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www.lagunatemplehills.com

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TEMPLE HILLS

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



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Temple Hills Annual Meeting and Party Set for October 2010

Robin Walker, Rhonda Kinn, Fran and Ron Chilcote met recently to lay out plans for the annual meeting and party. We would like people to set aside October 10 or 17 with October 24 as an alternative date. As soon as we find a home and a party coordinator, we will move forward. We have some great possibilities for a caterer and would like this year's party to be one our best ever. We welcome volunteers for a home site and for helping with the party.

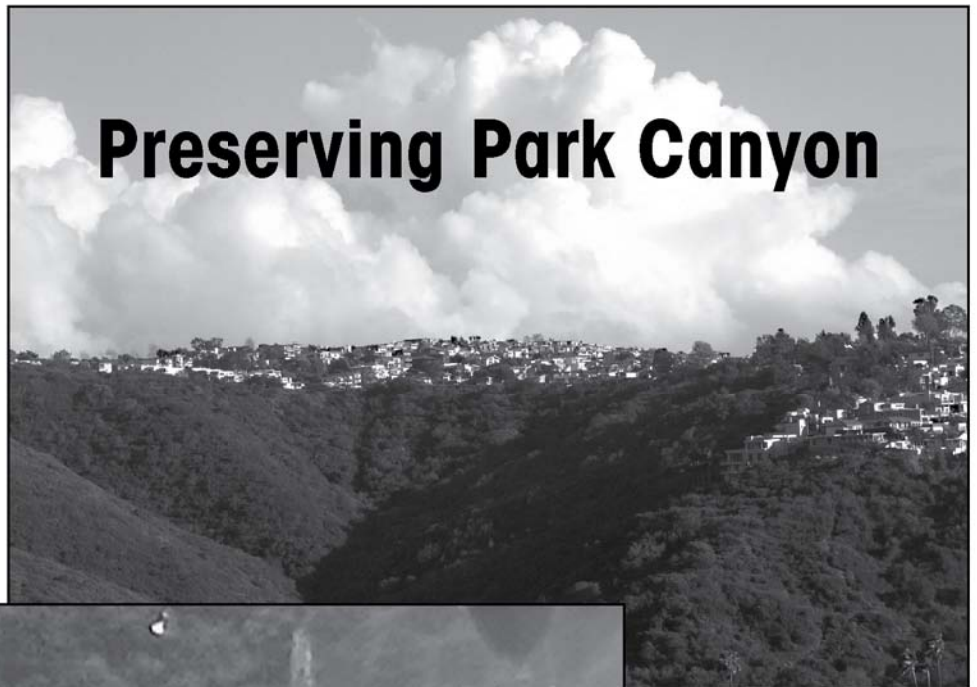
Our summer newsletter (August) will serve as our invitation and an evite will be set up earlier this year so that everyone can plan accordingly. Ideas and suggestions are welcome. If we do not have your email address, be sure to get in touch with Fran (please see her appeal below).

Welcome New Neighbors!

We welcome all of you who are new to Laguna and especially to Temple Hills. Laguna is unique with all its beauty along coastal California. Our neighborhood does well in bringing us together.

In that spirit, I seek your help. Some of you are new owners and renters. I would like to upgrade mailing information and, in particular, I need your names and addresses, phone numbers and email addresses (a 2010 membership coupon is in this newsletter). Please contact me at chilcotef@aol.com or 497-2218. Many thanks.
— Fran Chilcote

Preserving Park Canyon



Karen Alonge took these two images of Park Canyon. One looks out at the magnificent waterfall that runs down from the north side of the canyon; this is part of what is known as the Betty Heckel Greenbelt Preserve. The other is from below the canyon looking up at the Temple Hills ridge of homes. Below these homes we see the hillside natural vegetation we have always desired to preserve.

We will add Karen's images to the photo gallery we wish to build on the website. The website is being re-vamped, and we promise to have things working soon. ☺

(above) Temple Hills clouds
(right) Park Canyon Waterfall
Photos by Karen Alonge

Speed Humps for Lower Temple Hills Drive

Kim and Rob Duensing along with Rich Linting are leading a petition drive to slow down traffic on Lower Temple Hills Drive. In the past, Dave Walker had raised the issue for consideration on side streets off Temple Hills Drive, but apparently the idea has not yet caught interest. Speed humps are more gradual than bumps but do slow traffic. 📧

Restoration of the Library

The Historical Society Meeting at City Hall will meet at City Hall on March 15th for a presentation on Laguna from the 1960s and 1970s. This discussion will include attention to restoration of the library building. A committee has been formed of six notable architects and four local notable landscape architects to talk with and work with Martha Lydick regarding the restoration of building. — Charlotte Masarek 📧

The Inner Greenbelt

The Inner Greenbelt comprises hundreds of acres of steep hillsides within Laguna Beach, some of them protected and publicly owned, and others privately owned and not yet placed into open-space conservation. These lands were studied by the City's former Open Space Committee whose concerns are now incorporated under the activities of the Environmental Committee of Laguna Beach. They include Hobo Canyon and parts of Aliso Canyon owned by the Athens group, Laguna Canyon, Park Canyon, Rimrock Canyon and all the canyons and hillsides not yet developed. They are of concern to us everywhere as we reach out to preserve them through acquisition with city, community, county, state and federal conservation and open-space funds.

The Inner Greenbelt is also the concern of the Laguna Greenbelt (LGB) (www.lagunagreenbelt.org). Some of these lands have been acquired through gift or purchase and given to the City. They are preserved under an initiative approved in 1998.

More recently, THCA has been pushing for acquisition of a large parcel above Park Avenue and a dozen or so parcels at the bottom of Rimrock Canyon. We are hopeful that conservation funds together with easements and other approaches can be combined to preserve these lands that connect to the outer Greenbelt lands (through the Betty Heckel Greenbelt Preserve and Thurston School off Park Avenue to the lands beyond and through property off Morningside Drive that extends over the ridge at Moulton Meadows and beyond). — Ron Chilcote 📧

Got Pampas Grass in Your Yard?



The invasive plant committee is trying to irradiate this “#1 most invasive” non-native plant from our canyons and prevent future seeding. The committee has just purchased a newer and better sprayer and is working its way down the gullies of Rimrock Canyon, continuing to spray the pampas grass. Part of the problem is the seed of pampas grass spreading from our landscaped yards into the canyons below. We need your help in curtailing this as the pampas moves from our hillsides down to the ocean. Please call Chris Reed at (949) 715 5549 if you'd like help removing pampas grass from near your home. 📧

Update on the Laguna Coalition

The Laguna Coalition comprises civic groups throughout Laguna Beach, including THCA. Its representatives met on January 30 and focused on a number of questions.

First, it looked at possibilities of Inner Greenbelt acquisition of privately owned open space and our concern with preserving the canyons and hillsides that define the character of the beautiful place we live in. For Temple Hills, that would include the property off Thurston Drive and above Park Avenue where we have opposed development since the 1970s, as well as the many parcels of land in Rimrock Canyon.

Second, it reviewed plans for a petition drive, coordinated locally by the Laguna Greenbelt, for a petition by the Sierra Club, Audubon Society and the California State Parks Foundation to support an initiative to support state parks.

Third, it seeks to add to its website (www.lagunaconcerns.org) a map of local trails.

Fourth, it reviewed progress on the marine preserve for Laguna Beach that has been approved by the California Coastal Commission and will be reviewed in March by the Department of Fish and Game.

Fifth, it reviewed a proposal by the Chamber of Commerce to close Forest Avenue to traffic every weekend except in summer. It is uncertain how this impacts downtown merchants and what is best for the community.

Sixth, there was discussion over forums sponsored by the hospital in South Laguna and whether community participation is effective in dealing with issues there.

Lastly, there was a report of the activities of a committee of architects and landscape architects interested in restoring the library to its original appearance. — Ron Chilcote 📧

Saving Laguna Greenbelt and Laguna Canyon

Laguna bookstore owner Jim Dille had a dream of creating an open-space greenbelt surrounding Laguna Beach, similar to the greenbelt open-space preserves he had admired in England. He inspired many other Lagunans, and they joined together in 1968 or 1969 to form the Laguna Greenbelt, Inc., as a non-profit to promote this concept and to conserve some 20,000 acres of lands around Laguna Beach. These lands are variously called The Greenbelt or the Laguna Wilderness, and they are managed by various entities, including Orange County and the Nature Conservancy. These wilderness lands are places to enjoy beauty, preserve flora and fauna, and to be able to observe and protect.

Although key land parcels were acquired by the City, county and state, in 1989 the Irvine Company proposed to develop Laguna Laurel, 2100 acres along Laguna Canyon road in the center of the Greenbelt. Early in 1989, photographers Jerry Burchfield and Mark Chamberlain built the 638-foot-long Tell project in the canyon and invited the public to post pictures (eventually more than a hundred thousand). On November 11, 1989, a public demonstration changed history. Some 8,000 to 10,000 people walked the Canyon road from downtown Laguna and from Top of the World over the hills to what is now called the James Dille Preserve north of El Toro Road.

With this level of support for an open-space preserve, the Irvine Company negotiated a sale. In 1990, Laguna Beach voters passed a \$20-million bond issue to pay a share of the acquisition cost. The County of Orange and the State of California also contributed. Finally in 2002, the Irvine Company dedicated the remaining acreage.

The Greenbelt is a dream made reality by persistent community involvement, public agency support and landowner cooperation.

[This history and some 80 photographs of the Laguna Greenbelt are in Nature's Laguna Wilderness, Laguna Beach: Laguna Wilderness Press, 2003, by Ron Chilcote. Some of the images may be seen at www.lagunagreenbelt.org.] 📧



**Steering Committee
2010**

- 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
- Doug Kinn..... Annual Party
- Rhonda Kinn..... Annual Party
- Charlotte Mazarik.....Community Issues
- 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
- John Walker.....Treasurer
- Robin Walker..... Design Review & Planning
- 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.

More Memories from Our '09 Temple Hills Annual Meeting and Party!



Annual Meeting attendees



Wine-tasting winners with Rhonda

Vicky Novak and Jennifer Radisay



THCA 2010 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.

Green Building Code Starts Early

Phase 1 of the California Green Building Code, which introduces new requirements for commercial buildings that are designed to save water and energy and reduce air pollution, became effective last August. Phase 2, which applies to residential construction, is scheduled to become effective in January 2011, but our City Council has voted to begin it early, on March 1, 2010. The new requirements include storm-water management, energy efficiency, water efficiency, recycling of construction waste, covering of duct openings during construction, and limits on volatile organic compounds in adhesives, paints, stains and carpets, and formaldehyde in composite wood products. ♻

New Water-Quality Rules

After several years of debate and delay, the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board voted unanimously to adopt a set of new regulations to control runoff into the Pacific Ocean in southern Orange County.

Perhaps the most significant changes are the prohibition of discharges of excess irrigation water into storm drains and the establishment of levels of various pollutants that will trigger timely control of both dry-weather and storm-water discharges. In addition, there are stronger rules for retaining runoff on-site in new developments and for retrofitting earlier developments to this end.

The rules represent a revision that should have been completed in 2007. The delay is a product of the tension between a federal requirement that the rules be made more stringent, given the persistent pollution of the water that runs down Aliso Creek to the ocean, and the resistance of Orange County and inland-city governments to the costs of stricter regulation.

Our city, which has long been active in reducing runoff into the ocean, wrote supporting the board's efforts to improve water quality and did not participate in the organized opposition.

Enforcement of the regulations should both improve the quality of the water off Laguna's beaches and reduce the amount of water in Aliso Creek to something closer to its natural condition. ♻

Cooks Needed for Sunday Supper at Shelter

Mary Carter is organizing volunteers to prepare, deliver and serve Sunday-night suppers at the ACT V homeless shelter. (The other nights of the week are covered by Laguna's churches.) It takes about four people, two to bring the main dish and one each for salad and bread or rolls for about 60 people. Plates, cups, utensils, napkins and coffee are provided by the shelter staff. Call or email Mary (work: 494-0886, home: 395 8664, email: marycarterlaguna@msn.com) to sign up for a Sunday or to visit first to see how things are done. ♻

Remembering...

Marjorie LeGaye


Our dear friend and longtime Temple Hills supporter, Marjorie LeGaye, passed away on January 8 at the age of 86. She practiced law for 64 years. She served on the THCA Steering Committee for many years, and she helped us with counsel regarding the open-space lands above Park Avenue. She was always attentive to family and friends. Her son, Kevin Spencer, tells us: "She considered all sides of a question and she knew how to make things work." We will miss her kindness, generosity and sense of humor. Thank you, Marjorie, for all you have done to keep Temple Hills and Laguna a peaceful community with its traditional character and a place for us to enjoy.

Steve Sandler

Steve Sandler has passed. Many of us knew Shim a couple years ago when he and his wife, Susan, opened their home to Temple Hills to celebrate our annual meeting and party. Steve was firm about what he believed was the right thing to do. He was hard working and a successful entrepreneur. At our meetings and parties, he usually had a petition in hand in an effort to fight off nearby development. He was persistent but caring about family and friends. We extend our condolences to Susan and to the family.

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