

Ridgeline Change vs Safety

By Christine Williams



Joe McCarthy photo

New FCC-required radio tower at the Ormsbee Lookout

If you've seen orange netting and poles near the Sid Ormsbee Lookout Tower atop Pinyon Peak, there's a reason. On September 26, 2013, the Planning Commission approved the placement of a noncommercial emergency radio tower there. "The project is one of the 18 sites proposed for upgrade to the Next Generation Emergency Network (NGEN) radio system for emergency communications throughout the County," according to the project

description, "and will support critical communications of first responders to emergency calls."

The towers are to be, according to new FCC requirements, 100 feet high. The facility height was able to be pared down to "a 75-foot high monopole with one Omni antenna affixed to the top; three (3), 22-foot long Omni antennas and one (1) four-foot diameter microwave dish to be installed on the outside of an existing building." The twenty conditions had to be met before building could commence.

Compared to the original location proposed for this tower (Village fire station area), placement of the FCC-required tower near the Lookout, already a ridgeline exception, became preferable. The process took eight months of meetings and vetting before being approved.

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*Other Rules May Apply. See Facility For Details

Personal Training Aquatics Refuge Café Hair Salon

Annual CVA Meeting March 23, 2 - 4 pm Del Mesa Carmel

Library, Del Mesa Carmel
500 Del Mesa Carmel (at Carmel Valley Rd.)

In keeping with our by-laws, the slate listed below is member notification of the nominees for the next term. Any member in good standing may nominate other candidates by gathering 15 member signatures and submitting them by February 21.

If other candidates are submitted, postcards will be mailed out by March 1, with voting due back by March 15. If there are no other candidates, the slate as presented here will automatically be appointed. The new board and board-designated officers will be introduced at the Annual Meeting.

CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION TO A 3-YEAR TERM:

Steven Brabeck, MD
Donna Kneeland
Margaret Robbins
Richard Stott

APPOINTEES FILLING OUT UNEXPIRED TERMS:

Eric Coburn
Daniel Matuszewski

The CVA Annual meeting is a great place to catch up with old friends and make new ones. Refreshments and mingling start at 2 pm. We hope to see you then!



Keeping it rural... save our old barns!

Christine Williams photo

Carmel Valley Association
P.O. Box 157
Carmel Valley, CA 93924

Since 1949

Board of Directors

Mibs McCarthy, President
Christine Williams, PE, Land Use Chair
Rich Fox, Vice President
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Linda Cope
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Dick Stott, Membership Chair, Webmaster
Karin Strasser Kauffman
Cindy Walter

*The Carmel Valley Association Needs You!
Join CVA to make sure our voice is heard on county decisions impacting Carmel Valley.
Become a member at
carmelvalleyassociation.org.*

Water Solution for Community Park

By Paul J. Ingram, Carmel Valley Recreation and Park District

You can certainly tell that 2013 was a very dry year by walking through the Carmel Valley Community Park. In fact, it was the driest year since 1949. The park well system usually stays off until early June, but this year Park Maintenance Contractor, Mark Maleti, was forced to start watering in late March.

Extremely dry years tend to highlight the limitations of the well and sprinkler system. By Fiesta time the grass began to look like "crop circles," with large dry areas. This was due to the fact that our well pump pressure and volume were far below their optimal level, causing diminished sprinkler head operation.

But there is good news! A concerned park patron has come forward to help us develop a strategy to upgrade the well and sprinkler system. This will be accomplished by installing two holding tanks that will be filled by the well pump, plus a separate state-of-the-art sprinkler pump that will deliver the proper volume and head pressure to the sprinklers. The estimate for the completed system is \$75,000. This kind patron has also committed \$25,000 to the project, if the community raises the balance. Look for our fundraising effort to begin in early 2014.

(The CVRPD is funded by taxes from those living within the district located near the Village. The Board is elected.)

Upgraded County Websites for More Public Access

Supervisory Hearings, including searchable video by agenda number:

http://monterey.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=5

Planning Commission hearings:

<http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/planning/cca/pc13.htm>

Search for upcoming projects and permits applied for, both building and planning:

http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/planning/projects/project_main.htm

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Carmel Valley Association

To preserve, protect, and defend the natural beauty, resources, and rural character of Carmel Valley

YOU ARE ENTERING Carmel Valley

CVA Newsletter - February 2014 carmelvalleyassociation.org

CALENDAR

Feb 1 10:15am

First Saturdays - CV Library

The Nelsons

Craft Beer "Geeks"

History of Beer & Traditions

March 1 10:15am

First Saturdays - CV Library

Laurie Petkus

CV Ranching - Past & Present

March 1-9 6:30-9:30

Jewish Film Festival

Golden Bough & Beth Israel

carmeljiff.org

March 2

Chamber Night at the Oscars

Quail Lodge

\$95/person

Open to all

carmelvalleychamber.com

March 23 2-4pm

CVA Annual Meeting

Open to all

Del Mesa Community Room

March 24 7pm

CUSD Band Festival

CHS Performing Arts Center

April 1 7pm

CUSD Orchestra Festival

CHS Performing Arts Center

Upcoming Play Options

Pacific Repertory Theatre

pacrep.org

Magic Circle Theatre

magiccircle.net

and

Upcoming Musical Offerings

Performing Arts

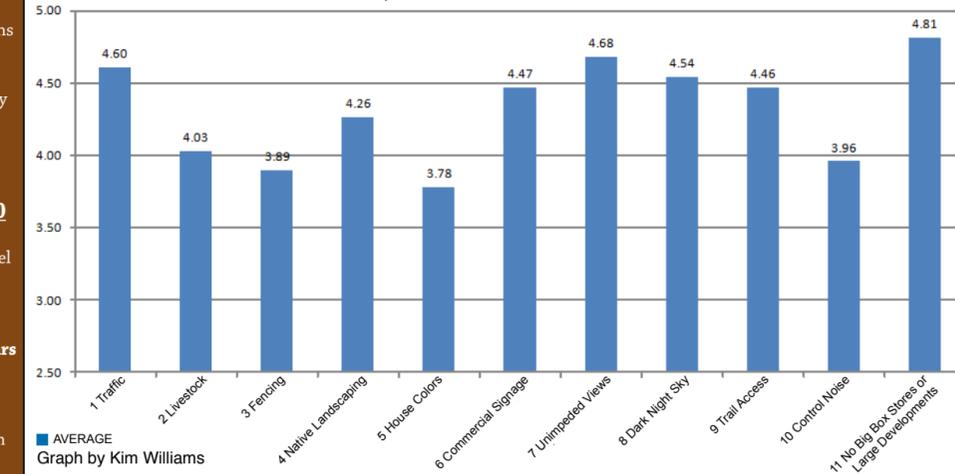
Monterey Bay

performingartsmontereybay.com

What Makes Carmel Valley "Rural" ?

Carmel Valley Association Survey Results

Factors of importance to the rural character of CV



By Luana Conley

Since the County is in the process of developing ordinances, and the Carmel Valley Master Plan states, "All policies, ordinances, and decisions regarding Carmel Valley shall be consistent with the goal of preserving Carmel Valley's rural character," CVA conducted a survey to help more clearly define what rural character means to our community.

continued on page 2

From the President



Mibs McCarthy

2013 was a year of growth for Carmel Valley Association. With the mailing of our quarterly newsletter to every home and business in Carmel Valley and our weekly e-bulletin, valley residents are turning to CVA more often with concerns or observations about our beautiful, but fragile, rural environment. We can't take on every issue; some are between neighbors. And you may not always agree with us, but we are happy to share the expertise of our talented board members and provide what help we can.

A spirit of cooperation marked this past holiday season as families enjoyed traditional celebrations. Thanks to a generous donation from Michael Bonfante of his extensive personal decorations and lights, and Paul Ingram's hard work, the Village was a Christmas wonderland like never before.

continued on page 3

LISTEN LEARN LOVE

Golden Gate Chamber Players

performances
March 22 & 23, 4pm
FREE

Masters Festival Series

classes, talks,
& performances
June 8-July 14

Hidden Valley Music Seminars

a Carmel Valley
cultural destination
for over fifty years

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88 W. Carmel Valley Rd
659-3115

Survey from page 1

People were grateful for the opportunity to weigh in, with 164 people taking the time to respond during our two-month window of participation. Respondents were asked to rate 11 factors on a scale of importance to rural character. We left space for comments and asked for recommendations.

Traffic was the top-rated concern, accounting for numerous added comments. Residents urged County officials to recognize that traffic density on Carmel Valley Road is perilously close to being a life-threatening hazard exacerbated by the problems brought on by the lack of code enforcement around events. It was suggested that the collective impact of numerous events be examined and the focus returned to resident-serving events. One writer put it neatly, "Open space, low density, and quietude are Carmel Valley's invaluable assets," and another asked for regulatory help to "save us from ourselves," with the penchant for car, bike, wine, art, dog, golf, and food events, one on top of the other, creating a frenzied urban mood in Carmel Valley many weekends.

Recognition of the cumulative effect of development was the next most important concern. Our natural resources were frequently referenced, with access to open space and the river named as essential for both wildlife and people. Several valley residents want county regulations that will stop the damage to our oak canopy from inept pruning practices, a formal genista removal program, and the encouragement of native plant landscaping. Great appreciation for our agricultural heritage was expressed, but one writer suggested grapevines should follow hillside contours to avoid the crosshatched appearance. Speaking of grapes, some decried the unbalanced mono-culture of wine tasting rooms and expressed a desire for diversity, perhaps in the recreation field with climbing gyms and hiking and bicycle tours.

Some additional items are listed below:

- No Canine Center
- Better management of alternative transportation for bicycles and pedestrians
- Allowing District 5 to vote on its own developments
- Continuing to work for collaborative action on keeping CV rural and promoting civility and neighborliness in dealing with problems
- Protecting the Carmel River habitat and restoring the flow of water
- More speeding tickets and more tickets for "Sunday drivers" holding up long lines of traffic

In the promised drawing, survey participant, Alyse Foster was given a gift certificate from Jeffrey's Grill and Catering in Mid-Valley. The county will be given the survey results. We are delighted at the level of passion expressed in the responses.



The History Center Board gleefully cuts the ribbon for the Grand Opening in December. Open Fridays & Saturdays, 1-4pm.



John Ford, county planner, leads LUAC site visit of the proposed Canine Center.



Work on the Schulte Bridge re-build is near completion and includes a pedestrian walk.



Relocated sheriff's sub-station at Boronda & CV Road

Carmel Valley LAND USE

By Christine Williams, Land Use Committee Chair

If the number of county planning applications is any indication, the economy must be improving. That's good news! Land use projects CVA is following include

Rancho Canada Village development:

No revised application has yet been filed. We anticipate it will include 166 or fewer residences behind the Middle School. The online revised map indicates the developers have moved the housing out of the flood plain completely, the project will include a public park as promised, and ingress and egress will be via the road between Rancho Canada Golf Club and the Community Church. This property is designated as a Special Treatment Area in the Carmel Valley Master Plan (CVMP), which could allow the developers to build more densely than what is currently zoned, which would have been ten homes.

Carmel Cottages: Carmel Cottages' occupancy rate is up to 46 residents. There are county conditions on this project regarding water use at certain occupancy levels and increased landscaping. CVA is urging the county to now enforce these conditions.

Saddle Mountain RV Park: The owner wants to move in "park mobiles," 400-square-foot cabins on wheels, some in the upper campground, in order to provide affordable vacation spots for families. Neighbors are very concerned about soil

stability (since a major slide occurred in 1997 in this area) and whether permit requirements are being followed.

Carmel Canine Sports Center (CCSC): A LUAC meeting on the project on January 6 attracted about 150 people, most of whom objected to the project. Among the serious concerns of CVA and local community members are potential traffic, noise, and water impacts. The county has issued a Mitigated Negative Declaration, which would obviate the need for an EIR, but CVA strongly disagrees with this conclusion, having previously asked formally for an EIR on the project. LUAC members voted unanimously to recommend denial of the project. The CVA Board subsequently voted to ask for denial. The Planning Commission meeting is set for February 12.

Ordinance Adoption: The county is moving forward with the ordinance adoption process since the very general General Plan was approved in 2010. CVA is teaming up with LandWatch to work on ordinance priorities we share.

San Clemente Dam Removal: Updated reports are at www.sanclementedamremoval.org.



Carmel Valley's own little "zoo" at Hacienda Hay and Feed currently includes this little one.

President from page 1

Residents also came together to get to the bottom of the rash of home burglaries. A huge meeting was held, neighborhood watch groups were started, and the culprits caught. The new location of the sheriff's substation in the Sotheby building, Boronda and CV Road, is an asset to our continued safety. Thank you to the sheriff's department!

Over the holidays, our hearts went out to the residents of Pfeiffer Ridge in Big Sur. It was painful to watch the reports of such a terrible loss. We at CVA send our deepest sympathy to those in Big Sur who lost their houses. We encourage all in Carmel Valley to come alongside the Big Sur community by donating to the relief fund started by Coast Property Owners Association (CPOA) to help those who lost their homes or jobs to the fire. CPOA is a non-profit charitable organization. Should you want to contribute, you can make a tax-deductible donation at www.cpoabigsur.org or by mailing a check to CPOA, P. O. Box 59, Big Sur, CA 93920.

CVA supports the Carmel Valley Village Improvement Committee (CVVIC) in its new campaign to raise funds for the Village pathways. The next portion will be along Via Contenta so our children will have a safer route to and from school. A \$50 donation to CVVIC will fund one foot of the new pathway construction.

May this spirit of cooperation carry us through the New Year as we re-engage with the removal of the San Clemente Dam and the possibility of public ownership of our water.

The Grande Dame of Activism in Carmel Valley

by Sandy Schachter



Darby Moss Worth

photo by Joe McCarthy

"Let's all wage peace" is the message on her answering machine, and that is almost all we need to know about Darby Moss Worth, considered by many to be Carmel Valley's leading social and environmental activist. Many of us know her as a dedicated teacher at Tularcitos School, and others know her better for her unrelenting commitment to causes over the years: the peace movement, social justice, women's issues, saving the river, climate change, and most recently, challenging corporate power and working for a single-payer national health plan. She is an active member of numerous community, national, and international groups. And she does it all without a computer!

So where does her activism come from? It began in high school when she first became aware of social injustice, and she was greatly inspired by her grandfather, whom she calls a visionary. Born in Pennsylvania, Darby began her working life as an airline hostess and later taught school in Maryland and at River School in Carmel before coming to Tularcitos in 1964. She spent twenty years teaching there and is especially happy that so many of her former students are still in her life. Darby surely epitomizes her phone message by "waging peace" throughout her life.

Hidden Jewel in Upper Valley

The Hastings Natural History Reserve, a little-known treasure 26 miles into Carmel Valley, is transitioning from a traditional biological research station to one that incorporates both research and student/public educational activities. Historically, Hastings was set up to study how a natural area would respond to the removal of human influence. It is the oldest field station in the University of California's Natural Reserve System.

The land served as a ranch in the late 1800s and part of it as a boarding school from 1929 until 1941. In 1929, Frances and Russell Hastings bought the property. They were from the East. Russell had received a degree in Petroleum Engineering from Stanford University in the early 1900s. Their daughter, Fannie, attended a boarding school which was first located on Robinson Canyon Road in the mid-valley area of Carmel Valley. But by 1929, the two teachers who had founded the school decided mid-valley was becoming too developed, so they moved another 20 miles east. They bought several acres from the Hastings and built a new school. Both boys and girls attended the school. Each had a horse and a musical instrument, and a tennis court was built on the property. It was an eastern private school on a western ranch. Today, the old school building has been updated with bunk beds for visitors.

The Hastings family generously supported the Reserve until about eight years ago

when funds began to dry up. A small endowment from the Hastings family continues to provide modest support. Today, Vincent Voegeli is the resident Reserve Director, and Jaime del Valle, the Reserve Steward, assists him. Their goal for these 2700 acres in the Santa Lucia Mountains is to increase the use of the reserve for education. The various buildings comfortably house 60 people.

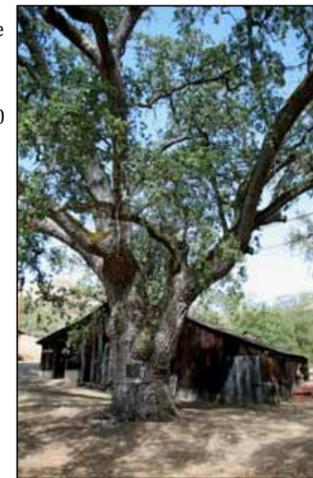
Abundant research is still conducted at Hastings, including present work on acorn woodpeckers (unique because of the way they organize their family and community roles) and black widow spiders. Researchers also work with a dendrometer (an expandable metal band around a tree trunk) to measure the growth rate of many of the trees. One Valley oak is estimated to be 500 years old.

Very little archeological and geological study has been done here though the opportunities abound. Here the Esselen people gathered and ground acorns for food that is high in protein and fat. Unusual for this area is an extrusive volcanic rock outcropping on Red Hill, and there is evidence of faulting and geological plate movement. Records

By Mibs McCarthy, President, CVA

don't exist for the many abandoned mines in the area. There is no end to the potential studies that can be done by students of all ages.

The founder of the University of California Natural Reserve System, Kenneth Norris,



500-year-old valley oak and barn built in 1860. Christine Williams photo

said, "The most basic rules of the world - the ones we all live by - are ecological rules. You can't study them or even perceive them very well in a classroom or laboratory. It is imperative to go out on the mountainside, watch the rain fall over a valley, dig into the earth beneath a fallen tree, or wade a creek for cobbles with sources upstream. The best work in the natural disciplines all starts with observations

in nature. We need those wild places where we can study nature first hand, places where all the intricacy and marvel of the natural world is intact. Everywhere, including California, those places are becoming fewer - and more precious."

Director Voegeli invites visitors to come out, especially to enjoy the wildflowers in the spring. Call first, 831-659-2664, and for more information visit <http://www.hastingsreserve.org>.