

# Upcoming Meeting Dates

## Board Meeting

### When:

Monday, August 27th

### Where:

SORRENTO MAIN POOL

### Executive Session

5:30 PM

### General Meeting

7:00PM

## AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY

Please call  
**818.907.6622**  
Ext. 811 in the  
event of an after  
hours emergency.  
You may call after  
5:00 pm or the

Ross Morgan & Company  
15315 Magnolia Blvd. Ste. 212  
Sherman Oaks, CA 91403  
(818) 907-6622

Community Manager  
Marinel Agbunag 273

Accounts Receivable  
Kelly Check ext. 266  
Eric Mendez ext. 265

Billings  
Josh Spies ext. 209

Escrow  
Esmeralda Quiroz ext. 207



## *Association Notes*

### Marinel Moves to Sherman Oaks

Our property manager, Marinel Agbunag, has moved to the Sherman Oaks Office of Ross Morgan. There has been a huge improvement in response time and customer service from Ross Morgan since Marinel has taken over our account. This move will allow Marinel to be close to the billing department at Ross Morgan, and will also allow her to get the mentoring and support she needs to improve our service. Marinel can now be reached at **818-907-6622** extension **273**. Her e-mail address remains [marinel@rossmorganco.com](mailto:marinel@rossmorganco.com). You can send an on-line request for service to [www.sorrentohoa.org/action-form.htm](http://www.sorrentohoa.org/action-form.htm)

If you need to leave plans or pick up anything at Ross Morgan, you can still go to the Porter Ranch office at 11145 Tampa Avenue Suite 17B (upstairs). Please call Marinel before you go to the office to make sure someone will be there to meet you.

### Overview of July HOA Meeting

The monthly Association was held at the Sorrento Pool. We had more residents than chairs at the meeting. We'll borrow some chairs from the Meadows pool for the next meeting. Having the meetings at the pool during the summer saves us some money, and allows more residents to attend the meetings.

As we announced last month we intend to have monthly meetings to keep everyone informed. We have also changed the order of the meetings. We are holding the Executive Session first, and the general meeting at 7:00 PM. We hope this allows everyone in the Association to be heard.

When we held meetings every other month, we usually invited the landscape company and the security company spokesman to address the association and take questions. We simply ran out of time at each meeting. With monthly meetings we will alternate vendors to keep the questions more focused. In July M&R Landscaping took questions and explained about the different landscapers servicing our community.

At the annual meeting several residents volunteered to serve on committees, to help establish priorities for our community. Each committee took up to five minutes to address the association on their progress.

### Committees

The **Finance Committee** has taken a preliminary look at our reserve study and the reserve fund. They found some flaws in the last study, and will be recommendations on how to fund the reserves properly.

The **Pool Committee** will be looking at better signage at the pool and improvements to the rules and safety equipment.

The **Hospitality Committee** presented a plan for neighborhood events for the next year, and a community pot luck and luau right after Labor Day. See the associated article.

The **Security Committee** reported on their efforts to improve safety in our community and after the committee reports reported on a plan for the Torino gate and a new entry system.

The **Website Committee** reported on improvements to the website, as well as a blast e-mail system to those residents that want the latest news. If you would like to receive an e-mail from the HOA, and have not yet signed up contact Marinel at [marinel@rossmorganco.com](mailto:marinel@rossmorganco.com)

The **Landscape, Architecture and Rules Committees** also gave brief reports on their progress.

If you would like to join a committee, send that committee an e-mail. Their address can be found at [www.sorrentohoa.org/committees.htm](http://www.sorrentohoa.org/committees.htm). The Security Committee and Finance Committee are the only committees that have full membership at this point.

# NOTES

## Sorrento Board

### President

Pat Pope

### Vice President

David Sobel

### Treasurer

Shahla Sadighi

### Secretary

Debby Montero

### Member at Large

Gigi McGregor

### Safety within the Community

Please be alert- we have received reports of vandalism and break ins into vehicles parked on the street. Police have been notified to keep an eye out on unusual activity.

### Architectural Submittals

Please be advised that all homeowners are required to submit their architectural plans to the management company prior to any commencement of work. We strongly urge that the reliance of your landscape contractor to submit plans is prohibited. This is in violation of your Architectural Guidelines and CC&R's. If any work begins and your hardscape/ landscape plans have not been approved you will be called to a hearing with the Board of Directors. Non compliance may result in fines being assessed for violation of the CC&R's.

## ASSOCIATION NOTES Contd...

### Torino Gate

Neil Estrin, from the Security Committee, gave a very detailed report on the proposed arm system at the Torino Gate, as well as possible improvements to our entry system. There will be a set of arms at the entry and exit gates on Torino. The arms will not allow tailgaters to follow residents into our community. The video recorder system will be improved. Misguided visitors and deliveries will have an intercom connection to the Sorrento Guard who will direct them to the Sorrento gate. The Torino gate has always been for residents only. Visitors will continue to have to go around.

Another proposed improvement will be to change from our current clicker system to a "fob" radio frequency system. An owner will be allowed to purchase a fob registered to each car in his household. The fob will be registered in our system to each car. The fobs cannot be cloned. They also can be deactivated if a resident's car is stolen, or if a resident has not paid their dues or fines. This system would be implemented at all of the resident only gates. Of course, any resident can go through the guarded gates.

There was a lively discussion after Neil's presentation. Some residents preferred just to close the Torino gate, while others said that it would be better to close the Meadows gate instead. There were questions about how much the fobs would cost (about \$25 each). Some residents felt that the fob system was overkill. Some residents questioned the cost, especially in light of the concerns on the reserves. There was also a question about the Board's authority to spend reserves without a vote of the whole Association.

President Pat Pope said it was extremely difficult to get a quorum for the last HOA meeting. Getting at least 300 people to vote on anything would be next to impossible. Ross Morgan had advised the Board before the meeting that the Board had the authority to make the decision as long as the Board had a plan to pay back the reserves. Marinel promised to check out the legal issues.

Pat Pope announced that pending a legal decision, the Board would be voting the next night on the security proposal. The Board might borrow up to \$100,000 from the reserves to pay for the system. The Board intends to pay back the borrowed money within 1 year through a contribution from S&S, transfers of the money spent on the part time guard at the Torino gate, and resident reimbursement for the fobs.

### Board Executive Session

Marinel got a decision from our lawyer that the Board has the responsibility and the authority to borrow money from the reserves. The Board is required to have a plan to pay the money back.

Based on the presentation by the Security Committee, and the Finance Committee, and the discussion by the HOA, the Board decided:

- To authorize the building of the arms at the Torino entrance and exit gates.
- To authorize all of the wiring and camera upgrades at the Torino gate.
- To DELAY the fob system. The delay will allow the Security Committee to evaluate the effectiveness of the gate improvement. This will also allow the Finance Committee to study our reserves better before making such a huge commitment.
- The gate improvement costs can be recovered this year by the S&S contribution and the elimination of the part time Torino gate guard.

The fob system has a lot of merit. It can be expanded to all of the gates. The arm system will be ready to accept the fobs, as soon as we approve them.

### PARKING



The HOA gets complaints weekly about cars regularly parked in front of a neighbor's home, in front of mail boxes, on corners, in guest or pool spots. The CC&Rs are very clear about parking. Previous newsletters have been pretty clear too. The houses here are just too close together, and we don't have enough guest parking for residents to violate the parking rules. If you have an issue with a car, truck, motorcycle, or trailer violating the CC&Rs contact Ross Morgan and the owner will be cited.



## Aloha! It's a Luau!

Sorrento, Sorrento Pointe & Meadows wear your Hawaiian shirts and grass skirts and come celebrate the end of summer with our first annual *Potluck Luau!* Enjoy cool breezes at the Meadows Pool, *Sunday, September 9, 2007 from 3:00pm until 6:00pm.* There will be **FREE** Hamburgers and Hot Dogs\* but we ask you to bring your family's favorite side dish! Please *RSVP* via email to the [Hospitality@Sorrentohoa.org](mailto:Hospitality@Sorrentohoa.org) or call Melissa Centeno at (818) 885-6308 and let us know what salad, side dish, or dessert you can bring!

Come swim under swaying palms, eat good food, and Hula with your neighbors\*\*!  
Can't wait to see you there!

(\*while supplies last. \*\*the party is for residents/ family only)  
Brought to you by your new neighborhood Hospitality Committee



Get your goblins and ghosts ready,  
details coming soon about our  
*Halloween Gathering!*



Dust off those decorations and start checking  
the bulbs on your string of lights!  
The "*Holiday House Decorating Contest*"  
will return!

\*\*\*More information in next months newsletter!\*\*\*

### *Something new is in the air...*

Do you know our community now has a new *Hospitality Committee?* We are busy planning some fun events for our neighborhood. But we need YOUR help! We would like know about your interest in the following:

- A Book Club
- A Mom's Club
- A Poker/ Game Club
- A Super bowl Party

If you have an interest in joining any of these groups or would like to join the Hospitality Committee please contact us via email [Hospitality@Sorrentohoa.org](mailto:Hospitality@Sorrentohoa.org) or call Melissa Centeno (818) 885-6308 so we can organize the group.

## *Recipe of the Month*

### SKIRT STEAK



### Ingredients

1/2 cup olive oil | 1/3 cup soy sauce | 4 scallions, washed and cut in 1/2 |  
2 large cloves garlic | 1/4 cup lime juice | 1/2 teaspoon red pepper flakes | 1/2 teaspoon ground cumin  
3 tablespoons dark brown sugar or Mexican brown sugar | 2 pounds inside skirt steak, cut into 3 equal pieces  
\*\*Special Equipment- Blow Dryer\*\*

### Directions

Heat charcoal, preferably natural chunk, until grey ash appears. In a blender, put in oil, soy sauce, scallions, garlic, lime juice, red pepper, cumin, and sugar and puree. In a large heavy duty, zip top bag, put pieces of skirt steak and pour in marinade. Seal bag, removing as much air as possible. Allow steak to marinate for 1 hour in refrigerator.

Remove steak from bag and pat dry with paper towels. Using a blow dryer, blow charcoal clean of ash. Once clean of ash lay steaks directly onto hot coals for 1 minute per side. When finished cooking, place meat in double thickness of aluminum foil, wrap, and allow to sit for 15 minutes.

Remove meat from foil, reserving foil and juices. Slice thinly across the grain of the meat. Return to foil pouch and toss with juice. Serve with grilled peppers and onions, if desired.

