



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

GIVE BICYCLES A BRAKE!

The view of a bicyclist, riding Carmel Valley Road since 1974



Priscilla Walton

I write this quarterly letter to you as the COVID-19 virus is spiking in Monterey County and all over California. It is clear that we face uncertainty over how long we all must continue to practice safety measures against the virus individually and collectively. The CVA board wishes you the best during this time.

I had originally planned to write about some new efforts CVA is involved in to secure maintaining the rural nature and resources of this beautiful valley we are all so fortunate to live in. However, I decided that it was more urgent to let you know about the major effort CVA is making to raise funds to continue the important work we do.

As you know, we are a non-profit organization. We are staffed completely by volunteers. We spend many hours collectively and individually working on various projects and issues that threaten the very nature of Carmel Valley. Not only are the CVA board and the various committees staffed by volunteers, but we also financially contribute to the organization.

Three and a half years ago we were successful in stopping the development of Rancho Canada Village. We are still fighting to maintain our victory by opposing appeals and manipulations by the county and the developer to bypass the requirements of the Carmel Valley Master Plan and ordinances that apply specifically to this project.

We have also been active in fighting attempts to violate the conditions placed on the original Carmel Valley Ranch project. We recently won support from the county Planning Commission and Resource Management Agency to prevent the development of 12 new residences on the hilltops of the project and instead to create an equestrian center

Story and photo by Paola Berthoin

Did you know that bicyclists were the citizens who, over one hundred years ago, initiated the policy that roads be made into the smooth surfaces car drivers now enjoy? But these days bicyclists are treated as marginalized citizens, literally pushed to the edge of the roads. A case in point is the section of Carmel Valley Road between Carmel Rancho Blvd. and Carmel Middle School. There is only a narrow area for bicyclists to traverse with a curb on the right side, thus making it impossible to get off the road quickly if necessary. What makes this section even more problematic for cyclists is the fact that the Board of Supervisors recently voted to increase the speed to 55 mph.

The increase in speed limit for this section and the whole of Carmel Valley Road is based on the outdated 85% methodology that determines how fast 85% of the traffic is going. The speed limit is then set to what that 85% is driving.

There are a number of flaws with this approach. Most significantly, it does not take into account the safety of bicyclists and pedestrians. Second, it allows for speed creep. If cars are going, let's say 58 mph in a 45-mph zone, then the traffic engineers determine the speed limit should be 55 mph, as is the case for the section between Carmel Rancho Blvd. and Carmel Middle School. Car drivers tend to go another 5 mph or more above the posted speed limit. Third, there is no enforcement to keep drivers at the lower speed limit so that



the higher speeds are not used to justify a higher speed limit in an unsafe zone.

Some states are finally creating safe streets for bicyclists and pedestrians based on the Vision Zero strategy first implemented in Sweden in the 1990's to "eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all."

Last year the Zero Traffic Fatalities Task Force was established by the California Secretary of Transportation. It is composed of a broad group of representatives on traffic issues, including bicyclists. The group produced a report "to develop policies to reduce traffic fatalities to zero" and "examine alternatives to the 85th percentile as a method for determining speed limits in California."

Locally, there are goals and policies in the Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC) Action Plan that address the needs of bicyclists and pedestrians. The most pertinent goals and policies listed in this plan are the following:

1. Optimize the county's transportation facilities by reducing the number of vehicle miles traveled per person.
2. Minimize negative impacts of

Memories of Homegrown Tomatoes Spark Abundance

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by Carolyn Rice

With homegrown tomatoes on his mind, Carmel Valley resident Ed Morrow started hundreds of tomato and pepper plants from seeds last March. Then the Carmel Valley Garden Club's annual flower show, where he planned to hawk them in May, was canceled due to Covid-19. "What am I going to do with all these tomato plants!" was his panicked reaction.

A drive-through sale at Los Laureles Lodge solved his dilemma. Morrow laughed, saying that he was not allowed to work at the sale. Organizers thought it inadvisable because of his age of nearly 80 and their fear that his passion for talking about tomatoes to customers would create a traffic jam.

Morrow talks animatedly about his tomato growing ventures. "It's worth a whole summer of work when you eat a Kellogg's Breakfast BLT." Kellogg's Breakfast is an orange-hued, tangy, intensely flavored tomato that rates top prize, according to him.

Morrow describes the rocky, clay soil at his Carmel Valley hillside home as not conducive to gardening. The sunniest area is his driveway with a cinderblock retaining wall that helps retain heat in the area. This is where he raises his tomatoes in reusable, inexpensive, 15-gallon grow bags manufactured from recycled plastic bottles and available online.

Morrow grows heirloom varieties originally from cool climates and other hybrid varieties specially developed for cool weather. He likes Washington Cherry, Oregon Spring, Moskvich, Vintage Wine, Cherokee Purple, and New Girl.

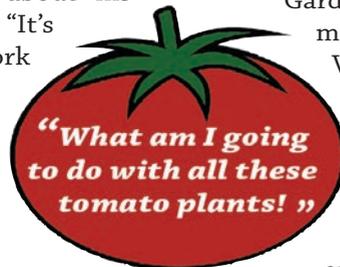
Tomatoes thrive when evenly watered, fertilized weekly, and grown in a hot, sunny place. He advises that during planting use fresh soil in pots or rotate the garden location each year.

An electronic engineer at tech companies, Morrow had no time for gardening until retirement. But he never forgot the flavor of tomatoes from his grandfather's one-acre garden in Delaware. His effort this year brought him double pleasure as his tomatoes plus succulents donated by his neighbors Steve Hoch and Judy Tschirigi will cover expenses for the Carmel Valley Garden Club's project of caring for Rosie's carmelvalleyassociation.org



Ed Morro shows how high he expects this tomato to grow, noting it should produce through November.

Photo by Carolyn Rice



Garden in the Village and the monthly meeting fee for Carmel Valley Community Center.

Morrow is scheduled to speak about growing tomatoes at the March 2021 club meeting.

Anyone can join the club and information is online at

cvgardenclub.org.

We need more
affordable water!

AMY

ANDERSON

Water District
Board Division 5

Paid for by Amy Anderson for Water District Board

HORSIN' AROUND THE VALLEY

It's Our Horsin' Around the Valley "Lucky-7" Pop Quiz !!

by C.S. Noel

Photos courtesy of CVT&SC

One of the gems in the Carmel Valley equestrian community is the Carmel Valley Trail & Saddle Club. It's a gathering spot for horse events and horse lovers, set on 15 beautiful acres with generous shady lawns, towering sycamore trees, and well-groomed riding arenas, and it is located immediately adjacent to miles and miles of hiking and riding trails.



The club is smack in the middle of horse central, fittingly sited close by where the old Rancho Los Laureles land grant was located along the Carmel River. It's an area with an equestrian tradition that goes back well over a century to the time when Spain, and then Mexico, governed California, and there were extensive tracts of rancho lands worked by vaqueros who depended on their horses for their livelihood.

Take our "Lucky-7" Pop Quiz and see how much you know about the club, and maybe find out something new!

1)TRUE or FALSE? For over six decades, the Carmel Valley Trail & Saddle Club has been a local hub for Valley Equestrians.
ANSWER: TRUE! The Carmel Valley Trail & Saddle Club was founded in 1956 by enthusiastic locals as a neighborhood spot for families with children wanting to get together and ride. It's still a family friendly place that holds horse and non-horse events for members and the community. And, you don't need a horse to be a member.

2)TRUE or FALSE? Many of the club's members add some pizzazz and local color by riding their horses in costumes or heritage garb in local parades and have the know-how to compete in the Salinas rodeo, too.
ANSWER: TRUE! Our Valley community has always had great participation from members at large, as well as local ranchers and their families, many of whom have lived here for generations along with many other savvy equestrians.

3)TRUE or FALSE? Everybody knew Club Manager, old Jake Staymere, was the best horseshoe player in the Valley and was pretty cocky about it too! So, one day when Jake challenged his big rival Tom Breller to a game, Tom bet Jake he couldn't win playing with one end of a lariat tied around his waist, and the other end honda'd-up to the hind foot of Jake's old mule, Powder Keg. Well, Jake finally got his come-uppance, and everybody had a good laugh when that mule took off down the middle of Carmel River, and Jake, who'd never learned to water ski, had to learn real fast!!
ANSWER: FALSE! Horses and mules aren't allowed on the lawn or by the horseshoe pits. (Tall tales, however, are always welcome.) But you just may spot the wonderful mule, Shuffly, or others, competing against the best cow horse teams in the state when you join the fun at one of the club's many exciting events.

4)TRUE or FALSE? The Carmel Valley Trail & Saddle Club is a great community booster, appreciative of our unmatched natural resources and supporting the beauty and rural character of our Valley that so many of our residents cherish.
ANSWER: TRUE! For more than 60 years, CVT&SC has stayed true to its mission: "to preserve and maintain bridle paths and trails and right-of-way suitable for public riding, hiking and cycling in Carmel Valley, Monterey County and the State of California; to support and encourage sponsorship of every activity concerning horses and hiking; to sponsor legislation that may be favorable to horsemen and pedestrians; to do any and all things in furtherance of the interest of horses, horsemen, hikers or cyclists."

5)TRUE or FALSE? Once for a competition at a Trail & Saddle Club event, the Club awarded a large garden bag of "cured" manure as the prize. And the winner was happy.

ANSWER: TRUE! CVT&SC members are full of energy, fun and good humor. And they aren't afraid to get their hands dirty!

6)TRUE or FALSE? Singles or doubles, the club has you covered, covered in love, with tennis courts for those who like to swing – a racket, that is!
ANSWER: TRUE! Trick Question!! Indeed, back in the day, the club DID have tennis courts! Construction of the tennis courts was started in the late '60s, and by 1981, the Lipton Tea Mixed Doubles Tournament was held at the club's courts. AND!
ANSWER: FALSE In the middle '80s, a river ran through it, taking out the courts, and the area was refurbished as a dressage arena.

7)TRUE or FALSE? Club members include equestrians recognized regionally and nationally, both for their training abilities and competitive skills.
ANSWER: TRUE! Club membership includes activities horsemen and the community can enjoy, from dressage to driving, vaquero tradition to trail riding, and more! You'll also find a full roster of professionally hosted shows featuring stock horse and ranch horse classes that are a statewide draw for top competitors, as well as specialized clinics and lessons in multiple disciplines available for any skill level.

If you got all seven answers correct -- Cowboy Honor System applies here!!! -- send an email to Horsin' Around in the Valley at cvideas@aol.com and the first seven respondents will win a large garden bag of "cured" manure!! Hey, we're following a Carmel Valley Trail & Saddle Club tradition. What did you expect!!

Many of the club events and other community organization events hosted at the club are open to the public.

Check the CVT&SC calendar to see a schedule at: <https://trailandsaddle.club>

[Calendar is subject to change due to evolving community health considerations.]



AMY ANDERSON TO RUN FOR CARMEL VALLEY SEAT ON WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT BOARD

By Mibs McCarthy

Photo from PWN



Some things never change in Carmel Valley.
Photo by Mibs McCarthy



Amy Anderson, President and Artistic Director of Chamber Music Monterey Bay and 25-year resident of Carmel Valley, has launched her campaign to represent Division 5 (Carmel and Carmel Valley) on the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD) board. Amy was actively involved in both the Measure O and the successful Measure J campaigns. In 2009 Amy ran for a City Council seat for the proposed Carmel Valley Incorporation. She won, but the incorporation failed.

I asked Amy why she was running for the MPWMD board seat.

"The Peninsula has the highest water costs in the country. And now Cal Am wants to build a desal plant that could double those costs. The Pure Water Monterey recycled water project can provide all of the water we need for decades with no environmental damage at a fraction of the

cost of Cal Am's desal project.

In 2018 voters passed Measure J, mandating the MPWMD explore the feasibility of a Cal Am buyout. In 2019 the MPWMD report clearly determined it is feasible. As the Division 5 board member, I would welcome the opportunity to work with the board to help make an affordable and sustainable water supply a reality on the Peninsula."

What values inspired you to get interested in local politics?

"As I was growing up, my parents inspired me to value the fair treatment of everyone, not just big business and the wealthy. Over 25 years on the Peninsula, I've had the opportunity to find ways to make a difference as a community leader and volunteer. I became aware of Cal Am's mismanagement of our Peninsula's water supply ten years ago and jumped at the chance to actively support initiatives that led to our success with Measure J in 2018.

I have a Ph.D. in marine biology from the University of California. That pursuit taught me how to assess large amounts of data and rely on science to make decisions. I want to ensure our future water decisions are based on facts, not politics."

Amy lives with her husband George Somero and their two dogs, Luka and Lily, in Carmel Valley.

Note: CVA endorsed Measure J and the public buyout of Cal Am.

Bicycle, continued from Pg. 1

transportation in the county by encouraging and accommodating transportation alternatives such as bicycles, car pools, public transit, and compact vehicles within and outside the public right-of-way.

3. Promote viable transportation alternatives through a safe, convenient bicycle transportation system integrated as part of the public roadway system.

Additionally, TAMC's Measure X Safe Routes to School Program supports education and infrastructure improvements in the county's unincorporated communities. That includes Carmel Valley.

It's 2020... Why are these policies not being put into action in Carmel Valley? Money is found to make CV road wider for cars. Why not for bicyclists, pedestrians and school children? How much do we value people's lives in our community?

Bicycling is an excellent form of transportation and promotes sustainability. According to the CalBike publication, "Biking and walking facilities create more jobs per million dollars than either road or transit projects."

If you are a car driver, please slow down. Move over the required three feet to give bicyclists room to maneuver around obstacles. If you are a bicyclist, please observe the rules of the road!

Contact Supervisor Mary Adams (district5@co.monterey.ca.us). Express your concern regarding safety for bicyclists and pedestrians. Request that the speed limit between Carmel Rancho Blvd. and Carmel Middle School remain at 45 mph and that a Class 4 protected bike lane be designed and installed in this section.

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RANCHO'S NAME A MYSTERY

By Elizabeth Barratt, historian for the Carmel Valley Historical Society

This historic rancho's puzzling name, Cañada de la Segunda, is often translated as "Second Canyon." Supposedly, it was considered the second canyon east of Carmel Mission. Opening onto Carmel Valley at the intersection of Valley Green and Carmel Valley Roads (now the entrance to Tehama), other canyons lying in between, named Hatton, Martin, and Roach make the "Second Canyon" designation a mystery.

The story of this old grant is a complicated one with perplexing changes in ownership. Bounded on the south by the Carmel River, on the north by the hills surrounding Jacks Peak, on the east by the James Meadows tract, and on the west by the former Mission Carmel lands, the property underwent several early, confusing divisions and changes of ownership. A portion was granted to Lazaro Soto on April 4, 1839, and confirmed May 14, 1845. However, by 1846 it was briefly claimed by one Andrew Randall, a gunner on the *Dale*, a frigate that had sailed into Monterey Bay following the Sloat landing. By February

4, 1859, San Francisco Judge Fletcher M. Haight owned the 4,267-acre claim.

A decade later, the property was in the hands of Dominga de Atherton, the mother-in-law of famous writer Gertrude Atherton. She later sold a portion of the ranch to pioneer Carmel Valley dairy owner William Hatton.

As part of a four-year geological survey, Prof. William H. Brewer visited Carmel Valley in May 1861 while camping at Rancho Pescadero (today's Pebble Beach). At the time, Judge Haight still owned Cañada de la Segunda, and Brewer paid him a visit. He later wrote in his journal, "We climbed a hill just above the valley and had a pretty view of the Carmelo Valley, the sea beyond, and the mountains to the south. He has a fine ranch, keeps about twelve hundred sheep...we rode home by twilight ...one dared not wait later for fear of grizzlies. Where our trail ran through dense chaparral, we came on fresh tracks made but a few minutes before--after a man had passed an hour before--but we were spared a sight of any animals."

No longer a sheep ranch, but today the site of posh Tehama homes with sweeping vistas, the name origin of the old Rancho Cañada de la Segunda still intrigues historians and locals alike.

For information on the Historical Society's activities and the History Center hours, see www.carmelvalleyhistoricalsociety.org.

MAX CHAPLIN CV Loses a Giant



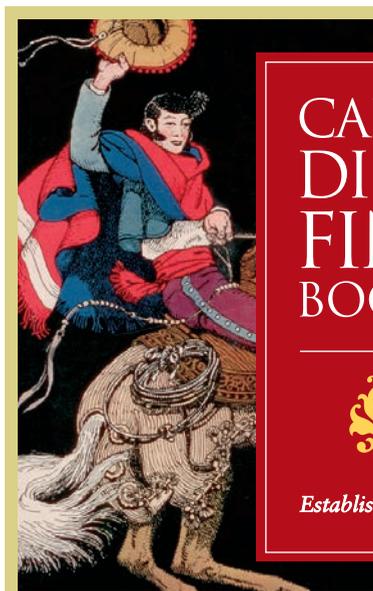
CVA has recently learned of the passing of Max Chaplin, CVA board member for 25 years and board president in 1989-90. A strong and productive leader, Max was one of the founders of the Carmel Valley incorporation movement and worked tirelessly on it for nine years, after which he became chair of the Carmel Valley Forum. He was also president of the Big Sur Land Trust, overseeing the acquisition of the Point Lobos Ranch property and management of the Mitteldorf Preserve, and was actively involved in the Sierra Club and League of Women Voters. "When Max walked into the room, he took charge and got results," says former county supervisor Karin Strasser Kauffman. "In terms of contribution to the Valley, Max was a giant."

President's Letter, continued from Pg. 1

much more consistent with the rural character of our valley. We also continue to be strongly present, fighting to limit short term rentals as the new ordinance is being developed. Another battle on the horizon is that related to special events in Carmel Valley. Our goal there is to make their frequency, intensity, and the traffic they generate sustainable.

We also are involved in struggles to maintain the open space that characterizes our valley as rural.

We need your financial support to maintain our positions on so many fronts. In legal disputes it is often the side with the most money that wins. Ultimately, we serve you, and we can do that only with your financial support. Thus, this is a Carmel Valley-wide appeal to ask you to donate at whatever level that you can. Consider yearly and monthly tax-deductible gifts as well. Please visit carmelvalleyassociation.org/join for details on how to support CVA, and contact me at president@carmelvalleyassociation.org.



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