

Castellammare Mesa Home Owners

PO Box 742

Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

<http://castellammaremesa.com>

NEWSLETTER July, 2010

- **THE COMMUNITY PICNIC** will be held this year on Sunday, October 17, from 3:00 to 6:00 pm, at Coperto Drive and Tramonto. BE SURE TO SAVE THE DATE! We will have a moon walk, the fire engine visit, barbequed hamburgers and hot dogs. Please come and visit your neighbors and find out what's happening around our great hill. Bring a favorite side-dish or dessert if you can. Thanks in advance to Joan and Harvey Rochman for once again planning and organizing the entire event.
- **TREASURER'S REPORT:** As of July 31 the year-to-date CMHO Ordinary Receipts have been \$13,100 and the Ordinary Disbursements have been \$13,800, so the "bottom line" is that we have **spent about \$700 more than we received.**

Last year from Aug 1 to Dec 31 we spent about \$4,700 for Legal Fees, the Annual Picnic and miscellaneous expenses. Legal Fees, of course, are unpredictable but we should assume they will continue. This year 136 of the 215 CMHO homeowners have paid dues. Last year it was almost 160. If we had 100% participation it would raise another \$6,715.

Unless we do some additional **fundraising**, we'll have to dig into our reserve. So we are eager to hear your ideas about ways for us to raise money to pay for the expected Legal Fees and annual picnic.

Balances in our accounts (our "reserves") are \$11,500 in the General Fund, \$14,200 in the Money Market Account, and \$6,700 in the Legal Defense Fund for a total of \$32,400. It would seem wise to leave those balances at those levels unless we have a critical need.

As of July 31 the Los Lions Planting Project had receipts of about \$4,600 and disbursements of about \$3,000. It is expected that future costs will use up all of the balance remaining in that account.

If you are interested in a more detailed report, please contact me. Our books are open to our members.

Respectfully,
Doug McCormick, Treasurer

- **CRIME AND SAFETY:** With the exception of the break-in on lower Castellammare, information of which was sent to you, this area has luckily not experienced any incidents of crime lately.

- **TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT SUNSET AND LOS LIONES:** Very good news! The Westside Waldorf School has reported that they now have the funding in place to install the traffic signal. An overall project cost calculated at \$605,305 has been prepared by their architect and they are ready to schedule work at once. They will place their funds in an escrow account and the Getty Neighborhood Protection Plan Fund will place the pledged \$150,000 in a separate escrow account. The School is currently working with the Councilman's office and the Department of Transportation to get the project started. We would like to thank the Board of Trustees at Waldorf for getting this project underway.
- **THE PROPOSED PRE-SCHOOL:** Chabad's application for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for a pre-school on Los Liones has been terminated by the City based partially upon the Getty Trust owning a portion of the land upon which the warehouse sits. As you may remember from previous reports, the Getty would not give permission for the use of that area for a pre-school, citing serious safety concerns. There was no access to the warehouse except across the Getty's driveway.
- **THE GETTY VILLA & THE GVCRC:** The Getty Villa Community Relations Committee (GVCRC) reports that the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) with changes the Getty requested has been officially amended and is now complete. The Planning Commission approved the CUP except that one more third-party sound test was to be conducted. The GVCRC will continue to meet with Getty representatives every other month.
- **LOS LIONES GATEWAY BEAUTIFICATION:** Thanks to Kelly Comras, who engineered this entire project, the community's generous donations and the hard work of volunteers, the two corners at Los Liones have been planted. The area around the Fire Station is complete and the corner at Los Liones and Tramonto will be complete when the State takes the large pile of brush and cleans up the area.
- **VONS REMODELING:** Good news on this too - Due to much community input, Vons has agreed to align their driveway with the existing traffic light at Sunset and Castellammare when they remodel.
- **THE WOODEN RAILING AT THE BULKHEAD** at Coperto and Tramonto: This wood railing is falling apart and is riddled with termites. However, most homeowners prefer the feeling of wood rather than metal, so in the past the City has been asked to repair it instead of replace it. However, it keeps needing repairs. Thanks to the Good Neighbor who recently nailed up the part of the railing that fell down. And thanks in advance to whomever fixes it in the future!
- **STATUS OF LAWSUIT:** Please refer to "CURRENT ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE PROJECTS", below.

- **CMHO DUES:** **Membership** dues are \$85 for the year. Your dues continue to support the important work of the CMHO and the AC in protecting and enhancing our neighborhood. Without your support, the home owners association cannot exist. If you have not yet paid your dues, please consider doing so. You receive a Getty Villa card when you become a CMHO member, which allows walk-in access any time the Getty Villa is open. To dues-paying members, remember to make arrangements to pick up your card from Kim Clary.
- **STRAY CATS:** As we last reported, the neighbors thought the situation was under control and that all of the stray cats had been neutered or spayed. However, two of the kittens grew up and each have recently had a litter. The neighbors are attempting to trap, neuter and return the mothers and find homes for the kittens.
- **COYOTES** have been sighted in our neighborhood again. Please be careful to protect your small children and pets.
- **CURRENT ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE PROJECTS:** Neighbors are reminded that we all purchased our homes subject to the empowerment of the AC, which is authorized by our CC&R's to review and approve plans to build new homes or remodel existing ones. Please be sure to bring your construction projects, no matter how small, to the AC early in the process to save time and money.
 - 17708 Tramonto Drive - The owners had previously been approved for an addition to the northwest side of their home and have recently given the AC plans for an addition to the southwest area of the house. The AC is going through its' plan review process on this new proposed addition.
 - 17642 Tramonto Drive - This is the lot where the owner has sued the CMHO. (Please refer to previous Newsletters for more information on the lawsuit.) New plans in concept were approved by the AC and agreed upon by the homeowner. Story poles were reinstalled a few months ago according to these new plans. The AC conditionally approved them with the understanding that final AC approval shall be in accordance with the terms and conditions of the CC&R's and will be contingent upon receipt of complete architectural drawings. Although the owner has applied to the City Department of Building & Safety for three building permits, the owner has not yet submitted final plans to the AC or indicated that approvals from regulatory agencies have been received as required for final approval.

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Board Members

Kim Clary, President	310 230-8041	kimjdave@msn.com
Mike Lofchie, Vice President	310 459-5661	mike@ucla.edu
Doug McCormick, Treasurer	310 459-1382	Doug_mccormick@email.com
Muriel Janes, Secretary	310 459-4616	mjanez@aol.com
Laura Gerson	310 310-3571	Laura.gerson@yahoo.com
Bennett Murphy	310 459-8395	murphyb@hbdlawyers.com
Norma Spak	310 454-2677	zjahyley@verizon.net

Architectural Committee Members

Kim Clary, Interim Chair	310 230-8041	kimjdave@msn.com
Marlena Newmark, Secretary	310 454-4592	PaulMarlena@aol.com
Andrew Martin	310 310-2218	a.forbesmartin@gmail.com
Gerry Nadler	310 459-3746	Nadler@usc.edu
Reuel Sutton	310 459-1286	reuel.sutton@yahoo.com
Margaret Churchill*	310 573-1713	bermarg@roadrunner.com
Bob Marrs*	310 454-2030	bobmarrs@yahoo.com

* Denotes alternate.

Other Important Numbers:

LAPD: Senior Lead Officer Michael Moore: 1-310-444-0737; 27995@lapd.lacity.org

For non-emergency immediate service: (877) 275-5273

Fire Dept. 911 Brush Clearance: (818) 374-1111

City Services and Building & Safety: 311 or <http://www.lacity.org/boss/request.htm>

Note: This number is for any kind of question or concern re the City (graffiti removal, pot-hole repair, brush clearance, code violations, tree removal, etc.)

City Council Office:

Bill Rosendahl: LA Office: 200 N. Spring Street, Rm. 415, LA, CA 90012; 213-473-7011

West LA: 1645 Corinth, Room 201, West LA, CA 90025; 310-575-8461

councilman.rosendahl@lacity.org

Jessyca Avalos: Field Deputy for Pacific Palisades: jessyca.avalos@lacity.org

Getty Villa Community Relations Committee:

Kelly Comras: 1-310-459-5661; k_comras@hotmail.com

Kim Clary: 1-310 230-8041; kimjdave@msn.com

Getty Villa Complaint Hotline: 1-877-625-4282

Remember to conserve water & to recycle!!

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