

THE

Riviera Reporter

Newsletter of The Riviera Homeowners Association

SERVING THE HOLLYWOOD RIVIERA COMMUNITY SINCE THE 1940s—February 2010



RHA Presidents
Tim Youngern and
Roberta Blowers

The Presidents Message:

Warning, this may be your last issue! Those are words that I regret to say. We, like everybody else (except the state and federal governments), must stay within our budget. Our budget consists of paid dues (twenty five dollars a year) from our residents. I want to thank those of you who have paid to renew your membership. Your membership enables us to print this newsletter and to provide scholarships to local students and more. **IF YOU ARE A CURRENT MEMBER, YOU WILL CONTINUE TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER.** Unfortunately those who have not become members and those who do not renew their membership will no longer receive this newsletter. Membership is from September 1 to August 30. So, please join or renew your membership to the Riviera Homeowner Association if you have not done so. You can still join today; see the membership form inside this newsletter.

RHA GENERAL MEETING Save Water and Protect the Ocean



Change your Lawn
Wednesday, February 10, 7 pm
CPR for your Lawn by Ocean
Friendly Gardens
CONSERVATION
PERMEABILITY
RETENTION

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

You will, however, be able to access our newsletter on our website at: hollywoodriviera.org.

This was a difficult decision for our board. Keeping the residents informed is vital to good government. Our association is a source of information. We have city elections this year, tree issues, Hillside Overlay issues, rooftop deck issues, helicopter noise issues, and a variety of other issues that spring up. The candidates hopefully will be discussing some of these issues at our candidates forum on April 28th. It is up to us to inform them and find out where they stand. It should be interesting as we have a voting record on the incumbents and a good selection of challengers. Someone once said all government is local, and we are seeing a ground swelling of citizens at the local level paying attention to their local, state, and federal government and getting involved. That is true democracy in action. We welcome you to get involved in this association and get your neighbors involved. It benefits all of us.

We hope that our membership increases and this cost cutting measure is temporary, and with your help it will be. I would like to wish everyone a safe, healthy, and prosperous year.

Tim Youngern
RHA Co-President

Riviera History Project - An interview with Mr. Harold Self of 134 Calle de Andalucia

Like many Riviera residents, I enjoy walking my dogs, Caline and Rosie on the streets and trails near our Via Anita home. Caline, a brown and white spaniel, considers it her job in life to greet everyone she meets. It was on one of our strolls that we met Harold Self of 134 Calle de Andalucia, a resident of the Riviera since 1957. Harold and I have become fast friends over the past few years, and during our weekly visits, I have enjoyed hearing stories about his life.

Harold was raised in North Carolina and Kentucky by a father who never traveled more than 300 miles from the place of his birth, and Harold expected to follow in his father's footsteps. But military service in aircraft maintenance and refueling during World War II took the tall young man who had been raised on a farm all over the world. When the war ended, Harold decided that Long Beach seemed like a nice place to call home. Catherine, his schoolteacher sweetheart from Kentucky, came out to California to visit for a few days and they got married, and then she went back home for another year to teach school until Harold was discharged from the military. In the early days when jobs were scarce after the war, Harold and his family lived in a Long Beach apartment that cost \$35 a month and he took the bus to work until he got a steady job and saved up enough money to buy an old car. In 1957, when the Self children, David and Linda were 9 and 3, Harold's boss told him about a house for sale on his street. The home, built in 1949, had been one of the original models in the tract and was being sold by one of the developers. The Self family purchased the house for what was then the princely sum of \$13,000 and have lived there ever since. Life was a little slower paced back then. The kids all walked or rode their bikes to school because many families had only one car. Like Riviera families today, they lived happy, productive lives, raising their kids, working, volunteering in scouting, at church and in community organizations. But luxuries were few. Money was tight and people didn't buy things on credit, so a trip to the ice cream store with the boy scout troop was a special treat. Families like Harold's took "vacations" at the beach, walking down the hill with a picnic lunch and staying until the crowds left at 6 p.m. Harold worked as a Purchasing Manager for an appliance manufacturer that eventually became part of Maytag appliances for 34 years, and he and Catherine were happily married for 59 years until she died suddenly six years ago. Over 52 years, Harold has enjoyed seeing all the young families moving into the Riviera, marveling that they can afford the beautiful million dollar homes that are gradually replacing the original three bedroom, one bath tract homes.

As younger generations rush around in our busy lives, we often forget that many of the original residents are still here, and they have wonderful stories to tell. If you know a longtime resident of the Riviera who has lived here for 50 years or more and would like to be interviewed. Or, if you would like to conduct an interview yourself, please send an email with your name and phone number to oralhistory@hollywoodriviera.org.

And if you happen to go past the mint green house at 134 Calle de Andalucia and see Harold Self in the driveway, please wave or stop by to say hi. He's a wonderful man and always appreciates having company.

Lisa Edmondson

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

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The next Newsletter will be in April Place your ad before the end of March 2010.
For more information, call 310-710-9080 or email treasurer@hollywoodriviera.org

Volunteers needed for the new board - Elections to be held at next meeting - April 28th

The positions to be elected are President, First Vice President (Program Chair), Treasurer, Landscape Chair and Mailing Chair) Please let Judy English (secretary@hollywoodriviera.org) or Judy Brunetti (membership@hollywoodriviera.org) know if you are interested. Also, attending and reporting on Torrance city council and/or commission meetings would keep the RHA informed on community issues. The RHA board consists of a dozen people out of 3500 homes in the area. If you are interested in seeing this continue or in seeing it change, now would be a good time to volunteer. You need not run for a position to understudy a sitting board member or assist in their duties in order to become more involved.

**RIVIERA HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION AND RIVIERA GARDEN CLUB
LANDSCAPE AWARD**

by Shelley & Karen; pictures by Julian

A new home with lovely but "contractor-look landscaping" was gradually re-executed by the new owners, Jill and Michael Barnett. The Barnetts' have lived in the Riviera for over twenty years but moved from Via Colusa a little over a year ago to the new contemporary craftsman. A lot of tall pampas grass was replaced with flax and myers asparagus. Yellow kangaroo paws highlight the edge of the driveway. More pampas was removed at the street edge of the yard and replaced with an especially striking low profile of purple lobelia and sunset gold diosma. Large contemporary pads of concrete lead to the sunny front entrance set off with containers of attractive succulents and other welcoming touches. We appreciate the Barnetts' for their neighborhood enhancements!



January 2010
Jill and Michael Barnett, 315 Via Pasqual

COMMUNITY CALENDAR:

Redondo Beach Super Bowl Sunday 10K/5K, February 6th, registration 6 a.m. Expo Seaside Lagoon
Saturday 10-4 & Sunday 6-noon

The Second Annual Redondo Beach Baroque Festival Friday & Saturday, February 19 & 20, Riviera United Methodist 375 Palos Verdes Boulevard, Redondo Beach.

Riviera Elementary School Fun Run, Friday, February 26, kick-off assembly at 9:15 a.m. Riviera Elementary students will run and walk around a special track on the athletic field to raise funds for PTA-funded programs. Riviera Elementary School; 365 Paseo De Arena



South Bay Coastliners Hoarse Feathers at the Armstrong Theatre, February 26-28, \$25, see their website www.coastlines.org.

Walteria Library Reopening, Thursday, March 4, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., 3815 W. 242 St., Torrance

St Frances Episcopal Church Designs for Dining, featuring beautiful table settings by local merchants and friends. Friday & Saturday, March 5 & 6, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. \$20 Advance Ticket Price (\$25 At-the-Door) 2200 Via Rosa, Palos Verdes Estates

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.

Torrance City Council Candidates Forum, April 28, Richardson School, 7 p.m.

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CONTEST WINNERS - COME TO THE FEBRUARY 10 MEETING AND PICK UP YOUR PRIZES: \$100, DAY AT THE SPA, GIFT CERTIFICATES, T-SHIRTS.
Call or e-mail treasurer if you can't be there.

CONTEST WINNERS

Bob and Dodie De Hart, 5501 Highgrove St., Torrance 90505
Mark and Debbie Holzbauer, 260 Vista del Parque, RB 90277
Hardy Zantke, 4622 Paseo de las Tortugas, Torr. 90505
Peggy Brierly, 5106 Paseo de las Tortugas, Torr. 90505
Esther Surber 112 Via La Circula RB 90277
John and Rosemary Eggers, 420 Calle de Aragon, RB 90277
Salvatore and Mary Valentino, 417 Calle de Aragon, RB 90277
Josh and Bill Cunningham-Corso, 413 Via Malaga RB 90277
Roger Shoemaker 23509 Susana Ave. Torrance 90505
Richard and Jeanne Reinhardt, 414 Via Mesa Grande, RB 90277

Rain brings out good neighbors
One of my neighbors was out on Miradores with his rake on Wednesday during the five storms trying to keep the storm drains clear. He rescued my recycle bin from the middle of Calle Mayor and didn't chastise me for putting it out a day early.

RHA logo "Jewel of the South Bay" merchandise available at www.cafepress.com/RivieraHA

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.

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

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The Riviera Reporter

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