

The Alliance Times

The Mt. Washington Homeowners Alliance

The Free Voice of Mt. Washington
Vol. 11, No. 4, July 2011



"We have it in our power to begin
the world over again." - Thos Paine

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Since 2001

The President's Message Stan Sosa

We are halfway through the year and getting close to our tenth-year anniversary that we will be celebrating on Sunday, October 2, 2011 at the Mount Washington Elementary School, 3-6 PM. We want all our members to attend and make this a great celebration.

As planning goes on for our 10th year celebration, a lot of other activities are continuing in the background. Our committees continue to stay on top of land development, beautification, the Southwest Museum, programming, etc.

To this point, I would like to acknowledge the work being done by the Website and the Newsletter Committees to bring about better and more timely communication to our members. The first phase of the website was completed and it was pretty seamless. The second phase is to improve the look and feel to improve the content as well. The first electronic newsletter was sent to over half of our members and we found that a few glitches still need to be taken care of to really have it perfect. So again, we will send out the electronic version in parallel with a hardcopy to those that did not respond or responded that they need a hard copy.

Please give us feedback so we may give you the best service possible.

Save the date!
**10 year celebration of the
founding of the MWAH!**
Sunday, October 2nd
from 3 to 6PM
**at Mt. Washington Elementary
School.**
Food and entertainment.
Details to follow.

MURAL/MEMORIAL ART PROJECT Mt Washington Drive *by Ruth Mehringer*

Question before the community – To have or not to have a mural as memorial installed on the Mt. Washington Drive bulkhead?

BACKGROUND: In the late summer of 2010 a mural or guerilla art suddenly appeared on the cement block wall of Mt. Washington Drive below the SRF grounds and near the intersection of the Drive, Canyon Vista and Camino Real. It was a collection of images painted on canvas panels attached by wheat paste to the bulkhead. Several weeks later the images were mysteriously removed. The mural was the work of Mt. Washington residents, long time friends and artists Jack Rohman and Zach Christensen and their friends. Sadly, on January 31 of this year the young Jack Rohman took his own life having suffered for many years from schizophrenia.

CURRENT: Recently Zach Christensen began an effort to create another mural for the bulkhead to serve as a memorial for his friend. Zach, a graduate of the USC School of Fine Art, has met with officials of the City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department where the proposal is under consideration. On Monday, May 23, he went before the

MURAL/MEMORIAL
continued on page 4

MOUNT WASHINGTON HOMEOWNERS ALLIANCE

Draft MINUTES of the GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

MAY 9, 2011, CARLIN G. SMITH RECREATION CENTER

President Stan Sosa called the meeting to order at 7:10PM.

PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Stan informed the membership of the cancellation of the scheduled speaker, Tom Pelletier of the Foundation Works. Although Ruth Mehringer contacted our advertiser, Alpha Structural, an engineering firm specializing in building foundations, they were unable to put together a presentation on short notice.

Stan asked for corrections to the draft Minutes of the March 14th General Membership meeting published in the May issue of the newsletter. Since there were no corrections, the Minutes stand as reported.

Stan announced that our Parliamentarian, Martha Espelage, had submitted her resignation from the Board. Martha is leaving Mt. Washington. Stan asked for volunteers to fill the position for the remainder of the term.

Our 10 year anniversary celebration is on the calendar for Sunday, October 2, from 3 to 6 PM at the Mt. Washington Elementary School. Details to follow, but there will be food and entertainment.

Stan invited the members to enjoy the desserts provided by Susanne Brody and the sandwiches and fresh fruits provided by our speaker Jon Murga.

Mr. Murga, is a Mt. Washington resident, and President/Managing Partner of **Fresco Community Market**, a member of the Fresco Community Foundation (501c).

He is developing a new business model that believes in putting the homeless to work by providing training and employment in the markets and in giving a portion of the profits back to the community. Locally our MWES is the beneficiary. Approx. one-third of the store is devoted to fresh produce, meats and fish. Excess product is donated to the L. A. Mission. There is seating in the fresh coffee and bakery section with baguettes, bread and pastries delivered daily. Wi-Fi is available. The large wine and beer area features Microbrews. On Saturday and Sunday evenings their homemade barbeque is sold in the food section. A community room is available for meetings. The store is located at 5914 Monterey Road with plenty of parking and is open 7 days 6AM to 10PM.

e-newsletter: Stan referred to the conversion of the newsletter to paperless. Members who elect to receive the newsletter via the internet will receive an email notice containing a link to the latest issue on the Alliance website. Members who wish to continue receiving a printed copy via U. S. mail must submit a request to writing to MWAHA, P. O. Box

65855, Los Angeles, CA 90065. Stan also mentioned the possibility of interim updates, member feed back and use of bulletin boards.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Patti Yamaguchi reported a bank balance of \$8,515.59

LAND USE by Louis Mraz:

Cynthia Avenue lot update – a meeting with the architect and the owner is scheduled for Saturday, May 14th to discuss use of friction piles in place of extensive grading and soil removal and retention of as many existing walnut trees as possible.

Coptic Church- no update

Avenue 45/Marmion Way condos – The traffic study conducted November 9, 2010, indicated there would be no problem with the additional traffic generated by this project. The study considered it a 'T' intersection and counted the number of cars traveling on Marmion Way and a short portion of Avenue 45 north of (above) Marmion Way. It did not take into consideration traffic stoppage for the Gold Line trains on the south (lower section) of Avenue 45 nor the unique bend in Avenue 45 as it crosses Marmion Way. Louis indicated that traffic studies for the city of Los Angeles are based on a 1954 traffic study in Kansas City, considered the gold standard. Discussion indicated concern about traffic backup on Ave. 45 in both directions when stopped for train crossings. Membership expressed interest in obtaining expert testimony.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Lynelle Scaduto, Field Deputy for Councilmember Reyes asked for input regarding the conversion from a STOP sign to a YIELD sign at the corner of Glenwood and uphill Canyon Vista. A brief discussion indicated that the membership had no objection.

Ruth Mehringer announced that the 6th annual Lummis Day would be held on Sunday, June 5 with poetry events at the Lummis House beginning at 10:30 and the Heritage Square venue with entertainment, food and community tables opening at 12:30PM and continuing until 7PM.

Carol Tilton said that the website committee is looking for someone to maintain the website. Volunteers and suggestions are welcomed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10PM. Most folks stayed until 8:45 to enjoy conversation and refreshments.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Mehringer, Secretary

CRIME UPDATE

The following stats were provided by Leo Rey, Senior Lead Officer, LAPD

Officer Rey may be contacted at 32490@lapd.lacity.org

1. Burglary, 300 block W. Ave. 37 on 05/04
2. GTA, 4000 block Glenalbyn on 04/29
3. GTA, 900 block Elyria on 05/05
4. GTA, 3700 block San Rafael on 05/03
5. GTA 4200 block Glenwood on 05/10
6. GTA 400 block James on 05/09
(GTA = Grand Theft Auto)

LAND USE REPORT

by *Louis Mraz*

The six unit condominium project at Avenue 45 and Marmion Way is still in the Planning Department but has a hearing date set, 10 A.M., June 23, 2011, City Hall room 1050, with staff person Tina Vacharksemsuk (213) 978-1453. The Case numbers are VTT-71070-CN, ENV-2009-2221-MND. The main issue we have with this project is that the traffic entrance is from Avenue 45, about 125 feet from the intersection with Marmion Way,

We originally pointed this out to the planning department and showed them the extension from this lot to Glenalbyn as the original traffic access to the lot. All of the other lots along Marmion have their accesses to Glenalbyn; this would be the biggest traffic source and the only one

Mt. Washington Homeowners Alliance General Meeting

Monday, July 11, 2011, 7:00 p.m.

Tasty refreshments

**Carlin G. Smith Recreation Center
511 W. Avenue 46
Los Angeles, CA 90065**

NOMINATING COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENT

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THE
NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR THIS YEAR'S ELECTION OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS, PLEASE CONTACT
ALLIANCE BOARD MEMBER RUTH MEHRINGER
323 225-1339 ruthmlb56@roadrunner .com
BEFORE AUGUST 1, 2011

to exit to Avenue 45, We suggested the city do a traffic study to determine the safety of the driveway.

They did a study. It basically said there would be no problem. We noticed that their study checked only two 3 hour periods on a single day, only checked Avenue 45 uphill from Marmion, Marmion in both directions from the uphill Avenue 45. Did you notice that I didn't include Avenue 45 from Marmion to Figueroa or the subtlety of the Light Rail Gold Line? Well neither did the traffic study. They said that all of the downhill traffic on Avenue 45 turns either left or right and continues on Marmion. There is no light rail or any traffic controls for it, and no one comes up from Figueroa (apparently) past the market.

The architect does not want to use the access to Glenalbyn because it would require him to re-design the closest Condo unit about four feet higher than the rest to clear the driveway. And the twenty foot lot width (from the 1920's) is too narrow for two way traffic, We suggested a one way ramp with the entrance left back on Avenue 45 but farther back from Marmion.

We will be sending out flyers to the residents of Glenalbyn, Aves 44 and 45, as well as the streets going up to the school so they can be kept informed, and maybe come to the meeting with us. We hope to have a good sized crowd of affected residents from beyond the city mandated 500 foot radius.

I know that this will happen before our meeting but this notice will keep you informed, I'll have a report on the meeting at OUR meeting at Carlin G.

There is no news about the retirement apartments planned by the Coptic Church at Avenue 50 and Terrace 49 (San Rafael).

There still is no change back on Burnell,

We have heard no news from the owner of the lot on Cynthis Avenue.

Once again, stay tuned for further development.

Real Estate Update

by Raphael Guerin

Changes are abundant from the last update in the previous newsletter. It is just another reason that having a local resident Realtor in the neighborhood is key. A big factor is that the amount of inventory available in our zip code went from a 9.3 month supply in March down to a 3.1 month supply in April. A dramatic decrease which substantiates the fact that the active season for home buying and selling is upon us while the rates are still low.

The hill has approximately 34 active listings with the highest priced at \$1.3 million on Wren which is good for all property owners if it in fact sells near the listed price. The average is still running in the mid to upper \$500k range. A slight change has taken place in the number of days it takes to obtain an acceptable offer; it shifted from 45 to 56 days, so not much.

The upcoming months will give the data that may support my opinion that we are on the path to a new light on the hill. The areas around us such as Highland Park and Glassell Park are both also doing well with a low amount of inventory presently active on the market.

Let's maintain what we have, do our brush clearance and keep an eye out for strange persons as we can police our own streets.

Looking for additional data on the market then review Realtor.com for they are still the #1 site for information, all derived from data straight from the Multiple Listing Service. Enjoy the hill but let's respect each other and maintain our properties for everyone's benefit.

MURAL/MEMORIAL

continued from front page

Board of the ASNC seeking a letter of support for the Mt. Washington Mural Project. The Board referred the matter to the Mt. Washington Local Issues Committee of the ASNC, which was held on Monday, June 6 at the Carlin G. Smith Recreation Center. Zach and several friends made a presentation to the assembled few seeking the letter of support. There was discussion among those who liked and approved of the project and those who did not. Comments indicated concerns about the appropriateness of a mural in the first place, its appropriateness as a memorial, image content, visibility and precedent setting. There were alternate suggestions for the location and type of memorial including the school, vines or other forms of vegetation to cover the wall and/or a memorial bench and plaque at the site. It was suggested that Zach meet with the SRF and make presentations to the Mt. Washington Association and the Mt. Washington Homeowners Alliance. The request for the letter was tabled by co-chairman, Liz Herron.

For an August 2010 article and photos of the Mt. Washington Drive murals, see:

--www.theeastsiderla.com/2010/08/whos-behind-the-mount-washington-murals/

Mount Washington Homeowners Alliance Membership Application

- ⇒ Single: \$15 ⇒ Family / Couple: \$25 ⇒ Sponsor: \$35
- ⇒ Senior: \$10 (each) ⇒ Benefactor: \$100

Name(s) _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

I am ⇒ OWNER ⇒ RENTER ⇒ RENEWING MEMBER ⇒ NEW MEMBER

Yes, I'm interested in advertising my business or service in the MWAH Newsletter.

Memberships are valid for one calendar year, beginning in January. Member voting privileges are restricted to homeowners. Please make check payable to the Mount Washington Homeowners Alliance. Mail application with check to MWAH, P. O. Box 65855, LOS ANGELES, CA 90065

SUMMER CALENDAR

Heritage Square Museum 3800 Homer Street Los Angeles, California 90031, 323-225-2700

Silent & Classic Movie Nights, Saturdays, July 16, 23, and 30, gates open at 7:30 pm, with features beginning after 8 p.m. Picnic on the lawn while viewing classic and silent movies. Free for Museum members and \$10.00 for the general public. Features to include a classic Rudolph Valentino silent movie, a film featuring legendary actor Robert Stack, the grandson of Mamie Perry (William Perry Mansion), and a suspenseful Film Noir feature.

“In the Good ‘Ol Summertime”, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, July 29 to September 25, 12 to 4 p.m. A special joint exhibition with Fort MacArthur Museum, this show will feature vintage summer clothing depicting various activities over several decades, from the Victorian to the 1940s.

Square Dancing with Triple Chicken Foot, Saturday, August 27, beginning at 5 p.m. An Old Time American Square Dance! Before each dance the steps will be taught. Beginners are encouraged; this is a family friendly dance, so kids are welcome too! Join us for a beautiful afternoon of community and music - greet your neighbor! Free for members and \$5.00 for the general audience. More information to come.

Heritage Square Volunteer Training, Saturdays, August 27 to September 17, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Join Heritage Square as a museum volunteer! Completion of training is mandatory and advanced registration is required. For more information contact the museum offices (323) 225-2700, extension 224

Audubon Center at Debs Park 4700 North Griffin Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90031 (323) 221-2255

Audubon Film Fridays. This film series brings families together to watch movies about nature outside and under the stars in our courtyard. Inclusiveness is important to us, so some of our movies are presented in Spanish with English subtitles.

July 29 Winged Migration (English, with Spanish subtitles) Follow birds all over the globe as they take incredible journeys. Pre-



PREMIERE EVENT

SUMMER SODA TASTING

A benefit for 

**Sunday, July 24, 2011
from 5 - 8 PM
at Galco's Soda Pop Stop**

- NUMEROUS SODA SAMPLES
- SODA TASTING WITH KING OF POP JOHN NESE
- INTRODUCING NEW SODA FLAVORS
- LIVE MUSIC & AUCTION

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Galco's Soda Pop Stop 5702 York Boulevard, Highland Park

ceded by a short film about Audubon's work to protect migratory birds.

August 26 The Fox and the Girl (English, with Spanish subtitles) The story of young girl and her friendship with a fox.

A bird watching walk begins around 7:00 pm. The movies begin just after sunset (around 8:15 pm).

Summer Day Camp 2011 An Arroyo Adventure! A fun-filled adventure on the Arroyo Seco and Debs Park. One Week Camp Sessions
Ages 6-11

July 5-8: Arroyo Explorations

July 11-15: Plantastic Arroyo

July 18-22: Arroyo Critters

Ages 9-11

July 25-29: Our Arroyo, Our Community
Register early to secure your child's spot!

Asian Avians Visit Mt. Washington

by Julian P. and Katharine E.S. Donahue

On the first of April (no joke) two Red-whiskered Bulbuls announced their arrival in our yard with a loud-ish series of melodious notes that stood out among the other more common calls and chitterings from our native California Towhees, White-crowned Sparrows, Dark-eyed Juncos, House Finches, Northern Mockingbirds, and Western Scrub-Jays. They perched in our cape honeysuckle (*Tecoma capensis*), looked around, preened a bit, and flew off--maybe looking for a likely nesting site. It's their cheerful song that first draws our attention to them, a song described as cheerful, spirited, rollicking, even twinkling, generally tumbling in pitch, often with the second main note highest and loudest. Although difficult to describe, it stands out among the songs of our native birds.

The Red-whiskered Bulbul is an aristocrat in the taxonomic realm. Its name was sanctified and made inviolable by Linnaeus when he described the species in the 10th edition of his *Systema Naturae* in 1758. These slim, perky birds with a pointed black crest get their common name from the red patch of feathers over their ear, although their red vent (that part of the lower abdomen at the base of the tail) and their white cheek are far more conspicuous.

Their scientific name, *Pycnonotus jocosus*, is from the Latin, meaning facetious, droll, laughable, or even merry and sportive--all apt descriptions of these smartly dressed birds.

My (JPD) first encounter with these charming birds was in New Delhi, India, where they nested on the grounds of the house where I lived for a while. They are native to a wide swath of South Asia, from India and Nepal (up to 6,600 feet in the Himalaya) east through southern China and south to southern Indochina and Hong Kong, and I've encountered them in Thailand, Vietnam, and Hong Kong.

Because of their pleasant song, snappy appearance, and sprightly behavior, Red-whiskered Bulbuls are popular cage birds, especially in Asia where restrictions on capturing and keeping birds are seldom enforced. Birds that have escaped from captivity, or were intentionally and illegally released, have now established wild breeding populations in many areas, including Los Angeles.

About 1968 Red-whiskered Bulbuls were deliberately or accidentally released in Los Angeles (one unconfirmed report is that they escaped from the L.A. Zoo), and since then have set up housekeeping in the Los Angeles County Arboretum in Arcadia, the Huntington Gardens in San Marino (where they are easily seen), and elsewhere in the San Gabriel Valley. In the 1970s the California Department of Agriculture perceived these birds to be a threat to the local citrus industry, and initiated an eradication program that has clearly failed.

Besides Southern California, escaped or intentionally released Red-whiskered Bulbuls have established colonies in Dade County (Miami) Florida (escaped the summer of 1960), the Hawaiian island of Oahu (released from a cage about 1965, and where I saw one in 2003), Mauritius and

Reunion Islands in the Indian Ocean, and even in the vicinity of Sydney and Melbourne, Australia.

The first time we heard and saw Red-whiskered Bulbuls on Mt. Washington was on January 15, 2000 (when this species became No. 101 on the "official" list of Mt. Washington birds). Since then we see them only occasionally and unpredictably.

So far, we have no evidence that Red-whiskered Bulbuls have actually nested and reared their young on Mt. Washington, but in light of the fact that they have been showing up here sporadically for at least 11 years, there is a good chance that they do nest here.

So keep your ears tuned for their melodious song, and your eyes peeled for evidence of nesting.



A PAIR OF RED-WHISKERED BULBULS IN THE AUTHORS' YARD.
© J.P. DONAHUE

Centaurea solstitialis - Yellow star thistle

by Clare Marter Kenyon

Yellow star thistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*) is described by the California Department of Food and Agriculture as, “one of the most ecologically and economically damaging invasive plants in California.” The department estimates the thistle covers more than 12,000,000 acres in California; infests most bioregions of our state; is toxic to horses and, “...poses a major threat to biodiversity in native ecosystems...”

Imagine, then, my horror at seeing it for the first time in Elyria Canyon Park, while strolling along a trail in early May. At our next work party in the park, Daniel Marlos and Jerry Schneider undertook the task of eradicating this very nasty species from what I had described as, “...a fairly small patch.” A couple of hours later, these hard-working volunteers returned to the nursery at the Red Barn declaring that I had seriously underestimated the amount of star thistle present and that it had begun to flower.

Clearly, there is much more to be done. If we do not succeed in getting star thistle under control before it goes to seed (each flower head can contain 50-80 seeds and some seed are viable after eight days from flowering) within the next 6-8 weeks, we could well lose the battle and find our besieged native species disappearing even faster under blankets of star thistle.

You can help! a) If you discover this noxious weed, cut it below the lowest branches and place the flowering heads into a plastic bag and into the trash. b) It appears possible that a layer of mulch, placed on the plants when small, will inhibit growth by reducing the amount of light available to the plant.



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Western Shorthorned Walkingstick: Native local species released in Elyria Canyon Park

By Daniel Marlos

Recently I was treated to a sighting that is a Southern California first for me. In more than thirty years living in the neighborhood, Glassell Park and Highland Park as well as Mt Washington, I have never had the good fortune to see a Walkingstick in its natural habitat. I hope the following account is as exciting for you as it was for me.

I arrived home late in the afternoon on Friday, June 4, 2011, and this is what was on my voicemail courtesy of local activist Helene Schpak.

“11:48 AM Daniel. It’s Helene. I don’t believe what I’m looking at. This is the strangest thing. If there wasn’t two little scrawny legs bent in the back I wouldn’t think it was a living thing. It’s remarkable. I’m taking photos. I’ll be sending them to you. Bye.” A few minutes later Helene emailed me a somewhat blurry photo that unquestionably represented

a Walkingstick or Phasmid insect, but I was uncertain of the species. I then proceeded to design a posting for my insect identification website that continued to grow as more information was provided. That posting can be viewed on the world wide web at <http://www.whatsthatbug.com/2011/06/04/walkingstick-5/> and it has been edited and somewhat reformatted to become this newsletter article.

I called Helene and told her that while I was quite certain that this was a Walkingstick or Phasmid, I could not determine from her photo if it was a native species or an introduced species. In her original photo, the Walkingstick had assumed a protective position with the front pair of legs straddling its head, obscuring the major identifying features of our native species, a pair of very short antennae. I was excited at the proposition of seeing our native Walkingstick, and I arranged to meet with Helene on Sunday morning.

Meanwhile, Helene wrote this account of her sighting for me to post to my website. “I saw this beautiful Walking stick insect on my house near my front door this morning and I just went wild. (S)he’s 6” long and simply amazing.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DANIEL MARLOS AND
WHATSTHATBUG.COM

At first I thought it was looking to eat the moths and bugs that are drawn to the porch light just a few inches above it. But when I looked it up I noticed it’s in the Phasmatodea family and, as such, is an herbivore. It’s slow moving and has only changed direction by 45 degrees in the last 6 hours. It’s got a long way to go to get back to the garden.”

On Sunday morning, after taking a few photos of the Walkingstick, I decided to nudge it a bit in order to make it move. Immediately the short antennae were revealed, confirming my original suspicion that this was indeed a Western Shorthorned Walkingstick, *Parabacillus Hesperus*. Helene was worried that there was nothing for it to eat, and after careful deliberation, we decided I would take the critter with me and release it in Elyria Canyon Park. According to Charles Hogue, in his excellent book, *Insects of the Los Angeles Basin*, the Western Shorthorned Walkingstick feeds on a number of native plants, including “burroweed (*Haplopappus*),



globemallow (*Sphaeralcea*), mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus*), and buckwheat (*Eriogonum*).” I knew for sure that here were several healthy stands of Buckwheat in Elyria Canyon Park that would provide food, and Helene proceeded to scrounge up an old yoghurt container to use as a transportation container.

Since Elyria Canyon Park is little more than a mile from Helene’s house, I didn’t worry much about introducing an exotic species to the park. Though I had never seen a Western Shorthorned Walkingstick in Mt Washington, that was entirely understandable since it is a master of camouflage. When it sits perfectly still on vegetation, the Walkingstick looks more like a dried twig than it does a living insect, making it easy to overlook.

I hiked into Elyria Canyon Park after parking in the lot off Wollum Street. I walked up the trail and I saw the Buckwheat in full bloom. Immediately upon releasing this beautifully evolved insect, it began to feed upon the blossoms of the Buckwheat. Clearly, it had been some time since it had had a good meal. Closer inspection indicates that this is

most likely a female Walkingstick, and hopefully she will have mated or she will find a mate in the park, ensuring that the species will be perpetuated.

I thought a bit longer about why this Walkingstick had gravitated to Helene’s porch light. I later inquired if there had been recent brush clearance, and Helene informed me that about a week before the sighting, the hillside above her had been cleared of brush as it is a high fire area. When brush is cleared from open space, it is very important to remove the non-native grasses that provide flash fuel in the event of a fire, but property owners should make an effort to preserve native plants like buckwheat. Not only do they provide necessary habitat for our native species, they also help to prevent soil erosion and landslides. Additionally, clearing all vegetation leaves room for opportunistic exotic plants and weeds to move into the space vacated by native vegetation. Please make an effort to learn which native plants are growing on your property and try to maintain them. They are adapted to our climate and they do not need any special care or watering.

Dog Days On Mt. Washington Drive

by Raphael Guerin

In the last newsletter the word was to please be considerate and pick up after your dogs and be responsible and courteous to others. It has been great days as we enter the summer season and many a resident is seen enjoying life on the hill. Recently I strolled with my hounds on the Mt. Washington Drive loop and ran into Ed, owner of 859, for a most interesting chat. It appears that many dog owners are picking up after their pets on this quiet and serene part at the end of Mt. Washington Drive. The interesting news I discovered is that the bags are being tossed in the canyon on the property of the residents whose rear yards are in the canyon. Ed is part of a group of homeowners who are very irritated and wondering how to deal with this issue. I was somewhat amazed to learn that it was not just a few bags tossed but over a hundred collected at the last clean up. It is hard to believe that an owner after picking up after their pet simply throws the bag into the canyon. What has become of common sense and respect for our neighbors in our great community? How can we maintain the

quality of life and our property values if common courtesy is forgotten? What can the residents on this street do to protect what they came to the hill for? I was speechless when informed by Ed that this has been an issue for quite some time. I can only make this a known factor to all our members and ask for your eyes to watch for persons seen doing this and perhaps make a note of who they are. A simple note of their dog type or time of day may help us all. We need to unite and work together to keep the hillsides free of debris for all to enjoy. Thank you in advance for your cooperation as we work to help each other.



J O H N S O N

Liz

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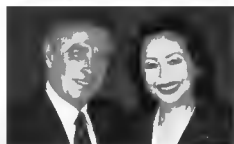


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**Mt. Washington
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