



MONTE NIDO VALLEY



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



A Dark Sky Community

E-NEWSLETTER

September 2008

SAVE THE DATE!!!

Monte Nido's Annual

Square Dance and BBQ returns!

New Location: King Gillette Ranch
(corner of Mulholland and Las Virgenes)

New co-sponsors:

Cold Creek Community Association

Saturday, October 18th

6-10 pm

Delicious BBQ Ribs and Chicken

Square dancing for all you cowboys and gals!
\$20/person. Advance sales will be REQUIRED

Ticket Purchase Details to follow.

Come early (5pm) and take a walking tour of this magnificent site that all of us in the Monte Nido Valley Community Association helped save with years of perseverance, hard work and money. It is worth it! For more information, contact Joan Slimocosky at 591-1082, or Suzanne Bailey at 222-7663.

Thank You, July 4th Volunteers!

Once again Monte Nido had an outstanding Independence Day event. The Happy Trails parade featured colorful floats filled with many smiling faces, young and "old". Games, food, raffles, and camaraderie followed at the picnic. None of this would have been possible without the leadership and initiative of Suzanne Bailey, who chaired the event yet another time. Thank you, Suzanne! And Thank You to Gerri and Phil Fleeman for graciously permitting the picnic to be held on their meadow. Suzanne was supported by a generous and industrious "crew" whose donations of time, energy, and materials really made the day a success. Particular thanks to Jane and John Cudworth for the spectacularly successful raffle. The Association greatly appreciates your effort. Special thanks to Lisa and Chuck Lehman for donating all the delicious sandwiches! Tracy Bunetta and Patty Cali for the bake sale and sodas, Christina Dimitriadis & Bill Marsh for the food sales, Dayne Seiling for the games, Nancy Pope for the SnoCones, Les Hardie for meadow setup, Gail Lowe for ticket sales, Rod Bergen, the parade emcee, Kati Arvanitis, the flag bearers, Rod Bergen and Joan Slimocosky for parade setup and Steve Barth for parade judge. And of course, a big thank you to all the unsung heroes who came early to help set up and stayed late to help clean up!

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For those who have wondered, proceeds from the raffle and membership dues all go to help preserve this special "mountain nest" we love. Specifically, liability insurance for all social functions, dumpsters and porta potty rental, paper supplies, trash can and table purchases, square dance caller, publicity supplies, newsletter printing and mailings, post office box rental, legal expenses, including but not limited to SOKA battle, all cost money. We thank you for your interest and for your support. Joan Slimocosky, President

Do you have any photos from July 4?

If anyone has any photographs from the parade or picnic, Stephanie Abronson would love to hear from you. She had an unfortunate mishap with her camera and was quite disappointed to discover that she does not have any photos. If you have some, please share them with her! Contact Stephanie at stephanie@abronson.com.

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).

Cougars in Monte Nido!!

Please be aware that a cougar has been sighted in the neighborhood. Exercise caution if you come into contact with one and take precautions to safeguard your pets..and the cougars! This is their territory, too!

Fire Protection Plea

The MNVCA Board urges local residents to remove or severely trim all pine, eucalyptus, cypress, and acacia trees on their property. Sumacs should be cut way down, but leave the roots in place; they're very deep and anchor the hillsides well. These varieties of vegetation burn like torches and pose a serious hazard in the event of fire.

Safe Canyons Update

The new speed limit of 35 mph is being posted on Cold Canyon Road in August. Tickets will be issued! Please reduce your speed to keep our roads safe and avoid a fine!

Weed Abatement

Ellen Walton, Inspector III of the LA County Weed Abatement Division was a guest at the July MNVCA Board meeting. Ms. Walton wants Monte Nido neighbors to be aware of the division's efforts and responsibilities with regard to local weed abatement, and encourages residents who have questions or concerns about such matters to contact her. The department has submitted the following article for publication:

The Weed Abatement Division (WAD) of the Los Angeles County Agricultural Commissioner/Weights & Measures Department has the responsibility to reduce the potential fire danger caused by flammable weeds and brush. The primary focus is on vacant parcels throughout much of Los Angeles County. WAD also removes trash and rubbish that are public nuisances from parcels providing a safer, cleaner environment for residents in Los Angeles County. Vacant parcels, which contain an existing or potential fire hazard or public nuisance because of weeds, brush, or rubbish, are identified by WAD personnel early in the year. These parcels are put on a list, which is submitted to the Board of Supervisors or City Councils of contract cities, who then pass a resolution "declaring" the parcels to be, or have the potential to be, a public nuisance. The parcel owners are legally notified of the need for clearance and given a chance to voice any protests or objections. After this, the parcels are inspected to see if the owner has done the required clearance. If the clearance has not been done, or not done properly, the parcels may be cleared by WAD using County crews or vendors. Weed Abatement services are also available to any public or private entity interested in entering into a mutual agreement with us. Some examples are: other county departments, State agencies such as Caltrans, school districts, railroad companies, conservancies etc. WAD started clearance of private vacant parcels in the Monte Nido and Malibou Lake areas in May. The first priorities were the large parcels that could be disced utilizing a tractor and also properties managed by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) with open space adjacent to homes. These two priorities will be completed by the end of June 2008. Mariposa Horticultural Enterprises will be the primary contracted County vendor, so you may be seeing their work crews and vehicles in the area. The local WAD inspector for this area is Ellen Walton. Her office number is (818) 833-6648. The Los Angeles County Fire Department operates a similar program with a primary focus on developed properties. For residential inspections, please call the local fire station.

Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 13, 2008, at the home of Marianne Cilluffo. Called to order at 7pm.

Board Members Present: Joan Slimocosky, Suzanne Bailey, Heidi Stompe, Joan Kay, John Low, Jocelyn Mackay. *Community members:* Stephanie Abronson, Debbie DiMascio, Georgia Farinella. *Minutes* from March meeting approved. *Treasurer's Report:* Marianne reported charges to account for copying, and for reimbursing Rosemary for Lisa Lehman's gift. The report was approved. *Correspondence:* MNVCA received an issue of the Water District Report and the Environmental Impact Report from the City of Calabasas, and they were made available if anyone wanted to read them. *Federation Report:* John Low reported that at the recent banquet, Lester Snow, Director of Water Resources, gave a presentation on the water challenges facing California, including possible mandatory water rationing. Steve Harris, Executive Director of the Mountains Restoration Trust, was honored as Man of the Year. *Old Business:* Safe Canyons: speed limits, signage: The board agreed to move toward accepting the recommendations of the CHP Traffic Study to put the speed limit at 35mph on Cold Canyon so we can have radar enforcement of the speeding in the area. Debbie DiMascio is working with Amy Milanes from the county to get signs in specific areas regarding children/equestrian warnings.

Cold Creek/Lost Canyon Loop Trail: Georgia Farinella presented an update. Developer A. Satterlee was granted an after-the-fact Permit by Waiver for lot line adjustments on parcels that impact the trail. Farinella will continue to monitor the area and report on developments regarding the trail. *New Business:* *Fourth of July Parade/Picnic:* Suzanne Bailey will chair the event. Permits are in process and sign-ups for help are ongoing. The board voted to approve an advance from the account to Suzanne to cover the costs of waste bins and portable toilets. The theme is Happy Trails. The Grand Marshall is Georgia Farinella. *New software* is being investigated for the newsletter. Nicole Brown has volunteered to begin working on the newsletter. *Saddle Peak Restaurant* has invited all Monte Nido residents for an afternoon reception on Saturday May 17 at 3:30. Firefighters from Station 67 are to be special guests to thank them for recent and ongoing efforts. Suzanne Goode from *Cold Creek Community Council* has issued an invite to their meetings so our two neighboring communities can work together and get to know each other. *October Social Event* – discussion regarding the nature of an event and who was volunteer to organize it. Nothing defined so far. Meeting adjourned at 9pm. Submitted; Suzanne Bailey

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**

September 2008

<p>ARCHITECT Custom homes and Remodels GARY BARDOVI 222-0313</p>	<p>PIANO LESSONS beginners and advanced Call Aukse 222-6947 or cell 310-500-5121</p>
<p>ARCHITECT Sensitive to budget & lifestyle. Responsive to the land and environment. Monte Nido resident for over 25 years WARREN LAWSON 591-0646</p>	<p>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>BEADED DOG COLLARS AND LEASHES Each year when we walk the Salukis in the 4th of July parade, many people ask where we get their beaded collars. I make them for sale. All sizes – custom if you like. Come see me for your early Christmas shopping. Arla Wallace 818-591-9396</p>	<p>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 complimentary market analysis. Tracy Bunetta 222-2272 MonteNidoRealEstate.com</p>
<p>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>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>
<p>DESIGN & BUILD Residential remodel and new construction All under one roof: Design, Construction, Interiors. Licensed General Contractor 917-1803 www.designblue.com</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, Sept 9, 7PM
At the home of Suzanne Bailey
25733 Vista Verde
222-7663

ETI Corral 36
Next Board Meeting
Tuesday, Sept. 2, 7 PM
at the home of
Deb Richards
26033 Mulholland Hwy
818.880 0744

**Las Virgenes Homeowner's Federation
Meeting**
Thursday, Sept 18, 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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