

Seashore News



August 2026

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Issue 632

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PARTY ~ "TROPICAL NIGHTS"

More than a hundred Niguel Shores residents volunteer throughout the year for the betterment of our community. Some serve on the NSCA Board or committees, others head our clubs or chair community events, and still others help with the newsletter. Once a year the Board hosts a **Volunteer Appreciation Party** for these hard-working volunteers. This year's **Tropical Nights** party, organized by **Blayke Miller**, featured tasty appetizers, plentiful drinks, and commemorative gifts for all, plus an award for one special resident whose work truly exemplifies the volunteer spirit of our community.

Volunteer of the Year—Al Glatt, our Volunteer of the Year, is well known throughout Niguel Shores for his welcoming smile, generosity and helpfulness. When asked about volunteering, Al replied, "If somebody needs help, you go and pitch in." This statement sums up Al's code of living. He has served as a Director on the NSCA Board, taken a hands-on part in the Maintenance Committee, and volunteered on other NSCA committees as well. In his neighborhood Al has been Sea Terrace I president, vice president and treasurer. He's been an officer in Men's Club and heads a monthly cooking team. In addition, both Al and his wife Grace are active in the Garden Club, where he grills lobsters for their popular Lobster Fest and is a mainstay at the Annual Plant Sale.

Outside Niguel Shores, the Glatts are active at **St. Edward Church**, where Al has been an Usher and a Eucharistic Minister to the Sick and Homebound for many years. He also has served with **Dana Point Police Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS)** assisting at the station desk, helping with traffic and crowd

control at events, riding along in police cars, citing illegally parked cars in handicapped spaces, and helping check homes of citizens on vacation. Al notes that one of his favorite duties in this work was patrolling on bicycle at the Harbor, a great way to meet and help visitors.

For "fun" Al likes to bicycle and participate in long distance running races. He admits that he is a man who "likes to stay busy," even if it is "just tinkering around the house." As a valued member of the **NSCA Maintenance Committee**, Al definitely "stays busy." Look around Niguel Shores and you will see 4th of July banners and bunting Al helped to hang, the Bluebird Boxes Al made for

neighborhood trees, the red curbs he painted, the benches and picnic tables at the Bluff that he refinished – and most likely you will find him assisting Harvest and the Maintenance Facilities Team wherever needed.

Al is a U.S. Navy veteran, having served in the states and in Turkey. He met Grace when they were students at Woodbury University in Los Angeles, where he majored in business management with an emphasis in finance. They are the parents of two daughters. As the girls were growing up, the family lived on Coronado Island and Al worked in finance for North American Van Lines before joining the state of California's sales tax division. During that time, a friend in real estate suggested the Glatts should purchase an income property in south Orange County, at a place called Niguel Shores. The house on Windward remained a rental property for them until Al's retirement. Then, the Glatts took a year to completely remodel and expand the home before moving in. Married for 63 years, they agree that they have had a "good life" and they are happy to do what they can to share this with others.

—Susan Courtney



Al Glatt,
Volunteer of the Year

HELLO
SUMMER

KATHY SAMUEL LUXURY REAL ESTATE

TOP 1%

Real Estate Agents in California

#1

Monarch Beach Homes Sold

368+

Keys Handed Over

\$386+ MILLION

Closed Transactions



FOR SALE

39 Marbella | Monarch Beach



SOLD

33492 Abalone \$4,200,000



FOR SALE

33568 Halyard | Niguel Shores



SOLD

24232 Porto Nuovo \$2,350,000



SOLD

29862 Running Deer \$2,000,000



SOLD

16 Saint John \$1,750,000!



IN ESCROW

33 Wimbledon Ct | Tennis Villas



SOLD

19 Tennis Villas \$1,450,000!



FOR SALE

29466 Christiana Way \$1,1480,000!



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FROM THE HELM

Community at Its Finest

Niguel Shores was out in force on July 4th as patriotic red, white, and blue carried the day—demonstrating our strong community spirit, the value of family and friends and the undeniable ability to have fun. A year ago, the Board approved the July 4th Committee and tasked them with creating a community-wide celebration befitting America's 250th birthday. With a team of 150+ volunteers and staff, they delivered. We'll let them rest—and then ask them to do it again next year!

And on the topic of volunteers . . . Congratulations to Our Volunteer of the Year!—When help is needed around the community, there's always one familiar face lending a hand: **Al Glatt**. So, it is with pleasure that the NSCA Board congratulates Al as **Volunteer of the Year**. His service in so many areas has made a marked difference in our community. Hats off to Al!

Back to Work—Thank you for the strong turnout at the July Board Meeting. We appreciate your engagement, so keep it going. A few key updates:

- **Homeowner Forum** – While discussions have always been valuable during the Homeowner Forum, we lacked a formal feedback loop. We now track comments, assign follow-up responsibility, and report back in future Board meetings with updates or resolutions. We are also reintroducing Comment Cards for speakers during the Homeowner Forum to ensure proper follow-up. Board Secretary **Steve Rhorer** will oversee this new process.
- **2025 Audit** – In the July meeting, we shared that our Audit had been delayed. It has now restarted. (*See the Finance Committee Report in this issue for more details.*) We'll present results at a future Board meeting.

IMPROVEMENTS TO SEA TERRACE DOG FUN ZONE

Dana Point and the Waldorf Hotel are teaming up to improve the Dog Fun Zone in Sea Terrace Park. Complete the Survey for what you'd like to see! More information is on our NSCA website.



- **Selva Wall Replacement** – Construction on the Selva Wall is expected to start in mid-August and last for approximately 6 weeks. A plan for minimizing impact on nearby residents will be shared prior to construction start. Due to market increases since the time of the original bid, cost has risen by \$29,342, bringing the total replacement cost including demolition to \$211,211. The project is covered by reserves with no impact on quarterly assessments.
- **eBikes & Other Motorized Vehicles** – Niguel Shores is a walkable community for all ages, and we want to keep it that way. We have seen an increase in unsafe riding incidents involving motorized vehicles. As a reminder, bikes of any kind are not permitted on the community walking paths. For everyone's safety, please ride responsibly and ensure your children do the same.
- **2026-2027 Short-Term Priorities** – We are working toward a formal 3-year Strategic Plan. In the near term we are focused on addressing our community's immediate needs over the next 6 to 12 months. **Stay tuned:** We will be asking for your engagement and feedback through a Survey Monkey and then through in-person workshops. Watch for details via email and the NSCA website.

July marks the mid-point of summer and also the mid-point of our operational year. We have a lot of work to do to finish up 2026 well and start 2027 on a strong, positive note. Thank you for your support.

—Niguel Shores Board of Directors

BOARD ACTION SUMMARY JULY 2026

(GENERAL SESSION)

ACCEPTED AND FILED:

- Unaudited Financial Statements for May 2026
- General Session Committee Minutes

APPROVED:

- Meeting Minutes: 11/05/2025; 04/08/2026; 05/04/2026; 05/11/2026; 06/03/2026; 06/10/2026
- Lien Approvals: PARCEL NO.: 672-081-22; PARCEL NO.: PARCEL NO.: 672-041-51; PARCEL NO.: 6782-144-04; PARCEL NO.: 672-131-34; PARCEL NO.: 672-062-02; PARCEL

- NO.: 672-143-27; PARCEL NO.: 672-131-37; PARCEL NO.: 672-051-61; PARCEL NO.: 672-051-53
- Event Committee: New Members
- Event Committee: Member Resignation
- Landscape Committee: Member Resignation
- Architectural Appeal: Tract 7203/Lot 015
- Coral Tree Removal Ports O'Call
- Financial Audit Resolution
- Improving Accounting Procedures Resolution
- Selva Wall repairs

- Volunteer of the Year

DISAPPROVED:

- Architectural Appeal: Tract 6881/Lot 023
- Olive Tree on Mariner Drive

TABLED DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Discussion Items

MEETING:

- Harvest Landscape: Updates

REVIEWED/DISCUSSED:

- SCWD Rate Increase / Impact of Rate Increase on 2026 Budget
- 2026 Quarterly Projection Report

NOTE: The last approved General Session Minutes are posted on the Bulletin Board across from the NSCA Office entrance and on the website. In addition, the General Session and Executive Session agendas for the next Board Meeting will also be posted on Friday prior to the next meeting.

REMINDERS: THE NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE CLUBHOUSE ON THE **2nd WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2026**, BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M.

Water Service Fee Increase—As some of you may have heard, the South Coast Water District, which provides water to Niguel Shores has implemented fee increases beginning July 1 of this year with two more increases in 2027 and 2028. These increases will have a substantial impact on our operating budget. This year the impact could be an increase in water costs of \$66,000, in 2027 an additional increase of \$45,000, and in 2028, \$59,000 with a total increase of \$172,000 over the next three years. The Board is looking at ways to minimize the impact on the 2026 budget by looking for areas we can reduce spending. These new fees will be incorporated into the budgets for 2027 and 2028.

Strand Beach Fence—The OC Parks fiscal year began on July 1. Their new budget contains the costs to replace the wrought iron fence at the Bluff between the Association property and the steps leading down to the beach. We will be meeting with the County in the coming weeks to discuss the timing of the project. We will keep you updated as more information becomes available.

Dog Waste Cleanup—Cleaning up pet waste continues to be an issue in the community. There are several doggie bag stations placed throughout the community; however, some pet owners continue not to pick up after their pets. Please be a responsible pet owner and courteous neighbor and clean up after your pets.

—John Muller

MEET OUR NEW ACCOUNT SUPERVISOR FOR KINGS SECURITY COMPANY

You may have met **Alyssa Felix** already at the Mariner gatehouse, or seen her around the clubhouse area, or noticed her out and about in Niguel Shores. Alyssa is our patrol account supervisor from Kings Security Company. She comes to us Monday through Friday from Fullerton where she lives with her husband, Christopher, and their rescue Dachshund, “Little Thing.” Alyssa is friendly and helpful with a positive attitude. She shared that she loves our community and has been welcomed by the residents.

Alyssa was born in La Puente but moved to Hacienda Heights for high school. Upon graduation, she joined the U.S. Army and served from 2008 to 2018. She was stationed in Upland, California, then in Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C.

After serving in the military, graduated from Cal State Fullerton with a degree in Human Communications. Alyssa

joined Kings Security Company in 2020, and before coming to Niguel Shores she was the supervisor in Monarch Bay. (Side note for all you kids and kids-at-heart out there: Alyssa is a big fan of Minecraft—and, for a time, she was also a cast member at Disneyland!)

When asked what the biggest issue is for her team here in Niguel Shores, she responded without hesitation that it is managing gate access. Apparently, many people entering the community do not know their destination address, even though they may have a resident’s name in mind and know how to get to the destination. She suggested using the QR code as often as possible to avoid gate attendants having to call residents for entry verification.

When you see Alyssa, you might notice her patience and grace in supervising her team or helping residents. We welcome Alyssa to Niguel Shores!

—Michelle Ralph



Alyssa Felix and her husband, Christopher.

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New Construction
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Room Additions

SEA TERRACE II

Reminder: The annual assessment notice for 2026-2027 was sent to all Sea Terrace

II homeowners and payment is due this month. Contact Co-Treasurers **Erica Ross** or **Jeannie Sticher** for more information.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EVENTS COMMITTEE

The Events Committee invites you to enjoy these summer activities. Table Reservations and Wristbands, if needed, can be purchased in the NSCA Office.

Ice Cream Truck – Friday, August 7 at the Clubhouse from 3 to 5 p.m.



Band by the Sea — Saturday, August 15 at the Bluff from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Mark your calendars for one of the most beloved summer traditions in Niguel Shores!

- Pizza and Dessert trucks will be available for food purchase while supplies last.
- **Admission Wristbands** are required for entry and are available for **\$12 per person** at the NSCA Office.
- **Table reservations do not include admission.** Wristbands must be purchased separately

Third Thursday Live Music — Thursday, August 20 at the Bluff from 5:30 p.m. to sunset.

Join your neighbors at the Bluff for an evening of ocean views and live music featuring Marc “Selly” Seligson.

- Bring a chair, relax, and enjoy a beautiful summer sunset.
- No reservations are needed.



Labor Day Western BBQ — Sunday, September 6 at the Bluff from 5:00-7:30 pm.

Dust off your boots and grab your cowboy hats for this year’s country hoedown-themed celebration.

SUMMER IS ABOUT TO GET EVEN BETTER!

Reserve a Table NOW at The Bluff for NSCA Summer Events

The NSCA tables at **BAND BY THE SEA** and the **LABOR DAY WESTERN BBQ** are available by paid reservation only.

- Residents and their guests are welcome to bring their own chairs and pop-up tables at no charge if they choose not to reserve a table.
- If you would like to reserve a table for Band by the Sea or the Labor Day Western BBQ, please stop by the office to make payment and select your preferred location from the map.
- Reservations are first come, first serve.
- Your reservation will hold the table, so you do not need someone there to hold it ahead of time.

TABLE RESERVATIONS ARE OPEN NOW

- \$120 for a table that seats 8
- \$150 for a table that seats 10

Proceeds from table reservations help offset the costs of community events throughout the year — including live music, DJs, bands, refreshments, and other gatherings that make Niguel Shores such a vibrant place to live.

- The evening features line dancing and plenty of cowboy and cowgirl fun for all ages.
- The community grill will be hot and ready, so bring your favorite foods to barbecue.
- Table Reservations should be made in the office, but Wristbands are NOT needed for this event.

—Barb Barrett

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Fiscal 2025 Financial Audit Update—The Finance Committee is working with NSCA’s Management, Board of Directors, and outside accounting firm (KBF) to finalize the Audit of NSCA’s 2025 Financial Statements. This has taken much longer than usual due to a number of factors, most importantly the changing of accounting firms in the Fall 2025, a change in bank accounts, and a very detailed and thorough review of all 2025 transactions to ensure they were properly recorded. This information is currently with our independent auditor. As the audit is completed, we will work with Management, Board, and KBF to (a) ensure our 2026 financial statements are accurate and up-to-date and (b) review potential changes in processes and internal controls to attempt to prevent these kind of problems in the future.

We’ll provide an update as information becomes available. Thank you for your patience.

—Jim Eckstaedt and Jeff Goldfarb, Finance Committee

Legacy Path Celebrates Its First Birthday!

This month marks the first anniversary of **Niguel Shores Legacy Path**—a special project that began as a vision to create something meaningful honoring our past while providing a lasting legacy for future generations. The planning, ordering, and installation took a year before becoming a reality at the **Grand Opening** on August 29, 2025.

Our community's response for the project was extraordinary. We hoped to sell 168 commemorative bricks, but an incredible **287 residents** chose to become part of Niguel Shores history with an inscribed brick. Your support far exceeded expectations and made this project an overwhelming success.

The Legacy Path is designed with room to grow, allowing additional engraved bricks to be

added for many years to come. It is a place where families can celebrate milestones, remember loved ones, and leave their own lasting mark on our community.

Take a stroll along the path. Read the names, reflect on our history, and appreciate what our community accomplished together. Every engraved brick tells a story that will remain long after all of us have walked its path.

You'll also notice three special commemorative sections:

- A tribute recognizing those who worked to bring this ambitious project to life.
- A timeline highlighting significant dates in the history—and future—of Niguel Shores.
- A display recognizing each of our neighborhoods and the year they were established.

As we celebrate the Legacy Path's first anniversary, we also celebrate the community that made it possible. Thank you to every resident who purchased a brick, volunteered their time, shared a story, or simply believed in the vision.

—Legacy Path Crew



4TH OF JULY COMMITTEE

Heartfelt Thanks to All for an Unforgettable 4th of July!

Our 4th of July Celebration was truly one to remember, and it would not have been possible without the generosity, dedication, and community spirit of so many wonderful people.

A sincere thank you to our **generous sponsors**, whose support helped make this year's celebration such a tremendous success. Your commitment to our community is sincerely appreciated.

Applause to our **amazing volunteers** for giving your time, energy and enthusiasm. From the early morning setup to the final cleanup, your willingness to serve helped every event run smoothly and created a welcoming atmosphere for the hundreds of attending residents and guests.

We also extend sincere appreciation to the Niguel Shores **office team** who helped with communication and publicity. Special thanks to the **maintenance staff** whose work from before (hanging banners and signs), during, and after the celebration ensured that every aspect of the day was ready, safe and looking its best. Our **King's Security**

team brought a new level of leadership and logistics planning that also helped tremendously.

From the **Men's Club Pancake Breakfast**, the **Women's Club Bake Sale and Cake Walk**, our inspirational vocalist, **Alicia Kuhn**, our flag bearer **Col. Richard Thompson**, to the **Grand Parade**, fun-filled **games and hot dogs** in the park, our first **Yankee Doodle Pet Parade**, and finally, the **Barbeque at the Bluff**, every event reflected the incomparable spirit of Niguel Shores.

Thank you to everyone who participated, attended, cooked, marched, cheered and celebrated with us. Together, you made the 4th of July Celebration an event that showcased the spirit that makes Niguel Shores such a great place to call home.

—Patti Staudenbaur, for the 4th of July Celebration Committee

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

Professional Archivist—We are pleased that **Sarena Underwood**, the archivist from **Dana Point Historical Society**, has offered to advise us on handling and storing our collection of Niguel Shores documents, photos, and memorabilia. She reminds us that Niguel Shores History is a big part of Dana Point History.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

New Club—Our group is in the process of changing from a committee into a club—the **Niguel Shores Historical Club**. This opens up greater involvement opportunities for everyone interested in Niguel Shores past, present, and future story. Watch for a mailing and announcements in this newsletter about club membership and participation in events related to our community's past and ongoing history.

Ground-breaking for the Niguel Shores development began more than 50 years ago, and there are photos, documents, artifacts, and memories that we must not lose as time passes. Membership in the **Niguel Shores Historical Club** will help preserve and share how Niguel Shores evolved into the community that we know today.

Fall Event—With the wonderful turnout for our **Chamagne Legacy Tea** for longterm residents last spring, the Niguel Shores Historical Club is now planning an equally fine event for the fall to welcome new members and all residents interested in Niguel Shores past and continuing history. Watch for future announcements.

—Mary Crowl

MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

Keeping our neighborhood looking its best is always a team effort, and your Maintenance Committee has been hard at work spotting areas that need a little extra love!

Lend a Hand—Right now, one of our main priorities is addressing some restriping needs throughout the neighborhood. Our maintenance staff did a fantastic job knocking out the crosswalks and the Bluff parking lot, but we are still looking for volunteers to help us with other ongoing projects. If you have a little bit of time to spare, your help would be a huge asset in keeping everything looking sharp!

Along those same lines (pun intended) we've noticed a few spots where concrete cracks and holes need some patching up. By tackling these minor fixes ourselves instead of hiring outside contractors, we can protect our limited maintenance budget and save those funds for the really big projects down the line. We would love to have help from any resident who wants to pitch in. If you're interested in helping, please reach out—we'd love to have you!

Tech Request—A housekeeping note for our local clubs and committees: We want to make sure our shared clubhouse facilities run smoothly for everyone. To avoid any unexpected technical hiccups with the audiovisual gear, we're asking each committee to designate a specific "tech person" to handle setting up and running the equipment during meetings and coordinate with a member of our maintenance staff prior to your event.

Who You Gonna Call?—Finally, a quick safety reminder: If you ever run into a maintenance issue in the neighborhood, like a pump malfunctioning or a sprinkler leak, please make the main gate your very first call. The patrol personnel have clear protocols for these situations and can immediately get in touch with Harvest or the right people to address the problem quickly. Just call (949) 487-4185. Of course, if you have a health, fire, or police emergency call 911.

Thanks as always for your continued support in keeping our community in excellent shape!

—Geoff Dunlevie

ACCOLADES

Compliments to Niguel Shores residents **Sherry Frymoyer** and **Pamela Schuler** for their volunteer work with the **Pet Project Foundation (PPF)** in conjunction with **San Clemente-Dana Point Animal Shelter**.

Through Pet Project, the shelter gives animals in its care a warm bed, outstanding veterinary care, nutritious food, daily socialization and exercise until a permanent, loving home can be found. To learn more about PPF events and volunteering, visit PetProjectFoundation.org.



IN MEMORIAM

Karen Emily Blazine

January 1940 – June 2026

Resident of Tampico Bay

Karen came to Niguel Shores in 2021 and quickly became a familiar face in the community, often accompanied by her beloved goldendoodle, Chance.

She is remembered for her warmth, kindness, love of family, selflessness, and the friendships she formed wherever she lived. Karen is survived by her children, Chris, Jennifer, Tim, and Justin, whose family resides in Niguel Shores, as well as her six cherished grandchildren. Her memory lives on in the hearts of all who knew and loved her.

CLUBS

GARDEN CLUB

Congratulations!—It was July and you know what that meant: The Garden Club entered the annual **July 4th Golf Cart Decorating Contest**. Decorated and driven by **Cathy Sherline** and **Sheryl Cooper**, their theme —**Community is like a garden: Both grow with care**—caught the judges' attention and won the **Judges' Choice Award!** Congratulations to the team on bringing home another winning entry, two out of the last three years.



Meeting—Our first meeting of the new club year will be **Monday, September 14, at 11:00 a.m.** in the **Clubhouse**. Our President, **Marietta Hannigan**, will review the upcoming programs and events for 2026-2027. Our guest speaker is **Donna Hood** from the **California Garden Clubs, Inc.** who will present the history of Garden Clubs in California and their positive impact in communities throughout the state.

Membership—The Garden Club now has more than 90 members and is open to all residents of Niguel Shores. Gardening expertise is not required. Many of our most enthusiastic members joined as novice gardeners. Our meetings are fun and interesting, with speakers, workshops, or garden-related projects. A light lunch and refreshments are served at each meeting. Dues are \$35 per person per year, and if you'd like to come as a guest to check it out, it's only \$5. Membership forms are in the Niguel Shores office. **Please join or renew by August 1 to be included in the 2026-2027 Directory!**

—Judi Palladino

MEN'S CLUB

The results are in for the **July 4th Pancake Breakfast**. It was a rousing success! We served over 430 very tasty breakfasts, by far our all-time record. This would not have been possible without the help of all our wonderful volunteers! Thanks to extensive planning and the reservation system, things went incredibly smoothly with almost no wait for our guests. In fact, we were all sharing surprised looks about how well the morning went. A huge thank you to the cooking and serving teams for making it happen, and special gratitude to **Tim Williams**, whose dedication throughout the year ensured everything ran smoothly. And thank you to all those who attended, as this is our major fund raiser for the High School Scholarship every year.

Our second July meeting was our annual **Evening in the Park**, where we enjoyed drinks and appetizers provided by the **Staudenbaur/Wilson** cooking team, then stepped out onto the sports courts for our friendly but serious **Annual**

Bocce Competition. It was a beautiful evening and Congratulations to the Winners.



Join us at our first August meeting on the 4th, when we host **Rick Shintaku** **General Manager** of the **South Coast Water District (SCWD)** and **Director Bill Green**, who is also a member of our Club. The SCWD serves approximately 40,000 residents and two million visitors annually across Dana Point, South Laguna Beach, and parts of San Juan Capistrano and San Clemente. They will share insights on the implementation of major projects, such as the \$100 million **Tunnel Stabilization Revitalization**. We will also hear an update on the **Doheny Ocean Desalination Project**, which aims to provide a reliable, drought-proof, and locally controlled water supply for our community and South Orange County.



Our second August meeting is on the evening of August 18, when we will hear from **California State Senator Tony Strickland**. We are opening this meeting up to Spouses and Guests, so please join us for food, drinks and engaging conversation, all for only \$5!

—Geoff Dunlevie

WOMEN'S CLUB

Bake Sale & Cake Walk Success—Thank you to our amazing members and generous residents for making this year's **4th of July Bake Sale and Cake Walk** a tremendous success! With more than 200 homemade baked goods donated, the event showcased the incredible talent and generosity of our community.

Special thanks to **Randa Memo** and her hardworking team of wrappers and sellers, as well as **Suzanne Enis** for her stunning "Masterpiece Cake Creations," which raised additional funds through a silent auction.

The **Cake Walk** once again packed the sports court, where **Gigi McDonnell** and **Paula Maier** kept the fun going as residents of all ages danced to **DJ George** for a chance to win delicious desserts.

Membership News—Membership dues for 2026–2027 are \$125 and include catered lunches at next year's meetings. Membership forms are available online at niguelshores.org and in the office.

—Karey Palmer



WOMEN'S CLUB "SUMMER CAMP"

In a tribute to Niguel Shores beloved Camp Hobbledehoy, the summer camp once attended by so many Shores children, the Women's Club held "Summer Camp" at Shores Sports Park, hosted by **Anna Kwit**. Members and guests enjoyed bocce, shuffleboard, croquet, rock painting, a delicious lunch by **Sylvia Collins**, and sweet treats from the **S'mores Cart**.

Special honors went to outgoing President **Laurel Yocca** for her years of dedicated service. She was surprised with flowers and a custom Niguel Shores coordinates pillow as a heartfelt thank-you. In addition, **Randa Memo** was presented a (much deserved) VIP award for her dedication to the Women's Club.

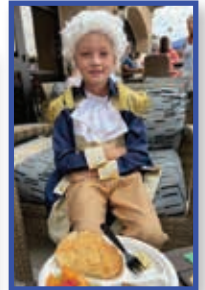
Excitement continued with raffle prizes including boat rentals, spa and facial certificates, gift baskets, a golf cart tune-up by **SC Carts**, a handmade baby blanket from **Cathy Tyson**, a home design consultation from **Rhonda Dunlevie**, and the grand prize—a Duffy boat party for 10 from **Harbor Boat Rentals**.

A huge thank-you to **Anna Kwit**, **Sylvia Collins**, **Janet Dohner**, **Karen Hanley**, **Gigi McDonnell**, **Randa Memo**, **Toni Ann Mitsch**, **Marnie Olia**, **Carla Perin**, **Heather Props**, **Cathy Sherline**, and **Carey Smith** for such a fun-filled day.



America's 250th – A Star-Spangled

MEN'S CLUB PANCAKE BREAKFAST



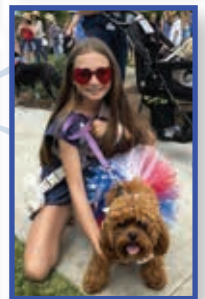
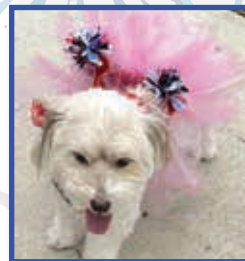
WOMEN'S CLUB BAKE SALE



FLAG RAISING



YANKEE DOODLE PET PARADE



CAKE WALK, HOT DOG LUNCH, GAMES ON THE GREEN



Celebration In Niguel Shores!

250TH CELEBRATION PARADE



BBQ AND MUSIC AT THE BLUFF



FIREWORKS

See more photos on the NSCA website at niguelshores.org.

4th of July Winners...

GOLF CARTS

Grand Prize
Most Patriotic
Most Creative
Judges' Choice

Ice Cream Scoop
Happy Birthday USA
America's Birthday Cake
Where Community Blooms

Palmer
Rhorer, Porter, Probst
Pentz
Garden Club

UNCLE SAM'S WHEELED BRIGADE

Best Dressed Rider/Wheels
Most Creative
Honorable Mention

Vespa Ballerina
Veteran Jeep
Flying Scooter

Chloe Goerig
Christopher Potter
Owen Miller

YANKEE DOODLE PET PARADE

Uncle Sam Award, Patriotic
Most Unique Costume
Best Pet & Owner Costume
Best Pet Cart or Stroller

Nugget
King George
Tucker
Bambi Bunny

Kathy Kolder
Sophie Smith, Amia Srinivasan
Kathy Samuel
Lisi German

GAMES

Family Sack Race
Family 3-Legged Race
Hoops 12 & Under
Hoops 13 & Over

Dickson Family
Beck Family
Elijah Smith
Colbiee Hofschroer

BLUFF PARTY

Most Elaborate
Stars & Stripes
Champions

Mitsch Family
Tomkins Family

CHEERS FOR OUR NIGUEL SHORES LIFEGUARDS!

Few things define Southern California more than a day at the beach. As our coastline became increasingly popular in the early 1900s, organized lifeguard programs emerged to protect the growing number of swimmers. Today, lifeguards are far more than watchful eyes on the shore—they are highly trained emergency responders dedicated to keeping our beaches safe.

Seashore News interviewed a few Niguel Shores residents about their work as lifeguards. We know there are many other current and former guards in our community, so cheers to all of you for your work keeping our beaches safe!



Strands Beach photo credit: Meg Wilson



NATHAN



GIOVANNI



SEAN



HEATHER



JASON

CURRENT SHORES LIFEGUARDS

Living beside one of Southern California's most dynamic stretches of coastline requires a healthy respect for the ocean. Several young Niguel Shores residents have turned that respect into service as open-water lifeguards, continuing a tradition of protecting others.

Giovanni Burdi joined the **Orange County Lifeguards** this summer after growing up at the beach and participating in the **Orange County Junior Guards** program. He recommends the OCJG to families looking for a fun yet valuable experience that provides a strong foundation in ocean safety, teamwork, and respect for the beach. Giovanni enjoys meeting people from all walks of life while helping create a safe environment for everyone. He credits lifeguarding with strengthening his confidence, sense of responsibility, and ability to remain calm under pressure.

His first day on the job, Giovanni responded to a rescue involving a swimmer with a neck injury who was unable to return to shore—an experience that immediately impressed upon him the serious responsibility of lifeguarding. His advice is to know your limits, pay attention to ocean conditions, and always respect the sea.

Nathan Neuvirth, a junior attending UCSB in the fall, is in his fourth year with **Orange County Lifeguards** and says his love for swimming and the ocean inspired him to pursue the job. Nathan has worked at Salt Creek, Strands, and

the River Jetties tower in Huntington Beach. One of his most memorable experiences was rescuing a swimmer in 10-foot surf, using his knowledge of ocean currents to coordinate with fellow lifeguards during the rescue.

Nathan earned his EMT certification to improve his patient care skills, became an Orange County Fire Cadet, and has interviewed with Orange County Fire as he pursues a career in emergency response. He has also spent more than 1,000 hours working on a 911 ambulance, responding to emergencies ranging from traffic collisions to cardiac arrests.

Sean Palmer, a junior at the University of San Diego, is spending his fourth summer with the **Laguna Beach Lifeguards**. Growing up, Sean spent nearly every summer day in the water—swimming, surfing, and bodyboarding. Inspired by his sister's fiancé Jack Riccardi, who spent five summers as a Laguna Beach lifeguard, Sean saw lifeguarding at age 16 as the perfect way to combine his love of the ocean with his desire to serve the community.

One of Sean's most memorable days came on July 5, 2025, at Victoria Beach, when massive holiday crowds and a large swell kept the lifeguard crew busy from start to finish. Despite repeated warnings, many swimmers ventured into the hazardous surf, and Sean performed approximately twenty-five rescues that day alone. The experience demonstrated the endurance, teamwork, ocean awareness, and calm

decision-making required to protect beachgoers during busy and demanding days on the job.

Sean considers Thousand Steps and Treasure Island among Laguna's most challenging beaches, where constantly changing ocean conditions require vigilance, adaptability, and quick judgment. His favorite part of the job is working alongside a close-knit crew while helping beachgoers safely enjoy the ocean. His advice is simple: respect the water, stay aware of your surroundings, and never underestimate the power of the ocean.

SHORES LIFEGUARDS PAST

In the 1970s, **Mark McCartin, MD**, worked from Dana Point Harbor to Three Arch Bay, including Strands and Salt Creek, for his summer job as an **Orange County Lifeguard**. A swimmer at San Clemente High School (before Dana Hills High School was built), he was inspired to try out for the lifeguard program after watching many of his teammates become guards.

His most memorable rescue came when he and fellow lifeguard Steve Barrett responded to a report of a twenty-five foot sailboat crashing onto the rocks at the base of the Dana Point Harbor breakwater. The damaged boat was taking on water, its mast swinging wildly, as a crowd watched from shore. A husband and wife aboard screamed for help. The woman was too frightened to jump, and her husband refused to leave without her. Steve climbed the ladder at the transom and pushed her overboard. Once she was safely in the water, her husband followed. Everyone escaped with only minor scrapes and scratches, though the sailboat was a total loss.

While dramatic rescues stand out, McCartin says responding to medical emergencies was the most rewarding part of lifeguarding. Those experiences inspired him to attend medical school and ultimately led to a 42-year career as an emergency physician with Kaiser Permanente.

Heather Stewart-Bhardwaj joined the **Orange County Lifeguards** at Aliso Beach in 2004 at age sixteen. Long days on the sand and countless experiences taught her that lifeguarding was about helping people enjoy the ocean safely while responding whenever emergencies arose. Her brother, **Scott Stewart**, also became an **Orange County Lifeguard**, joining the department three years after she did.

Among Heather's many memorable rescues, two stand out. On Memorial Day weekend in 2006, at age 19, she pulled an older man floating face down from the water at Aliso Beach and, with a fellow lifeguard, performed CPR, with his family gathered nearby, until he began breathing again. In early April 2012, she responded to a teenager who had fallen from the cliffs at Circle Drive. She recalls, "I was alone, but I got him in a cervical collar, on a backboard, administered oxygen, and splinted his leg with support from everyday people who saw what was happening and came to help. I radioed for help from Laguna Fire, who came down and called for an airlift to a trauma center. The helicopter couldn't find the

beach, so people at Thousand Steps stood up and waved to help them find us. People really do want to help each other."

Even after leaving lifeguarding, Heather's instincts never faded. In 2020, while walking along San Francisco Bay near Pier 50, she recognized the silent signs of drowning and jumped into the water to rescue a man before first responders arrived. Her advice to beachgoers is simple: Drowning is often silent. It usually doesn't involve yelling or waving but instead looks like someone struggling to keep their face above water. At the beach, put the phone away. Keep constant watch over children near the water, enroll them in swimming lessons early, teach them to respect the lifeguards, and make sure everyone in the family knows how to recognize a rip current. Above all, never turn your back on the ocean.

CAREERS IN MARINE SAFETY

According to **Patti Staudenbaur**, her two sons' paths to lifeguarding began in the water—through swimming, surfing, water polo, and participation in Junior Lifeguards—before they became seasonal guards during high school and college. Along the way, mentorship from experienced lifeguards inspired both of them to pursue careers in marine safety, one as a **Marine Safety Lieutenant** and the other as a **California State Parks Peace Officer**. Their story illustrates that professional lifeguarding requires far more than a love of the beach.

Lifeguards undergo rigorous training in ocean rescue, CPR, first aid, spinal injury management, AED use, and emergency medical response. Many go on to assume leadership roles in training, operations, and public safety, continuing the tradition of mentorship that helped shape their own careers.

Jason Young's connection to the ocean began in Niguel Shores, where he grew up with a deep appreciation for the coastline. What started as a summer lifeguarding job evolved into a lifelong career dedicated to ocean safety and public service. Today, Jason is **Chief of the Orange County Lifeguards**, which serves the beaches closest to our community, including Salt Creek, Strands, and Monarch Beach. Last April, he shared his knowledge and experience with the Niguel Shores Women's Club, highlighting the importance of ocean awareness, preparedness, and respect for the power of the sea.

While dramatic rescues often make the news, the true measure of a lifeguard's success lies in the emergencies that never happen. Through prevention, education, vigilance, and rapid response, these dedicated professionals protect thousands of beachgoers each year. Whether just beginning their careers or reflecting on decades of service, the lifeguards of Niguel Shores share a common commitment: keeping others safe so everyone can enjoy the ocean with confidence.

—Karey Palmer

*(Editor's Note: Add one more guard to this list: Our multi-talented office staff member **Matt Northrop** confided that he was a lifeguard at **Raging Waters** long, long ago. So, cheers to you too, Matt!)*

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday Sunday
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					2
3 9:00 Architecture Committee 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor)	4 8:00 Men's Club 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor) 10:30 Events Committee	5 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor) 10:30 Bridge	6 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor)	7 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor) 10:30 Communication Committee 3:00 Ice Cream Truck at Clubhouse	8 9
10 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor) <i>AC DEADLINE – 12:00</i>	11 9:00 Landscape Committee 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor)	12 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor) 10:30 Bridge 6:00 NSCA General Session Board Meeting	13 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor) <i>TENNIS & PICKLEBALL COURTS CLOSED 12:00 to 3:00 PM for Cleaning</i>	14 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor)	15 4:30 <i>BAND BY THE SEA</i> 16
17 9:00 Architecture Committee 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor) 12:00 View Preservation Committee	18 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor) 1:00 Historical Group 5:30 Men's Club	19 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor) 9:00 Rules Committee 10:30 Bridge	20 9:00 Maintenance Committee 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor)	21 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor)	22 23
24 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor) 3:00 Finance Committee	25 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor)	26 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor) 10:30 Bridge <i>STREET SWEEPING</i>	27 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor) <i>TENNIS & PICKLEBALL COURTS CLOSED 12:00 to 3:00 PM for Cleaning</i>	28 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor)	29 30
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PICKLEBALL

Eight Pickleball Personality Types

If you've spent any time on the pickleball courts at Niguel Shores, you've probably met every one of these personalities—and you might even recognize yourself. Every player brings something different to the court. Which one are you?

- **The BANGER** attacks everything, including balls that probably shouldn't be attacked. They try to hit every shot as hard as possible. They're fearless, aggressive, and exciting to watch. Their biggest opponent is the net.
- **The CHESS PLAYER** notices everything: who avoids their backhand, who likes to poach, who gets impatient. They're always thinking one shot ahead. Analytical and consistent, they sometimes think so much that they hesitate to react.
- **The CHEERLEADER** believes every good shot deserves applause—even if the other team hit it. They're encouraging, upbeat, and somehow make losing enjoyable. They may even apologize after hitting a winner.
- **The ENGINEER** knows everything about paddle materials, core thickness, grips, weight, and surface texture. They usually own more than one paddle and are always looking for the next best thing.
- **The PROFESSOR** turns every rally into a lesson. They're helpful, knowledgeable, and genuinely want everyone to improve. Sometimes, though, the coaching arrives when nobody asked for it.
- **The SILENT ASSASSIN** quietly keeps returning ball after ball until their opponents get frustrated and beat themselves. They're calm, consistent, and nearly impossible to read.
- **The SOCIAL BUTTERFLY** sees the score as secondary. They come for the laughs, the friendships, and the conversations before, during, and after the games. They help make the Niguel Shores courts feel like a community.
- **The PERFECTIONIST** treats every missed shot like a personal investigation. They replay mistakes in their head and often forget to appreciate all the great shots they made.

Truth be told, most of us aren't just one personality—we're a little bit of several. So which ones are you? That's part of what makes the pickleball community at Niguel Shores so much fun. See you on the courts!

—Ben Farbman

BRIDGE

The August heat is on, but we play Bridge in Niguel Shores air-conditioned clubhouse, and even on a hot day it is very comfortable.

Our recent winners:

June 17: The men led the roster with Bill Imbriale 1st, Jim Pinola 2nd, and Terry Liebman 3rd.

June 24: The women took the lead with Judy Pellerin 1st, Mary Biegel 2nd, Sandy Nelson 3rd.

July 1: We had a trio of men with Bob Ruben 1st, Bill Halama 2nd, Stuart Monroe 3rd.

July 8: Our Arizona visitor, Carolyn Goldberg, came in 1st, Terry Liebman secured 2nd, and in 3rd was our fearless leader Betty French. The scores were very close.

July 15: The ladies were in force with Patti Liebman claiming 1st, Betty French 2nd, Judy Pellerin 3rd.

We are always looking for new players. I have bragged about our great homemade cookies and banana bread, but were you aware of our awesome Girl Scout Cookies? If you are interested in playing Bridge with us, please call **Bob or Betty French** at (949) 312-2556. We start at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesdays and are done by 2:00 p.m. in the clubhouse. Looking forward to seeing you there.

—Mike Oliva

PAGE TURNERS

At their bi-yearly joint meeting of all three groups, the book club members learned the final results of their votes for the nine books we will read in the upcoming season. They are as follows:

- *The Lion Women of Tehran* by Marjan Kamall
- *Absolution* by Alice McDermott
- *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi
- *There are Rivers in the Sky* by Elif Shafak
- *The Book Club for Troublesome Women* by Marie Boswick
- *The Sunflower House* by Adrian Allegri
- *The Calamity Club* by Kathryn Sockett
- *The Berry Pickers* by Amana Peters
- *Culpability* by Bruce Hotsinger

The books are listed in the order of votes received, highest to lowest. This is not necessarily the order in which we will read them but each month we will give notice of the book to be read and discussed that month.

We resume our regular monthly discussion meetings in September. The book club always welcomes new members. For more information you can contact one of the coordinators—for the Thursday afternoon groups, **Steve and Ann Morris** at samwrsi@cox.net or **Lisa Buchner** at lisabuchner47@gmail.com and for the Monday group myself at fzimec@cox.net.

—Frances Ozimec

Wellness – Food Safety

A gentle breeze on that warm summer evening gracefully carried the smoke from the barbeque away from the party, leaving behind the mouthwatering aroma of grilled chicken. The buffet table held an array of delicious seasonal side dishes. Cole slaw, potato salad, corn on the cob, sweet watermelon, and desserts galore. A lovely evening with friends enjoying my favorite season of the year! What could possibly go wrong?

Thankfully, nothing did go wrong. But so much could have, turning a festive get together into a nightmare. I'm not referring to ill-behaved party goers after too many cocktails. I'm talking about the insidious threat of **food-borne illness** that can quietly crash even the best party.



To paint a picture of how common this is, according to the CDC, approximately 3,000 people a year die of food-borne illness. At the same time, roughly 48 million contract food poisoning resulting in 128,000 hospitalizations.

The causes of foodborne illness are viruses and bacteria such as *E. coli*, salmonella, and botulism, to mention a few. They replicate in food that has languished in the "danger zone," between 40 and 140 degrees Fahrenheit, for too long. Perishable food should be refrigerated after two hours, and after one hour if the air temperature is 90 degrees F or above.

Following the four pillars of food preparation—Clean, Separate, Cook, and Chill—will keep us all safe. Clean counter tops, wash your hands often, and use fresh dish towels. Don't wash raw meat. Separate raw meat and eggs from other food items. Use separate utensils for raw meat. Cook food to its proper temperature and, if it is to be kept hot, maintain that heat avoiding the "danger zone." And always chill your tasty offerings in the refrigerator within two hours.

This is an excellent website: <https://www.foodsafety.gov/> as well as <https://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/index.html>. To enjoy life, stay up to date on proper food handling to keep foodborne illness at bay. Now, if you'll excuse me, I'm headed back to the BBQ. I can smell the chicken!

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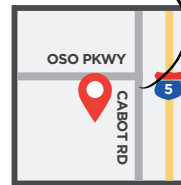


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