



TEMPLE HILLS

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Winter/Spring 2009
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P. O. Box 4913
Laguna Beach
California 92652
www.thca.info

Congratulations Verna Rollinger and Kelly Boyd

Temple Hills celebrates the victory of Verna in her quest for a seat on the Laguna Beach City Council. Verna served us for nearly 30 years as City Clerk, and she was always available to help us in need. Over those many years she has also served on the Steering Committee of THCA.

At the swearing-in ceremony in early December, Kelly Boyd, also a Temple Hills resident, was named mayor. An editorial in the Laguna Beach *Coastline* (December 11) noted that "it is heartening to see the new 'majority' on the council select as mayor and pro tem two who supported the opposition" and that this showed "an inclusive spirit that will serve the city well." We look forward to working with this new City Council and all the problems it faces in these difficult times. ♡

Invasive Species Update

Public awareness is growing about the dangers of invasive plants that are invading our open spaces, including our local hillsides.

In November 2006, Councilperson Toni Iseman showed the Council and Planning Commission some examples around town, and from that time forward the City has been supportive of Invasives eradication. A public informational brochure has been prepared by the Environmental Committee with assistance from Derek Ostensen and myself, and is about ready for publication. I gave a presentation about Invasives to about 125 members of the LB Garden Club on January 9, and it seems that interest in this subject is growing steadily. We all need to do our part, not only in educating our neighbors, but also helping to support the City in their efforts. The City has allocated some funds for Invasive eradication, but more needs to be done to prevent our natural areas from being forever changed.

Kudos to THCA member Chris Reed who contacted LB Water District and asked that they remove the Pampas Grass (Invasive Enemy #1) from their tank sites. They complied! Way to go, Chris. — Bob Borthwick ♡



A MESSAGE TO THCA FOR 2009

First, a thank-you to my neighborhood. I appreciate the support I received from Temple Hills in last November's City Council election. Your good wishes, support and yard signs made a difference to me and in the election.

It's all about quality of life. During the campaign, I promised to keep three things in mind when deciding on the issues that come before the City Council: Will the outcome maintain or improve Laguna's quality of life? How will residents benefit? Will our environment be protected and enhanced? Listening to the community is key. We know what we want in our neighborhoods and our town and the community has the expertise to help make it happen.

Some of the things I will be working on are: protecting our neighborhoods and our commercial areas from mansionization; improving water quality; implementing climate protection recommendations; building on our transportation system, improving parking and pedestrian mobility; safeguarding our hospital; supporting our cultural and non-profit organizations; protecting our open spaces; and making City Hall work better for you.

The City Council has just approved my suggestion to create a committee that will find ways to support our local businesses during this difficult time. I hope that each of you can find ways to support our local businesses. If they fail, we lose as well.

Working together, we can accomplish great things. All the best to you in 2009! — Verna Rollinger ♡

San Remo Residents at Inaugural

Rumor had it that some of us would be at the momentous inauguration of President Barack Obama, and indeed San Remo residents were present. We would like to learn more of the experience from Lisa and Tim Black, who attended with their children, and Becky and Joie Jones. If there were others in Temple Hills who made it to Washington DC, let us hear from you about your experiences. ♡

Trash Talk

The majority of THCA residents are tired of the trash-cans-on-the-street-all-week problem! Our streets look like alleyways. Beautiful homes, perfectly kept, have these green Waste Management monsters sitting in front. Entrances look like service entrances.

The problem is particularly conspicuous to all as we travel up and down Temple Hills Drive.

Well, good neighbors, it seems to be a problem all over town. The City Council and staff are looking into this mess. Please be a good citizen and solve your trash can storage. By law in Laguna Beach (as it is probably in every city in the country), trash cans are only to be put out for trash collection, and then placed out of sight from the street until the next week. Maybe your storage problem would be solved by using the smaller-size trash cans? Waste Management will cheerfully replace the large-size cans with the smaller size on request. Please take care of your problem. If the city steps in, it may become an even bigger problem. — Jim Hall ♡

More Memories from the THCA Annual Meeting and Party!



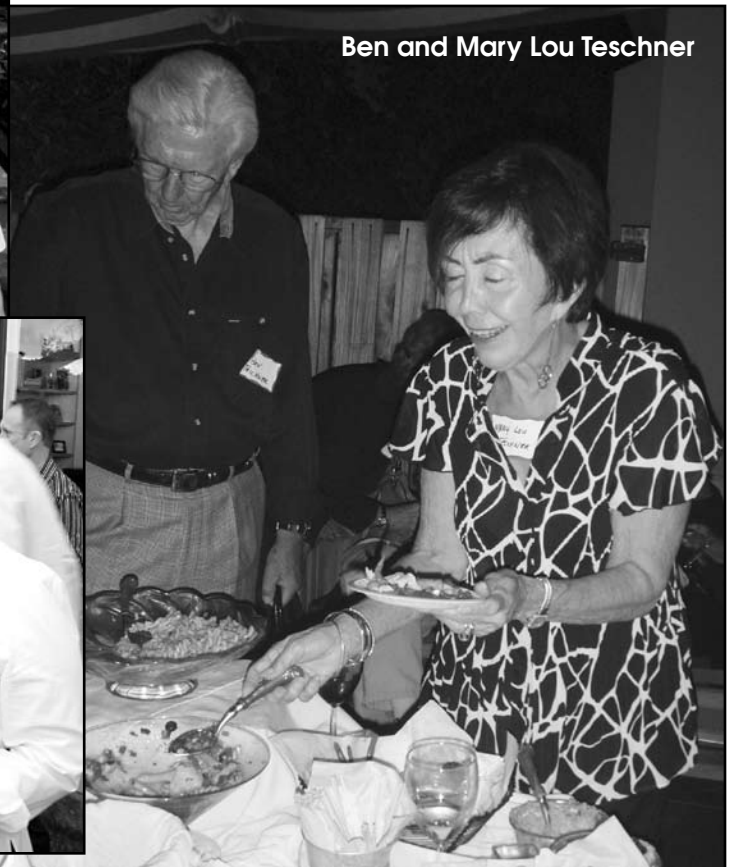
Doug, Elliott, Phillip, and Joe



Mary Kate and Kirk Saunders



Ed and Jeannette Merrilees, Liaison from N. Laguna



Ben and Mary Lou Teschner



Mystic Hills residents
Katherine and Robert
House with Verna Rollinger



**Steering Committee
2008-09**

- Joe Baker Neighborhood Watch
Evacuation Plan & Group 4 Chair
- Lisa Black..... Neighborhood Liaison
- Tim Black..... Land Use Issues
- Bob Borthwick.....Community Issues
- Fran Chilcote..... Corresponding Secretary
Membership Records
- Ron Chilcote.....Newsletter
- Jamie and Stephen Crawford.....School Issues
- Anne Frank..... Archive & Historian
Group 6 Chair
- Cindalee Hall.....Community Issues
- Jim Hall..... At Large
- Richard Holmes..... Web Site
- Doug Kinn..... Annual Party
- Rhonda Kinn..... Annual Party
- Charlotte Mazarik.....Community Issues
- Elaine Merz.....Treasurer
- Carol Olson.....Walkways
- Bo Powell.....Group 1 Chair
- Chris Reed..... Invasive Plants
- Verna Rollinger.....Land Use
- Lorna Shaw.....Web Site and Group 2 Chair
- Ben Teschner..... At Large
- Mary Lou Teschner..... Party Committee
- Kurt Topic..... Group 3 Co-Chair
- Dave Walker.....Traffic Issues & Group 3 Co-Chair
- Grant Wetzel..... Open Space
- Marian Whitney..... Distribution
- Dorothea Yellott.....Pathways

Honorary Members

Recognized for long-term service and commitment to Temple Hills.
Bill Parrish
Estelle Warner

Liaison

Linda Brown.....League of Women Voters
Jeanette Merrilees.....North Laguna

The Coordinating Committee

Comprised of those with major responsibilities who may meet on an emergency basis.

Neighborhood Groups

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



Winter 2009

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

This is a special appeal to join with us. We write to encourage you to contribute dues for next year. Your past support has been important and meaningful to the presence of THCA, and we very much need and appreciate your continuing support.

As we head into our 37th year, we have been open to the interests and needs of residents in our area. We are an organization of volunteers willing to lend a hand. On a regular basis over these years, we have published a newsletter on a steady basis and it now is one of the oldest civic papers in Laguna. We now have a web site at www.thca.info and we sponsor an annual meeting and party. We encourage neighborhood socials. We have backed successful efforts to underground utilities in the area and to solve neighborhood problems. We seek to implement aspects of the planning we laid out years ago. We desire to build community spirit and cooperation among neighbors. We seek to preserve and enhance our unique neighborhood and city with the qualities that make them stand out in Southern California.

Annual dues are \$20 per household, but any lesser or greater amount is appreciated. Send your contribution to THCA, P.O. Box 4913, Laguna Beach, CA 92652. We hope to hear from you soon. We are counting on you. Please join with us.

— The Steering Committee

We have been trying to keep our records up to date. Thanks to those of you who kindly provided emails and telephone numbers. We would appreciate your letting us know if your contact information or that of neighbors should be updated. You can use the coupon below.

THCA 2009 MEMBERSHIP COUPON

Membership in the Temple Hills Community Association is Laguna's best bargain! Annual dues are \$20 per household (any lesser or greater amount is appreciated). Newsletters are mailed to every home in Temple Hills.

NAME (Please print) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

**Please mail this coupon with your check for \$20 to
THCA, P. O. Box 4913, Laguna Beach, CA 92652**

If you are interested in volunteering, please call 497-2218.

Restoration Effort in Laguna Canyon

[Karl Warkowski of the Laguna Canyon Foundation sends us the following update on efforts to restore native vegetation in the canyon.]

Orange perimeter fences in the canyon: UPDATE. Concerned residents have been instructed to leave all fencing until the replanting and re-vegetation process is finished over the next few months. The environmental consultants who are overseeing the project will alert the Foundation when the work is complete so that we can have a clean-up day. We are all looking forward to the day that the fencing is removed from the viewshed!

DEBRIS PILE UPDATE: If anyone spots debris or gravel dumping along the El Toro Road segment of the wilderness park, please call the sheriff's department and/or ranger's office immediately. If you have a camera in your cell phone, it might be prudent to snap the license plate of the suspicious vehicle. We have several illegal piles that seem to be enlarging every month! ♻️

May 17th, 2009, the Sunday after Mother's Day

Village Laguna's 37th Charm House Tour

The VL House Selection Committee is beginning their search for five good homes in the Village Area: from Broadway down to Nyes Place and inland to Top of the World. Please let me know if there is someone you know of in Temple Hills who would like to showcase their beautiful home on this year's Charm House Tour.

— Charlotte Masarik 494-1630 ♻️

Support for our Public Beaches

I write to strongly support the use of our public beaches not only by locals but also by the many visitors our City actively markets to from coast to coast and internationally. It is for this reason we object to any type of privatization or commercial use of a beach area. The City has rightfully denied commercialization of its beaches for decades. We ask that the City stand firm in its commitment to keep our beaches free of commercialization and privatization, no matter what form it may take.

Since 2003, the area earmarked for the proposed kayak concession has become increasingly difficult for the public to enjoy because of the many guest services the Montage Resort supplies there. The requested permit application is basically an attempt for a private party to reserve a parking space on a public beach for their recreation equipment. This should not be permitted because use of a public beach is on a first-come, first-served basis and is not exclusive to anyone.

We do not object to kayaking off our beaches, but we do feel it is wrong to stage a kayak business on a public beach.

— Charlotte Masarik ♻️

Welcome New Residents

Welcome to those of you who are new to Temple Hills. THCA serves our community, and we hope you will be involved. We need help if you have some time.

I would also like to update addresses for the newsletter, and it would be helpful if you could provide your email and telephone number. We would like to be able to let you know about our wonderful annual party every autumn. If I can help you with anything, feel free to call me at 497-2218, write me at 1940 San Remo Drive, Laguna Beach 92651, or email at chilcotef@aol.com. — Fran Chilcote ♻️

Candidates Forum and The City Council

On October 24, THCA joined with Top of the World Neighborhood Association and the South Laguna Civic Association to sponsor a forum for candidates for City Council. Questions and responses covered a range of issues. The other candidates appeared belatedly, so the forum began with Verna Rollinger effectively dealing with a plethora of concerns from the audience: vegetation and view problems, light pollution, undergrounding, water pollution, playground equipment at Alta Laguna Park, the role of neighborhood associations in city decision-making, invasive plant species and many other issues.

The SLCA asked questions about the future of the hospital, Aliso Creek development and what each candidate's vision might be. TOWNA asked about relations with the Laguna Beach Unified School District, and Egly and Kinsman felt that most issues had been resolved or there was little to be done and neighbors near the high school would have to deal with the School Board.

THCA questioned what plans, if any, did the candidates have for preserving the Inner Greenbelt, and specifically for working with Temple Hills to secure and conserve for the future the open-space lands of Rimrock Canyon and Park Canyon. All the candidates promised to work with us to achieve that worthy objective. Jane Egly, who recently served on the Laguna Greenbelt board, emphasized past acquisition, expressed strong interest, but offered no particular plan. Cheryl Kinsman reminded us of recent acquisitions. Verna Rollinger drew upon her many years of experience with the Laguna Greenbelt and urged effort to consolidate the Inner Greenbelt and emphasized the need for the Environmental Committee to return to the mission of the Open Space Committee it replaced.

In Temple Hills, our priorities include continuing to work to slow traffic, underground utilities, and maintain pathways through the hill. Our top priority is securing open space, a goal we share with the Laguna Greenbelt in what is commonly known as the Inner Greenbelt and securing and conserving the open spaces on our hillsides in Laguna Beach. In its planning 35 years ago, our Temple Hills community identified open spaces in Park Canyon and Rimrock Canyon as priority for conservation. During the past 15 years, we have worked with the City and with conservation buyers to find ways to acquire these lands and preserve them forever. Recently our community opposed and the City denied a proposed project in open space off Thurston Drive. ♻️

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