

THE RIVIERA REPORTER

NEWSLETTER OF THE RIVIERA HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION Spring 1999

General Meeting: Mr. Jackson, Torrance City Manager

WHEN: Wednesday, April 21, 7:00 PM

WHERE: Richardson Middle School Cafeteria, 23751 Nancy Lee Lane

INFO: (310) 378-2499 Evenings, (310) 543-4980 Weekdays

AGENDA: Well, you asked for it ... Our Riviera interest survey indicates that issues such as city budgets, streetscape committee, roadway resurfacing, public safety preparedness, and even Y2K compliance are issues that many of you are concerned with. We are pleased to provide access to the top of the city staff, Mr. LeRoy Jackson, Torrance City Manager. The City Manager is in charge of all staff functions including police, fire, building & safety, planning, parks & recreation, cable TV, and streets. Mr. Jackson will address the 'state of the city' and will answer questions from our members.

Kim Emery

CONCERT-IN-THE PARK

SATURDAY-JUNE 5

LOS ARBOLES

(ROCKETSHIP) PARK

5 PM - 7 PM



With

Upper Hand (Rock)

Kermit Welsh & His Dixie 6 (Dixie Jazz)

Fun for the
whole family!



The Prez Sez...

I am pleased to report that the last couple of General Meetings have been great successes. We have been

presenting top vote-getting topics from our Riviera interest survey such as "Community Safety" and "Undergrounding Utility Lines". The last meeting regarding electric power lines gathered about 150 residents, one of our largest meetings ever. In fact our next topic, is also of interest to you all, according to the survey. Kudos to **Kim Emery**, our First Vice President - Programs" for arranging and staging

these great meetings.

Secondly, I am pleased to announce our Second Annual "Concert-in-the-Park" which will be held Saturday June 5th at Los Arboles ("Rocketship") Park from 5 PM - 7 PM. Presently the popular local rock band, "Upper Hand" is scheduled to perform, plus "Kermit Welsh and his Dixie 6". More kudos are in order, this time to **Ruth Vogel**, for again arranging this popular event. Last year, over 400 people attended, and we guess, as word passes around, that there will be more this year. And remember --- it's Free !!!

Finally, as I have said in the past, the ability to attract and retain interested

high quality volunteers is the number one priority for a community service organization such as the RHA. So, I am pleased to introduce two new members of the RHA Board. **Tom Penland** has volunteered to fill the open position of Historian. Tom has a background and interest in architecture, and has begun to coordinate our upcoming Hollywood Riviera Historical Homes Tour. **Paul Beaudoin** has volunteered to fill the open position City Council Liaison, which monitors council meetings, agendas, and upcoming issues to alert the Board of items that affect our neighborhood. Paul is a new resident to the Riviera and we welcome his interest in participating with the RHA.

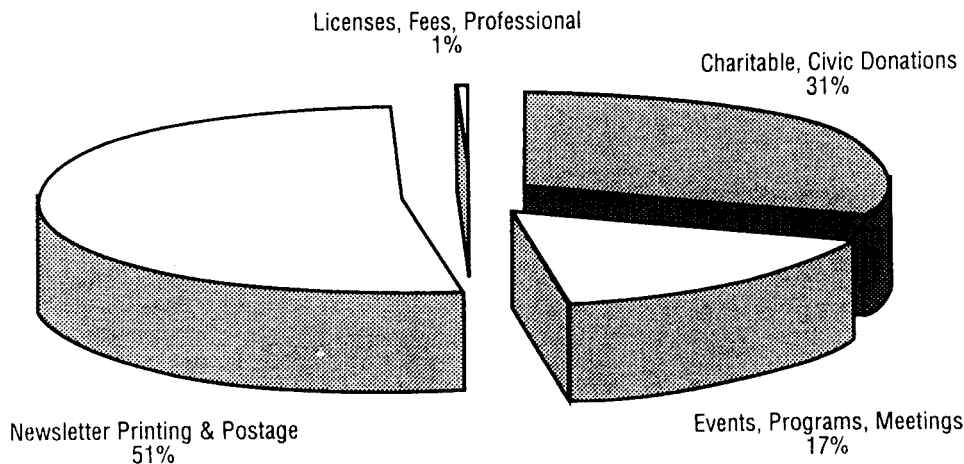
Glenn Tanner

Treasurer's Report

The RHA's fiscal year is March 1 - February 28. For the recently concluded fiscal year, 1998-1999, we set a record for membership income. And we also set a single year record for spending -- \$281 more than we made ! It has been our intention to give back your membership dues in the form of public benefits such as free Concerts-in-the -Park, scholarships, school donations, informational newsletters, etc. For the successive year, we have again succeeded at this mission. Please refer to the following "pie chart" for a break down of our expenses during the past fiscal year. Note that this is

the first time, to our recollection, that RHA financial information such as this has ever been made public.

Total income including membership fees and interest exceeded \$17,000 for the first time. Major expenses were as follows: 1) Newsletter printing cost with expanded pages and postage was over \$9,000; 2) Charitable donations to schools, scholarships, youth & sports groups & dues to civic organizations were over \$5,300; and 3) Cost of events, meetings, programs (including the Concert-in-the-Park) was nearly \$2,900.



Heather Hintzen-Ridgeway

Airport Report

Young Pilots Needed



First, following the departure of Airport Manager Andy Hriz at the end of December, the City has decided to place airport management under the General Services Department. Second, the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) will fly a "Young Eagle" mission at Torrance Airport on April 17 at 1:00 PM. This nationwide program aims to provide a meaningful flight experience for 1 million young people (primarily between the ages of 8 and 17) by the year 2003 - the 100th anniversary of the Wright brothers' first powered flight - and the 50th anniversary of EAA. If you know of a young person that might be interested, please call Glen Parkinson at 374-4812.

Jim Gates

Traffic Calming Update

The Traffic Calming Program is suddenly becoming a reality for the Riviera residents. In particular, the City has chosen the Newton Street as its first case for developing solutions to reduce traffic volume and speed. On March 18, 1999, the City Planner held a strategy session at the Calle Mayor Middle School with the residents and businesses that reside between Bluff/PCH and Hawthorne/Calle Mayor (the East end of the Riviera). The City Planner also invited representatives from the Police Dept., Fire Dept., City Engineering, and the City's Traffic Consultant.

Based on common complaints received from the residents/businesses thus far, the City presented proposed Traffic Calming options (e.g. diverter at the Newton/Ocean/244th St intersection). The presentation included results from

the City's recent Traffic Survey in this area. Vehicle speeds were obtained during the survey period using undetected radars. In addition, traffic volume was measured utilizing counters at various locations to determine the amount of bypass (i.e. non-residents passing thru) traffic.

The meeting provided the City an opportunity to educate the residents of the Traffic Calming Program. The City is essentially seeking 'good' feedback from the local residents and businesses. Following input from the residents/businesses, the City Planner would proceed to the Traffic Commission with a recommended set of Traffic Calming strategies. The progress is being made towards safer streets in our community.

Johnny Tai

Membership Report

For the recently concluded fiscal year, March 1, 1998 to February 29, 1999, the RHA had approximately 806 new and renewal members paid. Since our 1999 Membership Drive and newsletter campaign began in October 1998, we have had over 625 new and renewal members paid. This amounts to one of the most successful membership periods in the RHA's history. However, it must be noted that there are about 3,400 homes in the Hollywood Riviera, so our over-800 paid members represents just 24% of the total residences in the area. Our goal is to have over 1,000 paid members (30%) by the end of next year's membership drive.

George Jaresko

Riviera Garden Club Landscape Award Winners



The Edmunds Family
308 Via Linda Vista
February 1999

Harry & Elbe Mekjian
401 Calle Mayor
March 1999
(An environmentally sustainable garden
of drought-tolerant native California plants.)

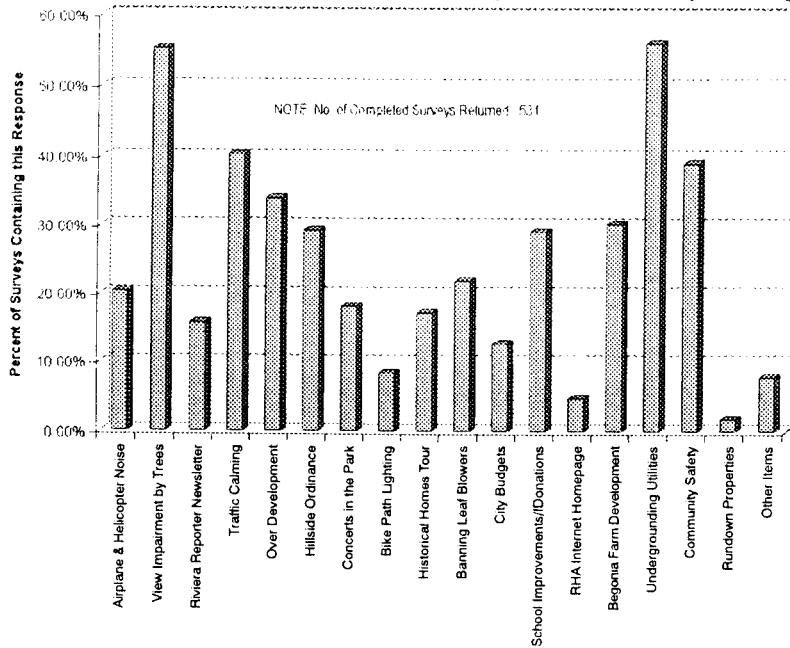


Ruth Vogel, , Mary Lenihan, Ethel Sellars, Virginia Schneider

Results Of Interest Survey

R.H.A. Membership Chart

"What items would you like to see the RHA pursue in the upcoming year"



At the date of this writing, we have received over 525 completed "Riviera Interest Questionnaire" surveys. The number of returned surveys represents over 15% of the estimated 3,400 homes in the Riviera. This survey asked the question "What items would you like to see the RHA pursue in the upcoming year?" Please refer to the accompanying graph that summarizes the results. All of these items have been the focus of the RHA Board in the past and will continue to be in the upcoming months.

Glenn Tanner

RHA Membership Form



Annual Dues for 1998 - 1999 :

\$20 Other \$ _____ New Member Continuing Member

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

What's Up In the Neighborhood

REVIEW OF LAST GENERAL MEETING



Over 145 Hollywood Riviera residents attended the last General meeting on the topic of "Under-grounding Utilities". This was by far the largest general meeting we have had in a few years. The popularity of the topic confirmed its number one status as the leading vote-getter in our Riviera interest poll. Mr. Scott Gobbel of the Southern California Edison (SCE) public electric utility company, and a Riviera resident, was our speaker. As you may know, for some time now, residents have had the ability to get power lines and poles removed and underground services installed at their homes. Yet few, if any, local areas have completed electric service under-grounding. This program dealt with issues such as: How to arrange for under-grounding of electric lines, who to contact, how long does it take, what does it cost, methods of financing, how to form utility under-grounding 'blocks'. We will continue to present topics such as this that are of interest to the residents of the Riviera.

BRAMHALL PASSING



We are sorry to announce that long-time Riviera resident Mr. John Bramhall passed away recently. John was about as close to being "Mr. Torrance" as anyone possibly could, having received the Jared Sidney Torrance Award for outstanding lifetime civic service from the City Council and the Chamber of Commerce's Distinguished Service Award. John graduated from USC and began service to the city in 1960, rising to acting City Manager. He returned to Torrance in 1988 with an appointment as City Clerk and was elected City Clerk in 1990. In addition, John served ten years on the Planning Commission following a stint on the Traffic Commission. He also served on the boards of the YMCA, Kiwanis, and Sister City Association. As a patron of the arts, John initiated the Young Artists Concerto contest.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

The following locations inside the Hollywood Riviera and/or Hillside Overlay District are scheduled for Public Hearings or have they have recently been held:

531 Camino De Encanto: Planning Commission consideration of a precise plan of development to allow construction of a first story addition to an existing one-story single family residence.

4082 Newton St.: Planning Commission consideration of a precise plan of development and waiver to allow construction of a second story addition to an existing one-story single family residence.

R.H.A. BOARD POSITIONS OPEN:



Elections will be held at the next general meeting (April) for Board of Directors during the 1999 - 2000 term. The following RHA Board of Director positions will be elected: First Vice President - Membership; Secretary; City Council Liaison Director; Hospitality Director; and Historian. We are soliciting interested persons from the Riviera to fill these slots. This would be a great chance for you to get involved with your community, improve the area, and get to know your neighbors. The RHA assists the schools and performs community improvement projects, so please, call Glenn Tanner or drop us a note at the PO Box if you are interested.

We are looking forward to your response!

RIVIERA GARDEN CLUB

The Riviera Garden Club presents the "Along the Riviera IV" Home Garden Tour on Tuesday May 4th from 10 AM to 2 PM. Five esthetically different gardens will be included in the tour. The \$10 donation includes light refreshments. The tour will be held rain or shine. For information, call (310) 540-4017. The gardens are located in the Hollywood Riviera, on the north slope of the Palos Verdes Peninsula, overlooking the ocean. Visitors need to wear comfortable shoes and are reminded no restrooms are available. The Riviera Garden Club is a member of the National Council of State Garden Clubs and California Garden Clubs. Donations benefit the club's

beautification efforts and help meet the objectives of education, increasing interest in gardening, and conservation of natural resources.

RICHARDSON SCHOOL APPLIES FOR RECOGNITION



Richardson Middle School has applied for recognition as a "1999 California Distinguished School". The President of the RHA assisted the school by reviewing the application and offering comments. The application is a long and detailed process and we congratulate Principal Rick Long and the school staff for their effort!!!

BEGONIA FARM DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The City Council heard the appeal of the Planning Commission's denial of a waiver for distance between units and a conditional use permit to allow construction of a 44 unit 'patio home' type condominium development on the 3.3 acre site formerly known as the Begonia Farm in the C-2 zone at their March 16th meeting. The project was approved essentially as proposed by the developer, with overall very minor changes to the plan. Largest change was eliminating long-term access of Newton Street from the development, possibly resulting in an influx of traffic onto that street as the development's residents use the blind alley and retail accesses to travel west. Little or no change was made to the density (number of units per acre) of the development. Minor reduction in height of the southeastern units was ordered but little or no lowering of the three story units located along the West side view corridor was made. An increase in the parking inside the development's gates was also ordered.

KILLER BEES



To report an infestation of Africanized Honeybees, please call the Los Angeles County Vector Control Hotline, 1-800-925-3800, for removal. If you would like more information, please call the county agricultural department at 1-800-BEE-WARY.

Riviera Homeowners Association 1998-1999 Officers And Directors

President	Glenn Tanner	378-4446	Landscape, Chairperson	Ruth Vogel	375-4702
1st Vice President (Programs)	Kim Emery	378-2499	City Council Liaison	Dean Reuter	373-1627
2nd Vice President (Membership)	George Jaresko	375-1097	Mailing	Shirly McNair	378-5557
Treasurer	Heather Hintzen	378-7388	Airport and C.H.A.T.	Jim Gates	373-7640
Secretary	Benson Black	375-0744	Traffic	Johnny Tai	791-1465
Newsletter Editor	Jim Vogl	378-1803	Immediate Past President	Don Young	373-8866
Hospitality	Chela Cowden	375-8949	Past President	Doug Holker	378-8984
Development	Morgan Tookey	378-6507	Planning Commision Liason	Paul Beaudoin	373-0829
Historian	Tom Penland	378-5126			

RIVIERA REPORTER

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