The Newsletter of Sugarloaf Homeowners Association May 20, 2008

# SUGARLOAF NEWS

# PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings to all Sugarloaf Association Members!

As some of you may be aware, the state of California is increasingly concerned about wildfires jeopardizing lives and properties. The laws in regards to fire danger and fire protection have evolved greatly since the Oakland Hills fire in the '90s. Several years ago, SHOA executed a significant fire break project in the areas surrounding our homes. Given the plant and tree growth that has occurred since that project and the evolving fire safety laws, the Board is embarking on another "Defensible Space" project. The Landscape Committee, chaired by Miles Dooher, has developed a project package that is nearing completion. Board members and PML representatives have been meeting with the City of San Mateo Fire Marshall's office to reach agreement on the scope of work required to comply with applicable codes and provide an appropriate defensible space. This may be a multi-year plan. We don't yet have firm cost estimates for the project, but we are hopeful that the required work can be completed within our existing operating funds for landscape work plus our reserve funds specifically set aside for fire break projects. In the event the project costs exceed those funds, the Board will explore other options to ensure that we complete the required work as soon as possible. You will be notified if funding becomes an issue. Our expectation is that work will begin by the end of June. You may have already noticed that Lee's Gardening has been working to complete a brush-clearing project that is a precursor to the defensible space efforts related to trees around our homes and in the canyons. Soon, you will receive a mailer from the city of San Mateo informing homeowners of their obligations. Please note that homeowners are responsible for defensible space requirements on their property. SHOA is addressing defensible space in the common areas of our development, which includes many canyon areas. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact PML or the Board. For further information on the state's fire programs, see:

http://www.fire.ca.gov/fire prevention/fire prevention wildland.php#Local

Please note that our website (<u>www.sugarloafhoa.org</u>) has been active since January. Please take a moment to visit and see what information is readily accessible to each of us. Over 200 visitors have connected already! Our governing documents (Bylaws and CC&Rs) are posted for your convenience, but you will need a password to open them (password provided in your hardcopy

newsletter). Also please note that, from the home page, you can sign up to receive electronic communications from our association (e.g. board meeting announcements, monthly newsletters, etc.). For the time being, any electronic communication would be in addition to the paper copies you receive via US Mail. In the future, we hope to develop a system whereby you can agree to receive all your communications electronically, which would save the association a

significant amount of money.

Finally, the Board is seeking an interested party to serve as a Director. If you are interested in helping out, please contact the Board, or PML, or come to the next Board meeting.

Thanks once again for your support of our Association!

Bob Kiss (President@sugarloafhoa.org)

# **NEED SERVICE, HAVE A QUESTION?**



Do you want to get in touch with your association manager or need a service request taken care of?

You may contact the following for **immediate service**:

Receptionist at ext. 100, Sabrina at ext. 122, or Debbie at ext. 121, you may also send an email to:

<u>Debbie@pmlmanagement.com</u> On Sabrina@pmlmanagement.com.

If there is something which you would like to bring to the Board's attention, submit your concern in writing at least one week before the Meeting (see date below) and then come to the monthly Board Meeting to present your issue.

If you want to know more about PML, visit its web site at: <a href="https://www.pmlmanagement.com">www.pmlmanagement.com</a>.

# **ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE**

The Architectural Committee will be conducting its annual audit of property exteriors (primarily painting and landscape condition, per CC&R Article 4.02B) by the end of May. Owners of properties in need of repair will be notified in writing. This effort has been very successful in the past few years in helping to maintain the appearance of our development as an element of sustaining property values. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in

addressing any identified issues. As always, please contact the committee if you have questions or concerns about any audit findings. Finally, the committee is seeking one more volunteer to serve. Please contact Bob if you'd like more information.

#### **LANDSCAPE**

Spring vegetation clean up should be completed by the end of May. Large tree work, as part of the Fire Break project, will begin soon. See the President's message.

A homeowner asked about the condition of the Cork Oak Trees (suber) on Parkwood, between Toyon and Broadview Ct. These trees drop some foliage in early spring (late this year) and new growth will start in late spring. We will have an arborist check them in June, but it appears they are in a normal growth pattern.

Please feel free to submit (through PML) any questions or concerns and we will try to answer.

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

Larry Connell is now the committee chair. The committee is looking into a project to repaint house address numbers on the curbs, which aids police and fire departments in the event of an emergency. Although individual homeowners would likely bear the cost of painting their number (optional), the committee is considering the coordination of the effort, including negotiating a volume price, and ensuring that any firm involved is using approved (environmentally friendly) paints. Stay tuned for more information.

#### **COMMITTEES**

# **Architectural**

(Chair) Bob Kiss – (650) 212-5477 architecturechair@sugarloafhoa.org

#### Landscape

(Chair) Miles Dooher – <u>imdooher@comcast.net</u>
If any member has any landscaping or sprinkler concerns, you can reach Debbie of PML either by phone at (650) 349-9113x121 or by email at: <u>debbie@pmlmanagement.com</u>.

#### **Public Safety**

(Chair) Larry Connell – Iconnell@cbnorcal.com

# YOUR BOARD of DIRECTORS

#Bob Kiss President

#Miles Dooher Vice-President

\*Larry Connell Treasurer

\*Mark Brosche Secretary

#### **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

San Mateo Police (Non-Emergency) .....(650) 522-7700

#### **NEXT BOARD MEETING**

The next Board of Directors Meeting will be held on **Tuesday**, **May 27, 2008** at **5:30pm** in the office of PML Management.

# **Directions**

#### From 92

- 1. Take 92 East
- 2. Exit Mariners Island Blvd.
- 3. Take a right at the exit light, at Mariners Island Blvd.
- 4. Keep straight until you reach Trader Lane (Approx. three (3) stop lights)
- PML Management is located at the FIRST driveway on the right hand side after you cross Trader Lane.

PML Management 655 Mariners Island Blvd., #301 San Mateo, CA 94404

#### **Board Meeting Agenda:**

Call to Order

Open Forum (5 min limit)
Agenda Approval / Calendar Review
Approval of Previous Minutes
Reports (Treasurer, Landscape, Architecture)

# **Unfinished Business:**

Large Tree Pruning / Fire Break Project - Bid Package Final Review

Routine Landscape Work Contract - Review Bids Received

# **New Business:**

Appointment of Director to Fill Vacancy
Public Safety - Painting of Address Numbers on Curbs
Member Privacy – Sending Opt-Out Forms
Electronic Communication – Sending Authorization Forms

Correspondence Review Adjournment

<sup>\*</sup>Term ends at 2009 election #Term ends at 2010 election