office the next group of volunteers takes over. This group collates the inserts and bundles the issue in bags to be distributed to the next group of volunteers who distributes the bundles to the last group of volunteers, the street volunteers, who delivers them to your home.

My reason for telling you about the flow path of your *SSN* is to sadly tell you one of the volunteers in the collating group has recently passed away—George Freundlich. George and his wife Alice stuffed and in earlier times assembled and stapled your *SSN* for many years. They lived on Manta Court from 1981 to 2014. George and Alice had to leave N.S. recently for an assisted living home. Lastly, George was a veteran of WWII, serving in the 11th Airborne Division.

—Karl Kuhn

HOLIDAY EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Don't let HO HO HO turn into *Oh, NO* for your Christmas Holidays. As you prepare for a wonderful season of celebrations please take a few minutes to slow down and use some of the following tips to make sure your holidays are safe and accident free:

Holiday decorations—make sure your tree is placed away from fireplaces, radiators, candles and check each set of lights for bare wires and loose connections. Turn OFF those lights when you go to bed or leave the house. Keep all paper, boughs, decorations, AND children away

from fireplace flames. Never leave burning candles unattended and keep them out of reach of children and put them out before going to sleep. DON'T burn wrapping paper or trees & wreaths in the fireplace.

Keep your tree stand full of water from the time you



put it up to taking it down. AND, when you have used a ladder to hang ornaments and the angel, how many times can you remember that you shouldn't have stood on that higher step? DON'T!

The same cautions apply to decorating the outside of your home. Use ladder safety and don't be that acrobat that climbs on the roof to place the snowman or Santa's sleigh. Keep electrical connections off the ground and away from metal rain gutters and use insulated tape or plastic clips instead of metal nails or tacks to hold them in place.

I'm not done yet. Before you even leave the house to shop for those gifts at the mall, get on the freeway, navigate the traffic and parking garages, make sure to slow down, hold your little ones tight and NEVER take your eyes off them.

Have a wonderful holiday and enjoy all the gifts, food, friends and family, and blessings, BUT remember to take time to be SAFE.

—Kent Wellbrock



RECREATION

Recreation Events:

Tree Lighting Ceremony: Sunday, December 6 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Clubhouse.

Holiday Lights Contest:

Tuesday, December 15 and 16. See flier for details.

New Year's Eve Party:

Thursday, December 31, 2015 from 7:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight at the Clubhouse.

—Carol Yocom

TRAFFIC & SAFETY

It's the Holiday Season:

Unfortunately, as the Holidays near it appears that thieves are preparing for it. For months we didn't experience any reported thefts, but just recently, reported incidents of theft are picking up at an alarming pace. Without going into a long diatribe about the causes, there seem to be a lot of opportunists lurking about. However, if we take just a few actions, we can be assured that we are unlikely going to fall victim to them.

The first precaution you can take is not to leave anything of value in a parked car. Every thief out there understands that during the Christmas season there tends to be more items of value in cars. As a result, the corresponding rate of thefts from vehicles skyrocket. The second

COMMITTEE REPORTS

precaution is to always lock our cars when parking them. It wasn't that long ago that thieves just often as not, forced entry into locked cars. For the most part, as the result of new sentencing laws, they don't take those chances anymore. Besides, they find that there are plenty of unlocked cars out there. Last, but not least, ensure that our doors remain locked when you leave the house. Along this line, ensure that garage doors are shut when busy elsewhere. Eliminate the opportunity.

72-Hour Rule:

Our rules prohibit us from storing vehicles on the street for more than 72 hours. This simply means that a vehicle cannot sit on the street without being moved at least once during that time frame. Virtually every city has a similar rule or law. Unfortunately, several folks have recently been in violation of this rule received a citation(s) and found their vehicle towed away. If we find ourselves in a position (vacation, construction, unexpected absence, or other compelling reason) where we have to leave our vehicle parked on the street for a considerable period, please contact the office.

They will work with you to hopefully resolve your dilemma.

Preclude Frustration During Holidays:

'Tis the season to host more guests than usual. Please ensure that you're Guest list is up to date. Some folks will be having Holiday festivities with more guests than normal expected to attend. Whether they be elves, reindeer or just regular people they will not be admitted to our community unless they are on your Guest or Party lists. All of us are limited to five folks on our computerized Permanent Guest list. The other guests have to be on a Party list. There is usually no problem unless the number is excessive. Most importantly the Party list must be submitted to the Office at least three business days before the occasion.

The reason for this is simple; it allows the office the opportunity to communicate with you should an unforeseen problem become apparent. Also, it ensures that we have a record of those people you authorized to enter our community. Further, it allows staff the opportunity to print out the permit for your guest's vehicle ahead of time to preclude congestion at the gate.

We always said that: As the old folks always said at this time of the year, *Nollaig Shona and Athblian Faoi!*

—God Bless...Tim Murphy

WWW.NIGUELSHORES.ORG

December?? Seriously!!! I am not sure how you feel about flipping the calendar this month, but for me it really seems like yesterday that we were preparing for our 4th of July celebration here in Niguel Shores, it sure does seem like time flies. Well yes, it is December and we are already seeing our community festively adorned with lights, garland and wreaths for the coming holiday celebration. You may notice also, that the community will be sporting a little more bling and glitz this December, the reason for that is the Recreation Committee is sponsoring a **Holiday Light Contest** and all residents are invited and encouraged to participate. Details about this friendly competition can of course be found on our website, so check it out.

Niguel Shores will be hosting several different holiday celebrations this December, the Men and Women's Club is hosting their annual holiday parties. Our Recreation Committee has a special **Tree Lighting event planned for Sunday, December 6 at the Clubhouse for the entire community as well as the annual New Year's Eve Party**. The best way to keep up with these events and get the details is to check out our website. You will also find information on office hours during the holidays and any special maintenance projects.

One thing December likely means for many is that you may be calling in friends and family and even additional service providers during the holidays. Just a reminder to review the parking and traffic regulations and to log on to www.niguelshores.org to make sure your guests are registered at the gate and they are aware of parking restricts.

Best wishes to you and your loved ones this Christmas and holiday season.

—Patti Staudenbaur

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CLUBS

WOMEN'S CLUB

Annual Holiday Party!!!

Thursday, December 3, is the date of our Holiday Party. The party will be at the Niguel Shores Club House from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. All club members are asked to bring hors d'oeuvres. (Please do not bring 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. We'd love to see you there!

At our November meeting we had a representative come and talk to us about Second Harvest Food Bank. Our members donated 13 cartons of food to support their cause. If you want more information contact: FeedOC.org. We were also entertained by The Blue Lantern Jazz Choir from Dana Hills High School who sang beautifully. A different choir from Dana Hills High will be on hand to entertain us at our **holiday party** so please don't miss it!!

—Lisa Buchner

MEN'S CLUB

This month the Men's Club learned about the challenges of law enforcement in Orange County, and the Tax Equalization Board.

On October 20 the Club members honored our veterans by taking a group photo and thanking them for their service. Our guest speaker, Sheriff Sandra Hutchens, rode into Niguel Shores packing a smile and a remarkably informative presentation about Orange County law enforcement. Sheriff Hutchens gave us an overview of the many responsibilities that are wrapped into her office and some insight into her new initiatives to make our county safe and secure. This includes law enforcement for unincorporated Orange County plus 13 cities (including Dana Point), the Orange County Transportation Authority support, John Wayne Airport, the OC Harbor Patrol, marine firefighting, search and rescue for the coastline, jails with 6000 inmates, a crime lab, court service and she is also the coroner.

Our Sheriff leads a 3800-person team, the largest



New Member Renee Fascher

agency in OC. She made an interesting point that about half of the employees are "sworn" members of the police force. In later remarks, she pointed out the emergency response needs of the community and how important the sworn officer contingent is to fulfilling those needs.

When discussing the nationwide pressure on police forces to be more accountable and the impact of increased scrutiny on them, she assured us that our police force is doing the job and not backing off. She attributes that to good people and a policy of supporting them when they are right and holding them accountable when they are wrong.

Sheriff Hutchens emphasized several key issues: drugs, internet crime, and the need for more health care for mental illness. (From my view as a newcomer, the Sheriff is a very impressive public servant who appears to be a great combination of steel and compassion).

On November 3 another impressive public servant, Diane Harkey, who is a member of the 4th District of the CA State Board of Equalization, was our speaker. Her resume includes: Republican Assembly woman of the 73rd District, past Dana Point Mayor and City Council member, trustee Capistrano Valley Symphony, board member Ocean Institute, and Dana Point Fifth Marine Regiment Support Group.

Ms. Harkey opened her remarks thanking Niguel Shores and the Men's Club for its support of Dana Point especially when she was Mayor. She then gave us the background of the California State Equalization of Board. It was created in 1879 by a constitutional amendment to ensure that property tax assessments were uniform and equal across all counties in the state.

Today, it oversees the assessment of property taxes and collection of more than 33 taxes and fees. These state revenues



Men's Club Veterans

CLUBS

total more than **\$60 billion dollars** (about one third of the state's total revenue). Please see the Board of Equalization report for more detail <http://www.boe.ca.gov/pdf/pub306.pdf>.

For the purposes of tax administration, the BOE divides the state into four Equalization Districts, each with its own elected board member. Our district includes Orange, Imperial, Riverside, and San Diego, as well as a portion of both Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties.

It is refreshing to see a positive and upbeat approach when discussing taxes and Diane seems to be taking on the Board's challenges with that approach. She stressed her intent to be an advocate for business owners who have to navigate the maze of tax rules and auditing. She expressed concern that many in state government have a strong appetite for more revenue, but rarely consider achieving the same goal by spending less. She predicted that the ongoing discussion over changing Prop 13 would continue but without changes to the status quo. When discussing some current issues, she talked about the difficulty of taxing the growing medical marijuana industry. For example, banks could still face prosecution if they provide financial services to marijuana businesses that conduct activities in violation of state or federal law. This makes record keeping difficult and encourages a cash industry that avoids taxing. She contemplates a set of position papers that address these issues—possibly titled **“Getting into the Weeds”**.

Upcoming Meetings

- Dec. 1: Joe Muller, Dana Point Development Progress
- Dec. 15: Dana Hills Chorus—members are encouraged to bring our loved ones to the meeting for this treat **(Please note: Help us invite widows of our members to attend this meeting.)**
- Jan. 5: Luna Ursula Reynoso, History of the Area
- Jan. 19: Robert Ming—Development of Orange County

—Jerry Allen

ACTIVITIES

BRIDGE

December is a busy month for all of us—however, our Bridge players are always eager to spend a festive day socializing with each other over the bridge table every Wednesday. We are having our Christmas party on December 16—and after that date there will be no bridge until the first Wednesday, January 3, 2016.

Winners are:

Oct. 21—Mary Ann Theisen, Freida Baskin, Doris Deal

GARDEN CLUB

The garden club had its meeting on Monday, November 16. It has been a tradition with the garden club, to put together gift bags for the Dana point seniors that do not have the luxury of leaving their homes.

Our thanks to Carol Kuhn, Melanie Wilcox and Francine Stout, for spending the time to shop for all the essential things that go into the gift bags. These include, postage stamps and all the necessary toiletries, sweetened with chocolate and savory items. Twenty-five seniors qualified for the gifts this year. The garden club works with the Dana Point Senior Center and the Meals on Wheel program that help deliver the gift bags.

The garden club's get-together always includes a luncheon. Our thanks to the hospitality team of Marlene Lynch, Marjean Hanson, Joann Beattie, Nancy Tinnes, Ruth Levitan, JoAnne Webb, Carol Yocom and Grace Glatt for a delicious spread.

Since it is the season to enjoy the time with family and friends, I would suggest that we let the garden welcome the rains from El Nino. Our garden can survive a month without our attention! I would like to take this opportunity to thank our President Jerry and Linda Koppang, Gunjan Anand and all the members of the Garden club executive team, as well as all the volunteers that help make this club such a great experience.

On behalf of the Garden Club, I want to wish the Niguel Shores family a very healthy and joyous holiday season, with the coming year full of good health and happiness.

Next Meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 21, for our annual Holiday Party. Bring a \$10 garden related wrapped gift for the Gift Exchange.

Finally, Who is not hungry at Thanksgiving? The turkey because he is already stuffed!

—Laks Sehgel

Oct. 28—Ruth Ay, Freida Baskin, Dorothy Horany

Nov. 4—Pourie Fowzi, Jane Olson, Helen Campbell

Nov. 11—Joannie Donahue, Margaret Brugger, Judy Bates

Nov. 18—Sandy Youdbulis, Judy Bates, Freida Baskin

—Helen Campbell

AFTERNOON PAGETURNERS

The Afternoon PageTurners' groups will meet this month on Thursday, December 10, for refreshments and

ACTIVITES

a used book exchange.

For more information about PageTurners contact:

Monday afternoons: Diane Hearne: dhearne476@gmail.com

Thursday afternoons: Lisa Buchner: lisabuchner@cox.net

—Diane Hearne

LIBRARY NEWS

The following is a list of programs and events for December 2015. All events held in the Community Room unless otherwise noted. Walk-ins welcome.

Toddler and Preschool:

Special Music Storytime. Tuesday, December 1, 8, 15, 10:30 to 11:00 a.m. This event is for children 18–35 months accompanied by a parent or caregiver. Enjoy a special music-based storytime led by Miss Brooke.



Children All Ages:

The following events are for children of all ages with a parent or caregiver.

Movie Matinee. Thursday, December 31, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Your children will love watching a different movie every month. Call the library for the

current movie title.

PJ Storytime with the Sunshine Readers. Monday, December 28, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Walk-ins welcome. Your children will love the high energy and antics of the Sunshine Readers! Pre-registration not required.

Gift with Words Storytime. Monday, December 14, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Hear stories from the *Gift with Words* readers.

Family Gaming Afternoon, Tuesday, December 29, 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. Play with Wii, Xbox, or traditional board and card games.

Special Cookie Storytime, Saturday, December 5, 11:00 a.m. to noon. Enjoy stories, songs, and activities about cookies.

Cookie Decorating, Tuesday, December 15, 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. Decorate holiday cookies.

Elan Brass Quintet, Monday, December 28, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Children School Age:

Homework Help. Wednesdays, December 2, 9, 3:30



p.m. and Monday, December 7, 3:30 p.m. This event is for students grades K-8 for free assistances from high school tutors on a first come, first served basis.

Read to a Dog. Wednesday, December 2, 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. This event is for beginning readers and is held in the Children's Area.

Kid's Club. Thursday, December 10, 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. This event is for school age children ages 5 to 8. Join us for hands on activities and experiments.

Drawing with Laura, Tuesday, December 22, 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. Learn to draw from local author and illustrator Laura Seeley.

Lego Free Build, Wednesday, December 30, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Tween, Teen:

Teen Time, Mondays, December 14, 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. December 21, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Ages 12-17.

Teen Advisory Board. Monday, December 7, 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Teens, tell the library what you want. From books to programs, we want to know.

Tween Scene: Thursday, December 17, 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. Tweens ages 9-12, Come for hands on experiments and projects.

Adults

Tea Time Book Club, Monday, December 28, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. for tea and book chats. Bring your favorite cup for tea.

American Red Cross Blood Drive, Friday, December 11, 10:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

—Karl Kuhn

SPORTS

WOMEN'S GOLF

The day started out sunny and promising. Before long, clouds began gathering and a wind came up. The clouds grew darker until a few drops began falling. The last group got hit with a downpour before they got their clubs in their cars. Then it was sunny again. It was a mid-western type of Fall day. I thought I was back home again in Indiana! Also, our dear *deer* friends were nowhere to be seen.

The game of the day was chosen by Val Mitchell. Each player was given a cute turkey with a pine cone body and tails made of colorful paper with words such as par, bogey, one putt, two putt, over the creek. We were to pull off a feather if we accomplished it's message. Winners would be the team with the fewest feathers left.

Winners: Team #2 (Judy Boitano, Pam Strayer, Lee Sweeney, Liz Kelsch)
With 12 left. Judy & Pam each had one , Lee & Liz had the rest.

Low Gross	Pam Strayer40
Low Net	Lee Sweeney29
Closest to the pin on #8	Liz Kelsch
Longest drive on #9	Judy Boitano

Next FunDay is Monday, Dec. 14. This is our annual Christmas celebration. The luncheon following golf will be at the Fountains. If you want to be included in the festivities please call Joan Beyer (496-1428) or Ruthie Stahl (248-5750) to see if there is room. The cost is \$25. For golf call Judy Boitano (661-9494) or Julie Patton (491-0908).

Joke time:

An angry golfer looking at her high score said to her caddie, You must be the worst caddie in the world. That would be too much of a coincidence he answered in a quiet voice.

If I'm on a golf course and lightning strikes nearby, I get inside fast. If God wants to play through, let Him.

—Liz Kelsch, 661-5802

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DECEMBER CELEBRATIONS FROM EARLIER ERAS

Here are celebrations performed during December in earlier times:

December 21—Winter Solstice is an astronomical event that occurs once a year when the sun appears at noon at the lowest altitude above the horizon (in the Northern Hemisphere). The event has had enormous significance for people around the world, from Neolithic times to the present, and it is the origin of, or has greatly influenced, almost all winter holidays celebrated by various cultures. Before food preservation was perfected, winter was often a time of hardship and possible starvation, so the solstice was typically the last day of feasting. Since the event marks the reversal of the sun's ebbing in the sky many cultures associated the event with the birth of a new year.

Koleda was a 10-day-long Slavic pagan festival that began on winter solstice. During Koleda, families would light a fire in their hearth and worship their personal gods. Children would don disguises and go singing door to door in their villages, for which they would receive treats and gifts in return.

Beiwe Festival was celebrated by the Saami—a Finno-Ugric people who originated in what is now Scandinavia. During the winter solstice, the Saami would honor Belwe—the sun goddess—by sacrificing a reindeer and smearing butter (which melts in the sunshine) onto their doorsteps in order to provide sustenance to the goddess.

Soyal is a ceremony performed by the Zuni and Hopi peoples with the purpose of beginning the next year. The ceremony lasts nine days and marks the arrival of kachinas-benevolent spirit beings that remain with the group until the summer solstice. During the ceremony, adults will dress up as kachinas and dance, often bringing gifts for the children.

Yalda is a Persian winter solstice celebration that marked the birth of Mithra, a sun god. It was an occasion for family to reunite and hold a feast, staying up past midnight. Foods served during the feast often had magical implications for those who consume them—for instance, watermelon will insure health during the coming summer, pomegranate protects against scorpions, and garlic soothes joint pain.

Yule was a midwinter festival practiced by Germanic tribes. It is believed that the celebration of this day was a



Dongzhi Festival rice flour balls

worship of the winter solstice, interpreted as the reawakening of nature. Many Yule traditions have made their way intact into the modern holiday season. Most people are familiar with the tradition of burning a Yule log, but the tradition of a Christmas ham likely originates from the sacrifice and feast of the Yule boar.

The **Dongzhi Festival** is a Chinese celebration marking the winter solstice and heralding the arrival of winter. Throughout China, the festival is a time for family get-together, during which brightly colored balls made from rice flour are served.

The **Dies Natalis Solis Invicti** (festival of the birth of the Unconquered Sun) was the celebration day of the late Roman/early medieval sun god Sol Invicti. In actuality, Sol Invicti was a title that allowed for the merging of several different sun gods from around the Roman Empire.

Saturnalia was the ancient Roman festival in honor of Saturn, the god of agriculture and was held from December 17 through December 23. Easily the most popular of all Roman holidays, Saturnalia featured a relaxation of social restrictions and role reversals between upper-class Romans and the lower classes and slaves. Togas were cast aside in favor of more colorful clothing. Gift giving, feasting, and excessive drinking also figured prominently in the holiday.

Modraniht, or Night of the Mothers, was a pagan Anglo-Saxon event held on December 24. Not much is known about the festival, but it seems to have been held as a worship or honoring of female deities in the Germanic pantheon.

—Karl Kuhn

NEIGHBORHOOD ADS

French Tutoring: Need help with your French at school, prepare SAP French or just French conversation. Private or group tuition, contact me at evelyneburridge@gmail.com or (949) 607-6937.

For Sale/Trade: 3,000 sf Santa Barbara completely remodeled house. Walk to beach, harbor, SBCC. Currently rented out for \$5200/month. SBCC would give you \$800/bed rent for student housing. 805 403-8713.

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Personal Assistant, 10 year personal assistant experience, with references, available for \$25/hr (1 hour minimum) to run errands, grocery shop, returns, pick ups, mail, delivery, coffee pick up, etc. Tony (805) 403-8713.

For Lease: Panoramic Ocean View! Single level with 2 bedrooms plus den, 2 bathrooms, large living room. Beautiful sunsets over Catalina. \$4,000 Month. To see call Les Olander (949) 338-1126 or (949) 429-2770.

Ads for the Seashore News must be submitted by the 15th of the month. Include a check payable to NSCA, \$5 for a maximum of 30 words. Advertisers must fill out a form available at the Association office. Neither NSCA nor the Seashore News assumes responsibility or liability for quality of goods advertised. See Rule 5525 (Non-Commercial Ads Only)

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Carol's Cuisine Corner

This is family time with wonderful memories. You have had great meals at home, now lets take everyone out to restaurants. Most all the restaurants have specials for the children. Please make reservations, you will be much happier not to wait.

IHOP, (Family)
23810 Aliso Creek, L.N., 360-0910,
Open 24 Hours

Cheesecake Factory (Family)
Mission Viejo shops, M.V. ,
364-6200, Hours 11 a.m.–12 p.m.

Cedar Creek, (Variety)
26860 Ortego Hwy, SJC, 240-2229,
Hours 11 a.m.–10 p.m.

Lazy Dog, (Family) 13290 Jamboree,
Irvine, (714) 731-9700
Hours 11 a.m.–midnight

Rubys, (Family)
30622 S. Coast Hwy, L.B.,
497-7829, Hours 7 a.m.–9 p.m.

Sabatinos, (Italian) 251 Shipyard
Way, Lido shipyard, N.B., 723-0621,
Hours 8:30 a.m.–10 p.m.

Zinc, (Variety) 350 Ocean, L.B.,
494-6302, Hours 7 a.m.–6 p.m.

Lumberyard, (Variety)
384 Forest, L.B., 715-3900,
Hours 11:30 a.m.– 11:30 p.m.

RJ's, (Breakfast and lunch)
25001 Dana Point Harbor, D.P.,
218-5757, Hours 6 a.m.–3 p.m.

Fisherman, (Seafood)
611 Avenida Victoria, S.C.,
498-6390, Hours 11 a.m.–9:30 p.m.

Sonny Pizza, (Italian)
429 N El Camino, S.C., 498-2540,
Hours 11 a.m.–11 p.m.

Peking Dragon, (Chinese)
34174 PCH, D.P., 493-9499,
Hours 11:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

Enjoy the last month of the year with your family. Bon Appetite! — Carol Yocom

SEA TERRACE TOWNHOME ASSOCIATION II ANNOUNCEMENT

The **Sea Terrace II Annual Meeting** has been set for **February 23, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.** at the Niguel Shores Clubhouse. In addition to regular business, at this meeting we will elect officers to the Board of Directors of the Sea Terrace II Townhomes. Three positions are open for the 2016-2018 calendar years. A term is for 2 years. To be eligible for the Board, a nominee must be a Townhome owner.

The Board has formed a Nominating Committee to accept nominations. The members are: Joe Ross, Frieda Baskin and Joe D'Antony. If you wish to have your name placed on the ballot please call Joe Ross, at 949/248-1629 no later than 5:00 p.m., January 15, 2016.

We hope you will attend the meeting. This is a chance to meet current and potential Board Members, neighbors, review the budget, offer recommendations, and ask questions about living in Sea Terrace II.

If you have any questions please call 949/248-1629.

—Joe Ross – President of the Board of Directors

October FUN in the Shores



HELM CONT. FROM PAGE 1

that does not include an increase, meaning quarterly assessments will remain the same as assessments in 2015.

This busy season of celebrations means many of the residents of Niguel Shores will be celebrating with outside guests and family. You can help make your celebrations less stressful by updating or submitting current guest lists on a

timely basis, which will assist our Securitas staff with moving cars through the Mariner Gate and avoid any *bah hum-bug* prior to reaching your homes.

Wishing all in Niguel Shores a festive and safe December!

—Jeannie Sticher

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