



MONTE NIDO VALLEY



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



A Dark Sky Community

E-NEWSLETTER

May 2008

Volunteer Recruitment Effort Update

Last month's newsletter included several requests for volunteers to step forward to participate in a variety of community activities. Lynn Benjamin has done an outstanding job for quite some time, coordinating the classified ads for this publication, and the board and community are very grateful for her efforts! Now that Lynn has resigned, we are very fortunate that Nicole Brown has offered to take over. Thank you, Nicole! We still have an urgent need for additional personnel to help with the Fourth of July event and to act as Block Captains. Please try to find it in your heart and your calendar to get involved! For more information, read on...

Independence Day Picnic and Parade Please Help!

July 4th is only 2 months away! It's time to plan our annual community celebration! We need a volunteer group, and to develop the theme. This event is always a highlight of the season and many residents' grown children return year after year to enjoy the festivities. Jane and John Cudworth have offered once again to organize the raffle. They will be contacting neighbors to ask for donations. Please help, and come forward with some creative raffle prizes. We also need lots more volunteers to put the whole day together. It can't happen without a group of people to plan and execute it. If this opportunity appeals to you, please contact Suzanne Bailey at Suzyb0904@aol.com or 818-222-7663.

Block Captains Still Needed

Last year's fires made it clear that Monte Nido needs an organized system to alert us all in the event of danger or emergency. The Board has decided the simplest, most effective response will be to reactivate the Block Captain system. All the plans and materials are already in place. The only thing missing is people to make it happen. We need someone to act as "General" to shepherd the process, as well as Block Captains to take direct responsibility for their local street(s). If you can help Monte Nido plan for emergency situations, please contact Joan Slimocosky at 591-1082.



**Saddle Peak Lodge
To Honor Firefighters
May 17
All Neighbors Invited!**



"Saddle Peak Lodge would like to invite our Monte Nido neighbors for hors d'oeuvres and drinks on our beautiful patio Saturday, May 17th from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm. Our guests of honor will be our local fire department whose dedication and bravery during the recent fires is much appreciated by us all. Ann Ehringer and I look forward to welcoming you and your family on the 17th and hope to see as many of you as possible join us for this event.

Sincerely, Iain Walling, General Manager, Saddle Peak Lodge.

iain@saddlepeaklodge.com (818) 222-3888.

MNVCA Board of Directors Meeting March 11, 2008

The regular meeting of the board of directors was called to order at 7:15 at the home of Heidi Stompe. In attendance were Joan Slimocosky, Marianne Ciluffo, Joan Kaye, Les Hardie, Jill Reiss, Heidi Stompe, Rosemary Alden, Suzanne Bailey. From the community were Jeanne and Don Wallace, and Stephanie Abronson. Feb. minutes were not approved. Joan S. recapped discussion from last month. Following up on landscaping maintenance at the triangle, there was discussion about whether Saddle Peak lodge might be willing to help with watering until plants are established. **Treasurer's report:** Account balances were reviewed. A motion passed to reimburse the treasurer \$20 paid to file with the Sec't. of State. **No Federation report.** LCP: Joan Kaye attended Federation meeting and is concerned that LCP is getting diluted with lots of changes. She spoke at Federation meeting to encourage their support. Joan K. requested this board to write a letter to Frank Angel to tell him we're opposed to holding up the LCP. Joan K. and Les H. will compose a draft to present at next meeting. Jeanne Wallace thinks the LCP is already with Coastal; she'll confirm with Ben Saltsman. The issue was held over until the next meeting. **Old Business:** *Block Captains:* Volunteer wanted to resurrect decades old block captain program. Responsibilities to include overseeing selection and coordination of volunteers on different streets. Lots of support offered from the board but we need a lead person to spearhead it. Reverse 911: Could require unreimbursed expenses by board; the association would have to front the payment and then try to collect it from homeowners. *Fire preparedness:* A second meeting to continue unresolved discussion from the Jan. community meeting at the Salvation Army is proposed to be held at the firehouse in the hopes that more community members will attend. Joan S. to follow up with Captain Cox. Stephanie A. has thumb drive with maps – satellite view with all streets, fire hydrants, swimming pools, and properties identified. Stephanie will arrange to email them to all board members. *Installation Brunch:* For the neighborhood to meet the board and honor Lisa Lehman to be held Sunday, April 6, at 11:30 at Rosemary Alden's house. Suggested donation of \$5 to cover costs, bring a pot luck, BYOB. RSVP to Rosemary. Suzanne Bailey will purchase an azalea as a gift for Lisa (budget to be less than \$75). *Signage:* It's illegal for community to put any direction signs on any roads; only the county can post signs. We must request that county put them up and we must tell them exactly what we want. Chatsworth has "Share the Road" signs. Joan S will call Debbie DiMascio to see if she'll act as liaison with county to formally request signs. Marianne will contact her neighbor. *Board:* There was no newsletter in March because there was no quorum at Feb meeting and no one would take the minutes. Sheila Kalivas resigned. Suzanne made a motion to replace Sheila on board with Jill Reiss as Secretary. Marianne and Les seconded. Motion carried. *Trails:* Ongoing discussion of issues involving trails in the Santa Monica mountains. We will publish a reminder in newsletter that use of motorized equipment is illegal on all trails according to LA County Fire and Sheriffs Departments. *Dog Barking:* Include letter from Tom Canning in newsletter. Encourage people to deal with neighbors one on one, cordially. If no response, suggest they call LA County Dept of Animal Care and Control. Homeowners association does not act as enforcers. **New Business:** Les suggested holding only bi-monthly meetings while there isn't a great deal of ongoing business to attend to. Always could be rescheduled more frequently. Can rewrite bylaws to say need minimum of 6 meetings/year. Question tabled until next meeting. April board meeting cancelled in view of Brunch April 6. Newsletters will go out every month even if it ends up being only one page. Lynn Benjamin resigning from handling classified ads. Ask for volunteer to replace her in next newsletter.

Meeting adjourned at 8:52. The next meeting will be held May 13 at the home of Marianne Ciluffo. Respectfully submitted, Jill Reiss

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

May 2008

<p style="text-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 style="text-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 style="text-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 style="text-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 style="text-align: center;">PIANO LESSONS beginners and advanced Call Aukse 222-6947 or cell 310-500-5121</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">RESIDENT RECOMMENDS HELPER who has helped raise their children and worked for families in Monte Nido for 20 years. Available for baby/child/animal sitting, late day/over night, even house sitting. Excellent local references, has car. For more information call 917-9066</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">PSYCHOTHERAPY Specializing in eating disorders and adolescent problems. DAWN THEODORE, MA, MFT 679-6204 dawn@calabasaseatingdisorders.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PERSONAL TRAINING & REHAB THERAPIST Gyrotonics 3D Fitness of Calabasas DEAN THEODORE 679-6205 dean@3dfitnessofcalabasas.com</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">ARCHITECT Custom homes and Remodels Gary Bardovi 222-0313</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">EXTERIOR DESIGN Landscape, pools, fireplaces, patios, BBQ's Everything to enhance your outdoor living! Nick Williams 996-4010</p>
<p style="text-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 style="text-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 macvoodoo@netpowered.com
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, May 13, 7PM
At the home of Marianne Cilluffo
856 Wonderview Dr.
876-3019

ETI Corral 36
Tuesday, May 6, 7PM
At the home of Melissa Austin
2600 Ladybird Drive, Calabasas
818-225-0466

Las Virgenes Homeowner's Federation Meeting
Thursday, May 15, 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

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