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# SUMMERLAND SPLASH

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Summerland Citizens Association

Sept/Oct 2010

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## Greetings from the SCA Board

*Barbara McClain, SCA Secretary and Summerland Splash Editor*

After taking a break during the months of July and August, the SCA Board was back to the table at their well-attended September meeting. The forum provided an opportunity for SCA subcommittee updates and for Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Chief Mike Minge to share the results from the recent community survey regarding a new fire station in Summerland. The Deputy Director of Parks Erik Axelson was also in attendance to follow up on issues raised in past meetings concerning Lookout Park and the beach. He extended an invitation to all to attend the grand opening of the new dog wash at Lookout Park held on September 18<sup>th</sup>.

During public comment, two dedicated Summerland beach walkers raised a topic that commanded much discussion that evening. They came to the meeting to express their concerns regarding what they believed to be an increase in the amount of oil contamination, brown froth and exposed pipes on Summerland Beach during the past few months.

In addition to the Board noting that this issue had been a recent topic in Fran Davis' column in the Coastal View,

the Board provided an opportunity for Erik Axelson, Deputy Director of South County Parks, and Larry Phillips, from the State Lands Commission, to provide historical information on previous efforts to locate and cap leaking abandoned wells. They also shared their perspective on the current condition of the beach in comparison to previous years.

Mr. Phillips highlighted the work done in the late 80s and early 90s where four of over 250 abandon wells were located and capped. He also referred to the joint efforts of local and federal agencies who studied this issue and their findings, which are documented in a 62-page publication, dated April 2007 from the State of California Department of Fish and Game - Office of Spill Prevention and Response. This document "focuses on a problematic well and other near shore and on shore gas sources" found on the Summerland coastline. Its content concludes that "due to a fault trend passing through the well site" the effects of oil drilling off this coastline will quite possibly remain for a very long time.

Mr. Phillips and Mr. Axelson agreed that the effects of the oil residue are historically more apparent in the summer months and often improvement is seen during the winter months. For anyone interested in more information on this subject; a copy of the report can be obtained from the Office of Spill Prevention and Response at 1700 K Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Greeting and Thank You
- 2 Committee Reports
- 3 New Fire Station Survey Results
- 3 Revenue Generating Idea for County Parks
- 4 Snap Shot Updates
- 4 Calendar of Events

**Thanks to all the sponsors,  
businesses, donors and volunteers  
for making the  
'Celebrate Summerland'  
festival a fantastic event!**

## Summerland Beautiful Committee

*Betty Franklin, Chair*

The Summerland Beautiful Committee spent the months of August and September working on their major fund raiser raffle, held as the final event, during the 'Celebrate Summerland' festival. This year the proceeds will go towards finishing the planting in the unlandscaped public areas along Lillie Avenue. The Summerland Beautiful Committee is pleased to announce that this year's 'Celebrate Summerland' raffle raised \$3,052, which was generously matched by Bruce and Susie Kovner. Permitting and planning are in process, and the Committee plans to work toward completing the planting project this fall. Most gratifying was the number of residents who volunteered in preparation for and at the Celebrate Summerland festival, more than 50 in all, including six from co-sponsor Montecito Bank & Trust, as well as the generosity of all of the businesses that provided the prizes for the raffle. Our profuse thanks to all of these Summerland supporters!

In addition to working on the raffle, Summerland Beautiful hosted a clean-up event Saturday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, in preparation for the 'Celebrate Summerland' event the following week. Barbara McClain, landscape chair and coordinator of the event, thanks Mabel Shultz and her gardeners who cleaned up the entire Evans underpass, as well as those who volunteered on the 18<sup>th</sup>: Rick Deneault, Gerri French, Betty Franklin, Joe and Cherie Ignatius, Pat and Ursula Nesbitt, Larry Ramstrum, Cindy Sapienza, Jim Witmer, Reeve Woolpert and Judy Zisman.

If you didn't get a chance to see the volunteers at recent events, we were wearing new safety vests purchased by Summerland Beautiful and printed with *Summerland Beautiful* on the back of each vest by STP Screen Printing in Carpinteria. These vests will be worn by volunteers for recognition and safety purposes at events and litter clean-up. Please support us in our litter patrol efforts.

## Board of Architectural Review (BAR) Committee

*Mary Holzbauer, Chair*

The BAR is currently working with the property owner planning to develop a four-acre site at the west end of

Banner and with a home owner adding horse facilities on Ortega Ridge Road. The new home being designed for the site on Calle Culebra was denied conceptual approval.

## Greenwell Preserve Committee

*Dave Hill, Chair*

The Greenwell Preserve Committee and representatives from the SCA Board met with County staff on September 2<sup>nd</sup> to discuss approval of the business case for deferred maintenance and ongoing maintenance at the Preserve. At that meeting, the County agreed to fund the ongoing maintenance portion of the business case from CSA-11 (lighting district) funds.

Those in attendance then discussed the deferred maintenance portion of the business case; answering questions and providing clarification. The meeting concluded with the County staff committing to meet with County Parks and bring back a decision on funding to the Preserve Committee. On October 2<sup>nd</sup>, SCA Chair Cindy Sapienza received word from the County that CSA-11 funding was approved for this remaining portion of the business case. Once funding is available, work will begin with the support of Growing Solutions and the California Conservation Corps.

## Summerland Business Committee

*Theresa Borgatello-Carlson, Chair*

At the September 8<sup>th</sup> SCA meeting, Jeff Melnik, SCA Board Treasurer and member-treasurer of the Summerland Business Committee, submitted the Business Committee's mission statement, which the Board approved.

He also expressed the interest of the Business Committee in developing a Summerland website. After discussion, the Board unanimously approved purchasing a URL, for a period of ten years, at a cost of \$150. The website, when developed, will provide information related to the community of Summerland, the SCA, its sub-committees, events, business locations and links.

The Business Committee was pleased that their second annual 'Celebrate Summerland' festival was a great success. Those in attendance enjoyed all the activities as they strolled through town on a beautiful sunny day.

## ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE SUMMERLAND CITIZEN'S ASSOCIATION?

If you are a Summerland resident, property owner or business owner, we encourage you to join the Summerland Citizens Association (SCA). An annual membership includes the opportunity to participate in electing or holding a position on the SCA Board, bi-monthly publications of the *Summerland Splash*, as well as notification related to pertinent issues and events in Summerland. Annual membership dues are as follows:

- ❖ Individual \$25
- ❖ Family/Business \$40

Once you join, notices will be sent to you annually to remind you when it is time to renew your membership. The Board welcomes you to join or renew your membership by mailing your check payable to Summerland Citizens Association to P.O. Box 508, Summerland, CA. 93067-0508.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### SCA BOARD MEETING – WEDNESDAY, OCT 13<sup>TH</sup>

PLACE: GREENWELL PRESERVE  
TIME: 5:30 PM

### SUMMERLAND BEAUTIFUL – TUESDAY, OCT 19<sup>TH</sup>

PLACE: GREENWELL PRESERVE  
TIME: 4:00 PM

### SCA ANNUAL MEETING – WEDNESDAY, NOV 10<sup>TH</sup>

PLACE: GREENWELL PRESERVE  
TIME: 5:30 PM

REMINDER: ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

### SUMMERLAND BEAUTIFUL – TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>

PLACE: GREENWELL PRESERVE  
TIME: 4:00 PM

### SUMMERLAND BEAUTIFUL POINSETTIA SALE – FRIDAY, NOV 26 AND SATURDAY NOV 27

PLACE: POST OFFICE  
TIME: 10:00 AM - 4PM

NOTE: TO PRE-ORDER E-MAIL  
SUMMERLANDBEAUTIFUL@GMAIL.COM

### BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW

PLACE: SUMMERLAND CHURCH

## New Fire Station Survey Results

Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Department Chief Mike Mingee updated the SCA Board at their September 8<sup>th</sup> meeting on the survey results of Summerland residents regarding the building of a new fire station on the corner of Lille and Temple, the current site of the Mosquito and Vector Management District Offices. Introducing the subject, Chief Mingee stated that the response to the survey was 'low' and indicated that the majority of those responding like the concept of a larger structure that includes administrative offices, a community center and an office for an on-duty sheriff deputy. In addition, those responding felt that if a bond is needed to complete the project, it should be a district-wide-bond since areas other than Summerland would benefit from the services. The Fire District hopes to have a conceptual plan submitted to the County for a development permit by the end of October or early November.

## Revenue-Generating Idea for County Parks

Deputy Director of County Parks Erik Axelson introduced a few new topics at the September 8<sup>th</sup> SCA meeting. He stated that the County was in the process of accepting proposed improvements to the beach access trail at Loon Point. Additionally, the County is working on new gates for Lookout Park, and they will be also be installing gates at the Loon Point parking lot entrance.

Another topic Mr. Axelson introduced at the Board meeting was that his department is exploring a revenue-generating idea to implement overnight camping facilities at Goleta Beach, Lookout Park and Toro Canyon Park. He stated that, if approved and implemented, revenues would go into the general fund with a portion of the funds earmarked for County Parks improvements.

On October 1<sup>st</sup>, five SCA Board members and three interested community members met with Mr. Axelson to participate in a site visit at the abandoned resident ranger housing at Lookout Park. Mr. Axelson explained that, as proposed, the existing three-bedroom modular building and wood deck would be removed and replaced with two cabin-style trailers, new decking, reinforced fencing and five parking spaces. The area where the existing storage shed

Continued on Page 4

## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

If it is community related and it's important to you, we want to hear about it. You can write to us anytime by sending an e-mail to [summerlandcitizens@gmail.com](mailto:summerlandcitizens@gmail.com) or a letter to P.O. Box 508, Summerland, CA 93067-0508. If it is one of those kinds of conversations that is better had one on one, do not hesitate to call any Board member. We want very much to keep an open dialogue with Summerland citizens.

Cindy Sapienza, President	565-8779
Reeve Woolpert, Vice President	969-0981
Barbara McClain, Secretary	969-0852
Jeff Melnik, Treasurer	969-1019
Rick Deneault	896-3266
Dave Hill	565-3573
Mary Jo Yaeger	969-6301

### SCA Committees:

Board of Architectural Review	Mary Holzhauer, Chair
Greenwell Preserve	Dave Hill, Chair
Summerland Beautiful	Betty Franklin, Chair
Summerland Business	Theresa Borgatello-Carlson, Chair
Graffiti Contact	Barbara McClain

Summerland Citizens Association  
Post Office Box 508  
Summerland, CA 93067-0508

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Continued from Page 3

currently sits would be improved for the Park Host trailer, and a second Park Host space would be established to the rear of the property near the railroad tracks. As designed, this project would not infringe on any of the existing day recreation area or parking spaces.

County Parks has drafted an Overnight Vacation Rentals, Development and Operations Plan and is in discussion with other County Departments, the Coastal Commission, and the SCA. Mr. Axelson responded to questions and concerns raised during the site visit and, in response to prompting from the SCA Board, agreed that it would be beneficial for the County to contact Summerland property owners regarding this concept, hold a community meeting, and provide information regarding park services that these potential revenues would protect.

## Snap Shot Updates:

- County Parks in partnership with the Sheriff's Department are now performing daily random patrols of Summerland Beach keeping an eye out for transient camps and beach fires
- Heal the Ocean's Youth Counsel will continue supplying mutt mitts at Lookout Park
- The dog wash at Lookout Park is up and running
- Information on a home alert system is available from the Carpinteria-Summerland Fire District
- The Carpinteria-Summerland Fire District is removing the brush on the Calle Culebra trail to Ortega Ranch
- The SCA Board agreed to maintain an apolitical position at monthly SCA meetings

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Support Local Businesses