



# MONTE NIDO VALLEY



## COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



*A Dark Sky Community*

**E-NEWSLETTER**

**JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2007**

### **Operation Safe Canyons**

All of us are aware of the problem created by racing or speeding vehicles on our local mountain roads. We've seen them speed by us as we walk, ride or drive, pass illegally around blind turns; among other things. The problem has gotten worse over the years due to various factors. One of them is the internet, where many of the routes we travel daily are listed as "race courses" on motorcycle and car enthusiast's websites. But "outsiders" are not the only offenders. Many members of our community also regularly exceed the posted speed limits on our daily drives into and out of Monte Nido.

The MNVCA, Cold Creek Homeowner's Association and other communities in the Santa Monica Mountains have been working with the County Supervisor's office and local law enforcement to find a solution to this growing problem. Thanks to our joint efforts, early last year the Sheriff's department and CHP launched the program called Operation Safe Canyons. Key features of the program include saturation patrols, the posting of speed limits, and a new law allowing for impounding of vehicles for speeding. A grant was recently received to provide for additional resources for law enforcement to extend the program.

The goal of the program (and our efforts) is to promote safe use of our canyon roads for all of us. It is not as some websites would protest, to exclude use of the roadways in our "exclusive" communities. We can not stop people from driving on the roads- we just want them to do it in a safe and responsible manner. So those out there please slow down and enjoy our lovely roads.

### **The End of the MNVCA Newsletter?**

During the last board meeting, I volunteered and was elected as the treasurer of the MNVCA. Due to the time consuming nature of this position, I have resigned as newsletter editor effective immediately. This means we need someone to take over. I will give you all the advice I can or that you want to get you started. It would be helpful if the person who volunteers comes to the board meetings (so they know what needs to be included!)

If no one steps up to take over this rather fun and influential job, then the newsletter will no longer be published. We will instead post important information (announcements, meeting minutes, want-ads) on the MNVCA website, [www.montenido.org](http://www.montenido.org). Hopefully this will provide a timelier posting of information. Locations of the board meetings will be posted on the Monte Nido bulletin board by the Fire Station approximately one week before the scheduled meeting. As a reminder, meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month. It has been both an enjoyable and frustrating experience for me. Thanks for reading.

*-your former editor, Marianne Cilluffo*

### **MNVCA Board Election Results**

Officers were elected at the last board meeting. Once again, Joan Slimocosky has been elected president, John Low vice president and Lisa Lehman, secretary. Cynthia Hodes resigned from the board (we'll miss you Cynthia!), and has been replaced by long-time resident Sheila Kalivas. Welcome Sheila! Marianne Cilluffo has replaced Cynthia as treasurer.

## MNVCA Board of Directors Meeting December 12, 2006

The regular meeting of the MNVCA was called to order in the home of Rosemary Alden. In attendance were Rosemary Alden, Joan Kay, Jocelyn Mackay, Joan Slimocosky, John Low, Heidi Stompe, Les Hardie and various members of the community.

Agenda changes were made.

Minutes from the November meeting were approved.

No Treasurer's report (treasurer unable to attend). No correspondence to report.

**Federation Report;** John reported on water district program, a grant to pay for help for homeowners in the Malibu Creek Watershed, to upgrade their watering systems. Federation is also contesting radioactive waste issues at the Rocketdyne site.

**Old Business:** County LCP- John Low reported on status of LCP. Specifics include backyards are 8 per acre but commercial development and Coastal Commission approval still to be resolved. Input deadline is Dec. 24 for the county draft; hearing to be held downtown on Jan 24th at Regional Planning.

Dogs- Once again, dogs are affecting quality of life. Deputy Tom Hill should be called in event of problem. Barking dogs may be stopped but proper steps must be followed. Procedure to be investigated.

Board: Slate was passed. Still one vacancy, everyone to bring someone for next meeting to replace Cynthia.

*-Joan Kay*

## MNVCA Board of Directors Meeting January 9, 2007

The regular meeting of the MNVCA was called to order at 7:10 pm in the home of Lisa Lehman. In attendance were Marianne Cilluffo, Les Hardie, Cynthia Hodes, Joan Kay, Lisa Lehman, John Low, Jocelyn Mackay, Yehuda Netanel, Joan Slimocosky and Heidi Stompe along with other members of the community.

Agenda changes were made.

Minutes from the December meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Account balances were reviewed. There are currently 128 paid members in the MNVCA for 2006.

Correspondence: Mountain Restoration Trust notice of upcoming programs. Santa Monica Mountains Local Coastal Program Public Hearing Schedule. The Trust for Public Land Newsletter

Federation Report Report delayed until the February meeting.

**Old Business** County Local Coastal Plan – Next hearing to be held on Jan. 24, 2007 before the Regional Planning Commission.

Board Elections – Cynthia Hodes resigned as Treasurer and has vacated her existing term. A new Board Member, Sheila Kalivas, was appointed to fill her remaining term. Officers were elected as follows: President: Joan Slimocosky; Vice President: John Low; Marianne Cilluffo: Treasurer; Secretary: Lisa Lehman

Newsletter – The Newsletter editor has resigned. The final Newsletter will be sent out this month (January). An announcement will be included in the Newsletter notifying the community for the need of a new Editor. If that it unsuccessful, future notices and announcements will be posted on the community website ([montenido.org](http://montenido.org)) and a sign announcing monthly meetings will be posted at the fire station bulletin board.

Solid Waste Collection Service – The County is going to contract with a trash collection company to provide service that complies with the more stringent, local, state and federal laws related to refuse and recycling. Community meetings will be held to obtain input from customers.

Traffic Issues – The recent accident and deaths on Cold Canyon have again raised awareness of speeding and reckless driving in and around Monte Nido. This issue has been and continues to be on the agenda of the monthly Board and other community meetings. Multiple methods for slowing down drivers/riders are being considered. Several agencies are aware and involved in improving enforcement of local laws.

Fire Insurance Increases – According to the L. A. County Supervisor’s office, California Fair Plan re-assessments can be challenged but County Fire personnel must be included in the re-assessment and review process.

**New Business** New Cell Phone Tower on Piuma – A public hearing on this issue will be held on 2/7/07 in Room 150 at 320 West Temple Street, Los Angeles.

*-Lisa Lehman*

## **County Trash Hauler Survey**

You should all have received a mailing from County officials regarding trash service in the area. The county is making an effort to comply with federal and state regulations regarding recycling and reduction of trash volumes. They have sent a survey card to all of us which should be completed and returned ASAP. Two public hearings are also scheduled. Once the data is collected, the county will prepare a franchise agreement to be offered to private contractors for bidding purposes. The county will award the franchise to the successful bidder and most likely, we will be making arrangements with that contractor for refuse removal based on the franchise agreement.

## **Dog Problems?**

For several years now, we have addressed various issues concerning dogs in our neighborhood that affect our quality of life... dogs running free, dogs being aggressive to other dogs and people on the street or trails, dogs doing their business on other’s properties. Of late, complaints have been made about dogs barking incessantly throughout the day or night. So what to do about these dog issues?

The most neighborly approach is to speak to the offending dog owners. Perhaps they are not aware that their pet is creating a problem. If that does not work, then Animal Control should be contacted (991-0071). If necessary, file a report. Lastly, our liason at the Sheriff’s department, Deputy Tom Hill, should be contacted. He or other

members of the COPS Program (Community Oriented Policing Service) will intervene. He can be reached at the local Sheriff’s office at: 818-878-1808.

## **Letter to the Editor:**

On January 7th, a meeting of concerned Monte Nido residents convened to address traffic issues on the strip of Cold Canyon Road between Piuma and Mulholland. Joining us was CHP officer Leland Tang. Concerns raised included noise, safety for our children on the road and at their school bus stops, the dangers posed to pedestrians and equestrians, the threat to our native wildlife and wild resources, property values, and how the road's unsafe condition influences our way of life.

With the help of Officer Tang we identified five reasonable solutions: A 'dummy black and white' to be parked along the thoroughfare, speed deterrents such as speed 'tables' (designed to allow emergency vehicles to pass easily), stop signs, delineators, and a coordinated effort by volunteers and the CHP to report violators.

In moving forward to make Cold Canyon safe for all travelers we will be conducting future meetings and continuing to dialogue with the agencies responsible for making our roadway safe. Anyone interested in becoming involved in this effort, please make contact.

Rebecca Dmytryk 588 Cold Canyon Road  
Home 818-222-2692 diametryk@earthlink.net

## **How to reach us:**

Send your email address to Lisa Lehman, the devoted MNVCA secretary at [mnvca@charter.net](mailto:mnvca@charter.net), to receive announcements of meetings, community activities and the time and location of our Board meetings.

President: Joan Slimocosky 591-1082  
Vice Pres. John Low 224-8062  
Treasurer: Marianne Cilluffo 876-3019  
Secretary: Lisa Lehman 837-7600

## **Calendar of Events**

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### **MNVCA Board Meeting**

Tuesday, February 13, 7 PM  
At the home of Joan Slimocosky  
25632 Buckhorn Dr.  
591-1082  
As always, the meeting is open to all!

### **ETI Corral 36**

Tuesday, February 6, 7 PM  
at the office of Mia & Brian Boudreau, 26885  
Mulholland Hwy., Calabasas. 818-880 5139.  
There will not be a Guest Speaker this month.

### **Zen Meditation**

Thursday evenings at 7:30pm  
Rosemary Taylor Alden  
222-2936

### **Universal Worship Service:**

First Sunday of each month, 10:00AM  
Marilyn Browning  
222-6363

### **A Course in Miracles Study Group.**

Tuesdays, 9:30-11:00AM  
Marilyn Browning  
222-6362

**MONTE NIDO VALLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION  
BULLETIN BOARD**

JANUARY 2007

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