

SNA GENERAL MEETING
 WEDNESDAY
 MAY 29
 SEA AIRE GOLF COURSE
 7:00 PM



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION EVENT
 SEASIDE HEROES PARK

2nd SATURDAY OF THE MONTH
8-11AM



Any amount of time you can give is appreciated.
 Questions? Call Jenna Christensen @ 310-920-9387.
 Visit us on Facebook @seasideheroespark



Seaside Matters

Newsletter of the Seaside Neighborhood Association (SNA)



Poppies in Lancaster were captured in all their glory by John Perchulyn. john@rivieraimaging.com

CITY TO REVIEW HOLIDAY DISPLAYS EVENT

AGENDA ITEM SLATED FOR APRIL 23 COUNCIL MEETING

In response to neighbors who brought their concerns to a December Council meeting, City Staff are preparing an Agenda item on the event to present to City Council. As part of that effort, Asst. City Manager Arum Chaparyan, staffer Katie Wand, and City Attorney Patrick Sullivan met with SNA on April 3rd. City's intention was to gather information regarding what helps and hinders the activity to run smoothly. SNA was relieved to learn that the City Attorney may offer some legal work-arounds to limit peddling. Other topics discussed were emergency vehicle access, trash containers/ pick up, traffic, signage, lights out time and a portable restroom. **Residents are urged to attend our Planning Meeting (see right) and write to Council.**

Come to our
**HOLIDAY LIGHTS
 DISPLAYS
 WORKSHOP** on
TUESDAY April 16
 Sea Aire Golf, 7pm.
 We'll organize in
 anticipation of the
 April 23rd City
 Council meeting.

IS SEASIDE STILL SAFE? TPD Officer Responds to Resident Concerns

In early April, Seaside Community Lead Officer Joe Kraft met with a small group of SNA leaders and members to talk about safety in our area. Residents Brian Dewhirst and Steve Shimek told harrowing stories of intruders who came on their properties while they were home, and, in Brian's case, stole a purse, keys, and his truck. Two other participants felt TPD didn't respond appropriately to their phone calls reporting suspicious or criminal activity.

Detective Kraft was empathetic. Because civilians, not officers, answer TPD calls, he suggested residents emphasize the severity of the issue, and say they want a response back. California police in general, he said, are very frustrated with State laws easing jail overcrowding that release criminals quicker and give lighter sentences.

The good news, and the answer to the query above, is that Seaside is considered a light-crime area. To keep it that way, TPD promotes Neighborhood Watch, and also offers Crime Prevention Environmental Design (CPED), where an officer comes to your home for a safety check. Safety strategies include exterior spotlights and cameras, trimmed foliage, cactus planted under ground floor windows (!), big dogs and locking up every time.

This discussion with Officer Kraft generated ideas about how our community can work with TPD to prevent crime. At SNA's May 29th meeting, we will continue this discussion and formulate next steps.

CLICK ON THE LINKS
BELOW TO VISIT SNA'S
FACEBOOK PAGE ,
THE SNA **WEBSITE** AND
SEASIDE HEROES PARK
FACEBOOK PAGE .



SCHOLARSHIP
AWARDS MEETING
WILL BE WED., MAY
29th, 7:00 PM, AT
SEA AIRE GOLF.
CLUBHOUSE

It's time to Participate in SNA!



[SNA WEBSITE](#)



[HEROES PARK FACEBOOK](#)

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Visit www.seasideneighborhoodassociation.org to become a Business Partner

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- Kirk Jensen | Jensen Relocation
- Plaza Del Amo Animal Hospital
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- Mark Hebson | Farmer's Insurance
- Paula Henges | EmbroidMe, Torrance

Special Somebodies in Seaside



Macklin greets Brenda Short with a kiss while Mike looks on.

Black Labrador retriever puppy Macklin gets around. He and his trainers, Bindewald residents **Mike and Brenda Short**, have been spotted walking quietly at Trader Joe's, at Torrance beach, at Del Amo mall... Macklin is the third puppy the Shorts have raised for Guide Dogs for the Blind (GDB), the largest organization of its kind in the USA. Training a service animal takes a serious commitment. Guide dogs are working animals, literally the eyes of their visually impaired partner, and so they become responsible for their safety.

Before they receive their first pup, all the raisers attend several months of observation and practice classes. Normally the pups accompany their raisers during visits to shops, restaurants, etc. But when there are events that the puppy cannot attend, other members of the puppy raising club step in. Macklin was placed with the Shorts at 10 weeks old, and will return to GDB at 16 months. He and his family meet up weekly with their Guide Dog Puppy Raising Group for socialization and further instruction for the animals and humans.

Mike Short, whose youth in England included shepherding, remarks that from a young age, the pups are in training for their Guide Dog career. The animal learns to come, loose-leash walk and even relieve himself/herself on cue. The dogs are not allowed to play catch or roughhouse with other animals, as those actions could confuse their visually impaired partner. What the Guide Dog gets in return is companionship, a 24/7 relationship with their human. Most of the partners come to consider their canine companion their best friend.

To find out more about training Guide Dog pups, you may view LA Southwest Puppy Raisers site, <http://guidedogpups.com/> . To learn about GDB, go to guidedogs.com.

Special Somebodies in Seaside, part 2

Full disclosure: The second of my two dogs used to growl and snap at me, and I couldn't stop him. I was bullied by a 10 pound Rat Terrier named Arby. I couldn't take him on walks without a muzzle for fear he'd terrorize an innocent child. But my story has a happy ending. Arby and I were 'schooled' by a local legend known as the 'Dogfather', the Head Trainer of the Dog Obedience Club of Torrance. The "Dogfather" showed me that when I started acting like I was the boss, Arby began acting like he wasn't.

Rick Jacoby has been the Head Trainer of the Dog Obedience Club of Torrance (DOCOT) for 18 years. He puts dozens of dogs and their humans through their paces every week at Walteria Park. And it's the best deal in town! Ten classes for a mere \$50, plus free refresher courses as often as the participants wish.

The Dog Obedience Club has operated in Torrance for an astonishing 45 years, and

has graduated over 15,000 dogs! Long-time Reese Road resident **Cindy Halle** joined the Club 13 years ago. Presently its Secretary, she said that the goal of DOCOT is to positively impact the community by enhancing the communication and love between a well-behaved pet and its master.

DOCOT operates under the auspices of the Torrance Recreation Department, and like all the Club staff, Cindy is an unpaid volunteer. "The class fees are returned to the City of Torrance," she explained, and at present are used to fund the Potty Bags provided at three City parks, including our own Seaside Heroes Park. To find out how to register yourself and your pet, view <http://www.docot.org/index.html>



ABOVE: Rick Jacoby puts dogs and their owners through their paces at a typical Tuesday evening class at Walteria Park.

OF COMMISSIONS AND COMMISSIONERS

Garrett Wright is a member of the City of Torrance Commission with the longest name, The Environment Quality and Energy Conservation Commission. At SNA's February meeting, Garrett explained that the Environmental focus of his Commission is a good fit with his engineering background. **Mario Obejas** is also a former engineer who now serves on the Traffic Commission, and **Mellisa Wright's** tenure as a Civil Service has been 'fascinating,' she says. **Mario** also was recently appointed on the City's year-long Strategic Planning Commission. Thank you to all three of these selfless Seaside area volunteers. Interested in serving as a Commissioner yourself? Register online for a 2-hour certification class by Wednesday, April 24 at torranceca.gov/government/commissions

SNA's MAY 29TH GENERAL MEETING WILL CELEBRATE LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!

Two SNA college scholarships will be awarded to extremely deserving high school seniors at our May 29th General Meeting. Our scholarships are entirely funded by Individual/Family Memberships and Business Sponsors. Contributions to SNA are tax-deductible. We are a 501-3c charity.

Did you know that...

most of your \$20.00 yearly membership dues goes towards the two Scholarships that SNA awards local, deserving high school Seniors each year? **LAST YEAR, WE WERE ABLE TO GIVE \$1500 PER STUDENT!**

Did you know that...

most of our Scholarship money comes from our generous Business Partners? **PLEASE SUPPORT OUR BUSINESS PARTNERS!**

Please join SNA yourself, for only \$20 a year per individual or family. To discover the advantages of Family Memberships, Business Partners and Scholarship Sponsors, go to www.facebook.com/notes/sna/sponsorship-categories/529127354106386/.