

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Board Meeting

When:

Tues., November 27th

Where:

Sierra Canyon School
11052 Independence Avenue
Chatsworth, CA 91311
Tel: 818-882 8121

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
weekends.**

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

Neil Estrin Appointed to the Board of Directors

At the October 23, 2007 the Board of Directors unanimously selected Neil Estrin to replace Shahla Sadighi on the Board. Neil will serve until our general election next summer. The Board also selected Neil to fill the Treasurer's position on the Board.

The Board also re-arranged the Committee assignments:

Neil will work with the Finance and Security Committees.

David Sobel will work with the combined Landscape/Architecture Committee and the Pool Committee.

Pat Pope will work with the Website, Rules, and Hospitality Committees.



We welcome Neil to the Board and want to thank Shahla for all of her hard work and service to the community.

Next HOA Meeting

After the very large turn outs at our summertime pool meetings, the Board was surprised at the last meeting at the low turn out. It was during the big brush fires, and it was at a new location. We have to hold our cool season meetings indoors. We can't set a meeting date a month in advance and hope it doesn't rain or get cold or windy. Our next HOA meeting will be at Sierra Canyon School. The third Tuesday of November is during Thanksgiving week. So we will hold the meeting on November 27th at 7:00 PM.

Directions to Sierra Canyon School

Take Rinaldi west to De Soto. Make a left on De Soto. Make a right on Chatsworth. Make a right on Variel (Please do not use Independence Ave.) Make a right on Rinaldi. The school is on the left-hand side. From the entrance, take the long driveway all the way to the top of the campus. We will post a map on the website.

Sorrento Spectacular Halloween Spooktacular!

On Saturday, October 27, 2007 after a quick change of venue to the Meadows Pool, Sorrento Families and their little ones came out to enjoy donuts, cider, and hot chocolate at this year's community Halloween event. Little Princesses, Super Heroes, and Witches paraded around the pool for the Kids Costume Contest! The first place winner was a beautiful Butterfly, the second place was a fantastic Penguin, and the third place went to an adorable Kitten. Each winner received a gift certificate to Toys R Us. The judges felt however that all the children's costumes and pumpkins were very creative and fabulous so all the children received little prizes!

Thank you to all the families who participated in this year's event.

It is wonderful to see our neighborhood come together at a fun event to make new friends and mingle with those who we already know.



The Hospitality Committee would like to thank everyone who donated their time to help with the event. They especially would like to thank the sponsors who gave a little back to their community including S&S who donated water, Monica Florian from Coldwell Banker who donated the hot chocolate, Roupina from ReMax who donated goodie candy bags, Melissa Centeno from Keller Williams who donated the bouncer and Diana Castillo from Mary Kay Cosmetics who had orange hand washes and raffled off a fabulous basket.

Thanks to the Hospitality Committee for pulling together another memorable event!

Gate Arms

We have had people run into just about every gate arm in the community. The new Torino arms have been especially hard hit. We have video of each incident. It will cost the driver a minimum of \$186 for the service call and the replacement of each broken arm. Replacing an arm motor will cost well over \$1,000. It would even be worse to have a hit and run on your driving record. We have recovered from both residents and visitors who have broken our arms. Some have reported the mishap to security. Others have been caught on video. Please direct all of your visitors to use one of the guarded gates. Please do not tailgate. It only takes a few seconds for the arms to open up with your clicker.

Security will decide on the windiest of days what to do with the arms and gates to protect our property. Please understand if you have to go to another gate during a windstorm. We will try to have a note on the whiteboard near each gate if there is a problem.

NOTES

Sorrento Board

President

Pat Pope

Vice President

David Sobel

Treasurer

Neil Estrin

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...

Budget & 2008 HOA Dues

All of the committees are working on budget numbers for next year. S&S will be turning over more common area for us to water and maintain next year. They will be letting us know where and how much land we will acquire before the budget is set. We have a draft budget from Ross Morgan that will be tweaked as each committee makes its recommendations. There is no doubt that some of our biggest expenses; water, power, natural gas, and landscaping will increase. More security and more gates also increase expenses. There are logical demands on the budget from almost every committee.

We announced liens on nine more properties at the October HOA meeting. We are not immune from the nationwide mortgage meltdown. We are trying to look at some alternate revenue sources, like advertising on the website and charging for clean up after big pool parties. Those revenue sources will be small compared to the increased expenses. Every resident will get a copy of the 2008 budget before their first bill next year.

Sorrento/ Meadows Mom Club

The Mom's Club now has a regular meeting time and location. It is every Wednesday at 4:00pm at *Creative Leap* 19300 Rinaldi St. Unit M, Northridge, CA 91326 in the Whole Foods shopping Center. We'd like to thank Jeannie Kim a Sorrento Pointe resident who owns Creative Leap for inviting all the mom's there every week. For more information about Creative Leap you can call or visit the website 818.366.3036 creativeleap@creativeleap.biz. If you would like to join and need more information about the Mom's club please contact the hospitality committee at hospitality@sorrentohoa.org or call Melissa (818) 885-6308.

Speeding

A few residents met with Officer Mark Cronin from LAPD Valley Traffic. Officer Cronin has unique insight into our issues since he is on the Board of Directors of his HOA in Santa Clarita, and a veteran motor officer. LAPD does not have the resources for traffic patrols inside of gated communities. They concentrate on the busiest thoroughfares in the city. Speeding and not stopping at signs is a problem everywhere, even outside our gates. Officer Cronin will be coming to one of our HOA meetings soon to take questions.

The Security Committee has the most recent traffic study done for the Board. There are all sorts of laws and regulations on speed humps that an HOA must adhere to before placing a speed hump, especially on a slope. We will be working with the residents on Vercelli to place a speed hump as suggested by the traffic study. The success of that hump will be measured by the acceptance of the increased noise by the nearby residents, the true reduction in speed, and the opinions expressed by concerned residents both pro and con.

Speed humps are very controversial. For some people both for and against them, there is a very fervent belief that their viewpoint is correct, and the other viewpoint is short sided. The Board will listen to both sides of the speed hump issue before any expansion takes place. Of course, we would not need speed humps if everyone drove 25 MPH on residential streets. If you, or your teenage driver, is speeding or runs a stop sign and is involved in an accident you face tremendous criminal and civil liability.

Meanwhile, you will be seeing more stop signs and other "traffic calming" approaches taken by the Security Committee and the Board of Directors in the next few weeks.

Windy Trash Days

We have already experienced a severe Santa Ana on trash day this year. Thanks to everyone who waited a week to dispose their trash or at least waited until Tuesday to put their barrels out we had fewer problems than in past years.

Here are some tips to help out on those windy trash days:

- Don't overflow your trash container on windy days.
- Use masking tape or blue tape to keep the lid down when the wind blows.
- Mark you containers with your address so you can find them down the block.
- If a barrel is 1/2 full or less consider waiting until the following week to take it out.

One of our neighbors is a graphic artist. He will be glad to make you a set of stick-on decals that can be attached to your refuse containers. Each waterproof decal can have your address in high contrast one-inch-high letters. He is willing to supply the decals to our neighbors at his cost for just \$10 for a set of three. He can be reached at <http://www.porterranchdecals.com/>

Whether you buy decals, or stencil your address, or stick house numbers on the side of your barrels, you'll save time and aggravation on a blustery windy night if you can find your container. You'll also make life easier for your neighbors at the end of the street.

PRNC HOLIDAY PARTY DECEMBER 4TH

By Wendy L. Moore for the PRNC

The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council will be holding its December Meeting on Tuesday, December 4, 2007 at Bakers Square. The Business Meeting will begin at 6pm with a holiday party to follow at 7pm. Bakers Square is located at 17921 Chatsworth St. in Granada Hills. This is your opportunity to meet your board members one on one, chat informally and make suggestions about the coming year. Hors d'oeuvres and desserts will be served.

The PRNC has recently tackled issues of interest to the community including Street Repair, Cell Phone Towers and the Las Lomas Development of 5,800 residences proposed for the 5 / 14 freeway interchange.

The PRNC is forming a GoGreen Committee to further the greening of Porter Ranch. Help make Porter Ranch a better place to live, work and grow, please contact GoGreen@PRNC.org. The PRNC meets on the first Tuesday of the month at Shepherd of the Hills Church. Our next meetings are scheduled for January 8th, February 5th and March 4th at 6pm. You can find out more at www.PRNC.org and sign up for email alerts about upcoming events and issues.



Deck those Houses!

Starting December 1st you can start decorating your house for this year's "**Holiday House Decorating Contest.**" There will be a first, second, and third place prize for the best "dressed" house. The houses will be judged by the Hospitality Committee right before December 25th and the winners will be announced on the website and in the January Newsletter.

Good Luck and Ho! Ho! Ho!

Join a Committee!

The progress we have made in the last year or so could not have happened without the volunteer work of the residents on our committees. All of the committees need a couple more volunteers to help us progress even more. If could spend a few hours a month to improve your community, please send an e-mail to the committee of your choice. You can click on a link to any committee at <http://www.sorrentohoa.org/committees.htm>. We are especially in need of residents from the Meadows to represent their neighborhood on each committee. Thanks again to each of you who have worked so hard to improve the place where you live.

Conserve Water Now!

Southern California is in the midst of a terrible drought. If we don't start saving water now we are at risk of loosing all of our landscaping or worse. The days are getting shorter and cooler. Please cut way back on your watering. Please turn off your sprinklers when it rains.

You must look at your sprinklers yourself. Are any sprinkler heads broken and bubbling up? Are any of your sprinklers aimed at the concrete instead of your lawn and flowers? You can purchase sprinkler heads that have a variable radius and distance. For instance, you should not have a 360° sprinkler head in a corner. Your gardener just wants your lawn to be green. He may not care if you water too long or water your driveway. Take 10 or 15 minutes on a Saturday to look at each sprinkler circuit.

Take the time now, before LA becomes Atlanta and we can't water at all, and you can only take a shower on even or odd days. Contact Marinel if you see common area sprinkler problems. You have invested thousands of dollars in your landscaping, and your HOA dues pay for landscaping too. Don't waste your money!

Take The Green Challenge In Porter Ranch

There has been a lot of talk lately about "Going Green", taking action to conserve energy and reduce carbon emissions, thereby reversing global warming. But is it all talk or has anybody taken any action? The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council (PRNC) challenges all Porter Ranch residents to Go Green. We challenge each household to stop using supermarket provided bags. You can buy reusable shopping bags and bring them with you to the store. The best way to remember them is to keep them in your car or collect them when you make your shopping list.

Stores providing plastic bags are now required to offer reusable bags for sale. They are typically \$1-2. Or if you don't want to actually buy reusable bags, you could bring back the paper bags from your last purchase. Ralphs and Whole Foods will credit you 5 cents for each bag that you reuse.

You can find out more at www.PRNC.org and sign up for email alerts about upcoming events and issues.

