



MONTE NIDO VALLEY



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



A Dark Sky Community

E-NEWSLETTER

July 2008

Congratulations to Stephanie Abronson!

“Monte Nido resident and avid equestrian Stephanie Abronson was ... recently honored at LA County's 2008 Volunteers of the Year luncheon. Abronson was nominated by Supervisor Yaroslavsky in recognition of her efforts toward developing and implementing an equine microchip program in the Santa Monica Mountains to aid in the safe evacuation of horses in wildfire situations. She also helped organize the County Department of Animal Care and Control's Equine Response Team in 1996, and joined in compiling a manual on safely evacuating horses during a fire. “ (From Supervisor Yaroslavsky's newsletter).



Malibu Residents Organizing Fire Protection Plans

In the past several weeks, Malibu residents have held two meetings focused on protecting homes and neighborhoods from wildfires. The MNVCA Board wishes to pass along the following information as submitted to us. We do not endorse any group or product listed.

Coalition for Fire Safe Communities

CFSC is “a new 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization to educate, research, plan and implement a world class fire prevention and fire fighting system.” This organization held a town hall meeting on June 16 at the Malibu Library. The presentation was delivered by Don Schmitz, President of Schmitz Assoc.,

Development Consulting and Permit Processing, a private sector land use planner and Malibu resident since 1990. CFSC is a grass roots movement whose goal is the construction of firebreaks and water tanks along the mountain ridgelines. According to Schmitz, this is infrastructure that was originally planned and partially paid for decades ago when a greater degree of development of the Santa Monica Mountains was anticipated than has actually occurred. When development slowed, the infrastructure was not completed. At the meeting, Schmitz delivered a PowerPoint presentation and a series of maps outlining CFSC's rationale and proposals. Currently, when wildfires occur as they did last October and November, crews are dispatched with bulldozers and machetes to build 30-40 foot fire breaks in attempts to halt the fire's progress. These breaks are rapidly constructed in hazardous conditions and in environmentally unfriendly ways. CFSC's proposal is to proactively and thoughtfully construct a series of such breaks along the north/south orientations of major ridgelines, along with large water towers. These breaks would provide fire trucks with ready access to defensible positions and an adequate supply of water, and would channel the fire through open land rather than developed neighborhoods. Additionally, CFSC proposes that neighborhoods install agricultural rainbird sprinklers around the perimeters of subdivisions, which could be activated by local residents in anticipation of the arrival of the fire department. A cost/benefit analysis by CFSC determined that this infrastructure would be cost effective when compared with the expenses incurred with fire fighting and structural losses in recent fires, including the 2007 Malibu wildfires. For more information or to become a member of the coalition, contact Judy Park, General Manager, Coalition for Fire Safe Communities 29350 PCH, Suite 12, Malibu 90265; (310) 457-8246 judy@cfsonline.org

[more info on next page...]

Barricade Gel Demonstration

On June 21, a demonstration of Barricade II Fire Blocking Gel was held in Malibu. Barricade is a substance designed to be sprayed on structures and the surrounding areas within hours of the approach of a wildfire. It is applied with a garden hose. Barricade is "Safe, Non-toxic, 100% Biodegradable, Long Shelf Life". The gel has polymers, which absorb water and prevent ignition. Barricade can be washed off with a hose and water. Barricade is available from Malibu Fire Supply, malibufiresupply.com.

There are two videos online of the June Malibu demonstration:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=leN0TIONhy0>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gatjI_NKWAE



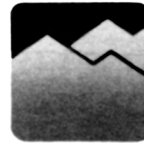
Jill Swift In Memoriam

The Monte Nido Valley Community Association Board of Directors wishes to join its members and their family and friends in memorializing the recent death of Jill Swift (19 May, 2008). We all knew Jill who, along with her co-activists, Sue Nelson and Margot Feuer, worked tirelessly to preserve the Santa Monica Mountains from over-development. Jill Swift and her many supporters helped win federal approval for the establishment of what is now the largest urban national park in the United States, the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area.

Mac McClain, resident and member MNVCA

Membership Reminder

If you enjoyed our annual July 4th parade and picnic, please remember that your neighbors in the MNVCA volunteer MANY hours to organize and provide this community function. Won't you join us, financially and physically, to help make this possible? Send membership dues to: PO Box 8054 Calabasas, CA 91372. \$50/year (or \$25 if first time member).



How to reach us:

Send your email address to Jill Reiss, the MNVCA secretary, at mnvcanewsletter@gmail.com, 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: Jill Reiss 222-1995

Contributions to the newsletter can be sent to the editor at mnvcanewsletter@gmail.com



**MONTE NIDO VALLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
BULLETIN BOARD**

July 2008

<p align="center">\$\$\$ ATTENTION TEENAGERS \$\$\$ Flexible part-time help for light in-outdoor chores 818-222-6818</p>	<p align="center">PERSONAL TRAINING & REHAB THERAPIST Gyrotonics 3D Fitness of Calabasas DEAN THEODORE 679-6205 dean@3dfitnessofcalabasas.com</p>
<p align="center">ARCHITECT Custom homes and Remodels GARY BARDOVI 222-0313</p>	<p align="center">PIANO LESSONS beginners and advanced Call Aukse 222-6947 or cell 310-500-5121</p>
<p align="center">ARCHITECT Sensitive to budget & lifestyle. Responsive to the land and environment. Monte Nido resident for over 25 years Warren Lawson 591-0646</p>	<p align="center">PSYCHOTHERAPY Specializing in eating disorders and adolescent problems. DAWN THEODORE, MA, MFT 679-6204 dawn@calabasaseatingdisorders.com</p>
<p align="center">COMPREHENSIVE DENTAL CARE 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 818-781-3411 www.shermanoaksdental.com</p>	<p align="center">REAL ESTATE Specializing in Monte Nido Properties. Top Coldwell Banker Agent representing Buyers and Sellers in our community for more than 20 years. How much is your house worth? Call for a complementary market analysis. Tracy Bunetta 222-2272 MonteNidoRealEstate.com</p>
<p align="center">DESIGN & BUILD Residential remodel and new construction All under one roof: Design, Construction, Interiors. Licensed General Contractor 917-1803 www.designblue.com</p>	<p align="center">Real Estate In business for over 20 years, your business is appreciated. It is my professional and personal pleasure to live in Monte Nido. Gail A. Lowe 222-5543 gailcb@earthlink.net</p>
	<p align="center">SADDLE PEAK LODGE DINNER WE-SU 5-10pm, BRUNCH SA-SU 11am-3pm Special Wednesday Farmers' Market menu Blue jean friendly, new air conditioning Ask about our complimentary parking for our Monte Nido neighbors. 222 3888</p>

To place an ad contact Nicole Brown at macvooodoo@netpowered.com or 818-914-6138
Private Party Ads, \$5 per month. Business Ads, \$10 per month
Pay to: MNVCA. Mail to: Nicole Brown, PO Box 423, Malibu, CA 90265

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MNVCA Board Meeting

Tuesday, July 8, 7PM
At the home of Rosemary Alden
901 Crater Camp Dr
222-2936

(No MNVCA Board Meeting in August)

ETI Corral 36

On Summer Hiatus in August
No meeting August 5

Next Seminar & Board Meeting

Tuesday, Sept. 2, 7 PM
at the barn of
Georgia & Chris Farinella
25700 Mulholland Hwy.
818-880-6139

"What's happening with our
local trails vs. developers."

Las Virgenes Homeowner's Federation Meeting

Thursday, July 17, 7:30PM
Diamond X Ranch
(Off Mulholland)

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

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 July 15, 2008

POSTAL CUSTOMER
RURAL ROUTE NO. 1
CALABASAS, CA 91302