



South Shores

VIEW POINT

No. 1 Vol. 45

March 2010

PRESIDENT'S POINT by Association President Fred Burkholder

South Shores is a secret magical place. Where else could one live on the very edge of the North American continent, where what most people think is west, is really south, and no one believes you have to drive North-West to get to Reno, although once you get to South Shores, you'll probably never go there anyway?

South Shores is at the end of the never ending Los Angeles freeway system, south of a miniature version of the Golden Gate Bridge, painted green and lit-up at night with bright blue lights.....well beyond the singing fountains and within walking distance to what I call the "Statue of Liberty Equivalency", more commonly referred to by others as the Korean Bell. South Shores is just around the corner, hidden behind a hill from not just one, but two of the busiest shipping ports in the world where giant, mechanical, strange looking flamingos pick and retrieve boxes of Cracker Jacks off the decks of boats from all over the world, yet while driving by many folks wonder why they don't see much of anything happening, sort of like a silent symphony, hidden behind the curtains of our everyday lives. Most would never guess that one of the largest cities in the world is just around the bend of a street named Western Avenue that actually runs north and south.

South Shores is the kind of place where, after living here for a number of years, I still wake up every morning wondering when the front desk is going to send someone up to my room to remind me that it's check out time. Where after arriving at some exotic vacation destination I find myself wondering what was I thinking when I made those travel arrangements and looking forward to my return to the spectacular ocean views and sunny days where you can even see the mystical "green snap" if you believe in such things. I watch the Cruise Ships depart in the evening, usually two at a time, lit up like Christmas trees and I wonder why they would ever leave for some other destination, knowing how spectacular it is right here.

South Shores is also a very friendly place where for \$10.00 a year you can belong to the Homeowners' Association that exists to enhance the daily lives of our community members by fostering a sense of "pride in belonging" to a community that cares about one another and seeks to nurture our spirit of neighborliness. Many of us know and are good friends with our neighbors. We have street parties on the 4th of July and pool parties in the summer as well as friendly neighborhood gatherings for Christmas and New Years. Our Homeowners' Association also hosts an annual social to bring us together as a community to celebrate and enjoy some fun together. We have a web site to keep us informed and up to date on events and happenings in our area and the *VIEW POINT* annual newsletter is interesting and informative to read. In this edition, we have articles by Board members **Jerry Gaines**, **Richard Welsh** and **Dave McMullen**, our City Councilwoman **Janice Hahn** and LAPD Senior Lead Officer **Joe Buscaino** as well as a photo spread on last year's Members' reception.

The SSHOA Board of Directors are all resident volunteers looking after the often times mundane things like community recognition by L.A. City politicians and key decision makers to help ensure South Shores receives consideration for matters of importance to the residents.

South Shores truly is a magical place to live. I hope you find the magic here too. I hope to see you at the:

**South Shores Homeowners' Association Annual Meeting
Tuesday, March 16, 2010 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
South Shores Elementary School (see page 2 for details)**

2010 ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

DATE: Tuesday, March 16, 2010

VENUE: South Shores Magnet School Auditorium
2060 West 35th Street

AGENDA:

6:30 p.m.	Member arrival and gathering Renewal and new member registration [Note 1]
7:00 p.m.	Call to order, welcoming announcements
7:10 p.m.	Election of Officers and Board Members [see Box below]
7:20 p.m.	Special video presentation
7:30 p.m.	Special Recognition to Retired LAPD Deputy Chief George Beck Comments from new LAPD Chief Charlie Beck* and/or Senior Commanders
7:40 p.m.	LAPD Sr. Lead Officer Joe Buscaino
7:50 p.m.	Councilwoman Janice Hahn* and/or key staff members
8:00 p.m.	Chamber of Commerce President Camilla Townsend
8:10 p.m.	Questions and Comments from Attendees [Note 2]
8:30 p.m.	Meeting adjourns, "surprise entertainment"
8:45 p.m.	Informal discussions with invitees and Board Members
9:00 p.m.	Auditorium Closes

* Confirmed, subject to last minute demands of their office

NOTES:

1. The Annual Meeting is generally for the benefit of paid members of the Association. We will be accepting renewals and new member annual dues payments of \$ 10.00 before the meeting is called to order. Please see **Joyce Hall** or **Monica Capalia** at the table with the South Shores banner. South Shores Logo window decals will also be distributed to members attending the meeting. Logo shopping bags and aprons will also be available for sale, at cost, before and after the meeting.

2. Due to the time constraints of our full agenda, we will not field questions from the audience during our guest speaker presentations. Rather, Question Cards will be handed out prior to and during the meeting. Attendees will be encouraged to write down their respective questions and comments on these cards along with their name and preferred method of follow up contact. Questions will be randomly selected and read for appropriate responses from our guest speakers or Association Board members. Those questions or comments not selected during the meeting will be responded to by the preferred method designated on the individual's card.

3. Thanks, once again, to **Paul Suzuki**, Principal, South Shores Magnet School for providing the meeting venue.

NOMINEES FOR 2010 OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

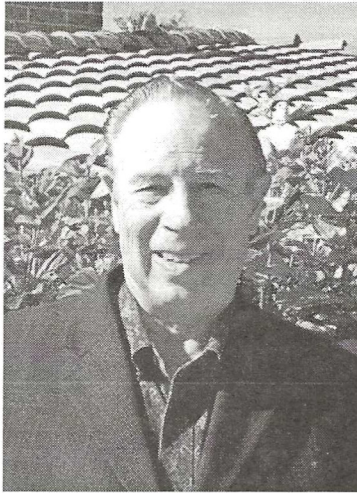
President:	Fred Burkholder	
Vice-President:	Richard Welsh	
Secretary:	Annette Brondsky	
Treasurer:	John Lang	
Members:	Jerry Gaines	Bob Genest
	Joyce Hall	Vern Hall
	Geraldine Katten	Stan Katten
	Anita Mannila	Dave McMullen
	Noah Modisett	

GET INVOLVED. NEW BOARD MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.
Nominations from the floor will be taken prior to the Election.

WHAT MAKES SOUTH SHORES SPECIAL

by **Jerry Gaines**,
Chairman, Architectural
Committee

The South Shores area was developed in the late 1950's and early 1960's with the goal of utilizing the surrounding hillside slopes for building homes that may have access to ocean related views. Developers adopted *Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions*



(CC&Rs) that were designed to encourage property owners to preserve this goal as they either improved their property or sold it to new owners. Some of the CC&Rs existed for a specific time period and expired when effected property owners chose not to renew those (Upper South Shores west of Moray Ave.). Others remain in effect on a continuing basis until effected property owners vote to discontinue them (Lower South Shores and eastern Upper South Shores). The effected tracts are listed on the SSHOA website: www.SouthShoresHA.org.

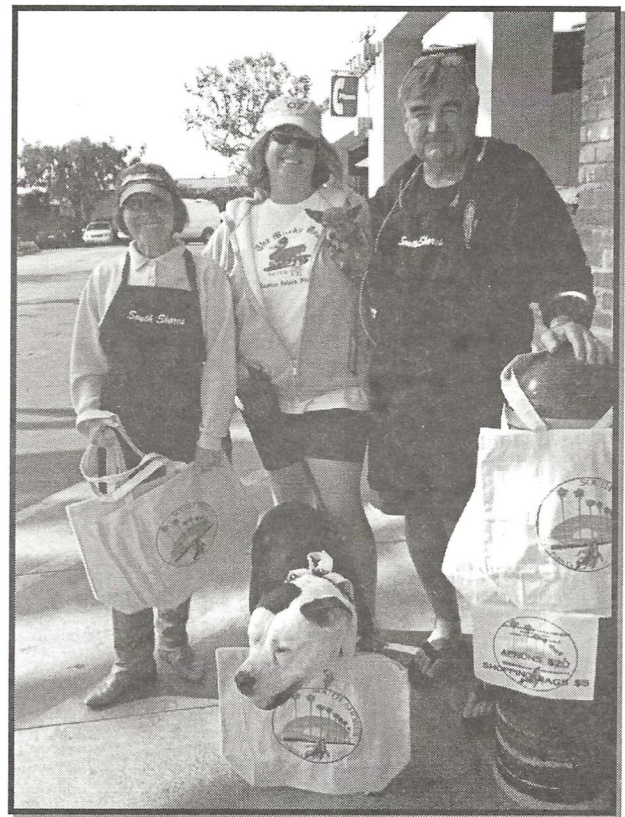
Unfortunately, CC&RS are only as effective for protecting our area as property owners choose to honor them. They are considered a private matter in Real Estate Law. Developers adopt them to help market their new homes. There is no obligation on the part of local government to recognize them. Property owners must engage in a civil legal action, if they wish to challenge other property owners who choose to ignore them. In effect a property owner must show that proposed action by another property owner could have significant impact on the equity value of their property.

In 1961, the SSHOA assumed the function of maintaining an *Architectural Committee* to oversee the current CC&Rs still in effect. The association has consistently worked to mitigate property owner issues where there is a need to address specific issues that might impact the values of nearby homes. The SSHOA does not advocate for any one property owner, rather it seeks to ask what can be done to preserve what makes South Shores special for all property owners in general. For almost 50 years the majority of property owners have supported the overall goals of the developers established in 1961. Where there are exceptions, the SSHOA keeps on file its position on a remodeled home where there was no opportunity for its *Architectural Committee* to review a property that was developed contrary to what is called for in the CC&Rs. This enables the SSOHA to address questions where a

property owner developed a remodeled home that is in effect in conflict with the overall goals of the CC&Rs and the original developers of the area.

Given that CC&Rs are in effect a private equity matter, the SSHOA has been working with the Los Angeles City Planning Department to encourage new ordinances that could enable local government to provide some legal protections for goals that were outlined in the CC&Rs by the original developers. Currently the Planning Department has drafted new language for a *Hillside Ordinance* that will be coming up for public review in the coming months. It is the view of Councilwoman Janice Hahn's office that most of San Pedro's hillsides should fall under this proposed ordinance. The new *Hillside Ordinance* would perhaps help preserve what is special about South Shores. The area is a gem as far as coastal areas are concerned, and that is the best kept reason why we enjoy living in South Shores.

SOUTH SHORES LOGO ITEMS FOR SALE



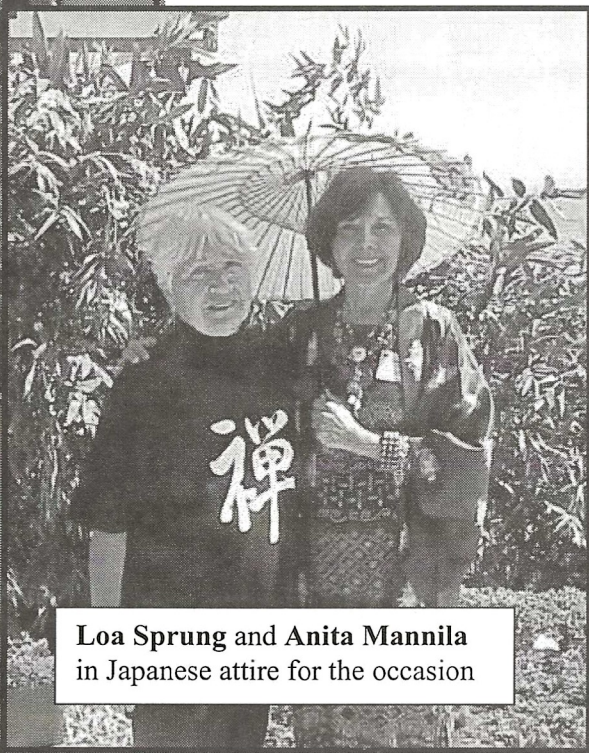
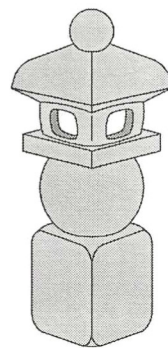
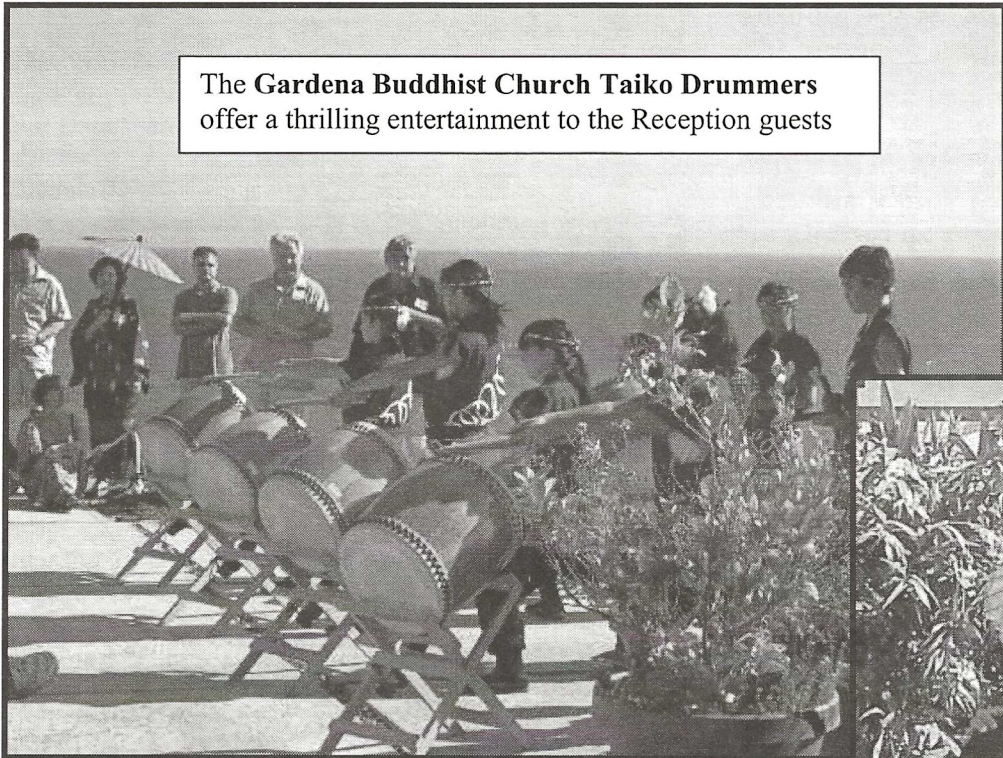
Do you have your South Shores logo shopping bag or designer apron yet? **Anita Mannila**, **Connie Tash**, Association President **Fred Burkholder** and **Julius** the bulldog had a successful day recently selling these South Shores pride items at cost. Proceeds will be donated to the South Shores Magnet School's **Wonder of Reading** Program. To purchase, please call Fred at 310-514-0992.

SEVENTH ANNUAL MEMBERS RECEPTION

by **Anita Mannila**, Association Social Chair

Our Members' Reception, held at the home of local artist **Loa Sprung** and her daughter **Lowri**, marked the fourteenth social event sponsored by the Association since 2001. We believe these gatherings bring the community together in a special way and serve to build a stronger neighborhood.

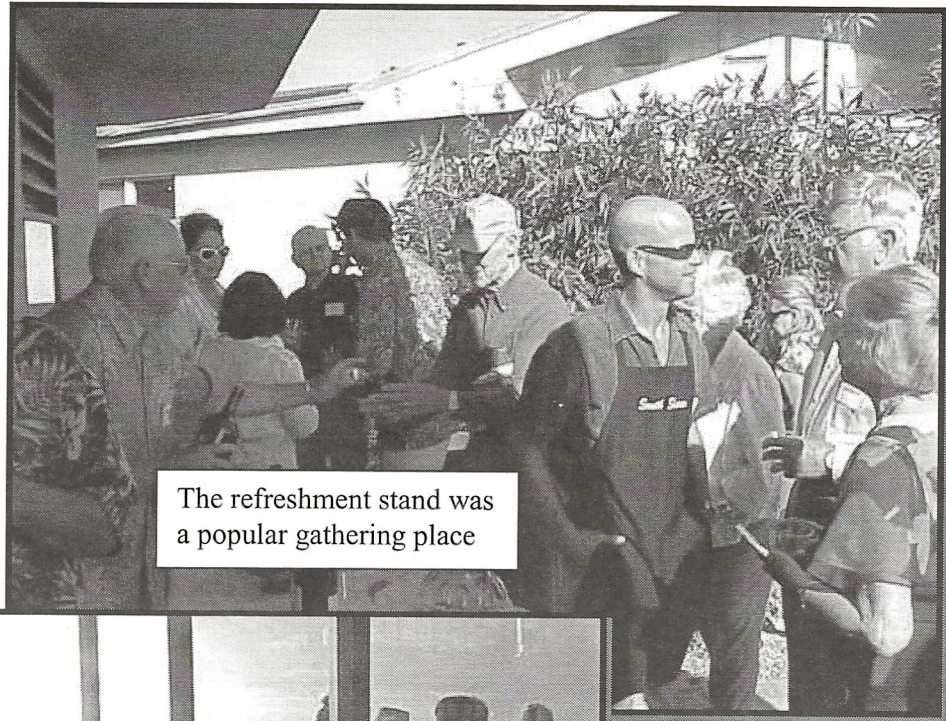
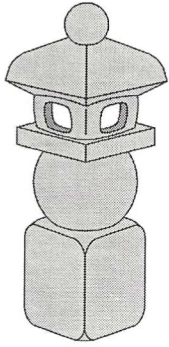
The **Gardena Buddhist Church Taiko Drummers** offer a thrilling entertainment to the Reception guests



Loa Sprung and **Anita Mannila** in Japanese attire for the occasion



Julian Jimenez was the winner of the original painting donated by artist **Loa Sprung**



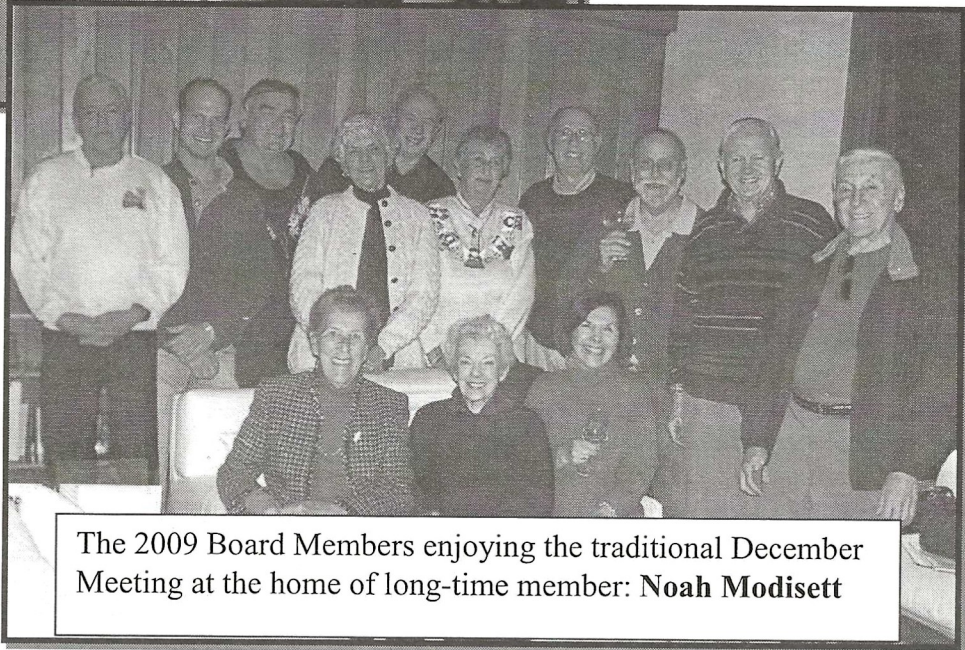
The refreshment stand was a popular gathering place



Friends and neighbors enjoy a shady spot together

To see more pictures, visit our homepage at www.SouthShoresHA.org and click on "2009 Member's Reception Photos"

We will hold our 8th Annual Members' Reception in September 2010. Invitations will be mailed and posted on our website. We hope to see you there.



The 2009 Board Members enjoying the traditional December Meeting at the home of long-time member: **Noah Modisett**

GOOD THINGS HAPPENING IN SOUTH SHORES

By **Janice Hahn**,
15th District
City Councilwoman and
SSHOA Member



I love living in South Shores. I have lived here for six years and counting. As each of us who lives here knows, it's a great, safe neighborhood, and we have the best views. I love the sea breezes, and being able to watch all of the activity at the Port from my backyard—especially when the cruise ships arrive and depart. On a good day, I can watch the sun rise and also witness the magnificent sky as it sets later in the day.

We have seen some recent improvements in the neighborhood that I wanted to point out. One of the biggest is the recent improvements to Bogdanovich Park. After hearing the complaints about a lack of parking at the park, new diagonal spaces on Cumbre Drive have been added, and the large storage containers that sit in the parking lot will soon be moved to allow for even more parking. We are also working on adding a T-Ball field to the soccer field area—a great recommendation from the Park Advisory Board.

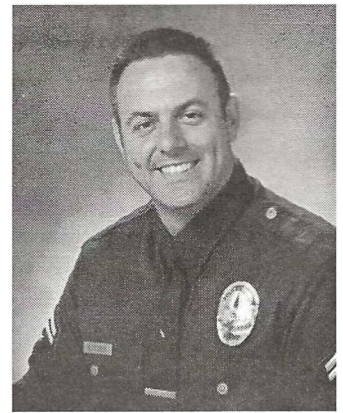
I am sure everyone has also noticed the improvements to the intersection at 25th and Western. It's been resurfaced and a left turn arrow (southbound on Western) was installed. Soon, this signal will be incorporated into the City's traffic light synchronization program (known as **ATSAC**), which monitors traffic conditions and times traffic signals accordingly. It will help relieve traffic and it is expected to be done by next year.

One persistent problem we have had in South Shores is that of RVs parking on our streets. After hearing from neighbors, I am really proud of the program that I started that prohibits these oversized vehicles from parking on the street overnight. The program is helping in a number of areas in San Pedro and has meant better visibility for drivers and eliminated what many community members felt was a blight on our streets.

From getting my hair done at Hairs the Limit, to buying my clothes at Max's -- and getting them cleaned at Marty's -- to getting my morning coffee at Starbucks, and meeting my friends at Think Bistro on Sunday nights to hear Rosie sing, I love that South Shores has so many wonderful shops that allow me to get so much done in one place! I am also excited about the new Thai restaurant, Sirinat Thai, which has just opened up next to Fantastic Cafe. I haven't been there myself yet, but my friends say it's wonderful! I think I'll try it this weekend. In the meantime, I look forward to seeing you all out and about on my morning walks (which I haven't done for a while—but I intend to!). **And as always, if you have any concerns, suggestions or questions about our neighborhood, just let me know.**

KEEPING IT CLEAN

By **Joe Buscaino**,
LAPD Senior Lead Officer
and SSHOA Member



It is something most of us have experienced. We are driving along the street or on the freeway and there it is: a car or truck emitting toxic fumes into the air we breathe. Or, as we sit at home after a long day of work, or relax on a quiet weekend morning, the peace of the moment is shattered by noise pollution generated by the illegal muffler of a motorcycle or car. Perhaps we are gazing out at our harbor or nearby our coastal waters and see a black plume of smoke rising into the sky from a passing ship. Maybe we witness a misguided citizen dumping toxic waste illegally into a storm drain or wasting water in a time of severe drought. What can we do as concerned citizens to combat these crimes against nature? What remedies does the law provide to allow us to get involved to protect our local environment? Sometimes the answers to these questions seem elusive, but there are actions that ordinary citizens can take to maintain and improve the quality of life in our community and in our neighborhoods.

Enforcement of environmental laws is spread throughout various levels of government and dispersed through different agencies. Of course, law enforcement can only respond to violations if we are aware of them. That's where citizen action comes in.

If you are driving along the Harbor or San Diego freeways or on a street in our community and happen to see a blatant violation, like an out-of-control tailpipe emission, safely jot down the license number and make and model of the vehicle. If possible, and *only* if you have a hands-free cell phone available, call the AQMD hotline at **1-800-CUT-SMOG** (easy to remember!) and report the violation. Please refer to the list of phone numbers, hotlines, and websites at the end of this article.

I know that the vast majority of Harbor area residents abide by the letter and the spirit of our environmental laws. To many, every day is Earth Day and this is a goal we can all strive toward. We recycle, conserve energy and water, and hopefully maintain our vehicles so that air emissions are reduced.

Government agencies are here to help. For example, the L.A. City Bureau of Sanitation provides containers for recycling green and solid waste, and the City is available to help residents deal with hazardous waste disposal. In recent months, City Attorney **Rocky Delgadillo** and the City of Los Angeles' Environmental Affairs Department and Public Works, along with the Los Angeles Police Department have collaborated to address illegal dumping issues in special enforcement zones. Grant money from the State of California continues to fund this effort.

(Continued on Page 7)

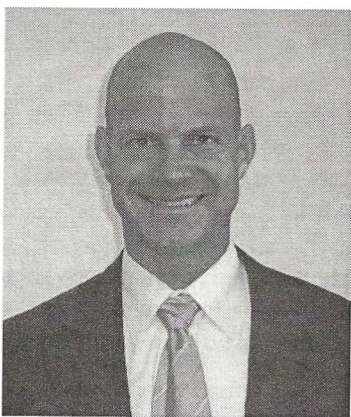
KEEPING IT CLEAN (Continued)

According to the City Attorney's office, the City of Los Angeles spends \$12,000,000 a year to clean up illegal dumping, not including environmental damage, decreased property values and prosecution costs.

Just as it is important to be the eyes and ears for the police department to prevent crime, it is equally important to be aware of any illegal dumping activity that may occur in our communities. Whenever we see graffiti we make every effort to report and remove the tag by calling 3-1-1. We need to do the same when it comes to large bulky items such as sofas, tables and mattresses that are dumped in our alleys and streets. Simply call 3-1-1 to have the item(s) removed. If you witness illegal dumping in progress call the non-emergency phone number 1-877-ASK-LAPD. For additional information please take the time to visit the following helpful websites: www.cityofla.org www.lastormwater.org www.lactiy.org/lacity130.htm www.aqmd.org

BIRDS GONE WILD

By Richard Welsh,
Association
Vice President



Fall is a great time to take a walk along Paseo Del Mar as the clear skies at this time of year often produce some of our best sunsets. In early December on a cool, breezy afternoon I took my neighbor's two dogs out for walk from the South Shores section of Paseo Del Mar to the Pt Fermin Lighthouse and back. As we approached the first stretch of Pt Fermin Park we stopped to watch a few guys flying their radio controlled gliders. At first there was just a single flying wing type of glider swooping along the cliff until one of the other gentlemen picked up his replica World War II P-51 Mustang and threw it into the air. It's always amazing when standing nearby to watch how fast they're able to get these gliders going.

For a moment, I looked down to untangle the dogs from their leashes when I heard a crashing sound from above. Thinking the two gliders had inadvertently run into one another and expecting at least one to come falling from the sky, I was surprised at what I saw next. Looking up, the P-51 Mustang was flying out toward the ocean but instead of having crashed into the other glider it had a good sized bird on top of it! The gentleman controlling the glider who was standing a few feet away exclaimed "I gotta get this plane back on the ground or that falcon is going to destroy it!" As the bird pulled away from the plane, a piece of the nose cone fell back to the ground and luckily for the owner, on the park side of the cliff. The P-51 banked hard left and then hard right only to have this tough looking bird in hot pursuit. After having successfully landed, an inspection further revealed scratch marks along the top front of the fuselage left by the bird's talons.

Well it turns out we have a breeding pair of peregrine falcons that live on one of the ledges along the cliff just below where the gliders are launched and they apparently don't like certain types of gliders cruising in the area. The nose cone of the P-51 was painted yellow and perhaps the bird felt it looked like the beak of another bird and took offense. Having never seen a peregrine falcon before, I could not help but be impressed at its command of the sky. Although not quite as large as say a red tailed hawk, it had a kind huskiness to it I would describe somehow as being pit-bull like. Its wings were very swept back—like that of a jet fighter and it zoomed around quite fast—no wonder the P-51 didn't have much of a chance!

A little research later would reveal the peregrine falcon to be the fastest animal on earth achieving approximately 200 mph in a dive. They primarily eat other mid-sized birds and perhaps with a little luck they'll work on our pigeon population—maybe even taking a crack at a peacock or two.

So if you're looking for a good excuse to get some exercise, go take a walk on Paseo Del Mar and if by Pt Fermin Park you might catch the antics of these impressive birds.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

GOOD NEIGHBOR RECOGNITION

The Association's Board would like to recognize neighbors in South Shores community who have made a special effort to improve the quality of life in our neighborhood. Further details about this new program will be announced at the Annual Meeting on March 16th and on our website.

BEAUTIFICATION GRANT STATUS

Late last year, we applied for another \$10,000 Community Beautification Grant from the Los Angeles City Board of Public Works to design and install a third "SOUTH SHORES" neighborhood marker. The concept for this artwork is a large ceramic tile mosaic showing a breaching whale against a breathtaking sunset. It would be placed along 25th Street, welcoming residents and visitors to "Upper South Shores."

In a January 28, 2010 letter received from **Paul Racs**, Director of the Office of Community Beautification (OCB), we were informed that our proposal "was not funded." OCB's total allocation was only \$350,000 for the entire City, "a large reduction from previous year." He went on to state that: "We are hopeful that funding for the grant program will continue next year and encourage you to reapply for the next round of funding." We certainly will do this!

NEW! E-MAIL UPDATES FOR MEMBERS

Association members with current e-mail addresses on file will soon be receiving periodic South Shores Bulletins. These direct e-mails will provide updates on matters of interest and significance to the neighborhood such as timely community meeting and event announcements and messages from City officials. This new service will supplement the information in the annual *VIEW POINT* newsletter and complement the *NEWS* section of our website's homepage.



SOUTH SHORES HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 922
SAN PEDRO, CA 90733

PRSRT-STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 172
San Pedro, CA 90731

WWW.SOUTHSHORESHA.ORG UPDATE

By **Dave McMullen**, Board Member and Webmaster

A friend of mine, **Bruce Brown**, has just had an Amazon Kindle book published entitled *31 Days to Networking Event Mastery* (can you imagine?!) with the worthy objective of making "valuable new connections that will help both you and your business grow". "Valuable new connections" just might sum up the 2009 SSHOA web site, www.southshoresha.org, which launched its new Business Directory with this invitation: "Looking for a restaurant or a plumber or a babysitter? Wouldn't you rather support your neighbors rather than faceless corporations? **We urge you to consult your Association's Business Directory first** – before you look in the yellow pages. You can search by category to find locally-owned products and services that you can trust."

Month after month, the Directory was one of the most popular pages with 153 average visits per month (the Board gets a detailed monthly web traffic report). The Home page, of course, was far and away at the top (927), followed by Board Minutes (201) and Board Agendas (115.) Here's a sampling of what you saw if you visited www.southshoresha.org regularly:

- Photos of the Annual Members' Reception
- Links to timely *News* items (upper right on the Home page), such as:
 - Board Minutes and Agendas
 - Better Business Bureau
 - *San Pedro News*
 - L.A. City Organization Chart
 - Contractor License Check
 - Neighbor 2 Neighbor Conflict Resolution
 - *CityWatch*
 - SSHOA Facebook site
- "Meet Our 2009 Board Members"
- "Last SSHOA Board Meeting Highlights"
- "South Shores Businesses"
- "Community Calendar"
- "Neighborhood Watch"
- "Current Weather" (with Forecast)
- "South Shores Driver's ID Scam Alert"
- "LAPD News"
- "Heroic Rescue from Flooding Car" (*Daily Breeze* letter)
- and, of course, the *VIEW POINT*

REMINDER:
IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID YOUR \$10 ANNUAL DUES YET....PLEASE MAIL CHECK TO
"SSHOA"
P.O. BOX 922, SAN PEDRO, CA 90733

In fact it's hard to see how one could be a well-informed resident of South Shores without regular visits to www.southshoresha.org