P. O. Box 4913 Laguna Beach California 92652



TEMPLE HILLS
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

www.lagunatemplehills.com

Fall 2014 Volume 42, Issue No. 3





#### **THCA and Social Media**

Have you visited the Temple Hills Community Association webpage or Facebook page recently? The community association is available via both:

Webpage: www.lagunatemplehills.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/lagunatemplehills The Facebook page was started just a few months ago. We wanted to provide a way to enhance communication and dialogue in the community about relevant issues. Our Facebook page will contain updates on community issues as they move through the City's review process, as well as invitations to the community parties and events (such as the City Council Candidate Forums that we regularly host). From time-to-time we will use the Facebook page to survey you on community

Will you take a moment now and join the Temple Hills Facebook community by going to Facebook, searching for Laguna Temple Hills, and then hitting the "Like" button? That way you will know when something new is published. We promise that we are not going be sending something out too often, or send something out just to send something out. We expect to post about 10-15 times each year with relevant information, so please "Like" the community page to keep up to date.

Do you have pictures, archives, or other items of interest that you would like to see published on the website or Facebook? Both the website and Facebook are taken care of by David Raber (david@raber.us).

#### Certification

issues.

This is to certify that the Election of the Board of Directors of the Temple Hills Community Association took place at a meeting on July 7, 2014, at 1940 San Remo Drive in Laguna Beach. Elected to the Board by unanimous vote were Bob Borthwick, Fran Chilcote, Ron Chilcote, Anne Frank, David Raber, Verna Rolllinger, Lorna Shaw, and John Walker.

— Frances Chilcote, Secretary 🏳

## Congratulations to Elected City Council Members

Temple Hills wishes to congratulate the November election to City Council of long-time members Toni Iseman and hill resident Kelly Boyd as well as newly elected Rob Zur Schmiede who has served many years on the Planning Commission. We look forward to your leadership and working with you.



Aliso Creek Water Reclamation Facility

## Aliso Creek Recycling Project

[Charlotte Masarik passed on this comment from Mike Beanan, of the Laguna Bluebelt and the South Laguna Civic Association]

It's taken many years and much negotiation but we now have a daily means to capture 800,000 gallons of polluted creek water for filtration and reuse it as recycled water. The new facility can also "polish" existing recycled water for new customers, including the Aliso Creek golf course during the prolonged drought. More recycled

water means less ocean pollution. Restoring the creek to its natural flow can lead to renewed coastal wetlands and an estuary at Aliso Beach free of pollution. Persistence overcomes resistance to new ideas. The Aliso Creek Project demonstrates that working together we can restore our community's natural treasures. Although the project took way too long to implement, we are still the first to recover, reuse, and restore polluted creek water to achieve multiple community benefits. Thanks to many of us who supported this successful Aliso Creek Project. \(\frac{1}{4}\)

#### Alta Laguna Fire Danger



Many months ago, Temple Hills resident Marion Jacobs started a movement to mitigate the danger of fire in Alta Laguna Park. She wrote: "I am writing to bring attention to the very dangerous situation in the park. Particularly on weekends, people go up to the top of the reservoir to drink and smoke. The many cigarette butts are testimony to the danger of fire. Given our high-risk weather situation, I urge the City and its Council to be proactive in formulating a plan for patrolling the area at night, particularly weekend nights. Once word

gets out, hopefully it will stop these interlopers. Although the area is County responsibility as I understand it, the threat to our community is too high for us to sit back and do nothing. Please act ASAP."

Marion's call for action led to many residents mobilizing the community, the police and fire departments, the Council, the County park and recreations services, and so on to implement a series of measures, including warning signs, patrols, and implementation of fines for violators. Thank you, Marion, for your good efforts.

#### **THCA Policies & Practices**

- 1. In light of its vision statement, THCA shall focus on resolving the needs and problems of Temple Hills neighborhoods, work with the City to better the Temple Hills community, facilitate residents in working with the City on individual property matters, and respond to issues before governing boards that will affect the Temple Hills community.
- 2. The business and activities of THCA will be overseen by a Steering Committee, including the Board of Directors, Chairpersons for Specific Projects, and Chairpersons for the Neighborhood Groups, as well as Honorary Members who are able to attend.
- 3. The Board of Directors, which includes the officers (Coordinator(s) and/or Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer), as well as other designated Directors will be authorized to act for the organization in instances when decisions must be made but there is insufficient time to call together a meeting.
- 4. Officers, Directors and Steering Committee members will serve as a council of peers. Boards and committees will work collectively, respect differences, and seek consensus. No individual shall speak on behalf of THCA unless the Steering Committee, Board of Directors and/or the membership has authorized the position being put forward. No official action of the organization can be overturned or modified without returning to the respective Board or Committee for approval.
- 5. The Secretary shall prepare all official THCA correspondence on official THCA letterhead, including reports of Steering Committee/Board action.
- 6. A budget will be prepared each year and approved by the Steering Committee and an annual report of income and expenses should be presented at the annual meeting. Both these documents should be printed in the Newsletter. Unapproved expenditures should not exceed \$50 and any expenditure that exceeds the budget by more than \$50 must be submitted for approval to the Board. >

#### **Temple Hills Community Association**

#### **Annual Report 2014**

There has been progress this past year. First the success of the June 2, 2013, annual party at the Fergusons whose hospitality we deeply appreciate. Newsletters for winter and spring have appeared this year. The website remains active and a Facebook page has been established. They reflect our efforts to reduce speeding on Temple Hills Drive, efforts with the City to find a pedestrian walkway down Temple Hills Drive, attempt to resolve with the School Board the problem of baseballs over the fence into homes on St. Anne St., resolution of a public pathway into the open space at 2095 Temple Hills Drive, and continuing monitoring of potential projects into the open space above Park Avenue and in Rimrock Canyon.

During this next year, with David Raber's help,THCA will continue our efforts to adapt to the 21st century by improving our website and establishing a presence on social media. We will continue our ongoing commitment to preserving our currently open hillsides whenever possible as open space and making sure that when development does occur that what is built is appropriate for both the constraints of the location and the surrounding neighborhood. Many think that this task is already accomplished; unfortunately it is not. When we see open hillsides and assume that we are looking at dedicated open space, we are most often, in fact, looking at privately owned parcels zoned for residential development. "Unbuildable" is a financial term that rising real estate values have made meaningless. There are no easy lots left in Laguna; both technology and the financial climate ensure that no lot is too steep, too unstable, or too isolated for development. The Land Use Element of the General Plan sets forth some very wise and protective policies, but it is up to us as a hillside community to be sure these policies are enforced to our benefit. After all, any new development from now on will be in-fill and as such will have significant impact on everything surrounding it.

We will also continue our work to ensure the safety of those who live in Temple Hills by opposing unsafe development and by fighting for adequate infrastructure and emergency response. To this end, we hope to establish safe walkways along Temple Hills in combination with a network of walking paths through the neighborhoods so we can evacuate our community in case of emergency and so that taking a walk doesn't turn into a life-threatening experience. We've made a start along lower Temple Hills between the big curve and Thalia but obviously have a lot of work before us. Achieving this end will mean coming together to enhance neighborhood response and working with property owners to find those who are willing to join with us.

And finally, we need to get to know one another. We need to re-establish our neighborhood groups so there is someone on every street who will serve as a link between THCA and their streets, so we as neighbors will know when folks need help or special attention, will know when houses change hands and new folks should be welcomed, will know that a friendly face will open the door if we lock ourselves out or need to borrow a phone or a cup of sugar, will know when remodels are planned so we can learn the details and work out the problems before the project gets to Design Review, and will know that when development issues arise, we can work together with the City as a neighborhood to resolve them. — Approved at Annual Meeting, June 7, 2014.

- 7. The Chairperson, with input from the Board and other participants, will set the agenda for meetings with any additional modifications to the agenda to be approved at the beginning of the meeting by a vote of the Steering Committee.
- 8. THCA is divided into six Neighborhood Groups, whose activities focus on local issues and concerns. Each group should have representation on the Steering Committee and serve as a means encouraging broad participation.
- 9. A newsletter will be mailed free to the residents within the THCA area, to dues-paying members outside this area, to other neighborhood and civic associations, and to appropriate City, School, and County officials at least three times a year.

10. THCA priorities include the following:

- encourage acquisition, dedication and enhancement of open space
- facilitate a sense of community in the THCA neighborhoods
- preserve and enhance the quality of life for THCA residents
- assist residents in responding to property issues that affect them
- facilitate safe pedestrian activity throughout the THCA area
- work with City and County agencies to increase safety and prepare for emergency situations such as fire and earthquake
- encourage environmentally sensitive, neighborhood-compatible development standards and protect the environment of the area
- increase mini-parks within the THCA area.
- facilitate undergrounding of public utility wires

## THCA Organizational Structure

[In response to some recent confusion in our bylaws, the Steering Committee at its meeting of April 17 met and approved the following statement] **T**n the spirit of THCA's philosophy to decentralize Lactivities involving members of the Steering Committee and the membership at large in the organization and activities of the group to the greatest extent possible, the Board is the executive committee of the Steering Committee and its members are drawn from the Steering Committee. The Neighborhood Groups serve each of the six group areas, work to resolve local issues and concerns, and serve to encourage broader participation in the association. THCA has historically titled the chief operating officer of the organization as a Coordinator whose dual role was to see to the health and legality of the organization and to facilitate the ongoing activities of the group. In the past, the role of Coordinator was often divided among multiple individuals, and the bylaws recognize the possibility of continuing this past practice, in which case their duties could be divided accordingly, depending on the numPAGE 3 •••••• FALL 2014 •••• VOL. 42#3



### Steering Committee 2014-2015

| Bob Borthwick*Planning                     |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| Fran Chilcote* Secretary and Membership    |  |  |
| Ron Chilcote*Coordinator and Newsletter    |  |  |
| Jamie and Stephen CrawfordSchool Issues    |  |  |
| Dennis EastmanUndergrounding               |  |  |
| Anne Frank*Newsletter/Archive/Group 6      |  |  |
| Becky Jones Planning & Neighborhood Groups |  |  |
| Charlotte MasarikVillage Issues            |  |  |
| Carol OlsonWalkways                        |  |  |
| David Raber* Website & Group 4             |  |  |
| Verna Rollinger*                           |  |  |
| Lorna Shaw*Membership and Group 2          |  |  |
| Dave WalkerUndergrounding and Traffic      |  |  |
| John Walker* Treasurer and Group 5         |  |  |
| Robin Walker Design Review and Party Com   |  |  |
| *Board Members                             |  |  |

#### **Honorary Members**

Recognized for long-term service and commitment to Temple Hills

Joe Baker Jan Hall Jim Hall

Doug and Rhonda Kim

Ben Teschner

Mary Lou Teschner

**Kurt Topik** 

Estelle Warner

Grant Wetzel

Marian Whitney

#### **Neighborhood Groups**

Temple Hills is broken into six neighborhood areas. Group Leaders focus on issues and problems if and when they occur.

ber of coordinators and their interests. The current bylaws recognize this principle of decentralization and refer to possible appointment of a Chairperson who may chair meetings and and carry out other duties as determined by the Board and Steering Committee.

## Another Benefit of THCA Membership!

It might interest the membership to know that one of THCA's dues-paying members was granted a 3.5% discount on his homeowners insurance policy because he belonged to a neighborhood association. Our membership dues are \$20 per family, and the dues-paying member saved nearly \$50 with his insurance company.

#### THCA Report for 2013 of Income and Expenses INCOME **EXPENSES** Newsletter Total.......\$2942.20 Balance as of January 1, 2013 ......\$5210.61 Temple Hills Community Association Budget 2014 INCOME **EXPENSES** Newsletter Composition.....\$500.00

#### Come join us!

The Temple Hills Community Association, since our founding in 1972, has worked to improve the quality of life on our streets and in our neighborhoods, to help neighbors get to know one another, to help them interact with the City when property issues and neighborhood concerns arise, and to join together to address the bigger issues that affect us as a community.

Over the years, working together as a community,

- we've prevented Temple Hills Drive from becoming a major regional thoroughfare joining with major streets in Aliso Viejo,
- encouraged the acquisition of hillside open space and the establishment of mini-parks,
- worked to facilitate safe pedestrian options,
- fought out-of-scale development and subdivisions,
- facilitated undergrounding in those areas of the bill where a majority of residents approved
- provided a community voice to the City

fostered a tradition of great neighborhood parties.

Are there any problems in your neighborhood? We'd like to know. What are your interests? Would you like to become more involved? There are opportunities on the Steering Committee and the Neighborhood Groups. Come join with us.

#### **THCA Membership for 2015**

| Name (please print)       |                                  |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Address                   |                                  |
| Phone                     | Email                            |
| Dues 2015 (\$20 per house | ehold) =\$                       |
| Total Enclosed            | \$                               |
|                           | l this coupon with your check to |
| THCA, P. O. Bo            | ox 4913, Laguna Beach, CA 92652  |

P. O. Box 4913 Laguna Beach, CA 92652

PRESORTED STD CLASS **US POSTAGE** ANAHEIM, CA PERMIT NO. 514

# Please pay dues for 2015!

#### Meeting of October 13, 2014

▲ t THCA's Steering Committee meeting on October 13, the following actions were taken.

It was agreed that THCA's will appoint two people to join in discussions with the City concerning the proposed Temple Hills pedestrian pathway. THCA will send a letter to the City regarding development of the 13-acre Babcock property at the end of Cerritos and off Morningside Drive.

The annual party will take place in mid-May or early June 2015. It will be either a catered dinner and/or family gathering at Alta Laguna Park, and input from residents on their choice is needed and welcomed.

— Anne Frank ᠺ

### THCA Annual Meeting

#### **Membership Report** June 7, 2014

All residents in Temple Hills are members of the association, but dues-paying members sustain our principal activities, including our newsletter and website as means to get news to the community. Without a membership campaign, normally we expect 15 to 20 percent of the homes to contribute or roughly 125 to 175. We had fallen behind last year, so in early May this year we sent a letter to all. Thus far we are close to 150 homes and expect to reach 175 to 200 this year.

We would appreciate if each of you would take a few flyers, envelopes, and appeal to friends and neighbors to join with us so that we might reach our membership goal this year.

Our dues remain \$20 per home, same as the past 25 years. Thank you all for your help.

— Fran Chilcote, Membership 🛱



#### **ADVERTISING RATES**

Basic ad size: 2-I/2" x 2"

#### **RATES**

| lx         | \$25 |
|------------|------|
| 2x         | \$45 |
| 3x         | \$60 |
| <b>4</b> x | \$70 |

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financial

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#### Darren Mclellan

1397 Terrace Way Laguna Beach, CA 92651 TEL: 949.933.9282 NMLS: 297075

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8 Homemade Soups FREE Samples Lots of Parking