

OCTOBER 2010



The Missions website:
<http://the-missions.org>

THE MISSION BELL

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

I have Good News for all...I am very glad to be able to tell you that at the September Board of Directors meeting, your Board voted unanimously NOT to increase our association monthly dues for 2011! Recent previous Boards and your current Board have kept a watchful eye on the financials, including our Reserves, and have been very prudent in reducing major costs such as water and landscaping by being more efficient with technology and personnel. We obviously don't know what the new year will bring, but we look to be in good shape. I would like to recognize, again, our CFO Tom Coley for being the Board's "Guiding Light" in regards to budget matters. Thanks Tom.

Overall, things have been pretty uneventful, which is good, but there was one exception. In early August we had a vandalism/larceny incident. Believe it or not, at the Ivey Ranch/Justina entrance, on the north monument wall, someone removed and took the metal letter "E" from the "THE" part of the signage. We filed a Police report and are in the process of replacing it. You probably didn't even notice it missing, and that is due to the artistic talents of your Board member, Jenny Flynn. Jenny matched the color and painted in the missing letter "E", and I know you'll all agree that it looks great! Thanks Jenny for taking that initiative.

Also, at the September Board meeting, we discussed the traffic problems on Ivey Ranch, Justina and Benevente due to the MLK school. The Board agreed that it appears to be worsening and that it may be time to reinstate the Missions Traffic Committee to address this.

This will be the last newsletter until January, 2011, so I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow Board members, Ellen Stotmeister-Vice President, Tom Coley-CFO, Jenny Flynn-Secretary and Gigi Gleason-Member-At-Large for all their dedication and service. They have made my first term as President very enjoyable.

I would also like to recognize the Committee Chairs for all their volunteer time and effort this past year: ARCHITECTURAL: Mark Bramhall, HOSPITALITY: Norma McAfee and Sue Ruddick, SOCIAL: Annette Bramhall, and NEWSLETTER: Ellen Stotmeister and Jenny Flynn.

Since this is the last newsletter this year, let me be the first to wish us all HAPPY HOLIDAYS and a safe and prosperous NEW YEAR!

--Rex Martin

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Ellen Stotmeister
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YOUR BOARD AT WORK - *Ellen Stotmeister The Missions HOA Vice-President*

In the last several years, our maturing neighborhood has needed much repair and landscaping attention, and we have had to raise dues in order to pay for this maintenance. The HOA had frozen the dues for many years, which necessitated dipping into our reserves.

However the last several Boards, especially under the leadership of Connie Cain, Serge Duarte, and Rex Martin and with the financial expertise of Tom Coley, have managed to get us back in good fiscal shape. It was a painful but necessary process.

The decision to adopt the Smart Water Program two years ago has literally been a life saver for us, allowing us to use our irrigation system much more effectively and efficiently, and has saved us hundreds of dollars.

Because of this decision, the Board has determined that the HOA will not need to raise our dues again this year. They will remain the same as last year. Realistically we probably will need to raise the dues again soon due to the cost of living increases with all of our vendors, but for now, we can stay where we are. Good job, everyone!

In Memory...



It is with great sadness that we tell you about the passing of one of our long time neighbors. On September 17, Ken McMullen (405 De Anza Court) died at the age of 89 after living in the Missions for almost 20 years.

Ken was born in Peoria, Illinois where he graduated from Bradley University. He then served in the Navy during World War II, after which he attended Harvard Business School on the GI Bill. While at Harvard, he married his wife Ann. They moved to California when Ken got a job with Lockheed Martin, and came to Oceanside when he retired. They were both avid golfers and played several times a week at El Camino Country Club until Ann passed away three years ago.

Everyone Ken ever met was the “nicest person”, and he showered many of us with gifts of chocolate candy from Costco. Ken, we will miss you.

BOOK CLUB

Please join us as we discuss this month’s book, “Tortilla Curtain” by T.C. Boyle.



“In this explosive and timely novel, T. Coraghessan Boyle explores an issue that is at the forefront of the political arena. He confronts the controversy over illegal immigration head-on, illuminating through a poignant, gripping story the people on both sides of the issue, the haves and the have-nots.” - www.readinggroupguides.com

Norma McAfee (325 Justina) will host book club on Tuesday, November 16th at 11:30 a.m. Book club is open to anyone who would like to have some lively discussion with other readers.

CAROLA'S CORNER

With fall and winter weather upon us I remembered the recipe for a wonderful Apple-Sweet Potato Bake dish that our extended family raved about last year. The apples and sweet potatoes partner perfectly and Thanksgiving would be just the right time to serve this just slightly sweet casserole...

3 lbs. sweet potatoes
4 medium tart apples, peeled
1/4 cup lemon juice
1/2 cup chopped pecans
1/2 cup butter, cubed
1/2 cup packed brown sugar
1/2 cup honey
2 tablespoons orange juice
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon (or to taste)
1/4 teaspoon ground ginger

We encouraged our Thanksgiving family guests NOT to bring their overly sticky-sweet marshmallow studded sweet potato casseroles that somehow showed up every year, and to please allow us to try something new. Everyone applauded this new dish, so it's on our menu this year.

Thanks and credits to Taste of Home Recipes 2009 for introducing us to this wonderful side dish.

-Carola Phelps

CELEBRATIONS



Van and Wyone Van Soest celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on September 1st. Their next door neighbors and good friends Pat and Wes

Harvey, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on September 3rd. The Van Soests and Harveys dined together on September 3rd, in honor of their many years of marriage.

Katie Regan and Dennis Daley celebrated their marriage in a ceremony held in the Estremoz Court cul-de-sac on September 18. Congratulations!

Congratulations and best wishes to the following who have all celebrated their 80th birthdays during the last few months - Myron Mayo, Alice Kleaser, Bob Lynch and Mary Kay Villere. Is it just a coincidence that they all live on Justina Drive?

RESTAURANT REVIEW -- *Linda Sweeney*

LIGHTHOUSE OYSTER BAR & GRILL

262 Harbor Dr. South, Suite 201

Oceanside, CA 92054

760.433.1900 www.lighthouseoceanside.com



I'm pleased to announce that Oceanside has a fun new restaurant in the harbor—Lighthouse Oyster Bar & Grill. There is lots of outdoor seating with peaceful views of the boats in the harbor or a glimpse of the ocean. It's a great spot to sample their selection of draft and bottled beer (\$4-6) or over 50 different wines (\$20/ bottle & up) with a bowl of homemade lobster bisque (\$5.50) or a large variety of appetizers while you watch the sunset. Happy Hour is daily from 4-6 pm when you can enjoy discounts on beer, wine, and appetizers, including fish and shrimp tacos (\$2), sautéed mushrooms (\$4), ceviche (\$5) and much more. Lunch and dinner selections range from salads to sandwiches (\$7-16), seafood, pasta, chicken and steaks (\$10-24). I enjoyed the macadamia encrusted mahi mahi with steamed veggies and pasta (\$16). Breakfast is served on weekends only.

Every Wed. & Sat. from 4-7 pm you can enjoy a complimentary 15 minute cruise around the harbor aboard the Azure Seas yacht while you wait for your table.

The Lawn is Gone! Now What?

by Norma McAfee

Frustrated with the looks of her bedraggled lawn, Gigi Gleason, our neighbor on Borrego Court, took a big step and removed her grass. The lawn was eating up water and fertilizer, but never looked as good as she would have liked. Plus, higher water rates made a lawn even less desirable.

Gigi and her gardener, Lauro's Landscape, developed a water-thrifty landscape design that beautifully answers the question of "what to do when the lawn is gone". Lauro dug out the grass, then rototilled and removed all the roots. A large oval mound of soil was positioned in the center of the yard and bordered with stone edgers. A graceful fruitless olive tree was placed as the central focal point among other water-thrifty plants. Gold Trailing Lantana and White Iceberg Rose have begun to fill in the spaces around the olive tree, along with Tuscan Blue Rosemary, Spanish Lavender, Foxtail Agave, and Big Red Kangaroo Paw. The gold and white cascading flowers, punctuated with blue, purple, and red blooms, make a striking and pleasing color combination. Water-conserving mulch, placed around the plants, gives a unified appearance to the area.

Surrounding the oval mound is a swath of decomposed granite (DG), placed over weed-preventing landscape cloth. Planted in the DG are Red Yucca, Crown of Thorns, Red Hot Poker, Mexican Bush Sage, and more Foxtail Agave. Here, the red and purple blooms contrast with the calm blue-green of the agave. Small red boulders add even more color.

The plants are irrigated with bubblers, and make use of a weather monitor to further conserve water. All the plants are placed to allow for future growth. The complete project took only a week to complete. Gigi is pleased with her new look, and happy that her neighbors have given her positive comments. She has carried the "no-lawn look" into her back yard, which also includes a productive vegetable garden. And, of course, Gigi is looking forward to seeing how much her water bill drops in the coming months.

Many thanks to Gigi for sharing her beautiful garden with us!



Property Management Contact Information

Professional Community Management (PCM)

PCM Corporate Office

23726 Birtcher Drive,
Lake Forest, CA 92630
800-369-7260

PCM Local Office

5921 Priestly Drive, Suite 110
Carlsbad, CA 92008
PH: 760-918-8040
Fax: 760-603-9156

Community Manager

Linda Oberski

PH: 760-918-8040
loberski@pcminternet.com

Administrative Assistant

Lauren Catton

PH: 760-918-8040

Violation Complaints

Lauren Catton,
Linda Oberski

Accounting Questions

PH: 800-369-7260

billing@pcminternet.com

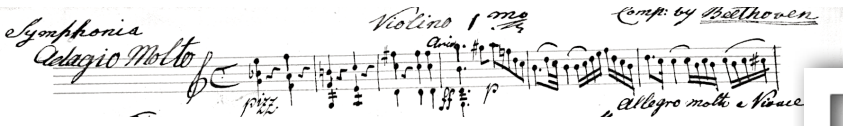
Address for Payments

P.O. Box 51412
Los Angeles, CA 90051-5712

HOA Reminder:

If you are planning *any improvements or changes* to the exterior of your home, approval must be given by the Architectural Committee **BEFORE** you start the project. This approval is in addition to any city permits that may also be required.

Project plans, such as the addition of solar panels, landscaping changes to your front or back yard or additions to your home affecting the exterior must be submitted to the Architectural Review Committee for review. If you have questions regarding your project plans, please contact the Architectural Committee chair, Mark Bramhall, ph. 721-3467



Oceanside has a new Orchestra!

You may have heard strains of music coming from a house on Benevente Drive... neighbor Jenny Flynn is a violinist who will be playing in an upcoming performance at the brand new Concert Hall on the MiraCosta campus. It will be an exciting event, as the college's music students and musicians from the community will perform selections by Mozart and Respighi, and Beethoven's Symphony No. 1. You can purchase tickets at the MiraCosta box office, or online:

<http://www.miracosta.edu/officeofthepresident/pio/events/>

MiraCosta College Symphony Orchestra

Branden Muresan, conductor

Sunday, October 24 at 2 p.m.

Concert Hall, Bldg. 2400, Oceanside Campus

General admission, \$10; students/seniors \$8



THE MISSIONS DIRECTORY

The updated edition of The 2010 Missions at Ivey Ranch Directory has been printed and distributed throughout the neighborhood. Thank you to the following people who so willingly said "Yes" when asked to help hand deliver The Directory to every household in the neighborhood - Mary Tucker, Linda Sweeney, Jenny Flynn, Grace Clarke, Annette Bramhall, Cris Sathre, Connie Cain, Katy Quigley, Norma McAfee and Gigi Gleason. For security reasons The Directory was not left at the front door so If you have not yet received yours please get in touch with me.

Sue Ruddick 760 754-2410

sue@ruddick.com

October Cul-de-Sac Party

Our October get-together will be held this month, weather permitting. Be on the lookout for our sandwich board signs !

Neighborhood Holiday Lights Contest

December 17th is the tentative date of the Missions Annual Holiday Lights contest. Start thinking of creative and festive ideas! More information will be in an upcoming e-blast.

Fall Back!

A reminder to replace your smoke alarm batteries when we turn the clocks back on November 7th.



CHEERS AND JEERS

Back by popular demand!

Cheers to our neighbors for looking after our homes when we are absent.

Cheers to our neighbors who drive slowly, especially now that school is in session.

Jeers doubled to the thief who came into our neighborhood and took the beautiful letter "E" from our monument.

Jeers to excessive cars parking on our streets. Please remember to use driveways and garages whenever possible!

"Each year, the Great Pumpkin rises out of the pumpkin patch that he thinks is the most sincere. He's gotta pick this one. He's got to! I don't see how a pumpkin patch can be more sincere than this one. You can look around and there's not a sign of hypocrisy. Nothing but sincerity as far as the eye can see."



Neighbors-- Remember to take in your pumpkins at night: some nasty goblins have been known to go pumpkin smashing!

The Gumplegutch

by Shel Silverstein

Go over and play with the Gumplegutch, Tommy
The Gumplegutch loves to play.

You can bounce on his belly,

And call him Old Nelly,

And fill up his nostrils with clay.

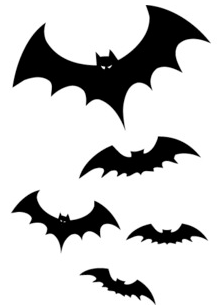
Don't be 'fraid of his fangs,

or his one yellow eye,

or the scales on his tail, my dear.

Go over and play with the Gumplegutch, Tommy,
there's nothing at all to fear.

I'll wait for you here. . .



The Missions Homeowners Association
Professional Community Management (PCM)
5921 Priestly Drive, Suite 110
Carlsbad, CA 92008



THE MISSION BELL

Your neighborhood newsletter

October 2010