



# MONTE NIDO VALLEY



## COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



*A Dark Sky Community*

E-NEWSLETTER

August 2010

### 4<sup>th</sup> of July 2010 Monte Nido's Got Talent

Monte Nido certainly does have talent for celebrating Independence Day! Once again, we enjoyed a marvelous July 4 parade and picnic, filled with food, fun, and friendship. We are extremely grateful to the dedicated volunteers who gave so much time and energy to make this happen. Remember please, this event is organized and staffed completely by volunteers! Additionally, all the many expenses associated with the day are paid for with funds from the Monte Nido Valley Community Association. Those monies are raised by the various food sales and raffle at the picnic and other community events, as well as your association dues. Please remember to pay your dues when the membership letter arrives in your mail. Your support is necessary to continue these traditions. The first big thank you goes to Lois Love and Tracy Bunetta, event co-chairs, who coordinated and supervised every aspect of the day. Much gratitude to the Fleemans for once again welcoming us into their beautiful meadow. Thank you to all the talented youngsters who submitted ideas for our theme. And much appreciation to the following band of hard workers who worked so hard before, during, and after the festivities: Rod Bergin/Master of Ceremonies, Randi Goodman, Debra Capogrosso-Roth, and Jeanne Benson/Raffle, Dayne Seiling/Games, Barry Thorn/Watermelon stand, Sherry Da Silva/Clean up and Recycling, Gail Lowe/Ticket Sales, Carol La Corte/Tables and chairs, Tom and Chris Maguire, Les Hardie/Setup and Cleanup, Bonnie Aharoni, Bill Haggerty, and Joan Braun/Judges, and Pony Club/Hotdogs and Snow Cones. If there is anyone we have inadvertently forgotten to include, please accept our heartfelt apologies and gratitude. And apologies to anyone who missed the parade because of the time error on the posters. Despite the mistake, the posters were very well made and displayed and we give thanks to the persons responsible for them.

#### **Circle of Life**

Michael Green, former resident and MNVCA Board member, recently died, suddenly, of a heart attack. He was our attorney who helped fight the Triangle for several years. The MNVCA Board of Directors offers condolences to his family.

#### **Save the Date!!!**

**Monte Nido BBQ and Square Dance**  
**October 23, 2010**

### **Arson Watch Presentation** **September 14, 7PM**

Fire Season is rapidly approaching. Please plan to attend a community presentation by Arson Watch volunteer Abigail Bok at the next MNVCA Board of Directors meeting, 7PM Sept 14, at the home of Carrie and Brent Baltin, 825 Crater Oak Drive.

#### **Monte Nido Fire Safe Council**

We are extremely pleased to announce the acceptance of MNVCA as the permanent host of our new Monte Nido Fire Safe Council. This is a responsibility as well as an honor. Your Council members are Lynn Benjamin, Joan Kay, John Low, and Joan Slimocosky. We are presently in the process of applying for a grant, with our first grant project to be reduction of unwanted fuel in our various neighborhoods. So heads up, everyone. Assess your area and make your personal wish lists for dangers to your area, such as that old pine tree. We will be asking for your input in the near future. We wish to thank the Board of Directors and the entire California Fire Safe Council organization for their confidence in us and especially we thank our community volunteers who have stepped up to the plate to help organize our efforts: Marianne Cilluffo, Dick and Lois Love, Mary Helen Young, Brent and Carrie Baltin, Susan Bischoff, and Gloria Serleto. Please forgive if I missed any of you. For questions, input, and especially volunteers, please call Joan Kay. (818) 222-2977

#### **Support State Parks**

Last month some local residents were appalled by the unbelievable amount of garbage that covered the Rock Pool area in Malibu Creek St. Park. There were numerous people who seemed unconcerned about the dangers of smoking in the park and the trash surrounding them. Conditions such as this are what caused the Corral Canyon fire. Approximately 25 men were stomping with nets in every remaining pool of water in the creek bed. Recently, a Virginia Rail was spotted by one of these pools. As Milt McAuley wrote in his book of Malibu Creek St. Park, "Volcanic cliffs rise from both sides of the pool forming a spectacular setting". The book also notes that there are ten native amphibians that live in the park. Proposition 21 on the November ballot will add \$18 each year to each citizen's annual auto registration fee in return for free admission to state parks and to raise \$140 million a year to maintain current levels of ranger patrols and maintenance. Please consider whether this proposition deserves your support.

## Trails Report

To support our Corral 36 Trails Maintenance Program please send your contribution to Jeanne Wallace, 1710 Cold Canyon Road, Calabasas, CA 91302. For information call (818) 222-2560.

### Ad Executive Still Needed!!

You can do this! We are still in need of a new volunteer to take on this assignment. Approximately once every one to two months, the ads for this newsletter must be organized into printable format, and fees must be collected and forwarded to the MNVCA treasurer. Although it does not require a great deal of time or effort, it is a very important and valuable assignment, as the ads fund the printing and distribution of this newsletter! Please consider helping the community in this capacity. If interested, contact Joan Slimocosky at 818-591-1082.

### MNVCA Board of Directors Meeting July 2010

Minutes of July 13, 2010 meeting of MNVCA Board of Directors. The meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM at the home of Marianne Cilluffo. Present from board were Joan Slimocosky, Marianne Cilluffo, Heidi Stompe, Carrie Baltin, John Low, Dick Love, Jill Reiss, Joan Kay, and Judy Goldin. Guests from the community included Dara Baltin, Louise Green, and Stephanie Abronson. There were no *minutes* or *correspondence* to review or approve. No bills or receipts were available at this meeting from the July 4 events. *Treasurer report*: Cilluffo reported on current balances in the checking account and CD. There were 3 expenses last month: insurance for July 4, P.O. Box, and Louise Green legal expenses. No other expenses or receipts have been received yet from July 4. *Federation report*: Slimocosky attended the last meeting. She complimented the new president who produces a copious multi-page newsletter. We will email copies of it to the board. Reiss will email the community distribution list to ask who might want to be on a list to receive it regularly. (Abronson wants to be on it). Slimocosky reported about ongoing issues of interest to the Fed. regarding potential secession of Old Topanga from the City of Calabasas because of City desire to mandate sewer hookups at considerable homeowner and City expense to some 38 homes in Old Topanga. *Old Business*: July 4 – We will thank all volunteers in the August newsletter, including Tracy Bunetta, Lois Love and everyone on Lois's list (and anyone we unintentionally forget). Longtime resident, former Board President and community activist, Jerry Duryee attended. The upcoming newsletter will remind the community that it's all volunteers who organize the event, and there are many expenses associated with it that come out of MNVCA organization funds. Michael Green, former resident and Board member, died

suddenly, recently, of a heart attack. We will put a notice in the newsletter. He was our attorney who helped fight the Triangle for several years. *CWPP*- Kay is working with Lynn Benjamin on a project to successfully apply for grant monies for removal of unwanted fuels from Monte Nido. Benjamin and Kay went to a day and a half CA Wildfire Meeting. We cannot apply this year for a grant because we missed this year's window. Kay has 12 potential street captains. Benjamin and Kay will get together with Yehuda Netanel, and Dick Love to review their plan for their street and ask them for counsel on what radios/walkie talkies to acquire. *Arson Watch* – We will schedule a presentation from Abigail Bok for the September meeting, when we can have enough advance notice to announce it to community and have a larger audience, possibly at the Baltins' house at Sept. 14 board meeting. Carrie Baltin will check her availability. *Healthy Oak Ordinance* – A subcommittee of Federation and other concerned citizens met. The goal is "preservation and protection of the finite, rapidly diminishing resource, that is, the oaks with regard to the environment. Not just single oaks, but oak woodlands and savannah – the community of flora and fauna." *Rattlesnake workshop* – Mountains Restoration Trust has one scheduled for Aug. 7 & 8, 8-5PM, \$70/dog. *Emergency booklets* – Cilluffo got prices for printing. The board agreed to print 200 copies, 11x17 folded and stapled, with a red cover, of the booklet to distribute with the membership solicitation letter. *Postal Account* – The board agreed to replenish funds. *New Business*: Square Dance/BBQ – The date is set, Oct 23, place reserved at Group Camp at Malibu Creek State Park, chairperson Lois Love is organizing it. *California Wildlife Center* is having an event at Gullsway Estate on 8/22/10 from 12-4. A donation is required. *Calmont School* - Cilluffo reported Calmont has closed and the property has been sold to another school currently in Topanga and is expected to be expanded. Cilluffo will investigate who the buyers are. The *next meeting* will be at Carrie and Brent Baltins' house on Sept 14. The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 PM. Respectfully submitted, Jill Reiss

*All neighbors are welcome  
and encouraged to attend Board meetings.  
We welcome your interest and involvement!*

#### How to reach us:

Send your email address to Jill Reiss, the MNVCA secretary, at [mnvcanewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:mnvcanewsletter@gmail.com), to receive announcements of meetings, community activities, and the time and location of our Board meetings.  
President: Joan Slimocosky 818-591-1082  
Vice Pres: John Low 818-224-8062  
Treasurer: Marianne Cilluffo 818-876-3019  
Secretary: Jill Reiss 818-222-1995

**Contributions to the newsletter can be sent to the editor at [mnvcanewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:mnvcanewsletter@gmail.com)**

**MONTE NIDO VALLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION  
BULLETIN BOARD**

**August 2010**

<p align="center"><b>DESIGN &amp; BUILD</b></p> <p>Residential remodel and new construction All under one roof: Design, Construction, Interiors. Licensed General Contractor <b>917-1803 <a href="http://www.designblue.com">www.designblue.com</a></b></p>	<p align="center"><b>REAL ESTATE</b></p> <p>Residential real estate specialist for Monte Nido, Malibu and Malibu Lake. Respectful and professional negotiations for purchase/sale/property management. It is my pleasure to reside and complete competent business in our community. <b>Gail A. Lowe 310-317-8363 office, 310-938-3984 cell</b> Coldwell Banker Colony, DRE# 01115332 gailalowe@gmail.com</p>
<p align="center"><b>REAL ESTATE</b></p> <p>Specializing in Monte Nido Properties. Top Coldwell Banker Agent representing Buyers and Sellers in our community for more than 20 yrs. How much is your house worth? Call for a complementary market analysis. <b>Tracy Bunetta 222-2272</b> <a href="http://MonteNidoRealEstate.com">MonteNidoRealEstate.com</a></p>	<p align="center"><b>ARCHITECT</b></p> <p>Custom homes and Remodels <b>Gary Bardovi 222-0313</b></p>
	<p align="center"><b>CUSTOM FURNITURE &amp; CABINETRY</b></p> <p>Unique patinas on wood and metal.  <b>Roger Savatteri 310-625-2887</b> <a href="http://www.savatteridesigns.com">www.savatteridesigns.com</a></p>
<p align="center"><b>New from the SADDLE PEAK LODGE</b></p> <p align="center"><b>“We Love Our Neighbors”</b></p> <p align="center">Happy Hour on the patio every Wed/Thur/Fri from 4 to 6pm Half price on handcrafted cocktails, daily wine tastings, plus a variety of small plates from Chef Adam. DINNER WED–THURS 6-9, FRI 5:30-10, SAT 5-10, SUN 5-9 SUNDAY BRUNCH 10:30-2 See our website <a href="http://www.saddlepeaklodge.com">www.saddlepeaklodge.com</a> click on Menu, Happy Hour. <b>222 388 8</b></p>	

*NOTE: NEW PROCEDURES FOR CLASSIFIED ADS*

*Private Party Ads, \$5 per month. Business Ads, \$10 per month  
Monte Nido residents only.*

*To place an ad:*

- 1. Send payment to MNVCA at P.O.Box 8054, Calabasas, CA 91372*
  - 2. Email ad copy to [lynnben@charter.net](mailto:lynnben@charter.net) (Lynn Benjamin)*
- Please include your residence address for our records.*

*Payment must be received by MNVCA Treasurer prior to ad publication.  
Any questions please call Lynn Benjamin, 818-222-2568 or email as above.*

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Monte Nido Valley Community Association  
PO Box 8054  
Calabasas, CA 91372

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
CANOGA PARK, CA  
91304  
PERMIT No. 307

Please deliver by August 15, 2010

POSTAL CUSTOMER  
RURAL ROUTE NO. 1  
CALABASAS, CA 91302

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**Calendar of Events**

**MNVCA Board Meeting**

Tues, Sept 14, 7PM  
at the home of  
Carrie and Brent Baltin  
825 Crater Oak Drive  
818-224-4696

**ETI Corral**

Corral 36 Meeting & Seminar  
Tues, Sept. 7, 7PM  
at the home of  
Jim & Susan Thomas  
516 Glen Trail  
Topanga, CA 90290  
(310) 455-2256

**Las Virgenes Homeowner's Federation  
Meeting**

Thursday Sept 16, 7:30PM  
Diamond X Ranch  
(Off Mulholland)

**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