

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Board Meeting

When:

Tues., January 22nd

Where:

Sierra Canyon School
11052 Independence
Avenue
Chatsworth, CA 91311
Tel: 818-882 8121

Executive Session

5:30 PM

General Meeting

7:00PM

AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY

**Please call
818.907.6622
Ext. 811 in the
event of an after
hours emergency.
You may call after
5:00 pm or the
weekends.**

Ross Morgan & Company
15315 Magnolia Blvd. Ste. 212
Sherman Oaks, CA 91403
(818) 907-6622

Community Manager
Marinel Agbunag 273

Accounts Receivable
Kelly Check ext. 266
Eric Mendez ext. 265

Billings
Josh Spies ext. 209

Escrow
Esmeralda Quiroz ext. 207



Association Notes

Happy New Year from the Sorrento Board of Directors

We're already a few weeks into 2008. We hope you and your family had a safe and relaxing holiday season. We are looking forward to making some real progress in 2008.

Holiday Decorating Contest Winners

The Sorrento/ Meadows Hospitality Committee would like to congratulate this year's winners of the 2007 Holiday Light Decorating Contest!

The first place award goes to the Quiambao Family of 11441 Santini Lane for the lighted rendition of "NOEL."



The second place winner is the Rice Family at 20811 Lugano Lane for their "Musical Garland Dancing Lights."

Third place goes the Chouchanian Family at 20628 Como Lane and their "Nativity Scene" light display

The Hospitality Committee really enjoyed judging but had a tough time deciding. There were many beautifully decorated homes and we would also like to give honorable mention to the following homes: 20628 Pesaro Lane, 20523 Pesaro Lane, 20721 Vercelli Way, 11317 Firenze, 20601 Lugano Lane, and 20843 Sorrento Lane

Many thanks to everyone who decorated their home. We know how challenging it is to even string one set of lights in our high wind community! Thank you for brightening our neighborhood and making this year's holiday celebrating more festive!

Survey

Your Board of Directors hopes you take the time to fill out our 2008 survey. If there is an issue important to you that was omitted from the survey, please write it in. It was clear from the last survey we did in 2006 that many people were concerned about speeding, unauthorized entry into our community, and the responsiveness of the property management company. The Board has responded to those concerns with tangible changes at the gates, and by the change in our property manager. We continue to work on speeding. If you feel there is an area that the HOA is going in the wrong direction, or could improve, let us know. If we get a 10% response to the survey, the other 90% of the resident's are letting a small group speak for them. The survey responses will have a very big influence on the Board's actions.

NOTES

Sorrento Board

President

Pat Pope

Vice President

David Sobel

Treasurer

Neil Estrin

Secretary

Debby Montero

Member at Large

Gigi McGregor

Safety within the Community

Please be alert- we have received reports of vandalism and break ins into vehicles parked on the street. Police have been notified to keep an eye out on unusual activity.

Architectural Submittals

Please be advised that all homeowners are required to submit their architectural plans to the management company prior to any commencement of work. We strongly urge that the reliance of your landscape contractor to submit plans is prohibited. This is in violation of your Architectural Guidelines and CC&R's. If any work begins and your hardscape/ landscape plans have not been approved you will be called to a hearing with the Board of Directors. Non compliance may result in fines being assessed for violation of the CC&R's.

ASSOCIATION NOTES Contd...

Power Failures

In December we lost power for 8 minutes one night. That wasn't the first time we lost power, it won't be the last. The Security Committee is working with Ace Security to insure that the guards have a better power outage plan. Hopefully, the brief outage served as a reminder to you to have flashlights and portable radios in a handy spot where you can find them. It was difficult for many families to find a flashlight with their house completely black. Think about how difficult it would be after an earthquake with household items in the wrong spot or broken on the floor. You can find simple inexpensive emergency lighting that goes on automatically in a power failure at Lowes or Home Depot.

Please have at least one plain old telephone set (not cordless) plugged in somewhere in your house so you could make an emergency call in a power failure. Your cordless phone needs electric power to work. Of course, we all know that cell phones aren't always reliable in our hilly neighborhood.

Those of you with Time Warner Cable experienced an outage on New Year's morning due to the high wind. Make sure you know where your portable radio and extra batteries are in case of an emergency. The cable and possibly your Internet connection could be out for many days after an earthquake, even if power is restored.

Freeway Noise

It is a long and tedious process to have a sound wall erected next to a freeway. It could take five or more years after an application is started. For many of us the 118 Freeway creates a loud racket that's prevents us from fully enjoying our yards in the summer or sleeping with the windows open.

A staff member from Assemblyman Cameron Smyth's office is scheduled to attend our next HOA meeting on January 22, 2008 to tell us what we need to do to start the process.

Internet Access to Your HOA

The Board of Directors and Ross Morgan want you to know the latest information about our community and want you to be able to express your views, or resolve an issue as quickly as possible. Please check our website www.sorrentohoa.org frequently. This newsletter comes once a month, and we have monthly HOA meetings, but we can update the website in one day with the latest news.

Our website also has information on how to contact the Board, Ross Morgan, and other service providers in the area. Our Blog site <http://sorrentohoa.org/serendipity/> allows you to express an opinion on issues facing our community and see what your neighbors have to say. The site is not censored (except for spam) and the Board members read all of the comments. If you want instant news, you can subscribe to our e-mail blast system. Just send your e-mail address to Marinel Marinel@rossmorganco.com you will get one or two e-mails almost every week with up to the minute news.

Finally, if you speak a second language and you would like to help residents of Sorrento and The Meadows who have trouble with English please contact Marinel. We would like to put some basic information on our website so that our residents who are more comfortable in a second language can find help when they need it.

Speeding/Speed Humps

The Board has heard from many, many residents about speeding on their street. Some people want to increase the number of speed humps, NOW! Others are opposed to speed humps. For liability reasons, we cannot place speed humps in areas not recommended by our last traffic study, which is on our website. We have money in the 2008 budget for more speed humps and for other traffic enforcement. Several residents have spoken out about speed humps on both sides of the argument. If you are concerned about speeding and speed humps feel free to make a note on the blog, or come to the next HOA meeting. Even with the recent dues increase, we will not be able to install all of the humps in one month. We will have to set priorities. Residents have expressed the biggest concerns about Vercelli Way, Bergamo Way, Pesaro, Way and Como Lane so far. Our traffic study did not recommend speed humps on Sorrento Lane. We are looking for your input as we prioritize installations.



Drainage

Many of you have received a reminder to clean out your drains that carry water from your yard to the street. Allowing the water to flow out into the storm drains is very important for the safety of the whole community, and it is simple for you or your gardener to do. Because the whole Association would suffer a severe impact if there was land slippage, we will have to clean the drains for you if you don't clean them yourself. Of course, there will be a fee attached to your dues if the HOA cleans your drains. We are getting bids now, but the fee will be over \$100 per house. So save yourself the hassle and have your drains cleaned before you get hit with a big bill.

Water Conservation

The Association is doing everything it can to save water during the drought. Please let Marinell know if you see a broken or poorly directed HOA sprinkler.

Did you know that the City of Los Angeles calculates your sewer service charge based on your winter water usage? The city figures that in the winter most water is used for dishwashers, showers, and toilets. You can save on your DWP bill all year long if you cut back on your landscape watering in the winter. You can also help delay more harsh water rationing rules if you voluntarily reduce your water consumption now.



PORTER RANCH
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council Reaching Goals on Five Year Anniversary

By Mel Mitchell, President, Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council

In 2008 the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council celebrates five years of making Porter Ranch a better place to live, work and grow. I am excited about the PRNC plans for 2008 and so is our Board of Directors. We on the PRNC Board are dedicated volunteers, spend much time on Neighborhood Council activities and are proud of serving Porter Ranch.

Our stakeholders recently outlined these goals: organize community events, focus meetings on topics of interest, conduct outreach to the community, the HOAs, the City and neighboring councils, and implement Youth Corps and Go Green initiatives.

We are well on our way to accomplishing these goals. We have recently had meetings on street repair, cell phone towers for Porter Ranch, the proposed Las Lomas development and the City's proposed Telephone Users Tax. Three of our board members are members of their HOA boards and we are actively reaching out to HOAs. . We have just launched the PRNC Go Green committee that can be reached at GoGreen@PRNC.org.

We are now focused on spending the \$50,000 given to us annually by the City of Los Angeles. I hope you will come to our meetings, join a committee and make a difference for Porter Ranch.

The PRNC meets on the first Tuesday of the month at Shepherd of the Hills Church. Our next meetings are February 5 and March 4 at 6pm. Find out more at www.PRNC.org.

