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TEMPLE HILLS

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Winter 2005
Volume 33
Issue No. 1

P. O. Box 4913
Laguna Beach
California 92652
www.thca.info

Coordinating Committee Report

On January 5 the Coordinating Committee met, discussed, and focused on three matters:

- 1) Schedule for the year (see box for events and dates)
- 2) New members to the steering committee, meetings of the committee (see Steering Committee list)
- 3) Issues and Concerns (below). These details will be ratified at the February 16 meeting of the Steering Committee. Everyone is invited.

Issues and goals identified during the 2005 year were:

- Overall to have a big "win" for the Annual Meeting each year
- Build community spirit
- Social events: Annual Party and bloc/street parties (recently St. Ann's, San Remo, Oak St., Coast View and others).
- Problems with trash cans on the hill (several small ones was one suggestion)
- Revitalizing Neighborhood Watch
- High School items: Stadium lights (mercury vapor) seem exceptionally bright and are on frequently at night; resolve poles and fencing problem.
- Open space (Rimrock Canyon and Park Canyon properties were brought up)
- Lights on the Circle K are too bright (an awning might solve the problem)
- Neighborhood sign for Temple Hills
- Walkway project continuing up Temple Hills
- Problem of drainage and flooding once streets were resurfaced (cement berms better than asphalt berms and could be required with home improvement)
- Undergrounding upper Temple Hills and Thalia
- Issues outside Temple Hills to focus on: Montage intrusion into wilderness area of Aliso Canyon, Village Entrance and Act V. ♻️

In Support of St. Ann's Neighbors

[On behalf of the Steering Committee, Ron Chilcote presented the following letter to the City Council at its meeting on January 4, 2005]

Neighbors of lower Temple Hills are meeting with you tonight to review in public hearing their complaints about reconfiguration of the High School baseball field and view blockage caused by high poles and fencing. We ask that you find a process that ensures cooperation with the School District over future projects and that you work with neighbors to resolve the problem of preserving their views and, in particular, accept their recommendation for telescoping poles around the field.

Our Steering Committee has been concerned for some time (with elaborate documentation through our newsletter) about the impact of Laguna Beach School District decisions regarding construction, including lighting and signage at the High School, the gymnasium at Thurston Intermediate School, and the reconfiguration of the baseball field at the High School. Neighborhood residents are insisting that the School District collaborate with the City in a design review that would ensure community participation in decision-making.

We appreciate your consideration of our concerns. ♻️

Calendar



Meeting dates

Wed., Feb. 16th at Ben Teschner's home
1414 Temple Hills Dr., 7 p.m.

Wed., May 18th at the Radissay home
875 Coast View, 7 p.m.

Wed. November 9th at the Chilcotes
1940 San Remo Dr., 7 p.m.

Annual Meeting and Annual Party

Saturday October 8 or 15. 5 p.m. and 6 p.m.
Place to be determined.

*A newsletter will precede the meetings
(February, May and Oct-November).*

Illegal Grading off Temple Hills

Temple Hills residents were alarmed recently by two weeks of grading in privately owned and undeveloped land near the water tank and behind residences between 2025 and 2095 Temple Hills Drive. The extensive grading was done without City knowledge or permit. When neighbors inquired with a worker, they were told the grading was for soil erosion to protect the water reservoir, which was apparently untrue since neither the Water District nor the City knew anything about it. A complaint was formally filed with the City, but the outcome is unknown at this date. ♻️

'04 Annual Party & Annual Meeting Revisited



Taylor, Jordan and Carey Glenn,
Amy Altieri

Annual Meeting

Jenny Radisay, Shirley
Endresen, Rhonda Kinn



More News and Updates Regarding High School Athletic Fields

Residents again beseeched the City Council to reign in the School Board at the January 4, 2005, City Council meeting. We believe the School Board's project, the Laguna Beach High School athletic fields, should be subject to our local Design Review Process.

The School Board's position is that the reconfigured baseball field and its new fence are "repair and maintenance." Coming from a legal standpoint, reconfiguring the field and removing the old fence, and replacing it with new and higher fencing, clearly fall under the definition of "new construction," and not "repair and maintenance," as the School Board contends.

In an attempt to find a solution acceptable to both sides, the City Council decided to act as a mediator. Council Members Steve Dicterow and Jane Egly were selected to act as facilitators at meetings among School Board members, Boosters and neighborhood Steering Committee members. We welcome the participation of the City Council. They will see first hand the lack of meaningful progress that is being made.

The closed-door session was scheduled to take place on February 7, 2005. However, due to illness of one of the City Council facilitators, the meeting was canceled. When the meeting is rescheduled, we will look forward to the results of our proposals for telescoping poles. At the last closed-door session, our Steering Committee provided the School Board with proposals, bids and research from two companies who manufacture telescoping poles.

In our opinion, this project was not well thought out from the beginning. The people who live on St. Ann's are not pleased that we are now living in far center and left fields! Of course, the players' goal is to hit a home run ball over the fence. We fear for the safety of children, pedestrians, motorists and residents outside the ball park. There will also be more foul balls hit onto Wilson Street than before.

This reconfiguring also involved erecting a 30-foot-high backstop and 30-foot-high fencing with 30-foot-high, eight-inch-diameter poles around the field. This has ruined the view corridor of hundreds of homes. It has forever marred the attractive plateau and the unobstructed ocean and tree-lined views. The industrial design has also devastated the look and feel of the neighborhood and substantially lowered our property values.

Unfortunately, the residents near Thurston Middle School also saw the bond money that we all voted for come back right smack in their faces with a huge, boxy gymnasium to look at. It makes one sad, angry and resentful all at the same time.

At Laguna Beach High School, the lighting on the football field has been, and still is, a problem for residents. While it has been improved for some residents, it has remained a problem for others.

The public-address system appears to have been upgraded to many decibels louder, based upon input from neighbors.

There is noticeable traffic congestion with an increased number of night sporting events and practices on the football field. It seems that from four to six nights a week, the football/soccer field is in use.

The drainage on the football field is a new major concern. Both the north and south sides of the field flooded onto the track during our recent storms. There is cushioning material on the artificial turf, which is apparently made of recycled tires (combined with whatever else?). This material is currently being analyzed at a lab. On the field are millions of particles the size of grains of sand. These rubber particles floated to the surface during the recent rains. The particles that didn't sheet drain into the storm drain, which flows into the ocean, ended up in piles on the track as the water receded. It is very likely that countless particles drained into the ocean. How do the chemicals in these rubber particles interact with other chemicals in the ocean? How good can this pollution be for the marine habitat?

Given the large number of issues and questions about the new construction, we, as concerned citizens, call the athletic fields into question and again stress the importance of this project going through Design Review.

— Stephen and Jamie Crawford for Group 6, Temple Hills Community Association ☘

2004 Annual Report

We can report progress during the past year: The annual meeting on September 20, 2003, included a presentation by Mayor Toni Iseman who covered community and City issues, answered questions and promised to assist us with our concerns.

The annual party was a great success, thanks to efforts of Jenny Radisay and her committee.

The pedestrian walkway along Temple Hills Drive was completed. Thanks to Carol Olson and her committee for staying with this project over the years. Last-minute concerns about the style of fence and its appearance were presented in the newsletter, and an assessment showed communication problems in dealing with the City. For example, THCA had offered funds to work in a brick appearance with the cement, but the City never responded to our offer.

The City's Open Space Committee is working with residents to open up pedestrian paths through the hill. These paths have been used for more than half a century.

We are continuing efforts to find ways to secure open space above Park Canyon and in Rimrock Canyon.

The Steering Committee met several times since the last annual meeting. Among concerns locally are possible signage for Temple Hills and, thanks to Richard Holmes, the establishment of our new website (see thca@info). The Steering Committee supported Friends of Laguna Creek and the Village Entrance Project but opposed development of a City Corporate Yard at the Act V parking lot. There was deep concern over the School District gym at Thurston Intermediate School and its lights and obstruction. There is also opposition to the view blockage on the high school baseball field.

THCA will cosponsor with Top of the World Association a candidates' forum at City Hall on Monday, October 18.

Three issues of the Newsletter have appeared since the last annual meeting. The newsletter has been consistently published over the past 32 years and is one of the oldest civic newspapers in Laguna Beach. ☘



Steering Committee 2005

The Coordinating Committee

The Coordinating Committee may meet for planning or emergency purposes between Steering Committee meetings, although any member may attend, and comprises Fran and Ron Chilcote, Jamie and Stephen Crawford, Richard Holmes, Jennifer and Nicholas Radisay, Ben Teschner, Dorothea Yelliot.

- Joe Baker Neighborhood Watch
- Fran Chilcote Corresponding Secretary
- Ron Chilcote Newsletter
- Jamie Crawford School Issues
- Stephen Crawford School Issues
- Anne Frank Archive & Historian
- Jan Hall Social
- Jim Hall At Large
- Richard Holmes Website
- Doug Kinn Neighborhood Groups
- Rhonda Kinn Block Socials
- Rich Linting Treasurer
- Carol Olsen Walkways
- Jennifer Radisay Party Chair
- Nicholas Radisay Meeting Coordinator
- Barbara Rathbun Telephone List
- Chris Rickets Planning
- Verna Rollinger At Large
- Michele Samson Thalia Undergrounding
- Tracy Spencer Minutes
- Ben Teschner At Large
- Mary Lou Teschner Party Committee
- Dave Walker Undergrounding
- Grant Wetzel Open Space
- Marian Whitney Distribution
- Caroline Wright Pathways
- Dorothea Yellott Pathways

Honorary Members

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

Neighborhood Groups

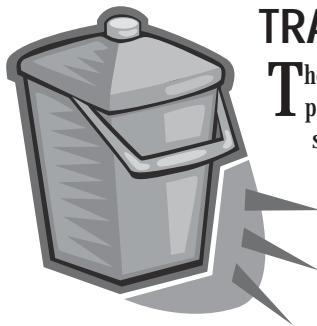
Temple Hills is broken into six neighborhood areas. Group Leaders focus on issue and problems if and when they occur.

Neighborhood Group Leaders

- Group 1 Bo Powell
- Group 2 Marjorie LeGay
- Group 3 Kurt Topik
- Group 4 Joe Baker
- Group 5 Paul Zehner
- Group 6 Jamie and Stephen Crawford

Liaison

Linda Brown League of Women's Voters
 Jeannette Merrilees



TRASH TALK

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

Appeal from the Steering Committee

February 15, 2005

Dear Friends:

This is a special appeal to join with us. We write to encourage you to contribute dues for this 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 33rd 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. We sponsor an annual meeting and party. We encourage neighborhood socials. We have backed successful efforts to underground 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.

Sincerely,
 The Steering Committee

THCA 2005 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
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If you are interested in volunteering, please call 497-2218.

THCA Income & Expense Statement 2004

			2005
Beginning Balance: 1/1/04		\$7,012.81	5174.08
INCOME	BUDGET	ACTUAL BUDGET	PROPOSED BUDGET
Dues/Donations	\$2,500.00	\$775.00	2938
News Letter Advertisements	\$300.00	\$60.00	300
Fund Raising (Party)	\$1,000.00	\$688.00	500
Other Deposits	--	--	
Total Income	\$3,800.00	\$1,523.00	3738
EXPENSE			
Printing & Graphics	\$975.00	\$1,075.79	1300
Postage	\$700.00	\$653.09	700
PO Box	\$38.00	\$38.00	38
Annual Meeting	\$1,000.00	\$958.85	1000
Holiday Meeting	--	--	
Website	\$500.00	\$500.00	250
Legal Filings	\$30.00	--	30
Supplies	\$100.00	--	100
Journal Entry	--	--	
Bank Charges	\$30.00	\$6.00	20
Miscellaneous	\$100.00	--	100
Special Meetings	\$100.00	--	
Community Enhancement	\$1,000.00	\$110.00	200
Returned Deposit(s)	--	\$20.00	
Total Expense	\$4,573.00	\$3,361.73	3738
Balance on hand as of 12/31/04		\$5,174.08	— Nicolas Radisay, Treasurer

Farewell to the Warners

As the sunset unfolded Wed. evening, February 2, 2005, many friends and neighbors gathered at Ann and Peter Weisbrod's hillside home to wish Estelle and Bob Warner, long-time friends and THCA members, farewell. After living in Laguna Beach for 32 years, the Warners are moving to No. California to be closer to their family.

Since they arrived here in 1972, they have been involved, informed citizens, and active in helping make residents in Temple Hills and the City of Laguna Beach aware of the challenges we have faced. They tried their best to see we made good decisions based on facts. Their intelligence, thoughtfulness and fairness were remarkable. Who could forget Estelle asking the insightful questions that needed to be asked of candidates for the City Council? I'm sure the candidates remember. And then, after elections, raising the hard issues at the City Council meetings that needed to be addressed. I'm sure those Council members and City staff remember. They may not have agreed, but they respected Estelle Warner. She deserved that.

Many of our town's outstanding citizens and leaders came to Laguna Beach in the late 1960s and early 1970s. They are now the respected elders in our community. As that generation moves on, there are new leaders in the affairs of THCA and Laguna Beach. Nothing remains the same, of course, but with the loss of the Warners, somehow we all feel diminished.

Estelle and Bob both enjoyed brilliant academic and professional careers before retirement several years ago. They will now find a new lifestyle up north. They go with our love and best wishes. We hope they share many more beautiful sunsets. We will miss them; I know they will never forget their beloved Laguna Beach years, and I know we will not forget them! — Jim Hall ☺

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