

THE RIVIERA REPORT

NEWSLETTER OF THE RIVIERA HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

"A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO CIVIC SERVICE TO THE RIVIERA COMMUNITY AND ITS RESIDENTS."

THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 1995

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

Riviera School

Cafeteria

365 Paseo De Arena

INFORMATION: "RHA Hot-Line" (310) 784-9RHA



HEAVY TRAFFIC ! SPEEDERS !
STOP SIGNS ! PEDESTRIANS !
RESTRICTED TURNS ! SPEED
BUMPS ! DEAD-ENDS !

All of these are issues of concern to
residents of the Hollywood Riviera.

Join us at our April 6th meeting for
a panel discussion with the City
Transportation Planning Staff,
Traffic Commission, & Police Dept.
on the subjects of traffic planning,
safety, speed limits, intersection
changes, and enforcement issues.



President's Notes

Our meeting on February 2nd was most informative. The topic was our "Hillside Ordinance" and the objective was to educate Riviera residents as to what the ordinance says and how the city interprets it. Judging by the comments and questions, two things stand out: There are those who feel the ordinance is not being enforced to the letter of the law, and others who would like to see it go away. And the consensus of the folks attending indicated we met our objective in terms of providing information.

I would like to thank our speakers, Don Lee-City Council, Sandi Monda-Planning Commission, Bill Quale-Assistant City Attorney, Jeff Gibson-Planning Department, and all of the close to 300 of you for attending.

Most of the time it seems as though we live in a quiet, secluded and somewhat quaint place. But there are times when that is not the case. Especially when the quiet is shattered by squealing tires or the sound of a four barrel holly carburetor kicking in going up the hill. Our front cover is an exaggeration of course, but there are times when speeding and traffic are problems. I do hope you will come to hear our informed panel and provide your comments and questions in what promises to be another important subject of concern.

Don Young, Jr.

What do you think?.....

In our February Riviera Report I asked for your comments for our new column *What do you think?* While the responses did not jam our post office box we did receive some mail, one of which follows.

*I think...*The Hillside Overlay Ordinance states that "a proposed development will not have an adverse impact upon the view, light, air, and privacy of other properties in the area." Notice it says WILL NOT. Not some, not a little, but will not. A neighbor wanted to do an addition to his house that would block 50% to 100% of my ocean view. When I brought this to the attention of the Planning Commission I was greeted with comments such as "That won't block much of your view, look at how much you have." When I appealed Planning's decision to the City Council I was stunned when they rubber stamped Planning's approval of the project. In my opinion, with the current make-up of Council and Planning the ordinance isn't worth the paper it is printed on.

John Cassinelli

While we appreciate responses from our readers, it should be mentioned that the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Board of Directors of the Riviera Homeowners Association or its members. Let us know what concerns you may have.

Mail your responses to:

What do you think?

P.O. Box 1074

Torrance, CA 90505



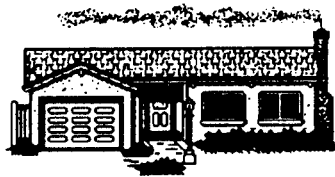
HISTORIC HOLLYWOOD RIVIERA

Long time residents are no doubt familiar with the history and birth of the Riviera but our heritage is unique and impressive; it bears repeating for our new residents.

The Hollywood Riviera was the brainchild of real estate developer Clifford Reid in the late 1920's. His dream was to create a French Riviera in Southern California that would be populated by movie stars and film people. Palos Verdes Boulevard would connect Hollywood luminaries to the studios in Culver City and elsewhere. It was to be an elegant community of Spanish and Mediterranean red tiled homes with views of the Pacific. A 1930's promotional film was created to lure prospective stars and starlets to Hollywood Riviera. The Hollywood Riviera Beach Club was opened in June 1930 at the foot of Calle Miramar (where Miramar Park is today) and all residents were automatically members. The club itself was built in Redondo Beach and Torrance and had the distinction of having a bar in both cities. Each city had a different liquor licensing law prohibiting drinking past a given hour. This meant that those drinking at the club would have to move from the side of the bar to the other at the "switching hour". The club burned down in 1958 and the stretch of Torrance Beach that lies in front of the charred site was and still is referred to by the locals a "Burn Out Beach". Unfortunately for Clifford Reid, the depression and World War II put a damper on his grand dream. But we should be thankful as he left us many beautiful Spanish styled homes that still grace our neighborhood (including his magnificent 6,700 square foot home on Via Monte d'Oro) and the graceful curved streets dug out by mule teams.

For additional information about the history of the Riviera and Torrance, contact the Torrance Historical Museum, at 1345 Post Avenue or check out *Historic Torrance, a Pictorial History of Torrance California* from the library.

Trish McDonald, Historian



MEL HEFLINGER-RHA COMMUNITY PERSON OF THE YEAR

Since 1983, the RHA has recognized *Riviera* residents who have made a major contribution to our community through their volunteer work, political involvement or plain ol' good neighborliness. It is in the last category that the RHA wishes to extend the honor to the latest recipient of the *RHA Community Service Award*, Mr. Melvin E. "Mel" Heflinger, 528 Via La Selva. Mel, and his wife Dot, have lived in the Riviera since 1951.

He spent 37 years as a pilot for United Airlines, retiring in 1981. The Heflinger's two sons grew up in the Riviera and attended the local schools.

Mel is often referred to as "Mr. Fix-

It" around the neighborhood, having an affinity for mechanical objects and a willingness to help others. He is very involved in the upkeep of his beloved antique airplane that he keeps at the Torrance Airport. Mel is also an active volunteer at the *Torrance Memorial Medical Center* where his ability to repair anything is invaluable. And all of the neighborhood kids know Mr. Mel, for he always has time to help with a Scout project or share a historical fact.

The RHA also wishes to acknowledge his neighbors, Hester Grimsley, Roy and Bette Menashe, and Karen Pucher for taking the time to write to us and nominate Mel for this award.

Glenn Tanner

FRONTIER DAYS IN RIVIERA VILLAGE APRIL 21-23

Everyone is welcome to attend the *Fifteenth Annual Frontier Days* located in the *Riviera Village*. This event, a western themed "country style" celebration, includes a craft fair, music, dancing, food booths, kiddie area, and business exposition. The newly expanded *Frontier Days* will "kick

off" on Friday evening April 21, 1995 with a charity dinner and dance. The traditional Craft Fair will be held Saturday, April 22, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday, April 23, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. If you have any questions, call the RVA HOTLINE at (310) 784 9RVA.

Glenn Tanner



ANNUAL ELECTIONS

Officers and directors for your homeowners' association will be elected from the members present at the next meeting. Three new Riviera homeowners have requested to join the Board of Directors. Are there any more homeowners interested?

We encourage new and active participation to keep our board alert to the needs of the community. Now is your chance to get involved with your homeowners' association. The positions that will be filled are listed on the back of this newsletter. Also, there are special interest committees forming, such as "trees" and "hospitality" that need more members.

Call me at the number below if you would like more information. Remember, this is your association and your help makes it a viable community focus for enhancing our neighborhood.

Irene Shackelford
373-1838



FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION,
CALL THE NEW R.H.A. HOT-LINE !!!




WELCOME TO THE RHA HOTLINE.
PRESS 1 FOR UPCOMING EVENTS
PRESS 2 FOR A LIST OF OFFICERS
PRESS 3 TO LEAVE A MESSAGE



784-9RHA

OUTSTANDING LANDSCAPE AWARD



The March award was given to Mr. and Mrs. Ted Ketzin, 4713 Paseo De Las Tortugas, who with the help of Kevin Burke of Burke Landscape, designed and planted a lovely garden. It is a lively and colorful border of at least 29 varieties of plants, including trailing lantana geraniums, ceonothus, iris, azalea, day lilies and heather. These plants and others provide a backdrop for the splashes of seasonal colors of snapdragons, stock, ranunculas and petunias. This is a garden that provides a visual setting for the Ketzin home and attractively frames their house as viewed from the street.

On behalf of Mary Lenihan, my Co-Chair, and Ethel Sellars, representing the Riviera Garden Club, I want to thank the Kotzins for truly making the Riviera a beautiful place to live.

Ruth Vogel



Palos Verdes Players

Now playing through April 8: *Amateurs* A comedy about a community theatre.

April 21 through June 3: *Never Too Late* A comedy about a middle aged couple.

Phone (310) 326 2267 for reservations

Historical Homes of the Riviera

144 CAMINO DE LAS COLINAS

Ray and Elizabeth Mason

This 1929 classic Spanish home was built in the very first year of development in the Riviera. Not much has been passed on about its history but it certainly has one of the best "curb appeal" facades.

Its sprawling 3,000 square feet includes three bedrooms, study and maids quarters plus four and one-half baths. Unlike other homes of the period it lacks balconies, although two of the now-enclosed rooms may have been a balcony.

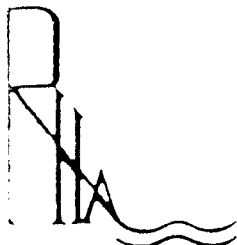
Views of the ocean can be seen from all the upstairs bedrooms, all of which have coved ceilings. Although the kitchen and most of the baths have been modernized over the years, the master still maintains the arched shower entrance and the original lime green tiles. One wall of another bath has lavender tiles, typical of the era. One of the two gravity feed furnaces is still in use in the cellar. The wiring (even the fuse box!) is original as is the plumbing that still has great pressure.

The stunning living room is large and full of light with hewn beams in the ceiling. The stairwell ceiling beams have original stencils. Two large stained glass windows also appear to be original. Unique to the home is a curved frieze or molding in the formal dining room made entirely of plaster.

Mr & Mrs Mason have owned the home for almost four years. Together they own and manage a transportation and warehousing business.

Howard Koters





RIVIERA HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

1994-1995

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President	Don Young Jr.	373-8866
1st Vice President (Programs)	Glenn Tanner	378-4446
2nd Vice President (Membership)	Irene Shackelford	373-1838
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Secretary	Benson Black	375-0744
Newsletter Editor	Jim Vogl	378-1803
Historian	Trish McDonald	375-9728
Hospitality	Karla Butte	791-0222
Landscape, Chairperson	Ruth Vogel	375-4702
Landscape	Mary Lenihan	378-7435
City Council Liaison	Patsy Loughboro	378-5359
Mailing Chairperson	Shirly McNair	378-5557
Planning Liaison	Virginia Levanas	375-0424
CHAT Liaison	Kay White	373-1901
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