

RIVIERA HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION 2003-2004 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President	Michael Cotton	791-1985	Past President	Doug Holker	378-8984
1st Vice President (Programs)	Heather Hintzen	378-7388	Scholarship	Art Wong	375-1741
2nd Vice President (Membership)	Bob Hoffman	375-7108	City Council Liaison	OPEN	
Treasurer	Andrea Perez	378-2744	Traffic Liaison	Johnny Tai	791-7465
Secretary	Amy Graham	375-8640	Underground Utilities	Nancy Conger	373-9867
Newsletter Editor	Chela Cowden	375-8649	Planning Commission Liaison	OPEN	
Riviera Website	Julian Chasin	373-6314	Historian	Austin Woodward	375-6390
Landscape & Concert	Ruth Vogel	375-4702	Mailing Coordinator	OPEN	
Hospitality	Pam Popovich	375-8729			

The Riviera Reporter

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.

Dated material • Open immediately

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OUTSTANDING LANDSCAPE AWARDS



The September Award was presented to longtime Rivierans, Ethel and John Sellars at 128 Via Los Miradores. Ethel has been an active Riviera Garden Club member and has represented the Garden Club on our RHA Landscape Committee for many years. Their lovely home on a spacious corner has been highlighted with a wonderful pathway and entry deck made of used brick. The landscape created by

Lou's Landscaping Service features iceberg roses along a split rail fence, painted to match the exterior of their home. Borders of impatiens, gardenias and azaleas create a serene and soothing traditional style.

Landscape Awards are presented by: Ruth Vogel & Mary Lenihan for the RHA, & Toni Sargent for the Riviera Garden Club.



ADAM TAYLOR, SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

At the June meeting, the RHA presented scholarship awards of \$500.00 each to four high school seniors. One of them, Adam Taylor, sent a very nice note, reprinted here:

"Thank you for honoring me with the Riviera Homeowners Scholarship. This scholarship and your confidence in my abilities will help me out greatly in my next four years. Thank you again for helping to build the community spirit that is so strong within the Riviera and for helping to have made it such a great place to grow up."

Adam Taylor

HELP WANTED – ASAP

The RHA needs a person to take on the duties of: **Mailing Coordinator**. This person will oversee the mailing of our newsletter which is printed four times a year. Duties include handling postage and acting as liaison with the post office, overseeing the schedule, and coordinating with the mailing house and the printer. Join the RHA board and make a valuable contribution to your neighborhood.



The 6th Annual RHA Concert in the Park was held Sunday, Sept. 14th at El Retiro Park. All who came enjoyed the country and rock sounds of Debra Lee and

Trigger Happy. Noticed quite a few great dancers out there! See you next year.

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR

Please pick up after Fido. Torrance City Code TMC 41.1.7 prohibits dog-poop on people's property. You can be fined \$25.00 to \$50.00. Ouch!

The Riviera Reporter

NEWSLETTER OF THE RIVIERA HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

NOVEMBER 2003

The Prez Sez...



History was always a favorite class of mine in school. I never really thought much about why that was so, but lately the reason has become clearer. History is defined by moments that shape our lives today. We remember the people and actions that shaped the current state of events. For that reason looking back can be very healthy.

My father passed away suddenly last month and it has caused me to focus on certain moments in my life. I have been a little surprised by the type of events that bring up the strongest feelings. I think of my father's happiness at sentinel events like my high school and college graduation day, my wedding day and upon his seeing his grandkids soon after they were born. And those are very happy memories. But I also think about the subtler, mundane moments that had little impact at the time, but which in hindsight may influence me more. I think of the mustard-stained smile and look of satisfaction on his face as he enjoyed a hot dog at the Dodger game just a couple of months back. The look of pride only a grandfather can get as his youngest grandchild took some of his first, still wobbly steps. I remember the discussions we

RHA GENERAL MEETING:

WHEN: WEDNESDAY, November 5, 2003 – 7:00 P.M.

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

AGENDA: A LOOK BACK AT THE HOLLYWOOD RIVIERA
A Presentation by the Torrance Historical Society

Ever wonder what it was like in the olden days? Join us for an evening of nostalgic glances back at the early days of the Hollywood Riviera: how it was developed, how it got its name, and who the players were..... *More details inside on page 2.*

had; sometimes erupting into full-fledged debates over politics and sports. These memories confirm for me that the everyday interactions are as important, perhaps even more important than how we act at those sentinel moments in life.

It makes me appreciate this wonderful neighborhood of ours even more. I realize even more how great it is that my neighbors, Lem and Violet, take a moment every time we see them to say "howdy" and chat. How my neighbor, John, often comes over Monday night to watch football and smoke a cigar out on the deck. How his stepson, Zack, loves to come over and play with the kids and hang out even though he is a few years older than they are and may be jeopardizing his "cool" status playing with little tikes. I love that we see our neighbors, Mike and Pam, walking down the street with their two kids, Lili and Brian, and their dog, Greta, past our dining room window almost every night right around dinner time. How sometimes Lili stops and knocks at the door just to say "Hi". How my oldest boy's face, Trevor, lights up when he see our neighbors, Justin and Karen, and their young son, Ben, out in front of their house because he loves to go

over and play with their little dog, an infectiously personable pug named Buster. My daughter loves to show Justin her latest jump rope skills. And he will watch her and encourage her and caringly challenge her to try even more. His encouragement had such an impact on her that, when asked to share what she was thankful for in her kindergarten class two years ago, she replied, "I am thankful for my neighbor Justin." Every day we make history when we touch people in a way that can impact them in great ways.

Come to our next general meeting Wednesday, November 5th and you will learn more about the history of the Riviera. By participating and interacting with fellow Riviera residents, you may also make a little history of your own. The kind of history that may not show up in future historic videos, but will likely show up in the personal history, the hearts and memories of those around you. The Riviera is known for its beautiful views, its proximity to the beach and beautiful homes. For me, the warmth of our neighborhood only enhances those attributes. That warmth adds real radiance to our jewel of the South Bay: the Hollywood Riviera.

Michael Cotton, President

WHAT'S UP IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD:

A LOOK BACK, *continued*

Janet Payne, Vice President of the Torrance Historical Society, will be the principal speaker, presenting two fascinating videos. One is a brand-new show done by independent producer Mary Rose Abramson for Torrance CityCable Channel 3 in cooperation with the Historical Society. It includes an interview with Marshall Stewart, author of the book, *History of the Early Hollywood Riviera*, and nephew of the original developer, Clifford F. Reid. The other is a video of the silent film produced originally circa 1928 as a sales presentation to potential lot buyers. Oldtimers may recall seeing the film at past RHA meetings.

Joining Mrs. Payne for the presentation will be Carl Kaemerle, president of the Torrance Historical Society. They will bring copies of Marshall Stewart's book, which includes photos of the Hollywood Riviera Beach Club and many of the original homes. It will be available for a donation of \$8 to the Torrance Historical Society.

As time allows, they promise to allow members of the RHA audience to share some of their early recollections of the Riviera. Should be a fun evening!

Submitted by Austin Woodward

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY!

UPCOMING SPECIAL PROGRAMS AT EL RETIRO LIBRARY

On Tuesday, November 4th, at 4 pm, the library is holding a special celebration of Diwali, Festival of Light, which is celebrated throughout India. There will be stories, crafts, music and dancing for the kids to enjoy.

On Tuesday, December 2nd, at 4 pm, the library will hold its Holiday Program - a holiday story and craft session.



Taken on the bridge parallel to Tortugas

STORM DRAINS PROJECT

Los Angeles County Updates Storm Drains

Two miles of new 39" concrete pipes (84" near Lago Sego Park) and 55 catch basins are being installed by the Los Angeles County to replace 50 year old metal pipes and accommodate 200 acres of Palos Verdes drainage. In 1995, the large rainfall created attention to drainage problems in Palos Verdes and had initiated the effort for Palos Verdes to update their drains.

Since the drainage ends up in the Waleria Retention Base (the Waleria Sump accommodates 2300 acres of drainage), the piping through Torrance is required to be updated. As such, the County of Los Angeles is footing the bill.

Construction began in early August and is scheduled until June 2004. In the immediate vicinity, Newton Street will possibly be closed between Hawthorne Blvd and Vista Montana depending on the location of the pipe. If the pipe is in the middle of the street, that segment of Newton Street will be closed. If the pipe is on the side, the street may be open to traffic.

This endeavor will require patience on our parts, however we will all benefit greatly when the work is finished. Remember to be courteous and drive safely.

Submitted by Johnny Tai



**SAVE THE DATE!
DEC. 10TH**

The RHA will present the Annual Holiday Children's Concert on December 10th at the Richardson Middle School Cafeteria at 7 p.m. There will be no newsletter in December.



93.5 FM RADIO TOWER UPDATE

For the past several years, there has been a heated battle between local residents of the Riviera and SBS, a company that owns the radio tower at the intersection of Calle De Arboles and Pablo streets. The tower, operating at 93.5 FM, causes many interference problems for residents within approximately 1500 feet of the tower.

It seems that this situation is about to resolve itself in a win-win situation. Earlier this year, the station agreed to move the tower to an existing radio site at the intersection of 190th and Hawthorne Blvd. This move will solve many problems for the local homeowners, cool a fair number of frustrated people, and result in an improved coverage area for 93.5 FM, thereby raising their Ad revenue. In this case, it is assumed that money was a key motivator in getting the station to move the tower a couple of years before their existing lease on the Arboles site expires. Either way, it sure make some of us happy to see them move away from the residential area.

I recently met with the station engineer, touring work in progress at the new 190th location. Construction is progressing smoothly, the new transmitter has been received, and the new tower location is being strengthened and readied for the new antenna. If schedules do not slip, it is possible that the Arboles tower will go silent by the end of this calendar year, and be physically removed a couple of months after that.

Questions may be directed to resident Neal Pollack (npollack@socal.rr.com), or Brian Sunshine, Torrance City Manager.

RHA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL GUIDELINE

The Riviera Homeowners Association has been working to improve the way we track and report our membership dues activities. Each newsletter has the most recent dues payment information right above your mailing address.

The RHA's business year begins in September and ends in August; it is meant to coincide with the school calendar year. The current 2003-2004 business year began on September 1, 2003 and will end on August 31, 2004. Annual dues received during this period will be counted toward this period. We hope this guideline helps you to better understand the dues payment message included in each newsletter.

RHA MEMBERSHIP FORM 2003 - 2004

If the information on the mailing label is correct, 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: _____

The following officers can be contacted through their email at the RHA:

president@hollywoodriviera.org secretary@hollywoodriviera.org historian@hollywoodriviera.org landscape@hollywoodriviera.org
newsletter@hollywoodriviera.org concert@hollywoodriviera.org scholarships@hollywoodriviera.org

MEMORIES *by Eric Diller*

After a successful aerospace career on Long Island in New York, I was transferred to the Los Angeles area to hopefully gain more success for my company. My wife, Dorothy, and I found a "temporary" home at 504 Via La Selva over 36 years ago. When the aerospace industry took a downward turn in 1970, we opted not to return to New York, and so I became a realtor to survive, with fluctuations that went from considering buying a Cadillac one month to committing suicide the next. However, leaving this area, this street, this home was never an option for us and our four children.

A few years ago I decided to put my memories in a book to let my children and grandchildren know "where I was coming from." The Publisher, 1stbooks.com, sent out the following press release:

AN UNSUNG SURVIVOR OF WWII
Freedom is an all-encompassing passion that one will, come hell or high water, fight for. Former U.S. Army infantryman Eric Diller's life story is a striking example of this daring pursuit. In his book, entitled *MEMOIRS*

of a COMBAT INFANTRYMAN by an Enemy Alien, Diller shares his unforgettable experiences, pain, and nostalgic memories of WWII, and honors the sacrifices veterans made to attain our freedom.

Books of this genre are necessary reminders for the present and coming generations. It inspires readers to learn what it took men of different backgrounds to fight for our freedom. Diller's honest interpretations of what transpired capture how putting one's life on the line - not just against enemy bullets, but against illness and fatigue - can take one's soul to the brink of hopelessness. Diller was born to a Jewish mother, but raised in his father's Catholic religion. He escaped, with his parents, from Hitler's wrath and settled in the U.S.A. Turned down by the Navy for lack of citizenship, he was drafted by "an equal opportunity employer," the U.S. Army, who labeled him an enemy alien. Diller served 2 years, mostly combat, in New Guinea and the Philippines. He was awarded his U.S. citizenship two days before his honorable discharge, his proudest moment.

ENROLLMENT FORM

Also, please review the membership enrollment form below. If you are renewing your membership and all of the information on the mailing label is accurate, mark the appropriate check box and submit your dues. Space is provided for modifications or new enrollment information should you need it.

The RHA does not share this or any other personal information with anyone for any purpose other than newsletter processing and delivery.

We will continue to try to improve these administrative functions in order to better serve you.

Amount paid:

\$20 (annual) + \$____ (Other) = Total \$____

Check # _____ Check Date _____

How did you learn of the Riviera Homeowners Association?

Comments: _____



**ATTENTION
HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS!**

2004 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Just a quick reminder to all high school seniors that the RHA provides annual scholarship awards to graduating seniors who live in the Hollywood Riviera and are planning to attend college.

Awards will be based on academic excellence, participation in school activities, teacher recommendations and community service. Applications are not due until early 2004, however, it's never too early to plan ahead! Interested seniors can get application information from their college counselor.

**Please contact Art Wong,
RHA Scholarship Chair at
scholarships@hollywoodriviera.org
if you have any questions.**