



MONTE NIDO VALLEY



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



A Dark Sky Community

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2006

The July 4th Parade and Picnic Is On But We Need Your Help!

The 4th of July is rapidly approaching and we are planning for this year's parade and picnic. Suzanne Bailey has stepped forward to be the Chairperson for this year's event. (Thank you Suzanne!) But we still need help: We need people to organize the Games, Baked Goods, Parade, Food and Judging! Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Suzanne immediately at 222-7663. This year's parade theme is "Monte Nido: My Mountain Nest". See you there!

Injured Owl: CWC to the Rescue

A couple of weeks ago, a friend was walking around my property when she whistled for my attention. A crow had been making quite a ruckus and she went to investigate. She found it had attacked a baby owl, which was now injured and on the ground at the base of an oak. After checking the California Wildlife Center website for information on what to do, we decided to transport it there to see if they could save its life.

Once inside, they whisked the owl in for care. I was informed that they had had several animals brought in that weekend. They were especially busy because of all of the young being born at this time of year.

We should be especially sensitive to the needs of wildlife here in Monte Nido. Please be particularly careful at this time of year in disturbing habitat. For example, hold off pruning tree branches until animals have cleared their nests and don't forget to check for nests as you clear brush. I

realized what a valuable resource this center is right here in our community! Please support them if you can.

California Wildlife Center Busy Baby Season Alert

The California Wildlife Center is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation and release of native species. Sick, injured and orphaned native wildlife receive the necessary care so that they can be released back into the wild.

At this time of year, California Wildlife Center (CWC) is gearing up for "Baby Season" in the wildlife world! By May, most land mammals will have given birth. From early April through September, animals are especially vulnerable to human disturbance and activities when they are in the process of raising their young.

Injured animals are brought to the Center throughout the year, but in spring and summer, CWC also cares for large numbers of young animals that have been orphaned or separated from their parent(s) due to some kind of human activity and are too young to survive on their own in the wild.

The costs to care for these animals are very high and increasing all the time. Please consider making a donation to CWC. With your support, California Wildlife Center can use its limited resources to maintain adequate staffing and purchase necessary medical supplies and food – so that no animal is turned away.

For more information please visit their website at: www.californiawildlifecenter.org or call them at 310.458.WILD (310-458-9453). Your tax deductible donation can be made to: CWC P.O. Box 2022, Malibu, CA 90265

-Victoria Harris

MNVCA Board of Directors Meeting

April 11, 2006

The regular meeting of the MNVCA was called to order at 7:15 p.m. in the home of Cynthia Hodes. In attendance were Board Members: Marianne Cilluffo, Les Hardie, Cynthia Hodes, Lisa Lehman, John Low, Jocelyn Mackay, Yehuda Netanel, Joan Slimocosky, and Heidi Stompe along with other members of the community.

Minutes from the March meeting were not available. They will be provided to the Board via e-mail and approved electronically.

Treasurer's Report: The bank accounts are to be consolidated to save on service fees. The annual membership drive is to begin next week which will generate renewal.

Correspondence: Several items were received and routed including the MRT Newsletter along with notices for upcoming meetings from the City of Calabasas Planning Commission.

Federation Report: The next Federation meeting will host Jonathon Levy a candidate for State Assembly in the upcoming election. The annual installation banquet will be held in May or June.

Old Business: Stunt High Trail – Neighbors Georgia Farinella and Rob Scappa presented information on the status of local trails and the possibility of losing the existing connector trails to pending development. They requested that we (MNVCA) help monitor these issues more closely to protect against loss of established trails in the local area.

LVUSD Bond Issue – The bond will be on the November ballot. The money is to be directed toward new and updated facilities throughout the school district.

Community Directory – The data for the 2006 version has been finalized. The map, important phone numbers, helpful information and a history of the Monte Nido area will also be included in the final printing.

Newsletter – The time and expense of printing the monthly newsletter was discussed. Costs could be diminished by eliminating the monthly postal delivery fees; sending only the

electronic copy via e-mail; and providing a limited number of printed newsletters at a pre-determined location, such as the bulletin board near the fire station, for those that want to pick up a hard copy or have no access to e-mail. Currently, a volunteer is needed to pick up the letter from the printer then deliver it to the post office in Canoga Park each month. The printing and postal delivery fees run about \$350/month.

New Business: July 4th – A chairperson is needed to oversee the event. No volunteers are available at this time. There is a potential for cancellation of the event if no one steps forward from the community to assist. However, the Grand Marshall (Rob Szilagyi if he accepts) and general theme (Imaginative Homes for People & Pets in our Mountain Nest) were selected.

Local Accidents – Yehuda described a motor cycle accident that he came up upon last Saturday. Jocelyn discussed a recent accident with a Porsche that he was aware of and Heidi was the victim of road rage by some motor-cyclists that were speeding on Piuma Rd. These are just a few of the many such incidents that happen in our area on a daily basis. In the past we have been advised by local law enforcement that documenting accounts of speeding and reckless driving including time, date and location, is helpful to them with their patrols. The phone number to be used to report such incidents will again be posted in the Newsletter.

-Lisa Lehman

Annual Membership Appeal

The annual membership drive is on! Won't you join us? Our association works hard to maintain the sense of community that is often lost in today's hectic world. We do it by organizing events, publishing this newsletter to keep you informed, and by staying in touch with our local officials and the happenings around us. Our community can and has made a difference. Appeal letters should have reached your mailboxes this month. If you didn't receive one, and would like to join, annual dues are only \$50 per family and \$25 for new members. Send your check payable to MNVCA to PO Box 8054, Calabasas, 91372.

Equestrian Trails, Inc., Corral 36

National Park Service needs your help!

From Woody Smeck, Superintendent, SMMNRA:

At the May 2, 2006 meeting held by the National Park Service for the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, we viewed the plans for the new and better Chesebro Canyon Trailhead in Agoura. Several things were lacking for equestrian use, namely an adequate number of parking spaces for horse trailer rigs (only 8 or 9 were shown which would be insufficient for a planned group trail ride on a weekend), that the parking lot turning radius for gooseneck or 5th wheel trailers was not correct to keep these vehicles from cheating corners; the bus debarkation area was too close to the horse trailer area which perhaps could unsettle some horses when a large group of possibly noisy children get off the bus; and most important - a potable water source close to the horse trailer parking area or perhaps at each end of the equestrian parking areas. You can participate and view the National Park Service plans and graphics on line at www.nps.gov/samo/accesstrail. Please do so right away. Or visit the NPS office at 401 W. Hillcrest Dr., Thousand Oaks, CA. Further information may be obtained by calling 805-370 2331.

The public may submit comments by fax to (805) 370 1850; by email through the National Park Service website www.nps.gov/samo/accesstrail. Look for "Contact Us" to send your comments. Public comment period ends June 2, 2006.

-Stephanie Abronson

July 4th parade notice: If you intend to ride or lead a member of the equine species in the parade, please remember that we have ETI cover the liability issues and a waiver must be signed before you can participate. Parents must sign the waiver for all children in their family. If you would like to get the paper work done ahead of time, please call Jeanne Wallace, 818-222 2560.

Calendar of Events

MNVCA Board Meeting

Tuesday June 13 at 7 PM.
at the home of Heidi Stompe
871 Malibu Meadows Dr.
222-8711

Equestrian Trails, Inc., Corral 36

Tuesday June 13 at 7 pm
at the home of Alix Lawson,
1953 Lookout Dr., Agoura Hills (Malibou Lake),
(818) 707-2474.

Suffering from the Sugar Blues?

If you're constantly craving sweets and want to understand why. If you want to gain control without willpower or deprivation--
Please join Betsy Milligan, Holistic Health Counselor for a free lecture on Monday, June 5th, 6:30-8:00pm in my home at 935 Camino Colibri,
Call 225-7577 for details or email
BetsyMilligan@hotmail.com

Book Signing

"Secrets of The Savanna"
By Mark and Delia Owens
Diesel Books in Malibu
June 14th
For more information contact:
Wayne Pepper
222-0968 waynepep@charter.net

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

Zen Meditation

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

How to reach us:

MNVCA Officers:

President: Joan Slimocosky

Vice Pres. John Low

Treasurer: Cynthia Hodes

Secretary: Lisa Lehman

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

Contributions to the newsletter including nonprofit events to be listed in the calendar can be made by the 5th of the month to me (the editor) at 856 Wonder View Dr. or by email to mnvcanews@charter.net. *–Marianne Cilluffo*

ANNOUNCING

The Monte Nido Valley Community Association



FOURTH of JULY CELEBRATION!



Join us for PARADE and PICNIC

Picnic will be in Fleeman's Meadow with

Games! Bake Sale! Food! Raffle! Cold Drinks! Fun!

Parade Theme: "Monte Nido: My Mountain Nest"

Parade Entrants: Gather at 10:00 a.m. at corner of Camino Colibri and Thornhill

Parade starts at: 10:30 a.m.

Picnic follows in: Fleeman's Meadow

Don't Forget: Bring a baked good or a watermelon!

Equestrians Take Note: If you intend to ride *or lead* a member of the equine species in the parade, please remember that we have ETI cover the liability issues and a waiver must be signed before you can participate. Parents must sign the waiver for all children in their family. If you would like to get the paper work done ahead of time, please call Jeanne Wallace, 818-222 2560.

**WE STILL NEED VOLUNTEERS TO HELP ORGANIZE AND ASSIST ON THE 4TH!
PLEASE CONTACT SUSAN BAILEY AT 222-7663 FOR MORE INFORMATION.**