



MONTE NIDO VALLEY



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



A Dark Sky Community

E-NEWSLETTER

April/May 2012

JULY 4TH PARADE AND PICNIC

**It's Official!!!
Due to High Demand
and Great Popularity...**

**The MNVCA Board of Directors will hold
another**

**Theme Contest
for the July 4, 2012**

Monte Nido Parade and Picnic!!!

Send us your great ideas!!!

(email to mnvcanewsletter@gmail.com)

The Winner will be the

GRAND MARSHAL in the parade

Submissions must be received by May 31.

All contestants will receive

Free Raffle Tickets.

Contestants must be under the age of 18.

Get those creative juices flowing kids :))

You Could Win!!!!

**AND PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO
HELP!**

Remember, none of the July 4th festivities happen all by themselves. It takes "people power". We really do NEED YOU to help, either in advance or that day or both! Please contact Lois Love loislove331@earthlink.net or Tracy Bunetta tracybunetta@hotmail.com to offer your services.

July 4th Equestrians Important Notice!!

All equestrians participating in the MNVCA 4th of July Parade with a horse, pony, mule or donkey are covered by insurance provided to MNVCA by Equestrian Trails, Inc., Corral 36. No equestrian may participate in the parade with an animal without first signing the WAIVER & RELEASE FOR EQUESTRIAN TRAILS, INC., ACTIVITIES, found in this newsletter. Please complete and return this waiver release to Stephanie Abronson prior to July 4th. Reach Stephanie via email: Stephanie@abronson.com or leave a telephone message at 818.222.7669.

Parents of children participating with a horse, pony, mule or donkey in the parade must sign the waiver & release form before their children can participate in the parade. Member of the USEF (United States Equestrian Federation) are exempt from purchasing a one-day single event membership for Equestrian Trails, Inc. but must provide a copy of their current membership card. If you are not a current member of Equestrian Trails, Inc., or the USEF, you must purchase ahead of time a one-day single event membership at a cost of \$5.00 per adult or child or \$7.00 for a family up to 4 persons.

We will greatly appreciate your forethought to getting this paperwork done before July 4th. It's really tough to tell a child that they may not participate in our wonderful parade because mommy or daddy didn't get the paperwork done! You can find the ETI Liability waiver in the back of this Newsletter.

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.

And Joan Slimocosky would like to add her personal 'Thank You' to crews who have cleared low hanging brush and reconstructed or rerouted the Backbone Trail in so many places. Areas where "short cuts" were made, usually by bikes, have been blocked and the trail returned to its original, less erosive route. But beware – rattlesnakes have recently been spotted on the trail so hike with caution

Thank you MNVCA Members

Thank you to all the people who responded during the recent membership drive for Monte Nido Valley Community Association. We will continue to represent and inform you on issues that affect our neighborhood. We invite anyone who is interested in attending our bi-monthly meetings to check this newsletter for dates and times. If you are not currently a member, we would appreciate it if you would consider joining. Membership is \$50 and addressed to MNVCA at P.O. Box 8054, Calabasas 91372.

Judy Goldin, Treasurer

And if you have NOT already joined the MNVCA ...

Earlier this year, 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 4th 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.

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.

And...Animal Abuse Mallard Duck Shot With Pellet Gun

One of the pleasures of living in Monte Nido is observing the changing of the seasons. Our family enjoys seeing the mallards return to our creeks after the rains each year. Until the creek dries out in summer, our daughter reports on duck sightings every time we cross the bridge. Last Sunday, while walking our dogs after the rains, we discovered a male and female mallard sitting in the weeds in the Edenwild neighborhood. When returning from the walk, the male was still trying to hide in the weeds. After taking the dogs home and returning to check on the mallard, we saw a crow was hassling the mallard as he walked down the street. He continued to walk a distance and we could see his wings were out of place. We contacted the California Wildlife Center and they sent someone right over to rescue him. The next day we received a call from their veterinarian. He reported that the mallard had been shot with a pellet gun and sadly, the damage was too extensive to save him. Because mallards are a protected species, he recommended we contact the California Dept. Of Fish and Game if we had an idea of who did it. After describing what happened to a couple of neighbors, they told us of two boys who live along the creek and have recently been cited for shooting a woodpecker. We reported the mallard incident to the Dept. Of Fish and Game and are waiting for a return call from a warden.

How sad that in Monte Nido, where coexisting with wildlife is part of our daily experience, there is an element that has disregard for our feathered neighbors and poses a threat to their existence. If you see anyone hunting ducks or other wildlife, you can report it to the Fish and Game Tip Line (888-334-2258). Susan and Jamie Carr

**Thank you from the Board and
our community equestrians to all
the friendly Monte Nido
neighbors who allow horses to
cross their properties.**

FIRE SAFE COUNCIL REPORT

Our "to do" list for Monte Nido:

- 1) Must trim down the dead matter from our trees
- 2) Must clear grass and brush from around our houses
- 3) If we see grass or brush we believe to be a threat to our houses report it to the local fire station which will report it to the County which will clear the grass and charge the owner.
- 4) Street Captains: Practice your communication system for your street. We will call a meeting soon.
- 5) Register your phones and email addresses with SNAP, which will call you in case of disaster.
Contact: www.ESPfocus.org. Special needs: <http://.snap.lacounty.gov>

6) QUESTIONS? Call Joan Kay (818) 222-2977

Board of Directors Meetings March 13, 2012

The meeting was called to order at the home of Carrie and Brent Baltin at 7:15PM. Present from the Board were: Les Hardie, Carrie and Brent Baltin, Joan Slimocosky, Joan Kay, Judy Goldin, Heidi Stompe, Yehuda Netanel, Josh Cudworth, Jill Reiss. Present from the community: Stephanie Abronson, Lynn Benjamin, Debra Low
Review of agenda: additions. Quorum is in attendance
Minutes from Jan 2012: There was a question about election of officers, which was referred to later discussion. Minutes were approved.
Treasurer's report: Judy Goldin reported 76 memberships were received from the recent mailing. She requests that the newsletter thank everyone who joined and make a plea for more people to join. Goldin will write the blurb. Board members must be current association members. Goldin will coordinate with Reiss to alert any who are in arrears. Report on current cash and investments. A membership bill from LVHF has been received - motion carried to pay it. Several requests for reimbursement for funds were put forward. Motion to reimburse all requests carried.
Federation report – Slimocosky reported – Friday April 27 is annual banquet at Malibu Lake Mountain Club. Sarah Wan is guest of honor. There are problems with drainage in the Malibu Lagoon. Experts want to restore it but it will require dredging and trucks of dirt and there are people in Malibu who are opposed. LVHF had a walk-through in Feb and opponents were there. As it currently stands there's a court case opposing the restoration, but if the case is dismissed the restoration will go forward this summer. LVHF had a tribute to Woody Smeck who has been promoted to Yosemite. Currently there's a search for a new superintendent but there's no word on whom it will be.
Communications – Slimocosky got a notice about a City of Calabasas event on March 28 – all are invited.
Old Business – Quaker Ross/Vintage properties – The MNVCA Board entered into a cooperation agreement with the principal, Matt Osgood who came to our meeting and shared his ideas and vision for the development. Our agreement specifies that if he purchased the 20 lots and followed certain stipulations,

we would be cooperative and give positive feedback to county. He also agreed that he'd donate 5 specific lots for public use – at the time of the agreement, Vintage was in escrow to buy 20 lots and dedicate 5 of them. In fact, he closed escrow on only 15 lots, not the 5 that were supposed to be dedicated. He could not come to terms with the bank about the other 5 lots. He has an option until June to purchase the 5 and then dedicate them. Osgood has said the bank has assured him that they will dedicate the 5 lots in 2012. Hardie informed Osgood that our agreement is no longer technically valid because only 15 lots have been purchased. Osgood agreed, legally, but he thinks the bank will in fact make good on the promise to dedicate the lots. Osgood has asked us to wait and see what the bank does because he believes our main interest is in having the 5 lots dedicated to open space. Hardie wanted to get some feedback from the Board before we meet Osgood again to review elevations and drawings. Extensive discussion ensued as to how to proceed with Vintage Assoc. Discussion was interrupted for presentation from Stunt Road residents.
Mulholland Speedway: Guests from Stunt Road community, Mary Ellen Strote, and Jean Schmit, are concerned about motor vehicle racing on local streets. They have worked with Susan Nissman at Yaroslavsky's office for 6 years to get the centerline rumble strips that have recently been installed. But despite it all, there's an up tick in high performance racing. They have a new idea that when the weather is right and racing is really happening they will hire a 'rent-a-cop' to hassle the racers and make them very unwelcome. Operation Safe Canyons (CHP and Sheriffs depts.) were skeptical of the homeowners years ago but Jean went to their meetings along with several other homeowners associations who have raceway problems. There are also new practices called Luge, which is very dangerous and presenting problems along Stunt Road. Strote and Shmit also reported that most teenage DUIs are marijuana users with medical cards. So measures are in process that if a medical card is presented, the driver's license will be suspended until the card is expired and a Dr. writes a note that the patient is off marijuana or needs marijuana to be able to drive (which will never happen). Leland Tang found out about plans for a motorcycle gang to come race here so he told them we were going to ticket them if they came here – and he took down their license plates. Homeowners in Stunt area are going to get noise enforcement technology. We are invited to attend their quarterly meetings to speak about our problems with this. We are encouraged to tell police what is happening here in Monte Nido. Police want us to email reports of problems we're having with noise, racing, and gang meetings. The 'rent a cop' is \$74/hour/man and you must rent 2 cars to do a sting. Mulholland Raceway goes through our community. They want our distribution list to see who might want to participate in funding the rent-a-cop. We suggested instead that they send us whatever they want to publicize and we will email it to our distribution list.

Old Business (continued) – re: Phil Fleeman: Slimocosky called Don Zimring, LVUSD schools supt. to tell him we want to make a fellowship or grant. It's only possible to give in such a fashion to the high schools. Phil and Geri

Fleeman can decide what kind of fellowship they want it to be and it will be awarded by Fleemans' choice or by someone from school. Slimocosky suggested \$2500 one time donation. That would be the largest local donation ever made in this school district. Motion to donate \$2500 to establish the Geraldine and Phillip Fleeman fellowship for the LVUSD High Schools in honor of his service on the school board and as a member of the Monte Nido community passed. Slimocosky will contact Zimring - Hardie will contact Fleemans to tell them. *Horse Access to Dark Creek Or Cold Creek* - Carrie Baltin and Stephanie Abronson said there used to be easements but now they're all closed off since homes were developed. CC&Rs were not enforced. Stompe has inquired and been told there are disadvantages to other people in neighborhood to have horses crossing their property. Right now the horses have to travel down Cold Canyon. Association has no action available to it. Baltin will suggest to neighbor who made the inquiry that they should find out whatever action might be available to let us know what we could do. The board will put an item in the next newsletter to thank people for allowing horse crossing on their property. Someone from horse community will send blurb to Reiss to publish. *Thanks to Cilluffo* - Slimocosky will get \$100 gift

certificate to Sperling Nursery to thank Marianne Cilluffo for her service over the years. Motion passed. *Film LA* - Goldin reported she hired Frank Angel to find out what her rights are because her neighbors are continually filming on their property and there's a common driveway. Too many trucks are up and down the driveway. A protest is planned for March 15 at 8:45 AM. If enough people come, Angel might get media to come. Goldin requested that people stand at the top of the road at her driveway on March 15 at 8:45AM to stop the trucks from coming. *Election of officers*: President - Les Hardie, VP - Carrie Baltin, Treasurer - Judy Goldin, Secretary- Jill Reiss. All elected by acclamation. *Meeting reverted back to discussion of Vintage Properties* - Yehuda Netanel and Gary Bardovi will make an appointment to review developer's plans and elevations, and report back to the board. *Next meeting* - Tues. May 8 at 7PM at Heidi Stompe's house
Meeting Adjourned 9:01PM
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, 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**

***The Next Meeting of the
Monte Nido Valley
Community Association
Board of Directors
Is scheduled for
September 11, 2012
Mark your calendars...***

Plan to come ☺

See Calendar of Events in this newsletter for more information.

MONTE NIDO VALLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION BULLETIN BOARD

www.montenido.org

May 2012

<p>MONTE NIDO ARCHITECT All residential projects large and small www.dbbarchitects.com Gary Bardovi, AIA (818) 222-0313</p>	<p>REAL ESTATE Specializing in Selling Monte Nido Properties for more than 22 years Top Awarded Coldwell Banker Agent Tracy Bunetta (818) 222-2272 MonteNidoRealEstate.com All questions welcomed. Call for a complementary market analysis.</p>
<p>Sunday brunch at SADDLE PEAK LODGE 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 www.saddlepeaklodge.com</p>	
<p>MONTE NIDO HOME FOR SUMMER LEASE - June 27 through October 25, 2012 Contact Pat Falkner for more information 818-225-9596 or email at patandavery@gmail.com</p>	<p>GUITAR LESSONS Monte Nido Resident & Local Guitarist Offering Lessons, Call Tim Wood 323 877 4544</p>

MNVCA Bulletin Board is E-Published Monthly at montenido.org and via e-mail list.
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 mnvca@charter.net

Calendar of Events

MNVCA Board Meeting

Tues., September 11 at 7PM
At the home of
Beth and Gary Bardovi
845 Cold Canyon
818-222-0313

ETI Corral

Tuesday, June 5, 2012
Board Meeting 7:00 PM
at the office of Craig Sap
Malibu Creek St. Park
Administration Bldg.
1925 Las Virgenes Rd.
(310) 699-1729

Update on MCSP trails and other park needs.
Info: Holly Kessler, 818.225.0569.

Las Virgenes Homeowner's Federation Meeting

Thursday, June 21, 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



WAIVER & RELEASE
FOR EQUESTRIAN TRAILS, INC., ACTIVITIES
This Is A Waiver of Your Legal Rights, And An Agreement Not To Sue
Serious Injury Or Death May Result From Riding Or Being Near Horses



1. **P a r t i c i p a n t ' s N a m e** (print): _____

A d d r e s s: _____ **C i t y**: _____ **S t a t e**: ____ **Z i p** _____

T e l e p h o n e: (____) _____ **E T I M e m b e r** _____ **I f Y e s , C o r r a l #**: _____

2. Liability Release.

- I in consideration for Equestrian Trials, Inc. ("ETI") allowing me or my child to voluntarily participate in its activities, I agree as follows:
- a. This agreement, waiver and release applies to ETI and to ETI's affiliated Corrals, committees, employees, predecessors, successors, attorneys, insurers, members and volunteers who are working in the course and scope of their duties on behalf of ETI, including its affiliated Corrals, at the time of occurrence of any act or omission which is later alleged to be a cause or contribution to a claim for injury, damages or death ("Released Parties");
 - b. I forever release, hold harmless and indemnify Released Parties from liability for any and all claims, demands, causes of action, damages, injuries or death to me, my minor children, my horse and my property, and legal liability of every nature, including the negligent acts or omissions of any Released Parties, whether known or unknown, anticipated or unanticipated, direct or indirect, arising out of participation in the past, present or future ETI activities (including equestrian activities, such as the riding, use of, or being near, horses, whether at an arena, stable or on a trail ride in association with ETI) and I assume all risks of injury or death as set forth in this release;
 - c. I shall not bring any lawsuit, action or proceeding against any Released Parties, even if they engage in negligent conduct; and
 - d. I make this agreement, waiver and release for and on behalf of myself, my spouse, my child and/or ward, heirs, administrators, successors, representatives and assigns.

3. Activity Risk.

I understand that some ETI activities take place in isolated or wilderness areas over rough terrain, and/or trails of unknown condition, and others take place on land or in facilities owned and managed by others from whom such land or facilities are borrowed or rented. I understand that the organizers, workers and members involved in ETI activities are not professionals in the horse industry, or in the planning or conducting of trips or camping events, or in other areas of expertise involved in ETI activities. I also understand that horseback riding is a rugged adventure, recreational sport activity. I am aware that there are numerous obvious and non-obvious inherent risks of serious injury or death, or property damage, to me or my horse, which are always present in ETI activities, on or near horses. I understand that pregnant women are specifically advised not to ride horses. I understand that ETI is a non-profit club of private individuals who have come together to support and enjoy recreation-oriented activities.

4. Nature of Horses.

I understand that no horse is completely safe, and the Released Parties make no representations or guarantees regarding the safety, training or suitability of any horse. Horses are 5 to 15 times larger, 20 to 40

5. Conditions of Nature & Locations.

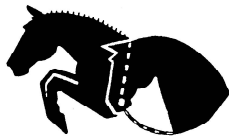
I agree that the Released Parties are not responsible for acts, occurrences or elements of nature or a particular location that can injure a person or scare a horse, cause it to trip, fall or react in some other manner. These elements include thunder, lightening, rain, wind, wild and domestic animals, insects, other people and horses, and reptiles which may walk, run, fly near, bite and/or sting a horse or person, irregular footing on groomed or wild land which is subject to constant change according to weather, temperature, natural and man-made objects. The Released Parties have not inspected, and make no representations or warranties concerning the safety or condition of, any trail, camping site, arena and/or other location of ETI events.

6. Helmet Warning.

I am aware that protective head gear which meets or exceeds the quality standards of the SEI certified and ASTM standard F1163 equestrian helmet, should be purchased and worn by me and/or my child while riding and being near horses, and the wearing of such helmet may reduce the severity of some head injuries and may prevent my serious injury or death as a result of a fall or other occurrence. If I or my minor child do not wear a helmet, it is because we so choose.

I HAVE READ, UNDERSTOOD AND VOLUNTARILY AGREE TO THIS TWO-PAGE WAIVER & RELEASE. I FURTHER AGREE THAT NO ORAL STATEMENTS, REPRESENTATIONS OR INDUCEMENTS APART FROM THIS WRITTEN AGREEMENT HAVE BEEN MADE TO ME TO OBTAIN MY CONSENT.

Dated: _____ Participant's Signature: _____



(Printed Name)

IF PARTICIPANT IS UNDER 18, SIGNATURE OF AGREEMENT BY PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN IS ALSO REQUIRED, AND SUCH PERSON FURTHER AGREES, PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 2, ABOVE, TO RELEASE AND INDEMNITY THE RELEASED PARTIES FOR ANY INJURY OR DEATH TO, OR ANY CLAIM BY OR ON BEHALF OF, SUCH MINOR:

Minor's Birth Date: _____

Date d: _____ S i g n a t u r e: _____



Relationship to Minor: _____
(Printed Name of Signor)

ETI Witness (print name)_Stephanie Abronson _____ Corral #_36

Description of Event Where Signed: MNVCA 4th of July Parade, Monte Nido, CA