



Colony Olivenhain



Newsletter of the Olivenhain Town Council

June 2003

From the President — Bob Campbell

PLEASE READ--THIS IS ACTUALLY IMPORTANT!! Folks, I need your help. It is very important that you attend the June 3 General Meeting. You will see why later on in this message, but first, you need to be informed about an awkward, and somewhat disturbing, situation which is brewing.



Recently we had the Meeting Hall property professionally surveyed. As near as we can tell, this was the first time since the 1880s that it had been done. Sadly, we learned that a neighbor's fence encroaches on Meeting Hall property by about seven feet.

You probably know that your Board of Directors has a fiduciary responsibility to defend both the Meeting Hall and the land upon which it rests. It is the advice of legal counsel that we are bound, by the terms of the grant deed, to preserve the land for the benefit of the community as originally intended by the generous families who established the Olivenhain Town Council to hold the property. We can't ignore the encroachment, we can't consider leasing the property to the neighbors, we can't even consider selling the property to them. Simply, we have no choice but to insist the fence be moved back onto our neighbor's property.

When I personally called upon our neighbors to inform them of this unfortunate situation, I was not surprised by their disappointment. Sadly, they have initially chosen not to comply with our request. Thus, I am extremely saddened that precious dollars donated to the OTC may now need to be spent to defend the legal rights of the Meeting Hall.

Unfortunately the situation is even worse than what I have described to you so far. And this is where you come in. As I shake my head writing this to you, I am simply dumbfounded by what I must tell you next. (Take a deep breath here). Reports have reached me that secret meetings are being held to unseat the current Board. I have heard rumors too unbelievable to pass on.

Four of the seven seats on the Board are up for election. Traditionally, it has not taken many votes to get elected to the OTC Board (shucks, how do you think a guy like me got elected!!). What we really need to do June 3 is elect four folks to the OTC Board who will solely serve the interests of the Meeting Hall. When voter turn-out is scarce, bad things happen.

So now you see why I need your help. I need you to come to the June 3 meeting and vote. If you care at all about the Meeting Hall and the OTC, you must not leave it up to your neighbor alone to decide. Come down to see and hear for yourself who you can trust to effectively and responsibly run this organization. Remember only those present at the June 3 General Meeting can vote. All the work and improvements you've witnessed lately can go down the drain if selfish interests undermine the sanctity of your Meeting Hall and the beautiful, rare grounds--every blessed square foot of it — upon which it rests.



Oh, yes — you'll notice the General Meeting is on Tuesday night, not Wednesday. Just like last year, the City of Encinitas rescheduled an important Council meeting to conflict with our regular meeting date on the first Wednesday. Like last year, we've rescheduled so OTC members can attend both meetings. See you **TUESDAY** June 3, 7:30 p.m. at **YOUR MEETING HALL**.

Hey! Check out our new web page at www.colonyolivenhain.org!

Due to technical difficulties beyond our control, we've established a new web page. Please visit our new web page and let us know what you think! If you have suggestions for additional content or any changes, please send email to webmaster@colonyolivenhain.org.

Olivenhain Task Force News

A Committee of the Olivenhain Town Council

By Bruce Ehlers

FUNDING FOR RSF ROAD TRAIL/PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS POSSIBLY DEFERRED 5 YEARS ... The City will roll out it's proposed budget at a special June 4th City Council meeting. I've learned that they plan to defer the funding previously allocated for pedestrian/trail/bike lane improvements along Rancho Santa Fe Road. These improvements are sorely needed, especially in light of the elimination of school buses at Olivenhain Pioneer Elementary (OPE). Along sections of RSF Road, there are no paths or they are squeezed along the edge of the pavement. As a result, many parents feel it is unsafe to walk their children to OPE or Diegueno.

Why reallocate or defer the money? What else can it be used for? ... The money for this project is provided by TRANSNET funding (the extra half cent sales tax we pay for transportation improvements) and can only be used for roadway, transportation, sidewalk and parkway enhancements. The \$1.1 million dollars is funded and available immediately to Encinitas. This money can not be used for general fund budget items (such as fire, police, parks, etc.) Improving the trails along RSF Road is a perfect application of these funds since in addition to improving the parkway and trails, it will also improve student safety and add to our City's trail system. In addition, the City has an additional \$4 million dollars of unallocated TRANSNET funds. Unfortunately, several Council members still want to reallocate this money.

An alliance of Olivenhain Town Council folks, OPE PTA, Diegueno PTA, Encinitas Trails Coalition and school representatives will be writing letters and attending the budget meeting. This is a situation where more parents and residents can be very effective. We need your support at the June 4th meeting. The meeting starts at 6pm at Encinitas City Hall, 505 S. Vulcan in downtown Encinitas. Come tell your story ... about your difficulties and fears of walking along RSF Road ... or why you want these improvements. If you attend only one Council meeting all year, this is a good one to attend to see how your Council allocates your tax dollars. If you can't make it and want to help lend your support, contact Bruce Ehlers via email at Bruce@ehlers-online.com or call 760-944-9482.

A LITTLE STORY ABOUT WHY WE MUST ALWAYS KEEP AN EYE ON CITY HALL ... (Bear with me, I'll get to my point about how our city works and occasionally doesn't work. It is a long winding story.) The city recently repaired the bumpy asphalt sidewalk along Rancho Santa Fe Road near Morning Sun Ranch. Following a couple of citizen complaints, about 20 feet of dangerous asphalt were replaced with asphalt. (See! The city does work correctly at times!) Apparently this triggered further review by Public Works and they decided to replace the entire section of asphalt sidewalk with concrete to make it ADA compliant. Prior to commencing further work, Public Works checked with other departments, including Engineering, to see if there were any plans for that section. They were told "no," so they started. Public Works is responsible for sidewalk repair versus Engineering being responsible for new sidewalks and capital improvement projects. Public works had taken on this project and decided to replace it with concrete since they did not know of any other plans by other departments. I was told about the concrete sidewalks going in and immediately called the City and was eventually passed to Public Works. I called because I knew there is a funded project to redesign these paths and wanted to avoid wasting money. Most of us envision trails made of Decomposed Granite (DG) in Olivenhain instead of concrete sidewalks. I knew about this project because I have closely followed the City's budget and Capital Improvement Plan for the last 4 years. The project is to improve the trail/pedestrian/bike lanes along RSF Rd. The general concept for this project was to install DG and/or mulch trails the length of RSF Rd from La Posta to El Camino Del Norte. When Public Works contacted Engineering, they were told there had been a project, but it was being deferred for 5 years due to this year's budget constraints. This was interesting since the City has not adopted a revised budget and the currently adopted budget has allocated \$60K this year and \$550K for the next two years for this very project. It turns out that Engineering was advising other departments based upon a proposed change to the budget that will be considered at a future budget meeting. At this time neither the City Council nor the public has officially heard this proposal. Moreover, the \$60K earmarked for project planning is already "programmed" and can not be deferred. So Engineering was wrong on two counts: There is money this year to complete the planning and they should not be advising other departments based on what might happen in the budget. In the end, the first half of the concrete sidewalk was installed before I could get to the truth. To Public Work's credit, they offered to put DG in the section that remained to be repaired. We discussed it and decided it would be awkward to have a short section of DG sandwiched between two concrete sections. Since the entire length of trail should be reworked eventually when the trails are improved, we agreed that the concrete would be easier to remove. Unfortunately, like previous examples (i.e. "the Wall"), the damage was done before we could correct the error. This is another case illustrating how citizen involvement could have prevented a City mistake.

So what did I learn ... (1) The first review of the revised budget, originally scheduled for May 21, is scheduled for June 4 at 6pm at City

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Hall. If you want trails along RSF, you should plan to attend. (2) The city has allocated \$60K for planning and will not go away. According to the Director of Engineering, this planning should start in June or July, (3) We can never stop being vigilant in watching what the city is doing. and (4) We need to be very careful about preventing these funds from being reprogrammed back to their original intent ... the widening of RSF Rd. Never forget, we are only a 3-2 vote away from this happening and at least two of the current council support widening RSF Rd.

CARLSBAD SOUTH RANCHO SANTA FE ROAD PROJECT ... I called the City of Carlsbad and talked to the Inspector in charge of the RSF Road project at La Posta Avenue to find out when it would be completed. As anyone driving there in the morning knows, they have narrowed the road down to one combined northbound and right turn lane. As a result, traffic dropping off at OPE backs up around the corner backing up all of the northbound traffic on RSF Rd. According to the Carlsbad inspector in charge of the project, the intersection of La Posta and RSF Road will be realigned by May 31, 2003.

(Yea!) The realignment will give us four northbound lanes consisting of two northbound straight ahead, a dedicated left turn and dedicated right turn/drop-off lane. This is an improvement over the three northbound lanes we had before the project started. Also according to the inspector, the entire project (called the South Rancho Santa Fe Road Improvements) will be completed by June 2003. It will a welcome relief to all of us.

ARE YOU ON THE OTC EMAIL LIST? ... Remember to let us know when you change your email address. Send all email address changes to bruce@ehlers-online.com.

OTC General Meeting

Tuesday, June 3, 2003

Olivenhain Meeting Hall, 7:30 PM

Yes, that's right TUESDAY ... again! For the second year in a row, Encinitas has scheduled an important City Council meeting to coincide with our regular meeting date (in this case it's the budget proposal which would postpone the pedestrian / trail / bike lane improvements for Rancho Santa Fe Road). So, just as we did last year, we're re-scheduling the election to Tuesday night to allow OTC members to attend both meetings if they choose.

Every June, the Olivenhain Town Council elects three or four board members. This year, the Board members up for re-election are Bruce Ehlers, Jill Treadwell-Svendsen, Pat Klaus, and Steve Fitch.

If you have the time to make a commitment and you'd like to volunteer to serve on the Board of Directors, or would like to nominate another member to serve on the Board of Directors, please be sure to join us. The Board of Directors meets on the second Thursday of each month to plan special events, take care of regular maintenance issues, and discuss future plans. Some issues are resolved by email. Each Board member is asked to take on a special responsibility such as membership, communications (newsletter and web site), fund-raising, etc.

According to the OTC bylaws, you must be present at the meeting to vote. We hope to see you there!

"Colony Olivenhain" History Book

In 1981, Richard Bumann, descendent of one of the original colonists, published a local history book titled Colony Olivenhain. The original printing sold out long ago, but thanks to a very generous donation by publishers Kristina and Reid Tracy, the Olivenhain Town Council has made this book available once again, and will be able to use all the proceeds from the sale for renovation and repair of the Germania Hotel.

We have books for sale at each General Meeting and other OTC events, but if you can't make it to the meeting, you can order using the order form on the cover sheet, or stop by and pick one up at the Postal Corner. Buy several ... they make great gifts!

Olivenhain Cookbook

Debbie McCauley tells us the first ever Olivenhain Cookbook is being printed and should (hopefully) arrive in early June. This special cookbook, containing more than 500 recipes provided by residents of Olivenhain, is being published by Debbie to raise funds for the restoration of the Germania Hotel on the Meeting Hall grounds. The cookbook will sell for around \$25 and would make a great gift for folks in Olivenhain and out.

Nearly 300 copies have been pre-sold to date. Debbie will send out a message to all those who have reserved a cookbook to let you know when they arrive, and will arrange for a day at the Meeting Hall to deliver the pre-sold books and sell new books to those who procrastinated.

To reserve one (or more) copies for yourself and friends, visit www.debbiemccauley.com and click on the Olivenhain Cookbook link.

 **Happy Father's Day!** 

America in Bloom

America in Bloom is a nationwide contest awarding cities for their achievements in beautification, environmental awareness, and community involvement. Juli Gillett has been working with the City of Encinitas to identify sites and projects within Olivenhain which qualify for the America in Bloom competition.

The Olivenhain Meeting Hall, the Olivenhain entry boulders, Rancho Santa Fe Road between El Camino del Norte and Lone Jack Road, the Art Ranch, Nan Sterman's garden, Susi Torre-Bueno's garden, and Juli Gillett's garden have all been submitted to the contest. A panel of judges will arrive in June to critique sites and projects predetermined by a local committee of public, private and business leaders.

Awards will be announced at a Chicago convention in September. Winners will receive national recognition and valuable publicity for beautification and community involvement.

Treasurer's Top Question

Since recently being appointed treasurer of the OTC, several OTC members have asked me the following question: "How much and where is the money from the Colony Olivenhain chrome license plates?"

After some research, I found the answer to be as interesting as the question. "I don't know - because it is not OTC money." Contrary to popular belief, this is not an OTC fund raising effort. Therefore the money, balance and tracking responsibilities, are not the OTC Board's nor the Council's. Interestingly enough, at the inception of the project the OTC Board was approached with the idea and declined to fund the project. The funds from the sale of chrome license plates are held privately by the two Olivenhain families that started and privately funded the project.

The Olivenhain families began the project with the intent to donate something meaningful to the OTC and Meeting Hall, publishing that intent in the newsletter. Once sufficient funds had been accumulated and following an affirmative vote at a General Meeting, the families commissioned the construction of a new barbecue for the Meeting Hall grounds. At a subsequent General Meeting, the membership voted to decline the donation. Since the donation was declined, the pieces of the barbecue remain the personal property of the families and are currently in storage. Additional monies are held in a separate account pending disposition of the barbecue.

If you have questions regarding the OTC treasury that you would like to have addressed please send me an email at treasurer@colonyolivenhain.org. The OTC treasury records are available for member review upon request.

Building and Grounds Committee

The Building and Grounds Committee is pleased to announce the addition of the lodge pole fencing and new tree's to the Meeting Hall grounds! By the time you read this, and after years of planning, meetings, and discussion, this project will be underway (or maybe even done).

Thanks again to Larry Eddington and Deb Muzzy for all their hard work to prepare the grounds for these additions. Check out www.colonyolivenhain.org to see the plans.

LODGE POLE FENCING ... There will be two parking areas with two gates that will remain unlocked. These gates are for handicapped access, deliveries, and emergency access. During large events, the southeastern gate will remain open for overflow parking in the eastern section of the Meeting Hall grounds. There are several walk-through areas for pedestrian and equestrian access.

TREES ... The bad news is we recently lost another eucalyptus to disease. The good news is we still have over 60 eucalyptus on the grounds and our new oaks, olives, willows and sycamores will be delivered in the next 2 weeks!!!! We are going to have a wonderful blend of tree's. Please thank Juli Gillett, Nan Sterman and Valerie Thorpe for the tree selection and Sunshine Gardens for the HUGE tree donation.

IN THE FUTURE ... To encourage residents to use the Meeting Hall grounds we hope to add 2 additional picnic tables. Often residents use the grounds just to stop and have lunch.

GERMANIA HOTEL ... If you haven't noticed, there is ongoing work being done on the hotel. The primary focus currently is to give the building an outside facelift. Once completed the outside will have a positive visual appearance.

The roof was recently power washed and will be sealed soon—it already looks fabulous! The front elevation windows are being made. Unfortunately, we need to raise more money or get a big donation, to finish all the windows. The Germania Hotel has 13 windows!

Yet to come ... the front porch, doors and painting of the trim and doors. Please don't be alarmed by the neon-colored door, it is only temporary. Raising money for this project has been ongoing.

Many, many THANKS to all those who have worked hard on the Hotel to get it to this point, and to Lou Haberkern a special THANK YOU for taking this on in the first place!

We can always use your help. If you have time to donate please email Lou Haberkern, Hotel Chair at lhaberkern@foundation.sdsu.edu. He would love to hear from you.

Accessing the Meeting Hall

Board Member Karen Mendez-Carter has taken over the responsibility for scheduling the hall. In conjunction with this change, we have re-keyed the Meeting Hall.

Why the change? ... Over many years, there were a number of "extra" keys to the Meeting Hall made and issued. No one really knew just who might have keys at this point, which made it difficult to keep track of access to the Meeting Hall. The key is available to scheduled hall users via a lock box, and other copies of the key are recorded as they are issued.

Secondly, in order to better protect and preserve the town hall, we are requiring proof of insurance from renters. The OTC has always had this requirement in the rental agreement, but previously we did not always get the correct insurance document. The Board of Directors has determined that we need to rigorously enforce this procedure to better preserve and protect this historic structure.

The combination of these two changes will give the OTC a clear method to enforce any insurance coverage in the event of a loss.

We also plan to put the Town Hall schedule on our new and improved webpage (www.colonyolivenhain.org). This should make it easier than ever to reserve and enjoy the Olivenhain Meeting Hall. We thank everyone for their cooperation in this and look forward to preserving this historic building for the enjoyment of many generations to come.

We want to thank everyone for their cooperation during this process and look forward to preserving this historic building for the enjoyment of many generations to come.



Were you There???

On Sunday, April 27, we held our Annual Beer and Brat Fest! A good time was had by all who attended! Good food, good music, good drink, good FUN! Were you there? You should plan to attend next year! Look at all the fun you missed. Remember, it will be the last Sunday in April!

As always, many, many thanks to all who contributed to making this a successful event ... ticket takers, cooks, servers, the Band, those who set up, and those who cleaned up. Please volunteer again next year (even earlier!)



Commissioner's Corner

Pat Klaus, Traffic Commissioner

As part of their annual goal-setting this year, the Encinitas City Council identified a circulation study and update of the Circulation Element of the General Plan as a goal. While the circulation element had amendments in 1993, 1994, and 1995, it hasn't had a major update since the City of Encinitas was incorporated in 1989. As you might imagine, after 14 years it needs to be refreshed. This study will cover all of Encinitas and take into account new residential and commercial developments in Encinitas since the last study, changes in zoning since incorporation, and on-going high-density development in Carlsbad and San Marcos along the Rancho Santa Fe and El Camino Real corridors to the north.

The City is currently working to negotiate a contract with a consultant to conduct the circulation study and recommend changes to the General Plan. Both the Planning Department and the Traffic Department are involved in the selection of the consultant and will participate in the evaluation of the resulting report. As an outside consultant, you can expect the individual selected to be impartial.

What does this mean for Olivenhain? That remains to be seen. This study will have an impact on future decisions on road improvements and any new connections of existing road segments. There are likely to be some public workshops as part of this process to give you a chance to participate. Don't pass up the chance to influence your future!

City Council and Commission Schedules

Council/Commission

Encinitas City Council
Planning Commission
Traffic Commission
Parks and Recreation Commission
Senior Citizen Commission
Commission for the Arts
Youth Commission

Regular Schedule

2nd, 3rd, and 4th Wednesday at 6:00 PM, Council Chambers
1st and 3rd Thursdays at 6:00 PM, Council Chambers
2nd Monday, 4th Monday optional at 5:30 PM, Council Chambers
3rd Tuesday at 5:00 PM, Council Chambers
3rd Friday at 1:00 PM, Council Chambers
1st Monday at 5:30 PM, Council Chambers
1st Wednesday at 4:30 PM, Council Chambers

City of Encinitas Contact Information

Jerome Stocks, Mayor	760-633-2622	jstocks@ci.encinitas.ca.us
Maggie Houlihan, Deputy Mayor	760-633-2621	mhoulihan@ci.encinitas.ca.us
Christy Guerin, Council Member	760-633-2620	cguerin@ci.encinitas.ca.us
James Bond, Council Member	760-633-2623	jbond@ci.encinitas.ca.us
Dan Dalager, Council Member	760-633-2624	ddalager@ci.encinitas.ca.us
Kerry Miller, City Manager	760-633-2600	kmiller@ci.encinitas.ca.us
Bruce Ehlers Olivenhain Planning Commissioner	760-944-9482	bruce@ehlers-online.com
Pat Klaus, Olivenhain Traffic Commissioner	858-756-8247	pat@klausfamily.com
Doug Goad, Parks and Recreation Commissioner	760-942-4052	thegoads@aol.com
Steve Fitch, Parks and Recreation Commissioner	858-759-9236	steve360fitch@yahoo.com

Old-Fashioned Deep-Pit Barbecue

Saturday, May 31, 2003, Noon—4:00 PM, Olivenhain Meeting Hall

The San Dieguito Heritage Museum is holding their 15th annual "Famous Old-Fashioned Deep-Pit barbecue" on Saturday, May 31 at the Olivenhain Meeting Hall. The food is terrific, served picnic-style at the Olivenhain Meeting Hall grounds. There will be music and dancing, old-fashioned games for kids (of any age), a country store, and a silent auction with wonderful things to buy.

This truly unique event follows an old custom that started back in the late 1800's when the German settlers of Colony Olivenhain learned the deep-pit barbecue style from their cattle-herding neighbors on the surrounding rancheros. Adding their own homegrown lima beans and delicious apple pies, these early homesteaders passed the old family recipes on to their children who then shared them with their families.

What's on the menu???

Deep-Pit Barbecue Beef
Homemade Lima Beans
Cole Slaw
Tortillas & Salsa
Lemon and Apple Pie
Soft Drinks, Coffee & Beer

Tickets

Adult: Advance Purchase \$20 ♦ At the BBQ \$25
Youth (13-17): Advance \$10 ♦ Child (5-12) \$5
Under 5: FREE

For Advance Ticket Sales, Call 760-632-9711

All proceeds from this event benefit the San Dieguito Heritage Museum. If you haven't visited the museum down on Vulcan Ave by City Hall, they've got many items from Olivenhain and other parts of Encinitas. Check out their website at <http://teachers.sduhsd.k12.ca.us/dgstudentinfo/hmuseum/index.htm>

While not an Olivenhain Town Council event, the Deep-Pit Barbecue has its origins in Olivenhain and is a worthwhile event. This notice is provided as a courtesy to the San Dieguito Heritage Museum.
