

THE

# Riviera Reporter

Newsletter of The Riviera Homeowners Association

SERVING THE HOLLYWOOD RIVIERA COMMUNITY SINCE THE 1940s—December 2009



RHA Presidents  
Tim Youngern and  
Roberta Blowers

## EDITOR'S MESSAGE

The officers of the Riviera Homeowners Association provide this newsletter to all residents of the Riviera. We are only able to do this if the RHA has enough dues paying members to support the costs. Please consider joining if you like receiving this newsletter.

We are always looking for additional help in running this organization. Please let us know if you are interested.

We are also interested in hearing your concerns.

*Geneva Martin*

## RHA GENERAL MEETING



Christmas Program

**Wednesday, December 9, 6 pm**

The Richardson Middle School and the Riviera Elementary School choirs will sing

Richardson Middle School Cafeteria  
23571 Nancy Lee Lane (off of Newton)

**JOIN THE RIVIERA HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION NOW - BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR - SPECIAL BONUS - WIN \$100 IN CASH... A DAY AT THE SPA... DINNERS... LUNCHES & T-SHIRTS**

As we all know the Holidays are a time for giving, with that said we would like to thank all of you who have sent in your membership dues for the 2009/2010 year. For those of you who are thinking about sending in your dues, we are going to have a drawing for 10 gifts including: \$100 in cash, a Day at the Spa, T-Shirts plus Lunches & Dinners. All you have to do to qualify is have your dues paid by the end of the year. The dues that are paid go to funding our General Meetings, Scholarships, etc... We award four \$500 scholarships every year and for next year we would like to award five but we need your help. So get all your neighbors and ask them to join you and give to the RHA and we will be giving back to the people that support the RHA with Cash & Prizes!

**ALL WINNERS WILL BE POSTED IN THE FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER**

### SPECIAL LANDSCAPE AWARD

Like the Lamp Post that was a major landmark in the country of Narnia (from the book by C. S. Lewis: *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*), the Hollywood Riviera Lamp Post at the five-way intersection of Via Monte d'Oro, Camino de las Colinas and Camino del Campo (just off of Palos Verdes Blvd. & Catalina Ave.), stands alone. For many years this lamp post was tended by former resident and Riviera shop owner, Morgan Moore. Without a water source, the Lamp Post has mostly shared its small space with a couple of scrawny hawthorn bushes and occasional garage sale signs. Today, it is a showpiece of bougainvillea and white flowers, mostly potted chrysanthemums. Cymbidium orchids in Spanish Moss grace the pole. The small space was uniquely orchestrated by a nearby neighbor who previously held the title of "Guerilla Gardener." Now the Riviera Homeowners Association and the Riviera Garden Club are proud to unmask the previously unknown gardener and tell all his name: Cavin Shorter. Cavin is a local resident who grew up and went to school in our area. Cavin is a property manager and is VERY community oriented. Hurray! Thank you Cavin for adding a touch of whimsy and beauty to our community! How fun it is to drive by!

From: Wikipedia:

The Lamp-post was a major landmark in the country of Narnia, located in the northern unpopulated area, which was named Lantern Waste after it. Resembling a London streetlamp, it stood in the middle of the forest and shone day and night. It was at the lamp-post that Lucy Pevensie first met Mr. Tumnus.

The Lamp-post originated in the first few days of Narnia's creation, from a bar of iron which Queen Jadis had torn from a London lamp-post and thrown at Aslan. Aslan at the time was creating the living things of Narnia by his song, which made the ground of Narnia magically fertile and gave birth to the animals and plants of the world. The iron bar fell to the ground and, under the influence of Aslan's song, gave birth to a new lamppost, which grew from a few feet high to a full sized streetlight in a few hours.

The Lamp-post's ability to burn continuously without fuel (London street lamps run on gas) may have been due to the fact that it is an organic living thing, not a manufactured artifact as other street lamps are.

### UPDATE ON HELICOPTER NOISE

In the October issue of the Riviera Reporter there was an article asking residents if they were concerned about the amount of helicopter noise in the Riviera. Since then, about 100 people have "signed" an online petition to the Mayor and City Council of Torrance asking for their help in reducing helicopter noise. In late October, the Mayor spoke of this problem and sent letters to Robinson Helicopter Company and the Coast Guard requesting that they fly higher. However, some residents say they have not seen improvement. To find out more about this issue, or to add your name to the petition, you can go to [www.HelicopterNoise.com](http://www.HelicopterNoise.com).



September 2009  
the Hollywood Riviera Lamp Post  
Picture by Princess Leilani



Lamp Post  
From *the Chronicles of Narnia*



# Newsletter of the Riviera Homeowners Association

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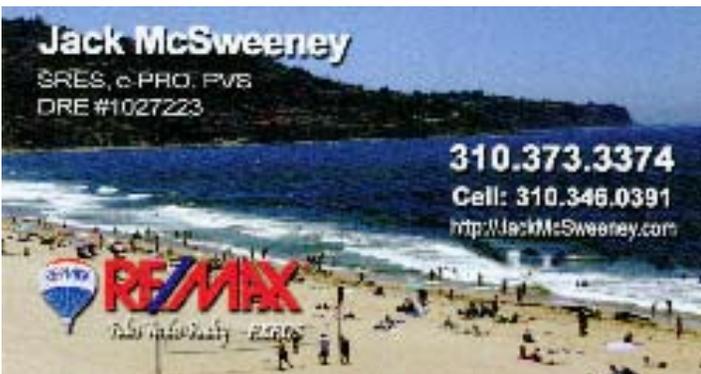
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## "MEET ME IN THE VILLAGE"

Pick one day a month & walk to the Riviera Village to meet a friend for coffee, lunch or dinner

COMMUNITY CALENDAR:

Riviera Holiday Stroll, December 3

Riviera Village Merchants will again entertain us with the annual Holiday Stroll, Thursday, December 3, 5 – 9 p.m. Come share the spirit, AND, there are reports of a Santa visit!

Ice Skating at Seaside Lagoon, now through January 18, 2010

Seaside Ice Skating is back for the second year. Weekly special events will take place during the 10-week run. Regular hours are 2:30 to 9:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 2:30 – 11 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 11:45 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday. For more information, check [www.seaside-ice.com](http://www.seaside-ice.com)

Catch the Nutcracker, December 18 – 20, Armstrong Theatre, Various dates, times and dance companies: Friday, December 18, Saturday & Sunday, December 19 and 20 check the listings: [tcac.torrrnet.com](http://tcac.torrrnet.com)

Breakfast with Santa, December 19, 9 am to noon, annual event, Torrance Cultural Arts Center, reservations required, info at: [tcac.torrrnet.com](http://tcac.torrrnet.com).



SAVE THE DATES:

Relay for Life Saturday & Sunday, April 24 & 25, 2010 will be back at South High next year: Please save the date and help Riviera Homeowners raise money and cancer awareness to support the programs and services of the American Cancer Society. The 2010 theme is "More Birthdays" Sharing Hope...Saving Lives Sooner. Our local Relay last year raised \$200,000. Let's see if we can top that next year. For more info, please call RHA Relay Chair Pam Popovich, 310-375-8729.

Zamperini will speak, Wednesday, 7 p.m., February 10, 2010 at the Riviera Homeowners Meeting, Richardson School. Louis Zamperini was a local, graduated from Torrance High, ran in the 1936 Olympics and had his plane shot down in World War II over the Pacific. After surviving adrift in the ocean, Zamperini was captured by the Japanese and became a prisoner of war. Declared a war hero, Torrance's City Airport is named after him, as is a street. There is one autobiography out about him, with another in the works. Universal pictures optioned the motion pictures rights to the story. Louis Zamperini is almost 93 years old and still actively travels and talks about his experiences. Put February 10 on your calendar and come hear him talk in his old home town!



## RIVIERA HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION AND RIVIERA GARDEN CLUB LANDSCAPE AWARD

by Shelley & Karen; pictures by Julian

Bill and Josh have lived in their contemporary/Spanish style house for two years. The newly built house came complete with a more austere type of landscaping. Since then, Bill has turned the grounds into an eclectic oasis of colorful plants, trees, and bushes highlighted by beautiful iron work at windows, door and gate. The colorful terraced hillside is planted with roses and geraniums and dotted with a Japanese maple and palms. Their front yard terrace, which is a perfect place to watch the sunset, has had the perimeter planted with privot bushes which provide privacy from the street. The hillside along the driveway and house has been carefully planted with a rusty colored sedum and other plantings that protect the hill. Bill grew up with his twelve brothers and sisters in the Seaside neighborhood, attending local Catholic schools. Josh is a transplant from Ohio. The neighborhood is truly enhanced by the careful attention to detail on their property.



October 2009 -Cunningham/Corso Residence - 413 Via Malaga

The upper side of the steep slope on Calle Mayor cause homeowners landscape challenges, but Bejan and Hallie have done a wonderful job. Hallie has been her own designer on the six month relandscaping project that undertook boulders being brought in, new lighting, sprinkler system and the addition of drought tolerant plants. Papyrus and palms soften the edges of three different levels. Mature blue agave highlight one side of the yard. Flagstone steps and an ocean view flagstone terrace show off the contemporary, updated home. The water wise plantings and ground cover are surprisingly interspersed with white irises and colorful pansies at the lower grass level but do not detract from the overall theme. Terrific lighting make the house a treat to drive by day or night! – thanks Bejan & Hallie!.



November 2009 - Bejan Joshi and Hallie Latos, 308 Calle Mayor

### Sign up for the RHA E-Mail Alert

Get periodic emails notifying you of RHA meetings, events, and occasional community notices.

Don't miss out!

Look for this sign on the RHA website:

[Click here to sign up for the RHA E-mail alert](#)



Visit our website at:

[www.HollywoodRiviera.org](http://www.HollywoodRiviera.org)

## Membership Form

### **JOIN the Riviera Homeowners Association (RHA) for 2009-2010**

*Your dues are an important contribution to our community. They allow us to provide scholarships to college bound students and donations to elementary and middle schools. They are also used to sponsor general meetings in the Riviera on topics important to our community. They finance this newsletter and allow us to keep members informed on important issues being discussed in the City. Your dues allow us to thank the City when they are doing a great job and to express our concern when our property interests are impacted. If you are not a member, please consider joining. It is a small sum, well invested.*

**M**embership runs from September thru August. Since our new membership and business year has begun, it's time to join or renew your membership in the Riviera Homeowners Association today and help support the interests of our community. Membership dues are only \$25 a year. Please fill out the form below or update the mailing label on reverse, enclose your check payable to "Riviera Homeowners Association", and mail to RHA Membership, P.O. Box 1074, Torrance, CA 90505. Or, you can renew or join online through our PayPal system-it is quick and secure! Go to our website at [www.hollywoodriviera.org](http://www.hollywoodriviera.org)

*(Please note: Your street and/or email address are never shared with any third parties, and are used only for the purpose of notifying our members about upcoming events and other important information.)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Do you receive emails from us? If not, and you would like to be on our list, please provide us with your email address:

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\$25 Annual Membership for 2009-10 (Sept.-Aug.)

Additional contributions are always welcome!  \$50  \$100  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## Newsletter of the Riviera Homeowners Association

### Riviera History Project

Did you know that the Riviera once had so many skunks that residents were reluctant to walk around at night for fear of being accidentally sprayed? Florence on Calle de Arboles remembers, and once held the honor of having trapped over 300 skunks!

Do you know a Hollywood Riviera resident who has lived in the neighborhood since the 1950's or earlier? They have some fascinating stories to tell. We would like to interview long-time residents for a collection of stories documenting the lives, families, and memories of the early days of the Riviera.

The stories are to be taped and transcribed for inclusion on the Riviera Homeowner's Association website.

In addition to residents who wish to be interviewed, we are in real need of volunteer interviewers (no experience necessary), neighborhood coordinators, and tape transcribers with good keyboarding skills.

If you are interested, please respond by email to: [oralhistory@hollywoodriviera.org](mailto:oralhistory@hollywoodriviera.org). Teenagers, moms, dads, and retired volunteers all are encouraged and welcome to participate!

### Riviera Homeowners Association 2009-10 Officers and Directors

Co-President	Roberta Blowers	310-930-1322	Hospitality Chair	Nancy Mansfield-Staudt	310-378-5334
Co-President	Tim Youngern	310-373-4981	Landscape Chair	Karen Lent	310-375-6539
Membership	Judy Brunetti	310-378-5616	Community Liaison	Pam Popovich	310-375-8729
Treasurer	Voc Gregorian	310-710-9080	Traffic Liaison	Mike Guidry	310-373-1944
Secretary	Judy English	310-378-0361	Mailing Chair	Diane Miltimore	
Editor	Geneva Martin	310-378-9767	Webmaster/Photographer	Julian Chasin	310-373-6314

Visit The RHA Website at [www.hollywoodriviera.org](http://www.hollywoodriviera.org).

The following RHA Officers can be contacted through their e-mail:

<a href="mailto:president@hollywoodriviera.org">president@hollywoodriviera.org</a>	<a href="mailto:newsletter@hollywoodriviera.org">newsletter@hollywoodriviera.org</a>	<a href="mailto:treasurer@hollywoodriviera.org">treasurer@hollywoodriviera.org</a>
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### The Riviera Reporter

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