



MONTE NIDO VALLEY



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



A Dark Sky Community

E-NEWSLETTER

JULY/AUGUST 2006

The July 4th Parade and Picnic

A huge thank you from the MNVCA Board to everyone who made another fabulous Fourth of July possible. Once again everyone came through with tremendous and creative floats and marchers for the parade. Thanks to everyone who chipped in time and talent so that we could celebrate this memorable holiday in the Monte Nido way. In addition to you float builders, parade participants and everyone who honored the day with their presence, thanks to several people who helped to make this happen:

to Phil & Gerri Fleeman for the generous use of the meadow; to Les Hardie for arranging and getting the meadow set-up; to Rob Szilagyi and family who were our Grand Marshalls (for all the help they have provided with lighting the meadow for our community events); to Rod Bergen for being a great terrific emcee (& helping with the parade set up); to Steve Barth and John Low for helping to judge the parade and doing the award presentations; to Sally and Josh Livingston for helping with the food; to Lisa and Chuck Lehman for providing their great sandwiches; to the Hodes family for the Sno-cones; to Tracy Bunnetta and Patti Cali for selling the sodas and bake sale; to Dane Seiling and Kati Arvanitis for organizing the games; to Deborah Lowe for organizing the raffle; to Gail Lowe for selling tickets; to Michael Arvanitis for organizing the clean-up; to Lynn Benjamin for providing Arson watch info; and to Michelle Arvanitis for singing our National Anthem.

Also huge thanks and recognition go to Joan Slimocosky and Cynthia Hodes, Chairpersons Emeritii whose guidance and experience helped make this event and to Suzanne Bailey our 2006

Chairperson who made this event happen. Lastly, thanks to all the other wonderful people who volunteered their time to help set up, clean up, slice, scoop, sell, fetch, etc...You know who you are, and this wonderful event wouldn't happen without you. Thank you, thank you! Apologies to any of whom we forgot to mention by name. Feel free to call Suzanne Bailey for any ideas about next year's event -- 222-7663.

Squirrel Study

“Have you seen both brown-colored and gray-colored tree squirrels around your house or in the local area? The gray squirrel is a species native to our area but the brown-colored fox squirrel was introduced to southern CA about 100 years ago (see <http://instructional1.calstatela.edu/amuchli/squirrelform.htm> for pictures of the two species and some history regarding the introduction of the fox squirrel to our area). Dr. Alan Muchlinski, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Research at California State University, Los Angeles is looking for areas where the native gray squirrel and introduced fox squirrel currently live together and have lived together for at least 3 years. He is seeking to determine the factors that allow the two species to co-exist in some areas while in other areas the native gray squirrel is totally replaced by the invading fox squirrel. This study will be important as people look for ways to maintain viable populations of the native gray squirrel once the fox squirrel moves into an area.

Dr. Muchlinski knows that the two species are found at the eastern end of Buckhorn Drive but he would like information on other places in our immediate area, and in the Santa Monica Mountains, where the two species can be found together. One site will be selected for Monte Nido.

The study will begin sometime in September or October and last approximately one week. They will need to take measurements on the vegetation in the study site (species of trees present, number of trees present, circumference of tree trunks, distance between tree trunks, an estimate of tree height, etc). A study site might involve something like an area of 4 or five properties long by 2 or three properties wide. If you would be willing to participate in the study, please contact him at amuchli@calstatela.edu,
-John Low

MNVCA Board of Directors Meeting June 13, 2006

The regular meeting of the MNVCA was called to order at 7:10 p.m. in the home of Heidi Stompe. In attendance were Board members: Rosemary Alden, Marianne Cilluffo, Les Hardie, Cynthia Hodes, Joan Kay, Lisa Lehman, John Low, Joan Slimocosky and Heidi Stompe along with many other members of the community.

Treasurer's Report: Bank accounts were reviewed; 93 new memberships/renewals received thus far.

Correspondence: City of Agoura announcement for Wed. 6-14-2006 "Tailgate Party" to solicit public input regarding the proposed City Center, including Retail and 290 residences, at the corner of Agoura Rd. and Kanan Rd.

Federation Report: June 23 Installation Banquet at Malibou Lake; Fran Pavley is the highlighted speaker among others.

Old Business: New Neighbor Packet – Rosemary presented the final version to include a t-shirt, whistle/light/keychain, history of the area, introductory letter and a copy of Living Lightly. Packets will go out to all Monte Nido households soon.

Community Directory 2006 – The Final version of the Directory to be printed and bound before the next meeting.

July 4th – Suzanne Bailey is chairperson for the overall event. Dane Seiling will oversee games. Deborah Low will oversee the Raffle. Volunteer

Support is still needed along with contributions to the Raffle prizes.

Triangle/Lot 7 – As per a long standing agreement, the developer of the area known as the Triangle has yet to complete the improvements to corner Lot 7. Native landscaping and fencing are still pending. Les Hardie, Yehuda Netanel, & Gary Bardovi will meet to discuss best options for making this process move forward.

Website – Former neighbor Bob Fera has volunteered to upload MNVCA Newsletters to the site for a nominal fee to cover costs and domain name renewal.

New Business: Crater Camp Residence – It has come to the attention of the Board that the owner of a corporation known as Creative Care Inc. has purchased a home on Crater Camp. Many neighbors in attendance believe that this home will ultimately become a group treatment center catering to individuals suffering from addiction and psychological disorders. It is also believed by many that the home was purchased under false pretenses, that other homes in Monte Nido could be used in the same way unbeknownst to the seller/agents and that this is a common practice in other areas such as Malibu. Jo Powe provided a comprehensive summary of the laws that protect this facility and others like it. Gail Lowe spoke about of the numerous efforts that she and others have made to reverse the sale of this home. Many related issues and concerns were discussed. Jo Powe is organizing a committee to draft "revisional" legislation addressing concerns surrounding appropriate brush fire response plans that pose a major concern with this kind of facility. The Board will monitor this issue as needed.

-Lisa Lehman

Park Link

Have you noticed the Park Link buses traveling on Malibu Canyon Road? The New ParkLINK shuttle connections with the MTA 161 and the Orange Line began July 1, 2006. According to Woody Smeck, our Park Superintendent, it has become very successful. Ride the ParkLINK and leave your car at home. For more information, call 805-370-2331.

Equestrian Trails, Inc., Corral 36

Livestock Evacuation Plan Update

The Board for ETI Corral 36 is diligently working to bring our Monte Nido Livestock Evacuation Plan up to date. It is apparent that with the tremendous growth of brush and grass in the Mountains, we are going to have to be very wary this summer. It is important to bring up to date our Livestock Census. We will greatly appreciate your taking the time to contact us with the information needed to contact you in the event that a brush fire is threatening our neighborhood.

The accuracy of the information we have available for the neighborhood Liaisons is critical to our being able to quickly reach you. From 1993 and 1996, we know just how fast fire will travel! If you are new to Monte Nido you need to get the education needed to be well prepared for emergencies and possible evacuation.

If you do not have a copy of "What Do I Do With My Horse in Fire Flood and/or Earthquake?" It is now available to anyone...everyone...on line through the ETI national website at <http://www.etinational.com>. Tell all your friends where to find this treasured tool. It's FREE! You are also welcome to add this item to be downloaded on other club or equestrian organization's websites. Or you can print as many copies as you wish for yourself and your friends.

For more information about the Monte Nido Livestock Evacuation Plan, please contact Stephanie Abronson, Stephanie@abronson.com or call 818-222 PONY

Santa Monica Mountains Local Coastal Program

Everyone in Monte Nido should have received a notice from the LA County Department of Regional Planning regarding the Santa Monica Mountains Local Coastal Program. Regional Planning is requesting input on the implementation portion of the LCP. The LCP consists of a plan, the Malibu Land Use Plan for the SMM Coastal Zone, adopted in 1986 and an implementation program. In

order to comply with the Coastal Act, coastal areas must adopt both a plan and implementation program. This is to ensure that development within the Coastal Zone is carried out in manner that protects coastal resources.

Key components of the program are a Revised Land use Plan; New Development Regulations and Zone Changes. The review period is from July 17, 2006 to August 15, 2006. Comments must be received by August 15, 2006 and can be submitted to: Dept. of Regional Planning
Community Studies II Section
320 W Temple St., 13th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012-3223 or by phone at: 213/974-6422, FAX: 213/974-6384, or Email: coastal@planning.co.la.ca.us.

The documents are available for review locally from July 17, 2006 to August 15, 2006 at Calabasas Library: 26135 Mureau Rd.: LA County One Stop Center: 26600 Agoura Rd.: Las Virgenes Library: 229130 Roadside Dr.; Malibu Library: 235119 W. Civic Center Way. Or at <http://planning.co.la.ca.us/smm1cp> and at their office: 320 W. Temple St., Rm 1356, Los Angeles Compact Discs: Contact our office at 213/974-6422.

-submitted by Stephanie Abronson

Thank you to the person who found Liesl's dog collar on the trail. She's glad to have her identification back and can't recall how her collar became detached from her leash."

-Lynn Benjamin

How to reach us:

President: Joan Slimocosky 591-1082 Vice Pres. John Low 224-8062 Treasurer: Cynthia Hodes 591-1026 Secretary: Lisa Lehman

Send your email address to Lisa Lehman, the devoted MNVCA secretary at mnvca@charter.net, to receive announcements of meetings, community activities and the time and location of our Board meetings. **Contributions to the newsletter** including nonprofit events to be listed in the calendar can be made by the 5th of the month to me (the editor) at 856 Wonder View Dr. or by email to mnvcanews@charter.net. *-Marianne Cilluffo*

Calendar of Events

MNVCA Board Meeting

No meeting in August.

Next meeting is

Tuesday, September 12 at 7 PM.

At the home of Joan Slimocosky

25632 Buckhorn Dr.

591-1082

ETI Corral 36 Seminar & Board Meeting,

Tuesday, September 12 at 7 PM.

at the home of Vallerie

Coleman & Lorraine Rose,

5622 Huckleberry Dr.,

222-7512

Zen Meditation

Thursday evenings at 7:30pm

Rosemary Taylor Alden

222-2936

ETI Corral 36 Play Day

Sat. Oct. 14, 2006

Malibu Valley Farms in Calabasas Stokes Cyn Rd
@ Mulholland Hwy (just east of Las Virgenes Rd)

Information from Melissa Austin – 818-224 2983

maastin@earthlink.net

Or Alix Lawson – 818-707 2474;

alixlawson@charter.net.

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