

# High Country West

Rancho Bernardo, California

## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS - MARCH 2012

### Club Hours

Open Monday thru Saturday 8:00 AM - **9:30 PM** & **Sunday**

**8:00 AM - 6:00 PM**

Pool/Showers/bath close 30 min (Spa 15 min) before closing

See Calendar for Activity Hrs

Club Manager: Mike Lutz

Club Office: (858)451-0725

Fax: (858)683-0316

E-mail: [manager@highcountrywest.com](mailto:manager@highcountrywest.com)

Web Site: [www.highcountrywest.com](http://www.highcountrywest.com)

Address: 16003 Turtleback Rd

### President's Corner

#### Resident Issues

There are times that residents show up at a Board Meeting with issues expecting an immediate solution for their subject or problem. Those appearances result in long discussions and seldom lead to an immediate result. It would be more productive for everyone if the guidelines outlined in "the Declaration of Restrictions", "Architectural Committee Guidelines" or "CC&R's" are followed. The issues should be submitted to the Board in writing allowing ample time for review by the Board prior to the meeting. This will lead to faster decisions and closure of issues.



#### Crime in HCW (Follow up)

We are happy to report that there have been no recent crimes reported in our neighborhood. This is due in part to the alertness of our residents and our Neighborhood Watch Program. We have received questions about what the sequence of events would be if someone WERE to observe a crime in progress. That being said, I would like to quote from an article from the HCW March 2008 Newsletter, Neighborhood Watch column

- Call 911 for fire, medical emergencies, crime in progress or gun shots.
- Call SDPD Northeastern division 538-8000 to report suspicious activity. Then call HCW Club 858/451-0725 or your Neighborhood Watch Captain.

Reporting early is essential to catching culprits. You can be the eyes and ears for our police force.

#### Special Activities/Events Committee

With the Summer & Spring vacations approaching, we need volunteers who are willing to manage, plan, coordinate and set up community events. Also assist our staff with the annual Picnic, children's events, etc. If you are interested, please contact our Club Manager, Mike Lutz, we need help.

By Don Bertsch

### What's Up?

#### ⇒ Picture Corner



### Tree Trimming

Over 125 trees along the I-15 and Big Springs slope have been trimmed as part of the annual tree maintenance program.

Note that the spa is open. Repairs delayed until further notice

Brian Westre

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### Architectural Corner:

**Trash containers in front areas** – Friendly reminder letters recently went out to remind owners of the need to put away trash containers on trash day. Containers must be stored in garage or behind a privacy wall (not visible from street or from neighboring property except during trash pick-up period).

Mulch & wood chip material is used under plantings to help retain water, such as inside a tree ring or a rose bed. Placing this over new ground cover plugs while the plants fill in also aids in water retention. This material is not for use as a main item in front yard area applications. Decorative rock is the more permanent material that is used when grass is removed and the landscaping is converted to a “hardscape theme”. Architectural is available to discuss using drought tolerant plants, succulents, and stone materials when considering a conversion to hardscape.

March Arch Meetings are the 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. Forms should be in no later than the Friday before the meeting. You may also reach the committee for general questions by email at [architectural@highcountrywest.com](mailto:architectural@highcountrywest.com). Check with the office ahead to confirm meeting time if you are planning to attend.

The Board has chosen resident **Gary Long** to represent High Country West as our distinguished volunteer at the upcoming Rancho Bernardo "Hat's off to Volunteers" celebration Gary has been serving on the Architectural Committee since our development began. His expertise, knowledge, and contributions made to the HOA have been invaluable to all. The event will be held on April 21st at 9:30AM at Webb Park in RB. The public may attend the event. Congratulations Gary!



### Smoke & carbon monoxide detectors

The time change in March means time to *change the batteries in BOTH the smoke and carbon monoxide detectors that SHOULD be **in use** in your home.*

### HCW Board of Directors:

President:

**Don Bertsch**

Vice President:

**Brian Westre**

Treasurer:

**Igor Levin**

Secretary:

**Evelyn Dobson**

Directors:

**Doug Cohee**

Board Email: [directors@highcountrywest.com](mailto:directors@highcountrywest.com)

### Next Board Mtg:

**March 14, 6:30 PM.** At the HCW Club. Agenda will be posted at the club. Or call us.

Some of agenda items are:

- Expenditures
- Election update
- Spa options

*"Get your groove on - HCW12"* – Is our theme for the HCW picnic this year to be held on Saturday **JUNE 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Get out the tie dyed t-shirts, old blue jeans, & peace signs. We are in the planning stages. If you are able to volunteer some time to help plan or to work a bit at the picnic we would love the help. Call in or email the manager to leave your name and a phone contact and we will get in touch. Thanks.

### [www.wildfirezone.org](http://www.wildfirezone.org)

Living in Southern Cal, we should all be aware of fire dangers and the need to be smart around the home. **BE PREPARED**. This web site will provide information on both indoor and outdoor safety steps that can be taken to protect your family & your home against fire items. Videos and photos help explain the creation of a “defensible space”.



### NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH (NW)



The San Diego Police Department offers a number of tips to help residents prevent vehicle break-ins on its website. Here are ten of them:

Park in open, well-lighted, and populated areas near your destination, preferably one in view of a security camera. Avoid parking near trucks, vans, dumpsters, and other objects that obstruct visibility and provide hiding places. Avoid parking near strangers loitering or sitting in vehicles.

Turn off your engine, roll up all windows, lock all doors, and take your keys with you even if you are making a quick stop at a store or gas station, or even in your driveway. Close all windows and lock the trunk and hood.

Buy a vehicle with interior hood and trunk lock releases. Install a secondary hood lock if your car does not have one.

Replace knob-type door lock buttons with tapered ones.

When you lock your vehicle with a Remote Keyless Entry (RKE) fob make sure that all the doors are locked before leaving your vehicle, especially in public parking lots. There has been an increase in the use of jammers to prevent the RKE signal from activating the door locks.

Never leave anything of value in plain sight. Remove all cellular phones, audio systems, computers, packages, sports equipment, cameras, purses, wallets, firearms, etc. from the inside of your vehicle.

Take anything you can't afford to lose with you, e.g., a wallet, credit card, or laptop computer. Put other valuables in the trunk before you park, never after you park. Thieves may be watching.

When shopping, ask the store to hold all your purchases until you are finished there so you can carry everything to your vehicle in one trip. If you need to make more than one trip to load your trunk, move your vehicle to a different area of the parking lot after each trip.

Make sure that any valuables that were locked in the glove box or trunk were not taken or tampered with when you return to your vehicle. Thieves are able to get into some vehicles without leaving any visible signs of a break-in.

Make several slices through your license plate registration sticker after it has been placed on the plate. If the sticker is stolen you can get a replacement from your local Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) office.

By Galen Peterson