

## NEWSLETTER MAY/JUNE, 2009

### NOTICE OF BOARD MEETINGS



The March meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm**. The June meeting will be held **Tuesday, June 30<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm**.

### RECALL ELECTION RESULTS

As many of you are aware, a petition was circulated recently calling for the recall of Marta Rebella, current Board President. I was dismayed when many who had signed the petition came into the office and stated that they did not realize what they had signed. That prompted my article in the last newsletter wherein I encouraged everyone to not sign a petition until they had obtained more information – including the possible ramifications. In any case, I made an attempt to inform those with the petition that it would be very difficult to recall one Board member, but they would not be dissuaded from submitting their petition, thereby initiating all the subsequent action that was required by law.

Ultimately, the recall failed. The vote was 161 opposed, versus 70 in favor of the recall.

I, as well as many others, were pleased to see that reason prevailed because the recall of one or more Board members should be the last resort - and only when there are no other alternatives to fix a broken community. That is not the case here at Jasmine Creek. Jasmine Creek is far from broken. We have so many great volunteers who are willing to give so much of themselves to make sure that this community is well-managed, that it makes me feel

very proud to work here. I know I can count on these volunteers to help me get the job done. I know Jasmine Creek is in good hands. The roofing project is almost complete; Tom Weaver and his Architectural Committee are working on new exterior colors, with the help of an ad hoc Color Committee; Larry Finn and his Landscape Committee are working hard to improve our landscaping – not to mention the work he has put in as Chairman of the ad hoc Insurance Committee; the Karjalas are working to make us more prepared in case of a disaster; Charlene is busily working on the upcoming barbecue...just look around; there are a lot of good things taking place here in Jasmine Creek!

Continuing on the topic of volunteers, do you realize that our current President, Marta Rebella, spends 10-30 hours per week on Association business? This includes attending ALL Committee meetings, keeping informed about all operational matters, assisting us here in the office with mailings...even donating the use of her garage for 3 weeks while our office was being restored after flooding – free of charge! These are all things that go unnoticed by the majority of residents, but for which she should be acknowledged. Thank you, Marta!

Rene

### JASMINE CREEK ANNUAL BBQ!!!

The Community Relations Committee's 6th Annual BBQ will be held on **Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup>**, from 4-7 p.m. at the Clubhouse. Charlene Prager, who has been so instrumental in planning this great annual event, is working with the Community Relations Committee to make this year's BBQ the best yet! Please mark the date! **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! PLEASE CALL CHARLENE IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING!**

## **UNPAID WOOD CHARGES**

Although the majority of Jasmine Creek's homeowners have paid their wood charges, there is a small number who are refusing to pay either all or part of their wood and extras charges for a variety of reasons – most of which have nothing to do with the wood replacement costs. Although we have been diligently making attempts to collect these past due amounts by letter and phone calls, several owners still have refused to pay. Therefore, we will be referring these overdue accounts over to Jasmine Creek's legal counsel for collection.

Having to do this is unfortunate, but the contractors must be paid for the repairs and it is not fair for those homeowners who pay for the repairs to their homes to also be burdened with the additional expense of repairing the homes of others. If action is not taken to collect the amounts owed, the homeowners who refuse to pay will receive the benefit of the repairs, at the expense of ALL of the homeowners, which is simply not fair.

As mentioned above, we work very hard with JP Witherow and AWS to resolve any issues that are brought to our attention, so if you have a question about your wood charges and would like to discuss your invoice, please contact the office to arrange a meeting. Thank you!

## **FURNACE INSPECTIONS**

We recently had a homeowner inform us that, unbeknownst to her, she had been breathing carbon monoxide due to a faulty furnace.

Her symptoms included severe headaches, but there are other symptoms that could be a direct result of this dangerous killer. Therefore, please be sure to have your furnace inspected to make sure it is not emitting carbon monoxide gas.

The Gas Company will come out for free to perform the inspection. It is a worthwhile call. We appreciate this resident's information and wanted to pass it along.

## **ARCHITECTURAL UPDATES**



## **ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

The June and July meetings are scheduled for Wednesday, **6/10** and **7/8**. Meetings are (usually) held the 2nd Wednesday of every month, in the Clubhouse, commencing at 5:00 p.m.

## **FINANCE UPDATES**



## **FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

The May and June meetings are scheduled for **Thursday, 5/21 (10am)** and **Thursday, 6/18**. The meetings are (usually) held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month at 9:00 a.m. in the Clubhouse.

## **BUDGET APPROVAL:**

The Budget for Fiscal Year Ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010 was approved by the Board in March. The Committee and the Board are happy to report that there will be no increase in the monthly assessments!

## **LANDSCAPE UPDATES**



## **LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

The June and July meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, **6/2** and **7/7**. Meetings are (usually) held the 1st Tuesday of every month, in the Clubhouse, commencing at 5:00 p.m.

## COMMUNITY RELATIONS UPDATES

### COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The June meeting is scheduled for **Monday, 6/8**. Meetings are (usually) held the 2nd Monday of every other month, in the Clubhouse, commencing at 5:00 p.m.

#### **DISASTER COMMUNICATION**

The American Red Cross recommends that all households have a portable battery-operated radio in their disaster supply kits. This will allow the residents to listen to local TV VHF, radio and NOAA emergency information broadcasts, if any are available.

What is NOAA? NOAA stands for the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration.

Jasmine Creek continues to improve in emergency preparations. We now have two additional CERT Communicators: **Diane Knight** and **Kate Mulvehill**. In our city, there are approximately 62 licensed and authorized ham radio operators that can talk to the city in a disaster (four of which are in Jasmine Creek). In addition, the following people are taking or completing CERT training:

**Marta Rebella, Charlene Prager, Bruce Olander, Preston and Gretchen Lee.** Congratulations to **Bill Cote** who also joins the team. Our CERT Team needs you!

The City of Newport Beach held their first annual "State of CERT" dinner recently. The first "Spirit of CERT" recognition plaque was presented to **Dale and Suzie Karjala** for their work in preparing individuals, and the community for a disaster.

#### **BOARD MEETING MINUTES EXCERPTS**

President Marta Rebella called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Marta Rebella, President; Preston Lee, Vice-President; Larry Tyson, Secretary; Charlene Prager, Treasurer; Randy Johnson, Member-At-Large (6:10 p.m.) and General Manager, René Viamonte

#### **MINUTES**

A motion was made by Preston Lee, seconded by Charlene Prager and unanimously passed (Mr. Johnson not present to vote), to approve the minutes, as written, of the March 31, 2009 Board of Directors' meeting.

#### **COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

Bill Simons reported that Skip Turner has been asked to be the liaison between the Committee and Securitas, the access control company. Mr. Turner will report to the Committee on any feedback that he receives regarding the guard service and its employees posted at the Jasmine Creek gate. Mr. Simons also reported that there are several CERT graduates, including three Board members. He also reported that the Karjalas had begun purchasing supplies and equipment that will be stored by the Association and used in case of an emergency.

#### **ARCHITECTURAL**

The April minutes were acknowledged.

Tom Weaver reported that the Architectural Committee had reviewed 3 applications and had approved 2 and tabled 1.

#### **ROOFING**

Tom Weaver reported that the roofing project is continuing on schedule. The project is now over 3/4 complete. Phase 16 of 17 (Seafaring Drive) is scheduled to begin on or near the week of May 11<sup>th</sup>. The Crown entry and exit gates are being blocked during roofing construction hours with cones due to the heavy construction traffic and the narrowness of Maritime Drive.

#### **LANDSCAPE**

Larry Finn, Chair of the Landscape Committee, reported that the Committee is reviewing the possibility of implementing a weed/pesticide spraying treatment. They are obtaining additional bids prior to reporting back to the Architectural Committee with a final recommendation. The Committee is also researching the replacement of the irrigation controllers. They are obtaining additional bids.

## EXTERIOR COLORS

Diana Parr reported that the Committee had interviewed two colorists and were expecting bids from them by Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>. More information will be provided as it is available.

## FINANCE

Bob Harrigan reported that the Committee had met several times to finalize the Budget prior to making a recommendation to the Board to keep the dues at the current amount of \$415 per home, per month. Mr. Harrigan also reported that the Committee is researching the best rate of return in secure investments and will make recommendations as more information becomes available.

A motion was made by Randy Johnson, seconded by Larry Tyson, to meet immediately with the Finance Committee to re-examine the approved Budget for Fiscal Year 2009-2010 and determine whether the dues should be increased due to a possible short-fall of funds.

During discussion, Mr. Johnson stated that the approved Budget did not seem to allocate funds for the proposed spraying of pesticides, the dam replanting and the refurbishing of front yards. Preston Lee reported that the Budget that was approved had been reviewed very thoroughly by the Finance Committee and their recommendation was based on that diligent review, and not an arbitrary decision to not increase the dues. In addition, as of March 31<sup>st</sup>, the Association's budget was underspent by \$79,000. The Board agreed to meet with the Finance Committee on May 7<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m., contingent upon availability of the members.

With no further discussion, motion was withdrawn by Mr. Johnson.

A motion was made by Preston Lee, seconded by Charlene Prager, and unanimously passed, to approve the financial reports for the Operating and Roofing accounts dated March 31, 2009.

## NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Randy Johnson, seconded by Preston Lee, and unanimously passed, to refer

the request for a new driveway at 3 Whitecap to the Architectural Committee for their inspection and recommendation.

A motion was duly made by Randy Johnson, seconded by Larry Tyson, to place an article in the upcoming newsletter regarding the need for interested volunteers to serve on the proposed Long-Range Planning Committee.

During discussion, members of the Board requested more information about this proposed committee and its objective. It was agreed that more information was required before the members felt comfortable with voting in favor of such a committee. Mr. Johnson agreed to provide the Board with more information on this proposed committee prior to the May Board meeting.

With no further discussion, motion was withdrawn by Mr. Johnson.

## OPEN SESSION

There were approximately 45 homeowners present to observe and discuss issues, including the re-roofing project, the need for street maintenance and estate sales.

### Sidewalk Snails

What's the matter with you? Not all, just  
*you*—  
Who love the crunch of snails beneath your  
shoe,  
Who leave the mess for the rest of us to  
view  
Until enough rains fall to wash away the goo?  
  
If a bunny who'd chewed your leaves sat  
unaware,  
Would you smash *it* beneath your sole  
without a care?  
Whatever life experience inspires you to  
crush a snail,  
Can't you, at least, first kick it off the trail?

Liz Newman, 22 Skysail Drive

**JASMINE CREEK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE ROSTER**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Marta Rebella, President  
Preston Lee, Vice-President  
Larry Tyson, Secretary  
Charlene Prager, Treasurer  
Randy Johnson, Member-At-Large

**ARCHITECTURAL – Board Liaison, Marta Rebella**

Tom Weaver, Chairperson  
Poul Andersen  
Ike Caraco  
E.J. Egghart  
George Farley  
Stan Francus  
Jack Klein  
Robert Kraft  
Bruce Olander  
Sue Seden

**FINANCE – Board Liaison, Preston Lee**

Robert Harrigan, Chairperson  
David Barth  
Bill Coté  
Bill Peterson  
Barbara Simons

**Members Needed! Please Call The Office!**

**LANDSCAPE – Board Liaison, Randy Johnson**

Larry Finn, Chairperson  
Jan Day  
Diane Knight  
Linda Long  
Diana Parr  
Nancy Posch  
Jeanette Watters

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS – Board Liaison,**

**Charlene Prager**

Bill Simons, Chairperson  
Bruce Anderson  
Bruce Beardsley  
Merritt Johnson  
Dale & Suzie Karjala  
Eileen Kaufman  
Florence Lipson  
Charlene Prager  
Martha Ryan  
Jeannine Trapp  
Skip Turner  
Tom Wolff

**Please note that JCCA does not endorse or recommend advertisers. Be sure to check references.**

**ACTIVITIES AND ADVERTISEMENTS**

**FOUND!!!:** Women's bifocals found 4/11. Please call the office to claim.

**JASMINE CREEK BOOK GROUP:** Read any good books lately? Come make new friends and be part of the JCBG's informal monthly discussions. For information, call Jeanette Watters, or Diana Parr.

**IN-HOME CARE:** Semi-retired registered nurse is available for private home care, 22-year resident of JCCA. Negotiable rates. Louise.

**ELECTRIC CHAIR LIFT:** Custom-built for split-level floor plans. The Rolls Royce of chair lifts! Please Call for details.

**I'll Walk Your Dog:** Includes feeding, training, playing, affection. \$75/hour. Call Dick.

**PET SITTER:** I live in Jasmine Creek and love animals. I am available to dog or cat sit and dog walk. Please call and I will show you how much I love your pet! Riley.

**WINDOW CLEANER:** Resident will clean your windows \$30-40 inside/out.

**NEED A NOTARY?** If you need to have a document notarized, look no further than our On-site Management Office! Our On-site Association Manager (René) is a Notary Public and will notarize your documents for a nominal fee.

**\*\*Newsletter article deadline = 20<sup>th</sup> of every other month (e.g. Apr. 20<sup>th</sup> for May/June Newsletter)\*\***