



# MONTE NIDO VALLEY



## COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



*A Dark Sky Community*

E-NEWSLETTER

February 2012

### IMPORTANT NOTICE!!!

**THIS IS THE  
FINAL EDITION  
OF THE  
MNVCA ASSOCIATION  
NEWSLETTER THAT WILL BE  
PRINTED AND MAILED**

**FROM NOW ON, THIS  
NEWSLETTER WILL ONLY BE  
DISTRIBUTED VIA EMAIL, AND  
WILL BE POSTED ON THE MONTE  
NIDO WEBSITE, [montenido.org](http://montenido.org)**

**YOU ARE RECEIVING THIS  
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RECEIVED AN EMAIL OF THIS  
NEWSLETTER WISHES TO BE ON THE  
EMAIL LIST, THEY MUST SEND THEIR  
EMAIL ADDRESS TO THE MNVCA  
SECRETARY, JILL REISS AT  
[mnvcanewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:mnvcanewsletter@gmail.com)**

**IF YOU WOULD ALSO LIKE TO BE  
INCLUDED ON THE DISTRIBUTION LIST  
FOR THE LAS VIRGENES HOMEOWNERS  
FEDERATION NEWSLETTERS, PLEASE  
MAKE A NOTE OF THAT WHEN YOU  
SEND YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS.**

### Support MNVCA

So

### MNVCA can Support You

Last week you should have received the annual Monte Nido Valley Community Association membership appeal. It's only \$50 a year to support the organization that supports you. The MNVCA organizes and finances insurance and infrastructure (like tables, microphones, trash, food) and other expenses for the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade and picnic, and the autumn BBQ and Square Dance. Board members and community volunteers organize and staff the Adopt-A-Highway cleanup, Fire Safe Council, the monthly Bulletin Board and this newsletter. They represent our interests at Las Virgenes Homeowner's Association, at County Supervisor meetings, and with local developers to protect our rural character and our trails. Your donation helps make all this, and more, possible. It's a small price to pay for a big return! Please mail your membership check today.

### In Appreciation:

### Marianne Cilluffo

The Board wishes to express its appreciation for the many, many hours of service to the community that Marianne Cilluffo has contributed over the past years. Marianne has worked tirelessly on behalf of Monte Nido in many capacities: as Treasurer of the MNVCA Board, as editor of this newsletter, compiling, assembling, and distributing the neighborhood directory, and organizing community cleanups, to list just a few. She is the consummate community member. Marianne has decided to resign from the Board of Directors at this time. She will be missed.

### 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.

## Animal Control

Monte Nido pets are among the luckiest on the planet. They live in one of the most beautiful and pet friendly neighborhoods of all. Many of the dogs are allowed to roam and wander the streets unsupervised. Although the dogs may love this freedom, it can cause problems for our human residents when they are approached and occasionally harassed. To avoid controversy and injuries, please keep your pets fenced or leashed whenever and wherever possible.

## Board of Directors Meetings

**December 13, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at the home of Joan Slimocosky. **Present** from Board: Les Hardie, Joan Slimocosky, Heidi Stompe, Carrie Baltin, Yehuda Netanel, John Low, Joan Kay, Marianne Cilluffo, Judy Goldin, Dick & Lois Love, Jill Reiss. From the community: Josh Cudworth, Stephanie Abronson. Treasurer's Report – Judy Goldin gave a report of bank balances. She will order and mail envelopes for the annual membership appeal. The board approved payment to renew board of directors insurance with Lemark insurance agency.

**Federation Report:** Joan Slimocosky reported there was discussion about pollution of Malibu Lagoon and a plan to reconfigure tributary channels to alleviate the problem. Currently at a depth of less than 1mm there's no oxygen in the lagoon water. More info on this is available in the Federation newsletter, [Malibucreekwatershed@gmail.com](mailto:Malibucreekwatershed@gmail.com), and in Malibu Times. Also, Woody Smeck is moving to be Superintendent at Yosemite National Park. **Old Business:** BBQ/Square Dance: was a financial loss. 82 people attended – 20 people rsvp'd on the last day; consequently there were too few tables and chairs. The tiered payment system resulted in a loss of \$410. The bottom line is it cost \$30/person but we charged less. Thanks to Les Hardie for donating electricity. Fleeman's Scholarship Fund - Motion passed to set up a scholarship fund with Las Virgenes Unified School district in honor of Geri and Phil Fleeman in recognition of all they've done for MNVCA. The amount and details to be determined in first quarter of Jan 2012. Carrie Baltin will arrange to send them a seasonal gift.

**Redistricting:** Joan Kay reported about attending the hearings with different community members. Slimocosky believes that the motion may not have been defeated without the efforts of the Federation.

**Quaker-Ross/Matt Osgood development:** Escrow has closed. Netanel and Hardie signed a letter of

understanding where Osgood agreed to build 15 houses on 20 lots in early CA Mission/Green & Green/Craftsman style. 5 lots will be dedicated to open space or some kind of conservation easements. If builder does not honor this agreement, the builder knows we will mount opposition to his development. **Email Newsletter:** Motion passed to make the newsletter 100% email after the next printed newsletter. It will contain a prominent announcement that it is the final printed copy so that everyone who wishes to continue to receive the newsletter will be aware that they must send their email to the secretary. **New Business:** **Trail Cleanup:** This Sat., Dec 17 crews will be cleaning up Phantom Trail from Liberty Canyon to Mulholland Hwy. REI is supporting the cleanup **Topanga Burglaries:** About 15 houses were burglarized in early Dec. Access was gained through forced entry through windows using victims' own ladder(s). A red van is implicated. Joan Kay encountered service people measuring in the neighborhoods. Netanel discovered that it's for a Midwest company, Aclara, that provides smart meter readers for utility companies. Contact person at Aclara is Ryan Cooper. **SOS donation:** Motion to donate \$100 to Save Open Space in Agoura was tabled until further discussion. **Roadwork:** Piuma Rd. will soon be under repair where the road has slipped at the turn. **Elections:** Bylaws state that we should have had general announcement, nominations and elections before this date. All officers agreed that they are willing to remain on board. Les Hardie will appoint a nominating committee who will meet and draft a slate as soon as possible. All Board members must be current with their dues to continue to serve on the board. Board members' terms that are expiring are: Netanel, Cilluffo, Slimocosky, Kay, John Low. **Next meeting:** Will be a general meeting for purposes of electing the board. Jan 10 at Judy Goldin's house. Meeting adjourned at 8:31PM. Respectfully submitted, Jill Reiss

**January 10, 2012**

The Board meeting was called to order at 7PM at the home of Judy Goldin. **Present** from the Board were Marianne Cilluffo, John Low, Joan Slimocosky, Jill Reiss, Carrie & Brent Baltin, Yehuda Netanel, Dick Love, Judy Goldin, Heidi Stompe, Les Hardie. Present from the community were Josh Cudworth, Rodger Reiss, Carolyn Walker. **Minutes:** Approved from Dec 2011

meeting. **Treasurer's report:** Bulk mail rates are going up. Joan Slimocosky went to the post office to check rates and our account and found that we should submit a renewal to mail the 2012 membership forms. Motion passed to pay post office bulk mail renewal fee to cover 2 membership mailings (since we've decided to print and mail only one additional newsletter it will no longer be required for that). **Federation:** The next meeting will be Jan 24. City of Calabasas City Councilman Jonathan Wolfson has resigned. The City Council is appointing his replacement. People interested in replacing him will attend the Jan 24 city council meeting to state their interest and qualifications. The LA County Board of Supervisors has voted to limit time allowed for people to speak at their meetings. The number of associations joining the Federation is growing dramatically in the past few years. **Communications:** A letter to the editor in the LA Times from Suze Randall was published today. Deb Lowe was at Fire Safe Council meeting today and learned that Suzanne Goode's (wildlife biologist for state parks) husband is quite ill. The meeting adjourned at 7:22PM

A **meeting of the general membership** was called to order at 7:22PM to select 5 Board members for the next 2-year term. **Motion** passed by proclamation to accept Josh Cudworth, Joan Slimocosky, Yehuda Netanel, Joan Kay, and John Low for a two-year term. Marianne Cilluffo resigned from the board. General Meeting adjourned at 7:29PM.

Board of Directors meeting was reconvened at 7:29PM. **Welcome:** to the board to Josh Cudworth.

**Old Business:** Joan Kay did some investigation on the letter of agreement with Vintage Properties (Matt Osgood development) but she was not present to deliver her findings. Yehuda Netanel explained Kay had several comments about the Board's rights and oversight vis a vis the development. The developer is working with us because Supervisor Yaroslavsky's office insisted upon it, so we have to remember that we will have input along the way. Currently, there are no County or Coastal approvals on plans. The Board may want to review developer's plans when they're available to make sure they conform to County rules and regulations. The opinions were shared that County ESHA approval actually takes longer and is more difficult to achieve now than Coastal and many inspections

will be required, and the most difficult hurdle will be County septic approval. Consensus is that we will stay active in this process; whenever the developer lets us know he has plans for us to review we will invite him to present the plans to the board. We will then execute a review of the plans with the full board and respond to the developer. **Membership letter:** Joan Slimocosky revised and updated the letter. Suggestion was made that more neighbors would get involved if the business of the board was more fun and relevant to them personally. Counterpoint was made that people show up whenever there's an important crisis. **Old Business for next Board meeting:** consider a Fun Run, Coffee Social and other ideas to get neighbors involved. **New Business:** There was discussion about an opportunity for the community to clear a blocked trail and there may also be an opportunity to get an easement with the new owners. There was discussion about the possibility of deploying some large stones to prevent parking off Piuma near Saddle Peak Lodge. Carrie Baltin will discuss with Mark Mehner. The next newsletter will contain a reminder to keep dogs under control in neighborhood. 27 acres have just been purchased off Mulholland for \$50,000 near Dark Creek Cold Canyon. The Federation should be alerted.

Meeting adjourned at 8:16PM.

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: Les Hardie 818-222-0661

Vice Pres: Carrie Baltin 818-224-4696

Treasurer: Judy Goldin 818-983-1910


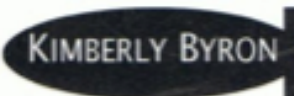

Secretary: Jill Reiss 818-222-1995

**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

[www.montenido.org](http://www.montenido.org)

February 2012

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<p><b>FOR SALE</b> Quality used woodworking equipment. Local resident liquidating large workshop. Email or phone for appointment to check out a variety of tools and related items. <a href="mailto:micknhen@aol.com">micknhen@aol.com</a> (818)-222-6580</p>	<p>Sunday brunch at <b>SADDLE PEAK LODGE</b> Mimosas, tasty comfort food and an elegant patio. What more could you ask for on a Sunday afternoon? 10:30am-2pm every Sunday Saddle Peak Lodge 818.222.3888 419 Cold Canyon Rd. Calabasas CA 91302 <a href="http://www.saddlepeaklodge.com">www.saddlepeaklodge.com</a></p>
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## Calendar of Events

### **MNVCA Board Meeting**

Tues., March 13 at 7PM  
At the home of  
Carrie and Brent Baltin  
825 Crater Oak Drive  
818-224-4696

### **ETI Corral**

Board Meeting & Seminar  
Tues., Feb. 7 at 7:00 pm  
at the office of  
Brian & Mia Boudreau  
26885 Mulholland Hwy.  
818-880-5139

This important Board meeting will continue to layout plans for 2012. You are invited to come and bring your suggestions and wishes for events and projects involving Corral 36.

Board Meeting & Seminar  
Tues., Mar. 6 at 6:30  
or 7:00 pm if we have a presentation  
at the home of  
Stephanie & Chuck Abronson  
543 Cold Canyon Rd.  
818-222-7669

### **Las Virgenes Homeowner's Federation Meeting**

Thursday, Feb 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