

THE RIVIERA REPORTER

NEWSLETTER OF THE RIVIERA HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

December 2001

RHA General Meeting:

WHEN: WEDNESDAY, December 19, 2001 – 7:00 P.M.

WHERE: RICHARDSON MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA
23751 Nancy Lee Lane (off Newton Street)

AGENDA: SPECIAL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

The RHA is pleased to announce a special holiday program featuring the students from the Richardson Middle School and more!



The Prez Sez...



Please pay your dues. Through the RHA newsletter and general meetings your RHA board of directors has done an excellent job at keeping you informed of community issues such as the undergrounding of utility lines, city planning and the continued enforcement of the hill-side ordinance and sponsorship of local candidate forums for the school board and city council. Additionally, through your membership payments, we have provided scholarships to college bound Riviera students as well as monies to cover under-funded school projects and equipment. Also, once each summer your association sponsors the Concert in the Park event.

To continue these programs we need your support. Please pay your dues

so that we have the monies available to fund these efforts. For your convenience we enclose an enrollment form on page three of this newsletter along with a self-addressed envelope.

Volunteer for community service. Three years ago when Glenn Tanner resigned as your RHA President, I took over his role serving out the remainder of his term and then serving an elected second term. That term will be over next Spring. I have enjoyed serving the community and gained a sense that our efforts have made a difference for our neighborhood. Your RHA Board of Directors takes its role seriously, yet because we work as a team we seem to accomplish our tasks with little effort. Currently we have four open board positions. These are Vice President of Programs, Community Homeowners Association Liaison, Historian and Planning Liaison. Come next April there will be more positions to be filled. Many directors will be ending their second successive term in office. These include Membership, Mailing, Secretary, and others. If you would be interested in serving your neighborhood, please indicate so in the comments section of the membership form and return mail it in the enclosed envelope and you will be contacted.

Serve on city commissions. Currently the city of Torrance is offering commission positions. Simply fill out an application and return it by January 9, 2002. On January 15, the City Council will consider applications for each position and appoint candidates. I have served as a Traffic Commissioner for two years, and find the experience to be rewarding. It takes less than one night per month and I have gained a lot of knowledge on issues affecting different parts of the city and I have learned how the process of local government works. For more information or to obtain an application contact the city clerk's office at 618-2870.

Register to vote now. Next Spring will be the Torrance City Council and Mayoral races. If you are not registered to vote you may get information on how to do so by contacting the city clerk's office. Additionally, we will have voter registration forms available at our future general meetings. In addition to the candidates' forums set for next February, watch for voter information in upcoming newsletters. Feel free to submit questions for the candidates now on the enclosed membership application.

Finally and most importantly, many thanks to those families and households that have already paid their dues!

What's Up In the Neighborhood:



The Riviera Garden Club planted a jacaranda tree at El Retiro Park on Arbor Day, April 27th, to honor Torrance Mayor Dee Hardison whose term is nearing its end.

Other on-going projects by the club include planting and maintaining an area at Rocketship Park, El Retiro Library, and maintaining the flower beds at the Torrance city marker at PCH and Palo Verdes Boulevard. The club also provides weekly fresh flower arrangements or potted plants at the front desk of El Retiro Library.

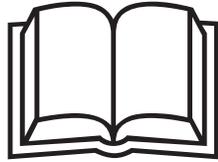
If you are interested in joining the Garden Club, please contact Marilyn Barker at 310-316-6761.

Let me make this perfectly clear:

Recently it has come to my attention that we have not been giving credit where it is due. The Riviera Landscape Awards are run *jointly* by Ruth Vogel and Mary Lenihan for the Riviera Homeowners Association *and* Ethel Sellars for the Riviera Garden Club.

The Editor

The Riviera Homeowners Association invites Riviera residents to submit articles of interest for inclusion in the newsletter. Submissions are subject to editing and will be published at our discretion.



The El Retiro Library is Not Closing!

Many people step into our beautiful branch on Vista Del Parque having just heard from a friend or neighbor that the El Retiro Library is in danger of being closed.

Well, nothing could be further from the truth!

In the last year we have added staff, added collections, and added services to this branch. A full-time Youth Services Librarian was added, when only three years ago there was no Youth Services Librarian at all. A video and DVD collection is in place, with free checkout for 7-days to patrons 18 and older. There is a weekly preschool storytime, a parent-child book group, a book group for adults, and a wonderful selection of materials for all ages. New furniture is in place including comfortable sofas and kid-sized tables just for the little ones!

We are open five days a week and are here to meet your library needs. So never fear, the El Retiro Library isn't planning on disappearing any time soon. If you haven't stopped by lately, come see what's new!

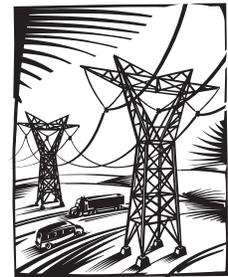


Turn Old Bikes into Holiday Gifts

Do you have an old bicycle that hasn't been used for years just taking up space in your garage? Mohammad Seraj, owner of The Bike Shop in Hermosa Beach and member of the Manhattan Beach Community Church, will take that bike off your hands and turn it into a gift for underprivileged children.

Hermosa resident, Seraj reconditions the donated bikes while Bob Brigham and other volunteers of the Manhattan Beach Community Church polish the bikes before delivering them. The program, now in its 6th year, has delivered more than 500 bikes to underprivileged and foster children in the greater Los Angeles area.

Those wishing to donate bikes can contact Mohammad at the Bike Shop at 376-2914, or Bob Brigham at 545-9515. The program also has established a helmet fund so that kids who get bikes will also be able to have the safety equipment that the law requires. Contributions to the helmet fund, in any amount, may be made by check payable to the MBCC Helmet Fund and sent to the church at 303 S. Peck Avenue, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266.



Underground Utilities Committee (UUC)

The residents of District 1, which is slated to be the pilot program for the initial underground utilities in Hollywood Riviera, met with the Torrance Engineering Dept. on November 26, 2001. (District 1 is comprised of 27 homes on Paseo de la Playa.) The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the process leading to a district assessment and to respond to the concerns of the district's participants. The next step will be the drafting and signing of the petition of that district. Once 60% of the residents of the district have signed the petition in support of the project, the city will begin the engineering survey of each home and determine individual costs. Other districts in Hollywood Riviera may begin the process with the city once the engineering survey has been completed on the pilot. For further information, contact Nancy Conger at (310) 373-9867 or by e-mail at bnassoc@earthlink.net. The city will plan on holding future meetings with residents of each district.

Living and Working in the Riviera

Among the many families living in the Riviera are the Viceljas on Via Madrid in the upper Riviera. All four children attend Riviera Elementary: Michael in first; Erin in second; Stephen in third and Ellen in fifth

grade ("VI-SELL-YA" is one last name all the teachers at Riviera know). Their dad, Dr. John, and mom, Julie, keep the kids "on the go" involving them in the various youth activities offered in the city of Torrance: all four of the Vicelja children play in AYSO District 12 Soccer (AYSO originated in Torrance in 1964), Riviera Little League, and other Torrance youth activities such as the summer "Plunge" swimming programs. Additionally, all the children participate in scouting. The Viceljas are also active in school choral, athletic and student government programs. All of these activities keep mom and dad pretty busy. Mom Julie also volunteers for the Torrance "Adventures in Art" program sponsored by the PTA.

Dr. John lives and works in the Riviera; he is a USC graduate of Dentistry and has his practice on Via El Prado. "I grew up in the South Bay and, after dental school, I wanted to start a family here so that my kids could grow up with the same quality of life I experienced as a youth." As a clinical instructor in cosmetic dentistry, he strives to maintain cutting edge applications with conservative, proven results. Just ask him. "When you see me on the sidelines of a baseball or soccer game, just ask away."



La Vie Romantique

A new addition to shopping in the Riviera Village at 324

Avenue I is La Vie Romantique. Chelon Bradfield Marquez who grew up in the Hollywood Riviera is the owner and operator. Chelon has a degree in interior design and has focused the retail inventory toward home décor and accessories, along with some costume jewelry and a unique line of cards.

New holiday and seasonal products are being delivered every week. Christmas ornaments, distinctive gifts and hostess presents are plentiful as well as vintage silver for traditional touches of elegance.

The store is located in the triangle shopping area just west of Pacific Coast Highway at Avenue I near 31 Flavors, Danis Gallery and the Bull Pen Restaurant. The Danis Gallery is owned and operated by members of the Danis Family who are also long-time residents of the Hollywood Riviera.

www.hollywoodriviera.org

Post Office Complaints

Are you having a problem with your mail delivery? If so, call the following number and ask to speak to your carrier's supervisor: 310-376-3252

Been to the RHA website yet?

Come take a look! The foundation has been laid and it's growing fast. Lots of new information and graphics have been added. If you would like to contribute, or want to help out, call me at 373-6314 or email me at: "webmaster@hollywoodriviera.org". *Julian Chasin*

Longtime Riviera resident, Rosemary DeCamp, an actress whose work spanned five decades on the big and small screens, died at her home on February 20th from complications of pneumonia. You can read more about her life and career on the website.

RHA Membership Form

If the information on the mailing label is okay, please indicate by marking the appropriate box below.

Continuing Member – mailing label personal information is accurate. (NO NEED TO FILL IN PERSONAL INFORMATION BELOW.)

Continuing Member – See modifications and/or comments below.

New Member – see information below.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Amount paid:

Dues:

\$20 (annual) † \$____ (Other) = Total \$____
Check # _____ Check Date _____

Comments: _____

Riviera Landscape Awards

Presented by: *Ruth Vogel and Mary Lenihan, RHA
Ethel Sellars, Riviera Garden Club*



September 2001
Trish and Tim McDonald –
163 Via Los Miradores



October 2001
Claude and Josette Abel –
717 Calle Miramar



November 2001
Carol and Craig Neumann
405 Calle de Castellana

Riviera Homeowners Association 2001-2002 Officers and Directors

President	Morgan Tookey	213-680-6568	Riviera Garden Club Landscape Award Chairman	Ethel Sellars	375-4949
1st Vice President (Programs)	OPEN		Riviera Website	Julian Chasin	373-6314
2nd Vice President (Membership)	Michael Cotton	791-1985	Mailing	Shirley McNair	378-5557
Treasurer	Heather Hintzen	378-7388	City Council Liaison	Mary Taylor	378-6673
Secretary	Benson Black	375-0744	Traffic	Johnny Tai	791-7465
Newsletter Editor	Chela Cowden	375-8949	Past President	Doug Holker	378-8984
Hospitality	Pam Popovich	375-8729	Scholarship	Virginia Levanas	375-0424
Landscape & Concert	Ruth Vogel	375-4702	Underground Utilities	Nancy Conger	373-9867
RHA Landscape Co-chair	Mary Lenihan	378-7435			

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P O BOX 1074 • TORRANCE, CA 90505

Please look above your name & address for your dues payment status. Your dues help us to provide scholarships, put on community events such as the Concert in the Park, and promote the Riviera community in our newsletter.

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