

Mediterrania

Homeowners Association Newsletter

May 06, 2006

2006 Board Members

Please feel free to contact any of the 2006 Mediterrania Homeowners Association Board Members should you have a question or topic that is relevant to the Mediterrania residents.

POSITION	NAME	EMAIL
President	George Zugsmith	zuggie@zuggie.com
Vice President	Abbas Mohaddes	mohaddes@aol.com
Treasurer	John Petersen	johngpetersen@cox.net
Secretary	Dorrie Marshall	flag14@yahoo.com
Arts Jury	Jean Dunn	jsd.rsd1@cox.net
Newsletter	Laura Knapp	ldknapp@yahoo.com
Streets & Landscaping	Barry Ryan	mariabarry@cox.net
Neighborhood Watch	Beverly Gugliuzza	tgugliuzza@cox.net
City Reports	Tom Redfield	tmredfield@cox.net

Get the News Online

Mediterrania Homeowners Association Newsletter will continue to be available online. To access the newsletter, simply log on to www.palosverdes.com/mha and click on newsletters. There, you will find the most current issue as well as past issues of the newsletter for your reference.

Members who have paid their dues for 2006 and prefer to receive a printed version of the newsletter may do so by request. All you have to do is complete the Information Slip on Page 2 and send it to John Petersen at 3608 Coolheights Drive.

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Members, who have not paid their dues for 2006, simply send your \$15 dues along with the completed Information Slip on page 2 to John Petersen at 3608 Coolheights Drive and you too will receive a printed version of the newsletter.

To write an article or suggest a topic for future issues, please contact Laura Knapp at ldknapp@yahoo.com. Your request will be considered based on content and space availability.

School's Out for Summer - *Almost*



On Thursday, June 16th, students of the Palos Verdes Unified School District have a minimum day and then they will be off for summer break until they return to school on Tuesday September 6th.

Summer is a great time for the children to go outside to ride bikes, rollerblade, and skateboard or just walk to a friend's house. This will increase the presence of children throughout our neighborhood.

Please be cautious while driving, especially when backing out of your driveway. All cars have blind spots, so please take extra time to look over your shoulder. Let's help our children have a fun and safe summer vacation.

Future Board Meetings

The 2006 Mediterranean Homeowners Association Board holds monthly meetings to discuss community issues and issues related specifically to our neighborhood.

Listed below are the scheduled dates for upcoming meetings:

- June 19, 2006
- July 17, 2006
- September 18, 2006
- October 16, 2006

Meeting dates subject to change without notice.

Check www.palosverdes.com/mha and click on Events for up-to-date meeting dates, times and locations.

Information Slip

Please complete the information below and check the appropriate box. If including payment for 2006 dues, please make your check payable to Mediterranean HOA in the amount of \$15.00.

Send this slip along with your payment, if applicable, to:

Treasurer

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

- I've paid my 2006 Dues and would like to receive a hardcopy of the newsletter
- I'm including my 2006 Dues and would like to receive a hardcopy of the newsletter
- I'm including my 2006 Dues and will read the newsletter on the Mediterranean website

Trashed Your Waste Management Schedule?

In anticipation of Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Labor Day, please make a note of the following holiday schedule for Waste Management service:

Week of May 29th
Wed 5/31 and Fri 6/02
No service on Tue 5/31

Week of July 3rd
Wed 7/05 and Fri 7/07
No service on Tue 7/06

Week of September 4th
Wed 9/06 and Fri 9/08
No service on Tue 9/07

As a general rule of thumb, if an "observed holiday" falls on Thurs. or Fri., our pickup will be on Sat.

Any questions related to Waste Management services can be directed to Waste Management Customer Service at:

(310) 830-7100

Annual Meeting

At our annual meeting we had two guest speakers; Mayor, Steve Wolowicz and Dr. McFadden, President of Marymount. Both talks were informative and followed by a question and answer period. Mayor Wolowicz spoke about traffic issues in the City and specifically relating to us. The Trump development was also discussed. President McFadden addressed the issues concerning Marymount's expansion and how important it was for the students.

Lois Karp, our outgoing President, presented highlights of last year's activities including comments about our increased membership. She said that posting our newsletter on our website at www.palosverdes.com/mha helped a great deal in reducing our newsletter costs. We still hand deliver printed newsletters to paid up members who request them.

Outgoing Board members were Nanette Babich, Chris Ball, Allison Brandt, Marilyn Hove and Lois Karp. The present board is represented by Jean Dunn, Beverly Gugliuzza, John Peterson, Tom Redfield, Laura Knapp, Dorie Marshall, Abbas Mohaddes Barry Ryan and George Zugsmith.

We enjoyed salad, pizza and beverages and our meeting was well attended.

Thoughts from the New President

As the incoming president I wanted to share with you my thoughts for this year. First, I extend to Lois Karp our thanks for a job well done. Lois has given us efforts "beyond the call to duty." Her concern for the Mediterranean Homeowners Association and for each of you has been evidenced by the countless hours she devotes continuously.

Lois has been the "go to person" respecting issues which affect each of us. When telephone companies were planning to install cell towers, she convinced them and our City that the towers be hidden out of sight, ensuring neighborhood compatibility. She's been involved with other issues, which affect us including traffic control, the planned Marymount expansion and the Council of Homeowners Association, where she currently serves as secretary.

On May 21, at 2:00 p.m. we will have our annual cleanup day. We'll meet at Ganado Dr. and P.V. Dr. East. I encourage you to show up and help make our neighborhood look extra special. We'll be weeding in the area leading to the entrance at Ganado and up P.V. Drive East. Our Halloween party is planned for October 29. Please come and have fun.

We are fortunate that we live in a low crime area. We can all contribute by being vigilant. If you see unknown individuals or activity in the neighborhood, which looks suspicious, call the Sheriff immediately.

Each year we receive funds from the City for a beautification project. Please think about a project, which you believe would improve our neighborhood. Then, please call, e/mail or write to me.

George

SAVE THE SWALES

As a reminder, the maintenance of the concrete lined drainage swales found on many of our hillside lots is *our* responsibility to maintain, not the city's. Please remember to regularly check for cracks, erosion, and debris.

KEEP OUR NEIGHBORHOOD BEAUTIFUL!

Join us for our annual clean up day May 21, 2006. Enjoy some sun, fresh air and get to know your neighbors. Help our neighborhood look even better! Meet at 2:00 p.m. at P.V. Dr. East and Ganado

CUL-DE-SAC QUESTIONS

More progress has been made on the new cul-de-sac at the end of Coolheights Drive with the relocation of the power pole to its new location. Hopefully, this much needed safety improvement will soon be completed.

SHOW ME THE MONEY!

Mediterrania residents are invited to offer suggestions regarding how our recycling grant monies should be spent. Please send comments or ideas to Barry Ryan at mariabarry@cox.net.

THOSE PESKY COYOTES

Speaking of coyotes - coyote scat (droppings) and the remains of a rabbit were spotted recently in the Forrestal Tract. Consider this is a reminder to not leave your pets outdoors at night and to not feed your pets outdoors. These are hungry animals and there is no need to provide them either dinner or dessert.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

As we are all aware, a disaster can happen at any time and can take many forms. Unlike a hurricane, for which one can supposedly had advance notice, an earthquake can strike without any warning but being prepared is the same.

According to the Daily Breeze there are six basics you should stock: water, food, first aid supplies, clothing and bedding, tools and emergency supplies and special items for medical conditions. Also, lots of batteries as power can be off for a long time. The "experts" say have a 3-day supply of food. Be aware that you will be "on your own" for at least 3-5 days after a major disaster and maybe longer.

So you must be prepared to take care of yourself and your family until assistance arrives. If you missed these most informative articles, you can obtain a brochure with disaster preparedness tips from our city.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

WHAT IS NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH? Neighborhood Watch is a proven and effective means of reducing crime. The concept is based on neighbors working together with law enforcement to curtail crime. Neighbors report all suspicious activities to the police, network all crime activity and mutually watch out for each other.

COMMUNICATION SYSTEM: As a member of an organized Neighborhood Watch, your street is part of a city-wide crime prevention network and warning system. Crime warnings are phoned or E-mailed to Block Captains who disseminate to Block Assistants and other participating residents. This network is used in the following ways:

- To alert residents of current city-wide crime activity and suspicious persons.
- To alert residents of crimes in their own area.
- To notify residents of suspicious or missing persons who may be in their area.
- To alert residents of phone and other scams.

GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS: Neighborhood Watch makes up a Block List of the names, addresses and phone numbers of your neighbors. This information is optional and confidential and is never given out to anyone except your own neighbors.

WATCH OUT FOR STRANGERS: Report any suspicious people that are parked in your area, driving around, or knocking on your door looking for someone else or asking for work. Make a habit of writing down descriptions of suspicious people and cars, including license plates. If you have a feeling that something doesn't look right, please call 539-1661, your local Sheriff's Station.

KEEP ALL DOORS, WINDOWS AND GARAGE DOORS LOCKED WHEN YOU ARE NOT HOME: Burglars steal items from open garages. They pry open or smash glass patio doors, and steal your jewelry even before an alarm company can respond. Hide jewelry outside of your bedroom. Engrave your California Driver's License number on electronic equipment, which better assures its return to you.

PROTECT YOUR AUTO FROM THEFT: Put a C.A.T. (Combat Auto Theft) decal on all autos not stored inside garages. These are available free from our Sheriff's Dept. These decals deter potential car thieves and car-jackers because they allow any law officer to stop the car between the hours of 1 A.M. and 5 A.M.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH (con't)

WATCH OUT FOR ILLEGAL SOLICITORS: Every solicitor, even those with a non-profit organization, must carry a Letter of Authorization, which names the solicitors and gives the permitted time of day for soliciting, and expiration date. Ask for this letter and do not do business with anyone that does not have it in his/her possession. FYI, the City of RPV has posted a list of the organizations that are authorized to solicit within our City's limits.

REPORT ALL CRIMES, NO MATTER HOW SMALL: Sheriff Dept. computers track crimes and criminals, even parts of license plates. Unreported crimes skew the real statistics and could result in your area receiving less patrol activity than it deserves. If crimes are not reported, neither deputies nor residents are going to be aware. After you notify the Sheriff's Dept. of a crime or a suspicious activity, notify your block captain so that he/she can alert the other neighbors. Your exact name and address will not be made known, but the nature of the crime and the area may facilitate apprehension of the criminal.

IDENTITY THEFT: This is the fastest growing crime in our city. Never give out personal information over the phone, mail, or Internet. Shred all personal documents. Never give out your Social Security number. And be alert for mail theft, which is now very common. Have a neighbor pick up your mail if you will be gone. Many identity fraud cases start with theft of checks, bank statements and credit cards from mailboxes.

VACATION: Notify a close neighbor when you go on vacation. Since 1992, we have only had two burglaries of neighborhood Watch members on vacation, both of which occurred when residents failed to notify their neighbors of their absence.

SUPPORT YOUR BLOCK CAPTAIN AND ASSISTANTS: These people are the life-blood of your Neighborhood Watch. Without them, the program dies and you will lose all contact with Neighborhood Watch, your neighbors and the Sheriff's Dept. Offer to help as a Block Assistant, and attend neighborhood activities. Remember, an effective neighborhood watch is one in which all neighbors contribute. Neighborhood Watch is managed by a Volunteer Coordinator and volunteer Block Captains. The program is totally supported by periodic, voluntary, tax-deductible \$5 donations, which pay for the total cost of the program including signs, office supplies, newsletters and educational materials.

Floweridge needs a Block Captain. Please would someone please, please, please volunteer to cover this street. Give our area coordinator (Betty Riedman) a call at 541-8470 and she'll be happy to tell you what is involved.