



MONTE NIDO VALLEY



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



A Dark Sky Community

E-NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2007

Brush Clearance Dispute Resolution

Some neighbors have experienced what they consider extreme requests for brush clearance this year, believing some of the demands were contrary to the Los Angeles County Fire Department Forestry policies and the Oak Tree Ordinance. This has led to the possibility of oak trees being over trimmed. In addition, in many instances recent Fair Plan inspections have asked for more clearance than the Fire Department requires (or, often allows!).

For private property owners who have issues with what the Fire Department is requiring for brush clearance compliance, you have the right to ask for a review with the local Battalion Chief. If you are still not satisfied, you may ask for a review to include the Brush Clearance inspector who is part of the Forestry Division of the Fire Department, and they will meet with property owners on site to agree on the necessary "fuel modification" that needs to take place for compliance. If a property owner is experiencing onerous requests from Fair Plan, and your property has been signed off by the Fire Department as being in compliance, the best course of action is to appeal and arrange for the Brush Clearance Officer and/or the local Fire Captain to be on site when the Fair Plan inspector comes back for a review.

To discuss your clearance orders or to have your property re-evaluated, Battalion Chief DeJournett may be contacted at 310-456-2379 or email TDeJourn@lacofd.org. To discuss your citation or for guidance on proper oak tree trimming, Ron Durbin with the Forestry Brush Clearance Unit may be contacted at 626-969-2375 or rdurbin@lacofd.org

-Information contributed by Rebecca Dmytryk and Susan Nissman

Winter "Banquet" Pot-Luck

The annual winter banquet pot-luck and installation dinner will be held at the next MNVCA Board meeting on March 13. The event is open to all residents of Monte Nido. As last year, attendees are asked to bring a "hearty hors d'oeuvres" to share along with a \$10 fee to cover costs. The event will once again be held at Rosemary Alden's at 901 Crater Camp Dr. starting at 7pm.

New Newsletter Editor

My name is Jill Reiss and as of next month I have volunteered to compile and edit this newsletter. It may take me some time until my efforts live up to the high standards our previous editors have set, so I thank you in advance for your patience and tolerance as I get up to speed! As usual, please send your contributions by the 5th of the month, but use the following new addresses:

mnvcanewsletter@gmail.com

1066 Meadows End Drive.

222-1995

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 M.Cilluffo, L.Hardie, C. Hodes, J.Kay, L.Lehman, J.Low, J.Mackay, Y.Netanel, J. Slimocosky and H. Stompe along with other members of the community.

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

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) 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

(Minutes must be approved by the Board before they are published. As a result, they are printed one month in arrears. You can find out what is

happening at the meetings in a timelier manner by attending!)

How to reach us:

Send your email address to Lisa Lehman at 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

Letter to the Editor: Local Trail Issue

At the Feb. 13th meeting of the MNVCA board, Georgia Farinella made a very informative presentation about our local trail situation. Georgia Farinella is one of our trails advocates, who attends Coastal Commission hearings to demand that our local trails be kept open. These are the trails that connect Monte Nido with many other County and State trails and parklands. Without these local trails it would not be possible to ride or hike from Monte Nido and enjoy the beauty our "neighborhood" has to offer. In Jeanne Wallace's Trails Report on page 3 of the ETI Corral 35 Newsletter, you can read about the lengths some of our neighbors have gone to insure that we keep our local trails by the purchase of land parcels. Cooperative neighbors are to be highly valued.

A developer has been buying properties in the Monte Nido area with a complete disregard for our long term trail usage, intent on building out the last remaining spaces to his profit. Profit in itself is not a bad thing. It is the disregard for the wildlife, stream impact, more than 40 years of trail usage by the local inhabitants by creating more hardscape in such sensitive areas that is bad. The impact of this developer's designs on the land he has recently acquired, his previously owned parcels for which he has made lot line adjustments impacting our trails, and his intent on creating a two lane road from Mulholland across a utility easement and eventually joining Cold Canyon Road will destroy this wildlife habitat area. It will severely impact all the tributaries that flow into Cold Creek.

By Stephanie Abronson

MONTE NIDO VALLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION BULLETIN BOARD

FEBUARY/MARCH 2007

<p style="text-align: center;">ARCHITECT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Custom homes and Remodels Gary Bardovi 222-0313</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PIANO LESSONS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Beginners and Advanced Call Aukse 222-6947 or cell 310-500-5121</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">REAL ESTATE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Specializing in Monte Nido properties. Top Coldwell Banker agent with sales of \$18 million in 2004 just in Monte Nido. Call for complementary market analysis. (18 yr.resident) Tracy Bunetta 222-2272 MonteNidoRealEstate.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">COMPREHENSIVE DENTAL CARE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">We provide general dentistry, orthodontics, invisalign, sedation dentistry (great if you are high fear), implants, and cosmetic dentistry. Monte Nido resident practicing for over 20 yrs in Sherman Oaks. Michael Bjornbak, DDS 818-781-3111 www.shermanoaksdental.com</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">REAL ESTATE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Monte Nido resident, licensed and working for over 15yrs. Please call for comparative market analysis anytime. Gail A. Lowe 222-5543. www.teamworkcounts.com joyceandgail@earthlink.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">BATHROOM & KITCHEN REMODEL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Licensed General Contractor. Also does custom cabinets & finish carpentry. Visa & Mastercard accepted New Restored Image 209-0888</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">EXTERIOR DESIGN</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Landscape, pools, fireplaces, patios, BBQ's Everything to enhance your outdoor living! Nick Williams 996-4010</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ARCHITECT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sensitive to budget & lifestyle. Responsive to the land and environment. Monte Nido resident for over 25 years Warren Lawson 591-0646</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">DESIGN & BUILD</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Residential remodel and new construction All under one roof: Design, Construction, Interiors. Licensed General Contractor 880-8691 www.designblue.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">REAL ESTATE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Specializing in netting you the highest sales price possible for your Monte Nido home. Sotheby's Intl. Realty's #1 agent in Malibu with over \$90 million in sales in 2005 Monte Nido resident Amy Alcini 310-317-2803 www.AmyAlcini.com</p>

Contact Lynn Benjamin to place an ad
Phone: 222-2568 Email: lynnben@charter.net
Private Party Ads, \$5 per month. Business Ads, \$10 per month
Pay to: MNVCA. Mail to: Lynn Benjamin, P.O.Box 461, Malibu, CA 90265



Calendar of Events

**MNVCA Board Meeting
And Spring Banquet Pot-Luck**
Tuesday, March 13, 7 PM
At the home of Rosemary Alden
901 Crater Camp
222-2936

All are welcome to attend.
Please bring a hors d'oeuvre to share.

ETI Corral 36
Tuesday, March 6, 7 PM
at the home of
Stephanie & Chuck Abronson
543 Cold Canyon Rd.,
222-PONY

Note change to first Tuesday of the month!

Las Virgenes Homewoner's Federation Meeting

Guest Speaker on Operation Safe Canyons
March 15, 7:30 pm
Diamond X Ranch
(off Mulholland Highway)

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

